

## **Connecticut CARES Act Assistance to Fishery Participants Round 3**

**Notifications have been sent to those eligible for a Round 3 CARES Payment. Response deadline is May 31, 2024.**

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission received approval from NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service to reallocate CARES Act Aid to Fishery Participants (CAAFP) Round 2 funds that went unused by some Atlantic coastal states to states that still had need for fishery aid funds. Connecticut's share of those reallocated Round 2 funds is \$985,375, which the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the CT Department of Agriculture (DOAG) will distribute to CT CAAFP Round 2 aid recipients whose 2020 and/or 2021 COVID-19 related revenue losses were not fully covered by Round 2 payments.

For the CT CAAFP "Round 3" program, \$265,000 has been allocated to the aquaculture sector and \$720,375 has been allocated to the commercial fishing, for-hire fishing, and seafood dealing/processing sectors. The amounts for Round 3 payments to eligible recipients in the commercial fishing, for-hire fishing, and seafood dealing/processing sectors will be determined by DEEP according to the same procedures used for CT CAAFP Round 2. DOAG will authorize Round 3 payments to eligible recipients in the aquaculture sector equivalent to recipient's residual losses after Round 2, or \$20,000, whichever is the smaller amount.

### **Important Notes:**

- There is no application process for Round 3 assistance. DEEP and DOAG reviewed CT CAAFP Round 2 application materials and Round 2 aid payments to determine which Round 2 aid recipients are eligible for a Round 3 aid payment.
- Letters have been mailed to all CT CAAFP Round 2 aid recipients who are eligible for a Round 3 aid payment. Only CAAFP Round 2 aid recipients who had residual losses remaining after receiving their CAAFP Round 2 payments are eligible for Round 3.
- Round 3 eligible recipients are responsible for ensuring they and/or their business are not made 'more than whole' for 2020 and/or 2021 by virtue of receiving federal COVID-19 related aid. Guidance on making that determination was provided in the letters that were sent to all Round 3 eligible recipients.
- Eligible recipients **MUST RESPOND** via e-mail to [deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov) **by May 31, 2024** to indicate whether or not they wish to receive their estimated CT CAAFP Round 3 aid payment. Round 3 disbursements will not be authorized unless written confirmation of desire to receive aid payment is received.
- Disbursements are expected to be made by the end of June 2024.

For questions about the Round 3 Connecticut CAAFP aid related to the commercial fishing, for-hire fishing or seafood dealing/wholesaling/processing sectors, please e-mail Colleen Bouffard of the CT DEEP Marine Fisheries Program at [deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov).

For questions about the Round 3 Connecticut CAAFP aid related to the aquaculture sector, please e-mail David Carey, Director of the CT Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Aquaculture at [david.carey@ct.gov](mailto:david.carey@ct.gov).

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needing an accommodation for hearing impairment may call the State of Connecticut relay number - 711. In order to facilitate efforts to provide an accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing, meeting, program or event.