



NOAA FISHERIES

Protected Resources

2016 World Fish Migration Day & Endangered Species Day Events

This year marks the second annual World Fish Migration Day being held on May 21. This is a global initiative with currently more than 350 events scheduled worldwide that are geared toward creating awareness and education on the importance of open river systems and the migratory fish that depend upon them for their survival.

Endangered species are plants and animals in danger of becoming extinct. Threatened species are plants and animals at risk of becoming endangered. Endangered Species Day is an annual celebration and opportunity for people to learn about endangered and threatened species and what we can all do to help them. Always held on the third Friday in May, Endangered Species Day is on May 20 this year. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) protects these vulnerable animals. Through conservation and recovery programs, we work to rebuild the populations to healthy levels.

NOAA Fisheries Service's Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office and the Northeast Fisheries Science Center host several World Fish Migration Day and Endangered Species Day events and have many resources you may be interested in. Through our programs, we hope to increase knowledge and understanding of protected marine species/species of concern from Maine to Virginia, as well as the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). For more information, please visit our websites:

Endangered Species Day website: <http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected/esd/>

World Fish Migration Day website: <http://www.worldfishmigrationday.com/>

If you have questions about the events, please contact Sarah Bailey at 207-866-7262 or at sarah.bailey@noaa.gov or Edith Carson at 978-282-8490 or at edith.carson@noaa.gov.

Marine Endangered Species Art Contest Gallery

When: Throughout May (starting May 9), Monday-Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm

Where: NOAA Fisheries GARFO, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA, 01930

Students from all over the Cape Ann region and beyond submitted several pieces of artwork that featured endangered or threatened whales, sea turtles, and fish. Students who were

awarded the winner and honorable mention categories will be honored at an award ceremony held at the NOAA Fisheries' Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO). The art will be available for public viewing throughout the month of May.

Endangered Species Day at the Bangor Public Library

When: Saturday, May 7, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Where: Bangor Public Library, 145 Harlow St., Bangor, ME 04401

Staff from NOAA Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and The Endangered Species Coalition will provide a variety of family-oriented activities and art projects to highlight the recovery of endangered species in Maine. Children's activities will include endangered species crafts and a salmon migration game. This event is one of many that will be occurring in downtown Bangor as a part of Kid Central Fest 2016. Admission is free and open to the public.

Organizers: NOAA Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Coalition, and Bangor Public Library

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World Fish Migration Day Kenduskeag Stream Walk

When: Friday, May 20, 8:00am - 9:00am

Where: Victory Memorial at Norumbega Parkway (between Franklin and Central streets), Bangor, ME

Downtown Bangor is fortunate enough to have the beautiful Kenduskeag Stream travel right through the center of town, and what better way to celebrate the kick off of World Fish Migration Day than a 4 mile walk along the banks of the Kenduskeag. Led by Fisheries Biologist Pete Ruksznis with Maine Department of Marine Resources, and accompanied by author of The President's Salmon, Catherine Schmitt, this walk will talk about the biological and historical importance of sea-run fish in the state of Maine.

Contact: Sarah Bailey (NOAA Fisheries Service), 207-866-7262, sarah.bailey@noaa.gov; Catherine Schmitt (Maine Sea Grant), catherine.schmitt@maine.edu

World Fish Migration Day Kick-Off Celebration

When: Friday, May 20, 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Where: Sea Dog Brewing Co, 26 Front Street, Bangor, ME

Have you ever wanted to ask a fish biologist a question but have been looking for the right opportunity? Look no further! The 2016 World Fish Migration Day Kick-Off Celebration is the perfect opportunity to come “talk fish” with people that work every day toward researching and conserving sea-run fish populations in the state of Maine.

Contact: Sarah Bailey (NOAA Fisheries Service), 207-866-7262, sarah.bailey@noaa.gov

Endangered Species Day at NOAA’s Woods Hole Science Aquarium

When: Saturday, May 21, noon - 2:00 pm

Where: NOAA’s Woods Hole Science Aquarium, 166 Water St., Woods Hole, MA

NOAA’s Woods Hole Science Aquarium will be offering a special event for the public on Saturday, May 21, in recognition of National Endangered Species Day. The event is an opportunity for people of all ages to learn about endangered and protected species and the research being conducted on some of the endangered marine species at the Woods Hole Laboratory, part of NOAA’s Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC).

A variety of displays, exhibits and hands-on activities will be offered from noon to 2:00 p.m. after the seal feeding at 11:00 am. Weather permitting, a life-size inflatable humpback whale named “Salt” will be on display outside the Aquarium. Salt is named after a real whale first sighted in the 1970s in local waters and still seen today; the inflatable whale enables visitors to step inside and see the animal from a different point of view. Meet some of the scientists conducting research on sea turtles, North Atlantic right whales and other whale species in nearby waters and offshore. Atlantic salmon in the Northeast U.S, a NOAA Fisheries Species in the Spotlight, are on display in one of the Aquarium’s tanks and are being studied by local scientists. Staff will be available to discuss the NEFSC’s research programs on marine protected species, and recent and upcoming field programs focused on whales, sea turtles and salmon.

Endangered Species Day at the Franklin Park Zoo

When: Saturday, May 21, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Where: Franklin Park Zoo, 1 Franklin Park Road, Boston, MA

Do you know Stone Zoo is home to a number of endangered species including jaguars, Mexican gray wolves, Panamanian golden frogs, hyacinth macaws and others? In honor of Endangered Species Day, be sure to visit on May 21 to learn more about these incredible animals.

The Franklin Park Zoo has partnered with NOAA Fisheries to present an engaging day designed for visitors of all ages to learn more about endangered species and ways that they can help protect these animals as well as their habitats. NOAA Fisheries will be bringing life-size inflatable replicas of animals including a leatherback sea turtle, a north Atlantic right whale calf, and a 10-foot long Atlantic sturgeon! Additionally, there will be engaging activities and games for children to play.

For more information: <http://www.zoonewengland.org/franklin-park-zoo>

World Oceans Day at the New England Aquarium

When: Sunday, June 5, 11:00am - 3:00pm

Where: New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, MA

Join the Aquarium and other local non-profit and community groups for hands-on activities and programs to celebrate World Oceans Day. The NOAA Fisheries booth will have an Atlantic salmon fish print activity, where children can come learn about the anatomy of a fish along with the fascinating life cycle of the Atlantic salmon. In our smelling activity, kids will also learn how Atlantic salmon and sturgeon spend their lives in the Atlantic ocean and then migrate to the rivers they were born in by using their sense of smell.

For more information: www.neaq.org

World Fish Migration Day: Meet the Eels of Rockport's Millbrook

When: Saturday May 21, 11:00am - 1:00 pm

Where: Millbrook Meadow, off of Beach Street, Rockport MA

Come see the eels as they migrate through Millbrook in Rockport, MA. With the help of the Millbrook Meadow Conservancy and Rockport High School students, NOAA Fisheries Biologists Colleen Coogan and Eric Hutchins will provide a tour of Rockport, Massachusetts' historic Millbrook. Members of the public will be introduced to elvers (American eels) at the beach, as they enter the brook after traveling over 1,000 miles from the Sargasso Sea. Eels will be located and displayed temporarily in tanks within the Millbrook Meadow. Specimen eels will be available for young investigators and artists to inspect. Human impacts on the brook, first settled by European-Americans in 1699, will be discussed, highlighting the importance of rivers in early settlements for drinking, watering gardens, energy production and waste disposal. Ongoing efforts to restore the brook will be discussed, with a show-and-tell of the new fish ladder on a rebuilt dam. Attendees will learn about the many challenges to resident and visiting eels, rainbow smelt, and other migratory diadromous fish populations trying to make their way between fresh and saltwater habitats. Special thanks to the Toad Hall Bookstore, which donated funds to build the eel monitoring trap and monitoring supplies.



Eric with adult eel NOAA photo



Eel ladder at Millbrook Dam, NOAA photo

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