



Connecticut River Basin Fishway Passage Counts

Report Date: 08/18/2022



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		246								2,506 in 2021
Mary Steube, Mill-CT	final		3,944								20K in 2021
Mill Pond, Falls -CT (NEW Fishway)	final		280								
Moulson Pond, Eightmile-CT	5/10		4	87			1				
Leesville, Salmon-CT	open						76				SL based on nest census
StanChem, Mattabesett-CT	final	2,732	0				3				
Rainbow, Farmington-CT	final	11	1	0	3	4					setup to trap/pass eel
W. Springfield, Westfield-MA	final	1,288					603				ladder closed 7/15
Holyoke, Connecticut-MA	8/18	190,352	283		1,537	22,233	314	63	19		
Easthampton, Manhan-MA											operating
**Turners Falls-Gatehouse, Connecticut-MA	Final	23,564	2			9,074					
Vernon, Connecticut-VT	5/31	12,831				3,119					
Bellows Falls, Connecticut-VT	not reviewed										
<i>Total to basin, only <u>first</u> barrier counts</i>		191,651	6,681	370	3	1,541	22,916	314	63	19	
<i>Last year totals</i>		237,355	26,863	3,019	4	12,952	20,620	352	54	11	

** Spillway Fish Ladder - at the dam 6,251 shad, 8,490 sea lamprey; Cabot Station Ladder, base of canal, 32,054 shad, and 10,164 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 A - total collected from 3 eel ramp/traps at Holyoke in 2021

I have received updated counts from a number of agency and power company biologists recently, prompting this report. Steve Leach has been able to review the Cabot and Spillway ladder counts and provided "provisional" counts subject to change, but informing on the relative contribution of shad and lamprey that must use those ladders to access the third and final Gatehouse Ladder. Passage efficiency among those ladders are variable but can be characterized as approximately 85% (to Gatehouse) for "counted or attributed" spillway shad, leaving the balance to fish counted as exiting Cabot Ladder, moving up to, finding, and using the entrance to the Gatehouse Ladder from the upper canal. At ~85% efficiency of Spillway (at window), that translates to ~56% efficiency for shad getting out of the canal and passing Gatehouse. The state and federal agencies have continued to work and make progress with Firstlight on negotiations dealing with fish passage and other related protection over this summer. Sierra at HFL reported very low juvenile eel counts this year to date among the facilities 3 eel passes/traps. The number of Shortnose Sturgeon passed has also been relatively low given we typically see more movement in summer months. This summer has had relatively low river discharge with corresponding fluctuation with water temps and "hot spells". CTDEEP has been conducting juvenile shad and herring production surveys. My office has pulled all (n=25) but one acoustic receiver for the blueback herring study with data downloads in progress. River herring scales have been read by the interns and examples of findings are on the following page.

Wethersfield Cove // BBH

Chart 1.

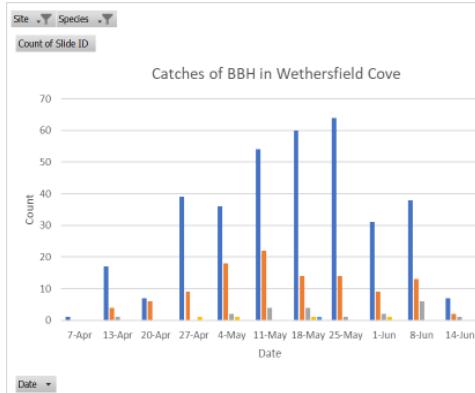


Chart 1: Sampling of BBH in WFC over time (spawning marks included).

Chart 2.

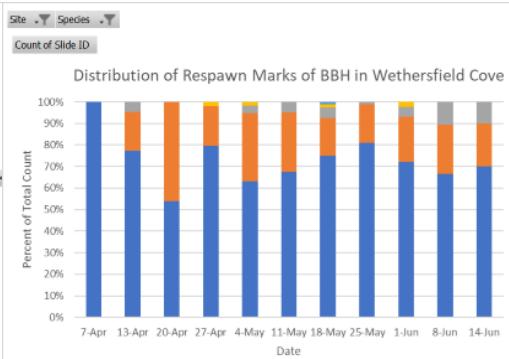


Chart 2: Distribution of spawning marks among BBH in WFC over time.

Farmington River // BBH

Chart 3.

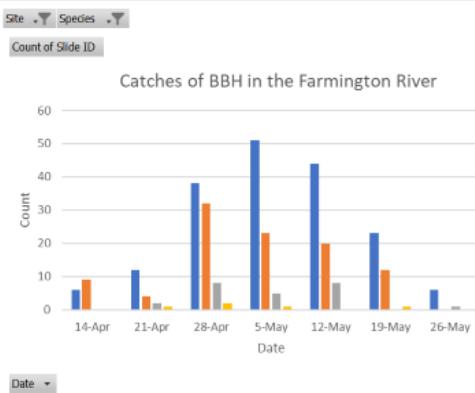


Chart 3: Sampling of BBH in FRM over time (spawning marks included).

Chart 4.

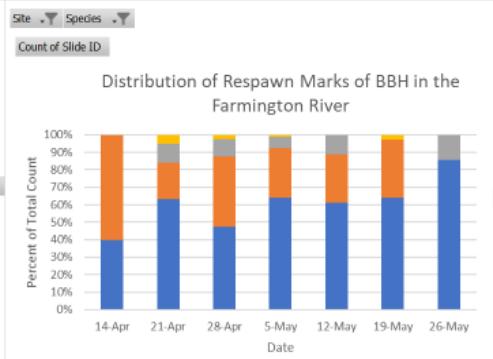


Chart 4: Distribution of spawning marks among BBH in FRM over time.

Charts 1, 2, 3, 4. Examples of data summaries based on independent, paired reads, with consensus on disagreements, of scales for Blueback Herring from two of the five samples sites. These results are within a range of expected variability and were completed and prepared by Julian Burgoff and Kyle Hubbard. Aging of these same fish with otoliths is underway by Darren Desmarias.