

## Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission

# Connecticut River Fisheries Program

*Restoring Migratory Fish and Aquatic Habitat*

### Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission

103 East Plumtree Road  
Sunderland, MA 01375  
Phone: 413-549-9138 Fax: 413-548-9622

### Mission

Cooperatively conserve, manage and restore Atlantic salmon, American shad and other migratory fish and their habitats consistent with the legislative mandate, P.L. 98-138.

**Program Established:** 1983

### CRASC Commissioners:

*Chair & CTDEP:* Edward C. Parker  
*CTDEP:* Richard A. Jacobson (Alt)  
*Executive Assistant:* Janice N. Rowan  
*CT Public Sector:* Robert A. Jones  
*MAFW:* Wayne F. MacCallum, Mark Tisa (Alt.)  
*MA Public Sector:* Thomas D. Menard  
*NHFG:* Lee E. Perry, Duncan C. McInnes (Alt)  
*NH Public Sector:* Charles F. Thoits, III  
*NMFS:* Chris Mantzaris  
*VTFW:* Wayne Laroche, Eric Palmer (Alt.)  
*VT Public Sector:* Peter H. Basta  
*USFWS:* Marvin E. Moriarty, Jaime Geiger (Alt.)

### Technical Committee:

*Chair & VTFW:* James R. McMenemy  
*Secretary:* Janice N. Rowan  
*CTDEP:* Stephen R. Gephard  
*MAFW:* Caleb Slater  
*MAMF:* Vacant  
*NHFG:* Gabe Gries  
*NMFS:* David Mac Duffee  
*USFS:* Steven R. Roy  
*USFWS:* John P. Warner



## Selected Tasks of Member Agencies:

### Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

- Assess shad and striper populations

### Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

- Monitor adult fish returns at fishways

### New Hampshire Fish and Game

- Restore blueback herring & shad populations

### Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Evaluate hatchery stocked salmon for growth & survival

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- Produce & stock Atlantic salmon fry & smolts

### National Marine Fisheries Service

- Provide habitat restoration grants



## Challenges

- Declining State & Federal budgets
- Unanswered research questions
- Low adult Atlantic salmon returns
- Fish passage bottleneck for American shad at Turners Falls dam
- Declining blueback herring returns & increased striper returns

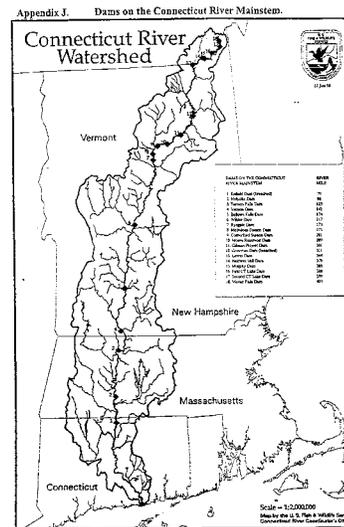


## 2003 Accomplishments



- Received \$250,000 from Congress for CRASC activities in 2004
- Cooperatively maintained genetic management capabilities of program despite closure of a Connecticut hatchery
- Removed Silk Mill dam
- Developed a basin-wide herring management plan
- Provided salmon eggs for educational programs affecting over 2,500 students in over 100 schools in the basin
- Stocked adult salmon for use in angler-supported fisheries in CT, MA, VT and RI

## Future Plans



- Answer the question of why so few salmon are returning
- Continue education program partnerships
- Expand & publicize efforts to restore other migratory fish species
- Restore important habitat
- Maintain critical program operations
- Conduct a survey of public interest & value for the restoration program