



Connecticut River Basin Fishway Passage Counts

4/28/2023



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/r5csrc> for more information.

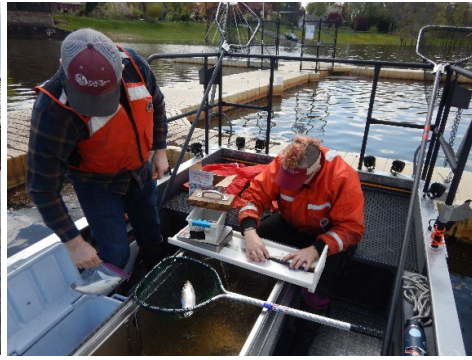
Fishway, River - State	Data as of:	American Shad	Alewife	Blueback Herring	Atlantic Salmon	American Eel	Sea Lamprey	Striped Bass	Gizzard Shad	Shortnose Sturgeon	Other/ comment
Rogers Lake-CT	open										
Mary Steube, Mill-CT	4/26		5,872								
Mill Pond, Falls -CT	open										
Moulson Pond, Eightmile-CT	4/26		150				1				
Leesville, Salmon-CT	open										river herring seen
StanChem, Mattabesset-CT	open		hundreds								
Rainbow, Farmington-CT	closed*										
W. Springfield, Westfield-MA	open										
Holyoke, Connecticut-MA	4/27	369							1		
Easthampton, Manhan-MA	open										
**Turners Falls-Gatehouse, Connecticut-MA	4/26	0									
Vernon, Connecticut-VT	open										
Bellows Falls, Connecticut-VT											
Total to basin, only <u>first</u> barrier counts											
		369	6,022	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
Last year totals		191,651	6,681	370	4	7,845	23,042	314	63	20	

* CTDEEP will not operate the Rainbow Fish Ladder due its documented poor performance and the lack of suitable downstream fish passage protection measures at the Stanley Works owned dam/project. Fish passage at this project has been the responsibility of the CTDEEP, due to FERC legal rulings and timing of that facilities construction.

** *Spillway Fish Ladder - at the dam xx shad, xx sea lamprey; Cabot Station Ladder, base of canal, xx shad, and xx 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 2022

Since last week's report, Sierra at Holyoke reported the following daily American Shad passage counts, 20 (4/21), 27 (4/22), 58 (4/23), closed for high flows (4/24 - 4/26), and 13 (4/27). The mainstem river discharge is receding and water temps are seasonal, with rain on the way. Steve Leach had reviewed video at the Turners Falls Gatehouse with no migratory fishes passing. Great River Hydro also opened the Vernon fish ladder in the intervening period. Our river herring assessment program shifted sites to the Chicopee and Westfield river this week, where we sampled two bluebacks (BBH) and observed modest numbers of shad (Chicopee only). Wethersfield Cove produced low BBH catch rates but over 100 fish for processing. The Farmington had a slight increase in BBH sample this week, a low catch rate. Shad anglers were out in force despite foul morning conditions that improved. We observed many anglers actively catching shad and enjoying the afternoon. The Farmington had seasonal discharge levels, nice to see, and temps in the low 50s, very good overall conditions (same at other sites). At the Conte Lab, they started running white suckers studies and will be shifting to other species as they become available.



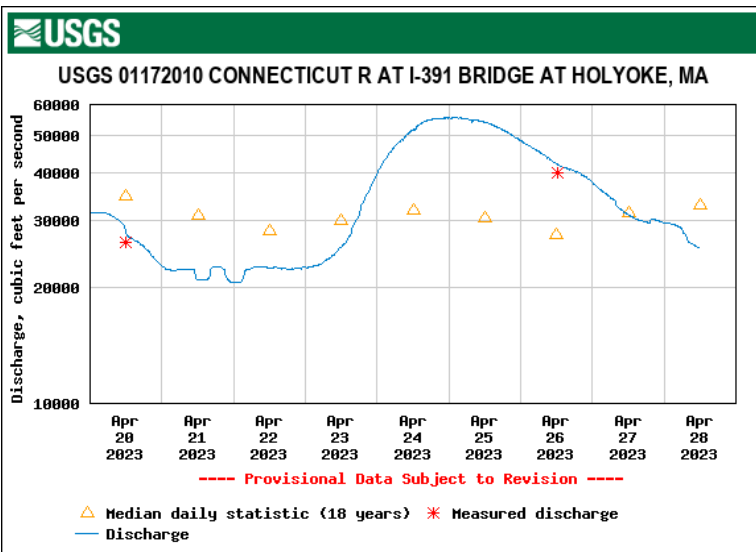
River Herring Assessment sampling, field and lab processing images. Kyle and Rogue pictured in field with Fish Biologist Darren doing a training on otoliths extractions in the lab.



Jackie shown working with Rogue and Kyle on a new processing approach with our scale samples. She is also using our lab fish gills to examine freshwater mussel glochidia (larval stage) occurrence as part of her Masters at UMass.



Dr. Corey Eddy, new Fisheries Biologist for the office, running a sampling trip, on the new boat (CRASC funded). Corey is also leading our office SCUBA dive team that has study plans for this season.



USGS mean daily river discharge downstream of Holyoke. Water temperatures dropped with high flows to below 50F but are increasing now. Tribs and coves are running in low 50s.



Fish on! Farmington River anglers had lots of action yesterday, a nice shad being landed here.