



Accuracy, Integrity, Service

American Shad Monitoring Project

Charles River, Massachusetts

Client:

Massachusetts Department of
Marine Fisheries
251 Causeway Street
Boston, MA 02114
617-626-1520

Performance Period:

May to August 2011 and
May to August 2012

Key Services Provided:

- Fish Identification and Sampling
- Environmental Data Collection
- Deployment of Traps
- Electroshock Fishing
- Otolith Removal and Slide Preparation



Under the direction of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, this study aimed to monitor the Charles River in Massachusetts for the presence of reintroduced American Shad. A.I.S. Inc. provided a fisheries biologist to monitor fish ladders adjacent to the Watertown Dam in Watertown, MA. Monitoring was accomplished by placing fish traps in the various fish ladders. Our biologist visited the site daily throughout the project period to check the traps. Environmental data and fish counts were collected in addition to whole specimen. Whole samples were shipped to the Division of Marine Fisheries lab in Gloucester for age analysis. The biologist was also responsible for removing debris and vegetation from the ladders to ensure the unobstructed flow of water.



American shad - *Alosa sapidissima*
averages 14-29 inches

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