

# River Herring Network - Origins

March 2010 Workshop for Herring Count Volunteers, held at Kingston

Jeff Hughes outreach to other wardens

Jeff worked with Ben Martens, Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association

Applied for a grant from the Mass Bays Program

Received funding for 1 year in 2011

Ben left, Melissa Sanderson joined. Outreach to Division of Marine Fisheries, MA Shellfish Officers Association

Successfully accomplished goals in 2011, applied for and awarded another grant in 2012.

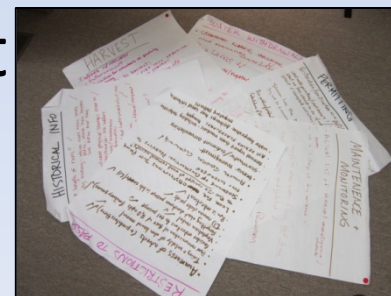


# River Herring Network – Goals

1. Facilitate communication among herring wardens and other river herring enthusiasts.
2. Support herring wardens in their role as active participants in fisheries management processes.
3. Document and communicate the natural and cultural history of the herring runs.

# River Herring Network Accomplishments - 2011

- Developed contact list of wardens, counters and enthusiasts
- Website with useful content and resources
  - Weekly updates on “latest news”
  - Ability to post blogs
  - Ability to communicate via Forum
- First Annual Meeting in October 2011 (39 people)
- Draft Best Maintenance Practices document



# River Herring Network Accomplishments - 2012

- June Workshop (17 people, 8 towns)
- September Workshop (17 people, 6 towns)
- Keeping website current
- Working on Wellfleet Best Maintenance Practices document as a working example
- Annual Meeting October 2012



# River Herring Network

## Future Existence?

- Planning Committee changes
- Need a new funding source

### **BREAKOUT SESSION QUESTIONS**

- Is it helpful to you as a herring warden/counter/enthusiast to meet as a group?
- Is it valuable to plan for and hold an annual meeting?
- Any ideas for projects that this group could work on? 2013 and beyond?
- Should the River Herring Network continue?
- Are you able to volunteer approximately 1-3 hours a month to work for the Network?