

River Herring Technical Expert Working Group (TEWG)

Mission Statement and Expected Products

April 22, 2014

Mission Statement

The mission of the River Herring Technical Expert Working Group is to coordinate and build upon the many previous and ongoing efforts to further river herring conservation throughout both species' Atlantic coastal range. The primary objective is to develop and implement a dynamic conservation plan to help restore coastal river herring populations. This will include an integrated ecosystem based approach to identifying important conservation efforts, identifying critical data gaps, and monitoring and evaluating progress in achieving the goals. The plan is intended to increase public awareness about river herring, stimulate cooperative research efforts, and inform managing bodies of efforts to conserve both species.

Expected Products

1. Identify data gaps and threats to river herring (alewives and blueback herring) throughout their range.
2. Create and monitor a list of conservation actions to address critical threats and associated costs.
3. Create and monitor a list of research projects and associated costs to fill existing data gaps.
4. Provide/compile information (e.g., updates on research projects or conservation actions) for NMFS/ASMFC to use in a dynamic, long term conservation planning effort.