

2016 Connecticut River Basin Fishway Passage Counts

Report Date: 6/6/2016

This report is compiled by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, using fishway count data provided by several agencies as well as power companies and is dependent in many cases on the review of video counts, that have an associated time lag for updates. Please visit <http://www.fws.gov/r5crc> for other count data summaries, and related information.

| Fishway, River | Data as of: | American shad | Alewife | Blueback Herring | Atlantic Salmon | American Eel | Sea Lamprey | Striped bass | Gizzard Shad | Shortnose Sturgeon | Other |
|--|-------------|---------------|---------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Moulson Pond, Eightmile | 5/31 | 7 | 83 | 2,948 | | | 24 | | | | |
| Leesville, Salmon | 5/31 | | | | | | | | | | |
| StanChem, Mattabeset | 5/31 | 36 | 303 | | | | 12 | | 87 | | |
| Rainbow, Farmington | 5/31 | 150 | | | | | 416 | | | | |
| W. Springfield, Westfield | 6/5 | 5,639 | | | 2 | 1 | 416 | | | | |
| Holyoke, Connecticut-MA | 6/5 | 367,096 | | 131 | 2 | 17,465 | 35,107 | 97 | 478 | 21* | |
| Easthampton, Manhan | 5/31 | | | | | | 57 | | | | w. sucker (127) |
| Turners Falls, Connecticut-MA | 5/20 | 7,056 | | | | | 150 | | | | |
| Vernon, Connecticut-VT | n.a. | passing | | | | | passing | | | | |
| Bellows Falls, Connecticut-VT | n.a. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wilder, Connecticut-VT | n.a. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Column Total</i> | | 379,984 | 386 | 3,079 | 4 | 17,466 | 36,182 | 97 | 565 | 19 | |
| <i>Total to basin, only first barrier counts</i> | | 372,928 | 386 | 3,079 | 4 | 17,466 | 35,975 | 97 | 565 | 19 | |

All returning adult sea-run salmon will be streamer tagged below its dorsal fin and released, to continue its migration in 2016. A portion of Holyoke's catch will be used briefly for studies and then released. Any angled salmon should be released without harm, preferable without removing from the water. Please contact USFWS at 413-548-9138 x8121 to report any capture/releases - thanks! *** ALL sturgeon at Holyoke are captured, processed for data/tagged, and released back downstream**

News - Real-time data on both river flow and water temperature (hot link follows), are posted on the USGS web site, Thompsonville, CT (site of old Enfield Dam) - http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ct/nwis/uv?site_no=01184000. At Holyoke Dam, the Fish Lift Crew reported daily shad counts of: 6/2 (5,209); 6/3 (1,409); 6/4 (1,865); and 6/5 (1,525), with water temps 71-73F, river discharge remains extremely low. The American eel count at Holyoke comes from the various eel ramps/traps (five of them) at that facility designed to pass "smaller" juvenile/sub-adult eels. The ramps/traps had large daily catches on both Friday and Saturday when 4 and 5K were respectively passed upstream. Since the installation of these ramps traps (2003) the annual total eels passed has generally increased over the years. The strong jump to 17K places this season's count already above yearly totals for 10 of the past 13 years. This week my office and CTDEEP will continue to conduct trap/relocation efforts to both within and out-of-basin waters that are targeted for restoration of shad. The Conte Lab also is continuing to test shad in the flume building

for the fishway entrance configurations that is producing valuable data on these test conditions. The other research activities at the Lab also remains in progress and are doing well. My office has concluded river herring population assessment work given the few adult fish present and existing environmental conditions. Our data on relative abundance would be best described as poor/low for blueback herring and is consistent in that status with Steve Gephard's statements on the low abundances of CTDEEP many monitored alewife runs this season.



Adult shad being released upstream of Rainbow Dam (Farmington River) by USFWS, with the "new" (above) and older (image on right) tank truck. The two trucks can haul a cumulative total of ~150 shad.