

# CONNECTICUT WEEKLY DIADROMOUS FISH REPORT

Report Date: June 10, 2014



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/r5csrc](http://www.fws.gov/r5csrc). 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)	2	502	0	27	0	0	4,232	0	1
Leesville (Salmon)	1	-	-	0	-	-	0***	0	0
StanChem* (Mattabesset)	0	5	254	83	102	-	18	2	5
Moulson Pond* (Eightmile)	0	3	13	18	0	0	33	0	-
Mary Steube* (Mill Brook)	-	-	1,543 (final)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rogers Lake+ (Mill Brook)	-	-	0 (final)	-	-	-	-	-	-
WestSpringfield (Westfield- MA)	1	4,599	0	4	0	0	1,030	0	0
Holyoke (Connecticut- MA)	21	351,778	0	638	327	39	21,133	0	0
Manhan River* (Manhan- MA)									
Turners Falls* (Connecticut- MA)	0	29,181	-	0	0	0	652	-	-
Vernon* (Connecticut- VT)	0	13,430	-	0	0	0	48	-	0
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>25</b>	<b>356,887</b>	<b>1,810</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>26,446</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>(last year's totals)</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>397,486</b>	<b>9,597</b>	<b>3,228</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>24,939</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</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:

The **American shad** run is tapering off at the Holyoke Fishlift. As of yesterday 351,778 shad have been lifted; 2,470 since yesterday. Not as good as the last two years, but still a good year. The water temperature at Holyoke has continued to warmed-up and is at 19 C (67 F). Good numbers continue to move upstream through Gatehouse and Vernon Fishways. Dave Ellis is going to attempt one last shad trucking trip from Holyoke tomorrow.

Moulson Pond Fishway Camera is a hurdle that we just can't seem to get over this year. As you may remember we were struggling with little black ants and installing a new infrared camera last week. Well, the ants seem to have taken-over after we installed the camera, so I had to get the electronics out of cabinet the following morning before any damage occurred. I was able to run the camera for 12 hours or so – the daytime imagery is really great (see blueback herring photo below), the nighttime is really bad. Removed the camera, tested it in our dark scale ageing lab and it works great. Something else is the problem there, so I'll re-install and try to figure it out. I think it may be the retro-reflective background that is causing the auto iris to freak-out. We will, of course, nuke the ants in the cabinet before installing the electronics.

Ken Sprinkle sampled Wethersfield Cove last week and struggled to get enough fish to complete his scale sample. All the fish he handled were spent. He plans on sampling the lower Farmington River this week. Last week he sampled good numbers but reported than many of them were spent. Steve might report on that in next weeks report.

Bruce Williams is tagging the first **Atlantic salmon** of the season at Leesville as I type this report. I sent a couple of our seasonal workers to help handle the fish and take some photos. They just got back to the office, so I've included a photo (see below) – a 31" male. Only 25 salmon to the watershed thus far which is disappointing.



*A Blueback Herring cranks through the video gallery of the Moulson Pond Fishway. You can see the retro-reflective background behind the fish that I suspect is causing problems with the infrared camera. The black vertical lines are 6" apart.*



*The Atlantic Salmon tagged and released at Leesville this afternoon. The fish was getting dark in color – indicating that it has been in the river for a week or so.*

## OTHER LOCATIONS WITHIN CONNECTICUT

FISHWAY (RIVER)	AMER. SHAD	ALEWIFE	BLUEBACK HERRING	GIZZARD SHAD	STRIPED BASS	SEA LAMPREY	SEA-RUN TROUT	AMER. EEL
Greeneville* (Shetucket R., Norwich)	2,248	787	169	120	7	0	0	5
Taftville* (Shetucket R., Norwich)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Occum* (Shetucket R., Norwich)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tunnel* (Quinebaug R., Preston)	45	29	0	2	0	0	0	0
Kinneytown* (Naugatuck R., Seymour) (out of order)	0	1	0	0	0	14	0	0
Hallville Pond* (Poquetanuck Br. Preston)	-	47	0	0	-	0	0	0
Latimers Brook** (Latimers Br., E.Lyme)	-	17,003	Season Final Count					
Gorton Pond (Pattagansett R., E.Lyme)	-	No fish counter this year						
Brides Brook** (Brides Brook, E.Lyme)		265,969	Season Final Count					
Clarks Pond (Indian River, Milford)		90	0	-		-	-	
Branford Supply Pond Dam** (Queach Br., Branford)		1,395	Season Final Count -		-	-	-	
Landon Dam** (West River, Guilford)		886	Season Final Count			-	0	0
Haakonsen Fishway* 4 (Quinnipiac R., Wallingford)	4	3,078	883	136	0	147	3	
Bunnells Pond* (Pegonnock R., Bridgeport)		8,949	0	0	0			
Wood Dam** (Saugatuck R., Westport)		3,414	0	0				
Mianus River Pond* ** (Mianus R., Greenwich)		49,081	29,424	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:*

*Greeneville= 5/30 Taftville= 5/19 Occum= n.a. Tunnel= 6/3 Kinneytown= 6/9 Haakonsen= 6/9 Hallville= 6/9*

*\*\*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:

Just as I thought, another small wave of alewife at Bunnells. We had a sense that alewife ran late there (for unknown reasons) so it's good to finally have this data. Blueback herring are still running in the west, with Mianus Fishway passing good numbers last week. Other than that, the river herring runs have come to a close.

The Kinneytown video system is up and running again. We installed an infrared camera at this location and the imagery is really good and dialed-in the motion detection this morning - so I hope that we have overcome the problems at that site. Obviously the count for Kinneytown is a gross underestimate of the species and numbers passed this year. We are still reviewing video so that we can at least document species passing. We are also interested in getting all our equipment field tested since we will need to do a better job at that site next year because the Tingue Bypass Channel (~1 mile upstream of Kinneytown) will be operational (see photo below).

**Glass eels**- Fishing Brook = 12,591; Mill River Eel Trap= 3,382; Greenville Eel Lift= 1819, Lower Millpond (Old Lyme)= 61,101 (numbers from 5/27 report – no new report this week). You may notice that numbers went down this week from last week's report. Last week's numbers were not correct due to a simple error.



*Tingue Bypass Channel, Seymour CT. Looking down the bypass channel you can see the waterfall on the western side of the river that was used to construct the dam.*