**Brown Joins Call for Quick Action on Asian Carp**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, has sent a letter to the acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works raising alarm over the delay in finalizing the Brandon Road Study, a critical action plan for keeping Asian carp from reaching Lake Erie.

Brown on Monday joined the bipartisan letter with Great Lakes Task Force Members, U.S. Senators Rob Portman, R-Ohio; Debbie Stabenow, D-Michigan; Chuck Schumer, D-New York; Kirsten Gillibrand, D-New York; Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisconsin; Joe Donnelly, D-Indiana; Gary Peters (D-MI) and Tammy Duckworth (D-IL).

The Brandon Road Lock and Dam study will provide important guidance on how best to prevent Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes and  is an important hurdle before further action can be taken. The report has already been delayed by the Trump administration from its expected release in February of this year. Once the report is finalized, a public comment period can begin, and further action can be decided in an open and transparent way.

“It is imperative that the USACE meet the original timeline for completing the Chief’s Report by January 2019,” wrote Brown and the senators in the letter. “The USACE initiated the Brandon Road Study in April 2015 after the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin Study (GLMRIS) identified the Brandon Road Lock & Dam as a location to control the movement of Asian Carp into the Great Lakes.”

“USACE has indicated that implementing the recommended measures in the TSP is unlikely before 2025,” the senators continued. “This timeline is particularly concerning given recent findings that demonstrated new ways for Asian carp to enter the Great Lakes…This past June, an eight pound Silver carp made its way up the Illinois River, beyond the Brandon Road Lock and Dam, and was found above the electric barrier — just nine miles from Lake Michigan.”

In June, Brown introduced The Stop Asian Carp Now Act, which would compel the Trump administration to release the Brandon Road Study within seven days of the bill’s enactment.

In 2015, Brown supported the Defending Our Great Lakes Act, to encourage the implementation of more water quality and flood mitigation projects as part of Asian carp prevention efforts. The legislation sought collaboration between the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force (IATF) — a collection of 11 U.S. Cabinet and federal agency heads, led by the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) — and state and local flood and water quality agencies, to ensure the implementation of more of these projects.