



Connecticut River Basin Fishway Passage Counts

6/8/2023



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/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	final		1,245								
Mary Steube, Mill-CT	final		7,636								
Mill Pond, Falls -CT	final		127								
Moulson Pond, Eightmile-CT	5/16		151	17			15				
Leesville, Salmon-CT	open										river herring seen
StanChem, Mattabesset-CT	5/16	0	239	0			0				
Rainbow, Farmington-CT	closed*										
W. Springfield, Westfield-MA	5/14	1,674					1,306				730 white suckers
Holyoke, Connecticut-MA	6/7	268,046		2,211		3,531	20,622	38	53		
Easthampton, Manhan-MA	open										
**Turners Falls-Gatehouse, Connecticut-MA	5/29 partial	22,713		0			2,752				
Vernon, Connecticut-VT	5/17	2,535					11				
Bellows Falls, Connecticut-VT											
Total to basin, only <u>first</u> barrier counts											
		269,720	8,026	2,228	0	3,531	21,943	38	53	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 - (5/11) at the dam 98 shad, 0 sea lamprey; Cabot Station Ladder (5/10) , base of canal, 194 shad, and 0 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

At Holyoke Fish Lift, since last report, Sierra and HGE passage crew noted declining daily American Shad passage counts relative to last week- 489 (6/2); 3,420 (6/3); 2,808 (6/4); 868 (6/5); 403 (6/6); and 1,164 (6/7). Sea Lamprey passage at HFL has also declined notably from the previous week with (generally) daily hundreds passing with two very low count days. Juvenile American Eel passage among Holyoke eel passes has been fairly consistent the past two weeks, typically passing low hundreds every day (night movements). Alex Haro will be at Holyoke this evening with Corey Eddy to examine the eel passes when fish are using them (thanks HGE staff). Corey will be obtaining a pilot sample of eels as we explore processing steps for otolith extraction from these fish with Alex and our staff tomorrow. There are a number of management based, age structure questions that exist for our population. Ted Castro-Santos at Conte Lab has been running his Sea Lamprey experiments using fish from HFL, with many others also gratefully obtaining fish there (CTDEEP, RIDEM, other Conte work). My office has ended river herring assessment sampling in the Chicopee, Westfield and Farmington rivers due to lack of bluebacks (last week sampling data). However, Darren and crew sampled Wethersfield Cove this week. where we continue to net > 100 bluebacks. We will continue sampling the Cove next week.



USGS 01172010 CONNECTICUT R AT I-391 BRIDGE AT HOLYOKE, MA

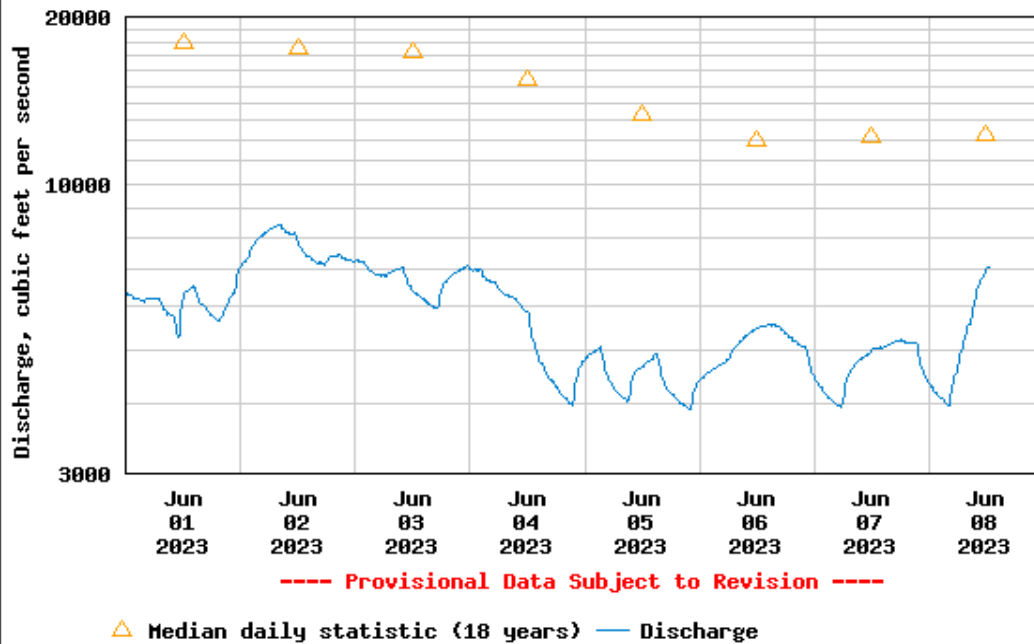


Figure 1. Recent weekly river discharge downstream of Holyoke Dam. At this site, the river is well below the median discharge of 12,300 CFS.



USGS 01184000 CONNECTICUT RIVER AT THOMPSONVILLE, CT

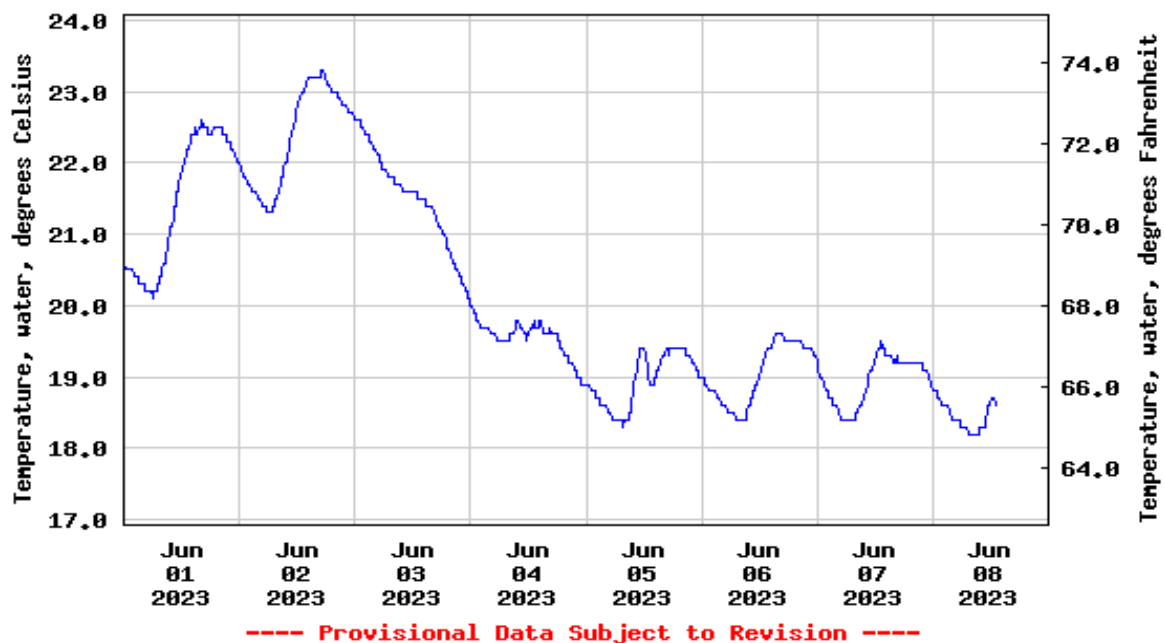


Figure 2. Recent weekly river water temperature profile at Enfield CT site.