

Souhegan River Protected Instream Flow Study

INSTREAM HABITAT ANALYSIS

Piotr Parasiewicz, Joe Rogers, Jeffrey Legros

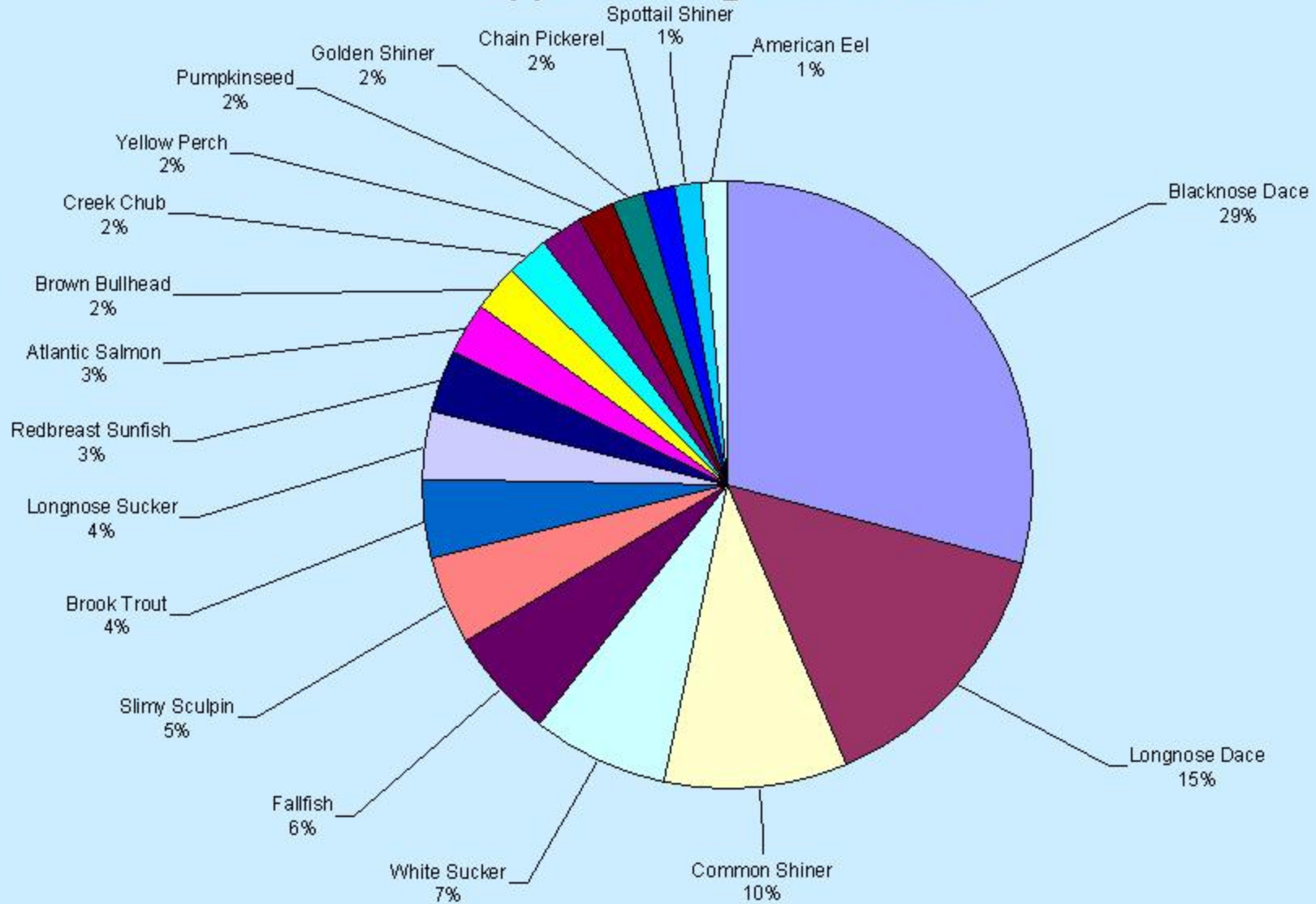
Northeast Instream Habitat Program

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

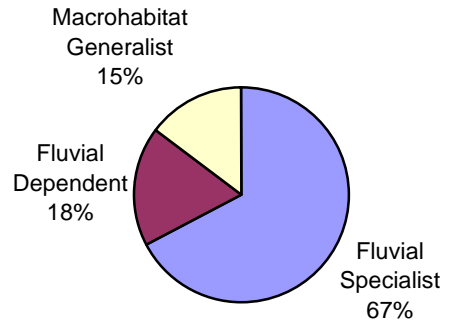
Reported tasks

- Existing fish fauna vs. habitat
- Bioperiods and indicator species
- Available fish habitat
- Proposed PISF values
- Management recommendations

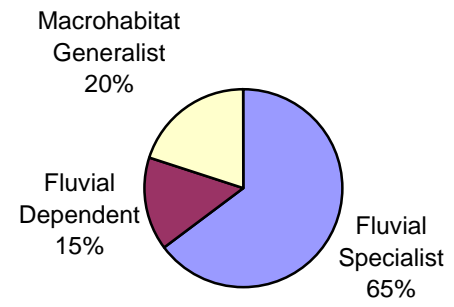
Upper Souhegan River TFC



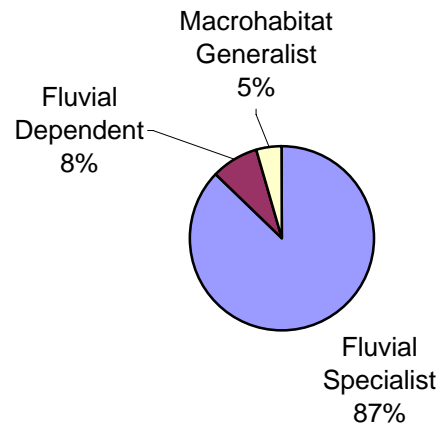
Upper Souhegan TFC



Upper Souhegan XFC



Upper Souhegan Relative Abundances

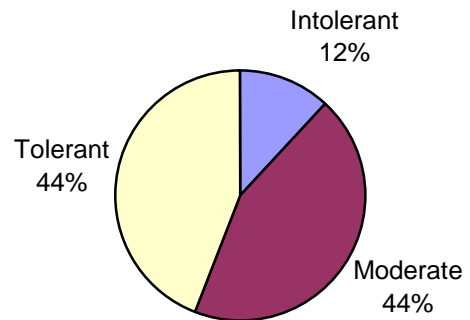


Upper Souhegan

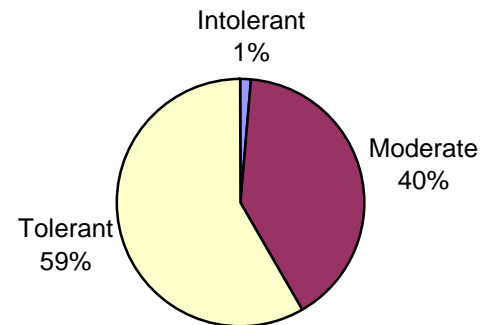
Species	Proportion of Target Fish Community	Proportion of Existing Fish Community	Native or Introduced	Habitat use Classification	Pollution Tolerance	Thermal Regime
<i>Underrepresented native target fish species</i>						
Atlantic salmon	3%	1%	N	FS	I	Cold
Common shiner	10%	5%	N	FD	M	Cool
Golden shiner	2%	<1%	N	MG	T	Cool
Pumpkinseed	2%	<1%	N	MG	M	Warm
White sucker	7%	3%	N	FD	T	Cool
<i>Target fish species recorded as expected</i>						
Fallfish	6%	6%	N	FS	M	Cool
Yellow perch	2%	2%	N	MG	M	Cool
<i>Overly abundant native target fish species</i>						
Blacknose dace	29%	55%	N	FS	T	Cool
Longnose dace	15%	25%	N	FS	M	Cool
<i>Missing native target fish species</i>						
American eel	1%	0%	N	FD	T	Cool
Brown bullhead	2%	0%	N	MG	T	Warm
Chain pickerel	2%	0%	N	MG	M	Warm
Creek chub	2%	0%	N	FS	T	Cool
Eastern brook trout	4%	0%	N	FS	I	Cold
Longnose sucker	4%	0%	N	FS	M	Cold
Redbreast sunfish	3%	0%	N	MG	M	Warm
Slimy sculpin	5%	0%	N	FS	I	Cold
Spottail shiner	1%	0%	N	MG	M	Cool
<i>Introduced species present in the existing fish community</i>						
Brown trout	0%	<1%	I	FD	I	Cool
Largemouth bass	0%	2%	I	MG	M	Warm

Pollution tolerance

Upper Souhegan TFC

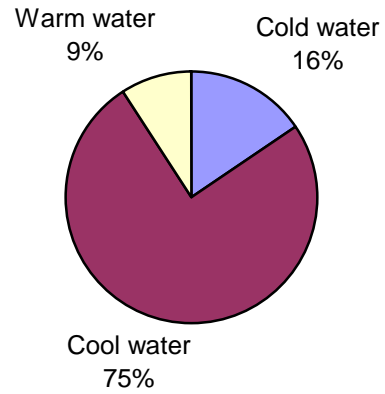


Upper Souhegan Existing Fish Community

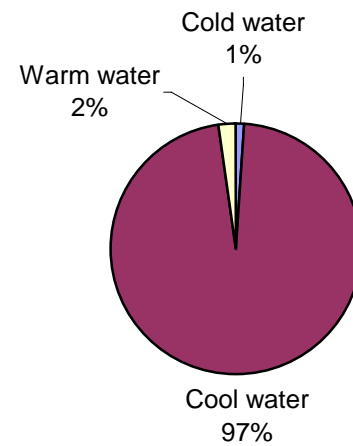


Thermal tolerance

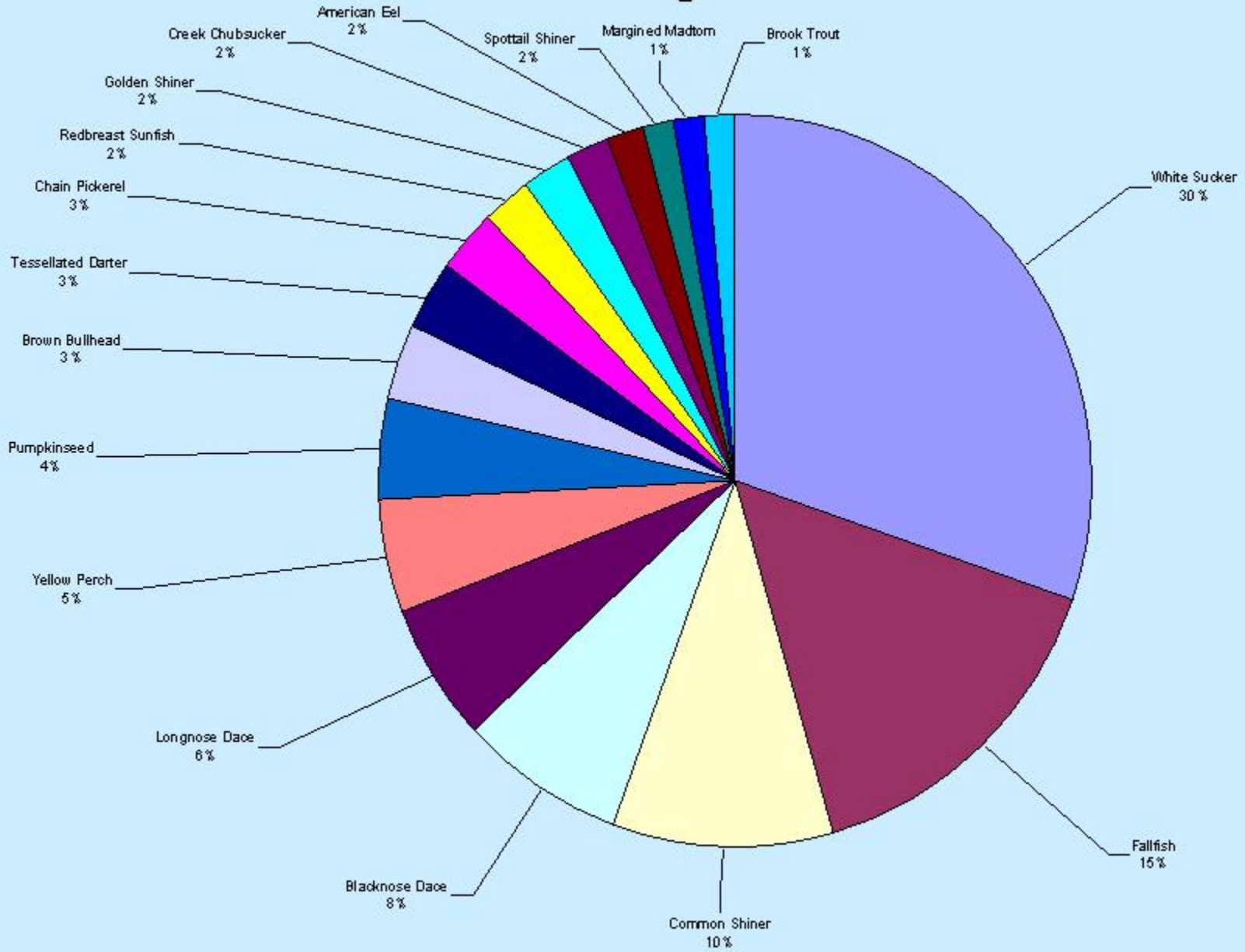
Upper Souhegan TFC



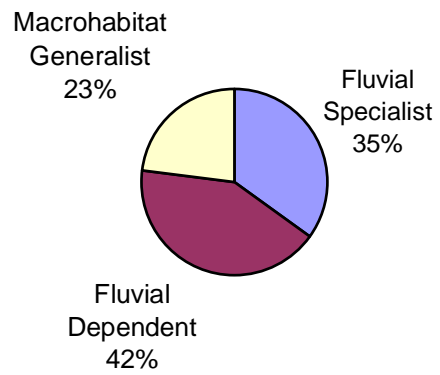
Upper Souhegan Existing Fish Community



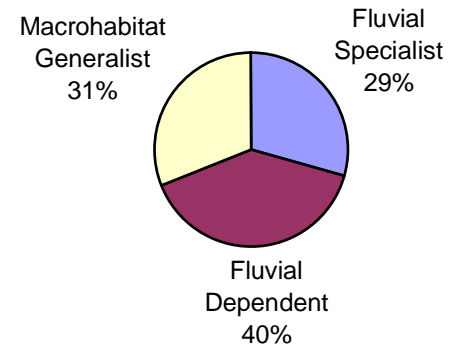
Lower Souhegan River TFC



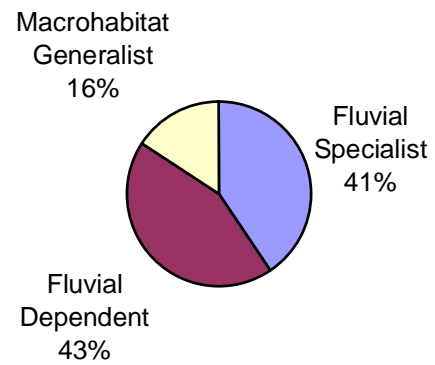
Lower Souhegan TFC



Lower Souhegan XFC



Lower Souhegan Relative Abundances

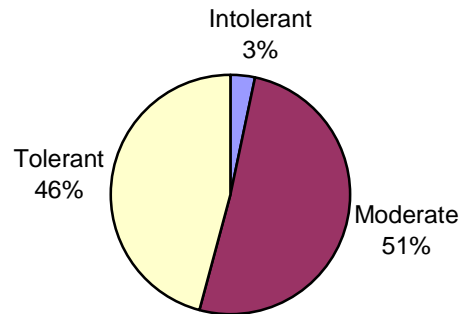


Lower Souhegan

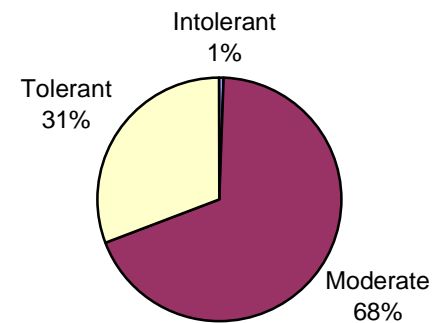
Species	Proportion of Target Fish Community	Proportion of Existing Fish Community	Native or Introduced	Habitat use Classification	Pollution Tolerance	Thermal Regime
<i>Underrepresented native target fish species</i>						
Chain pickerel	3%	<1%	N	MG	M	Warm
Creek chubsucker	2%	<1%	N	FS	I	Cool
Pumpkinseed	4%	<1%	N	MG	M	Warm
Yellow perch	5%	<1%	N	MG	M	Cool
White sucker	31%	13%	N	FD	T	Cool
<i>Target fish species recorded as expected</i>						
Fallfish	15%	20%	N	FS	M	Cool
Golden shiner	2%	1%	N	MG	T	Cool
Longnose dace	6%	4%	N	FS	M	Cool
<i>Overly abundant native target fish species</i>						
Blacknose dace	8%	17%	N	FS	T	Cool
Common shiner	10%	30%	N	FD	M	Cool
Redbreast sunfish	2%	13%	N	MG	M	Warm
<i>Missing native target fish species</i>						
American eel	2%	0%	N	FD	T	Cool
Brown bullhead	3%	0%	N	MG	T	Warm
Eastern brook trout	1%	0%	N	FS	I	Cold
Spottail shiner	2%	0%	N	MG	M	Cool
Tessellated darter	3%	0%	N	FS	M	Cool
<i>Introduced species present in the existing fish community</i>						
Bluegill	NA	<1%	I	MG	T	Warm
Brown trout	NA	<1%	I	FD	I	Cool
Largemouth bass	NA	2%	I	MG	M	Warm
Rainbow trout	NA	<1%	I	FD	I	Cold
Yellow bullhead	NA	<1%	I	MG	T	Warm

Pollution tolerance

Lower Souhegan TFC

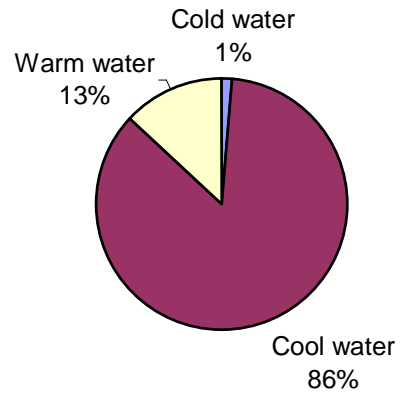


Lower Souhegan Existing Fish Community

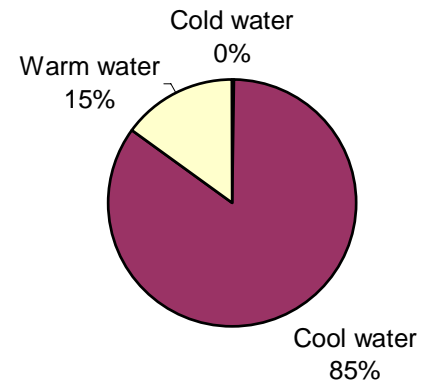


Thermal tolerance

Lower Souhegan TFC



Lower Souhegan Existing Fish Community



Species selected for habitat modeling

Fallfish



Slimy sculpin



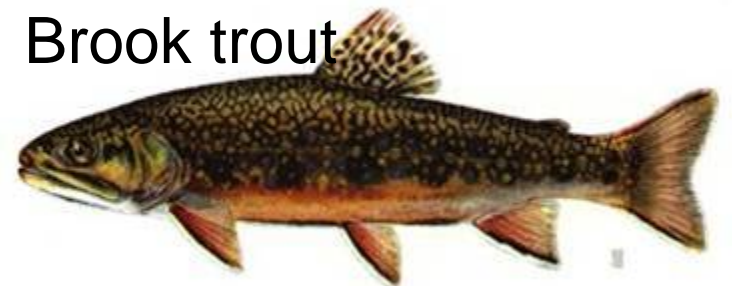
Common shiner



Longnose dace



Brook trout



White sucker



Blacknose dace



Atlantic salmon



Species selected for habitat modeling

Fallfish



Slimy sculpin



American Eel

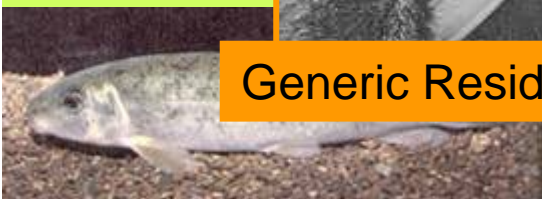
Common



se dace



White su

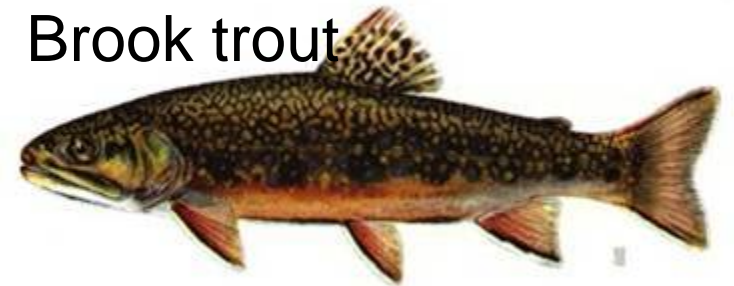


se dace

Generic Resident Adult Fish



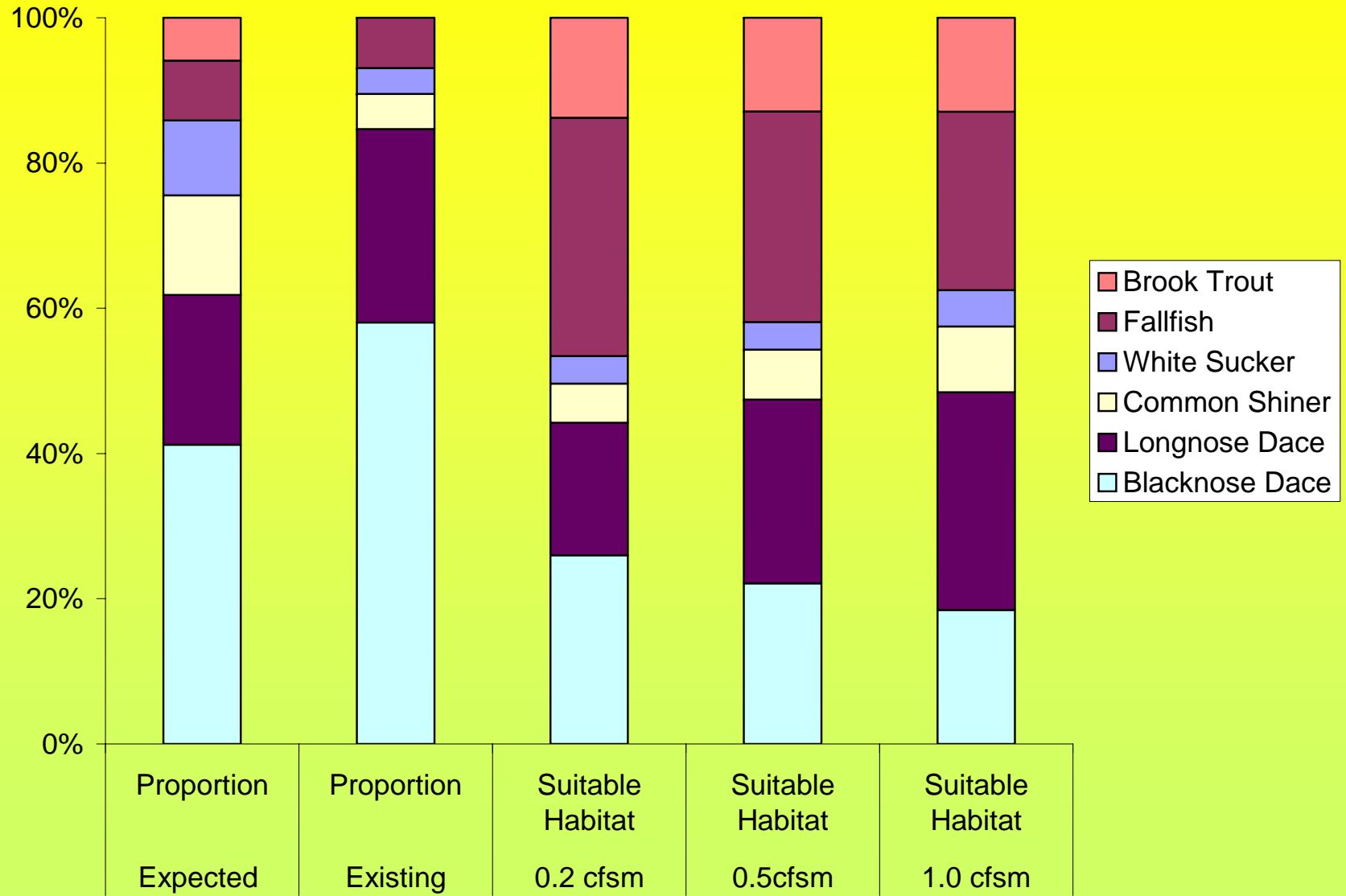
Brook trout



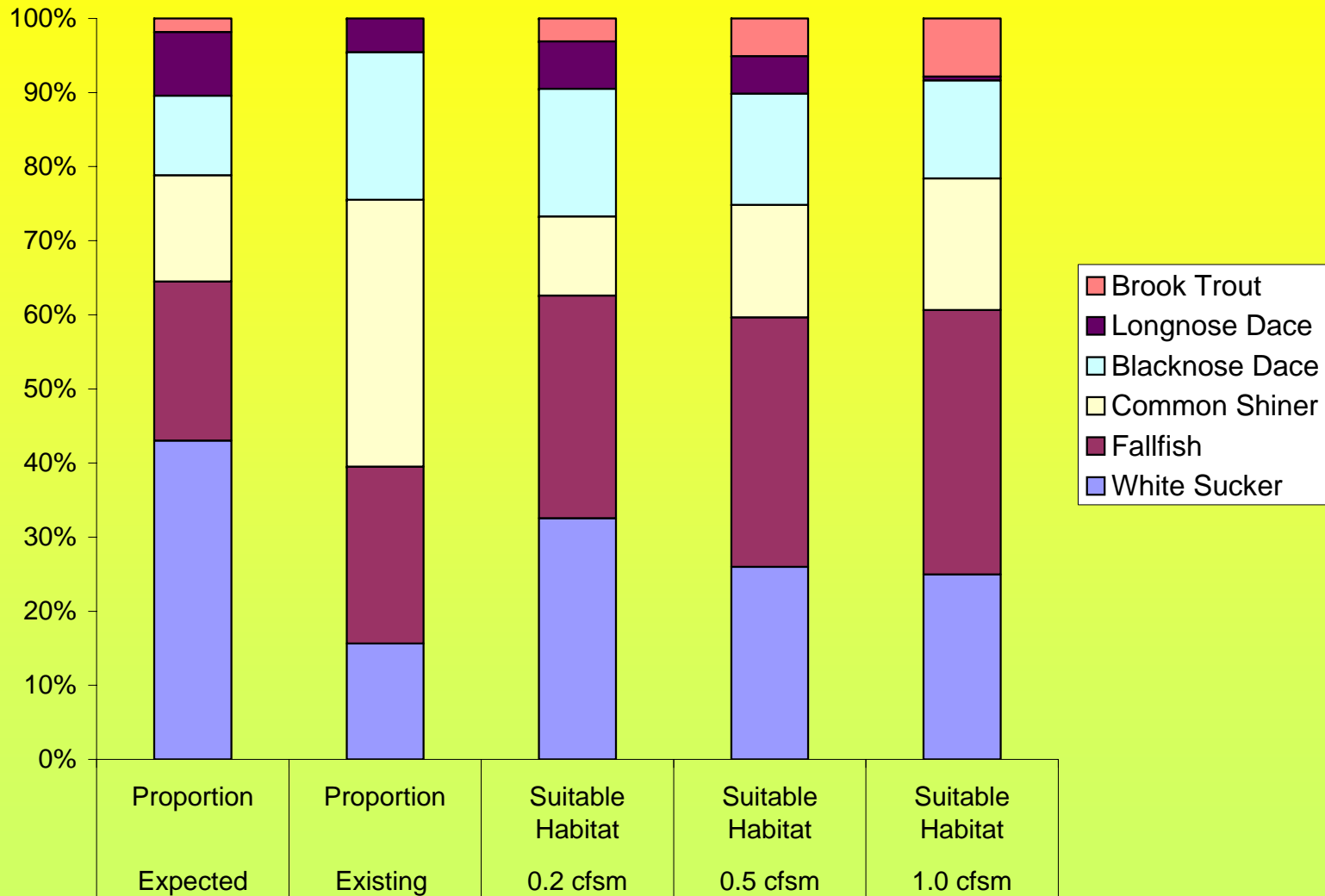
Atlantic salmon

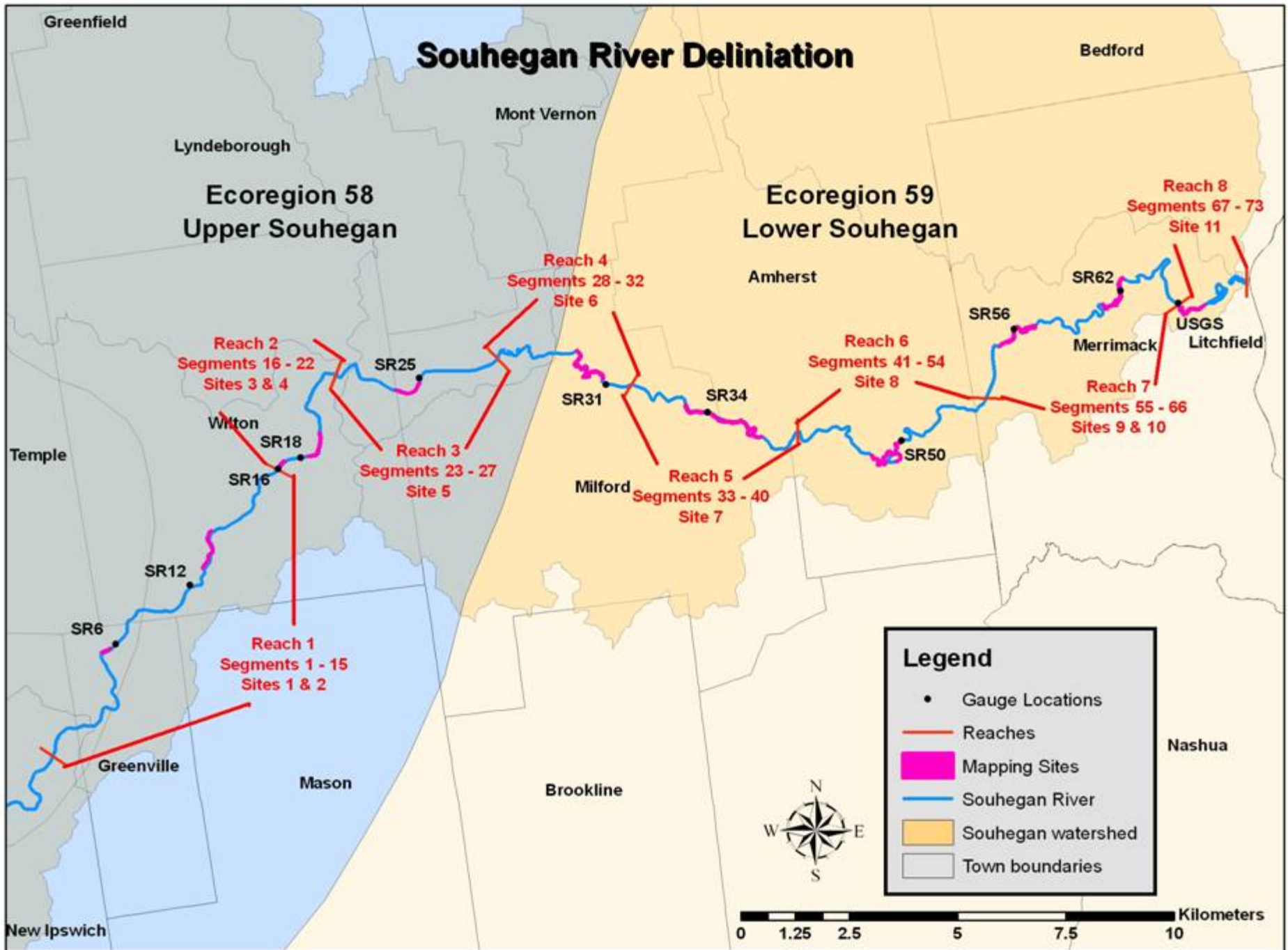


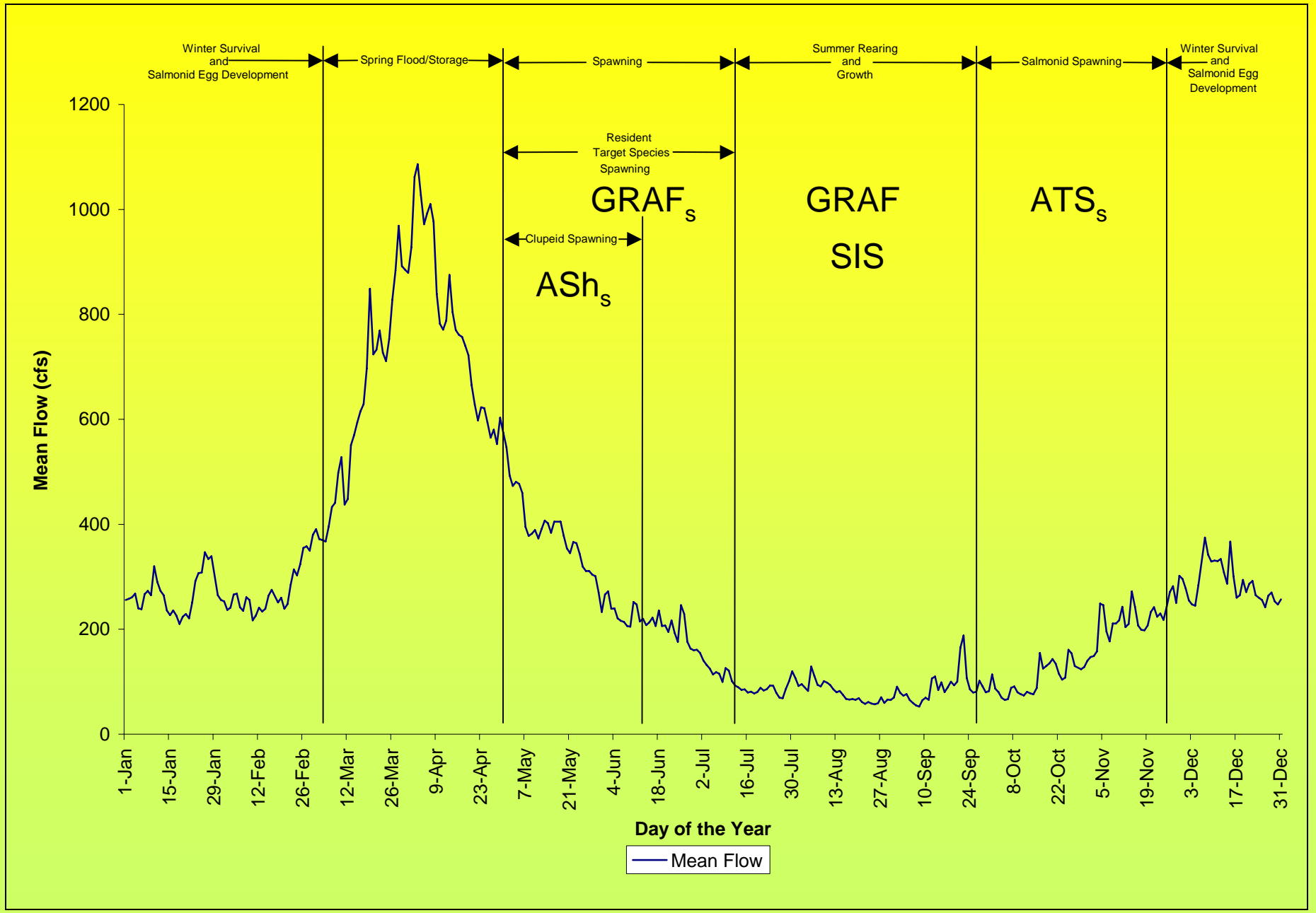
Upper Souhegan



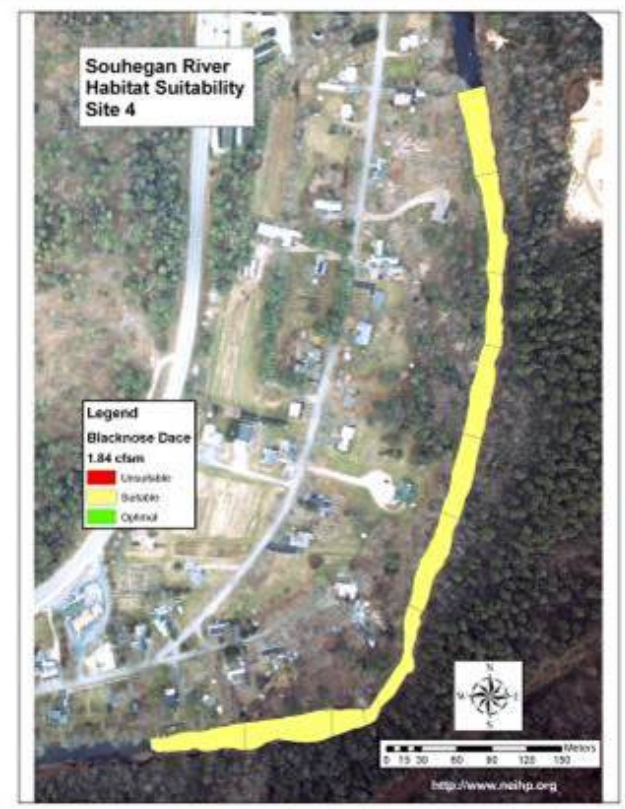
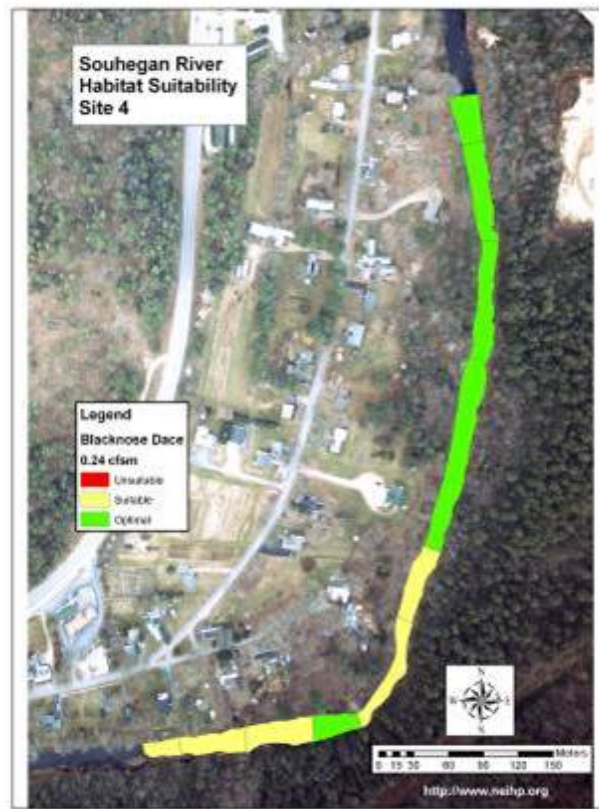
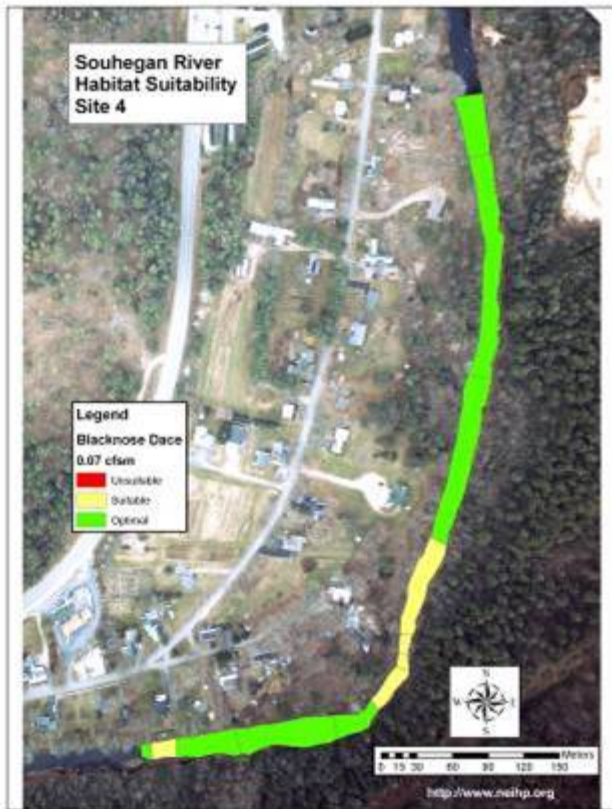
Lower Souhegan



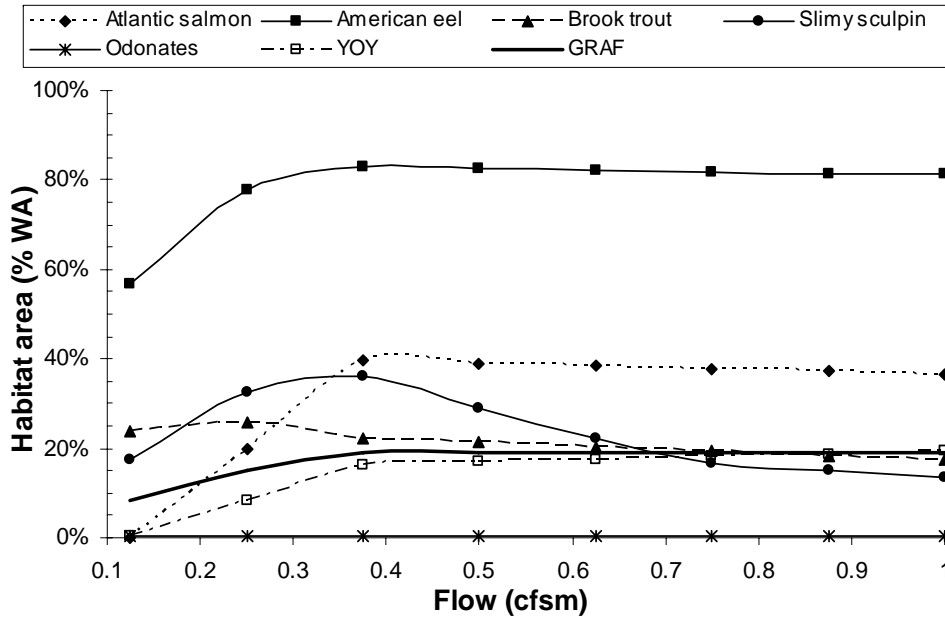




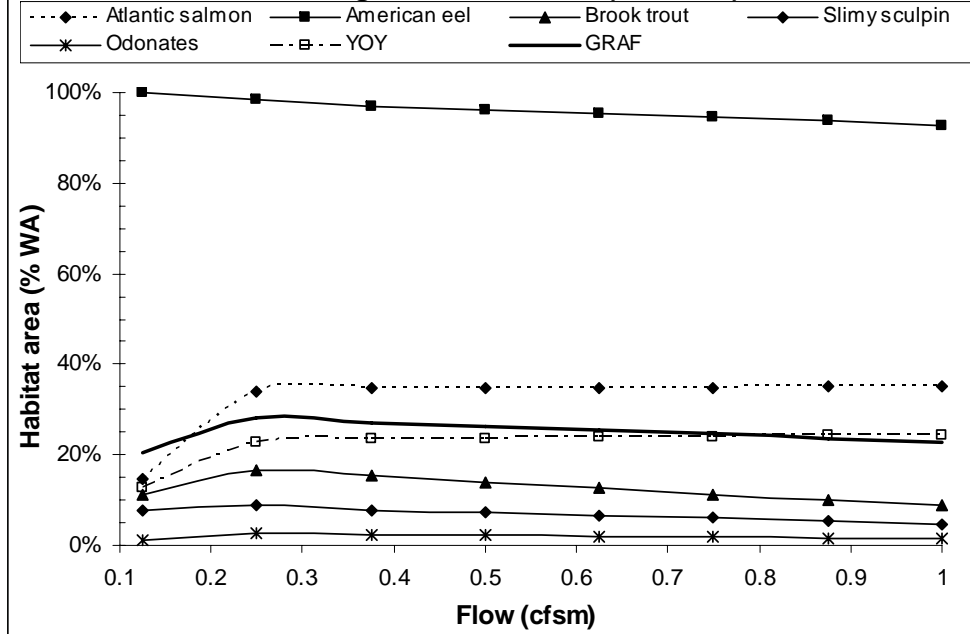
Site 4 Suitability: Blacknose Dace



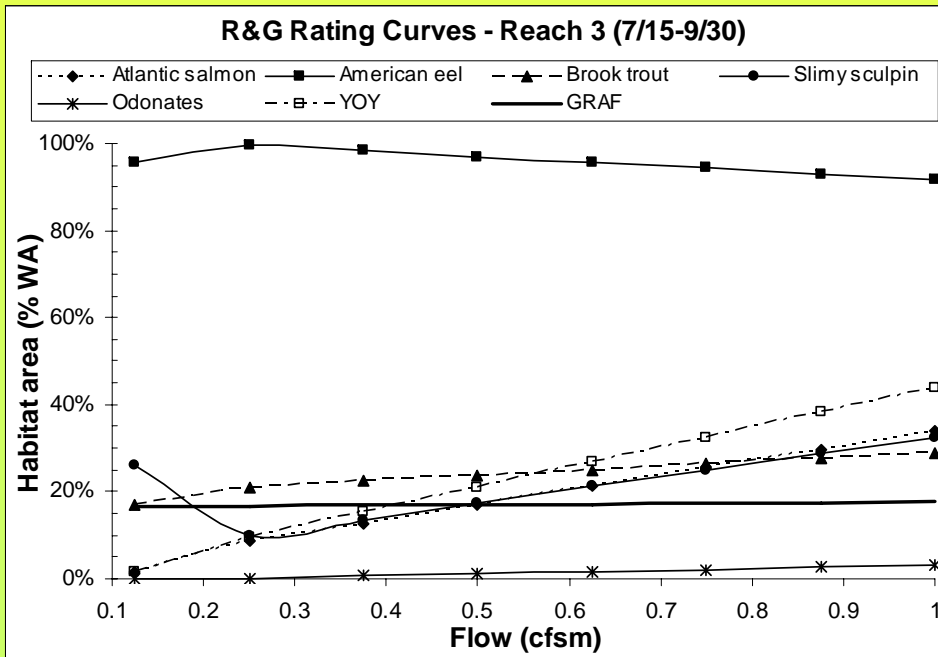
R&G Rating Curves - Reach 1 (7/15-9/30)



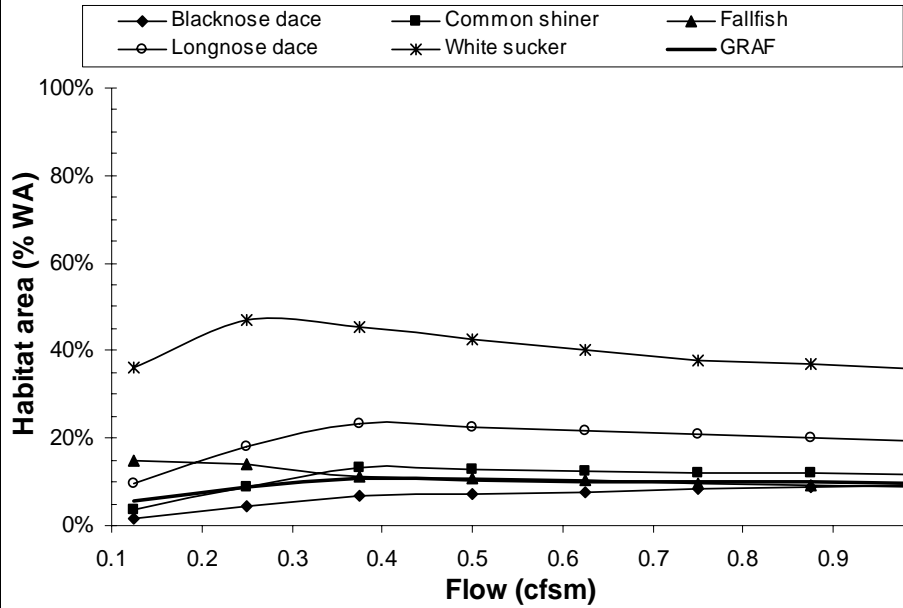
R & G Rating Curves- Reach 2 (7/15-9/30)



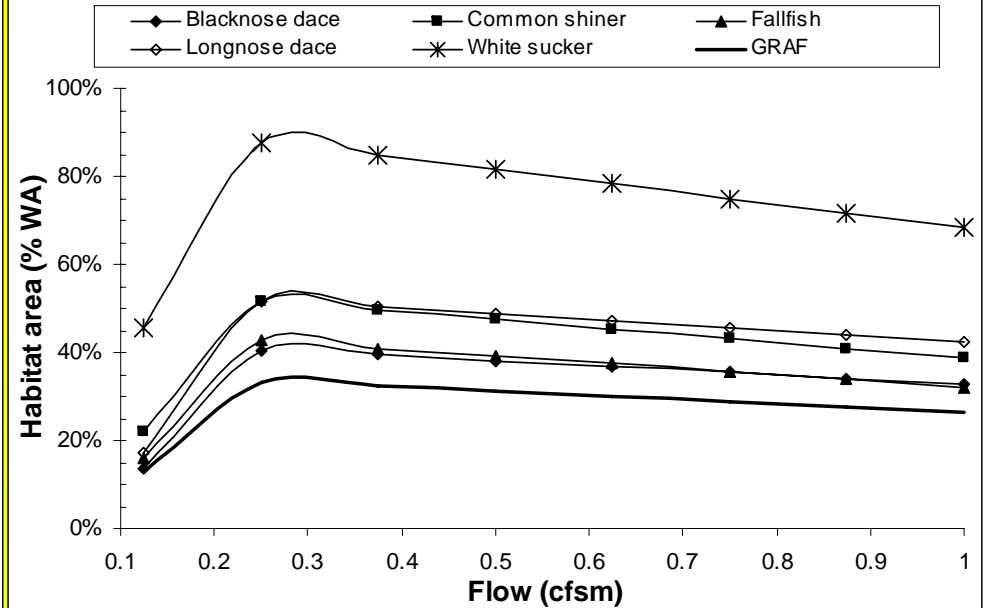
R&G Rating Curves - Reach 3 (7/15-9/30)



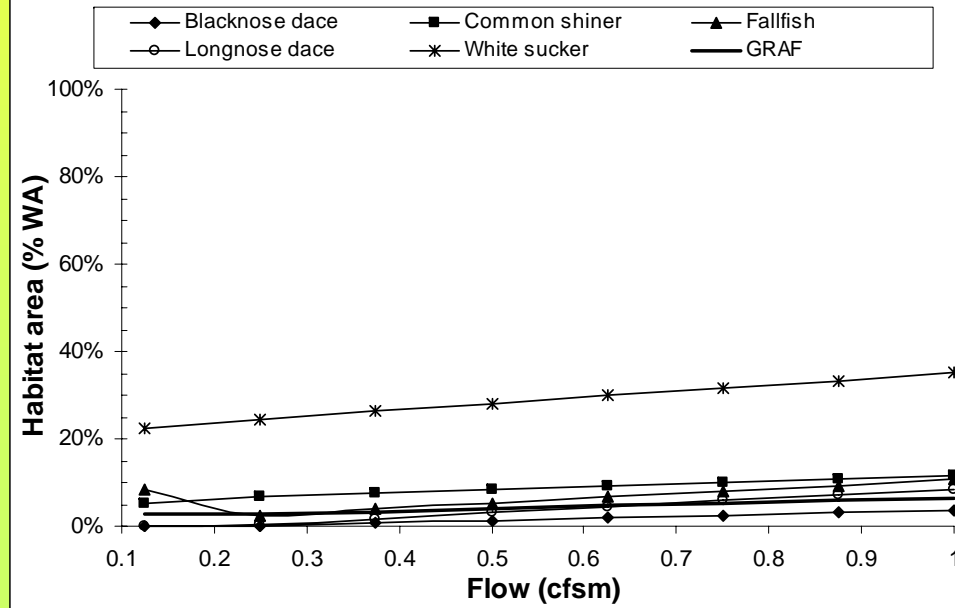
Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 1 (6/15-7/15)



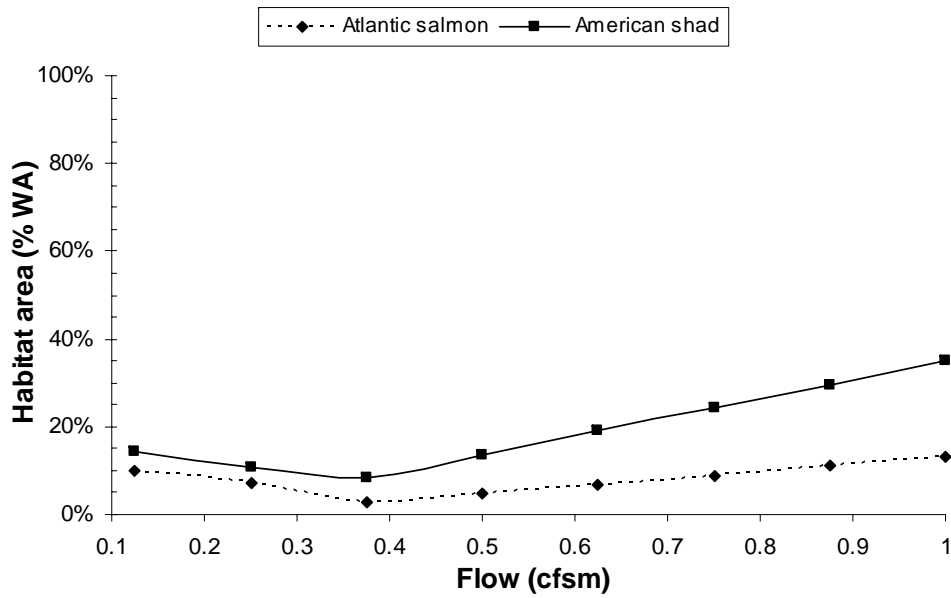
Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 2 (6/15-7/15)



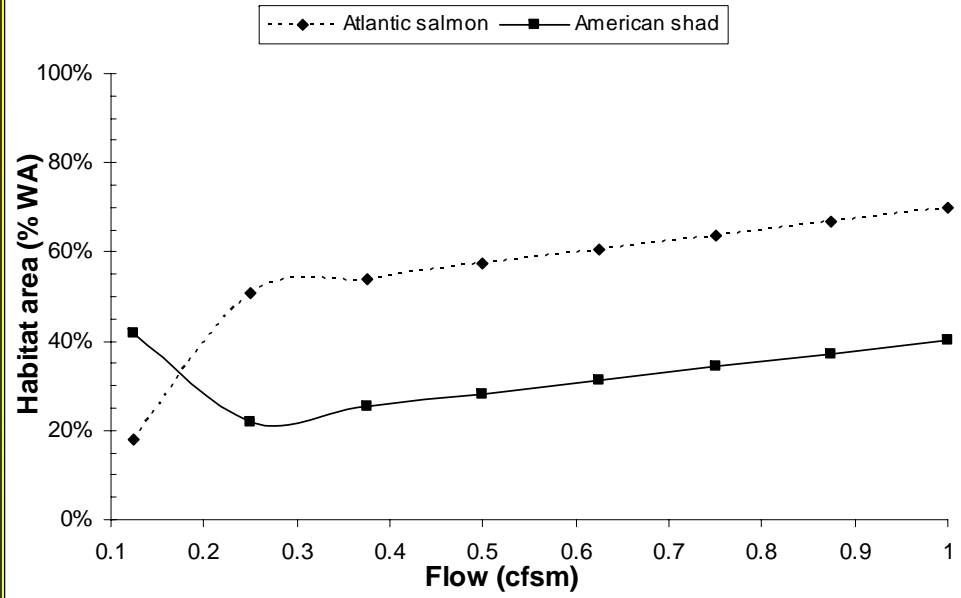
Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 3 (6/15-7/15)



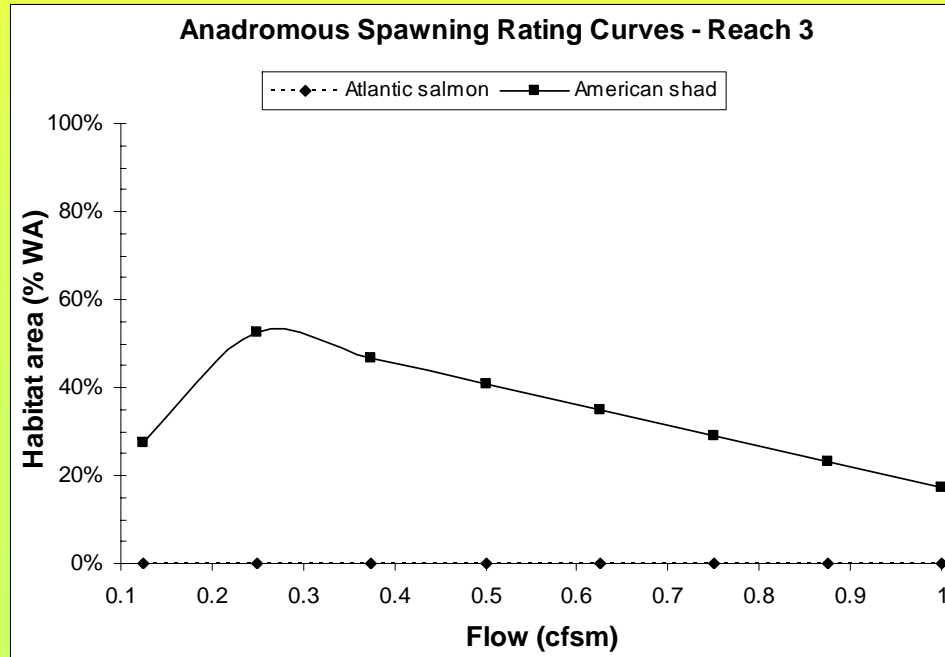
Anadromous Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 1



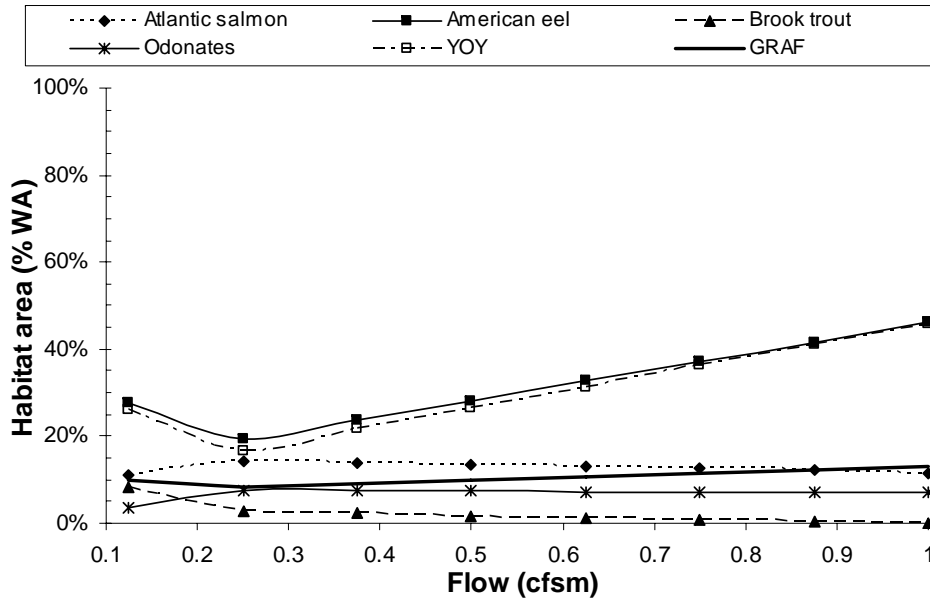
Anadromous Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 2



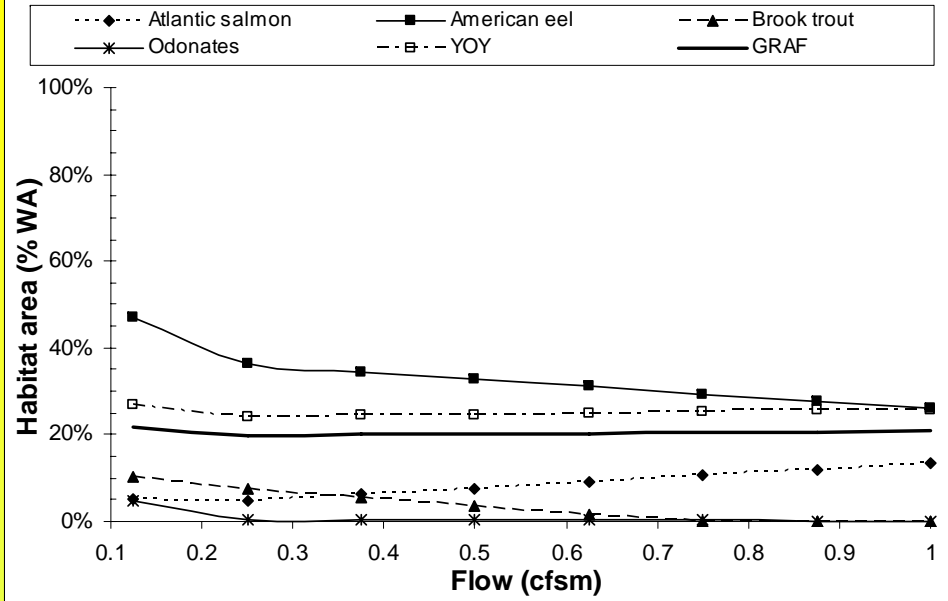
Anadromous Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 3



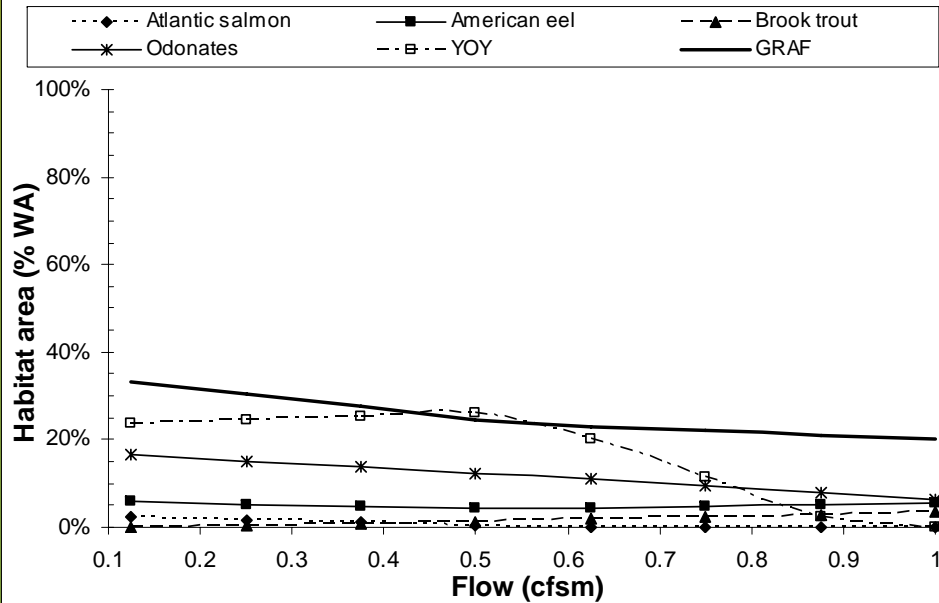
R&G Rating Curves - Reach 4 (7/15-9/30)



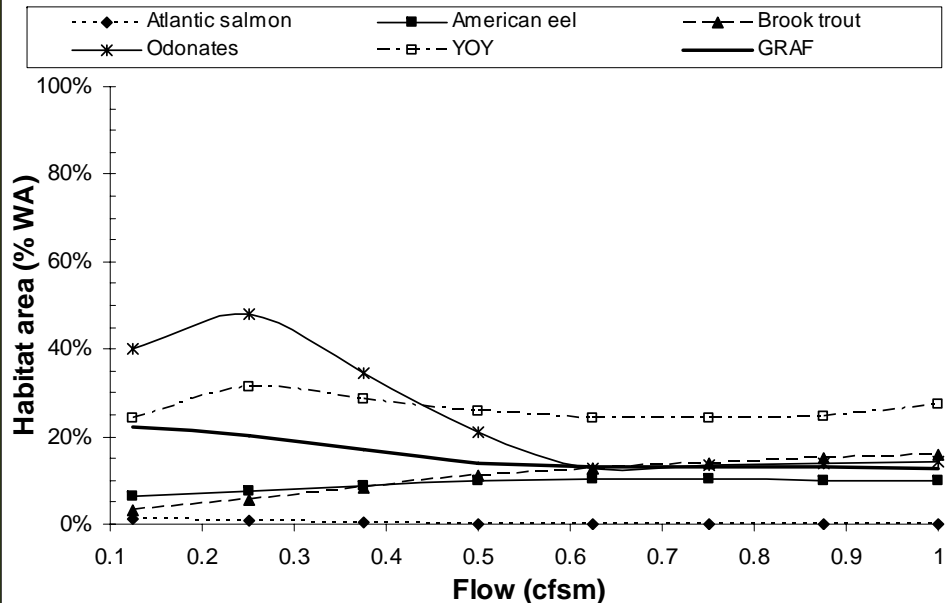
R&G Rating Curves - Reach 5 (7/15-9/30)



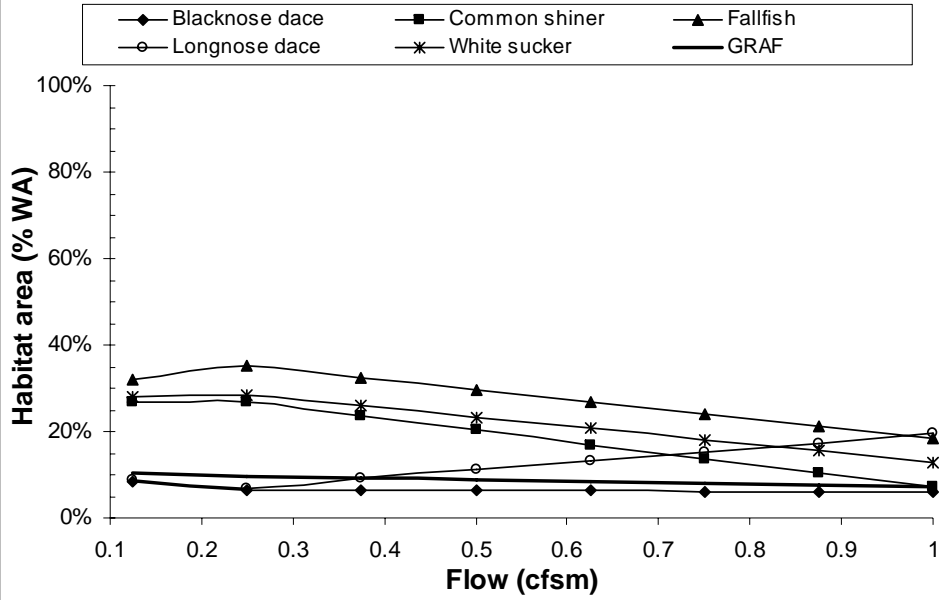
R&G Rating Curves - Reach 6 (7/15-9/30)



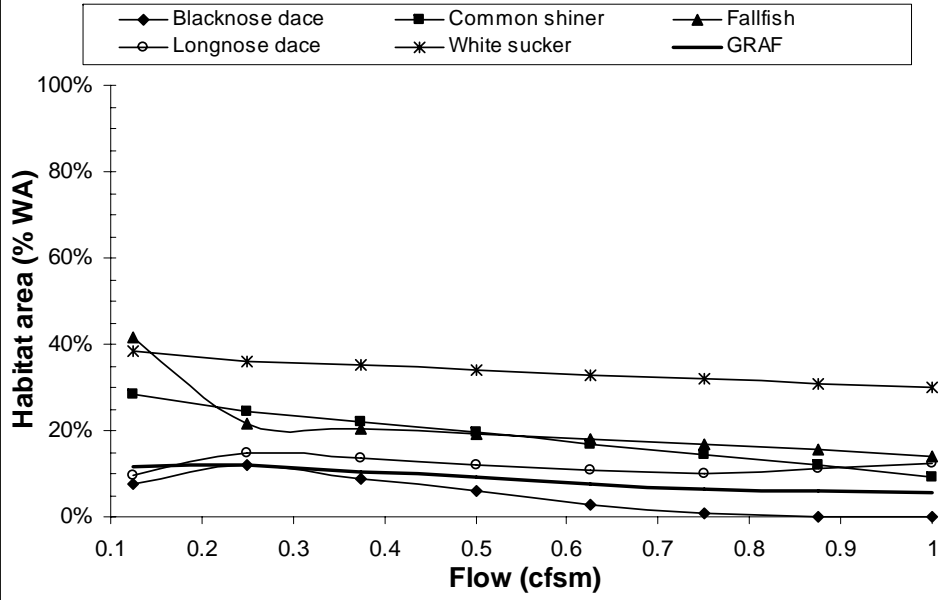
R&G Rating Curves - Reach 7 (7/15-9/30)



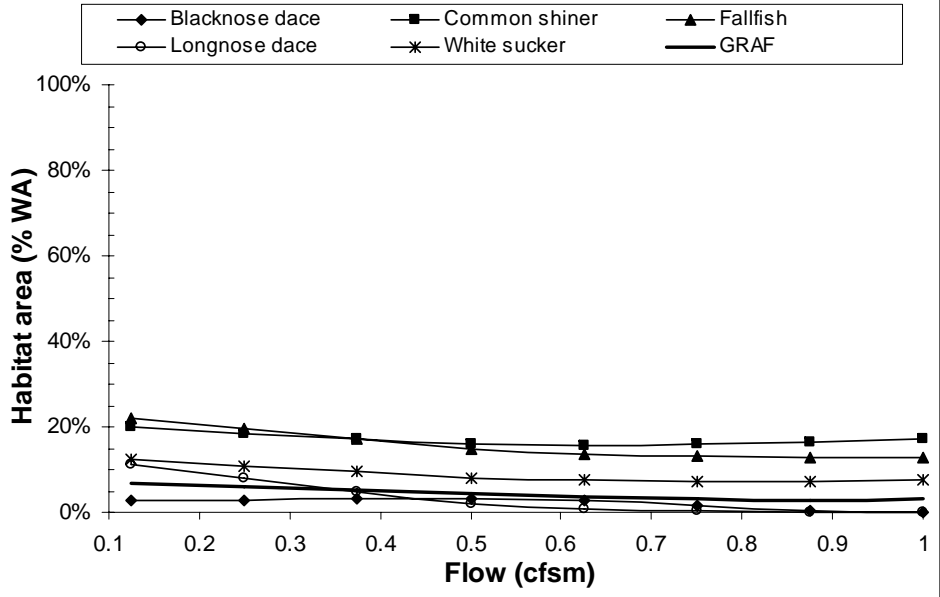
Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 4 (6/15-7/15)



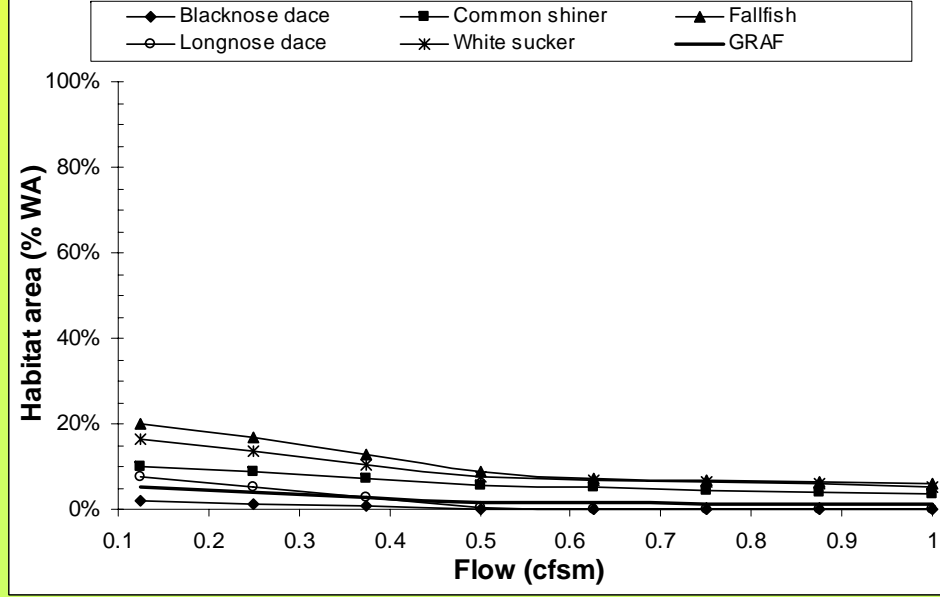
Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 5 (6/15-7/15)



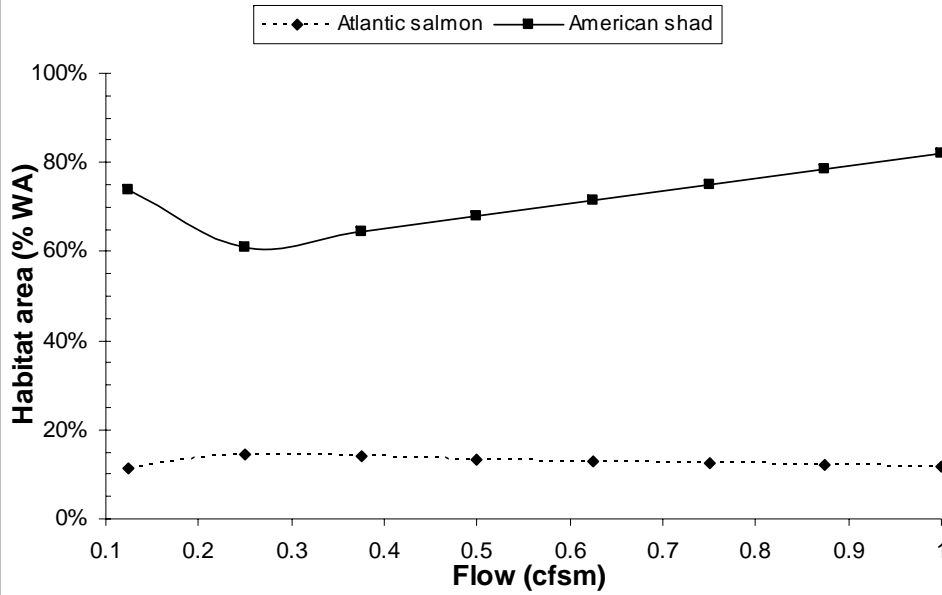
Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 6 (6/15-7/15)



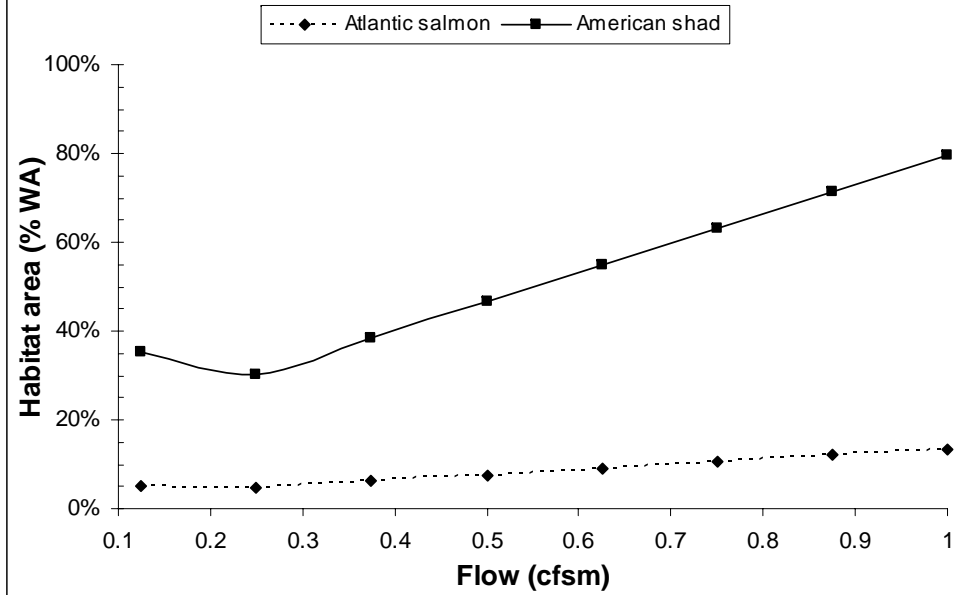
Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 7 (6/15-7/15)



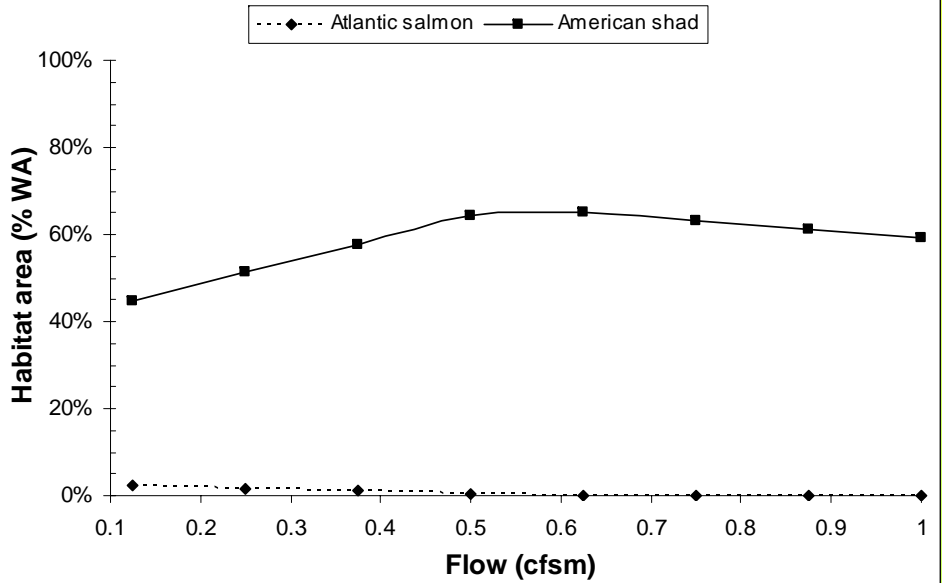
Anadromous Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 4



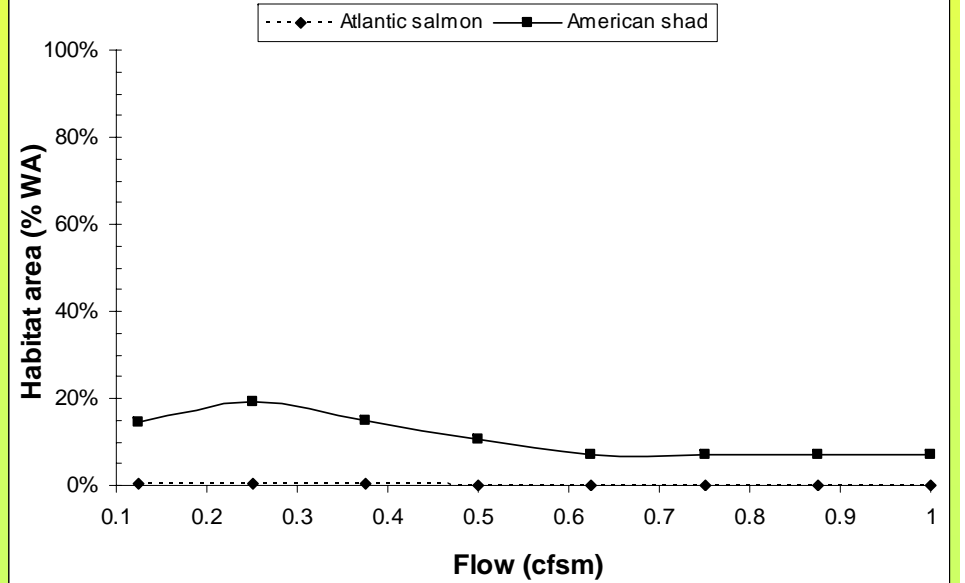
Anadromous Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 5



Anadromous Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 6



Anadromous Spawning Rating Curves - Reach 7



Souhegan River, Site 7 Habitat Suitability Present Conditions



Legend
Fallfish
0.71 cfs/m

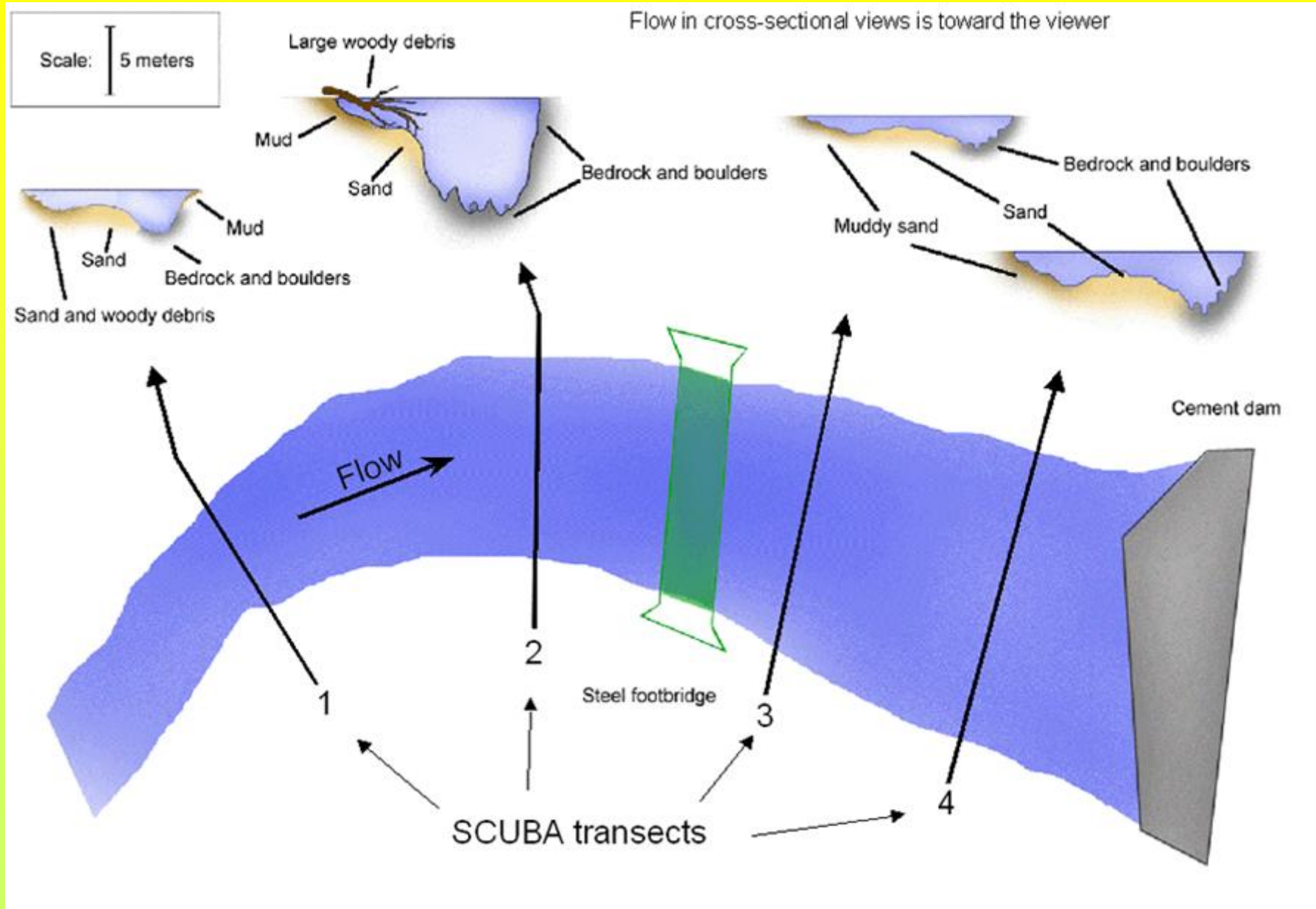
- Unsuitable
- Suitable
- Optimal

Restoration Simulation



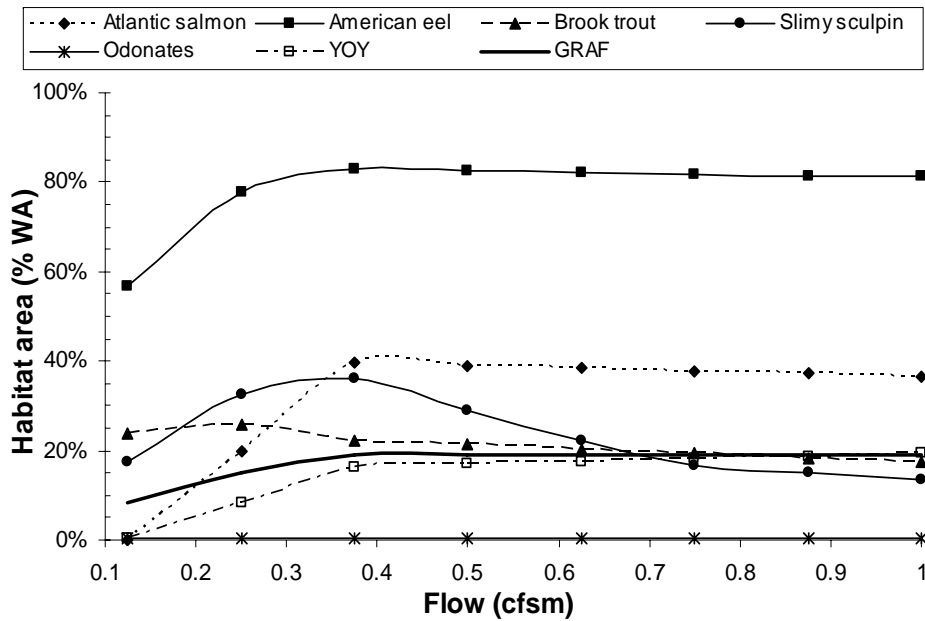
<http://www.neihp.org>





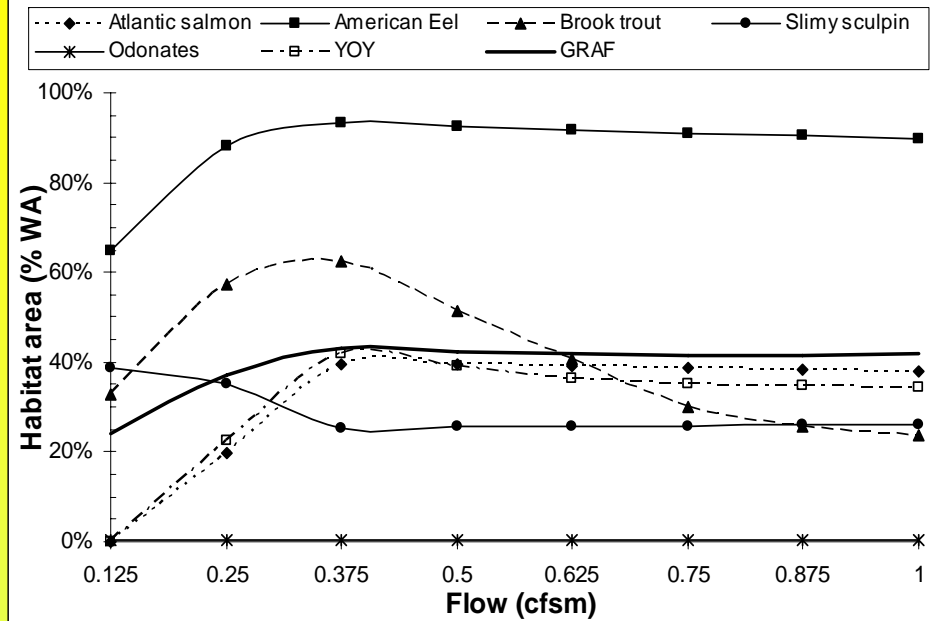
Before

R & G Rating Curves - Reach 1 (7/15-9/30)

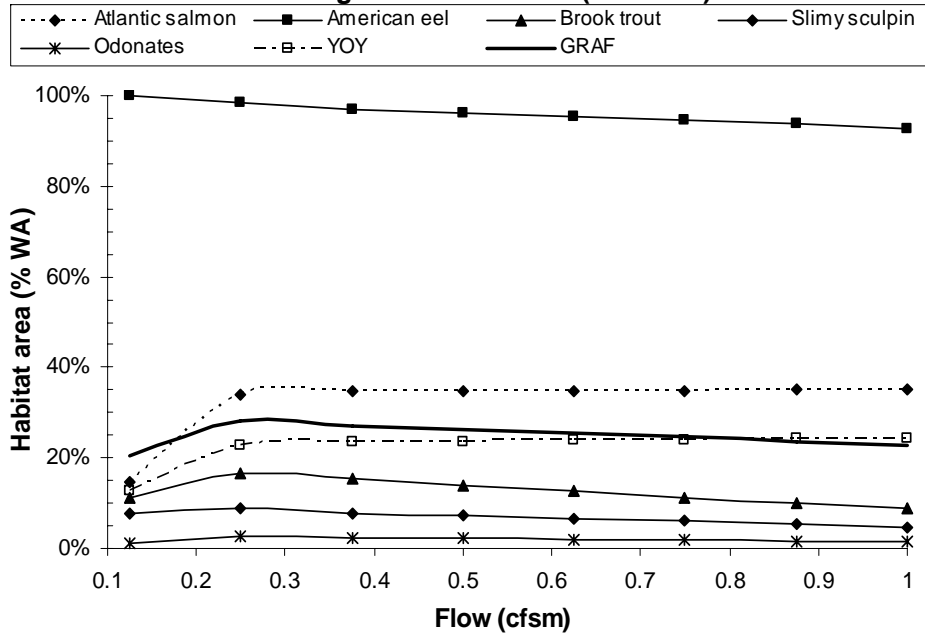


After

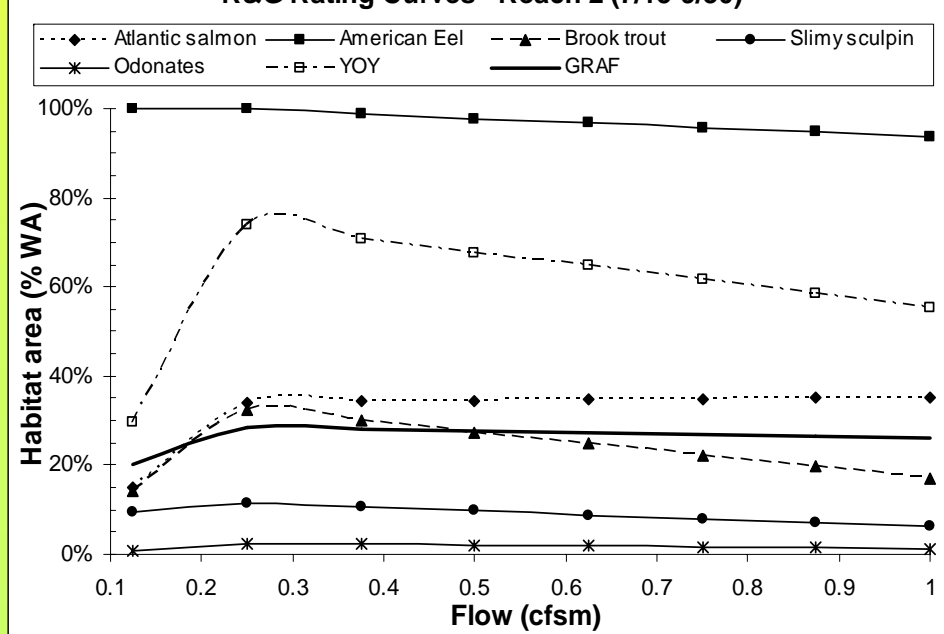
R & G Rating Curves - Reach 1 (7/15-9/30)



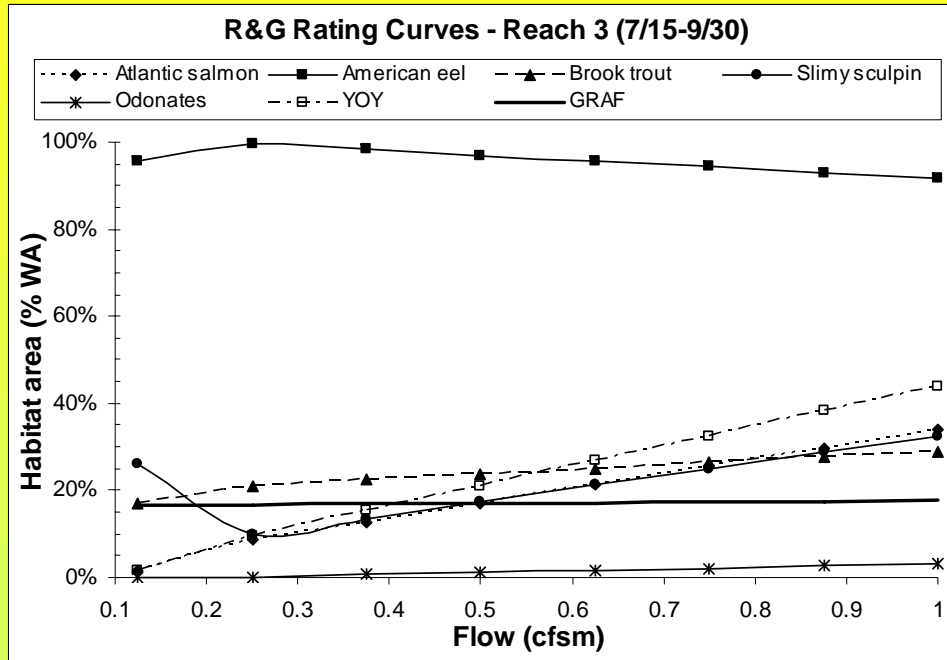
R & G Rating Curves- Reach 2 (7/15-9/30)



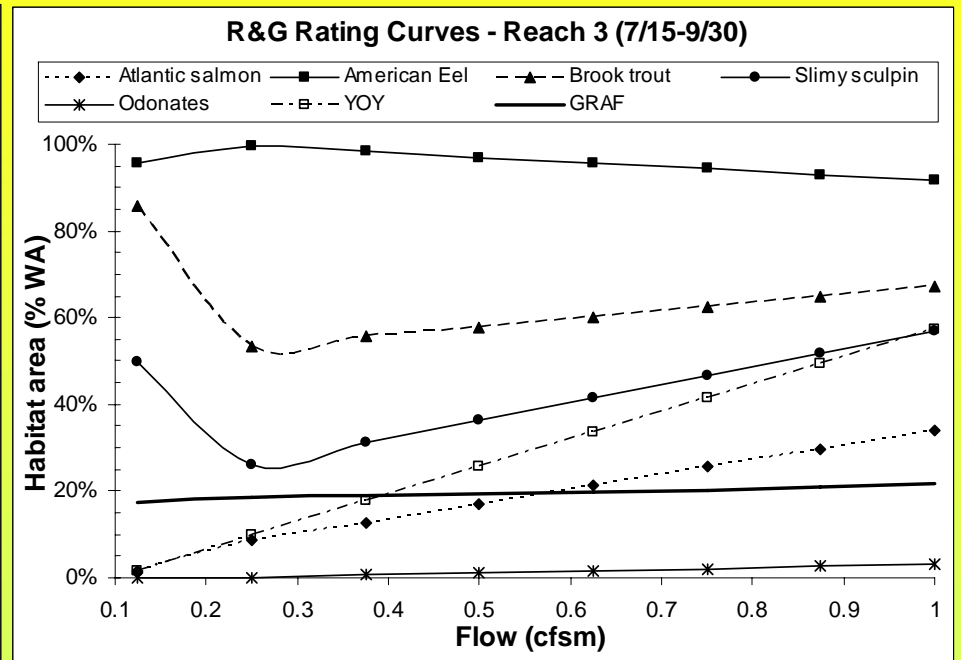
R & G Rating Curves - Reach 2 (7/15-9/30)



Before

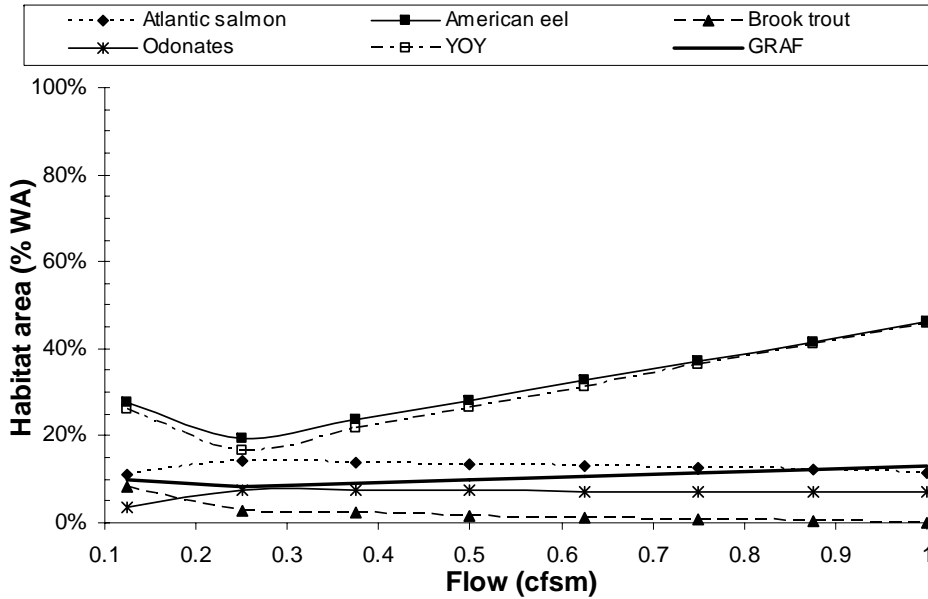


After



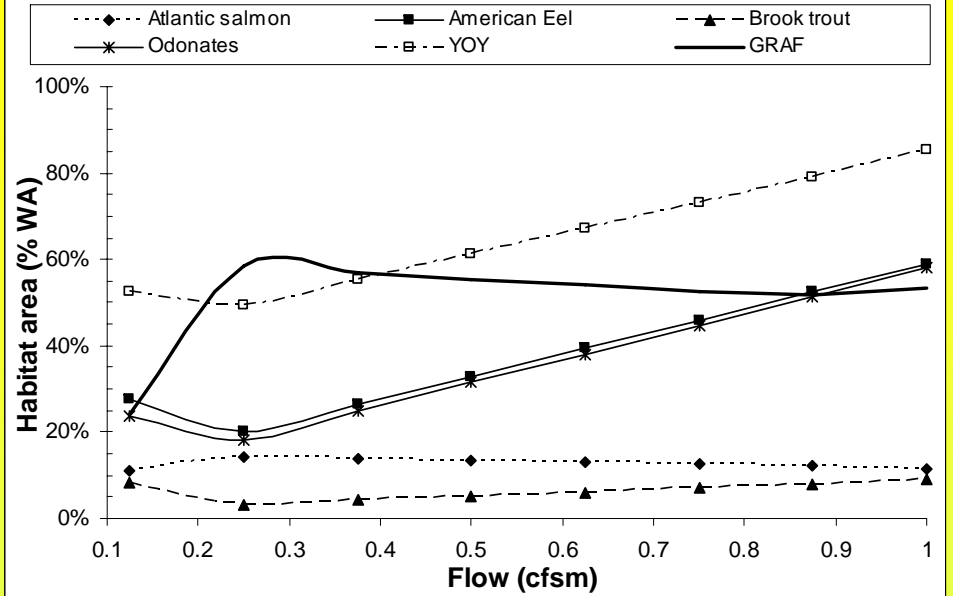
Before

R&G Rating Curves - Reach 4 (7/15-9/30)

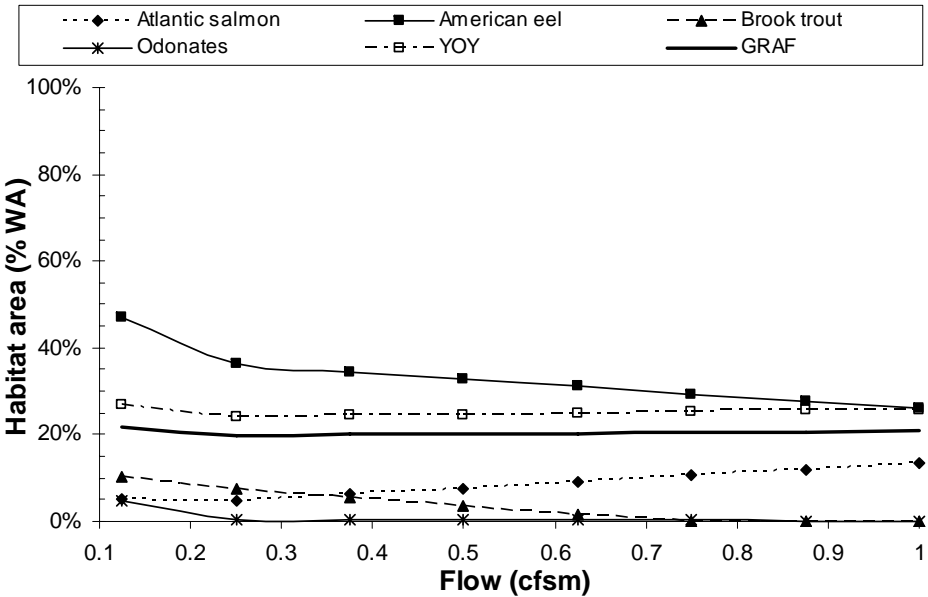


After

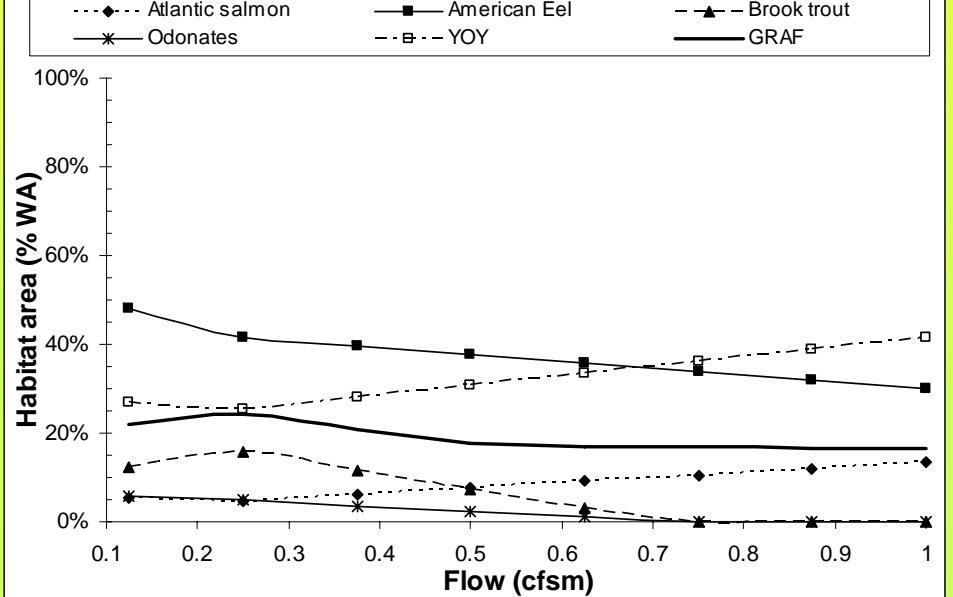
R&G Rating Curves - Reach 4 (7/15-9/30)



R&G Rating Curves - Reach 5 (7/15-9/30)

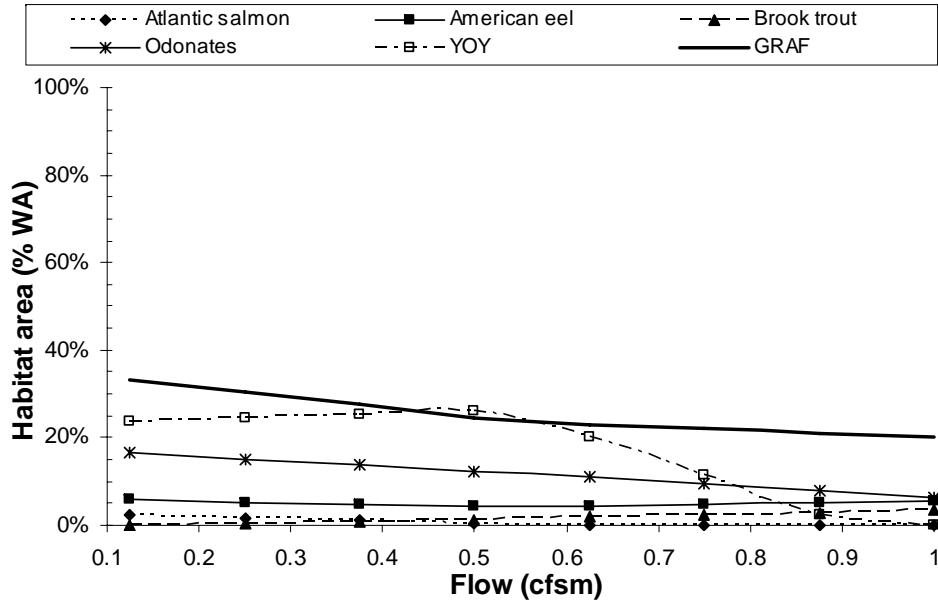


R&G Rating Curves - Reach 5 (7/15-9/30)



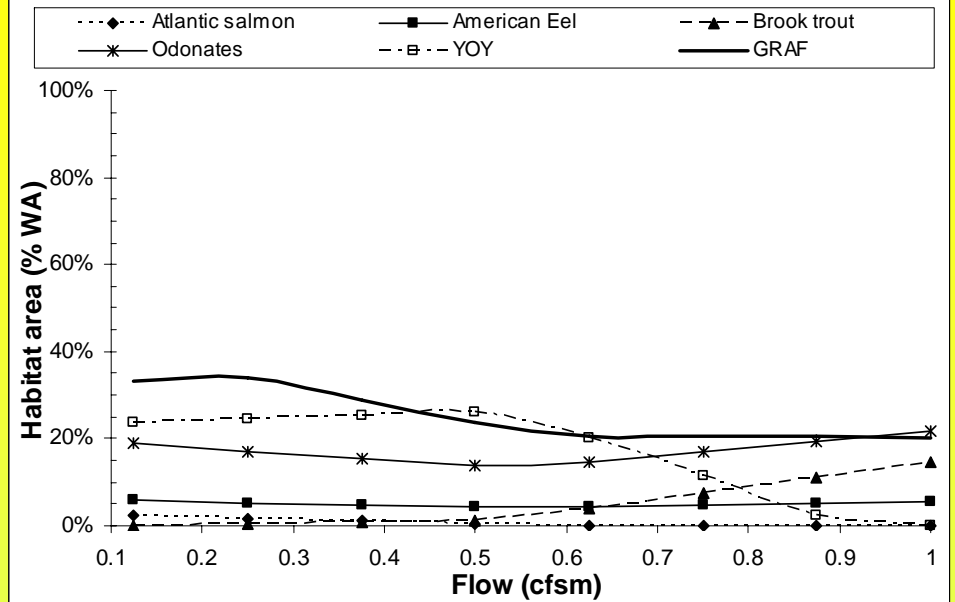
Before

R&G Rating Curves - Reach 6 (7/15-9/30)

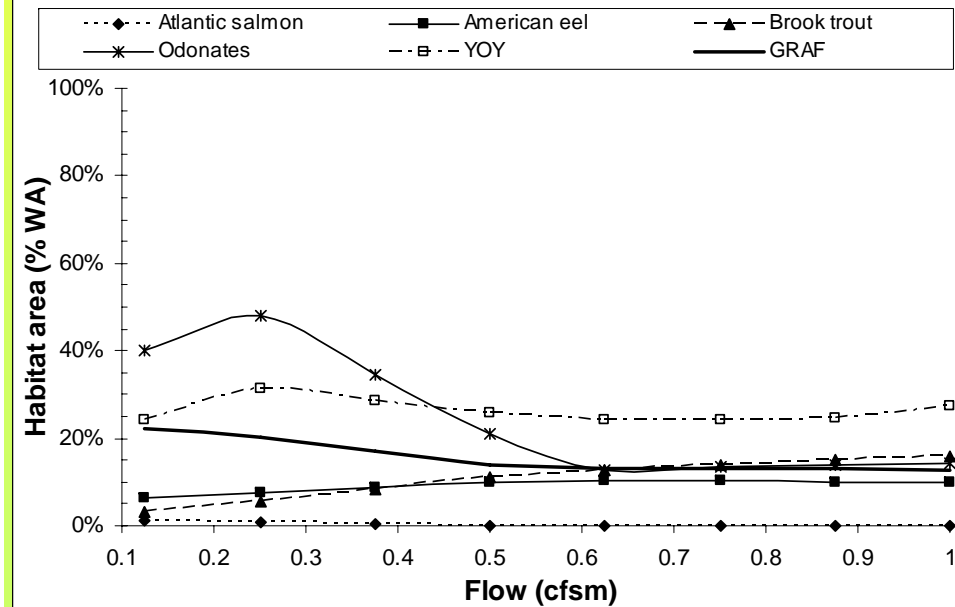


After

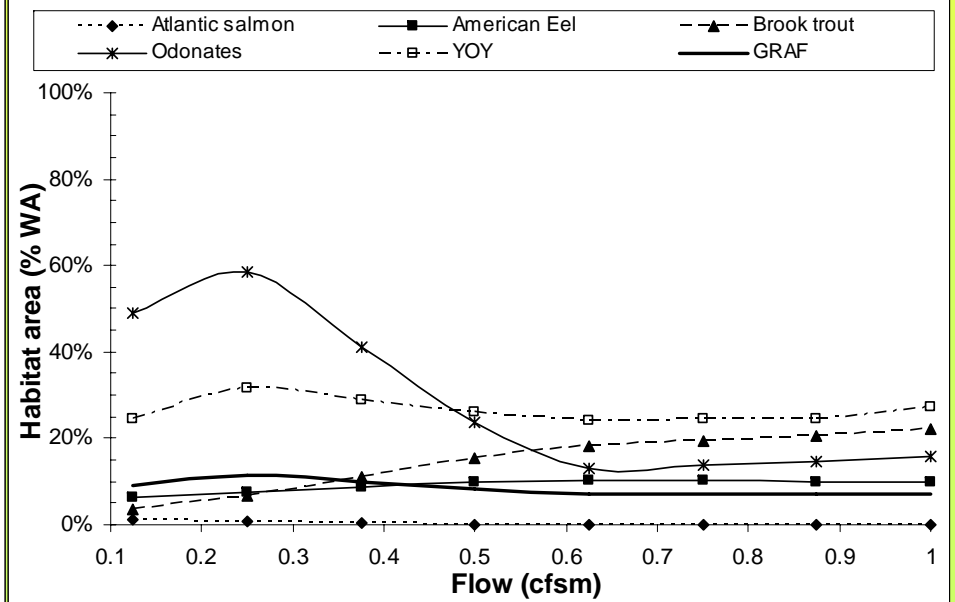
R&G Rating Curves - Reach 6 (7/15-9/30)

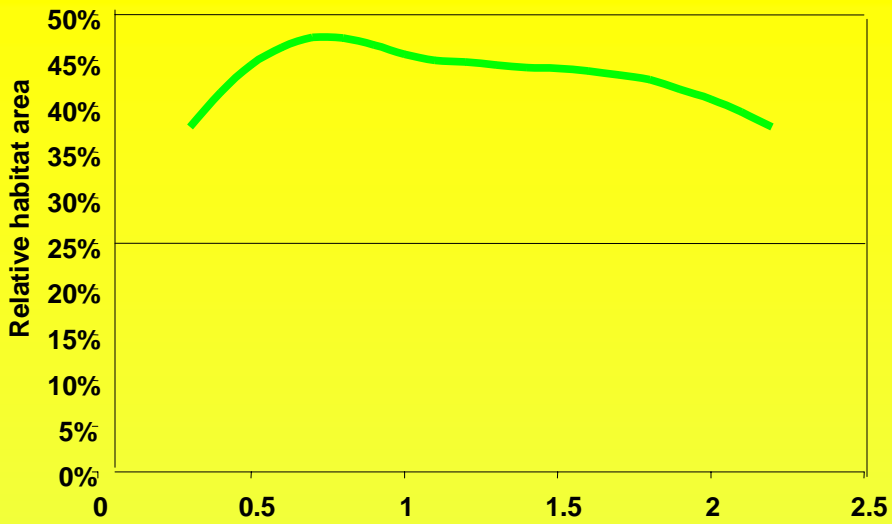


R&G Rating Curves - Reach 7 (7/15-9/30)

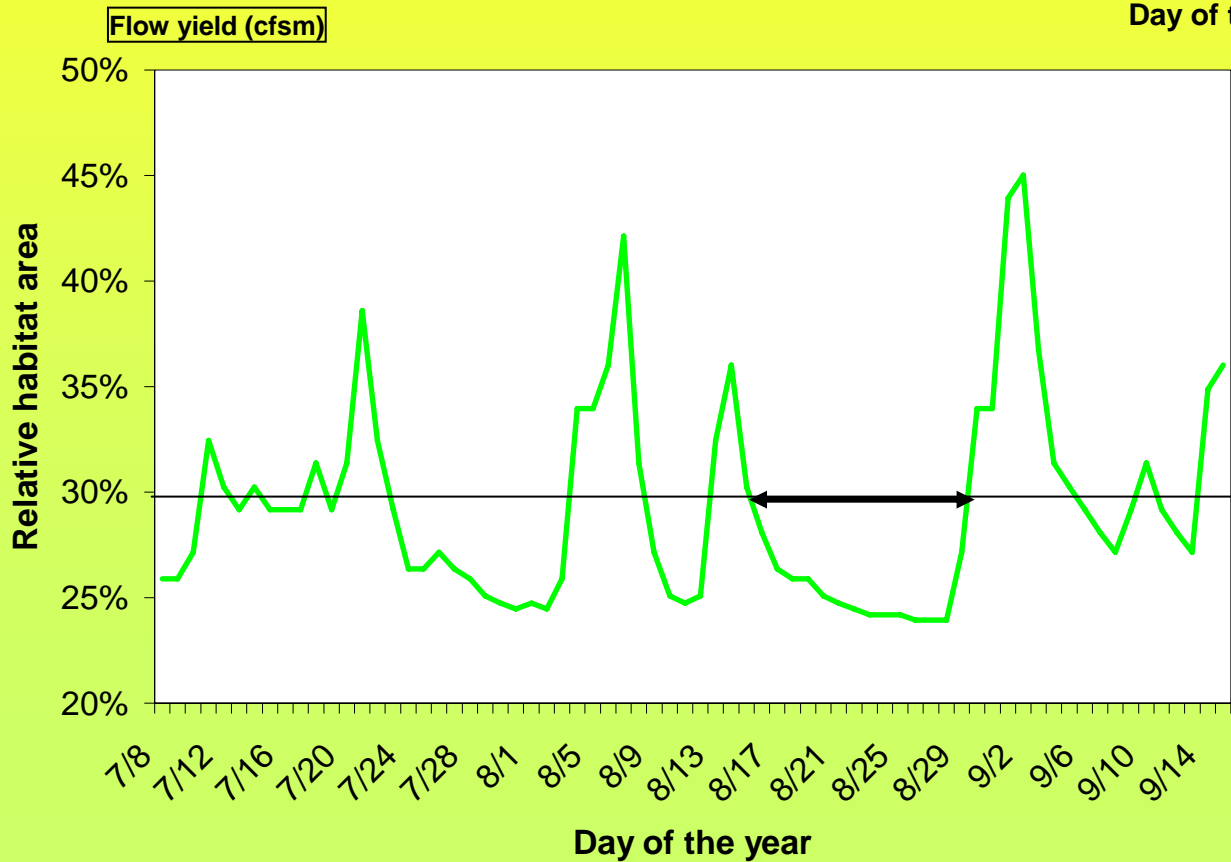
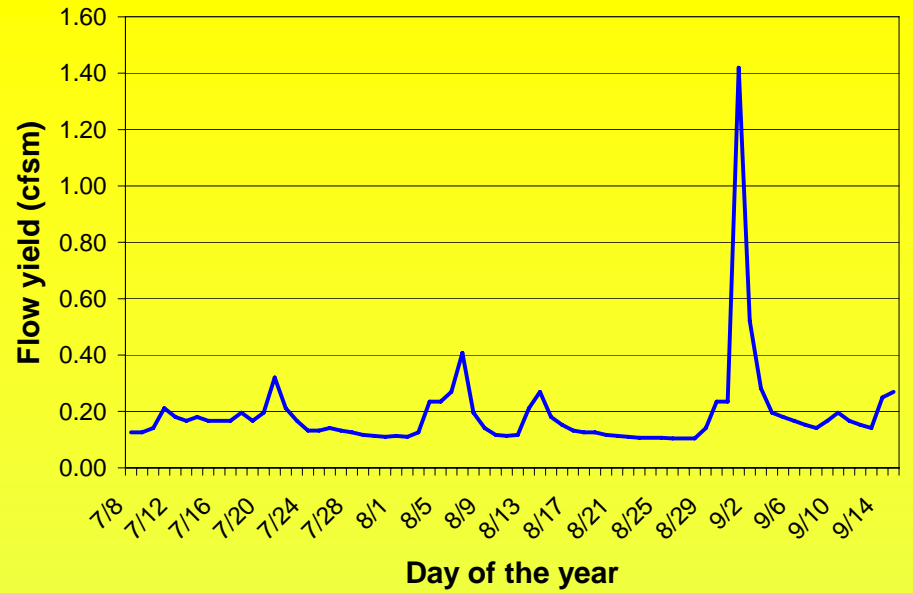


R&G Rating Curves - Reach 7 (7/15-9/30)



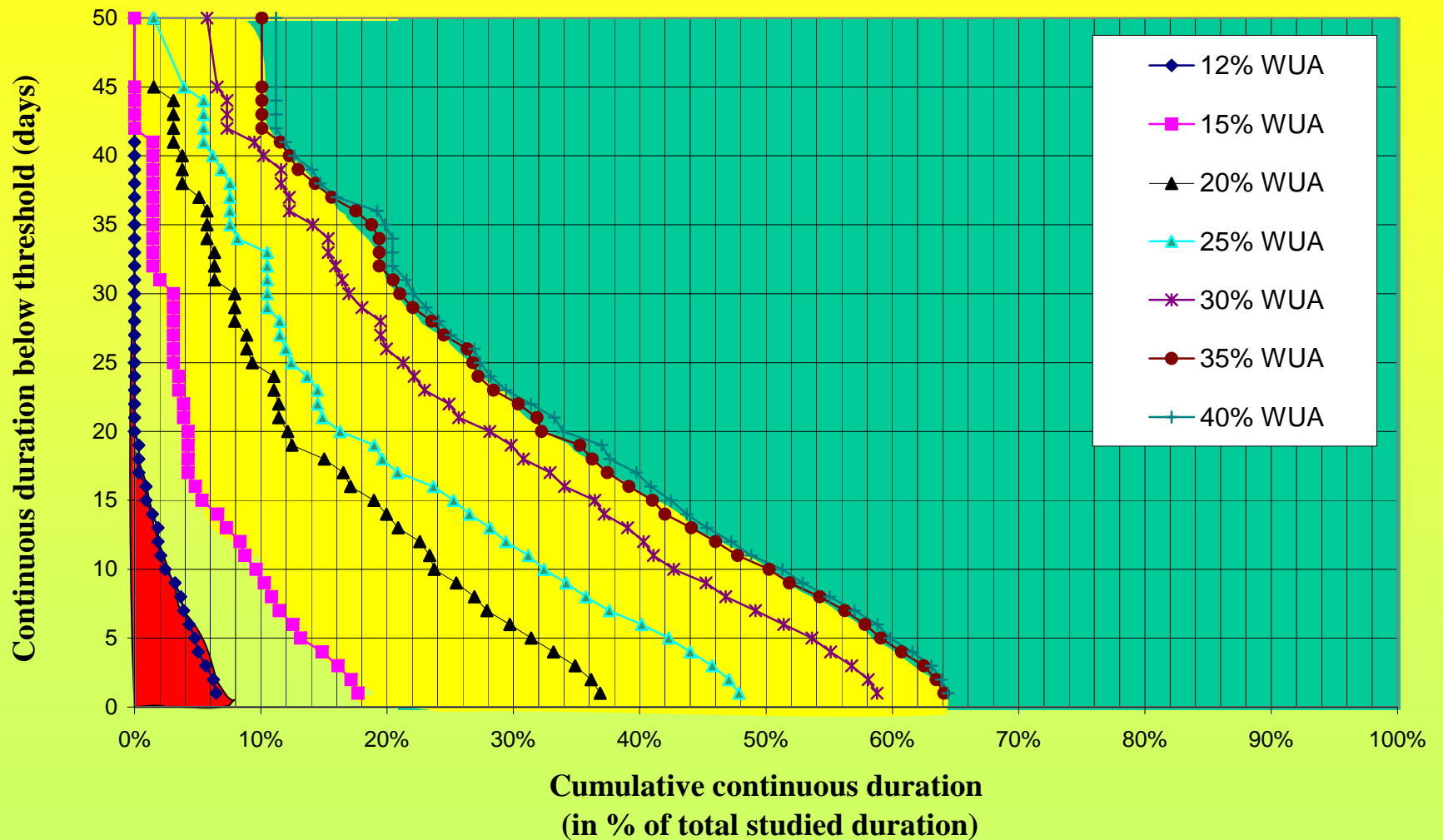


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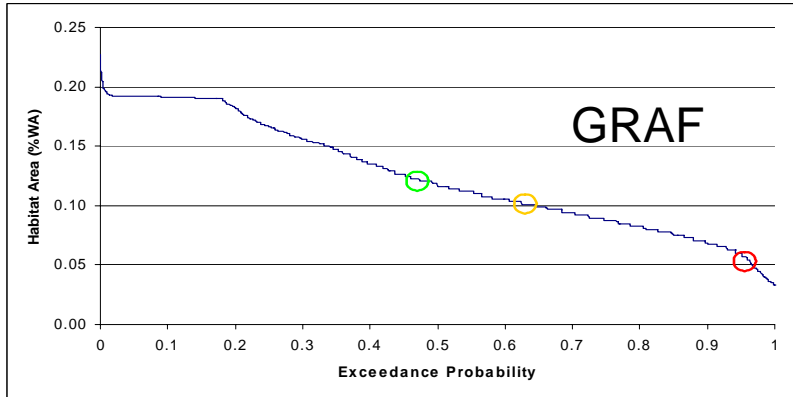


Brook trout UCUT

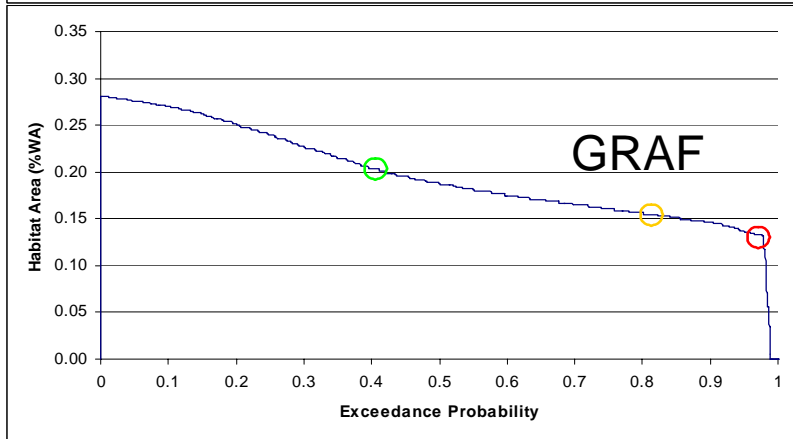
July 8 - Sept. 30, 1941 - 2003



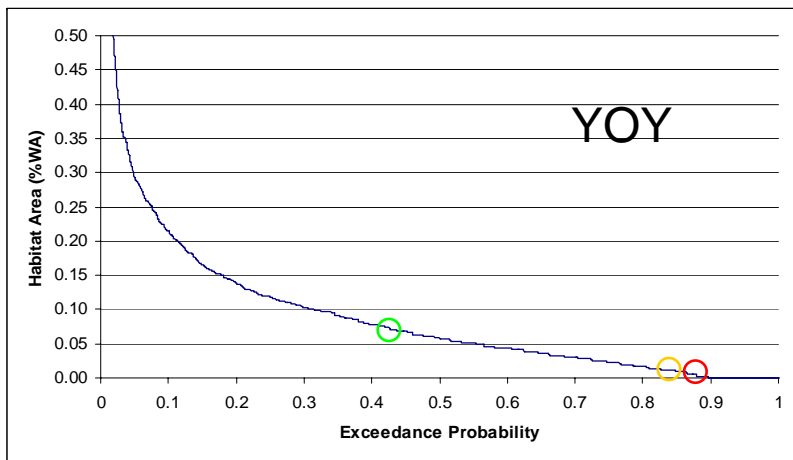
R & G



R 1

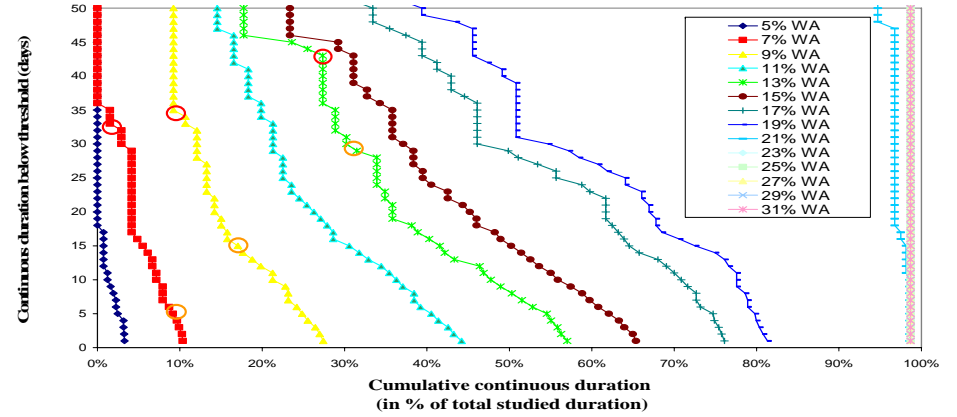


R 2

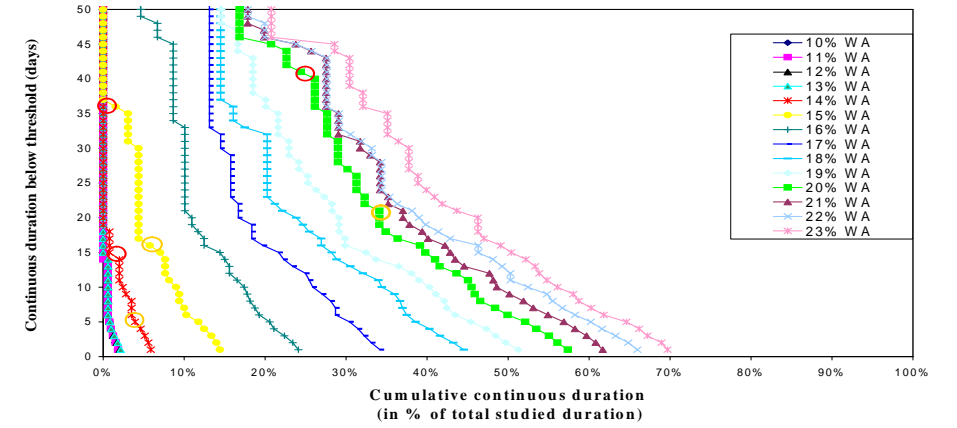


R 3

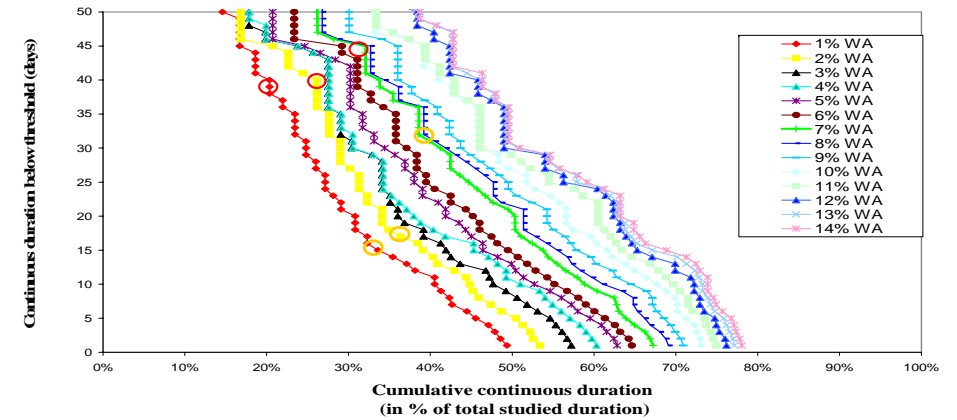
July 15 - Sept. 30, 1947 - 1977



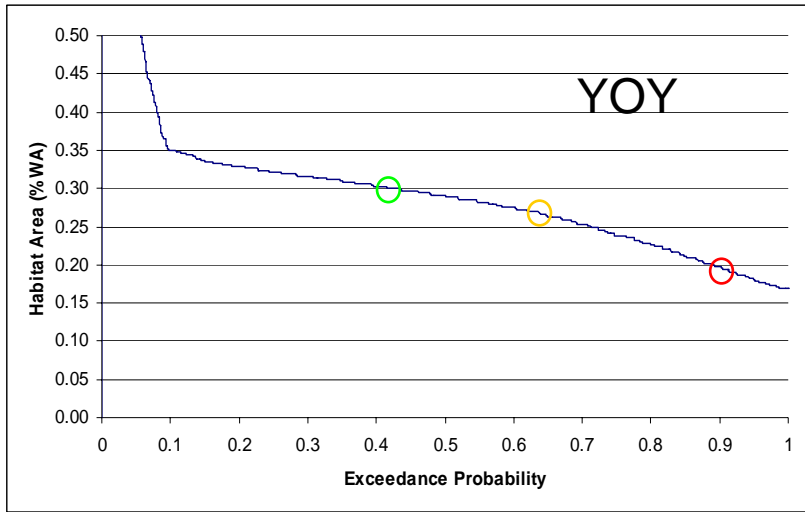
July 15 - Sept. 30, 1947 - 1977



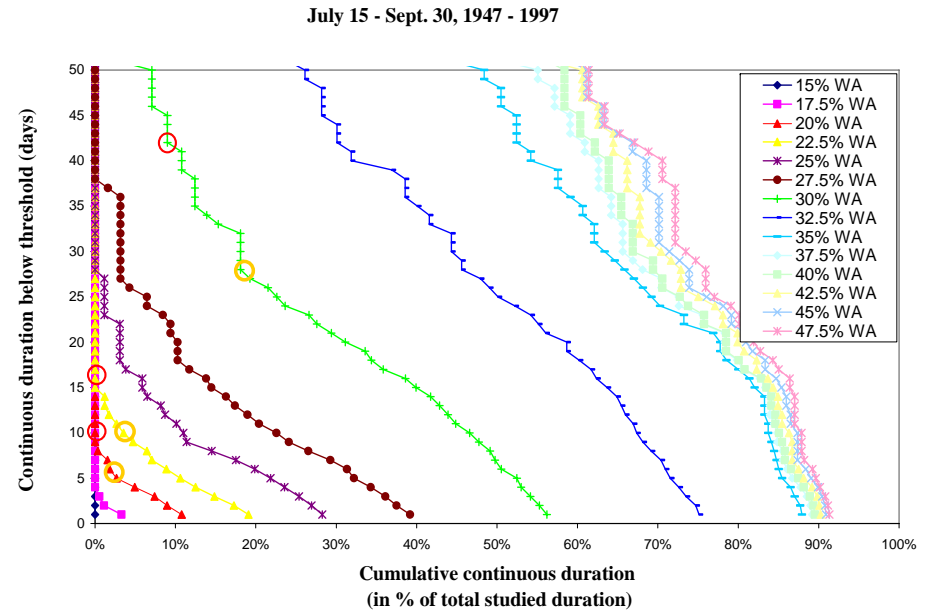
July 15 - Sept. 30, 1947 - 1977



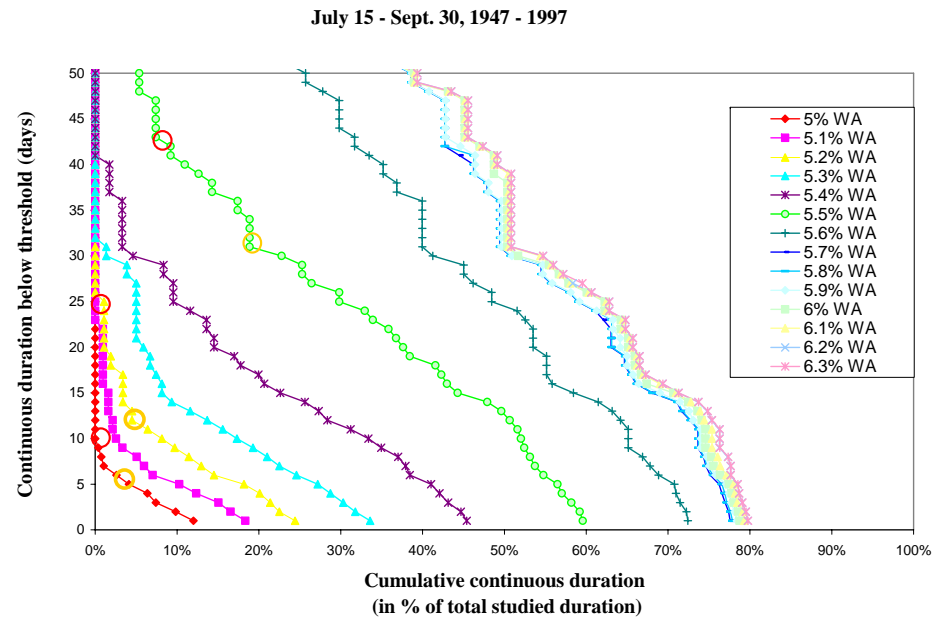
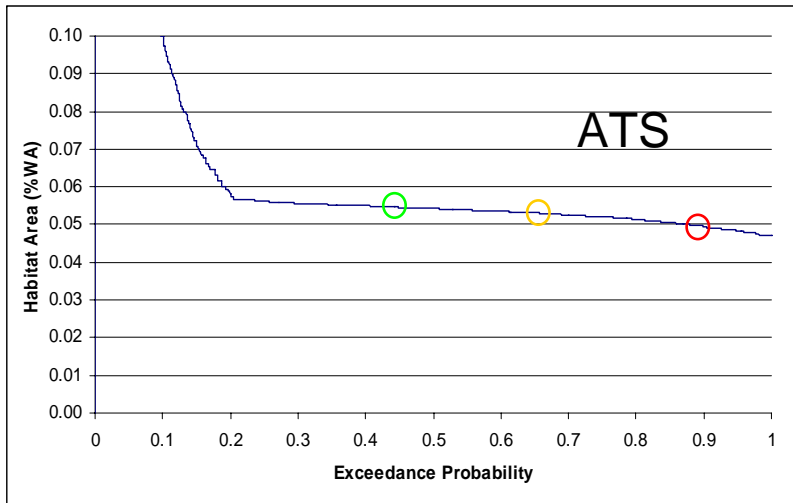
R & G



R 4

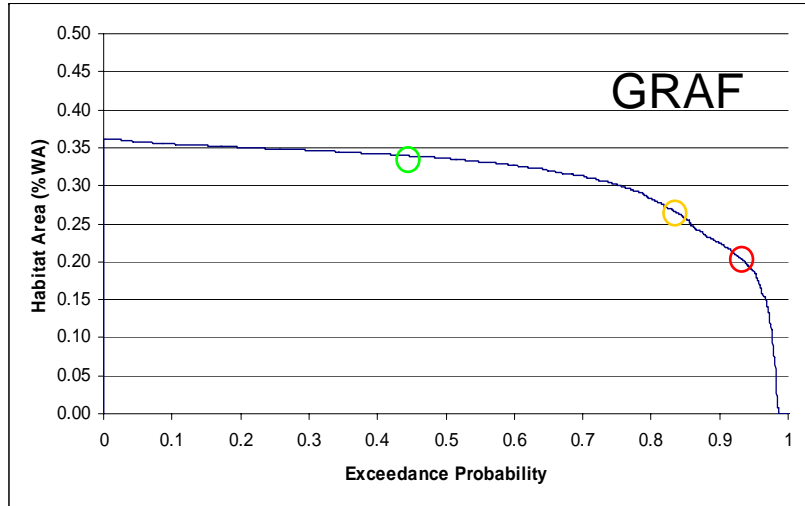


R 5

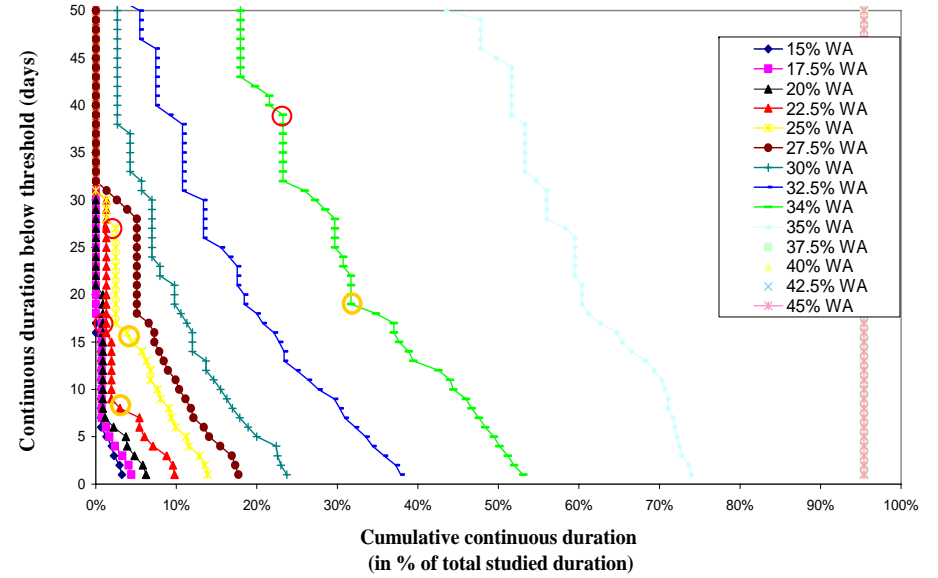


R & G

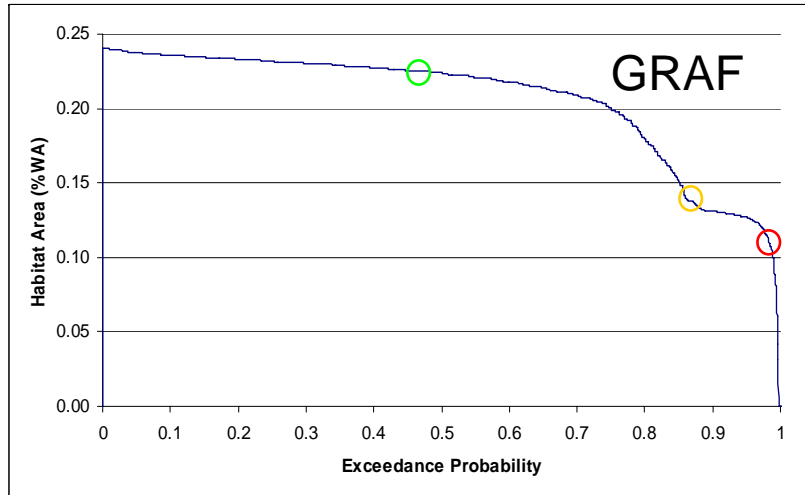
R 6



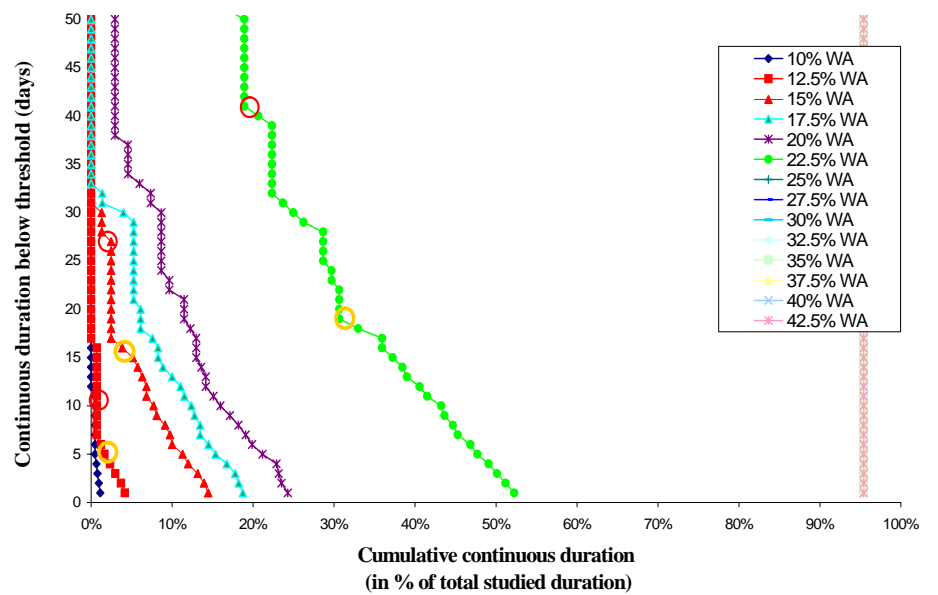
July 15 - Sept. 30, 1947 - 1997



R 7



July 15 - Sept. 30, 1947 - 1997

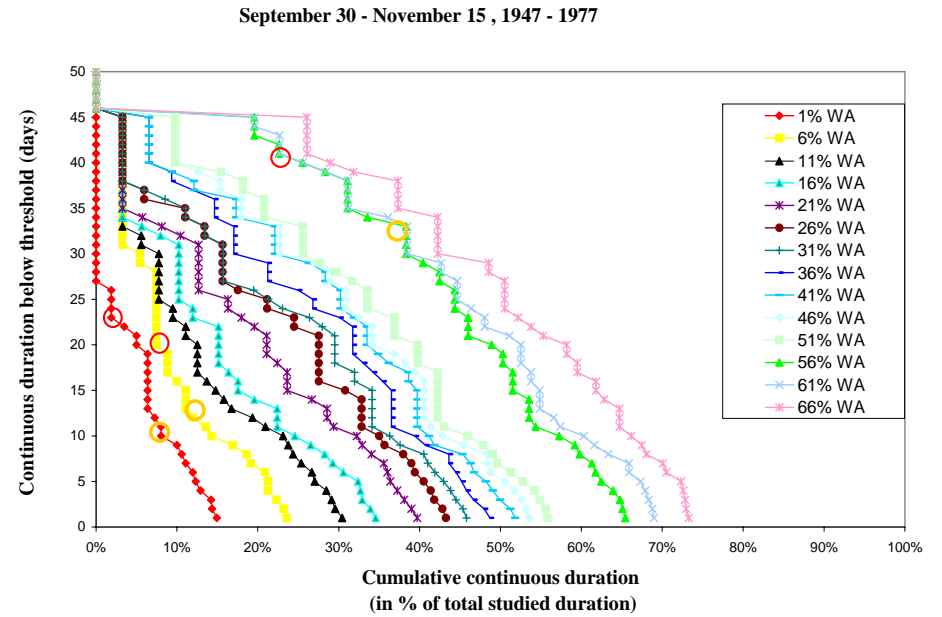
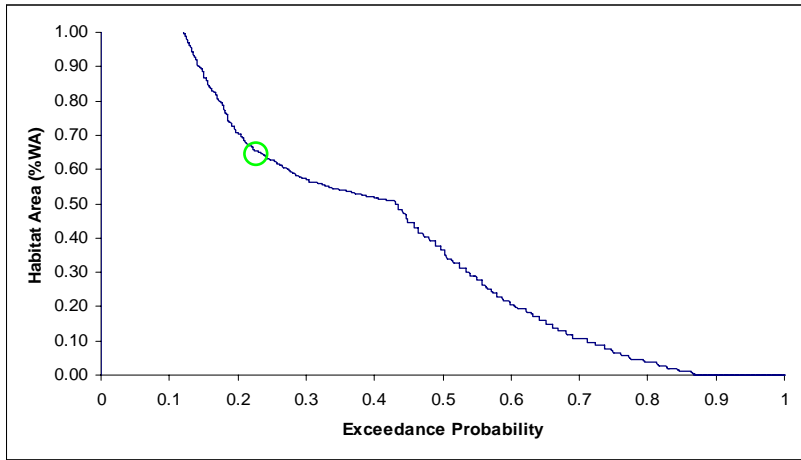


R&G (July 15 – September 30)

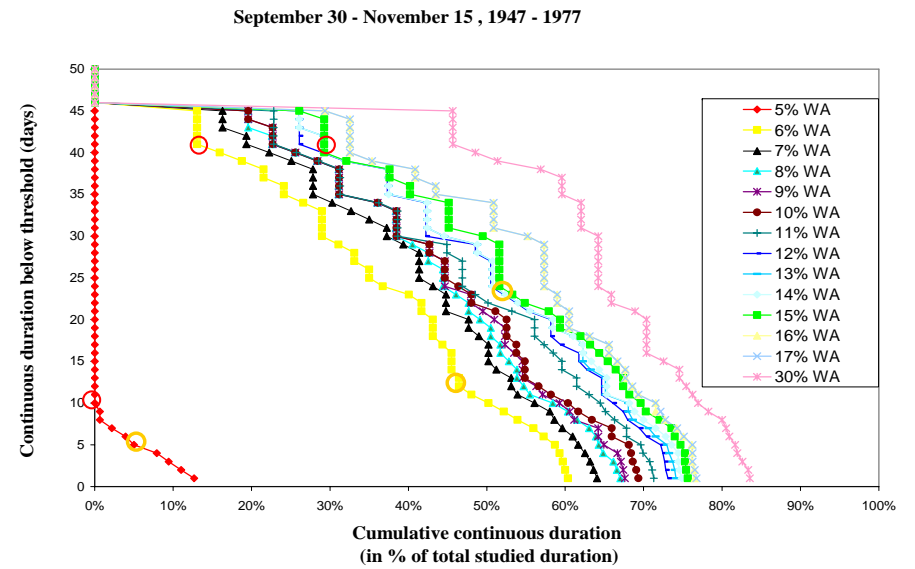
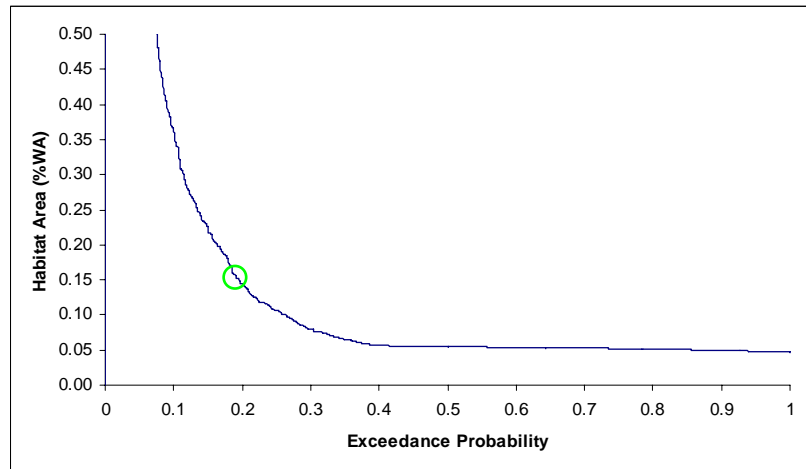
Indicator	GRAF	GRAF	YOY	YOY	ATS	GRAF	GRAF	Recommended flows	
	Gauge (SR#)	6-12	16-18	25	31-34	31-34	50-56	50-56	25 USGS
Watershed area (mi ²)	33.9	64.6	102.3	139	139	159	159	102.3	171
Location	Reach 1	Reach 2	Reach 3	Reach 4	Reach 5	Reach 6	Reach 7	Upper	Lower
Common habitat (% WA)	13	20	7	30	5.5	34	22.5		
Allowable duration under (days)	30	25	30	28	30	20	20	30	20
Catastrophic duration (days)	43	45	45	42	42	40	40	42	40
Corresponding flow (cfs)	0.3	0.12	0.21	0.6	0.31	0.12	0.33	0.3	0.6
Habitat when restored (% WA)	33	22	7	66	7	30	30		
Critical habitat (% WA)	10	15	1.5	22.5	5.2	27	15		
Allowable duration under (days)	15	15	17	10	17	15	15	15	15
Catastrophic duration (days)	35	40	40	15	20	27	27	35	20
Corresponding flow (cfs)	0.16	0.04	0.13	0.11	0.15	0.1	0.08	0.16	0.15
Habitat when restored (% WA)	28	19	1	45	5	27	22.5		
Rare habitat (% WA)	7	14	1	20	5	22	10		
Allowable duration under (days)	5	5	10	5	5	7	5	5	5
Catastrophic duration (days)	32	10	35	10	10	15	10	30	10
Corresponding flow (cfs)	0.10	0.02	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.08	0.06	0.1	0.1
Habitat when restored (% WA)	22	14	1.5	40	5	22	15		
Common flow (cfs)	14	8	21	83	43	19	52	41	103
Critical flow (cfs)	5	3	13	15	21	16	13	16	26
Rare flow (cfs)	3	1	10	14	15	13	10	10	17

Atlantic salmon spawning

R 2



R 5



Atlantic salmon spawning (October 1 – November 15)

Indicator	ATS	ATS	Recommended flows	
	16-18	31-34	25	USGS
Gauge (SR#)	16-18	31-34	25	USGS
Watershed area (mi ²)	64.6	139	102.3	171
Location	Reach 2	Reach 5	Upper	Lower
Common habitat (% WA)	50	14		
Allowable duration under (days)	25	20	25	20
Catastrophic duration (days)	40	40	40	40
Corresponding flow present (cfs)	0.4	1.05	0.55	1.1
Critical habitat	6	6		
Allowable duration under (days)	10	12	10	12
Catastrophic duration (days)	20	40	20	40
Corresponding flow present (cfs)	0.1	0.4	0.22	0.6
Rare habitat (%WA)	1	5		
Allowable duration under (days)	10	5	10	5
Catastrophic duration (days)	20	10	20	10
Corresponding flow present (cfs)	0.1	0.25	0.22	0.4
Common flow (cfs)	16	146	33	184
Critical flow (cfs)	6	56	13	96
Rare flow (cfs)	6	35	13	70

Overwintering bioperiod

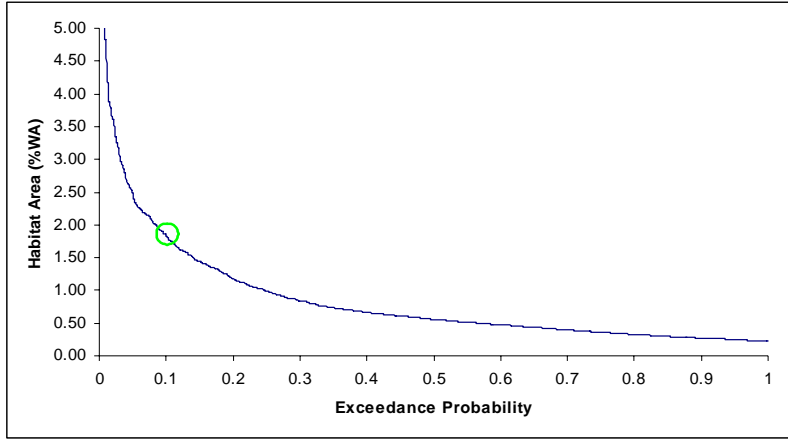
Indicator	Recommended
Gauge	USGS
Watershed area	171
Common habitat (% WA)	
Allowable duration under (days)	35
Catastrophic duration (days)	50
Corresponding flow present (cfs)	2
Habitat when restored (% WA)	
Critical habitat	
Allowable duration under (days)	15
Catastrophic duration (days)	30
Corresponding flow present (cfs)	0.5
Habitat when restored (% WA)	
Rare habitat (%WA)	
Allowable duration under (days)	5
Catastrophic duration (days)	10
Corresponding flow (cfs)	0.3
Common flow (cfs)	204.6
Critical flow (cfs)	51.15
Rare flow (cfs)	30.69

Flooding

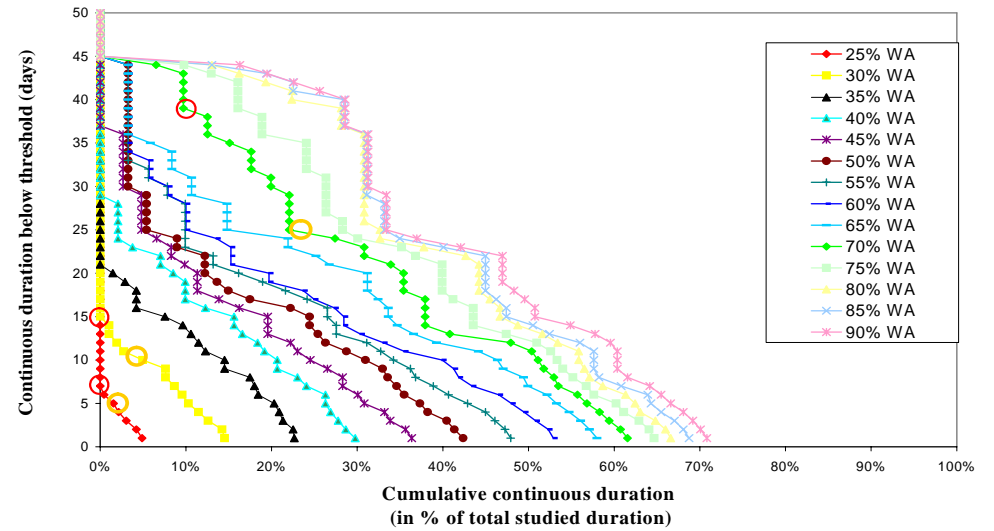
No low flow rules
but maintenance of
channel forming flows (HQ2)

American shad spawning

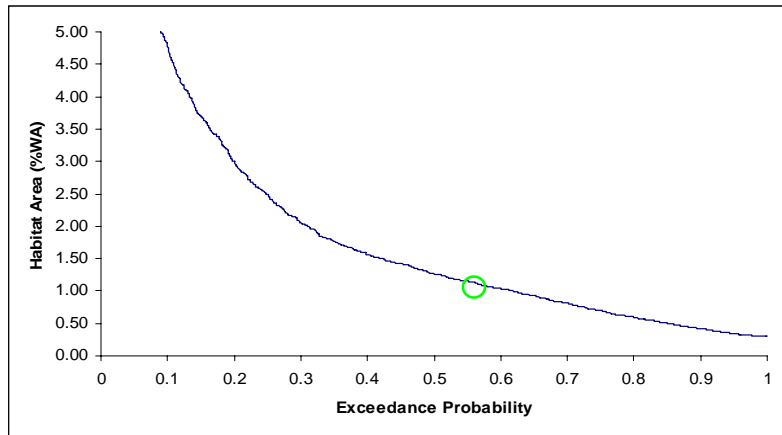
R 2



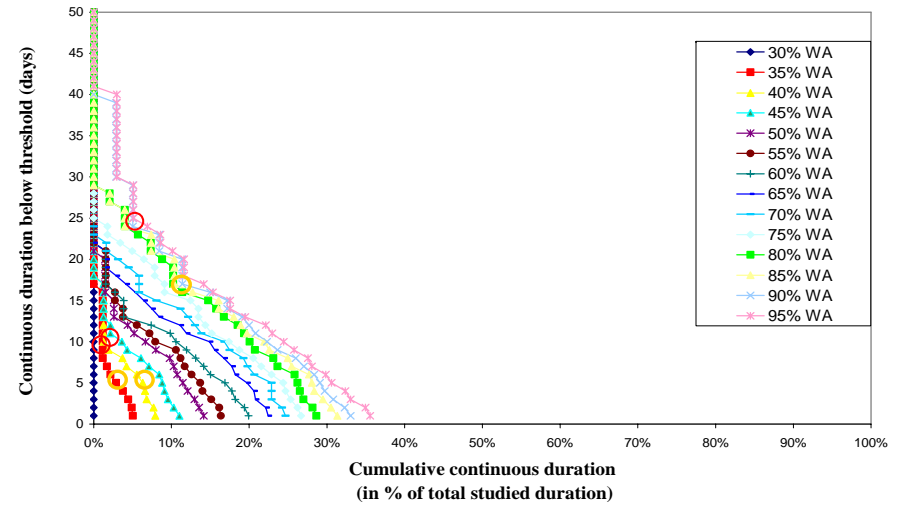
May 1-June 15, 1947 - 1977



R 5



May 1- June 15, 1947 - 1977

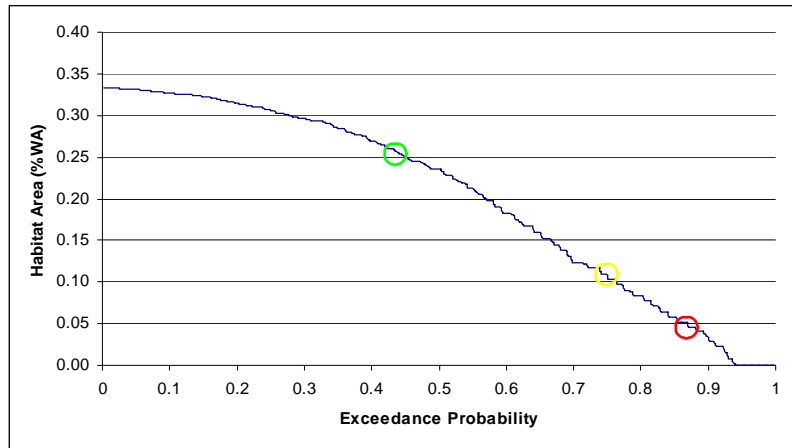


American shad spawning (May 15 through June 14)

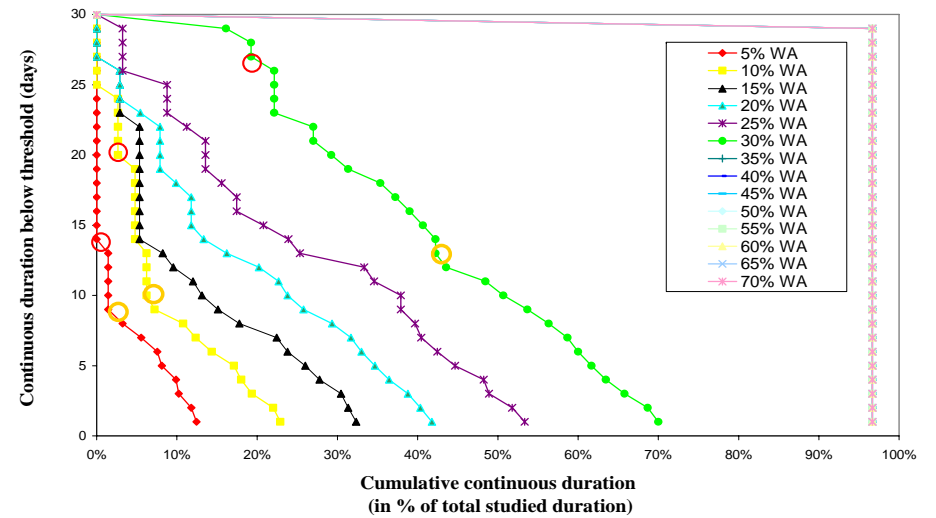
Indicator	AS	AS	Recommended flows	
	16-18	31-34	25	USGS
Gauge (SR#)	16-18	31-34	25	USGS
Watershed area (mi ²)	64.6	139	102.3	171
Location	Reach 2	Reach 5	Upper	Lower
Common habitat (% WA)	70	80		
Allowable duration under (days)	25	15	25	15
Catastrophic duration (days)	40	25	40	25
Corresponding flow present (cfs)	2.1	1	2.1	1.0
Critical habitat (% WA)	30	40		
Allowable duration under (days)	10	5	10	5
Catastrophic duration (days)	15	10	15	10
Corresponding flow present (cfs)	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6
Rare habitat (% WA)	35	35		
Allowable duration under (days)	4	5	4	5
Catastrophic duration (days)	7	10	7	10
Corresponding flow (cfs)	0.37	0.35	0.37	0.5
Common flow (cfs)	136	139	136	178
Critical flow (cfs)	39	56	45	96
Rare flow (cfs)	24	49	32	88

GRAF spawning

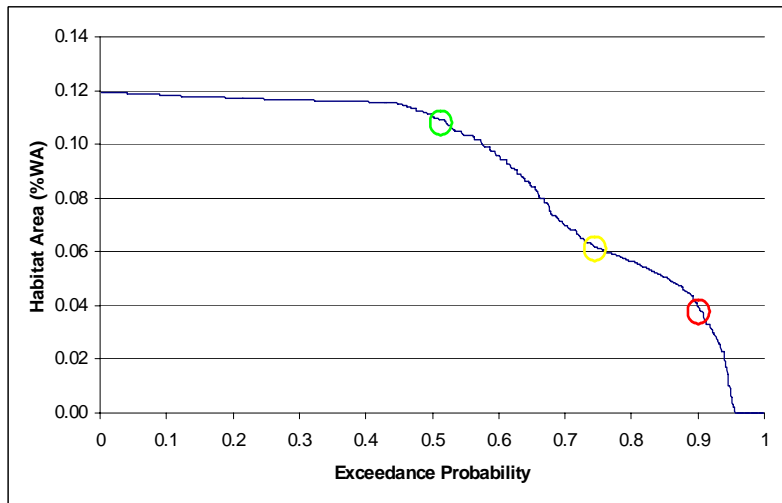
R 2



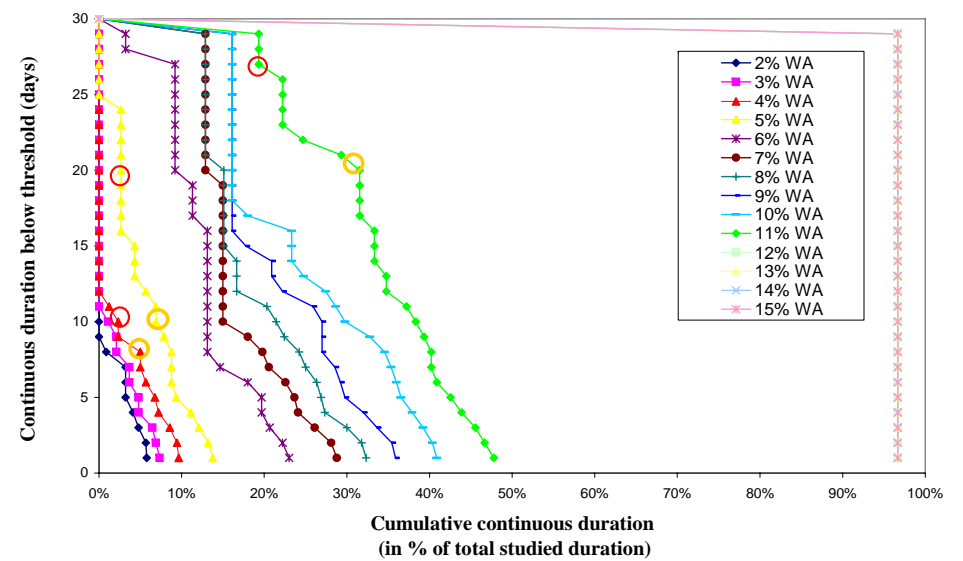
June 15-July 15, 1947 - 1977



R 5



June 15 - July 15, 1947 - 1977



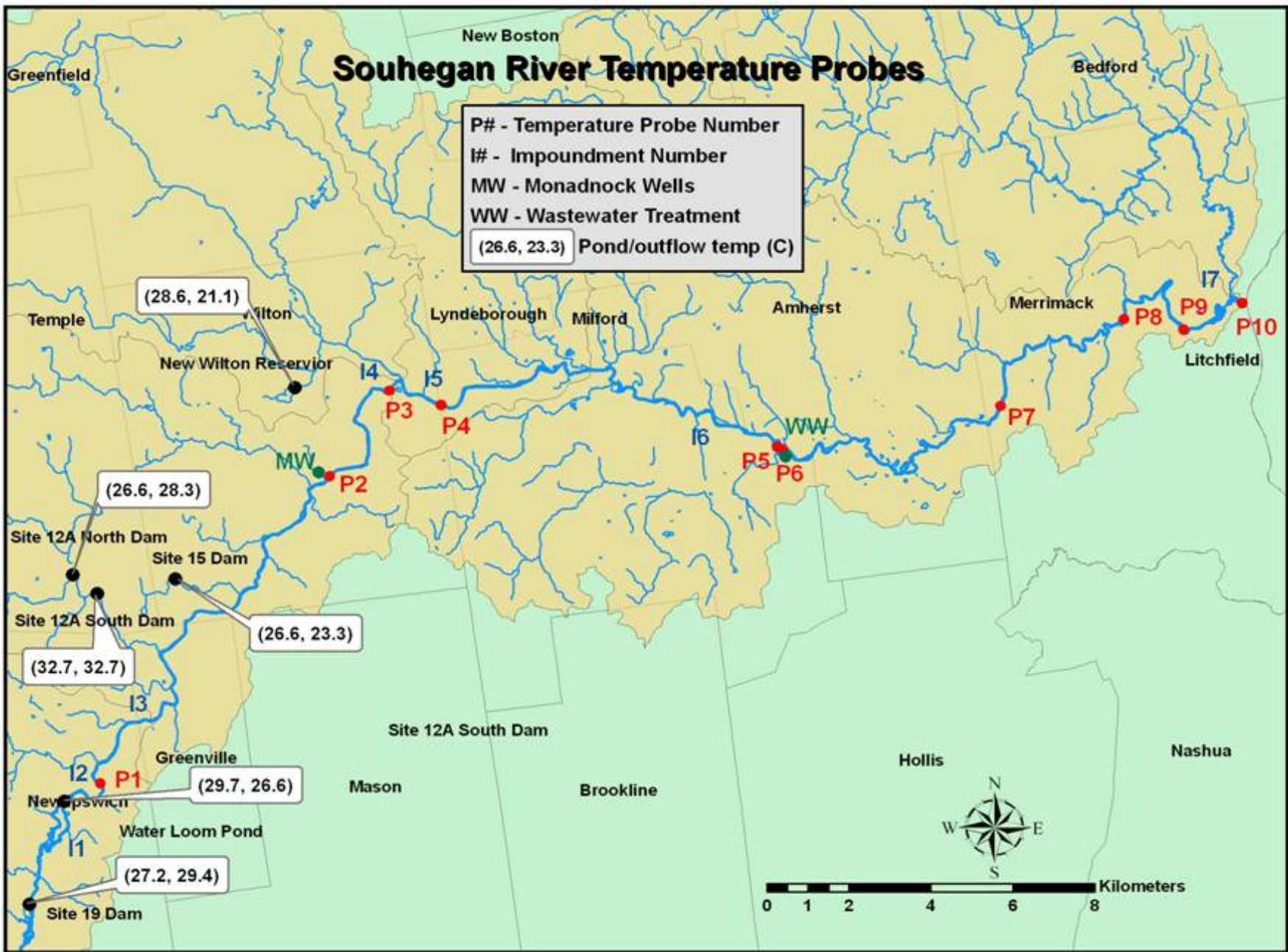
GRAF spawning (June 15 through July 14)

Indicator	GRAF	GRAF	Recommended flows	
	16-18	31-34	25	USGS
Watershed area	64.6	139	102.3	171
	Reach 2	Reach 5	Upper	Lower
Common habitat (% WA)	30	11		
Minimum duration under (days)	20	17	20	17
Catastrophic duration (days)	27	25	27	25
Corresponding flow (cfs)	0.23	0.11	0.23	0.23*
Critical habitat	10	5		
Allowable duration under (days)	10	13	10	13
Catastrophic duration (days)	20	23	20	23
Corresponding flow (cfs)	0.11	1.4	0.11	1.4*
Rare habitat (%WA)	5	4		
Allowable duration under (days)	10	10	10	10
Catastrophic duration (days)	15	10	15	10
Corresponding flow (cfs)	0.08	1.9	0.08	1.9*
Common flow (cfs)	15	15	22	39*
Critical flow (cfs)	7	195	13	239*
Rare flow (cfs)	5	264	11	325*

* flows need to be lower than given value

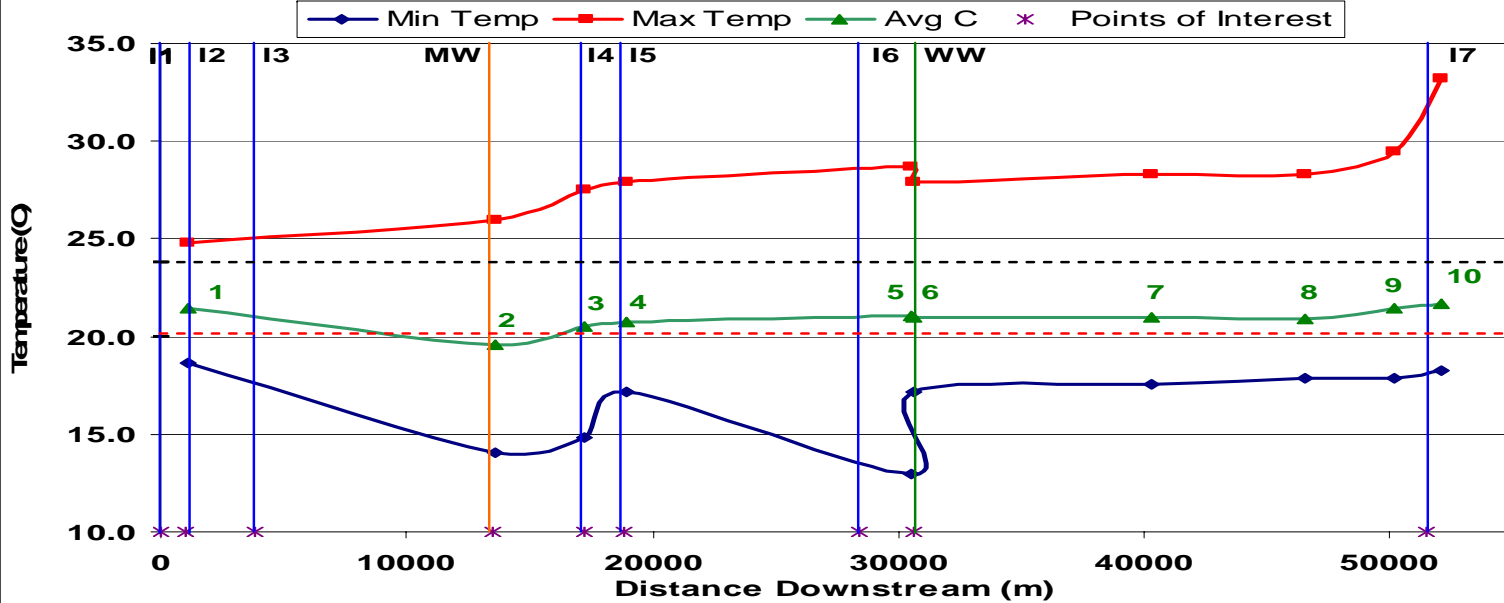
Souhegan River Temperature Probes

P# - Temperature Probe Number
I# - Impoundment Number
MW - Monadnock Wells
WW - Wastewater Treatment
(26.6, 23.3) Pond/outflow temp (C)



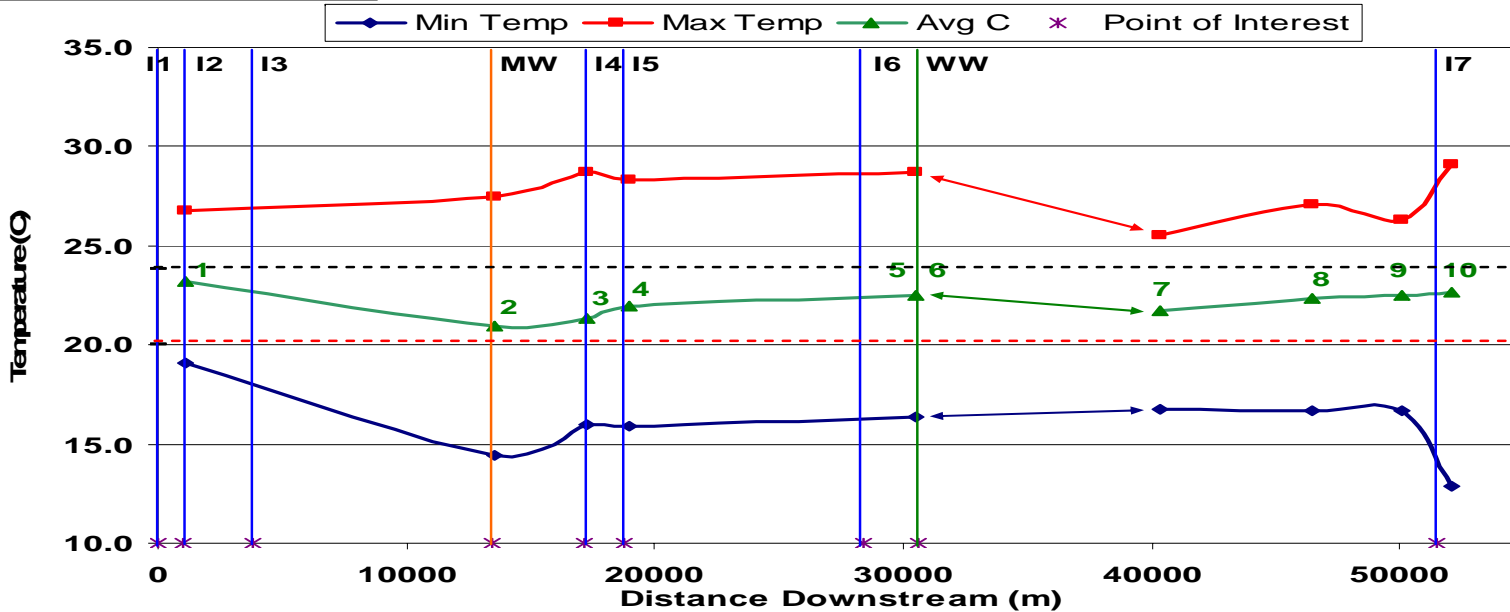
I3 = Impoundments
 MW = Monadnock wells
 WW = Waste water input
 ---- = Trout expiration

Souhegan Temperature Profile (7/02/04-9/03/04)



I3 = Impoundments
 MW = Monadnock wells
 WW = Waste water input
 ---- = Trout expiration

Souhegan Temperature Profile (7/02/05-9/03/05)



Conclusions

- Pollution and temperature sensitive species underrepresented or missing
- Brook trout and slimy sculpin not limited by physical habitat
- Diadromous species missing but enough habitat
 - American Eel lots of habitat
 - American shad spawning
 - Juvenile salmon
- TFC close to XFC but
 - White sucker underrepresented
 - In US corresponds with habitat proportions
 - In DS more habitat than fish
 - spawning limitations by dams and fluctuations
 - Common shiner underrepresented in US but not DS (corresponds with habitat)
- Mussel and Odonates abundant,
 - habitat available but not flow dependent
- US habitat is more flow sensitive
- Very low flows in the records -> maintenance of frequency and duration
- Reach 2 and 5 highest habitat,
- Reach 3 most impaired

Recommendations and priority areas

- Reduce thermal impact
 - modify impoundments
 - increase habitat diversity
- Secure natural frequency and duration of flows
- Channel improvements
- Fish passage

	Reach 1	Reach 2	Reach 3	Reach 4	Reach 5	Reach 6	Reach 7
Temperature and water pollution	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Yellow
Flow augmentation	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Fish passage	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	White	White
Channel improvements	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	White	White