

FISHING REPORT

NUMBER 32 - 12/9/2010



INLAND REPORT

ATLANTIC SALMON

2010 fall broodstock Atlantic salmon update – Final 2010 stockings scheduled. DEP plans to complete its 2010 fall broodstock Atlantic salmon stockings early next week. The Naugatuck River is currently scheduled to be stocked this Friday (12/10) and the Shetucket River is scheduled to be stocked on Monday (12/13). Each river will be stocked with approximately 125 fish.

These stockings will bring the total number of salmon stocked this fall to over 950 fish. In October and November stockings, DEP had released over 700 salmon into the Naugatuck River (250 fish), the Shetucket River (255 fish), Mt Tom Pond (104 fish) and Crystal Lake –Ellington (104 fish). All the fish stocked this year are from DEP's Kensington Hatchery, average 8 pounds apiece and range in size from 3 to 20 pounds each. *See page 2 for summary of broodstock Atlantic salmon regulations.*

YEAR-END REMINDERS

LICENSE FEE CREDITS NOW AVAILABLE

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

ZEBRA MUSSELS RECENTLY 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 highly invasive 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.

NOTES & NOTICES:

- The fishing season at **Saugatuck Reservoir** will close after December 31st.
- The fishing season at a number of areas including **Bunnells Pond** (Beardsley Park), **Great Hollow Pond**, **Lake Mcdonough**, the **Maltby Lakes**, **Lake Saltonstall**, **Mohegan Park Pond** (Spaulding Pond, Norwich), **Lake Chamberlain** and at most designated "children's areas" closed after November 30th. *(Please refer to the 2010 CT Angler's Guide for complete regulations).*

- Drawdown updates:
 - A 8 foot **Candlewood Lake** drawdown is currently in progress. As of Thursday, December 9th, the lake is approximately 2.5 feet lower than the typical summer level.
 - 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, December 7th, **Bashan Lake** (down 35 inches), **Beach Pond** (down 36 inches), **Beseck Lake** (down 30 inches), **Gardner Lake** (down 48 inches), **Glasgo Pond** (down 29 inches), **Lower Bolton Lake** (down 23 inches) **Middle Bolton Lake** (down 37 inches) **Mashapaug Lake** (down 18 inches) and **Moodus Reservoir** (Lower & Upper, down 30 inches).
 - Also drawn down are **Quaddick Reservoir** (down several feet) and **Highland Lake** (planned 5-foot drawdown).

Broodstock atlantic salmon regulations and areas summary

- **Regulations for broodstock on the Shetucket and Naugatuck Rivers.** From December 1, 2010, through March 31, 2011, the daily creel limit in rivers for Atlantic salmon is **one**. During the open season in the rivers, the legal method for taking Atlantic salmon is limited to angling using a single fly, or an artificial lure with a single free swinging hook and no additional weight can be added to the line above the fly or lure.
- On the **Shetucket River**, anglers can fish for salmon downstream from the Scotland Dam (Windham) to the Water Street Bridge in Norwich (the first bridge upstream of Norwich Harbor). The salmon are stocked into one designated Atlantic Salmon Broodstock Area, from the Scotland Dam to the Occum Dam.
- Anglers are allowed to fish for salmon in the **Naugatuck River** from the confluence of the East and West Branches (Torrington) downstream to the Housatonic River (Derby). Anglers may also fish for Atlantic salmon in the Housatonic River downstream of Derby Dam. The salmon are stocked into two designated Atlantic Salmon Broodstock Areas on the Naugatuck River, the “Campville Section” of the upper Naugatuck River from Route 118 downstream to the Thomaston Flood Control Dam (Litchfield-Thomaston) and the “Beacon Falls Section” of the lower Naugatuck, from Prospect Street (Naugatuck) downstream to Pines Bridge Road (Route 42 bridge, Beacon Falls). From October 1st through March 31st, fishing for other species in these designated Atlantic Salmon Broodstock Areas is restricted to the gear legal for Atlantic salmon.
- The regulations for broodstock Atlantic salmon released into lakes and ponds are different from the regulations for salmon on the Naugatuck and Shetucket Rivers. **In each lake, the regulations for methods, seasons and minimum lengths for salmon will be the same as for trout in that specific water body but the daily creel limit will be one salmon per day.** (Please refer to the 2010 CT Angler’s Guide for trout regulations).

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