

**FULL SYSTEMATIC RISK ASSESSMENT IS NEEDED**

In the meantime, over the next 18 months the NCCP is running a full systematic social economic risk assessment to identify and categorise all the different risks of using the herpesvirus, said Mr Barwick.

“The NCCP is proposing to engage world experts in genetic pest control methods to review of all the contemporary information, and provide a clear understanding of the opportunities and limitations of genetic carp control options,” he said.

Dr Pit said the PIAA acknowledges the current work the government is conducting through the implementation of the Scientific Advisory Group.

“We need to better understand if there are alternate approaches to releasing KHV, determine the biomass of the carp to better understand possible clean up requirements and look at testing more Australian natives to ensure the virus will not impact on any of these species,” he said. Mr Barwick said every stakeholder is important in the consultation process - they all have a legitimate voice and will be listened to.

“It’s important to recognise that even though carp are in the name of this national program, the National Carp Control Program is not actually about killing carp at all. It is an environmental rehabilitation program which aims to improve the health of our native fish and bird populations and aquatic environments. It just so happens that we need to control carp impacts to do this,” he said. ■

**WHAT ARE CURRENT LEGAL CARP CONTROL METHODS?**

According to the NSW Department of Primaries, the only generally available legal methods of carp control (subject to those involved having the appropriate permits and approvals) are:

- > Legal recreational fishing methods, including as part of public fishing events
- > Harvesting by a licensed commercial Inland Restricted Fishery (IRF) carp endorsed fisher
- > Installation of carp separation cages on fishways or wetland regulators
- > Wetland management including exclusion screens
- > Draining and drying of private waterbodies
- > Stocking of native fish

Which option/s is suitable for a particular situation depends on a range of factors, such as the type of waterway where the carp are found, whether it is privately owned or publicly managed, and the resources available for control work.

Some other carp elimination/reduction methods are not legal in various states. For instance, in NSW it is against the law to use fishing equipment that is non-compliant with the fisheries regulations or poison the carp with other chemicals, electrical devices or explosives.

Please check with your state’s fisheries authority for carp control laws, including humane and acceptable methods of euthanising fishing.

<sup>1</sup> [www.iucnredlist.org/details/6181/0](http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/6181/0)

<sup>2</sup> Global Invasive Species Database (2017). [www.iucngisd.org/gisd/search.php](http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/search.php)

<sup>3</sup> <https://blog.csiro.au/reclaiming-our-rivers-from-feral-carp/>

<sup>4</sup> [journal www.nature.com/articles/s41559-017-0087](http://journal.nature.com/articles/s41559-017-0087)

\* [www.nature.com/articles/s41559-017-0134](http://www.nature.com/articles/s41559-017-0134)

\*\* [https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/sci-com\\_scah\\_out87\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/sci-com_scah_out87_en.pdf)

\*\*\*\* [www.nature.com/nbt/journal/v32/n5/full/nbt.2903.html?message-global=remove](http://www.nature.com/nbt/journal/v32/n5/full/nbt.2903.html?message-global=remove) (modelling thresher)

\*\*\*\* <http://nutrition.healthgrove.com/l/16977/Carp#Micronutrient%20Analysis&s=105tEz>





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