2019 Plymouth Herring Festival

Saturday, April 27, 2019

NOAA Fish Biologist Eric Hutchins leads walking tour 20 Years of Fisheries Restoration on Town Brook

Tours at 11:00am and 1:00 pm



NOTE: Simply meet at the Plimoth Grist Mill at 6 Spring Lane



Plimoth Grist Mill, reconstructed on the original 1636 site. River herring provided food for early settlers as well as ocean fish. In the 20th century spring fish runs dwindled to dangerous lows.

Since 2002, concerned citizens, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, NOAA and many partner organizations worked to provide necessary habitat for fish populations to recover.



The National Marine Fisheries Service has been working cooperatively with the Town of Plymouth and many other project partners since 1997 to restore migratory fish passage and the aquatic habitat of Town Brook. This walking tour will include 4 completed dam removal projects, 2 fish ladders as well as special attention to the ongoing removal of Holmes Dam.



Eric Hutchins, a fisheries restoration biologist with the NOAA Restoration Center has spent over 25 years working to restore aquatic habitats necessary to support marine fisheries in the Gulf of Maine region. His work has included supporting dozens of dam removals, marsh restoration, fish ladders and local stewardship projects. During this demonstration, Eric will present the life cycle and ecological role of American eels, alewife, blueback herring, and rainbow smelt. Included in this event are American eels and river herring, live and up close!

Thanks to the Town of Plymouth and NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center for supporting this event.

