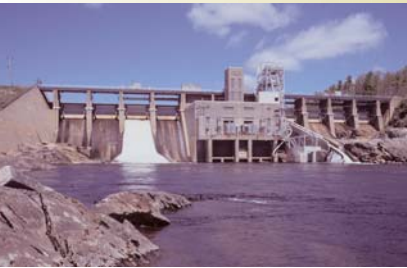




Skelton Dam and Fish Passage



FPL Energy





SKELTON FISH LIFT CONSTRUCTED FOR THESE IMPORTANT SPECIES

• ATLANTIC SALMON

Hatch in fresh water rivers, spend two to three years in fresh water and one to three years at sea before returning to spawn in the same river where they were hatched. Unlike Pacific salmon, Atlantic salmon do not die after they spawn. Instead, they return to the ocean, hopefully to return to their home river to spawn again in future years.

• AMERICAN SHAD

Hatch in fresh water, migrate to the sea in the fall and head south for the winter. During the springtime northward migration, sexually mature adults seek out the river where they were hatched three to six years earlier.

• RIVER HERRING

Found all along the East Coast, from Florida to Labrador, river herring migrate from the sea to spawn in lakes and rivers. They are eaten by the larger fish, and are canned, smoked or used for lobster bait.

SKELTON DAM AND FISH PASSAGE

Maine's rivers and streams are among its most valued and valuable natural resources. For centuries, they have provided transportation and power for commerce and industry. During the last century, they began providing unparalleled recreational opportunities for residents and tourists who enjoy swimming, canoeing, rafting, kayaking, camping, boating, fishing and the beauty of Maine's natural wonders.

A DELICATE BALANCE

For far longer than these rivers and streams have served the needs of industry and recreation, they have been home to abundant fish and wildlife.

Now in the opening years of the new century, FPL Energy is working with many interested groups and organizations to find and maintain the delicate balance that enables the rivers where we do business to meet the many diverse demands placed on them.

Maintaining that delicate balance will help ensure that Maine's rivers:

- continue to provide quality habitat for fish and wildlife
- remain sources of beauty and inspiration to millions of people

- deliver high quality recreational opportunities
- serve the state's commercial needs

THE SKELTON PROJECT

From its source in the White Mountains, the Saco River flows 125 miles to the sea. Skelton Dam is one of six hydroelectric stations on the Saco River owned by FPL Energy.

Built in 1948, Skelton is the largest dam on the Saco River, rising 74 feet above the downstream river. It is also the site of the largest fish lift in Maine. The Skelton Dam fish lift was completed by FPL Energy in 2001.



WHY A FISH LIFT?

While dams provide clean, renewable, economical electricity, they also can impact ocean-going fish such as Atlantic salmon, American shad and river herring. These fish, called anadromous fish by biologists, hatch in fresh water, mature in the ocean and later return to the river where they were hatched to reproduce. During the past 150 years, pollution, over-fishing and dams have reduced the population of these fish.

The new fish lift at Skelton Dam, which spans the Saco River between Buxton and Dayton, joins FPL Energy's other state-of-the-art fish passages on the Saco River at Cataract East Channel, Cataract West Channel, Springs and Bradbury dams.

The fish passage, along with fish stocking and a number of FPL Energy initiatives, — such as providing continuous flows, ensuring sufficient oxygen in the water and providing fish with transportation to remote areas — is designed to help restore salmon, shad and herring to their natural place in the Saco River ecosystem.

The Saco River also supports other species of fish, including brown and

brook trout, striped bass, large- and small-mouth bass and white suckers. Many of these fish also use the fish passages.

HOW IT WORKS

The fish lift is a water-filled elevator that carries fish from the river below the dam to the reservoir above the dam. Here's how it works:

1. Fish, attracted by flowing water at its entrance, swim into the lift. A fence gently gathers hundreds of fish into the 2,000-gallon elevator. The gate then closes behind the fish.
2. The elevator rises slowly to the top of the dam, where gates open, carefully spilling the water and fish into a tank. Biologists count and sort target species and determine whether fish should be released into the river right there or need to be transported further up river.
3. Fish destined to travel up river are put into a tank mounted on a truck. The truck carries them upriver past several dams that do not have fish passages. The fish are then released in confirmed spawning areas to lay their eggs.



SKELTON DAM AND FISH LIFT FACTS

- Dam was built in 1948.
- It generates enough electricity for 12,000 homes.
- The lift carries hundreds of fish at a time 74 feet up the face of the dam.
- Fish are released in the reservoir behind the dam or trucked up river and released.
- This is the largest fish lift in Maine.
- The lift is designed for salmon, shad and herring.
- Construction of the fish lift required 90 tons of steel and 2,800 cubic yards of concrete. It took less than a year to complete.
- Total project cost: \$6 million.



1. The fish lift
2. Visitors watch fish swim by observation window
3. A biologist measures fish

For more information about FPL Energy, please visit our website at www.fplenergy.com.

FPL ENERGY A STRONG COMMITMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT

FPL Energy is a leader in clean energy generation. In addition to hydroelectric power, we develop, build and operate electricity-generating facilities fueled by wind, natural gas and solar energy. Early in 2002, our total portfolio included more than 70 facilities in operation, construction or late stages of development in 17 states.

Regardless of the type of fuel we use to generate electricity, we strive in each of our projects to minimize environmental impacts. We pride ourselves in complying with the spirit (not just with the letter) of the environmental laws that govern our operations.

Because of this strong commitment to environmental stewardship, FPL Energy and our parent company, FPL Group, Inc., one of the nation's leading providers of energy-related services, have been repeatedly honored for our efforts. FPL Group recently became a charter partner in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's new voluntary Climate Leaders Program aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We believe in clean air, clean water and clean energy as we work to power America in the 21st century.

FPL Energy's Skelton Dam and Fish Passage

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