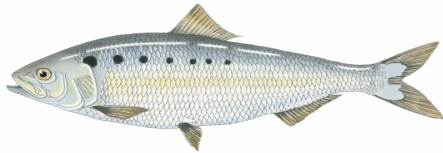


Striped Bass: Widely loved as a sport fish and commonly known as "stripers," these sea-run fish have historically spawned in freshwater rivers and streams along Maine's coast.



Alewives: Alewives (river herring) are the preferred bait for many lobstermen. Also a sea-run fish, alewife spawning runs were once celebrated in towns up and down the coast.



Shad: Closely related to alewives, American shad are another sport fishing species that could benefit from a restored Royal River. Known by some as America's "founding fish," young shad use rivers and estuaries as nursery areas.



Brook Trout: Native to the Royal River watershed. this popular species is very sensitive to environmental changes. "Salters" are the sea-run variety of brook trout that make their way to the ocean.



Brown Trout: Although a non-native species, brown trout are currently stocked in the Royal River by the MDIFW. They can be quite large and are an economically important recreational fishery.



Rainbow Smelt: Prized as one of the best tasting fried fish, great runs of this small silvery fish were once familiar throughout coastal New England.



American Eel: An important food for many birds and animals. Eels migrate from the Sargasso Sea to the Royal River watershed, spending 10-30 years in freshwater before returning to the ocean.



Sea Lamprey: Lampreys breed in fresh water but return to salt water. They are eel-like in appearance and native to the Gulf of Maine.

Note: Historically Atlantic salmon were found in the Royal River but have been extirpated by loss of access to habitat.

