

**CONNECTICUT WEEKLY DIADROMOUS FISH REPORT**  
 Report Date: June 6, 2017



This is a report generated by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection/ Inland Fisheries Division- Diadromous Program. For more information, contact Steve Gephard, 860/447-4316. For more information about fish runs on the Connecticut River call the USFWS Hotline at 413/548-9628 or visit the USFWS website at [www.fws.gov/r5crc](http://www.fws.gov/r5crc). For more information about Atlantic salmon, visit the Connecticut River Salmon Association at [www.ctriversalmon.org](http://www.ctriversalmon.org).

**CONNECTICUT RIVER LOCATIONS**

FISHWAY (RIVER)	ATLANTIC SALMON	AMER. SHAD	ALEWIFE	BLUEBACK HERRING	GIZZARD SHAD	STRIPED BASS	SEA LAMPREY	SEA-RUN TROUT	AMER. EEL
Rainbow* (Farmington)	1	425	0	12	0	0	1,193	0	0
Leesville (Salmon)	1	-	-	0	-	-	0***	1	0
StanChem* (Mattabeset)	0	2	80	0	87	1	12	0	17
Moulson Pond* (Eightmile)	0	0	6	22	0	0	19	0	-
Mary Steube* (Mill Brook)	-	-	8,522 - FINAL	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rogers Lake+ (Mill Brook)	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Springfield (Westfield-MA)	1	1,803	0	3	0	0	530	0	0
Holyoke (Connecticut- MA)	7	462,284	0	862	484	49	8,763	SNS=2	0
Manhan River* (Manhan- MA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	0
Turners Falls* (Connecticut- MA)	1	20,408	-	0	0	0	22	-	-
Vernon* (Connecticut- VT)	1	2,705	-	0	0	0	0	-	1
Bellows Falls* (Connecticut- VT)	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0
Wilder* (Connecticut- VT)	0	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0
Other (all sites)	0								
<b>TOTALS=</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>464,514</b>	<b>8,608</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>6,124</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>(last year's totals)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>392,057</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>3,558</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>36,914</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19,799</b>

Fishways listed in gray font above are not yet opened for the season. In some cases, the fishways will be opened soon. In the case of the fishways on the Connecticut River, some fishways are not opened until significant numbers of fish pass through the fishway immediately downstream of them. If that never happens, the fishway may not be opened during the season.

\*There is a video camera that records passage. There is a considerable lag between the date a tape is recorded and when staff is able to count fish from the tape, so these numbers will not represent up-to-date counts until after the end of spring season.\*\*\* Population estimates based on end-of-the-season nest surveys.- +There is an electronic fish counter at this fishway.

NOTE: All fish that pass through the Turners Falls, Vernon, Bellows Falls, and Wilder fishways had to first go through the Holyoke Fishlift where they were counted. Therefore those fish are not included in the totals at the bottom.

## COMMENTS:

American shad continue to be lifted at Holyoke, though at a reduced rate (5,000 - 9,000 per day). The river temp remains cool for this time of year (15 degrees Celsius) and the river flows (at Thompsonville) are currently 20,000+ cfs and climbing. We are very close to surpassing 400,000 shad at Holyoke and I expect that we will have by next weeks report. The forecast has summer arriving for this weekend which should motivate the final surge of fish.

Ken and his crew were out sampling river herring in the Farmington yesterday and reports that the Blueback Herring are still present but noted that a small percentage of those sampled were either running ripe or partially spent (most were spent). His final sampling in the Farmington is planned for next week. I was holding-out some hope to see the Moulson Blueback numbers make some significant gains - to no avail. I've heard reports that the herring were in freshwater tidal areas below Moulson, but they never really made the push far up into the free-flowing river. I think the runs in CT River tributaries here in CT fell victims to the cool river temperatures that we've experienced all season. The fish never committed to any tributary until they were ready to spawn and then made use of the closest available habitat. Sometimes in large numbers (as reported last week for Crows Point Cove).

Leesville passed its first Atlantic Salmon last week. Steve suspects that it was a male, but this early in the year it is very difficult tell for sure. The salmon was tagged and released upstream. Anglers should not intent ally target salmon in the Connecticut River or its tributaries and if a salmon is caught it must be returned to the waters in which it was caught immediately.

Increasing numbers of American Shad are now being reported upriver. Both Turners Falls, and Vernon fishways boosted their numbers since the last report though they are about two weeks behind in fish passage video review.

Last week Steve trapped tagged and released the first salmon of the year at Leesville. Thankfully he did not drop his cell phone into the drink two day before traveling to Sweden.



## OTHER LOCATIONS WITHIN CONNECTICUT

FISHWAY (RIVER)	AMER. SHAD	ALEWIFE	BLUEBACK HERRING	GIZZARD SHAD	STRIPED BASS	SEA LAMPREY	SEA-RUN TROUT	AMER. EEL
<b>Greenville*</b> (Shetucket R., Norwich)	1,807	735	0	50	0	0	0	6
<b>Taftville*</b> (Shetucket R., Norwich)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Occum*</b> (Shetucket R., Norwich)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
<b>Tunnel*</b> (Quinebaug R., Preston)	8	33	0	3	0	0	0	0
<b>Kinneytown*</b> (Naugatuck R., Seymour) (out of order)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Hallville Pond*</b> (Poquetanuck Br. Preston)	-	15	FINAL	0	Lots of trout		5	0
<b>Jordan Brook **</b> (Jordan Brook, Waterford)	-	430	FINAL	0	-	0	0	0
<b>Latimers Brook**</b> (Latimers Br., E.Lyme)	-	5,675	FINAL	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Brides Brook**</b> (Brides Brook, E.Lyme)		386,325	FINAL					
<b>Chapmans Pond*</b> (Menunketesuck R., Clinton)								
<b>Branford Supply Pond Dam**</b> (Queach Br., Branford)	3,308			FINAL-	-	-	-	
<b>Lower Guilford Lake**</b> (East River, Guilford)		3,426	FINAL	-	-	0	0	-
<b>Haakonsen Fishway*</b> (Quinnipiac R., Wallingford)	0	5,524	249	97	0	309	0	0
<b>Hanover Pond Fishway*</b> (Quinnipiac River, Meriden)		15	0	2	-	44	-	0
<b>Bunnells Pond*</b> (Pegonnock R., Bridgeport)	-	21,373	0	1	0	0	0	
<b>Wood Dam**</b> (Saugatuck R., Westport)		5,315	297	0	-	-	-	-
<b>Mianus River Pond* **</b> (Mianus R., Greenwich)		19,242	852	0	0	0	0	-

\*Fish passage is video-recorded and counts are made off of tapes several days later so these data are always lagged a little behind. This report covers passage up to the following dates for these fishways:

Greenville= 6/4 Taftville= 5/14 Occum= 6/3 Tunnel= 5/29 Kinneytown= n.a. Haakonsen= 6/5 Hallville= 5/31  
Bunnells= 6/4/.

\*\*These locations have an electronic fish counter and are used as index sites for river herring runs. The counter is checked daily Monday-Friday. Monday counts typically include all weekend passage. These counts are usually up-to-date but some may lag behind a day or two, occasionally.

+This location has a fish trap and fish are enumerated prior to release.

Counts in parentheses indicate numbers seen in a run that is now over and no further fish were counted during the past week. Typically used for alewife runs later in June.

## COMMENTS:

Nothing earth-shattering to report along the coast; particularly in the east where the river herring runs in coastal streams have ended. All electronic fish counters have been pulled for the season. Most coastal fishways in the east remain open primarily to provide downstream passage for spent adult river herring and perhaps some early juvenile emigrants. One of the many benefits of all this rain we've gotten is that we are not concerned about draining headponds and so we have the option to leave fishways open longer. Alewife continue to trickle into coastal stream in western Connecticut adding to totals at Bunnells and Mianus. A note about the Mianus counts – there is not a large sampling component of the river herring using the fishway (both species are present). A number of fish reported last week as Blueback Herring have been re-assigned to Alewife based on biological sampling by our crew in a nearby river.

Fish are still passing through inland fishways on our large rivers (Greenville, StanChem Haakonsen, ect...) but at a reduced rate. Nate Rocha over at Norwich Public Utilities reported the first two American Shad passed at Occum Fishway last week.

**Glass eels**- Fishing Brook = 8,768 glass eels/203 elvers; Mill River Eel Trap= 30 glass eels/268 elvers; Greenville Eel Lift= 8 glass eels/238 elvers; Hanover Pond= 471 yelloweels.

My weekly Diadromous Fish Radio show is live on iCRV ([www.iCRVradio.com](http://www.iCRVradio.com)) at 8:00 am on Wednesday and re-played at 3:00 and 7:00 pm that day 8 am on Saturday.

Comparing cumulative Alewife counts passed at the Bunnells Pond Fishway this year with what was passed in previous years. The run started strong early and never really eased...until this past week. Not over yet, but close.

