

# Carp Removal SOLUTION



## What's the Problem with Carp?

Introduced into Minnesota's lakes from Eurasia in the 1880s, common carp have outcompeted our native fish and muddied our waters with their bottom feeding habits which uproot plants and disturb soil. By stirring up the bottom of our lakes, the carp release phosphorus back into the water, a nutrient that feeds harmful algae blooms.

The simple solution? Remove the carp from our lakes. The problem? Getting all **FIVE required factors lined up to net (seine) & remove them:**

### 1 TEMPS

Outside temps warm enough not to endanger native fish or the carp during sorting.

### 2 ICE

Ice must be a minimum of 12 inches thick so that it can support trucks & equipment.

### 3 CARP

Carp must be grouped up together in order to net them. This usually happens in the winter.

### 4 LOCATION

Carp must be located in an area that is suitable for netting (free of rocks and suitable lake bottom).

### 5 COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN

The commercial fisherman assigned to the area must be willing, able, and ready to do a seine. A lake manager may not use another fisherman to remove invasive carp without permission from the fisherman assigned to the area.

## Challenges in Lining up a Fisherman:

Many lake managers go to great lengths to track carp as they travel under the ice in the winter and being to group together in a suitable spot for a seine (net removal). But patiently waiting and tracking the carp isn't always the most challenging part, it's getting the assigned fisherman lined up to do the work. There is no guarantee how long carp will stay grouped up in a good location, and lake managers need to move quickly to compel their commercial fisherman to seine as soon as possible. However, some typical problems include:

- No response from fisherman after request to seine has been made
- Fisherman does not respond or commit to seining until after the carp have dispersed from their grouping area
- Fisherman is delayed due to a ripped net or problem from previous job
- Fisherman already has multiple jobs lined up and does not have time to complete the seine
- Fisherman will only provide permission to lake managers to use an outside fisherman if they share in the carp haul proceeds.

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Updating legislation to allow lake managers to work with commercial fisherman other than the one assigned will allow for great success in restoring Minnesota's lakes! When the site conditions require immediate action there will be more flexibility to get the job done.

**HF 1882  
SF 1677**

*Amending  
Minnesota Statutes  
2018, section  
97C.815,  
subdivision 2:*

(b) Area assignments must not restrict permits and contracts that the commissioner issues to governmental subdivisions and their subcontractors for invasive species control.

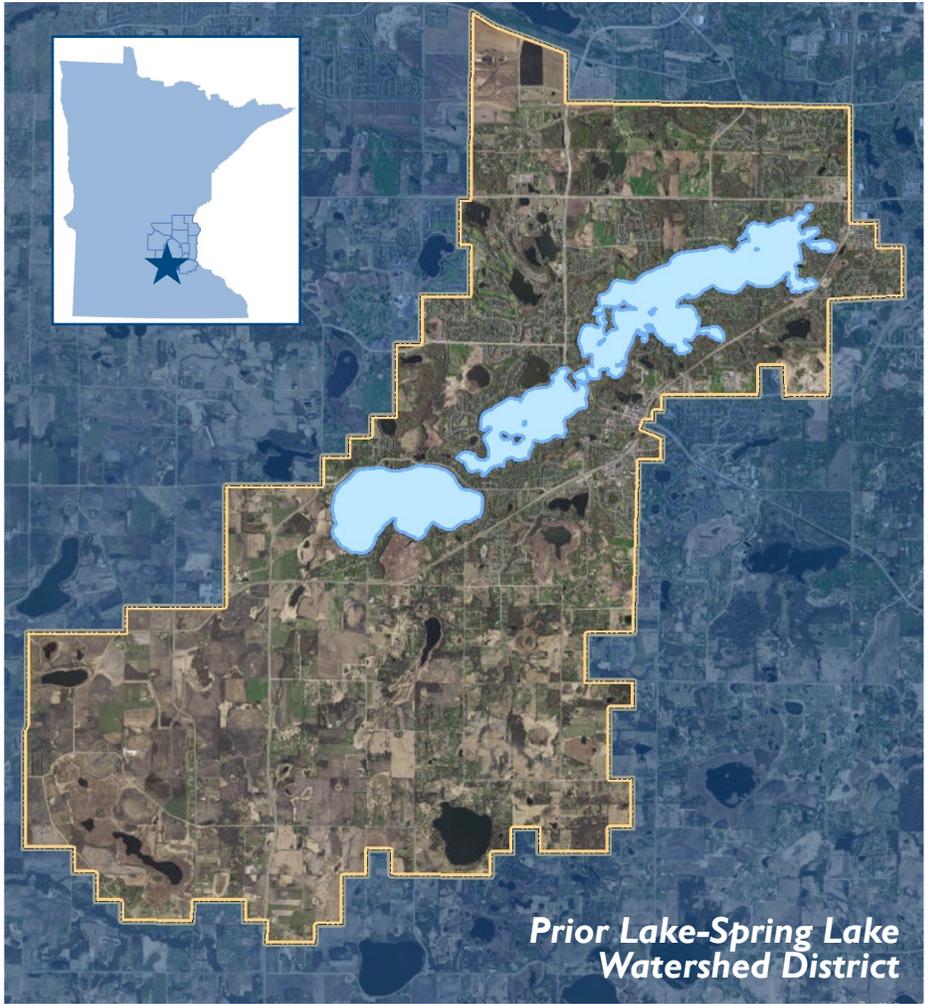
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SPRING LAKE**  
WATERSHED DISTRICT

Please visit us at our website for more information: [www.plslwd.org](http://www.plslwd.org)  
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