

CONNECTICUT WEEKLY DIADROMOUS FISH REPORT
 Report Date: June 11, 2019



This is a report generated by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection/ Inland Fisheries Division- Diadromous Program. For more information, contact Steve Gephard, 860/447-4316. For more information about fish runs on the Connecticut River visit the USFWS website at www.fws.gov/r5crc. For more information about Atlantic salmon, visit the Connecticut River Salmon Association at www.ctriversalmon.org.

CONNECTICUT RIVER LOCATIONS

FISHWAY (RIVER)	ATLANTIC SALMON	AMER. SHAD	ALEWIFE	BLUEBACK HERRING	GIZZARD SHAD	STRIPED BASS	SEA LAMPREY	STURGEON/ TROUT++	AMER. EEL
Rainbow* (Farmington)	0	266	1	0	0	0	567	0	0
Leesville (Salmon)	0	-	-	0	-	-	0**	0	0
StanChem* (Mattabeset)	0	1	62	5	46	-	11	0	0
Moulson Pond* (Eightmile)	0	4	13	51	0	0	5	0	-
Mary Steube* (Mill Brook)	-	-	11,232	FINAL	-	-	-	-	-
Rogers Lake+ (Mill Brook)	-	-	285	FINAL	-	-	-	-	-
West Springfield (Westfield- MA)	0	3,965	0	5	0	0	225	0	0
Holyoke (Connecticut- MA)	3	303,449	0	5,049	510	75	9,491	0	0
Manhan River* (Manhan- MA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turners Falls* (Connecticut- MA)	0	17,059	-	1	0	0	265	-	-
Vernon* (Connecticut- VT)	0	529	-	0	0	0	3	-	0
Bellows Falls* (Connecticut- VT)	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0
Wilder* (Connecticut- VT)	0	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0
Other (all sites)	0								
TOTALS=	3	307,685	11,308	5,110	556	75	10,299	0	0
(last year's totals)	2	281,328	7,326	1,079	99	268	23,955	91/0	2,083

Fishways listed in gray font above are not yet opened for the season. In some cases, the fishways will be opened soon. In the case of the fishways on the Connecticut River, some fishways are not opened until significant numbers of fish pass through the fishway immediately downstream of them. If that never happens, the fishway may not be opened during the season.

*There is a video camera that records passage. There is a considerable lag between the date a tape is recorded and when staff is able to count fish from the tape, so these numbers will not represent up-to-date counts until after the end of spring season.** Population estimates based on end-of-the-season nest surveys. +There is an electronic fish counter at this fishway. ++Shortnose Sturgeon (Holyoke)/Sea-run Trout (other locations) NOTE: All fish that pass through the Turners Falls, Vernon, Bellows Falls, and Wilder fishways had to first go through the Holyoke Fishlift where they were counted. Therefore those fish are not included in the totals at the bottom.

COMMENTS:

River discharge has dropped back down to long-term average and temperatures are holding in the mid 60s. The American Shad run is winding down at Holyoke, but they are just now starting to arrive and pass at the fishways further north. Sea Lamprey had a decent week of it and they too are starting to pass in numbers at the fishways in Vermont/New Hampshire. Today is the last day of trucking for us – I believe Kevin is hauling to the Farmington with the last truckload. He had a good trucking season and hit all his sites with good numbers of shad and only a couple of mortalities.

A third Atlantic Salmon was passed at Holyoke and added to the count even though it was clearly a small (19") hatchery fish that somehow found its way to Holyoke. Holyoke staff took a scale sample so at some point this year its origins will be verified.

Steve will be back at the helm for the last few reports which I would guess will focus on fish passage at upper fishways as well as upcoming passage projects here in Connecticut.

Sorry, no photos this week. I actually could have included the digital image of the 19" salmon that passed at Holyoke this week but I just couldn't come-up with the right meme.

OTHER LOCATIONS WITHIN CONNECTICUT

FISHWAY (RIVER)	AMER. SHAD	ALEWIFE	BLUEBACK HERRING	GIZZARD SHAD	STRIPED BASS	SEA LAMPREY	SEA-RUN TROUT	AMER. EEL
Greeneville* (Shetucket R., Norwich)	807	699	0	19	0	0	0	0
Taftville* (Shetucket R., Norwich)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Occum* (Shetucket R., Norwich)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scotland* (Shetucket R. Windham)	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Tunnel* (Quinebaug R., Preston)	1	33	0	0	0	0	0	9
Kinneytown* (Naugatuck R., Seymour)	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	0
Hallville Pond* (Poquetanuck Br. Preston)	-	16	Final	2	-	0	0	0
Jordan Brook ** (Jordan Brook, Waterford)	-	116	Final	0	-	0	0	0
Latimers Brook** (Latimers Br., E.Lyme)	-	26,390	Final	-	-	-	-	-
Brides Brook** (Brides Brook, E.Lyme)		296,703	Final	-	-	-	-	-
Fishing Brook** (Fishing Brook, OSaybrook)		14,279	Final	-	-	-	-	-
Chapmans Pond* (Menunketesuck R., Clinton)		5	Final	0	0	0	0	0
Branford Supply Pond Dam** (Queach Br., Branford)	385		Final	-	-	-	-	-
Lower Guilford Lake** (East River, Guilford)		364	Final	-	-	-	-	-
Haakonsen Fishway* (Quinnipiac R., Wallingford)	3	2,070	29	18	1	558	0	0
Hanover Pond Fishway* (Quinnipiac River, Meriden)		4	0	0	-	321	-	1
Clarks Pond Fishway*** (Indian River, Milford)		541	Final	-	-	-	-	-
Bunnells Pond* (Peqonnock R., Bridgeport)	-	12,131	0	1	0	61	0	-
Mianus River Pond* ** (Mianus R., Greenwich)		6,030	21,273	0	0	0	0	-

Fish passage is video-recorded and counts are made off of tapes several days later so these data are always lagged a little behind. This report covers passage up to the following dates for these fishways: Greeneville= 6/9 Taftville= 6/3 Occum= 6/10 Tunnel= 6/3 Scotland= 6/3 Kinneytown= 6/9 Haakonsen= 6/9 Hallville= 6/2 Hanover= 5/23 Bunnells= 6/11 Chapmans= 5/21These locations have an electronic fish counter and are used as index sites for river herring runs. The counter is checked daily Monday-Friday. Monday counts typically include all weekend passage. These counts are usually up-to-date but some may lag behind a day or two, occasionally. ***These are counts made by a volunteer when he is present and represents an index not a census.*

Counts in parentheses indicate numbers seen in a run that is now over and no further fish were counted during the past week. Typically used for alewife runs later in June.

COMMENTS:

Not much to talk about here - the only site that is still reliably getting river herring is the Mianus River. Even the run through Bunnells Pond Fishway has pretty much ended. See the chart below comparing Alewife passage by year. We had two consecutive record years there the past two years (2017 and 2018), but dropped down to a little over 12,000 this year. Keep in mind that the run here is similar to Alewife runs across our state; that is the majority of the fish returning are 3 and 4 year-olds with an occasional 5 year old. Although we were unable to count the run in 2015 (camera malfunction) we did get good counts in 2014 and 2016. The lower numbers of adults in those years left us relatively smaller (in number) year classes that returned this year as the adult spawners. Hopefully next year we see increased numbers from the stronger 2017 year class.

Eel Counts- Fishing Brook = 54,941 glass/189 yellow; Chapmans Pond= 77,529 glass/764 yellow; Mill River Eel Trap= 3,889 glass/51 yellow; Hanover Pond= 148 yellow; Greeneville Eel Lift= 35 glass/125 yellow; Occum= 6 yellow eel; Tunnel= 381 yellow; Kinneytown= 0 yellow, Lower Millpond= 18 glass/0 yellow.

My weekly Diadromous Fish Radio show is live on iCRV (www.iCRVradio.com) at 8:00 am on Wednesdays. If you can't tune in at 8:00 am, listen to it at any time: www.icrvradio.com/programs/program/50.

