

Partners Helping Partners

We love seeing the initiatives we support come together. Harney County Restoration Collaborative and Harney Basin Wetlands Initiative partners joined forces this fall to eradicate carp the tributaries of Malheur Lake. The Silvies River is one of the tributaries to Malheur Lake, and as such Forest Service personnel are invested in helping with carp eradication. Eurasian Carp are a serious hindrance to both avian and aquatic animal species in the area.



On September 20th over 20 personnel from across the forest traveled to the Malheur Wildlife Refuge in an attempt to eradicate carp. They used electrofishing to immobilize and remove the carp, which were then transported to a facility that turns them into organic fertilizer. Over 1,100 carp (approx 10,000 lbs) were removed from the system. Considering these fish can produce anywhere between 300,000 and 1,000,000 eggs per year, it is estimated this

effort removed around 0.5 billion potential invasive carp from the system.

On October 21st twelve Forest Service individuals along with refuge staff teamed up again using electrofishing to remove the carp. An even greater number of carp were removed from the Blitzen River near its mouth into Malheur Reservoir. 1,260 fish were removed, and a large number were “missed” when the blocknet used failed due to the overwhelming number of incapacitated fish “pushing” on the net.

