

FISHING REPORT NUMBER 7

6/7/2012



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INLAND REPORT

LARGEMOUTH BASS fishing was generally good with the best reports from Mudge Pond, Candlewood Lake (moderate action, catches include a number of 4 lb plus fish), Winchester Lake (catches include a 6.25 lb largemouth), Ball Pond, East Twin Lake (good numbers of 2 lb fish), Lake Lillinonah, Lake Zoar, Lake McDonough, Billings Lake (plenty of fish, no lunkers), Pattagansett Lake, Gardner Lake (nothing new here, good action on 1-2 lb fish, no lunkers), Lake Quonnipaug, Cedar Lake and Pachaug Pond. Some action, although less than stellar, reported from Quaddick Reservoir, Amos Lake and Mashapaug Pond.

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SMALLMOUTH BASS fishing remains variable, with reports from Candlewood Lake (very good, with a number of 3-4 lb bass), Squantz Pond (good), Lake Lillinonah (fair, include several 3 lb plus smallies), Lake Zoar (fair), Lake McDonough (slow) and Gardner Lake (not many being caught). Pachaug Pond is also turning up a few smallmouth. Some nice smallie fishing reported from the Quinebaug River.

NORTHERN PIKE – Fair to good pike fishing reported from Winchester Lake, Pachaug Pond and Bantam Lake. Quaddick Reservoir has been quiet.

WALLEYE – Walleye fishing at Squantz Pond has finally turned on. Some catches also reported from Lake Saltonstall and Beach Pond.

OTHER – Carp fishing has been very good at Lake Lillinonah. Some of the smaller ponds in the northeast corner (such as Ross Pond) and in the Guilford-Madison area are producing some nice pickerel. Black crappie action at West Thompson Lake has been very good.

TROUT

DEEP's spring trout stockings are completed, with nearly 600,000 brook, brown, rainbow and tiger trout stocked since early March.

Rivers & streams – Conditions for trout fishing should be good for the weekend. Cooler weather and recent rains have refreshed a number of trout streams, there are still plenty of trout out there awaiting anglers, flows are at comfortable levels at most areas and dry weather is forecast. Good reports last week from the West Branch and mainstem Farmington Rivers, Housatonic River (early last week), Hammonasset River and Salmon River.

Farmington River – Trout fishing has been very good. West Branch flows are moderate (currently 285 cfs at Riverton plus an additional 110 cfs from the Still River) and have cleared.

ZEBRA MUSSELS have been found scattered throughout the Housatonic River system-

The presence of adult zebra mussels in Lake Housatonic was confirmed in November, 2011. Earlier that summer, adult mussels were confirmed in the Housatonic River in Massachusetts and free-floating juveniles (veligers) were found at a number of sites in the river downstream to Lake Lillinonah. In 2010, adult zebra mussels were found in Lake Zoar and Lake Lillinonah. Prior to these discoveries, 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.**



Hatches/patterns include *Vitreus* [a.k.a. pale evening dun] #14-18, from 5:00 pm to dark, Tan Caddis (#16-18), Sulphurs, (*Invaria* #14-18 hatches mid-day and *Dorothea* #18-20), March Brown nymphs (#10-14), Gray Fox (#12-14, afternoon), Blue Wing Olives (#18-22, mid-late afternoon), Caddis (tan #16-18, all day; green #22-26, evening), Midges (#22-32) and Pale Evening Duns (*Epeorus vitreus* #14-16, afternoon & early evenings).

Housatonic River – Conditions should be very good this weekend. Flows are clearing and continuing to drop to very fishable levels (currently 1,070 cfs at Falls Village and 1,660 cfs at Gaylordsville). Morning water temperatures are in the upper 50's to low 60's °F (rising through the day).

Hatches/patterns - Lots of bugs, with many major insect hatches now here to provide excellent fly fishing. This is one of the few times of the year when you can dry fly fish all day long. Alder/Zebra Caddis (#10-12, just started), Sulphurs (#14-18), Blue Wing Olive (#16-20, early morning; spinner fall in evening), *Isonychia* (#8-10 evening, just starting), Cahill (#12-14), Adams (#10-20, evening), March Brown (#10-12-but almost done), Gray Foxes (#10-12) and Caddis (tan #12-14, all day; green #22-26, evening). Stoneflies are very active.

Reminder to anglers - Maps of all of the state's trout streams and rivers showing the many stocking and access points are now available online at www.ct.gov/deep/troutstockingmaps.

Lakes & Ponds – Trout fishing has been fair to good, with the best reports from Crystal Lake, Highland Lake, Candlewood Lake (some nice trout up to 3 lbs) and Squantz Pond. Some action also reported from Lake Quonnipaug, East Twin Lake and Beach Pond. It's time to troll deep for trout.

Trout Parks – Anglers continue to find good action a number of the Trout Parks including Chatfield Hollow, Valley Falls Park, Mohegan Park Pond and Black Rock Pond.

CONNECTICUT RIVER – Flows remain on the high side (but fishable) and the river is clearing. **STRIPED BASS** fishing is slowing, with most (and bigger) fish being found in the lower river and mouth. **CATFISH** are providing steady action throughout the river, with a number of bigger fish being caught. **NORTHERN PIKE** fishing is fair to good, with the best reports from the Haddam area (including a 37 inch pike) and the coves (Wethersfield, Crow Point, Keeney, Wrights, Salmon River). **CARP** anglers are finding fish (with some good action reported in really shallow areas of areas like Chapmans Pond). **LARGEMOUTH BASS** fishing is fair to good, try coves and back areas from below Hartford to Haddam/East Haddam (Keeney Cove, Chapman's Pond, Salmon River Cove among the spots). Several 4-5 lb bass among the catches.

NOTES & NOTICES:

- ❖ **BEACHDALE POND** (launchable with care) and **WYASSUP LAKE** (impossible to launch) continue to be drawn down for dam repairs.
- ❖ The **FirstLight Power HOUSATONIC RIVER FLOW INFORMATION automated phone** (1-888-417-4837) is currently down and will remain out of service until sometime in late June.
- ❖ Anglers on the **SALMON RIVER** should be aware that the current work in the Lyman Viaduct (Colchester) reconstruction project on Dickinson Creek, which includes filling in a large scour hole below the twin culverts and restoring fish passage (after 50+ years), may at times cause some noticeable turbidity, including in the Salmon River downstream of Dickinson Creek.
- ❖ **COVENTRY LAKE** – Swim sessions for a triathlon training program will be conducted on June 9, 16 and 23 from 7 to 9 am. The course runs from Patriot's Park to the island in the northwest portion of the lake.
- ❖ **BANTAM LAKE**- The State Boat launch and all other boating access to Bantam Lake will be closed on Monday, June 18th to facilitate plant management activities.



MARINE FISHING REPORT

Surface water temperatures in Long Island Sound (LIS) are in the low to mid 60'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>

Note: The persistent northeasterly wind, rain, and strong moon tides (full moon or “Honey Moon” on June 4th) have put a damper on the fishing this past week in LIS but improving weather conditions are predicted for the upcoming weekend.

STRIPED BASS and **BLUEFISH** fishing have been more consistent in the Race, Plum Gut and Pigeon Rip. Other fishing locations include Watch Hill and the reefs in between the eastern tip of Fishers Island, outer Bartlett Reef, Black Point, lower Connecticut River along Great Island, Long Sand Shoal, Southwest Reef, Six Mile Reef, Falkner Island area, the reefs off Branford, New Haven Harbor (including Sandy Point), Milford Harbor breakwaters and the Charles Island area, Stratford Shoal/Middle Ground, Penfield Reef, around the Norwalk Islands, Cable and Anchor Reef, and the reefs off Stamford and Greenwich. Buck tailed jigs on three-way bottom rigs have been working well in deep water for stripers while diamond jigs have been the ticket for choppers.

SUMMER FLOUNDER (fluke) fishing is fair to good. Fluke spots include the north shore of Long Island such as Horton Point, Mattituck area, Mt. Sinai, and Port Jefferson, south side of Fishers Island (Isabella Beach, Wilderness Point), Black Point/Niantic Bay including the “Bloody Grounds”, Westbrook-Clinton area, Falkner Island area, New Haven Harbor, and off the mouth off the Housatonic River.

SCUP fishing is just fair on the major reefs.

WINTER FLOUNDER fishing season is closed from May 31st to Mar 31st.

For Current Connecticut Recreational Fishing Regulations: Anglers should consult the 2012 Connecticut Anglers Guide which is now available at most Town Clerks Offices, DEEP offices and at tackle stores selling fishing licenses. Anglers can purchase their fishing licenses online (www.ct.gov/deep/fishinglicense) or at participating town halls, DEEP field offices and fishing tackle vendors. Current regulations, electronic versions of the Angler's Guide and additional information can all be accessed on the DEEP website at: www.ct.gov/deep/fishing.

The Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person with a disability who may need information in an alternative format may contact the agency's ADA Coordinator at 860-424-3194, or at deep.hrmed@ct.gov. Any person with limited proficiency in English, who may need information in another language, may contact the agency's Title VI Coordinator at (860) 4234-3035, or at deep.aoffice@ct.gov. Any person with a hearing impairment may call the State of Connecticut relay number - 711. Discrimination complaints may be filed with DEEP's Title VI Coordinator. Requests for accommodations must be made at least two weeks prior to any agency hearing, program or event.

DEEP WEEKLY Fishing Report



Connecticut Department of
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