

**CT DEEP 2014  
FISHING REPORT NUMBER 28  
10/30/2014**



Walleye (*Sander vitreus*)



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## INLAND REPORT

**TROUT- RIVERS & STREAMS** - Conditions will be variable for anglers this weekend, with Sunday the better day for weather. There are plenty of fall stocked trout out there waiting for anglers. Recent rains enhanced flow throughout the state, but it's again a tale of two states, with flows at or above typical late October/early November levels in western CT, and flows again below (in some cases, well below) typical levels in eastern CT (*see stream flow graphic on page 4*).

Streamers (#2-12) on 2X tippet (9 am-1 pm during low light periods/overcast days) and nymphing are being used by many anglers, with the best times in the early morning & late evening. For streamers try white, yellow and brown colors; and for patterns, try White Woolly Buggers, Muddlers, Micky Finn, Grey or Black Ghosts (#4-10). Mid-day, try bottom bouncing nymphs with Caddis pupa (#14-16), Serendipity (#14-16), Pheasant Tail (#12-20), Prince (#6-18), Golden Stoneflies (#8) and Hare's ear (#8-20). Fair to good reports last week from the West Branch Farmington River, Farmington River, Housatonic River (early last week before the rain) and Saugatuck River.

**Farmington River** - Fishing's been variable but conditions should be fairly good for the weekend, with clear, very fishable flows (currently 201 cfs at Riverton with the Still River then adding another 84 cfs) and morning water temperatures in the low 50's°F.

**Hatches/patterns:** The bugs consist of *Isonychia* (#12-14, parachute style), Blue Wing Olives (#20-26, mid-late afternoon), Caddis (tan #16-18, all day; brown #16-18), Black Ants (#14-18), Midges (#16-22, morning) and Rusty Spinner (#14-24, morning).

**Housatonic River** – Conditions should be good for the weekend (with the better weather forecast for Sunday). Flows remain on the high side but are clearing and have dropped to comfortable levels for fishing, currently 867 cfs at Falls Village and 1,050 cfs at Gaylordsville, and there are plenty of holdover trout and recently stocked trout in the river. Morning water temperatures are now in the mid 40's°F.

### 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.



**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** - Mixed reports from anglers as fall patterns set up. Some action reported from East Twin Lake, Crystal Lake (Ellington; in 2-3 feet of water near the outlet into Crystal Lake Brook), West Hill Pond (near the spillway), Mashapaug Lake and Beach Pond (near the beach).

**ATLANTIC SALMON.** Few reports this week. *For a summary of Atlantic salmon fishing regulations see page 4.*

**LARGEMOUTH BASS** fishing is reported as slow to fair in many areas. Fall turnover is occurring in some water bodies, target suspended fish over deeper water using jigs (1 oz). The outside edges of weed lines are holding some fish over 5 lbs. Waters to try include East Twin Lake (fish up to 6 plus lbs), Wononskopomuc Lake, Lake Lillinonah, Candlewood Lake, Crystal Lake, Silver Lake and West Hill Pond. **Tournament angler** reports are from Gardner Lake (fair, with a 4.69 lunker but not much of any size), Mashapaug Lake (slow to fair at best for most, with a 2.4 lb lunker), Pachaug Pond (mostly a slower bite, but the lunker was a 6.56 beast caught by Ed Kohl – East Lyme) and Candlewood Lake (slow bite for many, 5.20 lb, 4.09 lb and 2.67 lb lunkers).

**SMALLMOUTH BASS** are reported at Lake Lillinonah, Candlewood Lake and West Hill Pond. **Tournament angler** reports are from Gardner Lake (hardly a smallmouth to be found), Mashapaug Lake (a few) and Candlewood Lake (tough days for some, fair for others, lunkers included 3.89 lb and 3.71 lb fish).

**NORTHERN PIKE** fall bite is producing many good size fish, places to try include Lake Lillinonah, Bantam Lake, the Mattabasset River, Winchester Lake and Pachaug Pond.

**CATFISH** are being caught at Mohegan Park Pond, Lake Wintergreen and Silver Lake (Berlin/Meriden).

**PANFISH** are providing mid-fall time action. Use worms, grubs, jigs or small poppers for them. Areas to try include Savin Lake, the Semour Reservoirs, Lake Hayward, Uncas Lake, Moodus Reservoir, Roseland Lake, Zemko Pond, Zeiner Pond, Dodge Pond, Dooley Pond, Keney Park Pond, Park Pond, Halls Pond, Lake of Isles, Kenosia Lake, Dog Pond, Griggs Pond, Winchester Lake, Black Pond (Woodstock), Silver Lake (Berlin/Meriden), Wood Creek Pond, Bigelow Pond and Bishop Pond.

**WALLEYE** DEEP completed its 2014 walleye fingerling stockings this week. These fish are 4-6 inch fish obtained from a hatchery in Minnesota. Approximately 32,500 fingerling walleye were released into Batterson Park Pond, Beach Pond, Cedar Lake, Gardner Lake, Mashapaug Lake, Mount Tom Pond, Squantz Pond, West Thompson Lake and Lake Zoar. Another 13,150 fingerlings were stocked into Saugatuck Reservoir, Lake Saltonstall and Lake Pocotopaug. The fish released into these three lakes were purchased by Aquarion Water Company, South Central Connecticut Water Authority and the town of East Hampton and stocked by DEEP. The fish released this fall should reach keep-able size in three to four years.



**FIND TROUT STOCKING MAPS ON OUR WEBSITE**

Maps of all of the state's trout streams and rivers showing the many stocking and access points are available online at

[www.ct.gov/deep/troutstockingmaps](http://www.ct.gov/deep/troutstockingmaps).

## CONNECTICUT RIVER

The river has dropped to more comfortable levels since last week's rains, but is still on the turbid side and above typical late October levels. **PANFISH** action was good last week in back areas of coves (using small shiners works well). Some **LARGEMOUTH BASS** are being caught in the coves, the Haddam Meadows area and the Middletown area but anglers have to work for them. The mouth of the Mattabasset River has been productive. **SMALLMOUTH BASS** are being caught north of Hartford. **NORTHERN PIKE** fishing was reported as good to very good (with pike up to 39 inches reported). Fish can be found in Middletown (Harbor Park), and in the Haddam Meadows/Salmon River Cove area. **CHANNEL CATFISH** (20, 22, 28 & 29 inch fish) are providing anglers with some good action as they respond to chunk & cut-bait on the outside edges of the channel and in the coves. Try Hartford to Portland for some action.

## 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.

**BOAT LAUNCH CLOSURES (Candlewood Lake & Squantz Pond).** The **Squantz Cove state boat launch** on Candlewood Lake and the **Squantz Pond state boat launch** on Squantz Pond are currently scheduled to be closed on Wednesday, November 5 for striping (line painting).

**WINTER DRAWDOWNS (eastern CT)...** "Winter" drawdowns of **Ashland Pond, Lower Bolton Lake, Middle Bolton Lake, Gardner Lake, Hopeville Pond, and Mashapaug Lake** will begin late this week.

**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 ZOAR.** Lake Zoar is currently scheduled to be drawn down starting November 1<sup>st</sup> (**this weekend**) 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 tomorrow, Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, is the last day of the fishing season at several lakes and ponds scattered throughout the state, most notably **LAKE WONOSKOPOMUC, GREEN FALLS RESERVOIR, BATTERSON PARK POND** and **SHENIPSIT RESERVOIR**. Please refer to the 2014 CT Angler's Guide for additional locations.

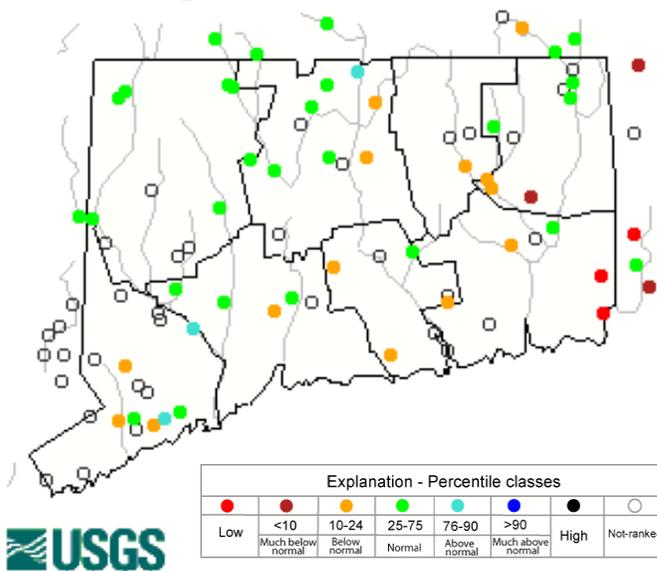
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**Atlantic salmon fishing regulations and areas summary**

- **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 10/30/2014**

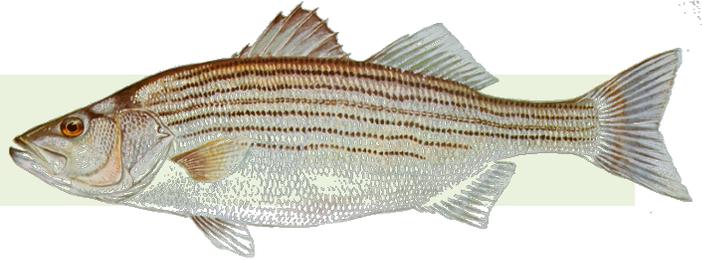
Thursday, October 30, 2014 19:00ET



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 low 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://marine.rutgers.edu/mrs/sat_data/?nothumbs=1)

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

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

**STRIPED BASS** fishing has improved as school bass migrate into the estuaries and tidal rivers. Larger stripers can still be caught on the local reefs and rip areas. Live eels or bunker (Atlantic menhaden) on three-way or slider rigs have been the ticket.

**BLUEFISH** fishing is also good with some bruisers weighing in the upper teens being reported! Fishing spots include the Watch Hill reefs, Ram Island Reef in Fishers Island Sound, lower Thames River, the Race, Sluiceway, Pigeon Rip, Plum Gut, outer Bartlett Reef, Black Point, the "humps" south of Hatchett Reef, lower Connecticut River, Long Sand Shoal, Cornfield Point, Southwest Reef (outer), Sixmile Reef, Falkner Island area, the reefs off Branford, New Haven Harbor, Charles Island area, lower Housatonic River, buoys 18 and 20 off Stratford Point, Stratford Shoal/Middle Ground, Penfield Reef, around the Norwalk Islands, and Cable and Anchor Reef. **SNAPPER BLUEFISH** fishing has slowed down but there are some stragglers around.

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

**SCUP** (porgy) and **BLACK SEA BASS** fishing is good to excellent throughout LIS. Time is slipping away so the time to go is now!

**TAUTOG** (blackfish) fishing is good to excellent. Any of the rocky reefs, rock piles, and wrecks in LIS will hold tog.

**LITTLE TUNNY** and **ATLANTIC BONITO** fishing is spotty in eastern LIS. Fishing areas worth trying include the Watch Hill area, the Race, and off 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**

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[www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep)

Striped Bass image courtesy Duane Raver/USFWS.