



JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

JACK MONTOUCKET
SECRETARY

September 28, 2017

Chef Philippe Parola
PO Box 84524
Baton Rouge, LA 70884

Dear Chef Parola:

Please accept our support and appreciation for your continuing efforts to build a successful market for Silverfin in Louisiana. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries recognizes these species collectively known as Asian carp to be invasive and harmful to the natural resources and therefore the economy and natural heritage of our state.

Asian carps are native to the rivers of Eastern Asia from Russia to Vietnam. They are voracious plankton consumers and reproduce prolifically. However, they are also a highly prized human food source and provide an economic component to their native region. Once introduced into the U.S., they quickly spread throughout our major rivers and began displacing native fish species. Valuable commercial and recreational fisheries have subsequently diminished. Furthermore, tremendous effort and resources have been employed attempting to keep Asian carp from establishing in the Great Lakes.

Asian carp are established in Louisiana and there is little to no possibility for eradication. Building a market for Silverfin in Louisiana is important both ecologically and economically. Your efforts to bring this opportunity to Louisiana and the forefront of resource management are to be applauded. Please accept our support and continue your innovative approach.

If you have any further questions regarding our support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Montoucet", written over a horizontal line.

Jack Montoucet
Secretary