



# Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

## 2023 MARINE FISHERIES TROPHY FISH AWARD PROGRAM SUMMARY

**Fishing...**  
**Represents some of the best**  
**moments with Family & Friends**



# 2023 MARINE FISHERIES TROPHY FISH AWARD PROGRAM SUMMARY



This program recognizes & rewards successful anglers. Categories are: **Youth** (female & male), **Adult** (female & male).

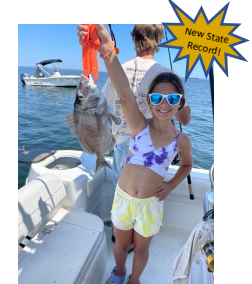
### A few things to keep in mind when navigating

--**State Record Harvested Fish** (red color) is the heaviest (weight) harvested fish of any species.

--**Catch & Release State Record** (green) is the longest (length) fish of any species.

--**Womens Trophy Fish Record** (blue) is the largest fish in the womens category, either harvested or caught & released.

--**Youth Trophy Fish Record** (purple) is the largest fish in the youth category, either harvested or caught & released.



## Adult Awards (Male)

Name	Species	Harvest	Catch & Release	Date	Location Caught	Method	WtLB	WtOz	Length	Awards/Records
David Howard	Bluefish	Harvest		6/20/23	The Race	Bait Cast Fishing	12	15		Bronze Pin
Steward Adams	Bluefish	Harvest		6/24/23	Connecticut River	Spin Fishing	14	0	37.00	
Daniel Hripak	Bluefish	Harvest		11/12/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	14	6	36.00	Gold Pin
Stephen Stella	Bluefish		Catch & Release	5/31/23	Milford	Bottom Fishing			32.00	Silver Pin
Jonathan Cash	Bluefish		Catch & Release	6/7/23	Fishers Island	Bottom Fishing			33.40	Bronze Pin
Mark Alimena	Bluefish		Catch & Release	7/13/23	Stamford Harbor	Bait Cast Fishing			32.00	Silver Pin
Salvatore Dziekan	Bluefish		Catch & Release	7/22/23	The Race	Bottom Fishing			35.00	Bronze Pin
Lee P. Landry	Bluefish		Catch & Release	8/20/23	Off of Westbrook	Trolling			32.00	Bronze Pin
Mark Fiorentino	Bluefish		Catch & Release	8/26/23	The Race	Bottom Fishing			35.00	Bronze Pin
Peter Johnson	Bluefish		Catch & Release	8/27/23	Off of Stratford	Spin Fishing			33.00	Gold Pin
Lee P. Landry	Bluefish		Catch & Release	9/4/23	Off of Westbrook	Trolling			34.00	Bronze Pin
Lee P. Landry	Bluefish		Catch & Release	9/4/23	Off of Westbrook	Trolling			34.00	Bronze Pin
JD Moorman	Bluefish		Catch & Release	9/4/23	Off of Westbrook	Trolling			33.50	Bronze Pin
Will Carta	Bluefish		Catch & Release	9/4/23	Off of Westbrook	Trolling			32.00	Bronze Pin
Will Carta	Bluefish		Catch & Release	9/6/23	Off of Westbrook	Trolling			33.00	Bronze Pin
Alex Erdmann	Bluefish		Catch & Release	9/8/23	Groton	Bottom Fishing			37.00	Gold Pin
Blake Antrim	Bluefish		Catch & Release	10/11/23	New Haven Harbor	Spin Fishing	12	0	32.50	Bronze Pin
Mark Alimena	Bluefish		Catch & Release	10/17/23	Bouy 32, Stamford	Spin Fishing			32.00	Gold Pin
Derek Williams	Weakfish	Harvest		5/18/23	Long Island Sound	Spin Fishing	5	0	24.50	Silver Pin
Salvatore Dziekan	Weakfish	Harvest		5/21/23	Branford River	Spin Fishing	5	2	24.00	Bronze Pin
Mark Alimena	Weakfish	Harvest		6/7/23	Bouy 32A, Stamford	Bait Cast Fishing	7	0	26.00	Bronze Pin
Stephen Stella	Weakfish	Harvest		6/14/23	Milford	Bottom Fishing	5	2	24.20	Silver Pin
Richard Conklin	Weakfish	Harvest		9/14/23	Off of Westport	Bottom Fishing	8	0	30.00	Bronze Pin
Daniel Hripak	Weakfish		Catch & Release	9/17/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			24.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Weakfish		Catch & Release	9/20/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			24.00	Silver Pin
Mark Alimena	Weakfish		Catch & Release	10/4/23	Bouy 32, Stamford	Bait Cast Fishing			23.00	Silver Pin
Mark Alimena	Weakfish		Catch & Release	10/4/23	Bouy 32, Stamford	Bait Cast Fishing			25.50	Silver Pin
Mark Alimena	Weakfish		Catch & Release	10/5/23	Bouy 32, Stamford	Bait Cast Fishing			25.00	Silver Pin
Mark Alimena	Weakfish		Catch & Release	10/5/23	Bouy 32, Stamford	Bait Cast Fishing			24.50	Silver Pin
Mark Alimena	Weakfish		Catch & Release	10/5/23	Bouy 32, Stamford	Bait Cast Fishing			23.50	Silver Pin
Mark Alimena	Weakfish		Catch & Release	10/5/23	Bouy 32, Stamford	Bait Cast Fishing			23.00	Silver Pin

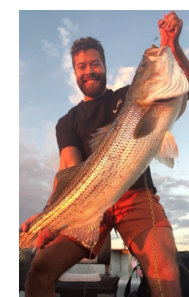
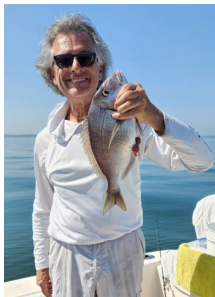
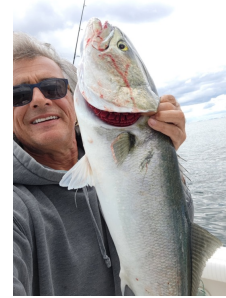


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## Adult Awards (Male) Continued

Name	Species	Harvest	Catch & Release	Date	Location Caught	Method	WtLB	WtOz	Length	Awards/Records
Kenny Gray	Tautog	Harvest		10/15/23	New London Beach	Bottom Fishing	13	15	28.00	Bronze Pin
Daniel Hripak	Tautog	Harvest		10/30/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	9	8	24.00	Gold Pin
Scott Waterman	Tautog	Harvest		11/4/23	New London Harbor	Bottom Fishing	13	4	27.00	Bronze Pin
John Procopio	Tautog		Catch & Release	4/17/23	Off of Milford	Bait Cast Fishing	10	14	35.00	Bronze Pin
Daniel Hripak	Tautog		Catch & Release	4/25/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	9	3	25.50	Bronze Pin
Peter Johnson	Tautog		Catch & Release	7/2/23	Off of Stratford	Bottom Fishing			22.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Tautog		Catch & Release	7/4/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			22.25	Bronze Pin
Daniel Hripak	Tautog		Catch & Release	10/19/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			22.00	Silver Pin
<b>Aiden Cole</b>	<b>Tautog</b>		<b>Catch &amp; Release</b>	<b>10/25/23</b>	<b>Thames River</b>	<b>Bottom Fishing</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>36.00</b>	<b>Gold Pin (Catch and Release State Record)</b>
Mark Alimena	Tautog		Catch & Release	11/2/23	Stamford Harbor	Live Bait			23.00	Gold Pin
Tobey Sweet	Tautog		Catch & Release	11/5/23	Sara's Ledge	Bottom Fishing	11	4	25.75	Silver Pin
Guy Hesketh	Tautog		Catch & Release	11/11/23	Off of Groton	Bait Cast Fishing	10	8	25.00	Bronze Pin
<b>Joseph Jackson</b>	<b>Striped Bass</b>		<b>Catch &amp; Release</b>	<b>6/1/23</b>	<b>Pine Creek Point</b>	<b>Spin Fishing</b>			<b>54.00</b>	<b>Gold Pin (Ties Catch and Release State Record)</b>
Derek Williams	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	6/17/23	Connecticut River	Live Bait			45.50	Silver Pin
David Howard	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	6/20/23	The Race	Bait Cast Fishing	34	0	45.00	Bronze Pin
Ronald Gombos	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	6/20/23	Connecticut River	Bottom Fishing	38	0	45.00	Bronze Pin
Derek Williams	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	6/23/23	Connecticut River	Live Bait			47.25	Gold Pin
Blake Antrim	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	6/25/23	Connecticut River	Live Bait	45	0	48.00	Bronze Pin
John Durham Jr.	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	6/25/23	Connecticut River	Live Bait			48.00	Bronze Pin
Ron Gombos	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	8/10/23	Old Saybrook	Spin Fishing	38	0	46.00	Bronze Pin
Will Bass	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	10/24/23	Menuketisuck Island	Spin Fishing			45.00	Bronze Pin
Shawn LaLond	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	7/22/23	Off of Stratford	Bottom Fishing			21.00	Gold Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	8/20/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	3	9	21.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	8/31/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	3	15	22.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	9/14/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			20.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	9/21/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			20.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	10/24/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			20.50	Gold Pin



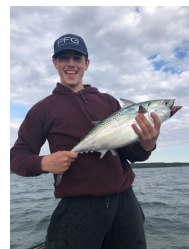
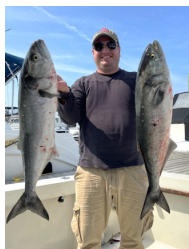
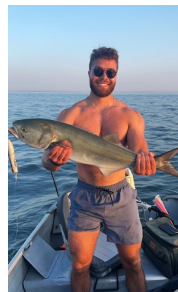
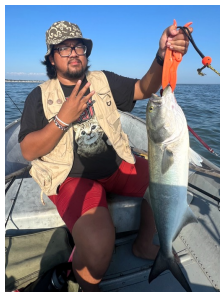


# 2023 MARINE FISHERIES TROPHY FISH AWARD PROGRAM SUMMARY



## Adult Awards (Male) Continued

Name	Species	Harvest	Catch & Release	Date	Location Caught	Method	WtLB	WtOz	Length	Awards/Records
Mark Alimena	Scup	Harvest		5/22/23	Buoy 32A, Stamford	Bottom Fishing	2	8	16.00	Bronze Pin
Mark Alimena	Scup	Harvest		6/1/23	Buoy 32A, Stamford	Bottom Fishing	2	8	16.50	Bronze Pin
Lew Hutchinson	Scup	Harvest		6/9/23	Off of Old Saybrook	Bottom Fishing	2	9	18.00	Bronze Pin
Lee P. Landry	Scup		Catch & Release	7/9/23	Crane Reef	Bottom Fishing			16.00	Bronze Pin
Daniel Hripak	Scup		Catch & Release	8/20/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	2	3	16.00	Bronze Pin
Connor Gerardi	Longfin Squid		Catch & Release	5/7/23	Watch Hill	Bottom Fishing			11.50	Bronze Pin
Connor Gerardi	Longfin Squid		Catch & Release	5/7/23	Watch Hill	Bottom Fishing			13.00	Bronze Pin
Connor Gerardi	Longfin Squid		Catch & Release	5/7/23	Watch Hill	Bottom Fishing			10.50	Bronze Pin
Connor Gerardi	Longfin Squid		Catch & Release	5/7/23	Watch Hill	Bottom Fishing			12.00	Bronze Pin
Owen Wilson	Little Tunny	Harvest		10/10/23	Long Island Sound	Spin Fishing	5	8	26.00	Bronze Pin
Peter Johnson	Little Tunny		Catch & Release	10/1/23	Off of Stratford	Spin Fishing			24.00	Gold Pin
Sebastian Vernali	Little Tunny		Catch & Release	10/13/23	Off of Old Lyme	Spin Fishing			24.50	Silver Pin
<b>William Proulx</b>	<b>Summer Flounder</b>	<b>Harvest</b>		<b>6/8/23</b>	<b>Niantic</b>	<b>Bottom Fishing</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>32.63</b>	<b>Gold Pin (State Record Harvested Fish)</b>
John A. Wallace	Summer Flounder	Harvest		6/30/23	Montauk	Bottom Fishing	9	0	27.00	Gold Pin
Shawn LaLond	Oyster Toadfish		Catch & Release	7/23/23	Off of Stratford	Bottom Fishing			12.00	Gold Pin
Daniel Hripak	Oyster Toadfish		Catch & Release	10/15/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			14.00	Silver Pin
Peter Johnson	Striped Sea Robin		Catch & Release	8/27/23	Off of Stratford	Bottom Fishing			15.50	Silver Pin
Peter Johnson	Striped Sea Robin		Catch & Release	8/27/23	Off of Stratford	Bottom Fishing			16.00	Silver Pin
Alex Shiue	Northern Kingfish	Harvest		8/18/23	Stamford Harbor	Bottom Fishing	1	1	16.00	Bronze Pin
Darryl Allen	Roughtail Stingray		Catch & Release	9/10/23	Atlantic Ocean	Bottom Fishing			77.00	Bronze Pin
John Kollar	Searun Brook Trout		Catch & Release	3/27/23	Saugatuck River	Spin Fishing			16.00	Bronze Pin
<b>Al Zuppe</b>	<b>Smooth Puffer</b>		<b>Catch &amp; Release</b>	<b>10/11/23</b>	<b>New London Stratford Point</b>	<b>Bottom Fishing</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>26.25</b>	<b>Gold Pin (Catch and Release State Record)</b>
Blake Antrim	Spanish Mackerel		Catch & Release	9/4/23	Off of Milford	Spin Fishing			18.50	Bronze Pin





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## Adult Awards (Female)

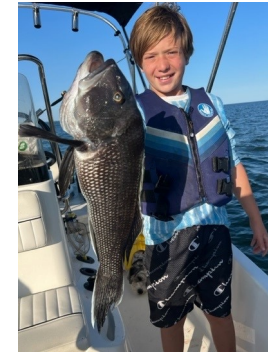
Name	Species	Harvest	Catch & Release	Date	Location Caught	Method	WtLB	WtOz	Length	Awards/Records
Cheri Westbrook	Chub Mackerel	Harvest		8/24/23	Niantic Bay	Bottom Fishing	2	0.3	17.00	Gold Pin (Women's Harvest Record)

## Youth Awards

Name	Species	Harvest	Catch & Release	Date	Location Caught	Method	WtLB	WtOz	Length	Awards/Records
Adrian Swietek	Bluefish	Harvest		7/23/23	Off of Stratford	Trolling	12	8	33.50	Bronze Pin
Colton Johnson	Bluefish		Catch & Release	5/31/23	Off of Stratford	Spin Fishing			35.00	Silver Pin
Colton Johnson	Bluefish		Catch & Release	5/31/23	Off of Stratford	Spin Fishing			32.00	Silver Pin
Oakley Johnson	Bluefish		Catch & Release	6/19/23		Live Bait			35.00	Gold Pin (Youth Female Catch and Release State Record)
Colton Johnson	Bluefish		Catch & Release	8/26/23	Off of Stratford	Bottom Fishing			33.00	Gold Pin
Colton Johnson	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	9/4/23	Stratford Point	Spin Fishing			49.50	Gold Pin (Youth Catch and Release State Record)
Oakley Johnson	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	6/19/23	Stratford Point	Live Bait			43.00	Gold Pin (Youth Female Catch and Release State Record)
Nicholas Dietz	Black Sea Bass	Harvest		8/23/23	Off of Branford	Bottom Fishing	5	6	25.00	Bronze Pin
Jackson Biroscak	Northern Kingfish		Catch & Release	6/16/23	Gulf Beach	Live Bait			13.75	Gold Pin (Youth Catch and Release State Record)
Oakley Johnson	Scup		Catch & Release	7/23/23	Stratford Point	Bottom Fishing			16.75	Gold Pin (Youth Female Catch and Release State Record)
Bob Harenda	Summer Flounder	Harvest		6/14/23	Six Mile Reef	Bottom Fishing	6	13	25.00	Bronze Pin

## Exotic Marine Species

Name	Species	Harvest	Catch & Release	Date	Location Caught	Method	WtLB	WtOz	Length	Awards/Records
Jonathan Rogers	Barracuda	Harvest		8/3/23	Montauk	Trolling	19	0	48.00	Gold Pin (State Record Harvested Fish)





# 2023 MARINE FISHERIES TROPHY FISH AWARD PROGRAM SUMMARY



## Daniel Hripak: 2023 Male Angler of the Year

Name	Species	Harvest	Catch & Release	Date	Location Caught	Method	WtLB	WtOz	Length	Awards/Records
Daniel Hripak	Bluefish	Harvest		11/12/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	14	6	36.00	Gold Pin
Daniel Hripak	Weakfish		Catch & Release	9/17/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			24.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Weakfish		Catch & Release	9/20/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			24.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Tautog	Harvest		10/30/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	9	8	24.00	Gold Pin
Daniel Hripak	Tautog		Catch & Release	4/25/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	9	3	25.50	Bronze Pin
Daniel Hripak	Tautog		Catch & Release	7/4/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			22.25	Bronze Pin
Daniel Hripak	Tautog		Catch & Release	10/19/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			22.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	8/20/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	3	9	21.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	8/31/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	3	15	22.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	9/14/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			20.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	9/21/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			20.00	Silver Pin
Daniel Hripak	Black Sea Bass		Catch & Release	10/24/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			20.50	Gold Pin
Daniel Hripak	Scup		Catch & Release	8/20/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing	2	3	16.00	Bronze Pin
Daniel Hripak	Oyster Toadfish		Catch & Release	10/15/23	Off of Bridgeport	Bottom Fishing			14.00	Silver Pin

## Colton Johnson: 2023 Male Youth Angler of the Year

Name	Species	Harvest	Catch & Release	Date	Location Caught	Method	WtLB	WtOz	Length	Awards/Records
Colton Johnson	Bluefish		Catch & Release	5/31/23	Off of Stratford	Spin Fishing			35.00	Silver Pin
Colton Johnson	Bluefish		Catch & Release	5/31/23	Off of Stratford	Spin Fishing			32.00	Silver Pin
Colton Johnson	Bluefish		Catch & Release	8/26/23	Off of Stratford	Bottom Fishing			33.00	Gold Pin
Colton Johnson	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	9/4/23	Stratford Point	Spin Fishing			49.50	Gold Pin (Youth Catch and Release State Record)

## Oakley Johnson: 2023 Female Youth Angler of the Year

Name	Species	Harvest	Catch & Release	Date	Location Caught	Method	WtLB	WtOz	Length	Awards/Records
Oakley Johnson	Bluefish		Catch & Release	6/19/23	Stratford Point	Live Bait			35.00	Gold Pin (Youth Female Catch and Release State Record)
Oakley Johnson	Striped Bass		Catch & Release	6/19/23	Stratford Point	Live Bait			43.00	Gold Pin (Youth Female Catch and Release State Record)
Oakley Johnson	Scup		Catch & Release	7/23/23	Stratford Point	Bottom Fishing			16.75	Gold Pin (Youth Female Catch and Release State Record)





# 2023 MARINE FISHERIES TROPHY FISH AWARD PROGRAM SUMMARY



## Number of Species by Category

Species	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth	Total
Bluefish	18	0	5	23
Weakfish	13	0	0	13
Tautog	12	0	0	12
Striped Bass	9	0	2	11
Black Sea Bass	6	0	1	7
Scup	5	0	1	6
Longfin Squid	4	0	0	4
Little Tunny (False Albacore)	3	0	0	3
Summer Flounder	2	0	1	3
Oyster Toadfish	2	0	0	2
Striped Searobin	2	0	0	2
Northern Kingfish	1	0	1	2
Roughtail Stingray	1	0	0	1
Smooth Puffer	1	0	0	1
Searun Brook Trout	1	0	0	1
Atlantic Chub Mackerel	0	1	0	1
Spanish Mackerel	1	0	0	1
Barracuda	1	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>94</b>

### New State Records!

#### Harvested

1. William Proulx - Summer Flounder: 15lb 4.8oz
2. Jonathan Rogers - Barracuda: 19lb

#### Catch & Release

1. Aiden Cole - Tautog: 36in
2. Joseph Jackson - Striped Bass: 55in
3. Al Zuppe - Smooth Puffer: 26.25in

### New Trophy Fish Records!

#### Youth

1. Colton Johnson - Striped Bass (Catch and Release): 49.5in
2. Oakley Johnson - Striped Bass (Female Catch and Release): 43in
3. Oakley Johnson - Bluefish (Female Catch and Release): 35in
4. Oakley Johnson - Scup (Female Catch and Release): 16.75in
5. Jackson Biroscak - Northern Kingfish (Catch and Release): 13.75

#### Women's

1. Cheri Westbrook - Atlantic Chub Mackerel: 2lb .03oz

### Anglers who participated in the Trophy Fish Award Program will receive:

1. A Certificate of Merit
2. A Lapel Pin



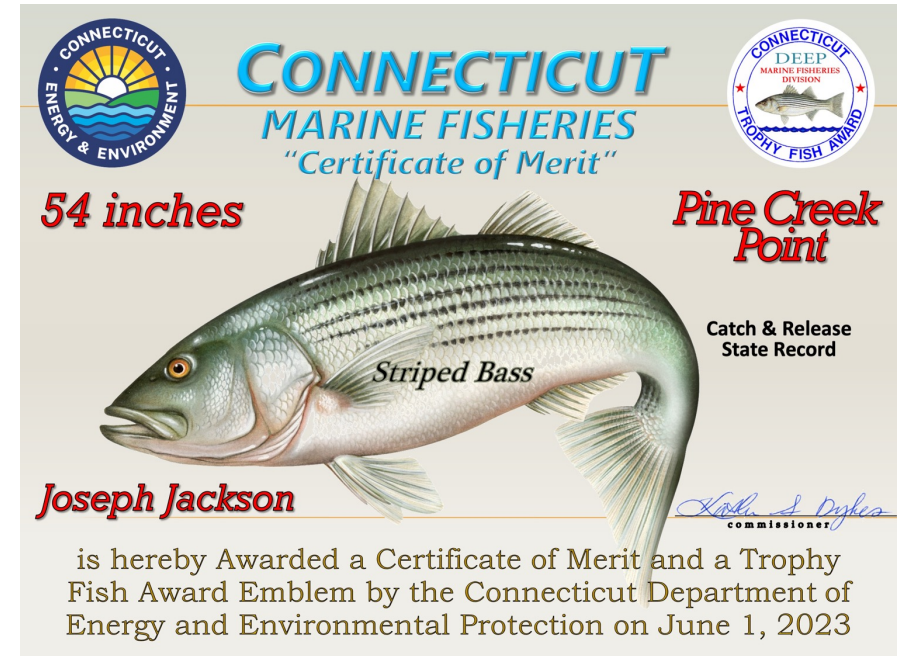
**Gold:** tenth fish of merit or a new state record



**Silver:** fifth fish of merit



**Bronze:** first fish of merit



**94 Total Awards**  
**18 Different Species**  
**38 Male Participants**  
**1 Female Participant**  
**6 Youth Participants**

## Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2023 Trophy Fish Award Program!

