

This is the fourth St. Croix River anadromous fisheries report for 2014, covering fish counts at the Milltown (head-of-tide) fishway for the seven-day period ending June 6.

RIVER HERRING

The Milltown research trap is operated for an 8–10 week period each year to record the run of alewives (or gaspereau) and closely-related blueback herring, these collectively called river herring. Other fish entering the trap are also recorded.

Over 10,000 fish suddenly moved up the fishway on Sunday afternoon (June 1) and smaller numbers followed throughout the week, to give a one week total of 19,971. This was the highest count for the seven-day period of May 31-June 6 since 1996.

A comparison of alewife/blueback herring returns to this date with other recent years:

<u>To June 6</u>	<u># river herring</u>
2014	20,023
2013	16,531
2012	35,961
2011	23,687
2010	53,007

Ten year (2004-2013) average to this date: 15,964

OTHER FISH

One sea lamprey, 11 white suckers, four smallmouth bass and one brook trout were also recorded in the trap this week. The sea lamprey is a returning anadromous fish, the others are freshwater fish that presumably dropped below the dam via gates or spillways into brackish water and came back up the fishway to the river.

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