



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	4/30		4,680								Mary Stuebe passed
Mary Steube, Mill- CT	4/30		14,476								
Mill Pond, Falls - CT	4/30		513								
Moulson Pond, Eightmile-CT	open										both river spp passing
Leesville, Salmon-CT	open										river herring seen
StanChem, Mattabesset-CT	open										data to be reviewed
Rainbow, Farmington-CT	not operated										not operated
W. Springfield, Westfield-MA	open										no counts yet
Holyoke, Connecticut-MA	5/4	26,508	0	15	0	0	460	1	7	0	opened 4/14
Easthampton, Manhan-MA	open										
**Turners Falls- Gatehouse, Connecticut-MA	5/7	287	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Vernon, Connecticut-VT	opened 4/23										
Bellows Falls, Connecticut-VT	closed										
<b>Total to basin, only <u>first</u> barrier counts</b>											
		26,508	14,989	15	0	0	460	1	7	0	
<b>Last year totals</b>		437,553	28,063	728	0	18,687	60,525	458	73	28	

\* 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.

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 4 eel ramp/traps at Holyoke in 2024

The Holyoke Fish Lift has been closed this week due to rains and increased river discharge, with more rain in coming day, it is likely that HFL won't be operational until later next week (figures next page). Kevin Job (CTDEEP) reports that western CT coastal Alewife runs are doing well, numbers well above recent poor years. His eastern runs have slowed but as noted earlier reports were also high and he noted seeing better numbers in lower CT River tributaries recently, below fishways. This week our office had low to moderate catch rates of Blueback Herring at our 4 monitored areas, which was impacted by high flows for our tributary areas (but still yielded fish). We are on a clear path to do better on abundances than the "worst" monitored year (2024) in our 12 year monitoring time-series. The federal fish and wildlife research community is preparing for changes in workforce for the USGS Ecosystem Mission Area (Conte Fish Research Center is one laboratory in this area) and the Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units at Universities across the country, including UMASS. The dedication, expertise, and hard work by these program staff have had profound innumerable positive impacts for fish and wildlife conservation (notably by Conte Lab for diadromous fishes) and the training of future natural resources professionals.

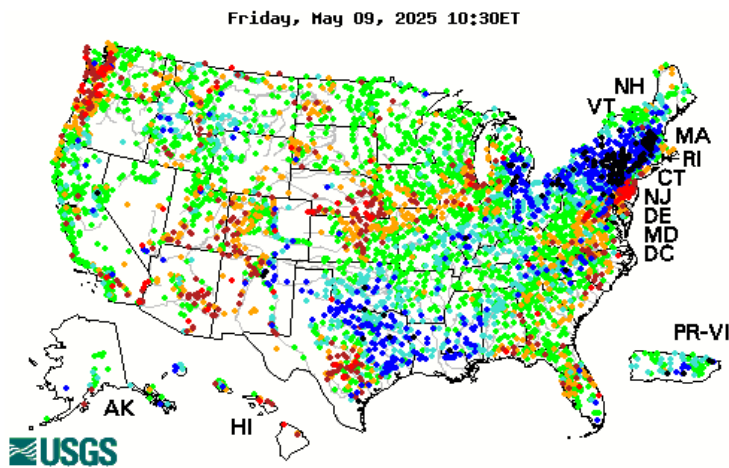


Image 1. Current (5/9/25) river discharge levels from USGS.

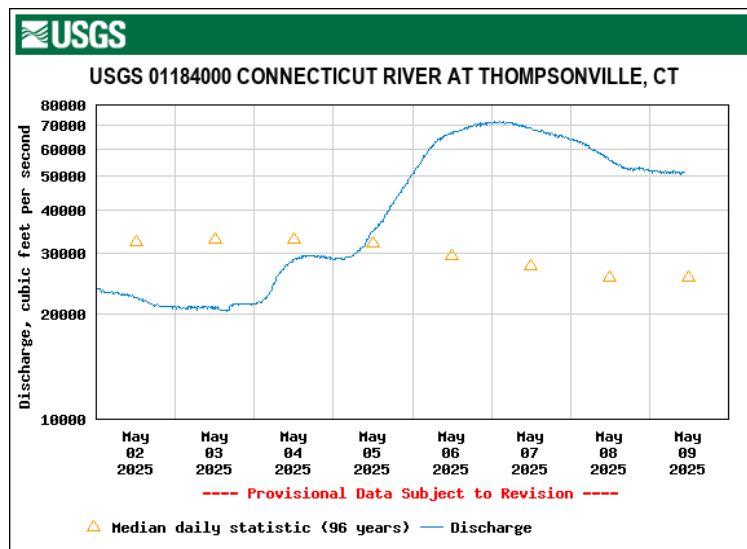


Figure 1. River discharge for noted period with average daily values.

#### River Discharge Rating:

##### Explanation

- High
- > 90th percentile
- 76th - 90th percentile
- 25th - 75th percentile
- 10th - 24th percentile
- < 10th percentile
- Low



Image 2. Expert shad angler deftly playing one to the net.

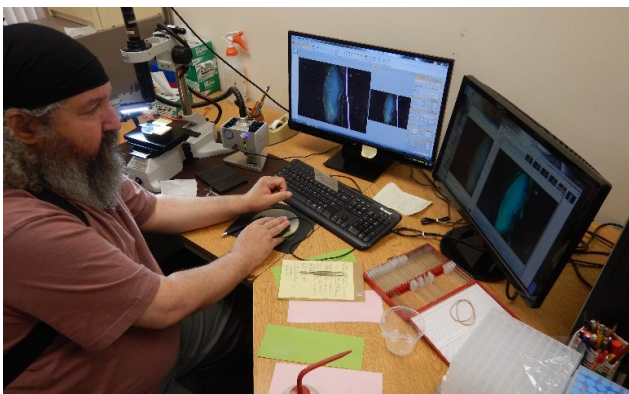


Image 3. John McLaurin, new part-time assistance, working on Corey Eddy's American Eel otolith aging project.



Image 4. Gab DeVito and Reese Dorroh (new UMASS COOP Grad Student, right) on the Farmington River yesterday. Jackie Stephens running the boat this day for us.