



Connecticut River Basin Fishway Passage Counts

Report Date: 05/12/2022



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/r5crc> 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 | 5/3 | | 188 | | | | | | | | |
| Mary Steube, Mill-CT | 5/3 | | 3,732 | | | | | | | | |
| Mill Pond, Falls -CT (NEW Fishway) | 5/3 | | 160 | | | | | | | | |
| Moulson Pond, Eightmile-CT | 5/3 | | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| Leesville, Salmon-CT | open | | | | | | | | | | no counting |
| StanChem, Mattabesset-CT | 4/21 | | low | | | | | | | | image data in review |
| Rainbow, Farmington-CT | open | | | | | | | | | | |
| W. Springfield, Westfield-MA | 5/5 | 40 | | | | | 7 | | | | |
| Holyoke, Connecticut-MA | 5/12 (AS OF 4:30) | 37,460 | | 8 | | | 191 | 9 | | | |
| Easthampton, Manhan-MA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Turners Falls- Gatehouse, Connecticut-MA | opened 4/29 | | | | | | | | | | Gatehouse visitor center opens 5/14 |
| Vernon, Connecticut-VT | opened 4/29 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bellows Falls, Connecticut-VT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total to basin, only <u>first</u> barrier | | | | | | | | | | | |
| counts | | 37,500 | 3,734 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 198 | 9 | 0 | 0 | |
| Last year totals | | 237,355 | 26,863 | 3,019 | 4 | 12,952 | 20,620 | 352 | 54 | 11 | |

**** Spillway Fish Ladder - at the dam # shad, # sea lamprey; Cabot Station Ladder, base of canal, # shad, and # sea lamprey. 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 (Gatehouse).**

A - total collected from 3 eel ramp/traps at Holyoke in 2021

At Holyoke Fish Lift American Shad daily counts have picked up with the low flows and slightly warmer water (water temp 14C = 57F). Sierra at HFL reported the following daily shad counts since the last report: 5/6 (1,311), 5/7 (996), 5/8 (2,487), 5/9 (1,732), 5/10 (6,804), 5/11 (12,070) and today, as of 4:30 (8,702). Sea lamprey have also started to trickle in. Steven Mattocks (MADFW) also provided some starter numbers for the Westfield River ladder (thanks!). This week my office's river herring assessments produced very low abundances of bluebacks in the Chicopee R, with none seen in the Westfield R. Wethersfield Cove produced low to modest catch rates and the desired target for the lab. Today on the Farmington R we experienced very low flow conditions, and low water levels, to the point of my calling Kevin Job (DEEP) to find out the situation at Rainbow Dam. River herring catch rates were low and we approached but did not meet the lab target number. The systems really need some meaningful precipitation to improve the lower basin tributary habitat conditions at this time but that does not seem to be in forecast, rather only showers.



On this Tuesday, we meet with Sierra at HFL for the shad samples and observed very good fish passage conditions throughout the facility, that had the first decent jump in daily numbers.



The USFWS field crew processing shad from HFL for the USFWS Wild Fish Health Assessment. This is done annually to following hatchery protocols with HFL shad going to our North Attleboro Hatchery to support restoration programs.



Who says Fish Passage Engineers can't fish? Caught and released in spite of being in the allowed slot. Nice fish Bryan.