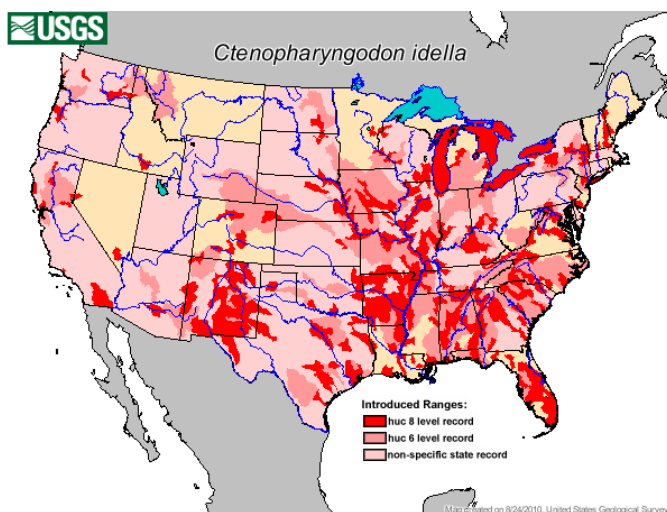


Grass Carp

Ctenopharyngodon idella

- Identification** Large, torpedo-shaped fish; large, clearly-defined scales.
- Why is it a Problem?** Consumes native aquatic vegetation; competes with native species for food; degrades water quality by increasing phosphorous levels; interferes with native fish reproduction.



- Range/Habitat** Last seen in small ponds in the Potomac, Patuxent, Choptank, and Nanticoke basins.

- Similar Species** Very similar in appearance to the black carp (also invasive).
- Legal Status** Prohibited from import, transport, sale, purchase and possession in Maryland.
- Method of Introduction** Hitchhiked into Maryland via aquaculture and intentional release.
- Control and Prevention** Do not release live grass carp into Maryland waters.

Want to know more? Check out www.dnr.maryland.gov for more on invasive species in Maryland and what you can do about it.