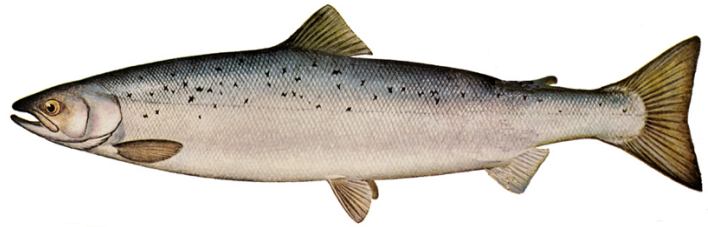


FISHING REPORT NUMBER 29

11/3/2010



INLAND REPORT

ATLANTIC SALMON

2010 fall broodstock Atlantic salmon update – DEP expects to stock another 400 broodstock Atlantic salmon next week (11/8-11/12). The Naugatuck River and the Shetucket River will each be stocked with 150 salmon and Mount Tom Pond and Crystal Lake (Ellington) will each be stocked with 50 salmon. These fish are from DEP's Kensington Hatchery, and will average 8 pounds apiece and range in size from 3 to 20 pounds each. These stockings will bring the total number of salmon stocked so far this fall to nearly 700 fish. DEP also expects to have several hundred additional salmon available for stocking in early December.

Good reports for broodstock Atlantic salmon from both rivers (Shetucket, Naugatuck), Crystal Lake and Mount Tom Pond (where catches include a 32 inch beauty). Try flashy streamers (attractor pattern) when fishing the rivers. Anglers are reminded to consult the 2010 CT Anglers Guide for regulations for broodstock Atlantic salmon prior to fishing.

TROUT

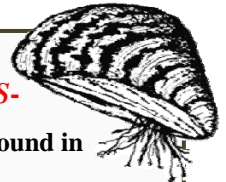
Fall trout stocking update- DEP completed its fall 2010 trout stockings this week by releasing a total of 5,800 yearling (6-9 inch fish) brook, brown and rainbow trout into **Bigelow Pond** (1,600 fish), **Black Pond** (Woodstock, 1,200 fish) and the **Shetucket River** (3,000 fish). **Nearly 73,000 trout were stocked from early September through early November.** These fish included 14,500 trophy size brown trout (all greater than 12 inches in length including 4,000 fish from the Kensington Fish Hatchery that averaged 3.5 pounds each), 15,000 standard size (9-10 inch) rainbow trout and 43,000 yearling (6-9 inch) brook, brown and rainbow trout.

Rivers & streams - Fall can provide some excellent action for those willing to brave the changing weather and work through leaf fall. Conditions should be good this weekend, flows and temperatures will be comfortable (but cool) and there are plenty of recently stocked trout. Fall is also streamer and nymph time. For streamers try white, yellow & brown colors, patterns include White Woolly Buggers, Muddlers, Micky Finn, and Grey or Black Ghosts (#4-10). Nymphs to bottom-bounce include Tan & Winter Caddis pupa (#16-18), Serendipity (#14-16), Pheasant Tail (#12-20), Prince (#6-18) and Hare's ear (#8-20). Good reports last week from the West Branch Farmington River, Pequonnock River, Housatonic River and Salmon Brook.

Farmington River – West Branch flows are clear and moderate, currently 335 cfs at Riverton, plus an additional 105 cfs from the Still River (rain is in the forecast for Thursday, so flows may increase some). Morning water temperatures are in the low 50's °F.

Hatches/patterns include Blue Wing Olive (#18-26, dominant hatch), with *Isonychia* (#12-14-nymph), Midges (#18-32) & Caddis mixed in. For best action try Blue Wing Olives (#20-28, late morning), Caddis (winter & tan #18-22, early afternoon).

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ANGLERS AND BOATERS-



Zebra mussels have recently been 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). During 2009 zebra mussels were discovered in Massachusetts in Laurel Lake and in the mainstem Housatonic River. 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.**

The zebra mussel is a black and white striped, bivalve mollusc that was introduced into North American waters through the discharge of ship ballast water. This mussel can disrupt aquatic ecosystems and is notorious for clogging power plant, industrial and public drinking water intakes, and fouling boat hulls and engine cooling water systems.

Housatonic River – Flows are clear and moderate, currently 700 cfs at Falls Village and 1,000 cfs at Gaylordsville. With some rain forecast, flows may increase before the weekend (call FirstLight Power at 1-888-417-4837 for updated flow information). Morning water temperatures are in the mid 40's°F.

Hatches/patterns include Blue Wing Olive (#18-26, early morning), Midges (#20-26) and Tan & Winter caddis (#14-18, early morning and late afternoon).

Lakes & Ponds- Trout action remains variable, and reports continue of trout swimming along shore in spawning mode, and not being that interested in striking. Some catches reported from West Hill Pond, Squantz Pond, Saugatuck Reservoir, Highland Lake, Crystal Lake, Long Pond and Beach Pond.

LARGEMOUTH BASS fishing is generally fair to slow, with the better reports from Bantam Lake, Quaddick Reservoir, Aspinook Pond, Gardner Lake, Candlewood Lake and West Hill Pond.

SMALLMOUTH BASS fishing is variable, with good reports from Colebrook River Lake (12 smallies for one angling pair) and fair reports from Bantam Lake (including a 3.8 lb smallie), Aspinook Pond (including a 3 lb smallie) and mostly tough fishing reported from Candlewood Lake and Highland Lake. Some action also reported from West Hill Pond and the Farmington River in Simsbury.

NORTHERN PIKE action reported from Bantam Lake.

Fall **WALLEYE** are being reported from Saugatuck Reservoir (a 12.1 lb, 31 inch walleye among the catches) and Squantz Pond.

CONNECTICUT RIVER – STRIPED BASS action is good in the lower river. Successful anglers are using plugs and eels. Schoolies are mixing in with some larger fish. **BLACK CRAPPIE** action is good in the coves (shiners working well). Anglers are having some luck finding **LARGEMOUTH BASS** in coves and backwaters.

NORTHERN PIKE fishing is spotty, with good action reported from some coves and behind islands. One pair of anglers bagged 24, 27, 29, 31 and 32 inch pike last week. **CARP** are being caught, with many 20 lb plus fish coming to creel this past week.



A fat 27.9 inch Seeforellen brown trout sampled at East Twin Lake this week (fish was measured and released).

NOTES & NOTICES:

- Scheduled drawdowns include:
 - **MOODUS RESERVOIR** (Lower & Upper, down 2.5 feet, launching of trailer boats will be difficult to impossible) and **TYLER LAKE** (down 2.5 feet, launching of trailered boats may be difficult) are currently drawn down to facilitate dam repairs.
 - “Winter” drawdowns of a number of Eastern CT lakes are in progress. Reported lake depth status for the following water bodies is current as of Tuesday, November 2nd: **BASHAN LAKE** (down 15 inches), **BEACH POND** (down 9 inches), **BESECK LAKE** (down 24 inches), **GARDNER LAKE** (down 21 inches), **GLASGO POND** (down 36 inches), **LOWER BOLTON LAKE** (down 18 inches) and **MIDDLE BOLTON LAKE** (down 38 inches).
 - A 5 foot drawdown of **HIGHLAND LAKE** began on October 15th.
- The **BAYBERRY LANE State Boat Launch** (Groton) is closed for renovations until December 31st.
- Anglers are reminded that the fishing season has closed at several lakes and ponds scattered throughout the state, most notably **LAKE WONOSCOPOMUC**, **GREEN FALLS RESERVOIR**, **BATTERSON PARK POND** and **SHENIPSIT RESERVOIR**. Please refer to the 2010 CT Angler’s Guide for additional locations.

TIPS & TRICKS – LATE FALL CRAPPIE

- ❖ Schools will be near deeper weed edges.
- ❖ Fish early morning and late evening.
- ❖ Fish slowly inside the deepest portion of the weed flats & use a 1/16th-ounce jig with a small minnow.
- ❖ A slow vertical jigging motion will reduce snags.
- ❖ After locating fish, switch to a slip bobber & vary the depths to zero in on the fish.
- ❖ As the water cools, more weeds will die & fish will come to the open edges.
- ❖ Watch your fish finder as you slowly cruise the drop offs just outside the weed line.
- ❖ Each day you'll see more signs of life in this deeper water.
- ❖ Baitfish appear first, then small groups of Crappies and finally larger schools of fish.
- ❖ The arrival of larger groups of fish marks the beginning of the peak fall bite.
- ❖ Crappies will locate on inside corners or edges of deep holes near the shoreline.
- ❖ You might find some of the fish on points or on straight stretches along the drop off.
- ❖ These inside corners located closest to shore are always the first choice.

TOM J.'S BREADED CRAPPIES

Ingredients:

- ✓ 12 Crappie fillets
- ✓ 2C. flour
- ✓ 2C. Seasoned Bread crumbs
- ✓ 1 egg
- ✓ ½ C milk
- ✓ 1tsp. Garlic salt
- ✓ 1tsp. Black pepper
- ✓ 1tsp sweet paprika
- ✓ 2C vegetable oil

Directions:

Put bread crumbs on a plate. On a separate plate put the flour. Add garlic salt, pepper, and paprika to the flour and mix together. In a bowl put milk and egg together and mix well. Rinse and dry fillets with paper towels. Take fillets and cover them completely with the flour mixture. Shake off any extra flour from the fillets. Put floured fillets in egg wash, covering the whole fillet. Then put them in the breadcrumbs and cover completely shaking off any extra bread crumbs. In a skillet add oil and heat until the oil is hot. To make sure it's hot enough put a little bread crumb in, if it bubbles around its hot enough. Put fillets in and cook until golden brown.

This will normally feed 3 to 4 people.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO ANGLERS AND HUNTERS:

During the 2010 session of the General Assembly, legislation was approved and signed into law in April reducing many of the fees for sportsmen's licenses and permits. This was followed in June by legislation authorizing a credit to be applied against the fee for any 2011 sportsmen's license, permit or tag when purchase of a license, permit or tag had been made at the higher prices in place between October 1, 2009 and April 14, 2010. The credit amount will be the difference between the higher amount paid during that time period and the amount set by the new fee structure established April 14, 2010.

For information about these credits, please visit the DEP website license fees and credits page:

www.ct.gov/dep/sportsmensfeereduction

The Department of Environmental Protection is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and service provider. In conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, DEP 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 860-424-3051 or 860-418-5937 or e-mail Marcia Bonitto, ADA Coordinator, at Marcia.Bonitto@CT.Gov. Persons who are hearing impaired should call the State of Connecticut relay number 711.



MARINE FISHING REPORT

Surface water temperatures in Long Island Sound (LIS) are in the upper 50'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://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/>

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

TAUTOG fishing remains good to excellent on the major reefs and rock piles in LIS as long as the weather cooperates. The constant high wind has put a damper on the fishing scene. Finding an obscure structure or rock pile close inshore in the lee of the wind may be the ticket during those high wind days. As water temperatures drop further, tautog will move off into deeper water.

BLUEFISH fishing is still hanging in there and **STRIPER** fishing remains good with schoolies moving into the tidal rivers. Bruiser sized bluefish are roaming around on the local reefs and deeper water (60+ ft). The usual spots include the Watch Hill area, Ram Island Reef and East and West Clumps (Fishers Island Sound), Thames River, the Race (by Race Rock and Valiant Rock), outer Bartlett Reef, the Sluiceway, Plum Gut, Pigeon Rip, warm water discharge from Millstone Power Station, Harkness Memorial State Park, Black Point, Hatchett Reef, lower Connecticut River, Long Sand Shoal, Cornfield Point, Southwest Reef, Duck Island area, Sixmile Reef, Hammonasset Beach State Park, Falkner Island area, reefs off Guilford and Branford, New Haven Harbor, Charles Island area and the sand spit at Silver Sands State Park, lower Housatonic River, buoys #18 and #20 off Bridgeport, Stratford Shoal/Middle Ground, Penfield Reef, Norwalk Islands, Cable and Anchor Reef, and Stamford and Greenwich Harbors. Live lining eels or fresh cut chunk baits on three way rigs and trolling parachute jigs on wire has been working well on larger linesiders.

HICKORY SHAD fishing was very good about a week ago but recently has slowed to a halt. Fishing is hit or miss at best in the Niantic and Connecticut River.

TIP Hotline – Please call 1.800.842.4357 to report fishing violations.

For regulation updates and fishing/crabbing information, please check out our web site at:
www.ct.gov/dep/fishing or pick up the 2010 Angler's Guide.



DEP WEEKLY FISHING REPORT
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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www.ct.gov/dep