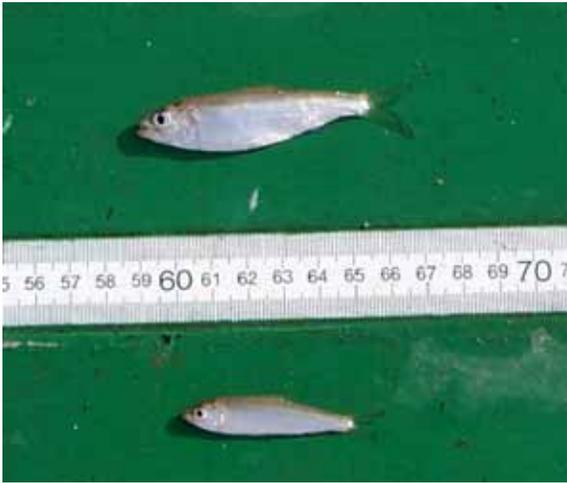


Blueback Herring and American Shad



Blueback Herring

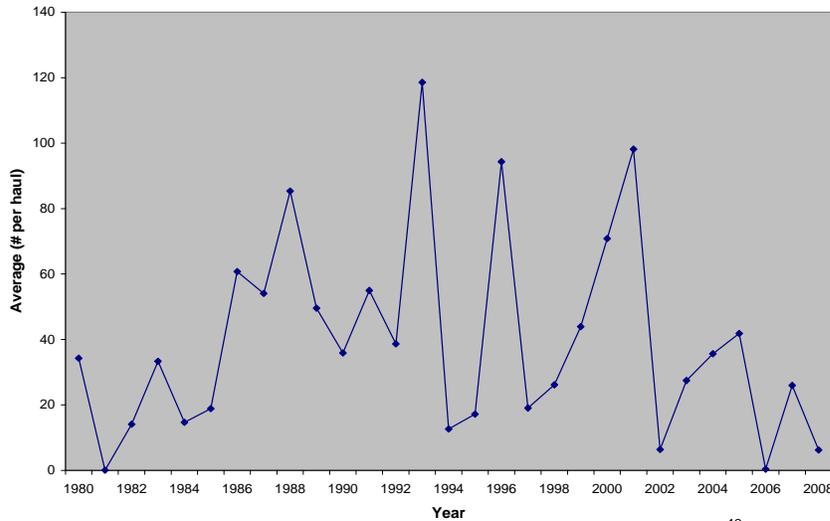


American Shad

Blueback herring and American shad numbers have also increased overall since the beginning of the survey. However, during years of severe flooding (2006) and severe drought (2002), catches tend to be lower than normal. In 2001, the average number of blueback herring caught per haul was 98 but in 2002, the average dropped to six fish per haul. Likewise, American shad averages dropped from 21 fish per haul in 2001 to one fish per haul in 2002. Both species seem resilient, as they bounced back with abundance, increasing through 2005.

Unfortunately, due to flooding in 2006, blueback herring and American shad population counts dropped to all-time lows of less than one fish and two fish per haul, respectively. But once again, American shad have shown their resiliency in the Delaware River during 2007, with the highest abundance recorded at 37 fish per haul. Blueback herring abundance remained low (25 fish per haul) for 2007, causing some concern for this species.

Blueback Herring



American Shad

