



Questions for Stakeholders- These questions are directed to many types of stakeholders; some questions will be more relevant to you or your organization than others.

1. Based on your experiences on the river and/or bay, what do you expect to happen following removal of the two Penobscot River dams?

(e.g., increased/decreased fish abundance, different species, reduced/increased/no change in recreational use of the river, other?)

2. How do you think you, or the group you represent, will be affected by the dam removals?

3. What efforts, besides dam removal, do you feel would contribute to fish restoration and/or to watershed restoration in Maine?

4. If you are representing a group or organization (lake associations, commercial fishermen, etc), what types of resources regarding diadromous fishes would be most helpful for your group?

For example, information on a) how to find grants to fund fish passage improvements, b) basic information on fish species, c) contacts for other groups with similar interests, d) contacts for scientists or managers, e) help with curriculum development for your classroom projects/topics on sea run fish, restoration, or related topics, f) information on state laws, local ordinances and their enforcement/ development.

5. How do you think the River or Bay has changed over time? What connections do you see, if any, between these changes and diadromous fish runs?

6. What waterbodies (streams, river segments, lakes, coves, the bay) and/or watersheds do you feel might be important areas to monitor as the Penobscot restoration moves forward?

7. Based on your experiences on the River or Bay, do you have any observations or questions that might be interesting to pursue? Anecdotal observations can be particularly important in this regard and in conjunction with scientific observations can open up whole new fields of inquiry.

For example, the seemingly basic question asked by one harvester: "Do the alewives in midcoast Maine stray to other streams?" led to unexpected findings and more questions. In tagging fish to address this question, it became clear that many things were going on, including the fact that the stream was only passable at certain water levels, that the fish may not be consistently making it to their spawning ponds, and that the run consisted of two species, alewives, who spawn in lakes, and similar looking blueback herring, who spawn in rivers and streams. These observations have led to a new set of questions, including: How does spring water level affect success of the spawning run from year to year? How much does the alewife harvest depend on blueback herring and how does that affect how the run is managed?

8. What aspects of future (post-dam removal) watershed management do you feel depend on good information being collected now, pre-removal?

9. What information is needed now to promote adaptive management in the future? What are some examples of possible adaptive management?