ARTICLE

A dam passage performance standard model for American shad

Daniel S. Stich, Timothy F. Sheehan, and Joseph D. Zydlewski

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

Résumé : Les objectifs concernant le rétablissement d'alosinés comprennent souvent l'amélioration du passage de poissons aux barrages durant la migration. Il y a toutefois quasi absence de fondement quantitatif pour l'établissement de normes de performance de passage de barrages. Nous décrivons l'élaboration d'un modèle de simulation stochastique basé sur le cycle biologique pour l'alose savoureuse, *Alosa sapidissima*, afin d'estimer les effets du passage de barrages et le retard de la migration sur l'abondance, la répartition spatiale d'adultes géniteurs et la structuration démographique dans l'espace et le temps. Nous utilisons l'exemple du fleuve Penobscot (Maine, États-Unis) comme étude de cas pour examiner la sensibilité aux intrants de paramètres démographiques modélisés et la probabilité d'atteinte d'objectifs de gestion précis. L'abondance des géniteurs et le pourcentage de géniteurs à reproductions antérieures sont les paramètres les plus sensibles à la survie et au retard de la migration aux barrages, à la survie en mer et aux signaux de température pour les évènements migratoires. Les objectifs de rétablissement associés à l'abondance et à la répartition spatiale des géniteurs sont atteignables pour différents scénarios, mais des fréquences élevées de passages en amont et en aval sont nécessaires. La simulation indique des compromis entre l'efficacité des passages en amont et en aval, une augmentation des passages en aval étant nécessaire pour maintenir ou accroître l'abondance de la population, de concert avec de plus nombreux passages en amont. Ce modèle fournit un outil de soutien quantitatif aux gestionnaires pour éclairer des décisions basées sur l'écologie concernant un ensemble de scénarios de gestion visant à faciliter le rétablissement et la pérennité des populations de poissons diadromes. [Traduit par la Rédaction]

Introduction

The American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, is an anadromous fish that spawns in the main-stem of coastal rivers on the Atlantic coastal drainage of North America from the St. Johns River in Florida to the St. Lawrence River in Canada (Limburg et al. 2003). These fish migrate upstream as adults to spawn, and the juveniles move downstream to the ocean in the fall. Because these fish are iteroparous in the northern extent of their range, downstream migration of both juveniles and adults is important for population dynamics. Many populations of American shad are in decline throughout their range (Limburg and Waldman 2009; Hasselman and Limburg 2012), and hydropower dams have been implicated as a causal factor in population declines (Rulifson 1994; Limburg et al. 2003). Dams can cause acute mortality during both down-

stream and upstream migrations (O'Leary and Kynard 1986; Kynard and O'Leary 1993). Latent (sensu Nieland et al. 2015) or delayed mortality is also likely. Latent dam-related mortality has been widely reported in salmonids in estuaries (Budy et al. 2002; Schaller et al. 2014; Stich et al. 2015a) and is likely to impact other migrating diadromous species. Likewise, impedance of migration at dams has the potential to restrict distribution within a catchment and access to spawning habitat (e.g., Grote et al. 2014a). Dams may also influence population dynamics through delay. Delays at hydropower dams during both upstream and downstream migrations may result in elevated adult mortality in American shad due to exposure to predators and energetic costs during long distances of migration (Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010).

The thermal experience of migrants defines their bioenergetic performance, and selection of thermal conditions reflects the

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strong influence temperatures have on organisms. It is not surprising that the arrival of adults in the river and the timing of spawning are strongly influenced by temperature (Stier and Crance 1985). For American shad, biologically significant delays at dams may influence populations by restricting access to habitat, decreasing efficacy of spawners, or reducing the probability of post-spawn survival. Fish with depleted energy reserves have reduced fitness (Nadeau 2007). For American shad, any energetic costs of delay are not mitigated, as these fish typically do not feed during their migrations (Limburg et al. 2003). Therefore, delays incurred at obstacles such as dams (as well as natural impediments) can reduce survival and recruitment, the components of individual fitness (Brett 1962; Rand and Hinch 1998; Naughton et al. 2005).

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

Management actions considered or implemented for the recovery of alosine stocks on the Atlantic coast have included moratoria on directed ocean fisheries (Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) 2010) and in-river fisheries (e.g., Olney and Hoenig 2001), supplementation stocking (e.g., Susquehanna River Anadromous Fish Restoration Cooperative (SRAFRC) 2010), bycatch reduction (Bethoney et al. 2014), and improvement of passage at migration barriers (Haro and Castro-Santos 2012). In Maine, USA, main-stem dams on both the Kennebec and Penobscot rivers have been removed (Day 2006). In the Penobscot River, the Penobscot River Restoration Project was a catchment-wide effort with the goal of balancing hydropower production and diadromous fish conservation (Day 2006). Two lower river main-stem dams were removed in 2012 and 2013 and a nature-like fishway was constructed at a third in 2015. In addition to these changes, a fish elevator was installed at the now lowermost dam in the main-stem (Milford) (Fig. 1). Assuming "safe, timely and effective passage," (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 2000), these changes have the potential to restore access to about 552 km of historic habitat for American shad (Trinko Lake et al. 2012), with an estimated production potential of 1.6 million spawning adults (Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) 2009).

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

demographics (proportion of repeat spawners), and distribution in the catchment.

Methods

Study site

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

Currently, there is no volitional upstream passage for American shad at Orono Dam, located on the confluence in the Stillwater Branch (Fig. 1). A small fish trap collects American shad and river herring (alewife, *Alosa pseudoharengus*, and blueback herring, *Alosa aestivalis*) that subsequently are trucked beyond the head of the Stillwater Branch to the main-stem Penobscot River (National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) 2012*b*). There remains the potential that fish might be attracted to the tailrace of Orono Dam and incur migratory delay. Upstream fish passage at Milford Dam (rkm 60) occurs primarily via a newly constructed fish elevator (Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission (FERC) 2009).
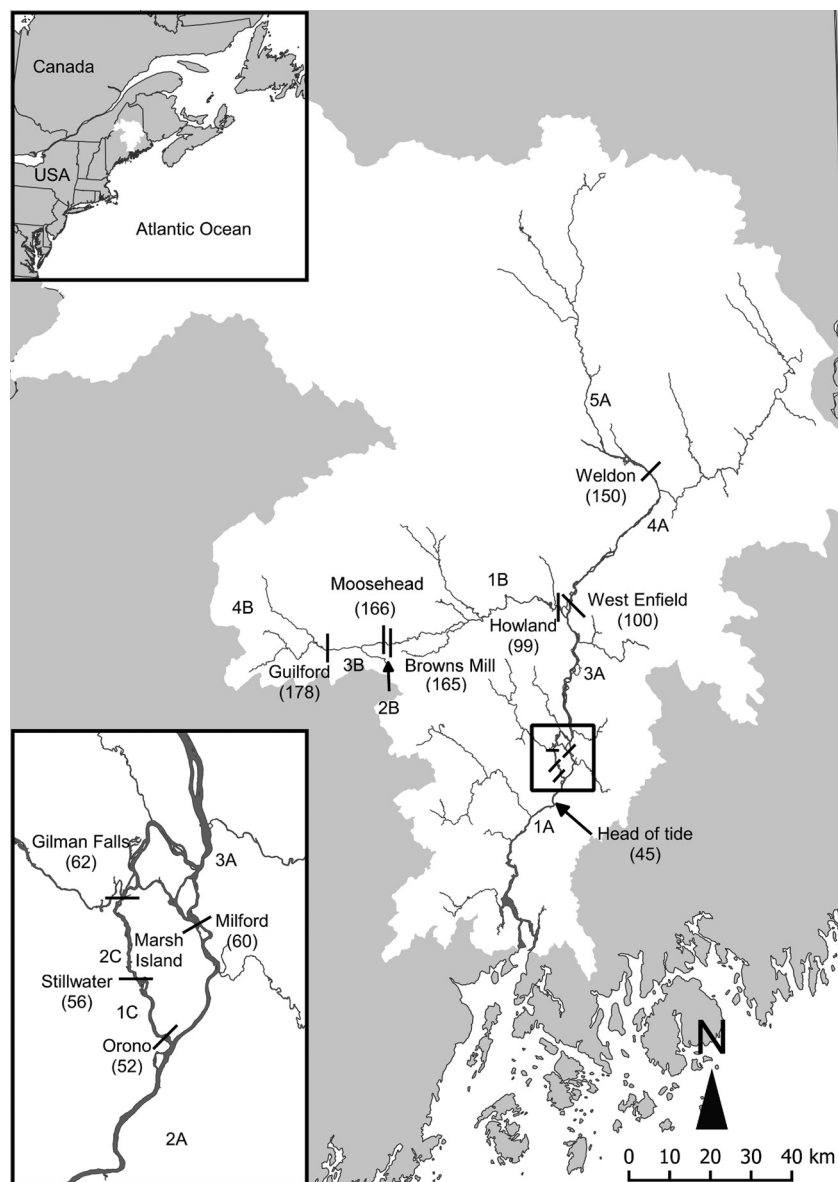
Downstream passage for both juveniles and adults around Marsh Island occurs through either the main-stem or the Stillwater Branch. Proportional passage through these routes during downstream migration was dependent upon discharge for downstream-migrating Atlantic salmon, *Salmo salar* (Stich et al. 2014), and the proportion of fish using the Stillwater Branch for downstream migration is expected to range from 6% to 25%. In the main-stem, Milford Dam is the only barrier to downstream migration. Fish migrating downstream through the Stillwater Branch navigate both Stillwater and Orono dams before rejoining the main-stem (Fig. 1).

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

Model overview

We used a simulation approach to modeling life history and migration of American shad in the Penobscot River to assess the effects of passage rates and migration delays at dams on population abundance and demographic structuring through time and space. To facilitate this, we divided the river into spatially explicit production units (PU) based on the locations of dams in the catchment (Fig. 1) and assigned production potential in each PU (Fig. 2) using data from MDMR (2009). The model was spatially structured

Fig. 1. Map showing the location of the Penobscot River in Maine, USA (small inset), potential spawning range of American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, following implementation of the Penobscot River Restoration Project, and locations of dams. Dams are shown as black bars across the river, and numbers in parentheses indicate the river kilometre of each dam. Production units (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).

based on these units and the four potential migration routes for upstream and downstream migration (i–iv, Fig. 2).

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

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

Based on the lack of assumptions about homing, the timing of major phenological events within the model (e.g., river arrival and

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Fig. 2. Schematic representation of American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, production units 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.
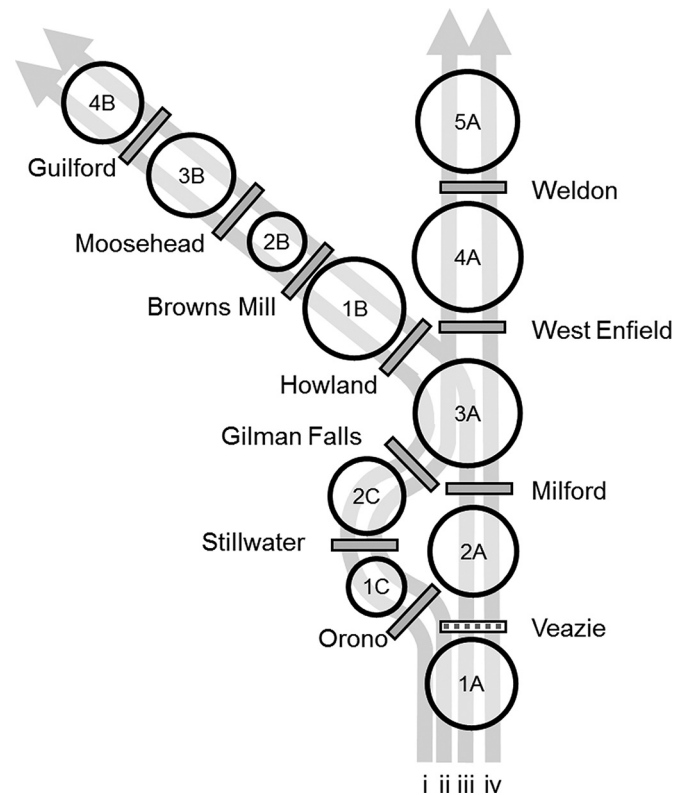

Table 1. Adult production potential for American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, production units in each migration route used in for modeling American shad in the Penobscot River, Maine, derived from production potentials calculated by the Maine Department of Marine Resources (2009).

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

The probability of an individual fish arriving at discrete reaches between dams (PUs) was based on a priori individual assignments (e.g., length) in conjunction with (*i*) environmental conditions, (*ii*) physical constraints, (*iii*) predetermined migratory paths, (*iv*) upstream passage efficiencies, and (*v*) delays below main-stem dams (Fig. 3). In a given PU, adult fish incurred a natural, pre-spawn mortality and female fish spawned some number of eggs. The juvenile survival of those fertilized eggs was subsequently limited by habitat constraints (carrying capacity) between dams (Fig. 2). The number of fish at each age (including juveniles) was then summed in each PU.

We used a cohort-based approach for downstream migration of juveniles and adults that treated fish as sex- and age-specific groups. The number of adult and juvenile fish from each cohort reaching the ocean was based on (*i*) the PU in which fish initiated downstream migration, (*ii*) the probability of using a given downstream migration route, (*iii*) acute mortality at dams encountered in each migratory route, (*iv*) indirect cumulative effects of dam passage in freshwater, and (*v*) indirect latent effects of dams during estuary passage. The number of post-spawn adults surviving to the ocean in each age class was retained in the spawning pool for the next year, with 100% retention in the spawning pool after first spawn (Bailey and Zydlewski 2013). Juvenile outmigrants were added to the recruitment pool. A projection matrix was then used to apply ocean mortality rates (Table 2) to the spawning pool and to the recruitment pool and to graduate each cohort to the next age class (Fig. 3). We then used age-specific probabilities of recruitment to spawn to reallocate age-specific proportions of the recruitment pool to the current spawning pool and start the next year of the simulation, similar to how the initial spawning pool was developed. Each iteration of the simulation was repeated for 50 years.
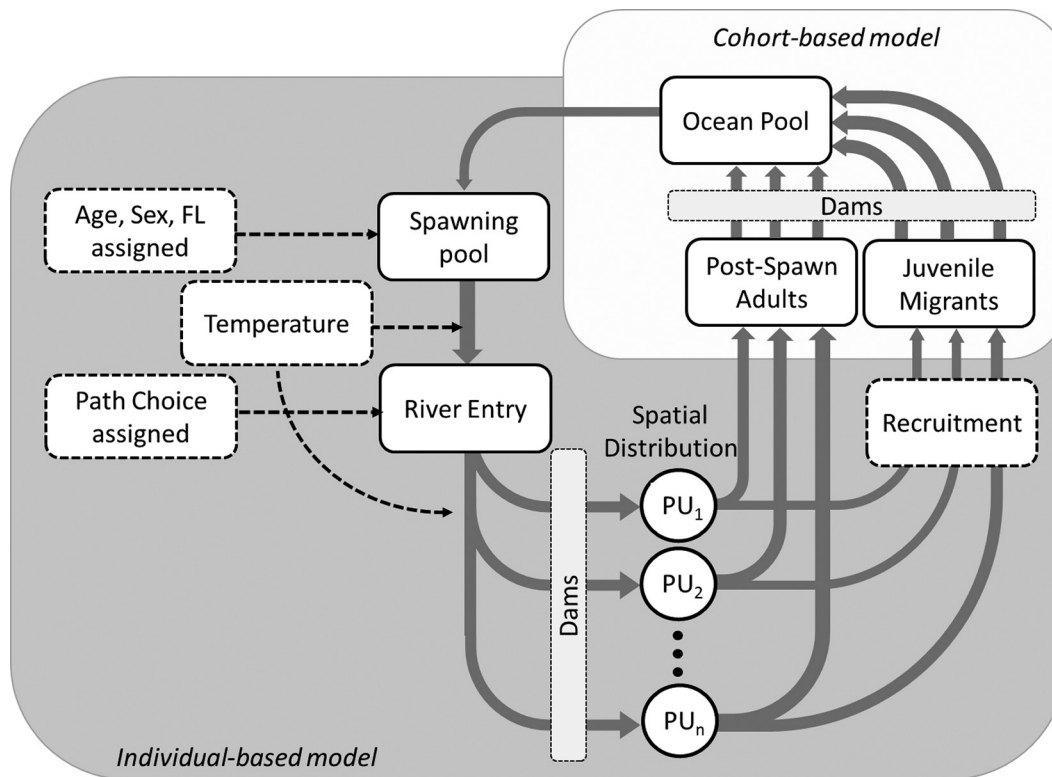
Model inputs

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

Hydro system characteristics and environmental data

We defined a PU as the contiguous habitat for American shad above or below dams in the catchment (Fig. 1). Following the activities associated with the Penobscot River Restoration Project, nine FERC-regulated hydropower dams remain between the mouth of the Penobscot River and the estimated upstream extents of American shad spawning habitat in the Penobscot and Piscataquis rivers. The extent of the most-upstream PU in the Penobscot and Piscataquis rivers was defined by the upstream extent of American shad habitat in each river (Trinko Lake et al. 2012). In the Piscataquis River, the extent of upstream habitat for American shad above Guilford Dam was beyond rkm 185 (Fig. 1). In the main-stem Penobscot River, the upstream extent to American shad habitat above Weldon Dam was considered to have been reached at rkm 165 because all production beyond that occurred within the same PU (Fig. 1). The lower-most PU began in tidal freshwater portions of the Penobscot River at rkm 40 (Fig. 1). We calculated expected production potential for each PU based on the

spawning dates) were dictated by thermal experiences of fish and incorporated both inter- and intraannual variability in thermal regimes based on historical and contemporary data. Movement throughout the system was further limited by efficiency and timing of dam passage. River arrival, in-river movements, and spawning location were characterized for each fish based on individual fish characteristics parameterized using literature values and available data. Individual river arrival ($dArrival_j$) and spawning date ($dSpawn_j$) were assigned based on modeled river temperature.

Fig. 3. Life-history diagram for American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, showing a schematic representation of the modeling approach. White rectangles with solid lines are discrete life-history events in the model and white rectangles with broken lines are stochastic parameters in the model. Broken black lines linking nodes indicate connections between stochastic parameters and other model components. Grey arrows indicate the direction of information flow in the model.

total production potential of various subunits within each PU as laid out in the Operational Plan for the Restoration of Diadromous Fishes to the Penobscot River (Table 1) (MDMR 2009).

We collected mean daily temperature data within the Penobscot River from the US Geological Survey (USGS) gauge in Eddington (station ID 01036390), Maine, at rkm 45 using the "waterData" package (Ryberg and Vecchia 2012) in R (R Core Team 2016). We only used data from recent years during which complete data were available (years 2007–2014) to improve the quality of the data used and to avoid using historical data that spanned beyond recent, abrupt changes in global climate (e.g., 1980s regime shift noted by Reid et al. (2016)). We then used those data to simulate mean daily temperatures in the catchment for each year the model was run (Fig. 5). To incorporate uncertainty due to annual variability within this process, we randomly sampled year from a uniform categorical distribution. We then simulated daily temperatures ($dTemp_t$) for each year t by drawing values from a random, multivariate normal distribution based on the mean temperature on each day and the covariance with other dates using the "MASS" package (Venables and Ripley 2002) in R (R Core Team 2016). To speed computation, we drew a single value for each day in each year. This resulted in some missing values due to the nature of random sampling from a multivariate normal distribution (not all days are sampled each time and some are sampled more than once). Therefore, we used a cubic spline interpolation to estimate temperatures for those days that were not sampled using the "zoo" package (Zeileis and Grothendieck 2005) in R (R Core Team 2016). Simulated temperatures appeared to follow contemporary patterns reasonably well, so we were satisfied that the approach produced representative patterns in temperature.

Because much of the data used in this model were from the Connecticut River, we used temperature data from the Connecti-

cut River to calibrate phenological events in our analyses to account for latitudinal variability and differences in photoperiod cues between locales. We then used linear regression to relate temperatures in the Connecticut River and the Penobscot River so that we could use temperature in the Penobscot River to simulate life-history components of the model such as the date of arrival in the estuary and dates used to define spawning windows based on relationships with temperature. Daily water temperatures in the lower Connecticut River were available from the USGS gauge at Hartford, Connecticut (station ID 01129500) using the "waterData" package (Ryberg and Vecchia 2012) in R (R Core Team 2016), and mean daily water temperatures for upstream reaches of the Connecticut River (Turners Falls, Massachusetts) for the period 1994–2016 were provided by the USGS (T. Castro-Santos, USGS, S.O. Conte Anadromous Fish Research Lab, Turners Falls, Massachusetts, unpublished data).

Spawning pool structure

We simulated a starting population of American shad in the Penobscot River by starting with a simulated abundance age-1 American shad and applying a marine survival rate to that cohort over the maximum lifespan to calculate the total abundance of fish at each age i in the first year t of the simulation ($N_{i,t=1}$) and arrive at an age-structured population of fish in the ocean. The current abundance of American shad in the Penobscot River is unknown. In 2016, more than 8000 American shad passed the fish lift at Milford Dam, and only a small fraction of fish that were tagged at the head of tide were ever detected approaching the dam (G. Maynard, The University of Maine, Orono, Maine, unpublished data). As a result, a minimum population estimate of approximately 10 000 fish (Grote et al. 2014b) was assumed as a starting value, but we note that this is likely a conservatively low estimate and thus incorporated variability in this parameter.

Table 2. Parameters used as input for modeling American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, in the Penobscot River.

Parameter	Description	Distribution or value	Reference(s)
$N_{i=1}$	Starting total number of age-1 fish in the population	P ($\lambda = 10\,000$)	MDMR 2009
$S_{M,i,t}$	Marine survival	Beta ($a = 12$, $b = 8$)	ASMFC 2007
RF_i	Age-specific probabilities of recruitment to first spawn	Bernoulli (p = age specific)	Bailey and Zydlewski 2013
$pFemale_t$	Proportion of females in the spawning population	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 the von Bertalanffy growth model	Derived annually	CTDEEP, unpublished
k_s	Brody growth coefficient in the von Bertalanffy growth model	Derived annually	CTDEEP, unpublished
t_{0_s}	Intercept in the von Bertalanffy growth model	Derived annually	CTDEEP, unpublished
$BF_{V,j}$	Batch fecundity for individual virgin spawners	NB ($\mu = 20\,000$, $\theta = 10$)	Hyle et al. 2014
$BF_{R,j}$	Batch fecundity for individual repeat spawners	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	Bernoulli (p = 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	Beta ($a = 50$, $b = 300$)	Stich et al. 2015b
$S_{PRE,t,s}$	Pre-spawning survival (sex specific)	Beta ($a = 1000$, $b = 50$)	Expert opinion
$S_{POST,t,s}$	Post-spawning survival (sex specific)	Beta ($a = 200$, $b = 50$)	Raabe and Hightower 2014
$S_{JUV,t}$	Egg to outmigrant survival	U (0.00056–0.00083)	Leggett 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

Note: User-defined parameters for upstream passage efficiencies, downstream passage efficiencies, and passage timing (*time*) are not shown here. Likewise, parameters that were derived directly from those presented here but used in sensitivity analysis (e.g., *dMax*, *dReal*) may not be shown.

Therefore, we chose a random starting abundance of age-1 fish ($N_{i=1,t=1}$) to seed the population from a Poisson distribution with $\lambda = 10\,000$. We assumed an age-invariant marine survival rate of 0.62 for American shad at each age ($S_{M,i} = 0.62$) in the Northeast (ASMFC 2007) to project this starting population until the maximum age (9 years) was reached. Although the structure of the model is such that it allows for age-specific marine survival rates, we applied the same rate to all age classes for lack of more specific information. To incorporate uncertainty in the current state of knowledge about marine survival for this species, we randomly sampled annual marine survival rates from a beta distribution with parameters $\alpha = 12$ and $\beta = 8$. This resulted in a left-skewed distribution with a mean marine survival rate of 0.60 (range $\approx$ 0.15–0.95). We applied an invariant rate mortality estimated from the method of Hoenig (1983) using a cohort-based projection matrix:

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

We used age-specific probabilities of recruitment to first spawn RF_i from Bailey and Zydlewski (2013) to calculate the number of first-time spawners in our starting population. To increase flexibility in the modeling approach, we included variable probability of recruitment to subsequent spawning events for each age class conditional on survival RS_i. However, for the purpose of this effort, we set RS_i equal to 1.00 for all ages modeled. For each year t after the initial year, we used annually varying $S_{M,i,t}$ to calculate the number of fish from each age class (i) within the recruitment pool (NR_t) surviving from year t that were added to the spawning pool in year $t + 1$ ($NS_{i,t+1}$) using a series of element-wise vector operations:

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

Arrival and spawning dates

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

We assigned individual arrival dates ($dArrival_j$) and terminal spawning dates for individual fish based on simulated daily temperatures in the Penobscot River and empirical relationships between arrival date and accumulated thermal units (ATU) (from January 1 to harvest date) in the Connecticut River. We related cumulative proportion of catch by commercial fishers in the lower Connecticut River (Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Conservation (CTDEEP), unpublished data) to ATU

Fig. 4. Flow chart depicting the location of simulated fish during a daily time-step in the individual-based model used for upstream migration of American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*. 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 kilometres (rkm) given successful passage and environmental and physical conditions permitting movement. A maximum daily movement ($dReal_i$, in rkm) for each fish was simulated based on L_F, 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.
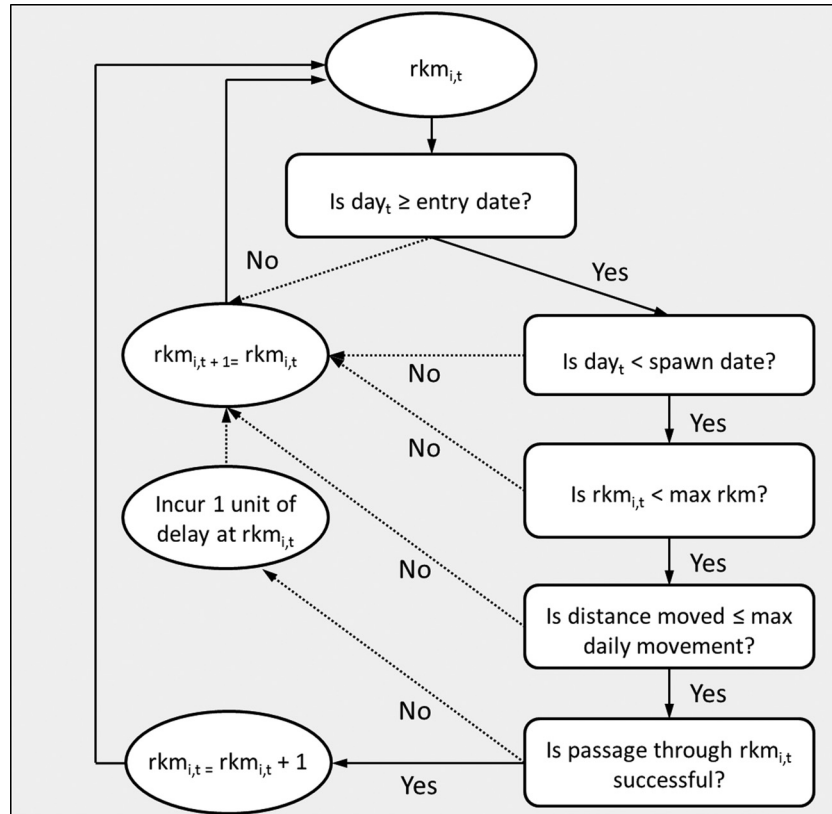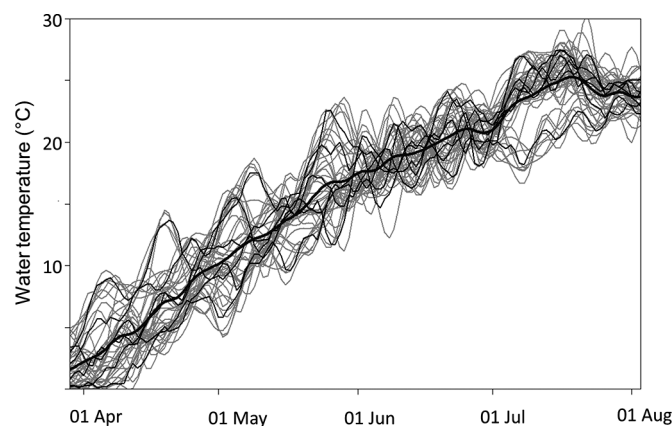

Fig. 5. Simulated temperature in the Penobscot River based on random sampling from multivariate normal distributions accounting for correlations between days and years. Grey lines indicate 40 simulated temperature regimes. Thin black lines represent historical temperature data (2007–2014) and the thick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

using sex-specific logistic regression models that included an overdispersion parameter. We found that ATU was a strong predictor of cumulative harvest in the lower Connecticut River (McFadden's pseudo $R^2 = 0.985$). We used this model to predict probabilities of arrival in the mouth of the Penobscot River each

day using ATU calculated from simulated temperatures after establishing a relationship between temperatures in the Penobscot River and the Connecticut River (linear regression, $R^2 = 0.976$, $F_{[2051]} = 8.4 \times 10^4$, $p < 0.001$). We incorporated variability in this relationship by bootstrapping the regression fit 1000 times for each sex using 90% of the data each time, saving parameter values for each regression. These parameter values were then randomly sampled for each year t and used to predict cumulative probability of arrival by American shad in the Penobscot River each day based on simulated ATUs. The ATUs used in this study resulted in spawning dates from late May through late July, which roughly correspond to dates from previous work in this system (Grote et al. 2014*a*). As information about arrival in the system improves, these values can be tuned in the model, but this range was thought to be sufficient for the purpose of simulation, as all phenological events were temperature driven.

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

randomly for each individual from a normal distribution (500 ± 15, mean ± SD), which were also selected based on expert opinion. Although information from the Penobscot River is absent for comparison, this procedure resulted in a distribution of residence times (RTs) that were consistent with the range of published estimates corresponding to the York River in Virginia (Olney et al. 2006).

Individual fish characteristics

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

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

where L_{∞_s} is the sex-specific theoretical maximum length of fish, k_s is the sex-specific Brody growth coefficient, t_{0_s} is the sex-specific time at which fish length was theoretically zero, and the variable s can take on values of "MALE" or "FEMALE". We estimated von Bertalanffy growth parameters using 16 947 lengths at age for American shad in the Connecticut River, 2010–2014. We randomly sampled 1000 individuals of each sex to estimate sex-specific growth parameters during each iteration of the simulation to incorporate uncertainty. We predicted the mass (m_j, grams) of each fish using sex-specific parameters for length–mass relationships defined by Raabe and Hightower (2014) using

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

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

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

2.49 days and SD = 0.27 days (Hyle et al. 2014). Realized annual fecundity (RAF_j) was calculated for each fish in their final PU as

$$(5) \qquad RAF_j = \begin{cases} BF_{V,j} \times \left(\dfrac{RT_j}{SI_j} \right), & BF_j = BF_{V,j} \\[2ex] BF_{R,j} \times \left(\dfrac{RT_j}{SI_j} \right), & BF_j = BF_{R,j} \end{cases}$$

Upstream migration model

We developed an individual-based model of upstream migration for American shad based on $dArrival_j$, spawning dates, river morphology and passage rates, and theoretical daily movement rates of American shad (Fig. 4). The individual approach to modeling upstream migration dynamics allowed us to evaluate delays experienced by fish at each dam on the river in addition to potential delays at other features of interest (e.g., at the confluence of the main-stem Penobscot River and the Stillwater Branch). Furthermore, because little or no reliable information exists with respect to subwatershed homing tendencies of American shad, we needed to provide a model that was not dependent upon knowledge of homing. To speed computations involved with this process and reduce overhead costs of running the model, the individual-based migration model was precompiled in the C++ programming language and integrated into the life-history-based model using the "Rcpp" package (Eddelbuettel and Francois 2011) in R (R Core Team 2016). Population abundance was dynamically scaled within the model each year by factors of 10 to reduce the maximum number of fish being run through the individual-based model in a given year to several thousand rather than several million. Additional reductions in the time required to run models were achieved through the use of parallel processing on the high-performance computing cluster at the University of Buffalo Center for Computational Research.

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

Migration routes

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

increase model complexity and time required to run model simulations.

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

The probability of using a given upstream passage route was conditional on relative discharge from the Stillwater Branch and main-stem Penobscot River around Marsh Island but was proportional to differences in production potential upstream of West Enfield Dam (main-stem Penobscot River) and Howland Dam (Piscataquis River) (Fig. 2). Our rationale for this approach was that the Stillwater Branch presented minimal habitat with regard to population productivity but had the potential to attract migrating fish based on a flow diversion from the main-stem Penobscot River.

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

Using marginal probabilities of migration through the Stillwater Branch and the Piscataquis River, the joint probabilities of using each of the four migration routes in the river (Fig. 2) were calculated as (*i*) Stillwater Branch to Piscataquis River: ($\psi_{STILLUP,t} \times \psi_{PISCUP,t}$), (*ii*) Stillwater Branch to main-stem: ($\psi_{STILLUP,t} \times [1 - \psi_{PISCUP,t}]$), (*iii*) main-stem to Piscataquis River: ($[1 - \psi_{STILLUP,t}] \times \psi_{PISCUP,t}$), and (*iv*) main-stem to main-stem: ($[1 - \psi_{STILLUP,t}] \times [1 - \psi_{PISCUP,t}]$). An upstream migration route was thus assigned to each fish probabilistically prior to river arrival. However, movement through each river kilometre within these migration routes was dependent upon $dArrival_j$, $dSpawn_j$, individual movement rates, and passage efficiencies at dams. Therefore, it was possible (for example) that a fish assigned to the Piscataquis River would never actually pass Howland Dam (or any other) based on variation in other overriding factors.

Upstream movement rates

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

$$(6) \qquad dMax_j = L_j \times sOptim_j$$

where L_j is individual fork length and $sOptim_j$ is optimizing ground speed for each fish. The variable $sOptim_j$ was drawn for each fish from a uniform distribution between 0.7 and 1.7 body lengths (bl)·s^{-1} to maintain consistency with previous work (Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010). We made the assumption that the majority of this movement occurred during hours of daylight (Haro and Castro-Santos 2012). We also assumed that movement of American shad did not occur in a straight line (Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010) to incorporate effects of observed behaviors such as meandering during migration (Bailey et al. 2004) or milling at barriers (Grote et al. 2014b). In recognition of these assumptions, we adjusted $dMax_j$ by the proportion of each day (d) that comprised hours of daylight ($pDay_d$) and a tortuosity parameter that allowed for reduction in upstream migration rates due to deviation from straight-line movements ($tort_j$) to arrive at a realized daily movement rate for each fish ($dReal_j$):

$$(7) \qquad dReal_j = dMax_j \times pDay_d \times tort_j$$

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

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

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

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

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Spawning dynamics

We extracted the final river kilometre for each fish from the individual-based migration model and assigned each fish to a PU based on distance traveled (in river kilometres) and migration route. Following assignment to a PU, adults were allowed to survive the pre-spawn period with a sex-specific annual survival probability ($S_{PRE,t,s}$) and all females spawned all eggs from realized annual fecundity of individuals (RAF_j) within that PU. The number of eggs deposited in each PU was summed. We assumed that at carrying capacity, American shad saturate spawning habitat with eggs even at minimal individual fecundity as an evolutionary strategy for coping with environmental stochasticity, year class failure, etc. Therefore, we assumed a density-dependent process and capped egg production in each nth PU by assigning a carrying capacity (kPU_n) to each PU based on PU-specific production potential (pPU_n) and the lower 95% confidence limit ($Q_{0.025}$) of RAF among all females for a given year and the number of females in each PU (fPU_n) as

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

Post-spawning dynamics and downstream migration

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

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

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

Both post-spawn adults and juveniles followed one of four routes. Assignments were made in a similar fashion to upstream movement; however, the starting PU limited the number of pathways for fish. There were four potential migration routes that could have been used by American shad in the Penobscot or Piscataquis River during seaward migration, congruent with the upstream migration routes. Outmigrants from either the Piscataquis River or the upper main-stem Penobscot River could move through either the Stillwater Branch or the lower main-stem Penobscot River around Marsh Island during seaward migration. As with the upstream migration model, we assumed that the probability of a fish using the Stillwater Branch for seaward migration was approximately proportional to flow distribution around Marsh Island. Previous studies of downstream migration in other species indicate that about 12% (95% CRI: 11%–13%) of fish use this migration route during spring outmigration (Stich et al. 2015b). In the absence of species-specific and life-stage-specific information about use of these routes by American shad, we assumed that these relationships were similar. And even though adult and juvenile American shad migrate at different times, and thus experience different flows, we made the simplifying assumption that proportional use of the Stillwater Branch was similar between life stages. Therefore, the probability of using the Stillwater Branch during downstream migration ($\psi_{STILLD,t}$) was randomly drawn from a beta distribution with $a = 50$ and $b = 300$, allowing for greater variability in proportional use for American shad but corresponding to means reported for other outmigrants (Stich et al. 2015b). Importantly, all fish using the Stillwater Branch for downstream migration were required to pass Gilman Falls and Stillwater and Orono dams, unlike upstream migration, which allowed for trucking.

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

Dam passage performance standards

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

For the purpose of this study, performance standards were set to be equal at all dams (i.e., catchment-scale regulation), and we assumed that a performance standard was always achieved during a given model run. Therefore, we assigned the annual probability of passage at each dam for individual fish to the performance standard at that dam during a given simulation of 50 years. For each model run, upstream and downstream passage performance standards were sampled from a uniform categorical distribution in the set {0.10, 0.20, 0.30, …, 1.00}. All upstream dam passage performance standards were applied over an explicit passage window of interest (*time*). This application can be thought of as analogous to calculation of interest rates, where daily passage probability was adjusted by *time*, expressed as a proportion of 1 day) to calculate a daily probability of passage as

(10)   Daily passage probability $= $ (passage probability)$^{(1/time)}$

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

Model outputs

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

Evaluating model sensitivity

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

We used a one-way error analysis to identify the sensitivity of model outputs to the range of individual inputs. We used generalized linear models to assess the effects of inputs on the management objectives for management of this population, including the probability of successfully reaching the State of Maine's interim management target of 633 000 fish spawning in the river, and the likelihood of a sustained spawning population of American shad above Weldon Dam (MDMR 2009). Beyond being a stated management objective, the response of sustained spawning populations upstream of Weldon Dam to management decisions might differ substantially from that of spawning populations in downstream PUs by virtue of its location far upstream in the catchment. Both metrics were assessed at 41–50 years following the timeline for management objectives. A binomial distribution with a logit link function was used to estimate the generalized linear model associated with probability of successfully achieving the interim recovery target for abundance at the mouth of the river, and a Gaussian ("normal") error distribution was used to assess the sensitivity of *z*-standardized spawner abundance upstream of Weldon Dam to input parameter values. Due to the large number of input parameters considered, sensitivity of model outputs to input parameters was assessed using relative effect sizes as interpreted through the use of standardized regression coefficients.

Results

Model sensitivity

Probability of achieving interim recovery target

Achievement of the interim recovery target of 633 000 spawners in the river was most sensitive to growth and size of American shad, dam passage, and natural mortality rates in marine and freshwater habitats. In general, the probability of achieving the interim recovery target increased with increases in individual growth rate (k_s) and theoretical maximum size (L_∞) for both females and males (Table 3), likely because faster growth rate and greater maximum size resulted in increased movement rates and access to habitat where carrying capacity was not limiting. De-

Table 3. Results of the one-way sensitivity analysis used to test sensitivity of achieving the interim recovery target (633 000 spawners) to the range model inputs showing parameter, standardized regression coefficients (Mean), and standard errors (SE) on the logit scale. Notation is defined as in text and Table 2.

Parameter	Mean	SE
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

Note: Not all input parameters shown in Table 2 were assessed in sensitivity analyses, either for lack of tractable method of testing sensitivity (e.g., *IpR*), to reduce parameter redundancy in derived quantities in favor of inputs (e.g., SI_j, RT_j, and BF_j instead of RAF_j), or because they were held constant for application to the Penobscot River (e.g., M_I and M_L).

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

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

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Table 4. Results of the one-way sensitivity analysis used to test sensitivity of the spawning population upstream of Weldon Dam to the range model inputs showing parameter, standardized regression coefficients (Mean), and standard errors (SE).

Parameter	Mean	SE
$dSpawn_{INITIALj}$	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

Note: Not all input parameters shown in Table 2 were assessed in sensitivity analyses, either for lack of tractable method of testing sensitivity (e.g., IpR), to reduce parameter redundancy in derived quantities in favor of inputs (e.g., SI_j, RT_j, and BF_j instead of RAF_j), or because they were held constant for application to the Penobscot River (e.g., M_I and M_L).

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

Number of spawners upstream of Weldon Dam

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

The phenological parameters to which abundance upstream of Weldon Dam was most sensitive included timing of arrival in the estuary, date of initial spawn, and stochastic changes in temperature (Table 4). In general, earlier arrival dates and initial spawn-

ing dates resulted in larger population abundances upstream of the dam, likely due to the increased window for upstream migration. Because arrival timing and spawning dates were directly linked to temperature within the simulation model, the effect of positive stochastic changes in temperature also resulted in earlier timing of estuary arrival and earlier initial spawning dates.

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

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

Abundance and spatial distribution of spawners

No passage scenario

A scenario of "no passage" was used to establish a baseline for population abundance in the Penobscot River without fish passage and to demonstrate the scope for change in spawner abundance and proportion of repeat spawners under varying scenarios of increased upstream and downstream passage. The mean predicted population size after 41–50 years under the no passage scenario was about 41 000 (95% CI: 17 000–98 000) (Fig. 6). The weighted mean proportion of repeat spawners at ages 5–7 under the no passage scenario was 0.32 (0.22–0.45) after 41–50 years.

No dam scenario

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

Changes in the abundance of spawning American shad at the mouth of the river were concurrent with changes in the spatial distribution of spawners (Fig. 7). Changes in distribution were examined with respect to both the proportion of spawners in each

Fig. 6. Projected population size of American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, arriving at the mouth of the Penobscot River during a 50 year period following the implementation of the no dam and no passage scenarios. The solid line is the mean and the broken lines indicate the 95% CI. Transparent grey lines are the 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 that from the no passage scenario.

Fig. 7. Proportion of American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, spawning population in each production unit of the Penobscot River during all 50 years of simulation. Horizontal lines indicate the median, box ends represent the inner quartile range, and whiskers are the 99% CI. Upstream and downstream passage performance standards at all dams in the catchment were set to 1.00, with a timeframe for passage of 24 or 48 h. Production units are defined as in Table 1. Production units 1A and 2A were combined because there was no migratory barrier between them.

Fig. 8. Proportion of repeat spawners at each age for American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, in the Penobscot River after 41–50 years. Horizontal lines indicate the median, box ends represent the inner quartile range, and whiskers are the 99% CI. Upstream and downstream passage performance standards at all dams in the catchment were set to 1.00, with a timeframe for passage of 24 or 48 h.

PU and the projected abundance of spawners upstream of Weldon Dam. The distribution of spawners was proportionally highest in PU 3A under both passage times (Milford Dam to West Enfield Dam) (Fig. 1). The mean predicted abundance of spawners upstream of Weldon Dam in years 41–50 was about 26 000 (0–122 000) fish with a 24 h passage time.

The age distribution of repeat spawners in the population remained relatively similar between the 24 and 48 h passage times when passage efficiency was held constant at 1.00. However, the proportion of repeat spawners in a given age class increased only marginally in the 48 h scenario when compared to the 24 h scenario (Fig. 8). Although not shown, there were some differences in
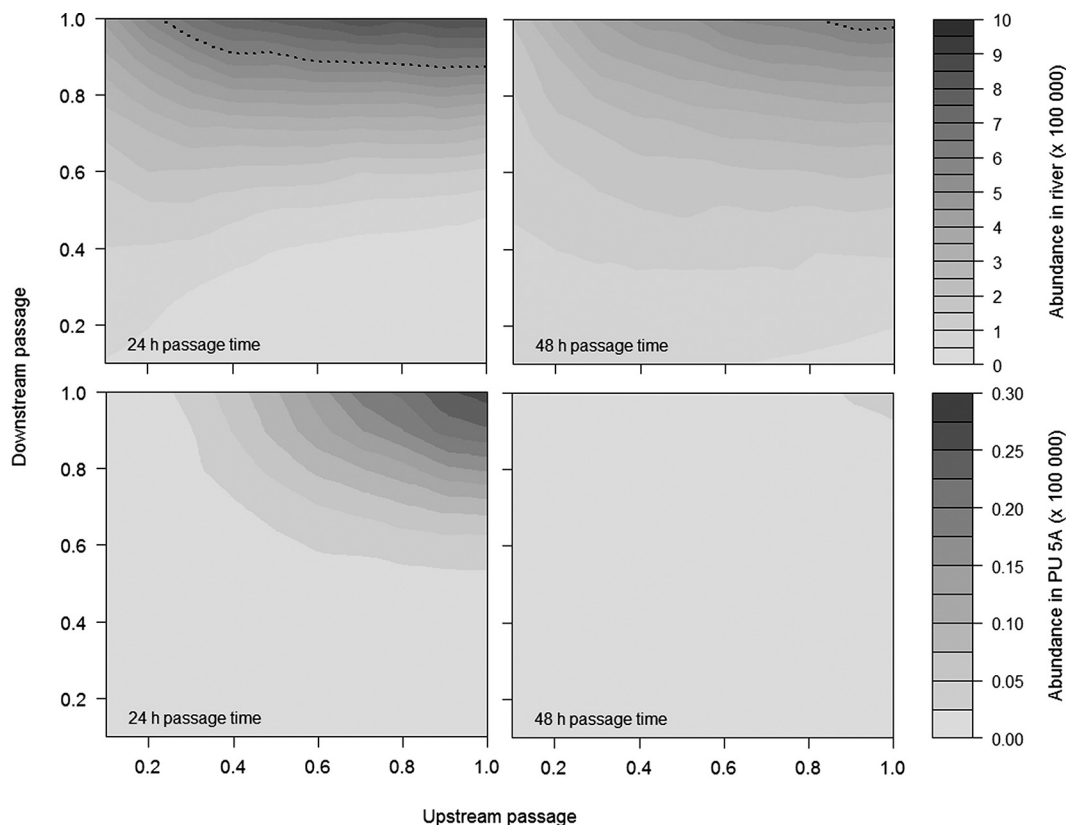
the age distributions at the PU level between the 24 and 48 h due to indirect relationship with movement speed based on fish length (i.e., older fish move faster).

Variable passage efficiency

When variable dam passage performance standards were considered at the catchment-wide scale, we observed differential effects of upstream and downstream passage on the responses of interest (population abundance at the mouth of the river, abundance upstream of Weldon Dam, and proportion of repeat spawners). We also observed interactions between the effects of upstream and downstream passage on these responses. Finally, the upstream and downstream passage rates needed to achieve interim

Fig. 9. Mean abundance of spawning American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, at the mouth of the Penobscot River (top panels) and reaching production unit (PU) 5A upstream of Weldon Dam (bottom panels) during years 41–50 of the simulation compared to upstream and downstream passage performance standards with 24 and 48 h passage times. The broken line in the top two plots indicates an interim recovery target of 633 000 adult fish.

management targets varied substantially based on passage time (24 or 48 h).

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

A minimum downstream passage performance standard of about 0.90 was required for the simulated population to reach a mean abundance of 633 000 fish after 41–50 years for 24 h passage time, and a minimum downstream standard of 0.98 was needed under the 48 h upstream passage scenario (Fig. 9). Given sufficiently high downstream passage, it was possible for the population to recover to the interim management objective of 633 000 with upstream passage rates as low as about 0.30 in 24 h (Fig. 9). With a 48 h upstream passage time, the interim management objective for abundance was not achieved below upstream passage performance standards of about 0.85 (Fig. 9).

The mean abundance of American shad spawning upstream of Weldon Dam responded similarly to changes in upstream and downstream passage performance standards using 24 and 48 h passage times (Fig. 9). However, changes in spawner abundance

upstream of Weldon Dam were less sensitive to changes in downstream passage under the 48 h scenario than under the 24 h scenario (Fig. 9) as expected because fewer fish reached this PU under the 48 h scenario.
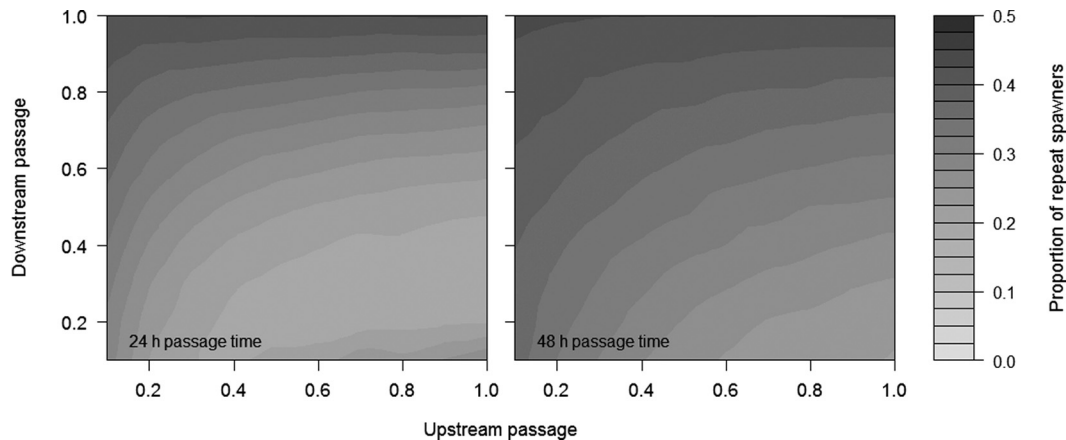
The predicted proportion of repeat spawners in the catchment increased with increasing downstream passage. Probability of repeat spawning decreased with increased upstream passage where corresponding downstream passage was not sufficiently high (Fig. 10). As with spawner abundance, this trend indicated a trade-off in American shad population dynamics resultant from interactions between upstream and downstream passage.

Discussion

Management implications

Fishery managers charged with establishing fish passage performance standards and their industry counterparts frequently enter into negotiations of regulatory standards lacking the ability to quantify how passage performance standards might relate to management objectives for anadromous species, which makes it difficult to accurately assess whether fishways meet criteria of "safe, timely, and effective" passage (US Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 2000). The model developed in this study provides such a tool for fishery managers who seek quantitative support for decision-making related to American shad passage performance standards at regulated hydropower facilities. Although this tool was developed specifically for American shad in the Penobscot River, Maine, it is readily extended to other populations of American shad through the inclusion of flexibility in path choice, spatial arrangement of dams, and input data.

Fig. 10. Proportion of repeat spawning age-6 American shad, *Alosa sapidissima*, returning to the Penobscot River during years 41–50 of the simulation compared to upstream and downstream passage performance standards with 24 and 48 h passage times. Only age-6 American shad are shown because this age class represented the median age of repeat spawners in the population.

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

Model application

Several notable trends in the abundance and population dynamics of spawning American shad emerged during this simulation study in response to imposed upstream and downstream dam passage performance standards. Importantly, the interim recovery target for population abundance was only achieved under what historically have been thought of as high rates of upstream and downstream fish passage through dams. Similarly, we noted substantial changes to population abundance under different times required to pass dams, underscoring the importance of both the timeliness and effectiveness of dam passage performance standards for this species. In the absence of fish passage, this population was predicted to increase to a potential abundance of about 40 000 fish on average, although maximum predictions seem to match what is expected based on previous estimates of production potential in the lower Penobscot River (MDMR 2009). These numbers seem to be reasonable given that approximately 8000 American shad passed Milford Dam during the 2016 spawning season, but the majority of tagged fish did not approach the dam that year (J. Zydlewski, unpublished data). Likewise, maximum estimates of population abundance in this system fit reasonably well compared to estimated population productivity (1.6 million spawners) in this system (MDMR 2009).

Model sensitivities indicated important aspects of life-history uncertainty and phenology that may warrant further investigation. For example, parameters related to mortality (e.g., pre- and post-spawn mortality and marine survival) had substantial influ-

ences on population trends and are biologically important drivers. Data surrounding these important sources of attrition are virtually absent from the literature. We used a wide range of values in this application, and our ability to make more precise predictions would be improved by better information. Likewise, model outputs were sensitive to changes in growth of American shad in this study. This indicates that system-specific data would be preferable to using growth information from the Connecticut River population. Those data are only now becoming more widely collected for use and will be incorporated as they become available. Limited information also exists about movement rates of American shad due to historic difficulties tagging, but studies are underway to estimate migration rates and behaviors, which have the potential to replace theoretically based parameters (e.g., $sOptim_j$, $tort_j$, and other parameters used to parameterize $dReal_j$) with empirical data. Finally, the model developed here did not include variability in climate or fisheries take (harvest, bycatch, discard, etc.). Such improvements would increase the overall utility of this model for understanding how dam passage interplays with other influences and aspects of fisheries management and is the focus of efforts currently underway.

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

The individual-based approach to upstream migration in our model produces emergent patterns in spatial distribution of fishes within a catchment in the absence of assumptions about homing. This approach comes at the cost of computationally intensive routines that necessitate increased computing time and resources. Emergent patterns in distribution could be used to inform state-based approaches in lieu of homing probabilities (sensu Nieland et al. 2015). As such, the model will be useful for

creating computationally efficient, simplified models for alosines in the future. The ability to use such an approach previously has been limited by a lack of significant evidence of population substructuring within natal rivers (Hasselman et al. 2010), reliable information on rates of tributary fidelity in alosines (Pess et al. 2014), or even physical evidence of tributary-specific homing (but see Dodson and Leggett (1973) and Hendricks et al. (2002)). In the absence of such data, our model provides predicted patterns in distribution of spawners within a catchment based on behavioral characteristics (e.g., movement speed, tortuosity, and seasonal change) until better information becomes available.

The model we have developed explicitly incorporates uncertainty in management outcomes due to gaps in the current knowledge of diadromous species and that allows for an adaptive approach to resource management through incorporation of contemporary data as they becomes available. This has helped us to identify specific components of uncertainty to which the model is particularly sensitive, a stated goal for recovery efforts related to American shad (ASMFC 2013). While there is uncertainty involved with many of the model inputs, the influence of that uncertainty on results also is well characterized and clearly communicated using tools applied in this study. Moving forward, further data collection and the development of a standardized approach in coastal rivers to the assessment of alosine performance standards could further reduce ambiguity and uncertainties. Thus, similar exercises will be useful for identifying key knowledge gaps and prioritizing future research for other rivers and species. Despite these uncertainties and sensitivities, our results demonstrate that the timelines and effectiveness of upstream and downstream passage performance standards at hydropower dams can have persistent effects on the recovery of alosine stocks in the northeast United States, even when passage rates are high relative to historical passage rates for these species (ASMFC 2007; Haro and Castro-Santos 2012). While exact values of input parameters and passage efficiencies necessary to achieve management targets both will vary between systems, the model structure presented here is well suited to address trends and sensitivities in population responses relative to resource management decisions.

Trade-offs in upstream and downstream passage

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

Previous studies indicated that the effects of changes to downstream passage on American shad population abundance were minor relative to other factors, including upstream passage (Kahnle and Hattala 2012); however, as the authors of that work recognized, consideration of how fish passage at the catchment scale (and not a single dam) shows that both upstream and downstream fish passage can have substantial effects at the population level. In fact, we have demonstrated that if not sufficiently high, downstream passage has much *greater* potential to impede population recovery than upstream passage dependent on catchment. This is because passing multiple dams during downstream migration results in higher mortality than is offset by increased reproduction in upstream habitat. This complexity is likely to be more relevant when indirect and latent components of downstream fish passage at dams are considered. Although indirect and latent mortality were assumed to be zero in the present study, these sources of dam-related mortality are included as parameters that can be changed in the present version of the model and may be of significant interest. In the absence of these sources of mortality, the results of the case study may be viewed as optimistic given the sensitivity of this population to downstream dam passage performance standards.

Previous researchers have hypothesized that upstream passage of American shad past dams could reduce in-river survival and rates of iteroparity through physiological constraints associated with extended upstream migrations (Leggett et al. 2004; Kahnle and Hattala 2012). Thus, it has been suggested that managers might "do more harm than good" by passing fish upstream beyond dams and into spawning habitat (Leggett et al. 2004). Alternately, increased mortality and reduced iteroparity might be caused by delays at dams during downstream migration, leading to undesirable population demographics at high rates of upstream passage (Castro-Santos and Letcher 2010). We demonstrated a clear trade-off in the response of spawner abundance (Fig. 9) and the proportion of repeat spawners (Fig. 10) to changes in upstream passage rates as downstream passage rate increased in our study. Congruent with the results of Castro-Santos and Letcher (2010), we found that downstream passage affected rates of iteroparity and spawner abundance, although we did not distinguish between mechanisms of downstream mortality. For example, at downstream passage rates of 0.40, increasing upstream passage from 0.20 to 1.00 resulted in net reductions to population abundance because increases in productivity resulting from access to upstream habitat were insufficient to offset increases in mortality from downstream passage (Fig. 9).

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

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