



VOLUNTEER GUIDE

Sampling Equipment

- Fyke net for catching the glass eels. The net is 13.5 ft wide and 4 - 5 ft tall.
- YSI ProDSS handheld probe for measuring water quality parameters.
- Digital scale for weighing 20 of the glass eels. We only weigh the eels on days when at least 20 are caught.
- Chest waders and gloves to keep warm and dry during cold days. **(all provided)**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

New York State DEC's

American Eel Migration Study Website:

<https://hrnerr.org/eel-monitoring>

Center for the Urban River at Beczak's Eel
Migration Data:

www.centerfortheurbanriver.org/research

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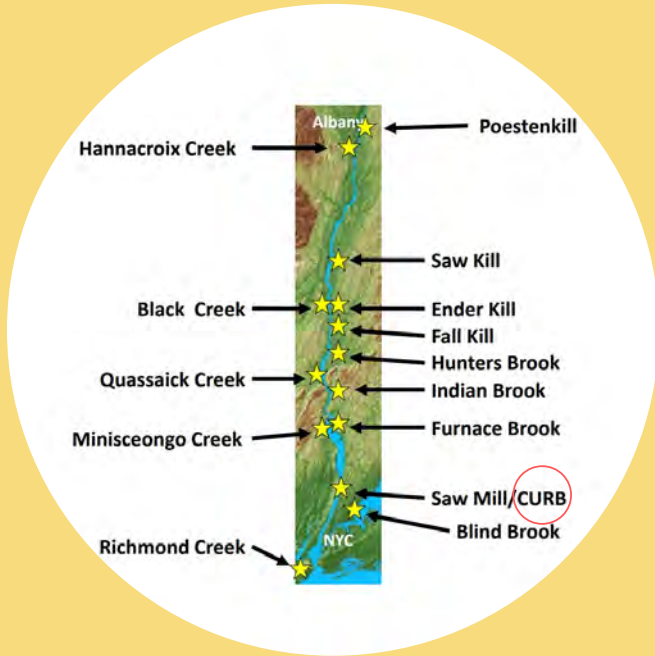


American Eel Migration Study

CENTER FOR THE
URBAN RIVER
AT BECZAK

Sampling Procedure

- We begin by recording weather and water quality data with our probe.
- Next we enter the marsh (in waders) to access and untie the net.
- The net basket is placed in a basin for shaking & rinsing (to dislodge the eels).
- The contents of the basin are sifted with a hand net to collect the eels.
- The eels are counted and 20 are saved for weighing. The rest are released.
- The net is checked for repairs and closed up for the next day of sampling.



Site Location Information

CURB is 1 of about 15 sites participating in the American Eel Migration Study. The project is coordinated by the NYSDEC.

We monitor the eels using a fyke net which is stationed in our tidal marsh for 14 weeks. The season runs from the last week of February through most of May,

We sample on Tuesdays - Fridays (Times to be determined by volunteer availability)

The sampling will at times require wading through up to 3 feet of water at high tide and shin deep mud at low tide.



Migration Data Collection

During each sampling day volunteers will complete a data sheet in the field, as well as help with data entry into CURB's online spreadsheet.

Parameters that will be recorded include tide level, moon cycle, cloud cover, temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, total eel count, eel weight, and more.

The glass eels are 2 - 3 inches in length with clear, see-through bodies. It's also possible that we will catch a few larger elvers, as well as other small critters.