



Sea Lamprey Control

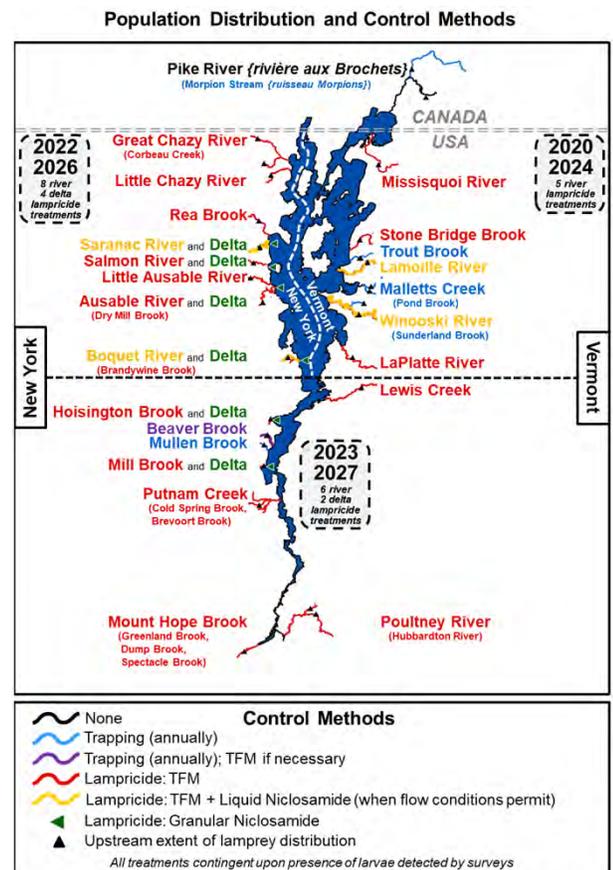
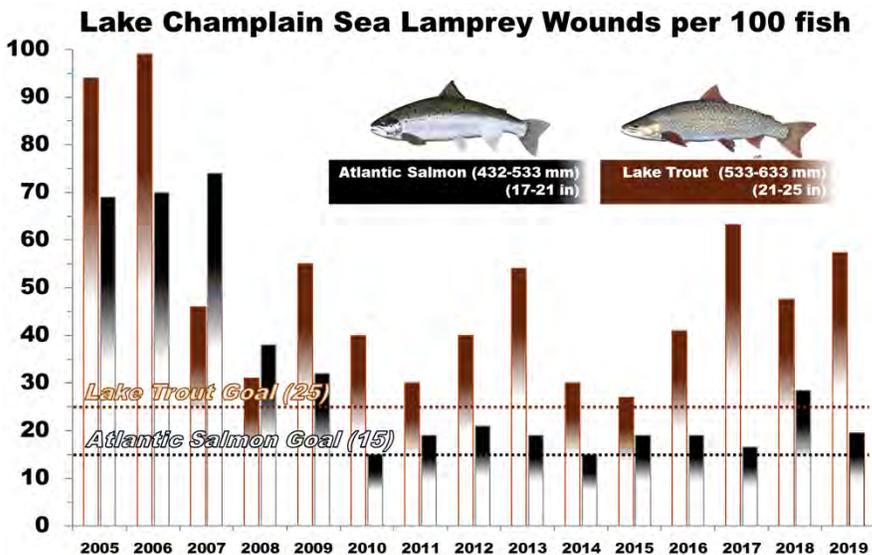
A Tool Used in the Restoration of Native Fish Populations

The Lake Champlain Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (FWCO) is involved in all aspects of the restoration of Lake Champlain's native lake trout, Atlantic salmon, and lake sturgeon populations. In addition to habitat restoration, genetic evaluation, stock management, fish culture, and population assessment, the office leads a program of sea lamprey population assessment and control. Without the suppression of parasitic sea lamprey, all fishery restoration efforts would fail to meet their goals. The effective control of sea lamprey has yielded unprecedented numbers of native fish in recent years and led to further opportunities to enhance the fishery of the lake.



Sea Lamprey Assessment and Control

- 226 Champlain tributaries surveyed on a quadrennial cycle to identify distribution and density of larval sea lamprey in the basin; data guide control decisions and strategies
- 25 Rivers and Deltas chemically controlled on a quadrennial cycle; Lampricides (TFM and Bayluscide) are applied to rivers and deltas to kill larval sea lamprey before they become parasitic
- 6 rivers controlled using barriers that block lamprey from reaching their spawning habitat. One new barrier is in the process of being built on the LaPlatte River and the Great Chazy River barrier is undergoing repair.
- Control Program has reduced wounding rates by over 50% since 2006
- Lake Trout and Atlantic Salmon numbers, size, and reproductive success, along with angler satisfaction, are at highest levels since these species' reintroduction in the 1970s
- Lake Sturgeon health and numbers at highest levels since monitoring began



<https://www.fws.gov/lcfwro/sealamprey> or Contact Brad Young
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