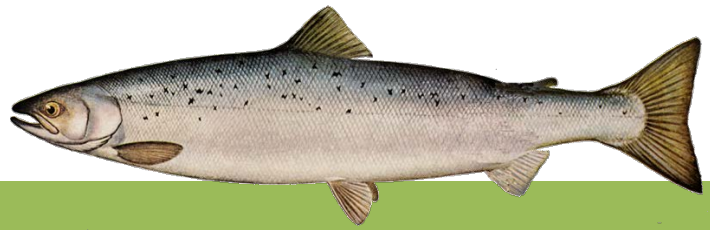


**CT DEEP** **2014**  
**FISHING REPORT NUMBER 29**  
**11/6/2014**



Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*)



YOU CAN FIND US DIRECTLY ON FACEBOOK. This page features a variety of information on fishing, hunting, and wildlife watching in Connecticut. The address is [www.facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife](http://www.facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife).



- **THIS IS THE FINAL REGULAR SEASON 2014 FISHING REPORT**  
(weekly reports will resume next spring).
- **OCCASIONAL REPORTS (ESPECIALLY DURING THE ICE FISHING SEASON) AND NOTES OF INTEREST WILL BE ISSUED AS NEEDED.**

**THANK YOU, HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND GOOD FISHING!**

## INLAND REPORT

**ATLANTIC SALMON - *Stocking Update* – 2014 broodstock Atlantic salmon stockings completed** - DEEP began spawning salmon at the Kensington Hatchery last week and approximately 160 spawned salmon are being week in the Naugatuck River (upper-40 fish, lower- 40 fish) and Shetucket River (80 fish). These fish are beautiful, ranging in size from 2 to 15 pounds, and average 8 pounds each.

**These stockings complete the 2014 stockings and bring the number of broodstock Atlantic salmon stocked this fall to nearly 1,250 fish** with Crystal Lake (125 salmon) Mount Tom Pond (137 salmon), the upper Naugatuck River (252 salmon), lower Naugatuck River (252 salmon) and Shetucket River (354 salmon) all stocked at least once this fall. Anglers are reminded that it's catch-and-release fishing in the Naugatuck, Shetucket and Housatonic rivers for Atlantic salmon until December 1, when the creel limit becomes one fish per day. *For a complete summary of broodstock Atlantic salmon fishing regulations, see page 4.*

**TROUT- RIVERS & STREAMS** - Conditions will be variable this weekend. Cool, partly sunny weather is forecast and flows are good for fishing, although many areas are below typical early November levels (see *stream flow graphic on page 4*). Some additional rain is in the forecast for Thursday night.

Anglers are reporting good fishing in the West Branch Farmington River and Housatonic River and fair fishing at the Naugatuck River, Shetucket River and Hammonasset River. Streamer anglers using 2X tippet are having some success (9 am-1 pm during low light periods/overcast days). This and nymphing typically dominate the early morning & late afternoon. For streamers try white, yellow and brown colors, patterns include Wooly Buggers, Muddlers, Micky Finn, Grey or Black Ghosts (#4-10). Try bottom bouncing nymphs with Tan and Winter Caddis pupa (#16-18), Serendipity (#14-16), Pheasant Tail (#12-20), Prince (#6-18) and Hare's ear (#8-20).

**Farmington River** - Fishing remains good. Flows are clear and moderate (currently 305 cfs at Riverton with the Still River adding another 68 cfs) and water temperatures are in the low 50's°F. Hatches/patterns include Blue Wing Olive (#20-26, dominant hatch), with *Isonychia* (#12-14-nymph, afternoon), Midges (#22-

32) and Caddis mixed in. For best action try Blue Wing Olives (#20-26, late morning) and Caddis (winter & tan #16-18, morning). Expect most of the action to be midday.

**Housatonic River** – Trout fishing has been good. Flows are clear and very comfortable for mid-autumn fishing, currently 688 cfs at Falls Village and 774 cfs at Gaylordsville. Morning water temperatures are currently in the low to mid 40's °F (warming in the afternoon). Hatches/patterns include Blue Wing Olive (#18-22, main hatch in the afternoon), Midges (#18-22) and Tan & Winter caddis (#14-18, early morning & late afternoon).

**Hatches/patterns:** Main hatches on the Housatonic are the Blue Wing Olive (#18-24, early morning; spinner fall in evening), *Isonychia* (#10-12 evening), Midges (#20-26) and Brown/tan caddis (#14-18, early morning & evening), Flying Ants (#14-18) and Light Cahill CDC (#12-14).

**TROUT-LAKES & PONDS** - Fall trout anglers are finding fair fishing at a number of lakes and ponds including Candlewood Lake, Squantz Pond, Beach Pond and East Twin Lake.

**ATLANTIC SALMON.** Catches reported from Beach Pond and Crystal Lake, also some action reported from the Naugatuck River.

**LARGEMOUTH BASS** fishing is generally slow (a number of lakes are also into fall turnover) but some fish are being caught. Reports are from East & West Twin Lakes, Bantam Lake, Candlewood Lake, Quaddick Lake, Lake Quonnipaug, Pachaug Pond and Gardner Lake. **Tournament angler** reports are from Candlewood Lake (tough fishing, with a 4.1 lb lunker) and the Connecticut River (slow/tough, nothing over 2 lbs).

**SMALLMOUTH BASS** fishing is also slow. At Candlewood Lake they've been really hard to find (fish aren't being found at all the usual spots. **Tournament angler** reports are from Candlewood Lake (very "spotty" action).

**CARP** are bulking up for the winter and providing some excellent action. Areas to try include Union Pond, Squantz Pond, Mirror Lake (Meriden), Lake Lillinonah and West Thompson Reservoir.

**NORTHERN PIKE** fall bite is producing many good size fish. Waters to find pike include Bantam Lake (those looking for a bit more adventure should go upstream and check out Little Pond – remember that it's no gas motors on the Bantam River), Pachaug Pond (and try some of the rest of the Pachaug River system downstream from Pachaug Pond), Mansfield Hollow Reservoir, Quaddick Lake and Winchester Lake.

**WALLEYE.** Steady action reported from Squantz Pond (dawn, dusk, and at night) and some catches also reported from Lake Saltonstall.

**BLACK CRAPPIE** are coming to net in Park Pond.

**PANFISH** are providing good mid-fall action, use worms, grubs, jigs or small poppers for them. Areas to try include Hatch Pond, Hodge Pond, Holbrook Pond, Hop Brook Lake, Little Pond (Thompson), Mamasasco

#### LAKE & POND BATHYMETRIC MAPS

Bathymetric maps of many of Connecticut's public access lakes and ponds can be found online at:

[www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/fishing/general\\_information/lakebathymetrymaps.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/fishing/general_information/lakebathymetrymaps.pdf)

Both plain line maps and maps overlaying an aerial photo available.



Lake, Maltby Lakes, McGovern Pond (West Hartford), Bishop Pond, Dog Pond, Stillwater Pond, Black Pond (Meriden), Halls Pond, Glasgo Pond and Gorton Pond. Get out and enjoy the last of the foliage.

### CONNECTICUT RIVER

The river is at typical early November levels (also remember it's a full-moon this week). Fishing in the mouth/lower river is slowing down for **STRIPED BASS** as the bait is moving out. Successful anglers are using plugs, cut bait, live lining bait fish and eels. **CATFISH** (good action) are still being caught throughout the river. **BLACK CRAPPIE** fishing has heated up, with plenty of action in the coves for anglers using small shiners. Use a small (1/4oz) jig in your presentation. **NORTHERN PIKE** have been providing some steady action. Fish have been found in the coves, and from Harbor Park (Middletown) down river to the Salmon River (3-4 inch shiners and some Sebile lures have been working). **SMALLMOUTH BASS** fishing in the upper river is on the slow side, but anglers are catching some. **LARGEMOUTH BASS** fishing has been tough. **CARP** fishing has been good to very good, with some chunky fish coming in.

### NOTES & NOTICES:

**BASHAN LAKE** The drawdown of Bashan Lake for dam repairs is ongoing. Bashan Lake will be drawn down until the lake water level is down approximately 16 feet (currently the lake is approximately 10 feet down).

**BESECK LAKE** Some refill is ongoing but the lake remains drawn down approximately 9-10 feet.

**WINTER DRAWDOWNS (eastern CT)...** "Winter" drawdowns of **Ashland Pond**, **Lower Bolton Lake**, **Middle Bolton Lake**, **Gardner Lake**, **Hopeville Pond**, and **Mashapaug Lake** have begun.

**GLASGO POND.** Glasgo Pond is still down several feet but refill is ongoing. Launching of boats may be difficult.

**HIGHLAND LAKE.** An 8 foot drawdown of Highland Lake began October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**MIANUS RIVER.** The lower parking lot (below the red barn) in Mianus River Park has been closed for renovations of that area by the City of Stamford. The project is reportedly expected to be completed before the end of 2014.

**TYLER POND.** A 3 foot drawdown is ongoing.

**LAKE LILLINONAH & LAKE ZOAR DRAWDOWNS.** Lake Zoar is currently drawn down with refilling scheduled to begin November 9<sup>th</sup>. Lake Lillinonah is currently scheduled to be drawn down beginning November 10<sup>th</sup> and ending November 16<sup>th</sup>. During these drawdowns, launching of trailer boats will be difficult to impossible at the state boat launches.

**FISHING SEASONS.** Anglers are reminded that the fishing season has closed at several lakes and ponds scattered throughout the state, most notably **LAKE WONOSKOPOMUC**, **GREEN FALLS RESERVOIR**, **BATTERSON PARK POND** and **SHENIPSIT RESERVOIR**.

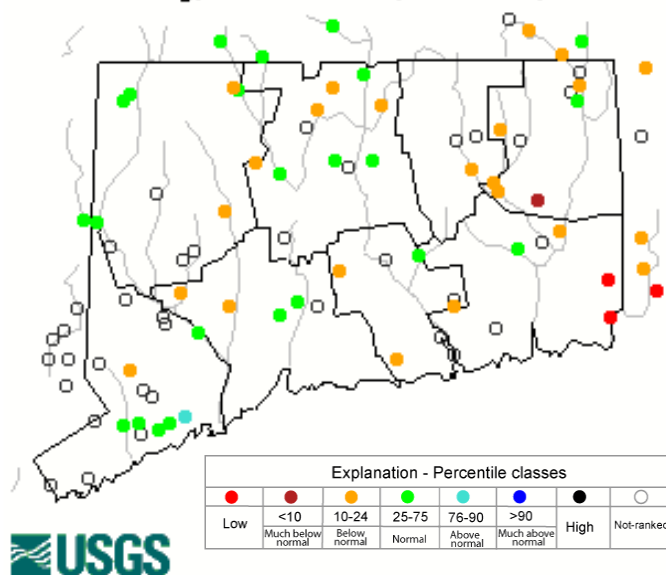
Additionally, the fishing season at a number of areas including **BUNNELLS POND** (Beardsley Park), **GREAT HOLLOW POND** (Wolfe Park), **LAKE MCDONOUGH**, the **MALTBY LAKES**, **LAKE SALTONSTALL**, **MOHEGAN PARK POND** (Spaulding Pond, Norwich), **LAKE CHAMBERLAIN** and most designated "children's areas" will close after **November 30** and **SAUGATUCK RESERVOIR** will close after **December 31<sup>st</sup>**. *(Please refer to the 2014 CT Angler's Guide for complete regulations).*

### Atlantic salmon fishing regulations and areas summary

- **Regulations for Atlantic salmon on the Shetucket and Naugatuck Rivers.** In the Naugatuck, Housatonic and Shetucket Rivers, from September 1 through November 30, angling for Atlantic salmon is restricted to **catch-and-release only**. From December 1, 2014, through March 31, 2015, the daily creel limit for Atlantic salmon will be 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. Also, from October 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, fishing for other species in the designated Atlantic Salmon “Broodstock” Areas is restricted to the gear legal for Atlantic salmon.
- 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 typically 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 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, fishing for other species in these designated Atlantic Salmon Broodstock Areas is restricted to the gear legal for Atlantic salmon.
- The regulations for 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 2014 CT Angler’s Guide for trout regulations).

### Stream flow conditions as of 11/6/2014

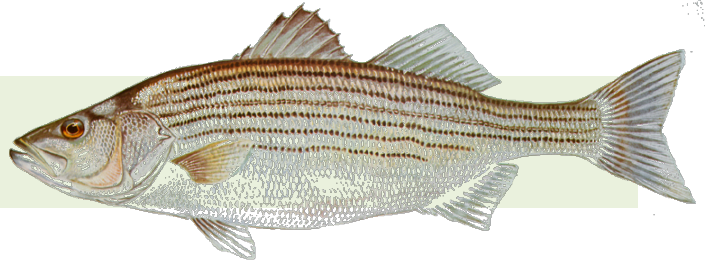
Thursday, November 06, 2014 17:30ET



Data in the state graphic to the left are generated by the United States Geologic Survey (USGS) and are available on line at: <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ct/nwis/rt>. A percentile is a value on a scale of one hundred that indicates the percent of data in the data set equal to or below it. For example streamflow greater than the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile means only ¼ of the streamflow values were above the value and thus would be considered “above normal”. Stream flow between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> are considered to be “normal flows” and those 25<sup>th</sup> or less are considered to be “below normal”.

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## MARINE FISHING REPORT



Surface water temperatures in Long Island Sound (LIS) are in the high 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://marine.rutgers.edu/mrs/sat_data/?nothumbs=1)

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/>

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

**STRIPED BASS** fishing is good for schoolies in the lower tidal rivers. Keeper size stripers can still be caught on the local reefs but that has slowed down. **BLUEFISH** fishing has cooled off after the weekend nor'easter. The mouths of the Thames, Connecticut, and the Housatonic Rivers during flood tide may be your best bet for both stripers and blues. Other fishing spots include the Watch Hill reefs, Ram Island Reef in Fishers Island Sound, the Race, Sluiceway, Pigeon Rip, Plum Gut, outer Bartlett Reef, Black Point, the "humps" south of Hatchett Reef, Long Sand Shoal, Cornfield Point, Southwest Reef (outer), Sixmile Reef, Falkner Island area, the reefs off Branford, New Haven Harbor, Charles Island area, buoys 18 and 20 off Stratford Point, Stratford Shoal/Middle Ground, Penfield Reef, around the Norwalk Islands, and Cable and Anchor Reef.

**HICKORY SHAD** fishing is fair to good in the lower Connecticut River (DEEP Marine Headquarters fishing pier), Lieutenant River, and Black Hall River.

**SCUP** (porgy) and **BLACK SEA BASS** fishing has slowed down as fish start their migration to offshore overwintering grounds. Scup can still be caught on the local reefs and black sea bass in deeper (90+ feet) water.

**TAUTOG** (blackfish) fishing is good. Try fishing areas off the beaten path instead of the popular reefs in order to improve your chances.

**LITTLE TUNNY** and **ATLANTIC BONITO** fishing is spotty but they are still hanging around in eastern LIS in the Watch Hill area, the Race, and around Bartlett Reef.

### MORE SPECIAL NOTES & REMINDERS

*This is the best time of year for shore anglers to hit our coastal state parks for excellent fall fishing action! To find a saltwater shore fishing spot close to where you live, go to the following website:*

<http://www.lisrc.uconn.edu/coastalaccess/>.

*In addition, Enhanced Opportunity Shore Fishing sites and other fishing information including a site map go to the following website <http://www.depdata.ct.gov/maps/saltwaterfish/map.htm>.*

*Please refer to page 60 of the 2014 CT Angler's Guide for [Connecticut Tides](#).*

### DEEP WEEKLY Fishing Report



Connecticut Department of  
**ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106  
[www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep)

Striped Bass image courtesy Duane Raver/USFWS.