

# FISHING REPORT NUMBER 21

## 9/8/2011



### INLAND REPORT

#### REMNANTS OF TROPICAL STORMS LEE & IRENE

- A number of rivers including the Connecticut River, Housatonic River and Farmington River are currently unfishable and difficult/dangerous for boating due to the extremely high flows. Some lakes and ponds may also be difficult to access, fish or boat. See the *Notes and Notices* section for additional information.

**LARGEMOUTH BASS** fishing remains fair to good with the best reports from Candlewood Lake, Winchester Lake, Halls Pond, Long Pond, West Hill Pond and Mudge Pond, and fair reports from Lake Waramaug, Wononskopmuc Lake, Quonnipaug Lake, Mansfield Hollow Reservoir, Bantam Lake (water's been high here) and Amos Lake.

**SMALLMOUTH BASS** – Anglers continue to find good action for smallmouth at Candlewood Lake. Some catches also reported from Bantam Lake, Mashapaug Lake, Gardner Lake, Highland Lake, Coventry Lake and Bashan Lake.

**NORTHERN PIKE** catches reported from Bantam Lake.

**WALLEYE** – Some action reported from Lake Saltonstall and Beach Pond (catches here include a 12.1 lb beauty).

#### TROUT

**Rivers & streams** – Flows have again become very high and unfishable in some areas, especially larger rivers such as the Housatonic and Farmington Rivers. Those wishing to fish should try smaller streams and tributaries, as they are the first to recede. **Anglers can find real time stream flow data for a number of rivers and streams in CT on the USGS website at:**

<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ct/nwis/current/?type=flow>

**Farmington River** – The effects of the remnants of Tropical Storm have again made much of the river unfishable due to high flows and flooding. West Branch flows at Riverton are currently at moderate levels (315 cfs), however, as downstream conditions improve, anglers may expect increases in releases from the Goodwin Dam to facilitate lowering Colebrook River Lake. Below Riverton, flows are very high, with the Still River currently providing 2,500 cfs.

**Housatonic River** – **The river remains unfishable due to very high flows**, currently about 12,700 cfs at Falls Village and about 22,100 cfs at Gaylordsville. For updated flow information, anglers should call FirstLight Power at 1-888-417-4837. Anglers in this area should try the smaller streams and tributaries, as they typically drop to fishable levels quickly.

#### 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.



**Thermal refuges:** The thermal refuge recently established on the Salmon River in East Haddam is closed to fishing and access through September 30. This 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.

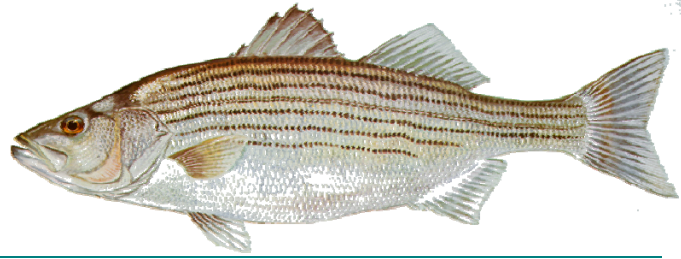
**Lakes & Ponds** – Anglers continue to find trout in a number of lakes and ponds, including Mashapaug Lake, Lake Wononskopomuc (36 trout for one father/daughter team), Crystal Lake (target 22-25 ft), Beach Pond (over 30 ft of water), Long Pond, East Twin Lake (70 ft of water), West Hill Pond (30-35 ft down) and Highland Lake.

**CONNECTICUT RIVER** – The river is again above flood stage at both Hartford and Middletown, very turbid, with lots of debris (large and small) moving downstream. **These conditions are difficult to impossible for boating and angling (from shore or boat).**

### NOTES & NOTICES:

- ❖ **LAKE ZOAR** – A water ski clinic for the disabled is scheduled for September 10 in the upper end of Lake Zoar. This event will 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.
  - ❖ **HIGHLAND LAKE** - A canoe/kayak race and swim event is scheduled for Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at Highland Lake from 8 am to 1 pm. This event will be held in the north bay at Resha and Holland beaches in the vicinity of the state boat launch. Boaters should use extra care when accessing the lake from the state launch.
  - ❖ **LAKE LILLINONAH** - Lake Lillinonah is currently drawn down as a flood control measure (however, note the lake level may fluctuate). **The use of both state launches (Route 133/steel bridge launch and Pond Brook launch) by trailered boats may be difficult to impossible depending on lake level.** Anglers can call FirstLight Power at 1-888-417-4837 for updated lake level (and Housatonic River flow) information.
  - ❖ **LAKE MCDONOUGH**- The boat launch facility has closed for the season.
  - ❖ **CONNECTICUT RIVER LAUNCHES**- Due to high flows, launching from the Bissell Bridge, Haddam Meadows and Salmon River State boat launches will be difficult to impossible. The Riverfront Recapture facilities in the Hartford/East Hartford area (Riverside Park, Charter Oak, Great River) are closed until further notice.
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## MARINE FISHING REPORT



Surface water temperatures in Long Island Sound (LIS) remain 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 aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene and the remnants of Tropical Storm Lee keep on lingering with rain-swollen rivers filled with debris emptying into LIS. Water coloration remains coffee-brown as far east as the Race with trees, logs, couches, and other stuff littered throughout LIS making boat navigation hazardous.

On the positive side, **BLUEFISH** fishing is excellent in the Race with birds working the rip area from Race Rock to Little Gull Island. Other areas in LIS remain slow for **BLUEFISH** and **STRIPED BASS** especially near river entrances.

**SCUP** fishing has also slowed down because of all the runoff discoloring the water on many of the local reefs. For better fishing, look for rip areas and reefs with better water clarity which would be in either extreme eastern and western sections of LIS or the north shore of Long Island.

### **REGULATION REMINDERS:**

The **TAUTOG** recreational fishing season is closed from September 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup> inclusive.

**SUMMER FLOUNDER** fishing season closed September 6<sup>th</sup> (last day is September 5<sup>th</sup>).

*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).

### **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.*

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### **DEEP WEEKLY Fishing Report**



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*Black crappie and striped bass images courtesy Duane Raver/USFWS*