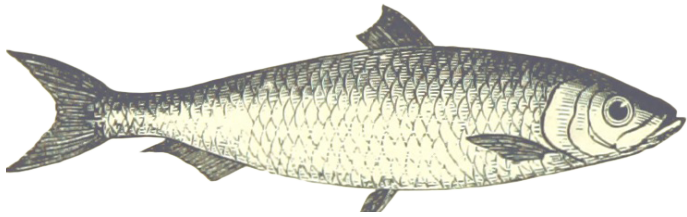




# WHY MONITOR FISH IN LOWELL?



## HOW DO THEY GET HERE?

Herring travel upstream from the ocean to their spawning grounds in our rivers and streams. Once they reach Lawrence, they are lifted up over the Essex Dam via a fish elevator where they are counted.



## WHERE IN LOWELL?

As the fish pass through Lowell, they must first get over the Middlesex Dam, then over Wamesit Falls via the fish ladder. If these passages are successful, they will reach the Talbot Mills Dam in Billerica which has no access for fish passage.



## LOCATION

Lowell is at the confluence of the Concord and Merrimack Rivers. Here, we have a unique opportunity to monitor river herring at the Centennial Island Fish Ladder on the Concord River. There are two types of river herring: blueback and alewife. In our watershed, we tend to see more of the alewives.



## WHERE ARE THEY GOING?

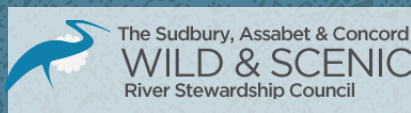
Once the fish reach Lowell, they will either continue traveling up the Merrimack or head south into the Concord River, attempting to reach the upper reaches of the Sudbury-Assabet-Concord (SuAsCo) River Watershed.



## WHY WE MONITOR

By monitoring the passage of herring and other species in Lowell, we can get a better understanding of what kind of modifications are needed to allow for upstream fish passage at the Talbot Mills Dam in Billerica. Opening up fish passage at the Talbot Mills Dam will allow fish to access the entire SuAsCo Watershed – and the largest acreage of untapped fish habitat in all of New England.

Olson Electric Development



MORE INFO/ VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:  
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