

Guidelines for completing the alewife survey data sheet

River: Record the name of the river you are surveying. If you are surveying more than one river or site, please use separate data sheets for each river/site combination. You can use the same data sheet for up to 11 different sampling periods.

Observation Site: Indicate the specific site within the river you are observing at. If you are observing at one of the established sites, please refer to the site descriptions and reference the name listed in them. If you are an unestablished site, please give a detailed description (including GPS lat/long and photos if possible)

Date: Please record as MM/DD/YY.

Start Time and End Time: This is critical information that we will use to calculate our overall sampling effort. It will also allow us to investigate whether time of day or tidal stage affects alewife migration.

Tide Stage: If your observation site is located in a tidal portion of the river indicate the tidal stage. Categorize tidal stage as: Ebb (outgoing), Flood (incoming), High Slack (low flow ~ + or - 45 minutes from high tide) or Low Slack (low flow ~ + or - 45 minutes from low tide).

Water Temp: This information is not mandatory. However, if you have access to a thermometer and can safely lower it into the water, this will supplement temperature data being recorded in these rivers by participating scientists and community groups.

Weather Conditions: Indicate percent cloud cover (e.g., 0% for no clouds, 100% for completely overcast, or anywhere in between), approximate wind strength (qualitative measures are fine, such as still, light, medium, or strong, unless you feel confident in estimating miles per hour) and wind direction (from which it blows, not toward which it blows), and any precipitation.

Alewives Present (Y/N): This is the most important box, and the reason we're doing this - To find fish! If you're not certain that what you saw is an alewife, make a note of your doubts, and what else you think it might be. We will have trained biologists follow-up any sightings to verify the presence of alewives.

Alewife Count: If possible, estimate the number of fish seen during your observation period. If fish are not moving upstream, but rather lingering near the observation site (many of which are near dams), be careful not to count a single fish multiple times. This information is less important at this stage than where and when we found fish, so don't worry too much about it and just do your best!

Notes: Use this box for any additional information, questions or concerns. This might include evidence of alewife remains (scales, carcasses) on the riverbank, predation by ospreys, rare wildlife (mink and river otters are still known to use Long Island rivers!), fish kills of other species, unusual environmental conditions (e.g., oil slicks on the water surface), poor water visibility, reports from fishermen or others you encounter on the river who have seen alewives (even if you have not; try to get their names and contact information!), whether you took any photos at the site and the subject(s) of those, etc.

If you have any questions while you are at your site or at any other time, do not hesitate to call **Brian Kelder (631) 626-1269** or **Lou Siegel (516) 378-2451**. This data sheet can be used for up to 11 individual observation periods, but separate sheets should be used for different river/site combinations. If you have the time, we prefer that you enter data online as often as possible so we can keep track of effort at the different sites and alewife sitings. Each observation period is entered separately in our online data submission form, so it is not necessary to wait for a full data sheet to submit your results.

Data can be entered online at: <http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=cElwcDc4a0dHNWt2NEhzRU5Nd1RjSkE6MA..>