MA DMF Video Monitoring – River Herring

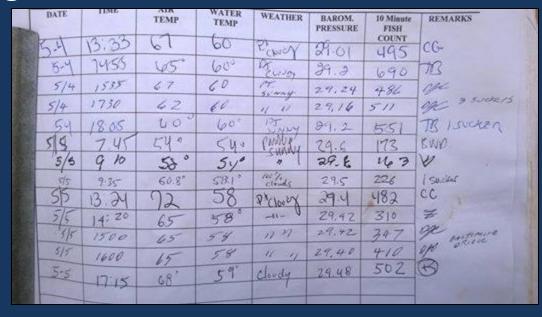




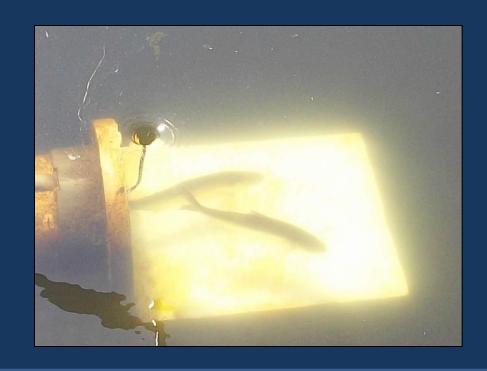
Mike Bednarski – MA DMF, MLHC Ben Gahagan – MA DMF

- River Herring monitoring complex
- Variety of counting methods
 - Volunteer counting
 - Tube counters
 - Video monitoring

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Video Counters

- Advantages
 - Species identification
 - Complete record of run
 - Potential outreach tool

- Disadvantages
 - Initial investment (\$4-10,000)
 - High maintenance
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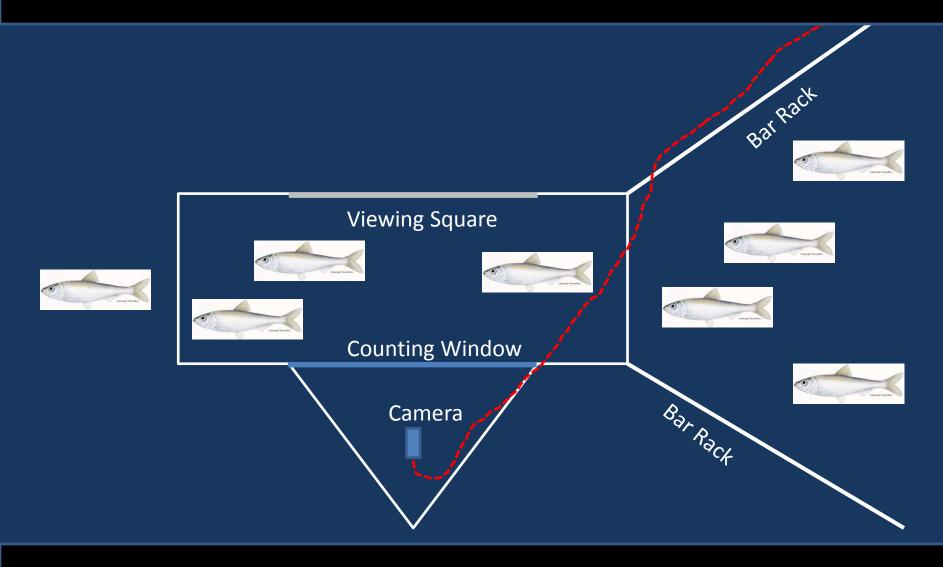
The Big Question

 Is video technology a viable option for monitoring river herring in Massachusetts?

- Parker River, Newbury
- Charles River, Boston
- Jones River, Kingston
- Nemasket River,
 Middleborough
- Mill River, Taunton
- Herring River, Harwich



Basic Setup

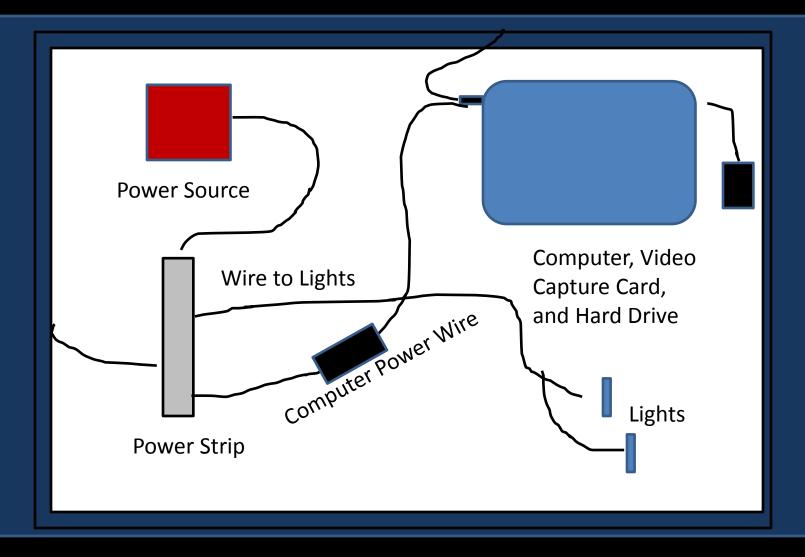


Introduction

Methods

Results

Basic Setup



Parker River, Newbury



Charles River, Boston



Mill River, Taunton



Nemasket River, Middleboro

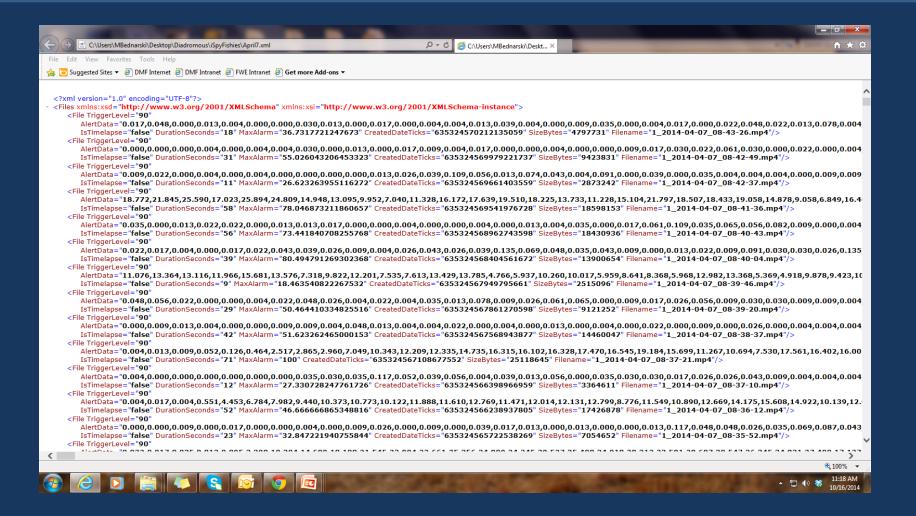


Herring River, Harwich



- Video analyzed using Salmonsoft or iSpy
 - Processed video watched in entirety
 - iSpy available at www.ispyconnect.com

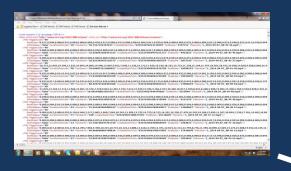
- Automatic counting via iSpy and R
 - Highly experimental!

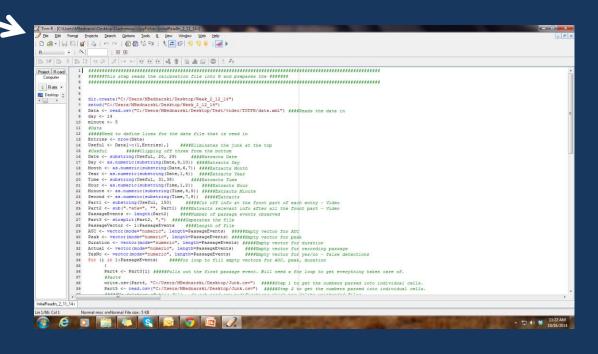


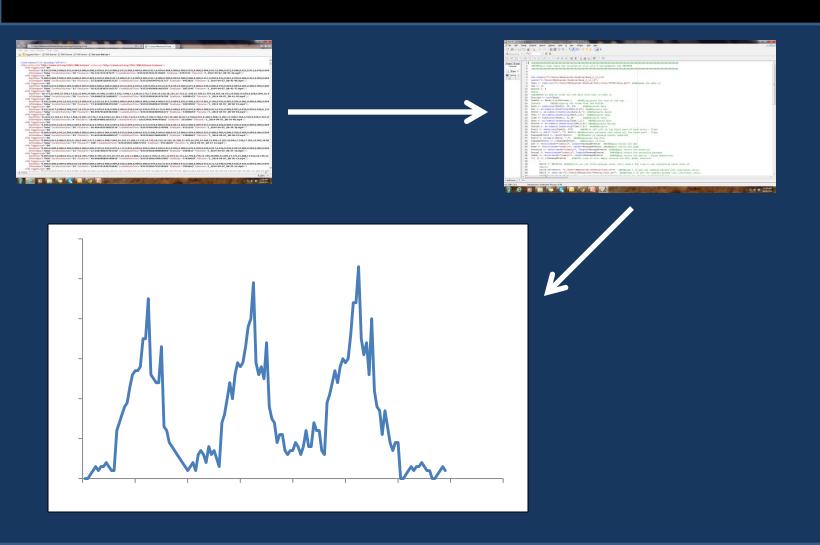
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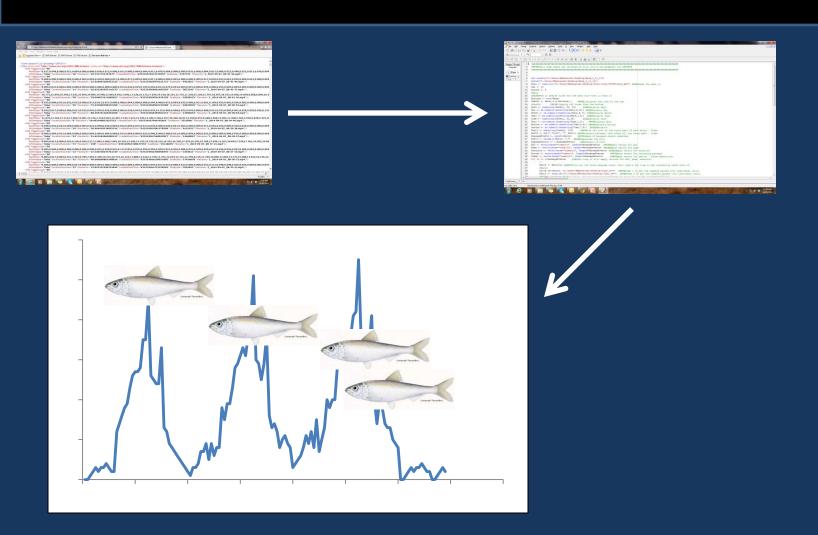
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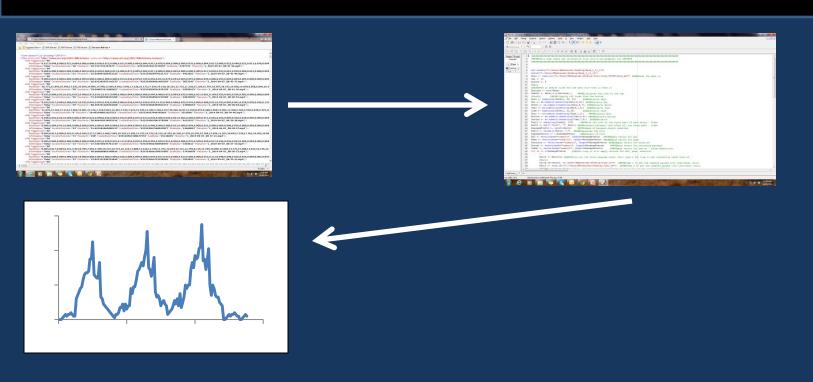
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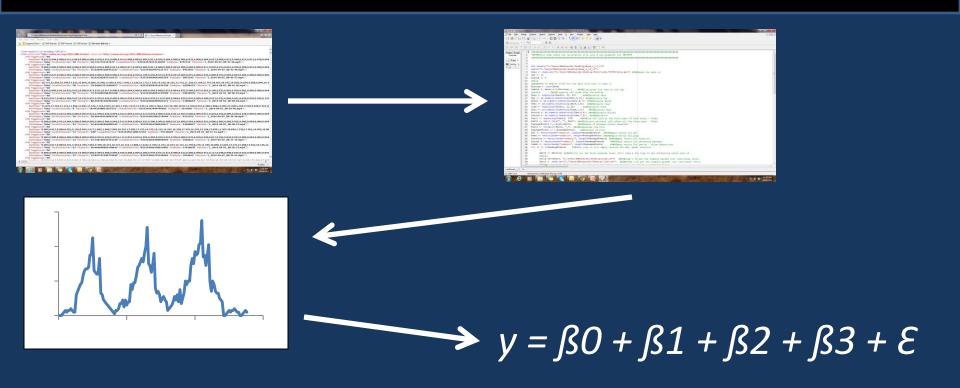


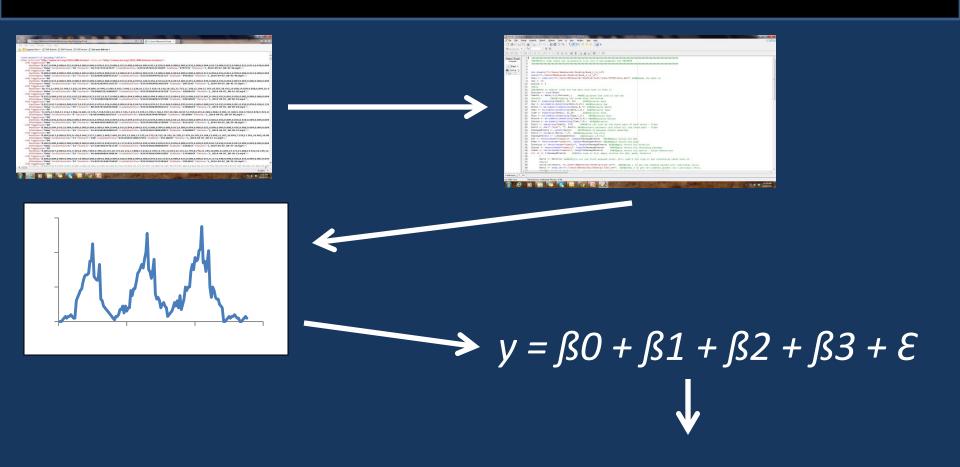


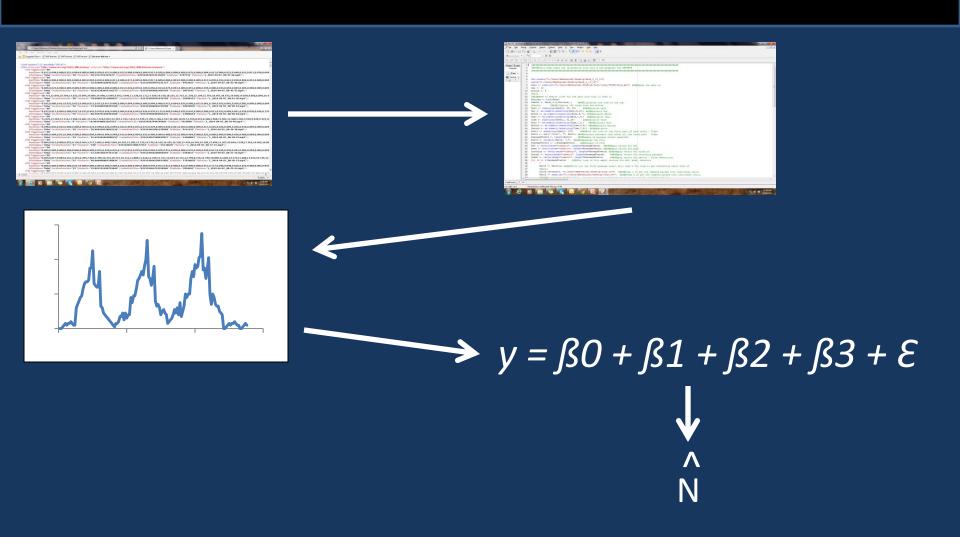












Methods

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Results

Results – Parker River



Results – Jones River



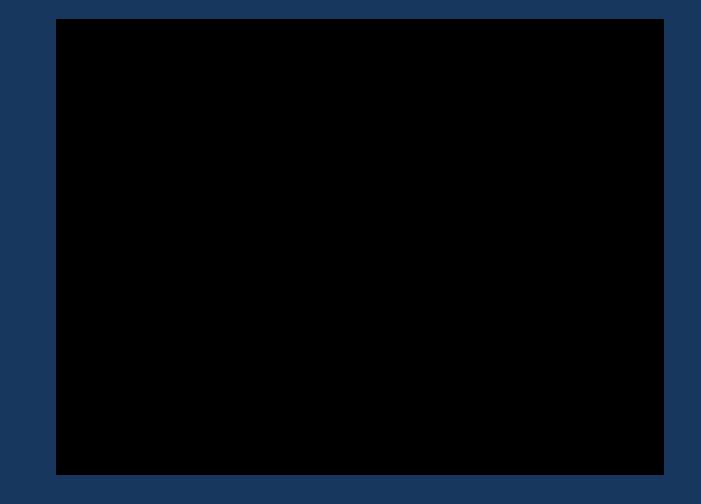
Results – Mill River



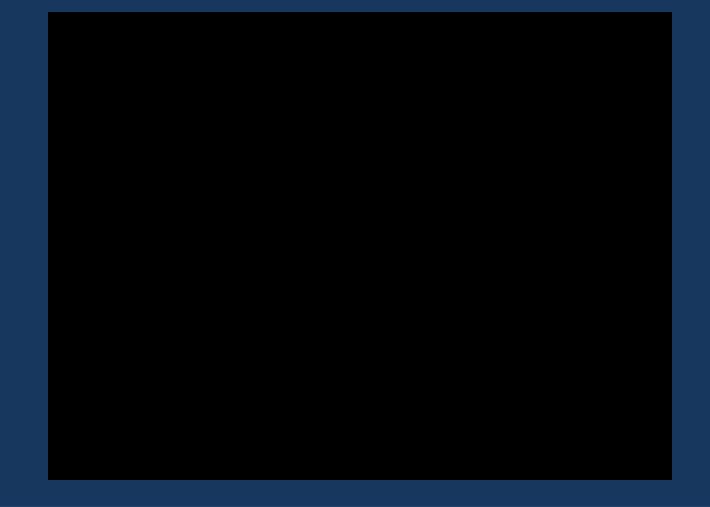
Results – Charles River



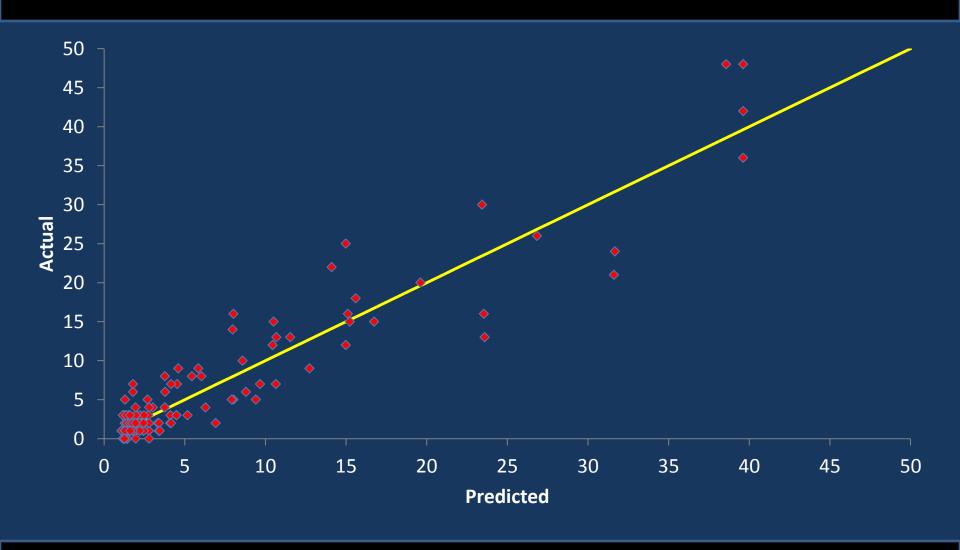
Results – Nemasket River

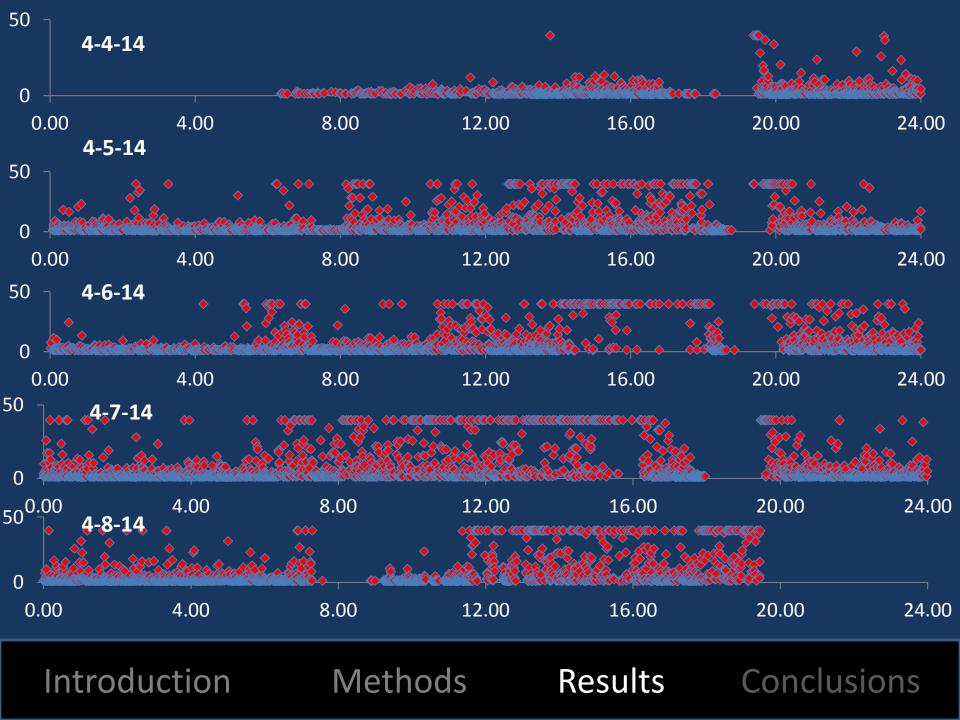


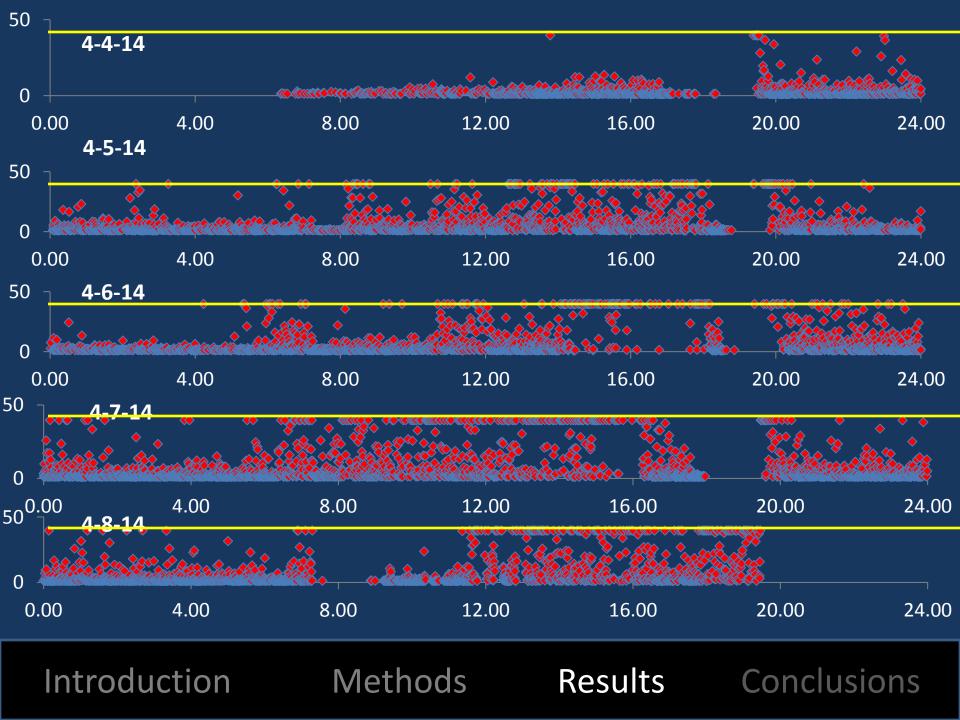
Results – Herring River

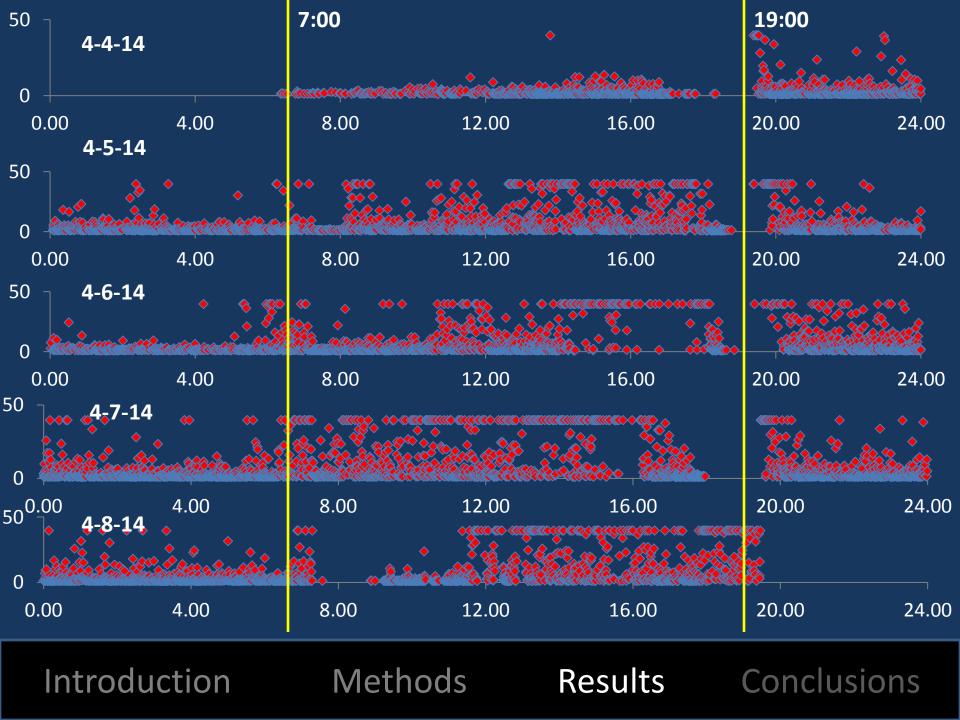


Results – Nemasket River









Video systems a viable option for assessing river herring runs

 Video systems provide can provide very fine scale information about a river herring run

Automated counting shows promise

- HOWEVER, video systems have critical limitations
 - Information quantity 200-500 GB of video
 - Data processing See above!!!!
 - Maintenance Daily, Tuning
 - Cost \$4-10,000

- What are your objectives?
- Involvement Volunteer Counting
- Outreach Volunteer Counting, Video System
- Management/Monitoring Volunteer
 Counting, Electronic Counter, Video Counting
- Research Video Counting

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Acknowledgements

- Ed Clark and Mike Trainor
- The Nature Conservancy
- Jones River Watershed Association
- Massachusetts Division of **Ecological Restoration**
- Middleborough-Lakeville **Herring Fishery Commission**
- Town of Harwich

