



DECLARATION OF CLOSED AREAS TO FISHING

THERMAL REFUGE CLOSURE EXTENDED AT MOUTH OF FURNACE BROOK, A TRIBUTARY TO THE HOUSATONIC RIVER

Under Authority of section 26-102 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is authorized to establish fish refuge areas and may, if deemed necessary, close any waters, or portions thereof, in the inland district to fishing for limited periods of time. In accordance with the aforementioned authority, the following is declared, effective September 16, 2016:

Due to high water temperatures and low flows in the Housatonic River, thermally stressed fish including recreationally important trout continue to congregate at the mouth of Furnace Brook where cooler water is entering the Housatonic River. This area of the Housatonic River at and near the mouth of Furnace Brook has long been recognized as a major thermal refuge for trout and other species during the summer, and as provided for in section 26-112-46(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, has been closed to all fishing starting on June 15. The last day of this closure, however is September 15. To protect the fish that continue to congregate at the mouth of Furnace Brook from undue depletion by angling induced stress, the closure at this refuge shall be extended two weeks through September 29, inclusive.

This refuge includes all water within 100 feet of signs indicating such closures posted by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and is closed to all fishing. This closure shall remain in effect until September 29.

Sept 14, 2016
Date

Susan Winkler Deputy Commissioner
for
Robert J. Klee
Commissioner