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PRESS RELEASE

DEEP SEEKING OPINIONS ON CONNECTICUT'S WARM WATER FISHERIES JOIN A SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS IN MARCH

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) Fisheries Division is pleased to invite all those interested to attend one of the public discussions focused on the State's warm water recreational fisheries. The purpose of these meetings is to hear the public's ideas and concerns specific to recreational fishing for bass, pike, walleye, catfish, carp, or pan fish.

"Informed conversations between our passionate and loyal anglers and the Fisheries Division are essential to ensuring we are managing these fisheries in the most relevant and meaningful manner, consistent with the preferences and desires of the people we serve," said Pete Aarrestad, director of DEEP's Fisheries Division.

Each meeting begins with a brief presentation about the Fisheries Division's management of warm water fisheries and then expands to discussion on 4 key focal points related to warm water fisheries:

- What makes a good fishing trip?
- What is the Fisheries Division doing well?
- Where can the Fisheries Division improve?
- What actions could be taken to increase the number people fishing?

All are encouraged to attend and provide their perspectives. At the conclusion of the meetings, comments will be compiled and considered to help inform the Fisheries Division's development of a statewide warm water fisheries action plan.

To help determine the level of attendance and ensure sufficient accommodations for all, we are asking likely attendees to RSVP by calling the Fisheries Division at 860-424-3474 or by email to mike.beauchene@ct.gov. Doors open 30 minute prior to the start of each meeting.

DATES, TIME AND MEETING LOCATIONS:

Date	Time	Location/GPS address
03/09/2020	7-9 pm	Franklin Swamp Wildlife Management Area
		391 Route 32, North Franklin
3/12/2020	7-9 pm	Quinebaug Valley State Trout Hatchery
		114 Trout Hatchery Road, Plainfield
3/14/2020	3-5 pm	Kellogg Environmental Center
(Saturday)		500 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby
3/16/2020	7-9 pm	Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area
		341 Milford Road, Burlington
3/20/2020	7-9 pm	CT Forest and Park Association Headquarters
		16 Meriden Road, Middlefield

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