



Connecticut River Basin Fishway Passage Counts

Report Date: 5/5/2021

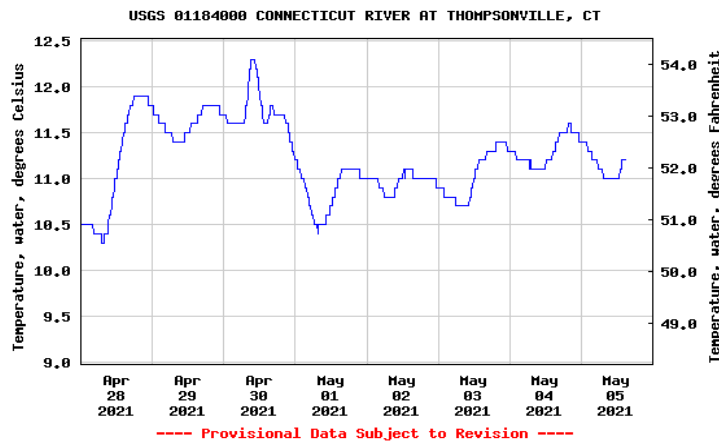
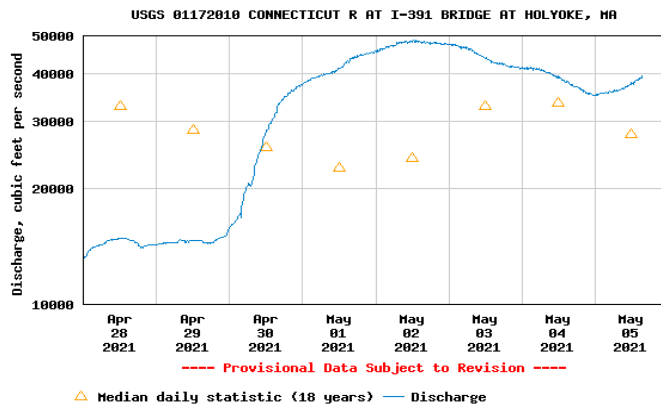


This report is compiled by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, CT River Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office using fishway count data provided by several agencies as well as power companies and is dependent in most cases on the review of video counts, that have an associated time lag for updates. Please visit <http://www.fws.gov/r5src> for more information.

Fishway, River - State	Data as of:	American Shad	Alewife	Blueback Herring	Atlantic Salmon	American Eel	Sea Lamprey	Striped Bass	Gizzard Shad	Shortnose Sturgeon	Other/ comment
Rogers Lake-CT	open										
Mary Steube, Mill-CT	5/4		20,089								2,360 into Rogers Lake
Moulson Pond, Eightmile-CT	open										
Leesville, Salmon-CT	open										
StanChem, Mattabesset-CT	open										
Rainbow, Farmington-CT	open										
W. Springfield, Westfield-MA	open										
Holyoke, Connecticut-MA	5/5	3,414						1		1	
Easthampton, Manhan-MA	open										
**Turners Falls-Gatehouse, Connecticut-MA	4/26	0									no diadromous fishes seen
Vernon, Connecticut-VT	open										
Bellows Falls, Connecticut-VT	closed										
Wilder, Connecticut-VT											
Total to basin, only <u>first barrier</u> counts											
		3,414	20,089	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
Last year totals											
		368,482	38,056	931	0	17,695	37,399	452	96	18	

**** Spillway Fish Ladder - at the dam ### shad, ### sea lamprey; Cabot Station Ladder, base of canal, ### shad, ### sea lamprey, and ## blueback herring. Note that at Turners Falls Project (Dam/Canal) fish must use one of these two fishways first before having the opportunity to pass the final required ladder A - total collected from 3 eel ramp/traps at Holyoke in 2020**

Since the last report, the needed rains came for the basin. The main stem and tribs are largely experiencing above average flows at the moment. At Holyoke, the flow has exceeded the 40,000 CFS threshold for lifting closure since last Friday when turbidity was an initial issue (< 1ft visibility). The last day of HFL operation (4/29) Sierra reported 1,686 shad passed. Water temperatures have also been on the cool side with the current weather. As is the case with flows - these variables are both within expected ranges of variability. Along the coast, Alewife runs have been poor and have slowed. Our netting effort at the river mouth to capture fish for acoustic tagging really picked up last Friday and was the same on this Monday and Tuesday. Our catch rates for Blueback Herring was up by a factor of 7-8, so we quickly obtained fish for tagging this week. Our river herring population assessment work also has shown a substantial increase in bluebacks - but with variability in the rates, over the course of our daily sampling runs. Darren and crew had modest catch rates in Wethersfield Cove on Monday and today I had two very high catch rate runs (sample time cut short) followed by 3 "low" to very low runs on the Farmington River. Water temp was 57F and flows were moderately high. Darren will be sampling the Chicopee and Westfield rivers tomorrow and we will see what that yields. The Alewife we are seeing are few in numbers and largely spent (ovary weights in lab greatly reduced).



Bill and Carolyn fishing the gill net at Old Lyme this week for acoustic tagging project. The fish are quickly cut directly from the net.



Carolyn and Doug out today on the Farmington River, with 80 fish back to the lab and another 140+ processed on the river. Very few shad seen this week. Bluebacks remain quite large in size, relative to previous years data. This is reflected in sex ratio too - much higher rates of females than past years (typically 30%).