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A Dam Passage Performance Standard Model for American Shad

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1 **A Dam Passage Performance Standard Model for American Shad**

2

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20 **Abstract:** Objectives for recovery of alosines commonly involve improving fish passage at dams
21 during migration. However, a quantitative basis for dam passage performance standards is
22 largely absent. We describe development of a stochastic life-history based simulation model for
23 American shad to estimate effects of dam passage and migratory delay on abundance, spatial
24 distribution of spawning adults, and demographic structuring in space and time. We used the
25 Penobscot River, ME USA as a case study to examine sensitivity of modelled population metrics
26 and probability of achieving specific management goals to inputs. Spawner abundance and
27 percent of repeat spawners were most sensitive to survival and migration delay at dams, marine
28 survival, and temperature cues for migratory events. Recovery objectives related to abundance
29 and spatial distribution of spawners were achievable under multiple scenarios, but high rates of
30 upstream and downstream passage were necessary. The simulation indicated trade-offs between
31 upstream and downstream passage efficacy whereby increased downstream passage was required
32 to maintain or increase population abundance in conjunction with increased upstream passage.
33 This model provides a quantitative support tool for managers to inform ecologically-based
34 decisions about a suite of management scenarios to facilitate recovery and sustainability of
35 diadromous fish populations.

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43 Introduction

44 The American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, is an anadromous fish that spawns in the main-
45 stem of coastal rivers on the Atlantic coastal drainage of North America from the St. Johns River
46 in Florida to the St. Lawrence River in Canada (Limburg et al. 2003). These fish migrate
47 upstream as adults to spawn, and the juveniles move downstream to the ocean in the fall.
48 Because these fish are iteroparous in the northern extent of their range, downstream migration of
49 both juveniles and adults is important for population dynamics. Many populations of American
50 shad are in decline throughout their range (Limburg and Waldman 2009; Hasselman and
51 Limburg 2012), and hydropower dams have been implicated as a causal factor in population
52 declines (Rulifson 1994; Limburg et al. 2003). Dams can cause acute mortality during both
53 downstream and upstream migrations (O'Leary and Kynard 1986; Kynard and O'Leary 1993).
54 Latent (*sensu* Nieland et al. 2015) or delayed mortality is also likely. Latent dam-related
55 mortality has been widely reported in salmonids in estuaries (Budy et al. 2002; Schaller et al.
56 2014, Stich et al. 2015a) and is likely to impact other migrating diadromous species. Likewise,
57 impedance of migration at dams has the potential to restrict distribution within a catchment and
58 access to spawning habitat (e.g., Grote et al. 2014a). Dams may also influence population
59 dynamics through delay. Delays at hydropower dams during both upstream and downstream
60 migrations may result in elevated adult mortality in American shad due to exposure to predators
61 and energetic costs during long distances of migration (Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010).

62 The thermal experience of migrants defines their bioenergetic performance, and selection
63 of thermal conditions reflects the strong influence temperatures have on organisms. It is not
64 surprising that the arrival of adults in the river and the timing of spawning are strongly
65 influenced by temperature (Stier and Crance 1985). For American shad, biologically significant

66 delays at dams may influence populations by restricting access to habitat, decreasing efficacy of
67 spawners, or reducing the probability of post spawn survival. Fish with depleted energy reserves
68 have reduced fitness (Nadeau 2007). For American shad any energetic costs of delay are not
69 mitigated as these fish typically do not feed during their migrations (Limburg et al. 2003).
70 Therefore, delays incurred at obstacles such as dams (as well as natural impediments) can reduce
71 survival and recruitment, the components of individual fitness (Brett 1962; Rand and Hinch
72 1998; Naughton et al. 2005).

73 If delays at dams draw down critical energy reserves of migrants, the biological impact
74 could be manifested in reproductive potential. For iteroparous species, there is the added risk to
75 the capacity to return to spawn again in subsequent years. Thus, fish must not only reach their
76 spawning habitat in time to spawn, but must maintain energy stores sufficient to return to the
77 marine environment where they will recommence feeding and growth (Doucett et al.1999). The
78 loss of repeat spawners may be symptomatic of the condition imposed by anthropogenic
79 structures exemplified by the loss of older age classes of fish in the Connecticut River (e.g.,
80 Carscadden and Legget 1975).

81 Management actions considered or implemented for the recovery of alosine stocks on the
82 Atlantic coast have included moratoria on directed ocean fisheries (Atlantic States Marine
83 Fisheries Commission [ASMFC] 2010) and in-river fisheries (e.g., Olney and Hoenig 2001),
84 supplementation stocking (e.g., Susquehanna River Anadromous Fish Restoration Cooperative
85 [SRAFRC] 2010), bycatch reduction (Bethoney et al. 2014), and improvement of passage at
86 migration barriers (Haro and Castro-Santos 2012). In Maine, USA, main-stem dams on both the
87 Kennebec and Penobscot Rivers have been removed (Day 2006). In the Penobscot River, the
88 Penobscot River Restoration Project (PRPP) was a catchment-wide effort with the goal of

89 balancing hydropower production and diadromous fish conservation (Day 2006). Two lower
90 river main-stem dams were removed in 2012 and 2013, and a nature-like fishway was
91 constructed at a third in 2015. In addition to these changes, a fish elevator was installed at the
92 now lowermost dam in the main-stem (Milford; Fig. 1). Assuming “safe, timely and effective
93 passage,” (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
94 2000), these changes have the potential to restore access to about 552 km of historic habitat for
95 American shad (Trinko Lake et al. 2012), with an estimated production potential of 1.6 million
96 spawning adults.(Maine Department of Marine Resources [MDMR] 2009).

97 State and federal fishery management agencies have identified the need to assess
98 upstream and downstream passage at dams as part of the operational plan for rebuilding
99 American shad stocks (MDMR 2009, ASMFC 2013). A basic question is central to regulatory
100 decision makers; what level of passage is required to meet certain recovery goals? In the
101 Penobscot River, the effectiveness of both the upstream and downstream passage in the river
102 remains uncertain. There is a conspicuous absence of available tools to test performance
103 scenarios in order to inform – and justify– performance standards at hydropower dams on this
104 and other rivers. We sought to fill this need by developing a flexible modeling framework that
105 would simulate the influence of passage performance criteria on American shad populations in a
106 modeled system. To make this framework transferable among rivers, the model included i) path
107 choices, ii) tributaries, and iii) multiple dams in addition to uncertainty in life-history parameters.
108 We present the development and application of this model to the Penobscot River, a system
109 which includes these structural complexities. We then use this model to test specific hypotheses
110 related to passage efficacy and specific management goals associated with spawner abundance,
111 demographics (proportion of repeat spawners), and distribution in the catchment.

112

113 **Methods**

114 **Study site**

115 The Penobscot River (Fig. 1) is the largest river contained within Maine, USA, with a
116 drainage area of approximately 22 000 km². The river is tidally influenced from the mouth of the
117 bay inland to river kilometer (rkm) 45, a total distance of about 90 rkm including the bay. At rkm
118 52, the river is divided into the main-stem Penobscot River on the east side of Marsh Island and
119 the Stillwater Branch to the west. At rkm 100, the largest tributary to the Penobscot River, the
120 Piscataquis River, enters the main-stem. Spawning habitat for American shad begins in tidal
121 freshwater and extends beyond the most upstream dams in both the main-stem Penobscot River
122 and the Piscataquis River (Fig. 2). The majority of spawning habitat is located in the main-stem
123 between Milford and Weldon dams, with about 50% of the total production potential located on
124 either side of West Enfield Dam (Table 1).

125 Currently, there is no volitional upstream passage for American shad at Orono Dam,
126 located on the confluence in the Stillwater Branch (Fig. 1). A small fish trap, collects American
127 shad and river herring (alewife *A. pseudoharengus* and blueback herring *A. aestivalis*) that
128 subsequently are trucked beyond the head of the Stillwater Branch to the main-stem Penobscot
129 River (NMFS 2012b). There remains the potential that fish might be attracted to the tailrace of
130 Orono Dam and incur migratory delay. Upstream fish passage at Milford Dam (rkm 60) occurs
131 primarily via a newly constructed fish elevator (Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission
132 [FERC] 2009).

133 Downstream passage for both juveniles and adults around Marsh Island occurs either
134 through the main-stem or the Stillwater Branch. Proportional passage through these routes during

135 downstream migration was dependent upon discharge for downstream-migrating Atlantic salmon
136 *Salmo salar* (Stich et al. 2014), and the proportion of fish using the Stillwater Branch for
137 downstream migration is expected to range from 6 to 25%. In the main-stem, Milford Dam is the
138 only barrier to downstream migration. Fish migrating downstream through the Stillwater Branch
139 navigate both Stillwater and Orono dams before rejoining the main-stem (Fig. 1).

140 At the confluence of the Penobscot and Piscataquis rivers, upstream migrants may either
141 continue in the main-stem and approach West Enfield Dam or enter the Piscataquis River via a
142 nature-like fishway which bypasses Howland Dam. Migrants in the Piscataquis River may pass
143 as many as three additional dams before reaching the upstream extent of spawning habitat.
144 Migrants successfully passing West Enfield Dam may pass only one other dam (Weldon) before
145 reaching the upstream extent to spawning habitat in the main-stem of the river. Upstream
146 migration path at the confluence is also proportional to discharge from the upper river in Atlantic
147 salmon, and changes in flow might even override homing to the Piscataquis River (Gorsky et al.
148 2009). For the purpose of this study, we assumed that probability of using these two migration
149 paths was proportional to the production potential in the corresponding river sections (Table 1).
150

151 **Model overview**

152 We used a simulation approach to modeling life history and migration of American shad
153 in the Penobscot River to assess the effects of passage rates and migration delays at dams on
154 population abundance and demographic structuring through time and space. To facilitate this, we
155 divided the river into spatially explicit production units (PU) based on the locations of dams in
156 the catchment (Fig. 1) and assigned production potential in each PU (Fig. 2) using data from

157 MDMR (2009). The model was spatially structured based on these units and the four potential
158 migration routes for upstream and downstream migration (i–iv, Fig. 2).

159 The model was a combination of a classical, cohort-based projection model for
160 downstream migration and marine survival, with an annual time-step and an individual-based
161 upstream migration model with temporal (daily) and spatial (1 km) components (Fig. 3). The
162 approach taken was like the state-based Dam Impact Analysis (DIA) developed by Neiland et al.
163 (2015), but we replaced the state-based approach to upstream migration with a spatially and
164 temporally explicit individual-based model similar to that developed by Castro-Santos and
165 Letcher (2010). The rationale for this approach was that there currently is little evidence of
166 homing or sub-catchment population structuring in American shad populations in the Gulf of
167 Maine or elsewhere (Hasselman et al. 2010).

168 The model was initialized by creating an age-structured starting population of American
169 shad in the ocean based on ocean mortality rates and a range of starting population sizes (Table
170 2; ASMFC 2007). From this starting population, an age structured ‘spawning pool’ was drawn
171 based on the probability of recruiting to spawn at each age and age-specific probabilities of
172 repeat spawning (Bailey and Zydlewski 2013). All fish remaining in the ocean during the
173 spawning season were assigned to the ‘recruitment pool.’ Those fish that matured and entered
174 the spawning pool were assigned an age, sex, length, mass, fecundity (for females), and optimal
175 ground speed (as described below). We then modeled fish migrating upstream as individuals
176 during each annual spawning run (Fig. 4).

177 Based on the lack of assumptions about homing, the timing of major phenological events
178 within the model (e.g., river arrival and spawning dates) were dictated by thermal experiences of
179 fish, and incorporated both inter- and intra-annual variability in thermal regimes based on

180 historical and contemporary data. Movement throughout the system was further limited by
181 efficiency and timing of dam passage. River arrival, in-river movements, and spawning location
182 were characterized for each fish based on individual fish characteristics parameterized using
183 literature values and available data. Individual river arrival ($dArrival_j$) and spawning date
184 ($dSpawn_j$) were assigned based on modeled river temperature. The probability of an individual
185 fish arriving at discrete reaches between dams (production units; PUs as defined in section 2.3.1)
186 was based on a priori individual assignments (e.g., length) in conjunction with: i) environmental
187 conditions, ii) physical constraints, iii) pre-determined migratory paths, iv) upstream passage
188 efficiencies, and delays below main-stem dams (Fig. 3). In a given PU, adult fish incurred a
189 natural, pre-spawn mortality and female fish spawned some number of eggs. The juvenile
190 survival of those fertilized eggs was subsequently limited by habitat constraints (carrying
191 capacity) between dams (Fig. 2). The number of fish at each age (including juveniles) was then
192 summed in each PU.

193 We used a cohort-based approach for downstream migration of juveniles and adults that
194 treated fish as sex- and age-specific groups. The number of adult and juvenile fish from each
195 cohort reaching the ocean was based on: i) the PU in which fish initiated downstream migration,
196 ii) the probability of using a given downstream migration route, iii) acute mortality at dams
197 encountered in each migratory route, iv) indirect cumulative effects of dam passage in fresh
198 water, and v) indirect latent effects of dams during estuary passage. The number of post-spawn
199 adults surviving to the ocean in each age class was retained in the spawning pool for the next
200 year, with 100% retention in the spawning pool after first spawn (Bailey and Zydlewski 2013).
201 Juvenile out-migrants were added to the recruitment pool. A projection matrix was then used to
202 apply ocean mortality rates (Table 2) to the spawning pool and to the recruitment pool, and to

203 graduate each cohort to the next age-class (Fig. 3). We then used age-specific probabilities of
204 recruitment to spawn to re-allocate age-specific proportions of the recruitment pool to the current
205 spawning pool and start the next year of the simulation, similar to how the initial spawning pool
206 was developed. Each iteration of the simulation was repeated for 50 years.

207

208 **Model inputs**

209 All input parameters (Table 2) for this model were calibrated using field or laboratory
210 data from the literature or from collaborating agencies. The modeling approach was stochastic
211 and thus incorporated uncertainty in input parameters, either through estimated precision of
212 empirically derived parameters or by imposing a wide range of potential values over point-
213 estimates where no estimate of precision was available. We randomly sampled values for input
214 parameters at appropriate scales (across years, or within years) from statistical distributions. We
215 used Monte Carlo simulation to incorporate this variability within the model stochastically,
216 repeating the 50-year simulation 50 000 times. For the sake of consistency in model notation, we
217 refer to individuals using the subscript j , fish ages using subscript i , fish sex using the subscript s ,
218 days using subscript d , years using subscript t , and production units using the subscript n .

219

220 *Hydro system characteristics and environmental data*

221 We defined a PU as the contiguous habitat for American shad above or below dams in the
222 catchment (Fig. 1). Following the activities associated with the PRRP, nine FERC-regulated
223 hydropower dams remain between the mouth of the Penobscot River and the estimated upstream
224 extents of American shad spawning habitat in the Penobscot and Piscataquis rivers. The extent of
225 the most-upstream PU in the Penobscot and Piscataquis rivers was defined by the upstream

226 extent of American shad habitat in each river (Trinko Lake et al. 2012). In the Piscataquis River,
227 the extent of upstream habitat for American shad above Guilford Dam was beyond rkm 185 (Fig.
228 1). In the main-stem Penobscot River, the upstream extent to American shad habitat above
229 Weldon Dam was considered to have been reached at rkm 165 because all production beyond
230 that occurred within the same PU (Fig. 1). The lower-most production unit began in tidal
231 freshwater portions of the Penobscot River at rkm 40 (Fig. 1). We calculated expected
232 production potential for each PU based on the total production potential of various sub-units
233 within each PU as laid out in the Operational Plan for the Restoration of Diadromous Fishes to
234 the Penobscot River (Table 1; MDMR 2009).

235 We collected mean daily temperature data within the Penobscot River from the U.S.
236 Geological Survey (USGS) gauge in Eddington (station ID 01036390), Maine at rkm 45 using
237 the 'waterData' package (Ryberg and Vecchia 2014) in R (R Core Team 2016). We only used
238 data from recent years during which complete data were available (years 2007–2014) to improve
239 the quality of the data used and to avoid using historical data that spanned beyond recent, abrupt
240 changes in global climate (e.g., 1980s regime shift noted by Reid et al. [2016]). We then used
241 those data to simulate mean daily temperatures in the catchment for each year the model was run
242 (Fig. 5). To incorporate uncertainty due to annual variability within this process, we randomly
243 sampled year from a uniform categorical distribution. We then simulated daily temperatures
244 ($dTemp_t$) for each year t by drawing values from a random, multivariate normal distribution
245 based on the mean temperature on each day and the covariance with other dates using the
246 'MASS' package (Venables and Ripley 2002) in R (R Core Team 2016). To speed computation,
247 we drew a single value for each day in each year. This resulted in some missing values due to the
248 nature of random sampling from a multivariate normal distribution (not all days are sampled

249 each time, and some are sampled more than once). Therefore, we used a cubic spline
250 interpolation to estimate temperatures for those days that were not sampled using the ‘zoo’
251 package (Zeileis and Grothendieck 2005) in R (R Core Team 2016). Simulated temperatures
252 appeared to follow contemporary patterns reasonably well, so we were satisfied that the approach
253 produced representative patterns in temperature.

254 Because much of the data used in this model were from the Connecticut River, we used
255 temperature data from the Connecticut River to calibrate phenological events in our analyses to
256 account for latitudinal variability and differences in photoperiod cues between locales. We then
257 used linear regression to relate temperatures in the Connecticut River and the Penobscot River so
258 that we could use temperature in the Penobscot River to simulate life-history components of the
259 model such as the date of arrival in the estuary and dates used to define spawning windows based
260 on relationships with temperature. Daily water temperatures in the lower Connecticut River were
261 available from the USGS gauge at Hartford, CT (station ID 01129500) using the ‘waterData’
262 package (Ryberg and Vecchia 2014) in R (R Core Team 2016), and mean daily water
263 temperatures for upstream reaches of the Connecticut River (Turners Falls, MA) for the period
264 1994–2016 were provided by the USGS (T. Castro-Santos, USGS, S.O. Conte Anadromous Fish
265 Research Lab, Turners Falls, MA, unpublished data).

266

267 *Spawning pool structure*

268 We simulated a starting population of American shad in the Penobscot River by starting
269 with a simulated abundance age-1 American shad and applying a marine survival rate to that
270 cohort over the maximum lifespan to calculate the total abundance of fish at each age i in the
271 first year t of the simulation ($N_{i,t=1}$) and arrive at an age-structured population of fish in the

272 ocean. The current abundance of American shad in the Penobscot River is unknown. In 2016,
 273 more than 8 000 American shad passed the fish lift at Milford Dam, and only a small fraction of
 274 fish that were tagged at the head of tide were ever detected approaching the dam (G. Maynard,
 275 The University of Maine, unpublished data). As a result, a minimum population estimate of
 276 approximately 10 000 fish (Grote et al. 2014b) was assumed as a starting value, but we note that
 277 this is likely a conservatively low estimate, and thus incorporated variability in this parameter.
 278 Therefore, we chose a random starting abundance of age-1 fish ($N_{i=1,t=1}$) to seed the population
 279 from a Poisson distribution with $\lambda = 10\,000$. We assumed an age-invariant marine survival rate
 280 of 0.62 for American shad at each age ($S_{M,i} = 0.62$) in the Northeast (ASMFC 2007) to project
 281 this starting population until the maximum age (9 years) was reached. Although the structure of
 282 the model is such that it allows for age-specific marine survival rates, we applied the same rate to
 283 all age classes for lack of more specific information. To incorporate uncertainty in the current
 284 state of knowledge about marine survival for this species, we randomly sampled annual marine
 285 survival rates from a beta distribution with parameters $\alpha = 12$ and $\beta = 8$. This resulted in a left-
 286 skewed distribution with a mean marine survival rate of 0.60 (range ≈ 0.15 – 0.95). We applied an
 287 invariant rate mortality estimated from the method of Hoenig (1983) using a cohort-based
 288 projection matrix:

289

$$(1) \quad N_{i,t=1} \left(\prod_{i=2}^9 S_{M,i} \right) \times N_{i=1,t=1}$$

290

291 We used age-specific probabilities of recruitment to first spawn RF_i from Bailey and
 292 Zydlewski (2013) to calculate the number of first-time spawners in our starting population. To

293 increase flexibility in the modeling approach, we included variable probability of recruitment to
 294 subsequent spawning events for each age class conditional on survival RS_i . However, for the
 295 purpose of this effort, we set RS_i equal to 1.00 for all ages modeled. For each year t after the
 296 initial year, we used annually varying $S_{M, i, t}$ to calculate the number of fish from each age class
 297 (i) within the recruitment pool ($NR_{i,t}$) surviving from year t that were added to the spawning
 298 pool in year $t + 1$ ($NS_{i,t+1}$) using a series of element-wise vector operations:

299

$$300 \quad (2) \quad NS_{i,t+1} = \left(\begin{bmatrix} NR_{i=1,t} \times S_{M,i=1,t} \\ \vdots \\ NR_{i=9,t} \times S_{M,i=9,t} \end{bmatrix} \circ \begin{bmatrix} RF_{i=1} \\ \vdots \\ RF_{i=9} \end{bmatrix} \right) + \left(\begin{bmatrix} NS_{i=1,t} \times S_{M,i=1,t} \\ \vdots \\ NS_{i=9,t} \times S_{M,i=9,t} \end{bmatrix} \circ \begin{bmatrix} RS_{i=1} \\ \vdots \\ RS_{i=9} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

301

302 *Arrival and spawning dates*

303 We simulated individual, spawning fish (j) based on the number of fish in each age class i
 304 in the spawning pool during a given year ($NS_{i,t}$). Sex ratio of American shad entering the
 305 Penobscot River is not well characterized, so we assumed that sex ratio approached 1:1 in most
 306 years (Bailey and Zydlewski 2013). To incorporate uncertainty in the sex ratio of fish, we
 307 randomly assigned sex to each j^{th} fish using a Bernoulli trial with probability of being female
 308 (i.e., success) determined from a beta distribution with $\alpha = 100$ and $\beta = 100$. This distribution has
 309 a mean, annual probability of being female ($pFemale_t$) equal to 0.50 for any given individual, but
 310 allows for divergence from an even sex ratio in the population (range ≈ 0.30 – 0.70).

311 We assigned individual arrival dates ($dArrival_j$) and terminal spawning dates for
 312 individual fish based on simulated daily temperatures in the Penobscot River and empirical
 313 relationships between arrival date and accumulated thermal units (ATU: from January 1 to
 314 harvest date) in the Connecticut River. We related cumulative proportion of catch by commercial

315 fishers in the lower Connecticut River (Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental
316 Conservation [CTDEEP], unpublished data) to ATU using sex-specific logistic regression
317 models that included an over dispersion parameter. We found that ATU was a strong predictor of
318 cumulative harvest in the lower Connecticut River (McFadden's pseudo $R^2 = 0.985$). We used
319 this model to predict probabilities of arrival in the mouth of the Penobscot River each day using
320 ATU calculated from simulated temperatures after establishing a relationship between
321 temperatures in the Penobscot River and the Connecticut River (linear regression, $R^2 = 0.976$, F
322 $= 8.4 \times 10^4$, $df = 2\ 051$, $p < 0.001$). We incorporated variability in this relationship by
323 bootstrapping the regression fit 1 000 times for each sex using 90% of the data each time, saving
324 parameter values for each regression. These parameter values were then randomly sampled for
325 each year t and used to predict cumulative probability of arrival by American shad in the
326 Penobscot River each day based on simulated ATUs. The ATUs used in this study resulted in
327 spawning dates from late May through late July, which roughly correspond to dates from
328 previous work in this system (Grote et al. 2014a). As information about arrival in the system
329 improves, these values can be tuned in the model, but this range was thought to be sufficient for
330 the purpose of simulation as all phenological events were temperature-driven.

331 For each individual American shad, we used a Bernoulli distribution (with probability of
332 success equal to date-specific arrival probabilities) to predict the first temperature ($tArrival_j$) and
333 date on which each j^{th} fish arrived in the river ($dArrival_j$). We assumed that initiation of
334 spawning by individuals occurred after river arrival and was regulated by ATU experienced
335 following $dArrival_j$. The ATU at which spawning initiated for each individual ($tSpawn_{INITIAL, j}$)
336 was randomly drawn from a normal distribution (150 ± 15 , mean \pm SD) based on expert opinion.
337 Similarly, the termination of spawning was assumed to be regulated by cumulative thermal

338 experience of individuals after $dArrival_j$, and terminal spawning temperature ($tSpawn_{TERMINAL, j}$)
339 and date were assigned based on ATUs drawn randomly for each individual from a normal
340 distribution (500 ± 15 , mean \pm SD) which were also selected based on expert opinion. Though
341 information from the Penobscot River is absent for comparison, this procedure resulted in a
342 distribution of residence times (RT) that were consistent with the range of published estimates
343 corresponding to the York River in Virginia (Olney et al. 2006).

344

345 *Individual fish characteristics*

346 Because of relationships between fish size, swimming ability, and fecundity, we assigned
347 fork length of individual fish (L_j) dependent upon their age (i) and sex (s) using the von
348 Bertalanffy growth function (von Bertalanffy 1938):

349

$$350 \quad (3) \quad L_j = L_{\infty_s} \times \left(1 - e^{-k_s \times [t_j - t_{0_s}]}\right)$$

351

352 where L_{∞_s} is the sex-specific theoretical maximum length of fish, k_s is sex-specific Brody growth
353 coefficient, t_{0_s} is the sex-specific time at which fish length was theoretically zero, and the variable
354 s can take on values of 'MALE' or 'FEMALE'. We estimated von Bertalanffy growth
355 parameters using 16 947 lengths at age for American shad in the Connecticut River 2010–2014.
356 We randomly sampled 1 000 individuals of each sex to estimate sex-specific growth parameters
357 during each iteration of the simulation to incorporate uncertainty. We predicted the mass (m_j , g)
358 of each fish using sex-specific parameters for length-mass relationships defined by Raabe and
359 Hightower (2014) using:

360

361 (4)
$$m_j = \alpha_s + \beta_s \times L_j,$$

362

363 where α_s is the intercept, β_s is the slope of a linearized relationship between m_s and L_j , and the
364 variable s can take on values of 'MALE' or 'FEMALE'. Note that because these variables were
365 not linked to any simulated ecological processes or model outputs at the time of writing,
366 sensitivity was not assessed. However, they were included both as inputs and in output files for
367 use in the future should reliable estimates of mass-fecundity relationships be established.

368 We estimated realized annual fecundity (RAF_j) of individual female American shad using
369 information about batch fecundity for virgin ($BF_{V,j}$) and repeat ($BF_{R,j}$) spawners, residence time
370 (RT_j), and spawning interval (SI_j) in the Mattaponi River, Virginia (Hyle et al. 2014) in
371 conjunction with fixed probabilities of repeat spawning (IpR) at each age (ASMFC 2007). For
372 each female, we used a Bernoulli trial to assign spawning history (repeat or virgin) with
373 conditional probability of being a repeat spawner (i.e., success) given age in the first year (IpR).
374 For all subsequent years, the age-specific probability of repeat spawning was calculated directly
375 based on the observed number of fish surviving to spawn in the simulated fish population
376 (spawning pool) after the first year. We randomly sampled mean BF for each fish from a
377 conditional negative binomial distribution with parameters specific to virgin ($\mu = 20\,000$, $\theta = 10$)
378 and repeat spawners ($\mu = 30\,000$, $\theta = 10$). The values drawn from these distributions closely
379 approximated the means and ranges of batch fecundities for virgin and repeat spawners reported
380 by Hyle et al. (2014). We note that an alternative approach would have been to randomly assign
381 the number of eggs in each batch for each fish from these distributions rather than using a mean
382 batch fecundity for each fish. However, we were conservative in our inclusion of uncertainty
383 within these estimates based on expert consensus, and thus elected not to incorporate uncertainty

384 in parameterization at the individual level. We calculated RT_j as the time elapsed in days
 385 between arrival date and terminal spawning date (both based on temperature) for each female.
 386 We randomly sampled SI_j for each female from a normal distribution with $\mu = 2.49$ days, and SD
 387 $= 0.27$ days (Hyle et al. 2014). Realized annual fecundity (RAF_j) was calculated for each fish in
 388 their final PU as:

389

$$390 \quad (5) \quad RAF_j = \begin{cases} BF_{V,j} \times \left(\frac{RT_j}{SI_j}\right), & BF_j = BF_{V,j}, \\ BF_{R,j} \times \left(\frac{RT_j}{SI_j}\right), & BF_j = BF_{R,j} \end{cases}$$

391

392 *Upstream migration model*

393 We developed an individual-based model of upstream migration for American shad based
 394 on $dArrival_j$, spawning dates, river morphology and passage rates, and theoretical daily
 395 movement rates of American shad (Fig. 4). The individual approach to modeling upstream
 396 migration dynamics allowed us to evaluate delays experienced by fish at each dam on the river,
 397 in addition to potential delays at other features of interest (e.g. at the confluence of the main-stem
 398 Penobscot River and the Stillwater Branch). Furthermore, because little or no reliable
 399 information exists with respect to sub-watershed homing tendencies of American shad, we
 400 needed to provide a model that was not dependent upon knowledge of homing. To speed
 401 computations involved with this process and reduce overhead costs of running the model, the
 402 individual-based migration model was pre-compiled in the C++ programming language and
 403 integrated into the life-history based model using the ‘Rcpp’ package (Eddelbuettel and Francois
 404 2015) in R (R Core Team 2016). Population abundance was dynamically scaled within the model

405 each year by factors of 10 to reduce the maximum number of fish being run through the
406 individual-based model in a given year to several thousand rather than several million.
407 Additional reductions in the time required to run models were achieved through the use of
408 parallel processing on the high-performance computing cluster at the University of Buffalo
409 Center for Computational Research.

410 The upstream migration model was programmed in a spatially and temporally explicit
411 manner. It was run on a daily time-step from the minimum of $dArrival_j$ to the maximum of
412 $dSpawn_j$ for each year of the simulation, and from the mouth of the river to the upstream extent
413 of spawning habitat. On each day of the annual upstream migration, the program queried
414 individual fish to determine if a fish could move that day based on $dArrival_j$, $dSpawn_j$, and the
415 current location of the fish with respect to the maximum upstream extent of American shad
416 habitat ($maxRkm$) in that fish's migratory route (Fig. 4). Given that these conditions were
417 satisfied, the program then assessed passage with respect to hydro-system characteristics and
418 passage efficiencies in each 1-kilometer reach of river that a fish could move in a single day up
419 to an individual daily maximum for movement rate (section 2.3.7). This was done using a
420 random draw from a Bernoulli distribution with probability of passage (i.e., success) equal to
421 passage efficiency for that reach (Fig. 4). For free-flowing river reaches, passage efficiency was
422 assumed to be 1.00. Passage efficiency in reaches containing dams was based on the probability
423 of passing a dam during a given time period (expressed as a proportion of 24 h). Thus, passage
424 rates at dams incorporated both effectiveness (probability of passage) and timeliness (the period
425 over which passage was achieved) elements. Each fish was allowed one attempt per day to pass a
426 dam.

427

428 *Migration routes*

429 The individual-based, upstream migration model accommodated inclusion of multiple
430 upstream migration routes to increase the flexibility of the underlying model and improve
431 transferability between systems. The use of each migration route by individual fish was
432 determined based on *a priori*, probabilistic rules (e.g., proportional flow around islands or
433 proportional production potential at major tributaries). In theory, the number of migration routes
434 used is not limited, but a greater number of routes would increase model complexity and time
435 required to run model simulations.

436 We modeled four possible upstream migration routes (Table 1) for American shad from
437 the estuary to the upstream extent of spawning habitat in the main-stem Penobscot and
438 Piscataquis rivers (i–iv in Fig. 2). One of these four migration routes was assigned to each
439 individual fish from a categorical distribution prior to initiation of upstream migration each year
440 of the simulation. The four categories included all combinations of two migration routes around
441 Marsh Island in the lower river and each of two migration routes at the confluence of the
442 Penobscot and Piscataquis rivers: i) main-stem Penobscot River around Marsh Island and the
443 Piscataquis River, ii) Stillwater Branch around Marsh Island and the Piscataquis River, iii) main-
444 stem Penobscot River around Marsh Island and the main-stem Penobscot River, and iv)
445 migration through the Stillwater Branch around Marsh Island and the main-stem Penobscot
446 River.

447 The probability of using a given upstream passage route was conditional on relative
448 discharge from the Stillwater Branch and main-stem Penobscot River around Marsh Island, but
449 was proportional to differences in production potential upstream of West Enfield Dam (main-
450 stem Penobscot River) and Howland Dam (Piscataquis River, Fig. 2). Our rationale for this

451 approach was that the Stillwater Branch presented minimal habitat with regard to population
 452 productivity, but had the potential to attract migrating fish based on a flow diversion from the
 453 main-stem Penobscot River.

454 The maximum allowable flow diversion to the Stillwater Branch is 40 % of total river
 455 discharge (FERC 2004a). We made the simplifying assumption that flow diversion was
 456 uniformly distributed during the shad run each year, and that diversion ranged from 0.10 to 0.40
 457 between years. As such, the annual marginal probability of using the Stillwater Branch for
 458 upstream migration ($\psi_{STILLUP,t}$) was drawn from a uniform distribution in the interval [0.10, 0.40]
 459 each year to indicate that migratory route was proportional to flow. All fish arriving at the Orono
 460 Dam (i.e., those that used the Stillwater Branch) were automatically passed beyond Gilman Falls
 461 in the model, because current practice is to truck American shad from Orono Dam to the Milford
 462 Dam head pond. Likewise, the annual probability of an individual fish using the Piscataquis
 463 River ($\psi_{PISCUP,t}$) for upstream migration was drawn from a uniform distribution in the interval
 464 [0.30, 0.50] based on production potential upstream of West Enfield and Howland dams.

465 Using marginal probabilities of migration through the Stillwater Branch and the
 466 Piscataquis River, the joint probabilities of using each of the four migration routes in the river
 467 (Fig. 2) were calculated as: i) Stillwater Branch to Piscataquis River: ($\psi_{STILLUP,t} \times \psi_{PISCUP,t}$), ii)
 468 Stillwater Branch to main-stem: ($\psi_{STILLUP,t} \times [1 - \psi_{PISCUP,t}]$), iii) main-stem to Piscataquis
 469 River: ($[1 - \psi_{STILLUP,t}] \times \psi_{PISCUP,t}$), and iv) main-stem to main-stem: ($[1 - \psi_{STILLUP,t}] \times$
 470 $[1 - \psi_{PISCUP,t}]$). An upstream migration route was thus assigned to each fish probabilistically,
 471 prior to river arrival. However, movement through each rkm within these migration routes was
 472 dependent upon $dArrival_j$, $dSpawn_j$, individual movement rates, and passage efficiencies at

473 dams. Therefore, it was possible (for example) that a fish assigned to the Piscataquis River
474 would never actually pass Howland Dam (or any other) based on variation in other overriding
475 factors.

476

477 *Upstream movement rates*

478 Theoretical daily movement rates were calculated for each fish based on fork length
479 estimated from von Bertalanffy growth models (L_j), movement tortuosity (i.e., degree of
480 wandering), and ground speed. First, we defined a maximum daily movement rate for each fish
481 as the maximum distance that was theoretically possible for each fish to move in a day given
482 unimpeded passage through the river and unidirectional movement upstream over a 24-hour
483 period. This maximum daily movement rate in km for each fish ($dMax_j$) was calculated as:

484

$$485 \quad (6) \quad dMax_j = L_j \times sOptim_j$$

486

487 where L_j is individual fork length, $sOptim_j$ is optimizing ground speed for each fish. The variable
488 $sOptim_j$ was drawn for each fish from a uniform distribution between 0.7 and 1.7 body lengths
489 per second ($bl \cdot s^{-1}$) to maintain consistency with previous work (Castro-Santos and Letcher
490 2010). We made the assumption that the majority of this movement occurred during hours of day
491 light (Haro and Castro-Santos 2012). We also assumed that movement of American shad did not
492 occur in a straight line (Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010), to incorporate effects of observed
493 behaviours such as meandering during migration (Bailey et al. 2004) or milling at barriers (Grote
494 et al. 2014b). In recognition of these assumptions, we adjusted $dMax_j$ by the proportion of each
495 day (d) that comprised hours of daylight ($pDay_d$) and a tortuosity parameter that allowed for

496 reduction in upstream migration rates due to deviation from straight-line movements ($tort_j$) to
497 arrive at a realized daily movement rate for each fish ($dReal_j$):

498

$$499 \quad (7) \quad dReal_j = dMax_j \times pDay_d \times tort_j$$

500

501 For each fish, $tort_j$ was a unitless value drawn from a random uniform distribution between 0.2
502 and 1.00, thus allowing for reductions in daily movement rate from zero to 80% to incorporate
503 uncertainty and align with values used in previous studies (Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010). The
504 proportion of day light hours in a twenty-four hour period ($pDay_d$) was estimated as the mean of
505 photoperiod (in hours) during the migration divided by 24 hours for each year of the simulation.
506 The ‘migration’, for this purpose, was defined as the entire period between the minimum of
507 $dArrival_j$ through the maximum of $dSpawn_j$. Photoperiod was calculated using the geosphere
508 package (Hijmans 2016) in R (R Core Team 2016) based on day of year and latitude at Milford
509 Dam.

510 We incorporated a seasonally varying reduction in movement rate due to theoretical,
511 temporal changes in “motivation” (see Agostinho et al. 2007) during the spawning migration due
512 to lack of assumptions about homing in the model. We assumed that fish were most highly
513 motivated to move upstream early and at the peak of the run based on bio-energetic constraints at
514 the end of the season (Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010). This assumption was based on observed
515 changes in relationships between timing of arrival at subsequent dams in the Connecticut River
516 with respect to ATU (Ken Sprankle, US Fish and Wildlife Service, unpublished data). Based on
517 those changes, we assumed that motivation was inversely proportional to ATU and was assigned
518 as an individual-based penalty (j) that was multiplied by passage efficiency in each reach and

519 that changed based on ATU each day (d), and the minimum and maximum ATU realized during
 520 each spawning season:

521

$$522 \quad (8) \quad motivation_{j,d} = \frac{1-(ATU_{j,d} - \min[ATU_j])}{(\max[ATU_j])}$$

523

524 where $motivation_{j,d}$ was the penalty, $ATU_{j,d}$ was the ATU experienced by individual j on day d ,
 525 and the minimum and maximum ATU were probabilistically determined for each fish based on
 526 $dArrival_j$ and $dSpawn_j$ to constrain the motivation penalty on the interval $[0, 1]$. The strength of
 527 this relationship in the model will remain subjective until better data become available. As such,
 528 the motivation penalty currently constitutes only a minor reduction in individual fish movement
 529 through the system; however its inclusion in the model may be important for future applications.

530

531 *Spawning dynamics*

532 We extracted the final rkm for each fish from the individual-based migration model and
 533 assigned each fish to a PU based on distance traveled (in rkm) and migration route. Following
 534 assignment to a PU, adults were allowed to survive the pre-spawn period with a sex-specific
 535 annual survival probability ($S_{PRE,t,s}$), and all females spawned all eggs from realized annual
 536 fecundity of individuals (RAF_j) within that PU. The number of eggs deposited in each PU was
 537 summed. We assumed that, at carrying capacity, American shad saturate spawning habitat with
 538 eggs even at minimal individual fecundity as an evolutionary strategy for coping with
 539 environmental stochasticity, year-class failure, etc. Therefore, we assumed a density-dependent
 540 process and capped egg production in each n^{th} PU by assigning a carrying capacity (kPU_n) to
 541 each PU based on PU-specific production potential (pPU_n), and the lower 95% confidence limit

542 ($Q_{0.025}$) of RAF among all females for a given year, and the number of females in each PU
543 (fPU_n) as:

544

545 (9)
$$kPU_n = pPU_n \times fPU_n \times Q_{0.025}$$

546

547 *Post-spawning dynamics and downstream migration*

548 At the completion of spawning, adult fish within each PU were grouped as post-spawners
549 (grouped separately as males and females within age classes). We summed the sex-specific
550 number of fish in each PU by age for each of the four migration routes. We incorporated post-
551 spawning survival ($S_{POST, t, s}$) rate as occurring in all production units. The general structure of
552 the model allowed for separate $S_{POST, t, s}$ for males and females. In the Penobscot River model we
553 assigned $S_{POST, t, s}$ values each year of the simulation for both sexes using a beta distribution with
554 $\alpha = 200$ and $\beta = 50$, resulting in a left-skewed distribution with a mean of about 0.80 (95% CI:
555 0.79–0.87), which approximately covered the range of spawning-season survival estimated in the
556 Little River, North Carolina (Raabe and Hightower 2014).

557 Juvenile survival from egg to out-migration remains a highly uncertain life-history vital
558 rate for American shad, although it is widely held that juvenile survival is low during this period
559 relative to other life stages (Savoy et al. 2004). Survival rates of 0.00056–0.00083 were reported
560 for the egg-to-juvenile life stage for American shad in the Connecticut River (Leggett 1977). To
561 incorporate this uncertainty, we drew juvenile survival ($S_{JUV, t}$), each year from a random
562 uniform distribution from 0.00056 to 0.00083.

563 Following application of post-spawning dynamics, all fish were moved downstream in
564 age-structured cohorts from each PU using a state-based approach. Downstream survival rates

565 were determined by setting dam-passage performance standards at each dam in each of four
566 possible downstream migration routes (described below). All mortality incurred during
567 downstream migration was additive with respect to post-spawning survival dynamics (i.e.,
568 natural mortality), and was incurred as a result of dam passage or indirect mortality (e.g.,
569 predation). This mortality was accounted for in three parts within the model: i) acute mortality at
570 dams (measured by passage performance standards), ii) indirect mortality (M_I) in fresh water
571 below dams, and iii) latent (delayed) mortality (M_L) during estuary passage. Indirect and latent
572 mortality were cumulative in that fish passing more dams experienced lower absolute probability
573 of reaching the ocean in a given year than those passing fewer dams. We applied these mortality
574 rates as proportional reductions to downstream survival rates within the general model structure,
575 however these values were set at zero for this demonstration due to lack of reliable information.
576 The model allowed for separate dam-passage survival rates for adult and juvenile fish. For this
577 study, downstream survival at dams varied uniformly from 0.00 to 1.00 by increments of 0.10.
578 Adult and juvenile downstream survival rates were set to be the same within the model, and
579 downstream survival at dams was held constant at all facilities in the watershed.

580 Both post-spawn adults and juveniles followed one of four routes. Assignments were
581 made in a similar fashion to upstream movement; however, the starting PU limited the number of
582 pathways for fish. There were four potential migration routes that could have been used by
583 American shad in the Penobscot or Piscataquis rivers during seaward migration, congruent with
584 the upstream migration routes. Out-migrants from either the Piscataquis River or the upper main-
585 stem Penobscot River could move through either the Stillwater Branch or the lower main-stem
586 Penobscot River around Marsh Island during seaward migration. As with the upstream migration
587 model, we assumed the probability of a fish using the Stillwater Branch for seaward migration

588 was approximately proportional to flow distribution around Marsh Island. Previous studies of
589 downstream migration in other species indicate that about 12% (95% CRI: 11–13%) of fish use
590 this migration route during spring outmigration (Stich et al. 2015b). In the absence of species-
591 specific, and life-stage specific information about use of these routes by American shad, we
592 assumed that these relationships were similar. And, even though adult and juvenile American
593 shad migrate at different times, and thus experience different flows, we made the simplifying
594 assumption that proportional use of the Stillwater Branch was similar between life stages.
595 Therefore, the probability of using the Stillwater Branch during downstream migration
596 ($\psi_{STILLD, t}$) was randomly drawn from a beta distribution with $a = 50$ and $b = 300$, allowing for
597 greater variability in proportional use for American shad, but corresponding to means reported
598 for other out-migrants (Stich et al. 2015b). Importantly, all fish using the Stillwater Branch for
599 downstream migration were required to pass Gilman Falls, and Stillwater and Orono dams,
600 unlike upstream migration, which allowed for trucking.

601 The number of females, males, and juveniles reaching the ocean from a given PU each
602 year was conditional on $\psi_{STILLD, t}$, as well as the upstream migration route and PU from which a
603 group of downstream migrating fish originated. For each group (males, females, juveniles), the
604 number of fish from each age class reaching the ocean was calculated using one of four state-
605 based projection matrices based on downstream survival rates and proportional use of the
606 Stillwater Branch by downstream migrants. After fish reached the ocean, adults (males and
607 females) were added to the age-structured spawning pool for the next year, and juveniles were
608 added to the age-structured recruitment pool.

609

610 *Dam-passage performance standards*

611 The probability of upstream and downstream passage at each dam was controlled
612 deterministically within each year of the simulation to represent management decisions, and was
613 based on probability of passage during a given time period of either 24 or 48 h. In this way, we
614 were able to understand the impacts of the effectiveness and timeliness of various dam-passage
615 performance standards on the spatial and temporal changes to abundance and age-structuring of
616 American shad in the Penobscot River over the period of interest (50 years in this case).

617 For the purpose of this study, performance standards were set to be equal at all dams (i.e.,
618 catchment-scale regulation), and we assumed that a performance standard was always achieved
619 during a given model run. Therefore, we assigned the annual probability of passage at each dam
620 for individual fish to the performance standard at that dam in during a given simulation of 50
621 years. For each model run, upstream and downstream passage performance standards were
622 sampled from a uniform categorical distribution in the set {0.10, 0.20, 0.30, ..., 1.00}. All
623 upstream dam passage performance standards were applied over an explicit passage window of
624 interest (*time*). This application can be thought of as analogous to calculation of interest rates,
625 where daily passage probability was adjusted by *time*, expressed as a proportion of one day) to
626 calculate a daily probability of passage as:

627

$$628 \quad (10) \quad \text{Daily passage probability} = (\text{passage probability})^{(1/\text{time})}$$

629

630 We randomly drew *time* for each 50-year simulation from a categorical distribution with equal
631 sampling probabilities and values possible of 1 (24 h or 1 d) and 2 (48 h or 2 d) to demonstrate
632 the influences of dam passage timeliness on population dynamics.

633

634 Model outputs

635 A large number of outputs exist that could be tracked within a life-history based model
636 such as the one developed in this study. We chose to monitor three annual outputs from the
637 model to quantify effects of upstream and downstream dam passage on population demographics
638 in the Penobscot River catchment. These outputs were i) age-structured abundance of the
639 spawning pool in the mouth of the river, ii) abundance of the spawning pool in each PU of the
640 catchment, and iii) the proportion of repeat spawners in the spawning pool. To simplify
641 visualization of repeat spawner response to dam passage performance standards, only age-6
642 American shad were considered because this was the median age of repeat spawners in the
643 population.

644

645 Evaluating model sensitivity

646 A full analysis of stochastic parameters was conducted to evaluate the sensitivity of
647 model outputs to input data used for this model using a global sensitivity analysis. The purpose
648 of this analysis was two-fold. First, we were interested in which assumptions of the model were
649 most critical to predicted changes in population demographics. Second, the sensitivity analysis
650 allows us to prioritize future needs for data collection with respect to model inputs.

651 We used a one-way error analysis to identify the sensitivity of model outputs to the range
652 of individual inputs. We used generalized linear models (GLMs) to assess the effects of inputs on
653 the management objectives for management of this population, including the probability of
654 successfully reaching the State of Maine's interim management target of 633 000 fish spawning
655 in the river, and the likelihood of a sustained spawning population of American shad above

656 Weldon Dam (MDMR 2009). Beyond being a stated management objective, the response of
657 sustained spawning populations upstream of Weldon Dam to management decisions might differ
658 substantially from spawning populations in downstream PUs by virtue of its location far
659 upstream in the catchment. Both metrics were assessed at 41–50 years following the timeline for
660 management objectives. A binomial distribution with a logit link function was used to estimate
661 the GLM associated with probability of successfully achieving the interim recovery target for
662 abundance at the mouth of the river, and a Gaussian ('normal') error distribution was used to
663 assess the sensitivity of z -standardized spawner abundance upstream of Weldon Dam to input
664 parameter values. Due to the large number of input parameters considered, sensitivity of model
665 outputs to input parameters was assessed using relative effect sizes as interpreted through the use
666 of standardized regression coefficients.

667

668 **Results**

669 **Model sensitivity**

670 *Probability of achieving interim recovery target*

671 Achievement of the interim recovery target of 633 000 spawners in the river was most
672 sensitive to growth and size of American shad, dam passage, and natural mortality rates in
673 marine and freshwater habitats.

674 In general, the probability of achieving the interim recovery target increased with
675 increases in individual growth rate (k_s) and theoretical maximum size (L_{∞_s}) for both females and
676 males (Table 3), likely because faster growth rate and greater maximum size resulted in
677 increased movement rates and access to habitat where carrying capacity was not limiting.
678 Despite this, there was a strong, negative relation between realized fork length and probability of

679 achieving the interim recovery target (Table 3). The latter relationship was strongly suspected to
680 be representative of a proportionally larger number of smaller fishes in the population at high
681 abundance as it was counter to relations between achievement of the interim recovery target,
682 growth parameters, and passage time (Table 3). That is, we suspect that the negative relationship
683 between L_j and probability of achieving interim recovery target was simply an artifact of
684 increased proportional abundance of small fish at higher population sizes (Table 3).

685 Dam passage was related to the probability of achieving the interim recovery target
686 through multiple mechanisms. The parameter to which population size was most sensitive was
687 downstream passage at dams (Table 3). Consistent with this, probability of achieving the
688 management objective also was inversely related to the probability of using the Stillwater
689 Branch, which contained more dams than the main-stem Penobscot River, for downstream
690 migration (Table 3). With respect to upstream passage, population abundance was sensitive to
691 both passage time, and upstream passage efficiency. Consistent with simulation results, the
692 population was more sensitive to changes in passage time (24 or 48 h) than it was to changes in
693 passage efficiency (Table 3).

694 As expected, natural mortality parameters have a clear negative effect on population
695 abundance. The probability of achieving the interim recovery target within 41–50 years was
696 strongly related to marine survival rates, and to a lesser degree was related to both the assumed
697 starting population abundance and post-spawn mortality rates for females and males (Table 3). In
698 all cases, increased survival during periods of natural attrition was positively related to the
699 probability of achieving the interim recovery target (Table 3).

700

701 *Number of spawners upstream of Weldon Dam*

702 We tested the sensitivity of spawner abundance upstream of Weldon Dam as an indicator
703 of the ability to sustain spawning populations in the upstream extent of the main-stem Penobscot
704 River in the absence of specific numerical management targets. The sensitivity of abundance in
705 this PU followed different trends than catchment-scale abundance. Abundance upstream of
706 Weldon Dam was most sensitive to changes in phenology, size and movement parameters, and
707 dam passage performance standards.

708 The phenological parameters to which abundance upstream of Weldon Dam was most
709 sensitive included timing of arrival in the estuary, date of initial spawn, and stochastic changes in
710 temperature (Table 4). In general, earlier arrival dates and initial spawning dates resulted in
711 larger population abundances upstream of the dam, likely due to the increased window for
712 upstream migration. Because arrival timing and spawning dates were directly linked to
713 temperature within the simulation model, the effect of positive, stochastic changes in temperature
714 also resulted in earlier timing of estuary arrival and earlier initial spawning dates.

715 By virtue of its location far upstream in the watershed, population abundance
716 upstream of Weldon Dam was also sensitive to a suite of parameters that related to upstream
717 migration patterns to which catchment-wide abundance was less sensitive. These included fork
718 length of females and males, tortuosity of movement rates, seasonal changes in migratory
719 motivation, and realized movement rates (Table 4). Change in population abundance upstream of
720 Weldon Dam was proportional to changes in fork lengths of females and males, as well as daily
721 movement rates that were, in part, a function of length. Conversely, abundance of spawners in
722 the PU was inversely related to the motivation penalty imposed, and the tortuosity of upstream
723 movement paths (Table 4).

724 Changes in dam passage performance standards and migratory routes had significant
725 effects on the number of spawners arriving upstream of Weldon Dam through multiple
726 mechanisms. First, the number of spawners in the production unit decreased with the number of
727 fish that migrated up the Piscataquis River and were consequently not available for passage
728 upstream of Weldon Dam (Table 4). Likewise, the number of spawners upstream of the dam
729 increased with faster passage times and increased passage efficiency of dams in the catchment.
730 As with catchment-wide abundance, the number of spawners upstream of Weldon Dam was
731 more sensitive to downstream dam passage efficiency than upstream passage efficiency (Table
732 4), but the difference in effects was not as great as it was for catchment-wide abundance. Once
733 critical thresholds for downstream passage performance standards were attained, abundance
734 upstream of Weldon Dam was more sensitive to upstream passage time than efficiency, but both
735 were significant predictors (Table 4).

736

737 **Abundance and spatial distribution of spawners**

738 *No passage scenario*

739 A scenario of 'no passage' was used to establish a baseline for population abundance in
740 the Penobscot River without fish passage, and to demonstrate the scope for change in spawner
741 abundance and proportion of repeat spawners under varying scenarios of increased upstream and
742 downstream passage. The mean predicted population size after 41–50 years under the no passage
743 scenario was about 41 000 (95% CI = 17 000–98 000; Fig. 6). The weighted mean proportion of
744 repeat spawners at ages five through seven under the no passage scenario was 0.32 (0.22–0.45)
745 after 41–50 years.

746

747 *No dam scenario*

748 We used a scenario that assumed 100% effectiveness of dam passage to estimate the
749 potential productivity of the population in the absence of dam impacts, and to demonstrate the
750 isolated influence of variable passage times on population abundance. Under this best-case
751 passage scenario (upstream and downstream passage = 1.00, time for passage = 24 h), the
752 average population abundance at the mouth of the river was predicted to increase to
753 approximately 850 000 (95% CI: 260 000–1 900 000) fish during the 41–50 years following the
754 implementation of performance standards (Fig. 6). The population was projected to reach this
755 abundance after approximately 30 years. In the absence of migratory impediments (no-dam
756 scenario), 65% of predicted American shad abundances in the Penobscot River exceeded the
757 interim recovery target of 633 000 fish during the 41–50 year period (Fig. 6).

758 Changes in the abundance of spawning American shad at the mouth of the river were
759 concurrent with changes in the spatial distribution of spawners (Fig. 7). Changes in distribution
760 were examined with respect to both the proportion of spawners in each production unit, and the
761 projected abundance of spawners upstream of Weldon Dam. The distribution of spawners was
762 proportionally highest in PU 3A under both passage times (Milford Dam to West Enfield Dam;
763 Fig. 1). The mean predicted abundance of spawners upstream of Weldon Dam in years 41–50
764 was about 26 000 (0–122 000) fish with a 24 h passage time.

765 The age distribution of repeat spawners in the population remained relatively similar
766 between the 24 h and 48 h passage times when passage efficiency was held constant at 1.00.
767 However, the proportion of repeat spawners in a given age class increased only marginally in the
768 48 h scenario when compared to the 24 h scenario (Fig. 8). Although not shown, there were some

769 differences in the age distributions at the PU level between the 24 and 48 hours due to indirect
770 relationship with movement speed based on fish length (i.e., older fish move faster).

771

772 *Variable passage efficiency*

773 When variable dam passage performance standards were considered at the catchment-
774 wide scale, we observed differential effects of upstream and downstream passage on the
775 responses of interest (population abundance at the mouth of the river, abundance upstream of
776 Weldon Dam, and proportion of repeat spawners). We also observed interactions between the
777 effects of upstream and downstream passage on these responses. Finally, the upstream and
778 downstream passage rates needed to achieve interim management targets varied substantially
779 based on passage time (24 or 48 h).

780 Abundance of spawning American shad in the catchment increased with increasing
781 upstream passage at a given downstream passage rate, but only to a certain point, after which
782 abundance was predicted to either stabilize or even decrease with further increases in upstream
783 passage (Fig. 9). The upstream passage rate at which this trade off occurred appeared to be
784 dependent upon the corresponding downstream passage rate, and the tradeoff appeared to
785 decrease in the intensity from low to high rates of downstream passage. At downstream passage
786 rates higher than about 0.80, abundance always increased with increases in upstream passage if a
787 24 h passage time was used. The threshold for this tradeoff occurred at lower levels of
788 downstream passage (~ 0.60) when a 48 h performance standard was used (Fig. 9).

789 A minimum downstream passage performance standard of about 0.90 was required for
790 the simulated population to reach a mean abundance of 633 000 fish after 41–50 years for 24 h
791 passage time, and a minimum downstream standard of 0.98 was needed under the 48 h upstream

792 passage scenario (Fig. 9). Given sufficiently high downstream passage, it was possible for the
793 population to recover to the interim management objective of 633 000 with upstream passage
794 rates as low as about 0.30 in 24 h (Fig. 9). With a 48 h upstream passage time, the interim
795 management objective for abundance was not achieved below upstream passage performance
796 standards of about 0.85 (Fig. 9).

797 The mean abundance of American shad spawning upstream of Weldon Dam responded
798 similarly to changes in upstream and downstream passage performance standards using 24 h and
799 48 h passage times (Fig. 9). However, changes in spawner abundance upstream of Weldon Dam
800 were less sensitive to changes in downstream passage under the 48 h scenario than under the 24
801 h scenario (Fig. 9) as expected, because fewer fish reached this PU under the 48 h scenario.

802 The predicted proportion of repeat spawners in the catchment increased with increasing
803 downstream passage. Probability of repeat spawning decreased with increased upstream passage
804 where corresponding downstream passage was not sufficiently high (Fig. 10). As with spawner
805 abundance, this trend indicated a tradeoff in American shad population dynamics resultant from
806 interactions between upstream and downstream passage.

807

808 **Discussion**

809 **Management implications**

810 Fishery managers charged with establishing fish passage performance standards and their
811 industry counterparts frequently enter into negotiations of regulatory standards lacking the ability
812 to quantify how passage performance standards might relate to management objectives for
813 anadromous species, which makes it difficult to accurately assess whether fishways meet criteria
814 of 'safe, timely, and effective' passage (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and

815 Atmospheric Administration 2000). The model developed in this study provides such a tool for
816 fishery managers who seek quantitative support for decision-making related to American shad
817 passage performance standards at regulated hydropower facilities. Although this tool was
818 developed specifically for American shad in the Penobscot River, ME, it is readily extended to
819 other populations of American shad through the inclusion of flexibility in path choice, spatial
820 arrangement of dams, and input data.

821 It is well understood that dams have the potential to adversely affect diadromous fish
822 during upstream and downstream migration. However, the degree to which passage efficiency
823 and timing of passage inhibit recovery to management goals is not well quantified. Differences
824 between species (Haro et al. 2004), in addition to site-specific considerations further complicate
825 this problem, and preclude a one-size-fits all solution to fish passage (Brownell et al. 2012).
826 Often, lack of quantitative support results in ambiguity in what constitutes ‘substantial evidence’
827 (Richardson v. Perales 1971) used to determine whether or not proposed regulatory standards are
828 ‘arbitrary and capricious’ (CFR 1966) in negotiations (e.g., Wisconsin Power Light Company v.
829 FERC 2004) and subsequent comments (e.g., FERC 2004b). The model developed in our study,
830 with clearly developed inputs and assumptions, provides a quantitative tool based on best
831 available scientific information, and can be used to relate proposed performance standards
832 directly to management objectives for alosine species, potentially reducing much of the
833 ambiguity involved in fish passage negotiations.

834

835 **Model application**

836 Several notable trends in the abundance and population dynamics of spawning American
837 shad emerged during this simulation study in response to imposed upstream and downstream

838 dam passage performance standards. Importantly, the interim recovery target for population
839 abundance was only achieved under what historically have been thought of as high rates of
840 upstream and downstream fish passage through dams. Similarly, we noted substantial changes to
841 population abundance under different times required to pass dams, underscoring the importance
842 of both the timeliness and effectiveness of dam passage performance standards for this species.
843 In the absence of fish passage, this population was predicted to increase to a potential abundance
844 of about 40 000 fish on average, although maximum predictions seem to match what is expected
845 based on previous estimates of production potential in the lower Penobscot River (MDMR
846 2009). These numbers seem to be reasonable given that approximately 8 000 American shad
847 passed Milford Dam during the 2016 spawning season, but the majority of tagged fish did not
848 approach the dam that year (J. Zydlewski, unpublished data). Likewise, maximum estimates of
849 population abundance in this system fit reasonably well compared to estimated population
850 productivity (1.6 million spawners) in this system (MDMR 2009).

851 Model sensitivities indicated important aspects of life-history uncertainty and phenology
852 that may warrant further investigation. For example, parameters related to mortality (e.g. pre-
853 and post-spawn mortality, and marine survival) had substantial influences on population trends,
854 and are biologically important drivers. Data surrounding these important sources of attrition are
855 virtually absent from the literature. We used a wide range of values in this application, and our
856 ability to make more precise predictions would be improved by better information. Likewise,
857 model outputs were sensitive to changes in growth of American shad in this study. This indicates
858 that system-specific data would be preferable to using growth information from the Connecticut
859 River population. Those data are only now becoming more widely collected for use and will be
860 incorporated as they become available. Limited information also exists about movement rates of

861 American shad due to historic difficulties tagging, but studies are underway to estimate
862 migration rates and behaviors, which have the potential to replace theoretically based parameters
863 (e.g. $sOptim_j$, $tort_j$, and other parameters used to parameterize $dReal_j$) with empirical data.
864 Finally, the model developed here did not include variability in climate or fisheries take (harvest,
865 by-catch, discard, etc.). Such improvements would increase the overall utility of this model for
866 understanding how dam passage interplays with other influences and aspects of fisheries
867 management, and is the focus of efforts currently underway.

868 We made the simplifying assumption that upstream and downstream dam passage
869 performance standards were regulated at the catchment scale for modeling purposes. Singular
870 ownership of hydropower assets (National Marine Fisheries Service 2012a, 2012b), may allow
871 for catchment-wide regulation of fish passage in some hydro systems. More commonly, there
872 will be challenges within a given catchment that make such an approach inequitable,
873 unnecessary, or logistically impractical. In such cases, it may be desirable to regulate upstream
874 and downstream fish passage at individual dams to meet specific goals related to size and age
875 structure, abundance, and distribution in a catchment. Similar to previously developed tools for
876 Atlantic salmon (e.g., Nieland et al. 2015), our model provides a quantitative tool that managers
877 can use to investigate either scope of impact for a single project (i.e., effects of a single dam) in
878 isolation or with respect to contemporary conditions within a catchment in addition to
879 cumulative impacts (CFR 2014) or catchment-wide standards.

880 The individual-based approach to upstream migration in our model produces emergent
881 patterns in spatial distribution of fishes within a catchment in the absence of assumptions about
882 homing. This approach comes at the cost of computationally intensive routines that necessitate
883 increased computing time and resources. Emergent patterns in distribution could be used to

884 inform state-based approaches in lieu of homing probabilities (*sensu* Nieland et al. 2015). As
885 such, the model will be useful for creating computationally efficient, simplified models for
886 alosines in the future. The ability to use such an approach previously has been limited by a lack
887 of significant evidence of population sub-structuring within natal rivers (Hasselman et al. 2010),
888 reliable information on rates of tributary fidelity in alosines (Pess et al. 2014), or even physical
889 evidence of tributary-specific homing (but see Dodson and Leggett 1973 and Hendricks et al.
890 2002). In the absence of such data, our model provides predicted patterns in distribution of
891 spawners within a catchment based on behavioral characteristics (e.g., movement speed,
892 tortuosity, and seasonal change), until better information becomes available.

893 The model we have developed explicitly incorporates uncertainty in management
894 outcomes due to gaps in the current knowledge of diadromous species, and that allows for an
895 adaptive approach to resource management through incorporation of contemporary data as it
896 becomes available. This has helped us to identify specific components of uncertainty to which
897 the model is particularly sensitive, a stated goal for recovery efforts related to American shad
898 (ASMFC 2013). While there is uncertainty involved with many of the model inputs, the
899 influence of that uncertainty on results also is well characterized and clearly communicated using
900 tools applied in this study. Moving forward, further data collection and the development of a
901 standardized approach in coastal rivers to the assessment of alosine performance standards could
902 further reduce ambiguity and uncertainties. Thus, similar exercises will be useful for identifying
903 key knowledge gaps and prioritizing future research for other rivers and species. Despite these
904 uncertainties and sensitivities, our results demonstrate that the timelines and effectiveness of
905 upstream and downstream passage performance standards at hydropower dams can have
906 persistent effects on the recovery of alosine stocks in the northeast U.S., even when passage rates

907 are high relative to historical passage rates for these species (ASMFC 2007, Haro and Castro-
908 Santos 2012). While exact values of input parameters and passage efficiencies necessary to
909 achieve management targets both will vary between systems, the model structure presented here
910 is well suited to address trends and sensitivities in population responses relative to resource
911 management decisions.

912

913 **Trade-offs in upstream and downstream passage**

914 Responses in spawner abundance to dam passage performance standards suggest that
915 delay, and ultimately passage, at hydropower dams have the potential to reduce the overall
916 number of spawning American shad in the Penobscot River, even at passage rates that
917 historically have been considered high for this species (Haro and Castro-Santos 2012). All
918 scenarios that allowed for population recovery in the Penobscot River stock of American shad
919 consisted of downstream passage rates that were greater than or equal to 0.85. Under 48-hour
920 passage times, upstream passage efficiencies of 0.60 or greater were required to achieve interim
921 recovery targets for this population. Stock recovery in the Penobscot River population of
922 American shad is unlikely in the absence of high upstream and downstream passage rates at
923 dams; but given adequate passage, recovery to the interim recovery target is likely at the highest
924 passage rates considered in the present study (Fig. 9).

925 Previous studies indicated that the effects of changes to downstream passage on
926 American shad population abundance were minor relative to other factors, including upstream
927 passage (Kahnle and Hattala 2012); however, as the authors of that work recognize,
928 consideration of how fish passage at the catchment-scale (and not a single dam) shows that both
929 upstream and downstream fish passage can have substantial effects at the population level. In

930 fact, we have demonstrated that if not sufficiently high, downstream passage has much *greater*
931 potential to impede population recovery than upstream passage dependent on catchment. This is
932 because passing multiple dams during downstream migration results in higher mortality than is
933 offset by increased reproduction in upstream habitat. This complexity is likely to be more
934 relevant when indirect and latent components of downstream fish passage at dams are
935 considered. Although indirect and latent mortality were assumed to be zero in the present study,
936 these sources of dam-related mortality are included as parameters that can be changed in the
937 present version of the model and may be of significant interest. In the absence of these sources of
938 mortality, the results of the case study may be viewed as optimistic given the sensitivity of
939 population to downstream dam passage performance standards.

940 Previous researchers have hypothesized that upstream passage of American shad past
941 dams could reduce in-river survival and rates of iteroparity through physiological constraints
942 associated with extended upstream migrations (Leggett et al. 2004, Kahnle and Hattala 2012).
943 Thus, it has been suggested that managers might 'do more harm than good' by passing fish
944 upstream beyond dams and into spawning habitat (Leggett et al. 2004). Alternately, increased
945 mortality and reduced iteroparity might be caused by delays at dams during downstream
946 migration, leading to undesirable population demographics at high rates of upstream passage
947 (Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010). We demonstrated a clear trade off in the response of spawner
948 abundance (Fig. 9) and the proportion of repeat spawners (Fig. 10) to changes in upstream
949 passage rates as downstream passage rate increased in our study. Congruent with the results of
950 Castro-Santos and Letcher (2010), we found that downstream passage affected rates of
951 iteroparity and spawner abundance, although we did not distinguish between mechanisms of
952 downstream mortality. For example at downstream passage rates of 0.40, increasing upstream

953 passage from 0.20 to 1.00 resulted in net reductions to population abundance because increases
954 in productivity resulting from access to upstream habitat were insufficient to offset increases in
955 mortality from downstream passage (Fig. 9).

956 Importantly, passage efficiencies that achieve minimal standards for one management
957 objective may not be conducive to achieving minimal standards for other management
958 objectives. For example, the interim management target for catchment-wide population
959 abundance in the Penobscot River was achieved at upstream passage rates as low as 0.30 under
960 sufficiently high downstream passage efficiencies (Fig. 9). However, this upstream passage
961 efficiency resulted in a minimal abundance of spawners upstream of Weldon Dam, and much
962 higher upstream dam passage performance standards would be needed to consistently sustain
963 spawning in that production unit (Fig. 10). Likewise, at upstream passage efficiencies that
964 achieve objectives for the Weldon Dam production unit, high downstream passage rates would
965 be required to maximize the number of repeat spawners in the watershed. Therefore, both
966 upstream and downstream passage rates have important influences on American shad population
967 abundance, and those influences are inextricably linked to population dynamics and demographic
968 structuring through both space and time. Consideration of synergism between upstream and
969 downstream passage will benefit managers working to set effective dam passage performance
970 standards for American shad.

971

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991

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1245 **Tables**

1246

1247 Table 1. Adult production potential for American shad production units in each migration route
 1248 used in for modeling American shad in the Penobscot River, Maine, derived from production
 1249 potentials calculated by Maine Department of Marine Resources (2009).

Production unit	Description	Production potential
1A	Head of tide to Orono	57 212
2A	Orono to Milford	49 207
1C	Orono to Stillwater	1 000
2C	Stillwater to Gilman Falls	10 000
3A	Milford to Confluence	439 591
4A	West Enfield to Weldon	538 940
5A	Upstream of Weldon	230 109
1B	Howland to Browns Mill	206 487
2B	Browns Mill to Moosehead	1 053
3B	Moosehead to Guilford	22 591
4B	Upstream of Guilford	14 922

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1253 Table 2. Parameters used as input for modeling American shad in the Penobscot River, Maine. Note that user-defined parameters for
 1254 upstream passage efficiencies, downstream passage efficiencies, and passage timing (*time*) are not shown here. Likewise, parameters
 1255 that were derived directly from those presented here, but used in sensitivity analysis (e.g., *dMax*, *dReal*) may not be shown.

Parameter	Description	Distribution or value	Reference
$N_{i=1}$	Starting total number of age-1 fish in the population	$P(\lambda = 10\ 000)$	MDMR 2009
$S_{M, i, t}$	Marine survival	$\text{Beta}(a = 12, b = 8)$	ASMFC 2007
RF_i	Age-specific probabilities of recruitment to first spawn	$\text{Bernoulli}(p = \text{age-specific})$	Bailey and Zydlewski 2013
$pFemale_t$	Proportion of females in spawning population	$\text{Beta}(a = 100, b = 100)$	Bailey and Zydlewski 2013
$dTemp_t$	Mean daily temperatures	MVN(year, day, temperature)	USGS Gage 01036390
$ATU_{d, j}$	ATU experienced by each fish on each day	Derived from $dTemp_t$	USGS Gage 01036390
$tStoch_t$	Stochastic change for prediction from commercial catch regression	$U(-1.96, 1.96)$	Stochastic parameter- no data
$tArrival_j$	Arrival ATU	Derived	CTDEEP, unpublished data
$dArrival_j$	Arrival date corresponding to arrival ATU	Derived	CTDEEP, unpublished data
$tSpawn_{INITIAL, j}$	Initial spawning temperature	$N(\mu = 150, \sigma = 15)$	Expert opinion
$tSpawn_{TERMINAL, j}$	Terminal spawning temperature	$N(\mu = 500, \sigma = 15)$	Expert opinion
$dSpawn_{INITIAL, j}$	Initial spawning date	Derived annually	Based on simulated temperature
$dSpawn_{TERMINAL, j}$	Terminal spawning date	Derived annually	Based on simulated temperature
$L_{\infty s}$	Maximum length in von Bertalanffy growth model	Derived annually	CTDEEP, unpublished
k_s	Brody growth coefficient in von Bertalanffy growth model	Derived annually	CTDEEP, unpublished
t_{0s}	Intercept in von Bertalanffy growth model	Derived annually	CTDEEP, unpublished
$BF_{V, j}$	Batch fecundity for individual virgin spawners	$\text{NB}(\mu = 20\ 000, \theta = 10)$	Hyle et al. 2014
$BF_{R, j}$	Batch fecundity for individual repeat spawners	$\text{NB}(\mu = 30\ 000, \theta = 10)$	Hyle et al. 2014
SI_j	Spawning interval	$N(\mu = 2.49, \sigma = 0.27)$	Hyle et al. 2014
IpR	Initial age-specific probabilities of repeat spawning	$\text{Bernoulli}(p = \text{age-specific})$	ASMFC 2007
$\psi_{STILLUP, t}$	Probability of using Stillwater Branch during upstream migration	$U(0.10-0.40)$	Gorsky et al. 2009
$\psi_{PISCUP, t}$	Probability of using Piscataquis River during upstream migration	$U(0.30-0.50)$	Gorsky et al. 2009
$sOptim_j$	Optimal ground speed	$U(0.7-1.7)$	Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010
$tort_j$	Tortuosity of swimming path	$U(0.2-1.0)$	Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010
$motivation_{j,d}$	Seasonal movement penalty	Derived annually	USFWS, unpublished
$\psi_{STILLD, t}$	Probability of using Stillwater Branch for downstream migration	$\text{Beta}(a = 50, b = 300)$	Stich et al. 2015b
$S_{PRE, t, s}$	Pre-spawning survival (sex-specific)	$\text{Beta}(a = 1000, b = 50)$	Expert opinion
$S_{POST, t, s}$	Post-spawning survival (sex-specific)	$\text{Beta}(a = 200, b = 50)$	Raabe and Hightower 2014
$S_{JUV, t}$	Egg to out migrant survival	$U(0.00056-0.00083)$	Legget 1977
M_I	Proportional reduction in survival per dam for indirect mortality	$U(0.90, 1.00)$	Budy et al. 2002; Stich et al. 2015b
M_L	Proportional reduction in survival per dam for latent mortality	$U(0.90, 1.00)$	Budy et al. 2002; Stich et al. 2015a

1256 Table 3. Results of the one-way sensitivity analysis used to test sensitivity of achieving interim
 1257 recovery target (633 000 spawners) to the range model inputs showing parameter, standardized
 1258 regression coefficients (Mean), and standard errors (S.E.) on the logit scale. Notation is defined
 1259 as in text and Table 2. Note: not all input parameters shown in Table 2 were assessed in
 1260 sensitivity analyses, either for lack of tractable method of testing sensitivity (e.g. IpR), to reduce
 1261 parameter redundancy in derived quantities in favor of inputs (e.g., SI_j , RT_j , and BF_j instead of
 1262 RAF_j), or because they were held constant for application to the Penobscot River (e.g., M_I , M_L).

Parameter	Mean	S.E.
L_j (female)	-7.169193347	0.444715499
L_j (male)	-7.165133148	0.420592318
Downstream dam passage efficiency	3.576196219	0.019432129
$S_{M, i, t}$	0.698394967	0.007476331
$time$	-0.669643333	0.007267749
Upstream dam passage efficiency	0.652657242	0.007319925
$L_{\infty MALE}$	0.276496793	0.024646579
$L_{\infty FEMALE}$	0.264555744	0.032712680
k_{FEMALE}	0.227162237	0.049225669
k_{MALE}	0.171897581	0.023146296
$dSpawn_{INITIAL, j}$	-0.084066221	0.281790472
$dSpawn_{TERMINAL, j}$	0.083094141	0.224850488
$N_{i=1}$	0.079987359	0.005987814
$dReal_j$	-0.069974814	0.037545791
$dMax_j$	0.069092713	0.157804798
$tort_j$	0.059499582	0.031742330
$\psi_{STILLD, t}$	-0.048243504	0.006879981
$S_{POST, t, s = MALE}$	0.038660923	0.006867843
$S_{POST, t, s = FEMALE}$	0.031089098	0.006843283
$sOptim_j$	-0.028333415	0.152790528
$tStoch$	-0.026776894	0.012648591
$BF_{V, j}, BF_{R, j}$	0.026456718	0.048631231
RT_j	-0.023387573	0.064146763
$dArrival_j$ (male)	-0.022220807	0.048336565
$dArrival_j$ (female)	0.019770956	0.058795249
$motivation_{j, d}$	0.017703110	0.012701736
$\psi_{STILLUP, t}$	-0.010913269	0.006903842
$S_{PRE, t, s = FEMALE}$	-0.008540375	0.006825587
SI_j	0.006846521	0.015513215
$tSpawn_{INITIAL, j}$	0.006188369	0.008655086
$S_{PRE, t, s = FEMALE}$	-0.005995932	0.006856433
$pFemale_t$	0.005489176	0.007306242
$\psi_{PISCUP, t}$	0.004360307	0.006855703
$tSpawn_{TERMINAL, j}$	0.002494996	0.008250358
$S_{JUV, t}$	0.002191740	0.006845216

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1266 Table 4. Results of the one-way sensitivity analysis used to test sensitivity of spawning
 1267 population upstream of Weldon Dam to the range model inputs showing parameter, standardized
 1268 regression coefficients (Mean), and standard errors (S.E.). Note: not all input parameters shown
 1269 in Table 2 were assessed in sensitivity analyses, either for lack of tractable method of testing
 1270 sensitivity (e.g. IpR), to reduce parameter redundancy in derived quantities in favor of inputs
 1271 (e.g., SI_j , RT_j , and BF_j instead of RAF_j), or because they were held constant for application to the
 1272 Penobscot River (e.g., M_I , M_L).

Parameter	Mean	S.E.
$dSpawn_{INITIALj}$	0.356969978	0.050476182
$dArrival_j$ (female)	-0.259498378	0.010329833
L_j (male)	0.251702980	0.069039450
$dArrival_j$ (male)	-0.249560752	0.008660360
L_j (female)	0.206105899	0.073561410
Downstream dam passage efficiency	0.203141041	0.001403832
time	-0.171806419	0.001350061
Upstream passage efficiency	0.159996529	0.001349858
$dSpawn_{TERMINALj}$	0.126133287	0.040396812
$dReal_j$	0.119319364	0.006634726
$tStoch$	0.089194725	0.002363211
$motivation_{j, d}$	-0.089044807	0.002460006
$tort_j$	-0.063184828	0.005609783
$dMax_j$	-0.033205439	0.027734137
$N_{i=1}$	0.024010326	0.001337094
$BF_{V, j}$, $BF_{R, j}$	0.017647192	0.008931618
RT_j	0.015619783	0.011769582
$\psi_{PISCUP, t}$	-0.010767754	0.001327437
$L_{\infty MALE}$	-0.008741993	0.00459768
k_{MALE}	-0.005579567	0.004419165
$S_{POST, t, s = FEMALE}$	0.004038625	0.001327556
$tSpawn_{INITIAL, j}$	0.003933966	0.001525883
SI_j	0.003546897	0.002755401
$tSpawn_{TERMINAL, j}$	-0.003450530	0.001459058
$sOptim_j$	-0.003147970	0.026855943
$\psi_{STILLD, t}$	-0.003013612	0.001327047
$S_{POST, t, s = MALE}$	0.002285055	0.001327391
k_{FEMALE}	0.001843472	0.009528543
$S_{PRE, t, s = FEMALE}$	0.001084105	0.001327561
$S_{PRE, t, s = MALE}$	0.001065686	0.001327318
$pFemale_t$	0.000868768	0.001401131
$S_{JUV, t}$	-0.000619164	0.001327530
$\psi_{STILLUP, t}$	-0.000436834	0.001327706
$L_{\infty FEMALE}$	-0.000281815	0.006226972
$S_{M, i, t}$	0.000085300	0.001327524

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1275 **Figure captions**

1276 Fig. 1. Map showing the location of the Penobscot River in Maine, USA (small inset), potential
1277 spawning range of American shad following implementation of the Penobscot River
1278 Restoration Project (PRRP), and locations of dams. Dams are shown as black bars
1279 across the river, and numbers in parentheses indicate the river kilometer (rkm) of each
1280 dam. Production units (PUs, delineated by dams) are labeled for each reach of the river
1281 from downstream to upstream, corresponding to habitat delineations in Table 1. Digital
1282 map sources include ESRI Canada (provinces and territories of Canada), United States
1283 Census Bureau (USA cartographic boundary shapefiles), and the United States
1284 Geological Survey (National Hydrography Dataset [NHD]).

1285
1286 Fig. 2. Schematic representation of American shad production units (PUs) within the Penobscot
1287 River catchment provided in Table 1, and migratory routes for upstream and
1288 downstream migration (i, ii, iii, and iv) based on the locations of dams in the river.
1289 Circles representing production units are proportional to estimated production potential
1290 (MDMR 2009) on a log-10 scale.

1291
1292 Fig. 3. Life-history diagram for American Shad showing schematic representation of modeling
1293 approach. Solid white boxes are discrete life history events in the model, and white
1294 rectangles with dashed lines are stochastic parameters in the model. Dashed black lines
1295 linking nodes indicate connections between stochastic parameters and other model
1296 components. Grey arrows indicate direction of information flow in the model.

1297

1298 Fig. 4. Flow chart depicting location of simulated fish during a daily time-step in the individual-
1299 based model used for upstream migration of American shad. The process depicted was
1300 run each year for each day t over the entire duration of the spawning run for each fish i .
1301 The model allowed for three outcomes: i) fish did not move upstream due to
1302 environmental or physical constraints, ii) fish did not move upstream due to failed
1303 passage and incurred a unit of delay (1 day in this case), or iii) fish moved a number of
1304 river kilometers (rkm) given successful passage and environmental and physical
1305 conditions permitting movement. A maximum daily movement ($dReal_i$, in rkm) for each
1306 fish was simulated based on L_F , tortuosity ($tort$), motivation, and photoperiod (see text).
1307 On each day, the individual-based model was terminated at the maximum daily
1308 movement for each fish if the fish successfully moved the maximum distance.

1310 Fig. 5. Simulated temperature in the Penobscot River, ME, based on random sampling from
1311 multivariate normal distributions accounting for correlations between days and years.
1312 Grey lines indicate 40 simulated temperature regimes. Thin, black lines represent
1313 historical temperature data (2007–2014), and the thick, grey line represents the mean of
1314 simulated temperatures.

1316 Fig. 6. Projected population size of American shad arriving at the mouth of the Penobscot River,
1317 Maine, during 50-year period following the implementation of the no passage (bottom
1318 panel) and no dam (top panel) scenarios. The solid line is the mean, and the dashed lines
1319 indicate 95 % CI. Transparent grey lines are projected population abundance for 700
1320 model runs. Note that the y-axes are presented on different scales to facilitate

1321 visualization, but that mean abundance from the no dam scenario is an order of
1322 magnitude larger than the no passage scenario.

1323

1324 Fig. 7. Proportion of spawning population in each production unit (PU) of the Penobscot River
1325 during all 50 years of simulation. Dark, horizontal lines indicate median, box ends
1326 represent inner quartile range, and whiskers are 99% CI. Upstream and downstream
1327 passage performance standards at all dams in the catchment were set to 1.00, with a
1328 time-frame for passage of 24 h (top) or 48 h (bottom). Production units are defined as in
1329 Table 1. Production units 1A and 2A were combined because there was no migratory
1330 barrier between them.

1331

1332 Fig. 8. Proportion of repeat spawners at each age for American shad in the Penobscot River after
1333 41–50 years. Dark, horizontal lines indicate median, box ends represent inner quartile
1334 range, and whiskers are 99% CI. Upstream and downstream passage performance
1335 standards at all dams in the catchment were set to 1.00, with a time-frame for passage of
1336 24 h (top) or 48 h (bottom).

1337

1338 Fig. 9. Mean abundance of spawning American shad at the mouth of the Penobscot River (top
1339 panel) and reaching PU 5A upstream of Weldon Dam (bottom panel) during years 41–
1340 50 of simulation compared to upstream and downstream passage performance standards
1341 with 24 h (left) and 48 h (right) passage times. The dotted line in the top two plots
1342 indicates interim recovery target of 633 000 adult fish.

1343

1344 Fig. 10. Proportion of repeat spawning, age-6 American shad returning to the Penobscot River
1345 during years 41–50 of simulation compared to upstream and downstream passage
1346 performance standards with 24 h (left) and 48 h (right) passage times. Only age-6
1347 American shad are shown because this age class represented the median age of repeat
1348 spawners in the population. The dashed, black line arbitrarily indicates a proportion of
1349 0.30 repeat spawners as a point of reference.

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Fig. 1. Map showing the location of the Penobscot River in Maine, USA (small inset), potential spawning range of American shad following implementation of the Penobscot River Restoration Project (PRRP), and locations of dams. Dams are shown as black bars across the river, and numbers in parentheses indicate the river kilometer (rkm) of each dam. Production units (PUs, delineated by dams) are labeled for each reach of the river from downstream to upstream, corresponding to habitat delineations in Table 1. Digital map sources include ESRI Canada (provinces and territories of Canada), United States Census Bureau (USA cartographic boundary shapefiles), and the United States Geological Survey (National Hydrography Dataset [NHD]).

Schematic representation of American shad production units (PUs) within the Penobscot River catchment provided in Table 1, and migratory routes for upstream and downstream migration (i, ii, iii, and iv) based on the locations of dams in the river. Circles representing production units are proportional to estimated production potential (MDMR 2009) on a log-10 scale.

Life-history diagram for American Shad showing schematic representation of modeling approach. Solid white boxes are discrete life history events in the model, and white rectangles with dashed lines are stochastic parameters in the model. Dashed black lines linking nodes indicate connections between stochastic parameters and other model components. Grey arrows indicate direction of information flow in the model.

Flow chart depicting location of simulated fish during a daily time-step in the individual-based model used for upstream migration of American shad. The process depicted was run each year for each day t over the entire duration of the spawning run for each fish i . The model allowed for three outcomes: i) fish did not move upstream due to environmental or physical constraints, ii) fish did not move upstream due to failed passage and incurred a unit of delay (1 day in this case), or iii) fish moved a number of river kilometers (rkm) given successful passage and environmental and physical conditions permitting movement. A maximum daily movement (d_{Reali} , in rkm) for each fish was simulated based on LF, tortuosity (tort), motivation, and photoperiod (see text). On each day, the individual-based model was terminated at the maximum daily movement for each fish if the fish successfully moved the maximum distance.

Simulated temperature in the Penobscot River, ME, based on random sampling from multivariate normal distributions accounting for correlations between days and years. Grey lines indicate 40 simulated temperature regimes. Thin, black lines represent historical temperature data (2007–2014), and the thick, grey line represents the mean of simulated temperatures.

Projected population size of American shad arriving at the mouth of the Penobscot River, Maine, during 50-year period following the implementation of the no passage (bottom panel) and no dam (top panel) scenarios. The solid line is the mean, and the dashed lines indicate 95 % CI. Transparent grey lines are projected population abundance for 700 model runs. Note that the y-axes are presented on different scales to facilitate visualization, but that mean abundance from the no dam scenario is an order of magnitude larger than the no passage scenario.

Proportion of spawning population in each production unit (PU) of the Penobscot River during all 50 years of simulation. Dark, horizontal lines indicate median, box ends represent inner quartile range, and whiskers are 99% CI. Upstream and downstream passage performance standards at all dams in the catchment were set to 1.00, with a time-frame for passage of 24 h (top) or 48 h (bottom). Production units are defined as in Table 1. Production units 1A and 2A were combined because there was no migratory barrier between them.

Proportion of repeat spawners at each age for American shad in the Penobscot River after 41–50 years. Dark, horizontal lines indicate median, box ends represent inner quartile range, and whiskers are 99% CI. Upstream and downstream passage performance standards at all dams in the catchment were set to 1.00, with a time-frame for passage of 24 h (top) or 48 h (bottom).

Mean abundance of spawning American shad at the mouth of the Penobscot River (top panel) and reaching PU 5A upstream of Weldon Dam (bottom panel) during years 41–50 of simulation compared to upstream and downstream passage performance standards with 24 h (left) and 48 h (right) passage times. The dotted line in the top two plots indicates interim recovery target of 633 000 adult fish.

Proportion of repeat spawning, age-6 American shad returning to the Penobscot River during years 41–50 of simulation compared to upstream and downstream passage performance standards with 24 h (left) and 48 h (right) passage times. Only age-6 American shad are shown because this age class represented the median age of repeat spawners in the population. The dashed, black line arbitrarily indicates a proportion of 0.30 repeat spawners as a point of reference.