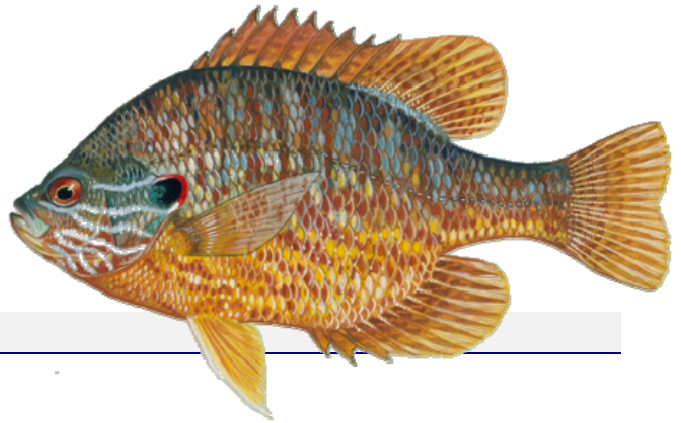


# FISHING REPORT NUMBER 18

## 8/18/2011



### INLAND REPORT

**LARGEMOUTH BASS** fishing has improved this week with many areas reporting good to very good fishing. Some of the best reports are from Gardner Lake, Lake Saltonstall, Twin Brooks Park Pond, Lake McDonough, Bantam River, Stillwater Pond, Moodus Reservoir, Beseck Lake, Wononskopomuc Lake (11 fish), Tyler Lake (including one over 4 lbs.), Dooley Pond, Hopeville Pond, Hamilton Reservoir, Morey Pond (10 fish), Mamasco Lake, Ball Pond, Bashan Lake (20 fish), West Thompson Lake, Nod Brook WMA, Winchester Lake, Coventry Lake, Cedar Lake, Candlewood Lake, Bolton Lakes, Stillwater Lake, Stateline Pond, Halls Pond, Mansfield Hollow Reservoir, Bishop Swamp, Dog Pond, Roseland Lake, Pachaug Pond and Lake Zoar.

**SMALLMOUTH BASS** – Housatonic River anglers continue to report very good fishing for river smallies. Candlewood Lake is also providing some good smallmouth action. Fair fishing is reported at Lake McDonough, Colebrook Reservoir, Highland Lake, Rainbow Reservoir, Bantam Lake, Lake Housatonic, Coventry Lake, Lake Lillinonah, Bantam Lake, and Quinebaug River,

**WALLEYE** – Good fishing for walleye is being reported from Squantz Pond, Lake Saltonstall (18-25" fish) and Mashapaug Lake.

**NORTHERN PIKE** fishing is good at Bantam Lake (28"), Bantam River (20"), Hopeville Pond (40"), and Winchester Lake (35"). Slow fishing at Lake Lillinonah and Pachaug Pond

**KOKANEE** fishing picked up a little in West Hill Pond with one angler catching 10 fish.

**SUNFISH** continue to provide great summer time action throughout the state. Late summer is an excellent time to take the family to your local pond where you can always land a bunch of sunnies! Use worms, grubs, jigs or small poppers for them. Some of the areas to try include Bishop Swamp, Halls Pond, Red Cedar Lake, Uncas Lake, Dog Pond, Candlewood Lake, Winchester Lake, Dog Pond, Pachaug Pond, Billings Lake, Morey Pond, Gardner Lake, Tyler Lake, Crystal Lake, Stillwater Pond and Park Pond.

**CONNECTICUT RIVER** –Although flows have increased a bit this week, the best bet is still **CATFISH**. One angler reporting a catch of 10 fish, **one 11.2 lbs-28.5"**! Sunfish and locally caught cut bait are being

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ANGLERS AND BOATERS-



Zebra mussels were recently (October, 2010) found in Lake Zoar and Lake Lillinonah.

Prior to this discovery, zebra mussels had been found (1998) in CT only in East Twin Lake and West Twin Lake (Salisbury). Anglers fishing in any of these waters and western Connecticut in general **should use extra care to avoid transporting water, aquatic vegetation, and possibly zebra mussels to new locations.**

This highly invasive mussel can disrupt aquatic ecosystems and is notorious for clogging water intakes and fouling boat hulls and engine cooling water systems. For more information on zebra mussels and other invasive species, visit [www.ct.gov/dep/invasivespecies](http://www.ct.gov/dep/invasivespecies).

#### REMINDER TO ANGLERS- FISHING IN OR CASTING INTO PERMITTED SWIM AREAS IS PROHIBITED.

State regulations prohibit fishing in or into a swim area that's been permitted by DEEP. Additionally, vessels cannot be operated within a permitted swim area, and there's a 100 foot "no-wake" zone around the perimeter. Swim areas that have been permitted by DEEP will be marked by white buoys with orange markings, and there should be a permit number posted on the buoys. They may or may not have small orange barrier floats to further demarcate the area. Should questions arise concerning the validity of the swim area (*no permit numbers or the area appears to have been changed/enlarged or keeps moving*), please contact DEEP's Boating Division at 860-434-8638.



used successfully for them. The best time is at night, targeting the outside bends in the river and the upstream side of the deeper holes of the river near structure.

**STRIPED BASS** action is spotty in the lower river on chunk bait. Some **NORTHERN PIKE** are being taken at the confluences of rivers and streams while other fish are being found in the coves and in the mainstem near Middletown & Haddam Meadows. **LARGEMOUTH BASS** are being taken in the coves around Hartford-Middletown and in the lower river. **SMALLMOUTH BASS** are reported in the Enfield area and near the mouth of the Farmington River.

## TROUT

**Rivers & streams** – Although we had cooler nights and some additional rain this week, trout fishing remained fairly slow throughout most of the state. The one area with reports of good trout fishing is the West Branch Farmington River above Riverton.

**Farmington River** – Water temperature is in the low 60's°F with 174 cfs of clear flows with the Still River providing an additional 128 cfs of flow. Insect hatches include Trico (*Trycorythodes stygiatus*, #24-26). The remaining bugs consist of *Ephemerella needhami* (#22-26, early morning), Leadwing Coachman (*Isonychia bicolor*, #10-12, fast water, evening), Blue Wing Olives (*Drunella* sps. & *Baetis* sps.; #14-20, mid-late afternoon), Sulphurs duns (#14-16, morning; afternoon to early evening for spinners), Cahills/Summer (*Stenonema ithaca*, #12-18, early morning), Caddis (tan #16-20, all day; green #22-26, evening; summer pupa, #18-20 morning), Midges (#22-32, morning), Black Ants (#18-20, mid day in fast water), Flying Ants (#18-22, mid day, when windy/humid), Stone Hopper (#8-12, mid day) and Golden Drake (*Anthopotamus distinctus*, #10-14, late evening) are successful patterns.

**Housatonic River** – Trout fishing remains slow with water temperatures in the mid 70's°F with 1,240 cfs of clear flows. Warm temperatures and low flows are stressful to trout, **so it's an excellent time to switch to smallmouth bass (current conditions are good for smallie fishing). Those targeting trout need to take extreme care when handling trout they plan to release!**

For the most part, the White fly (*Ephoron leukon*, #12-14, dawn & dusk) hatch is over. Insect hatches include: Sulfurs (#12-16 dusk/dark), Blue Wing Olive (#18-24, early morning; spinner fall in evening), Leadwing Coachman (#10-12 evening), Light Cahill (#12-14, evening), and Black caddis (#14-20, early morning & evening). Midges and stoneflies are located at the mouths of streams. Golden stonefly nymphs hatch at first light and adults egg-lay after dark. Try Black/Cinnamon Ants (#18-22, mid day in fast water) and Flying Ants (#18-22, mid day, when windy/humid). Fish will focus on ants when they are on the water (after a rain). Don't forget streamers (morning & evening). Patterns to try include: White, Woolly Buggers, Muddlers, Micky Finn, Grey or Black Ghosts (#4-10).

**Anglers are reminded that the thermal refuge areas on the Housatonic, Naugatuck and Shetucket Rivers are closed to fishing as of June 15. These areas will reopen on September 1. There is no fishing within 100 feet of the mouths of posted tributaries to these rivers.**

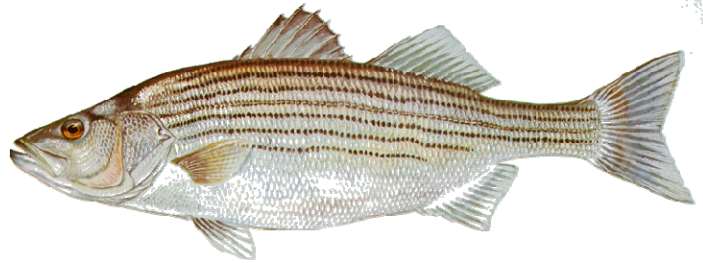
**Additionally, a thermal refuge has been established on the Salmon River in East Haddam. This new refuge is located around a spring entering the Salmon River approximately 220 feet south of the unused paved boat launch at the state-owned property formerly known as the Sunrise Resort off of Route 151. The refuge includes all water within 100 feet from the end of the pipe as posted. The Salmon River refuge will be closed to fishing and access through September 30.**

**Lakes & Ponds** – Lakes that are still reporting fair to good fishing include Crystal Lake (Ellington, early/night, 7-8 colors), Coventry Lake, Mashapaug Lake (25-30'), Wononskopomuc Lake, Highland Lake, Lake McDonough, East Twin Lake (at 35-40'), Beach Pond (Big Al's Streamers, tandem), and West Hill Pond (25-30').

## NOTES & NOTICES:

- ❖ **BOAT LAUNCHES - Moodus Reservoir** (Lower & Upper) is currently drawn down 20 inches, making the launching of trailer boats difficult (especially for larger boats).
- ❖ **LAKE ZOAR** - Water ski clinics for the disabled are scheduled for August 27 and September 10 in the upper end of Lake Zoar. These events run from 9 am to 4 pm, and boaters are asked to take care when passing through this area (marked by buoys) of the lake, and avoid interfering with the event.
- ❖ **CONNECTICUT RIVER (Hartford)** – Riverfront Recapture will be holding its annual “*Dragon Boat Races*” on Saturday, August 20 (9 am – 5 pm) and Sunday, August 21 (9 am – 3 pm) on the CT River in Hartford between the Founders Bridge and the Charter Oak Bridge. Boat travel through the course area will be difficult during the race events, use extra caution or avoid the area.
- ❖ **CANDLEWOOD LAKE** – CLA will be holding its annual “*Dragon Boat Races*” on Saturday, August 20 from 7 am to 5 pm in the upper end of the New Milford arm (Lynn Deming Town Park). This area will be congested with participants and spectators.

## MARINE FISHING REPORT



Surface water temperatures in Long Island Sound (LIS) continue to range from the low to mid 70's °F. Check out the following web sites for more detailed water temperatures and marine boating conditions:

<http://www.mysound.uconn.edu/stationstat.html>

[http://marine.rutgers.edu/mrs/sat\\_data/?nothumbs=1](http://marine.rutgers.edu/mrs/sat_data/?nothumbs=1)

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/>

<http://www.wunderground.com/MAR/AN/330.html>

The sturgeon full moon over this past week made for some swifter currents than usual making fishing difficult at times.

**STRIPED BASS** fishing remains good especially during dawn and dusk. The usual locations for stripers include the reefs off Watch Hill, Ram Island Reef in Fishers Island Sound, humps south of Wilderness Point off Fishers Island, Millstone outflow, Bartlett Reef, Black Point, Pigeon Rip (area north of Plum Island), Hatchett Reef, Long Sand Shoal, Southwest Reef, Sixmile Reef, Falkner Island area, the reefs off Guilford and Branford, New Haven Harbor (Sandy Point), Charles Island area to Milford Point, Buoy 20 off Stratford, Stratford Shoal/Middle Ground, Penfield Reef, around the Norwalk Islands, and the reefs off Stamford.

**BLUEFISH** fishing remains consistent in the Race and Plum Gut. Other fishing spots include the same areas as for stripers. Snapper blue fishing remains good to excellent in the tidal creek and coves with fish measuring about 4 to 8 inches in length.

**SCUP (porgy)** fishing is good to excellent on the major reefs and rock piles throughout LIS.

### INFORMATION FOR CT ANGLERS FISHING IN NEW YORK WATERS:

New York DEC now has their online marine angler registry up and running. While your Connecticut Marine Waters Fishing License is valid in the New York waters of Long Island Sound (includes Fishers Island Sound), to fish in other New York marine waters you must be registered in the New York Marine Fishing Registry. Please see link to register:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/54950.html#How>

*The registration is free.*

**SUMMER FLOUNDER (fluke)** fishing remains fair to good. Fluke fishing locations include the south shore of Fishers Island (Isabella Beach and off Wilderness Point), Stonington area south of the breakwaters, north shore beaches of Long Island, lower Thames River to the Dumping Grounds, Twotree Island Channel off Waterford, Niantic Bay/ Black Point area, Hatchett Reef area, Long Sand Shoal, Falkner Island area, south off the New Haven breakwaters, Stratford Shoal/Middle Ground area and Cable and Anchor Reef.

**HICKORY SHAD** fishing in the Connecticut River can be slow one day and red hot the next.

**LITTLE TUNNY** and **ATLANTIC BONITO** have arrived in LIS. Tuna spots include the area between Bluff Point and Pine Island, Millstone Point area, Bartlett Reef, Hatchett Reef, and Sixmile Reef.

**BLUE CRABBING** is on the slow side.

*For regulation updates and fishing/crabbing information, please check out our web site at: [www.ct.gov/deep/fishing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/fishing) or pick up the new 2011 Angler's Guide. The guide contains all current marine fishing regulations and more.*

- *For finding shore fishing and crabbing locations*, please refer to the Connecticut Coastal Access Guide which can be found online at [www.lisrc.uconn.edu/coastalaccess/index.asp](http://www.lisrc.uconn.edu/coastalaccess/index.asp).
- *To find locations where to launch your boat, kayak or canoe*, see the 2011 Connecticut Boater's Guide or go online to [www.ct.gov/dep/boating](http://www.ct.gov/dep/boating).

*The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and service provider. In conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, DEEP makes every effort to provide equally effective services for persons with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities who need this information in an alternative format, to allow them to benefit and/or participate in the agency's programs and services, should call should call should call 860-424-3035 or e-mail the ADA Coordinator, at [DEP.aoffice@CT.Gov](mailto:DEP.aoffice@CT.Gov). Persons who are hearing impaired should call the State of Connecticut relay number 711.*

#### **DEEP WEEKLY Fishing Report**

*Pumpkinseed and striped bass images courtesy Duane Raver/USFWS*



**Connecticut Department of  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

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