

RiverWatch Fish Count Monitor Description

Location:

- The fish count takes place annually in the spring from April 1st to June 1st at the fish ladder located on the Ipswich dam in downtown Ipswich.

Purpose:

- Documenting the presence of and conditions under which river herring migrate into the Ipswich River.
- Determining accurate annual estimates of the number of herring migrating through the ladder into the Ipswich River.
- Creating public awareness of and encouraging stewardship of native fish populations in the Ipswich River.
- Annual reports are compiled and shared with state and local agencies, members and the general public.

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Attend an annual training event.
- Sign up for a weekly count, trying not to arrive at the same exact time to keep the count somewhat random.
- Avoid back to back counts.
- Complete all data fields on the data sheet.
- Return the data sheet to the materials box.

Qualifications:

- No prior experience with fisheries issues is required. All are welcome.

Commitment:

- Perform at least two counts per week.

Training:

- A training event will be held in March or conducted on site by IRWA staff or the volunteer coordinator when requested.

Contact:

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For more information, visit: <http://ipswichriver.org/herring-count/>