



ATLANTIC SALMON OPEN SEASON, DAILY CREEL LIMIT, MINIMUM LENGTH AND METHOD OF TAKING

Under the authority of Section 26-112 of the Connecticut General Statutes and Subsection 26-112-45(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, I hereby declare open fishing seasons, daily creel limits, minimum lengths and legal methods for taking Atlantic Salmon in the following stream sections and lakes: that portion of the Naugatuck River extending from the confluence of the East and West Branches of the Naugatuck River (Torrington) downstream to its confluence with the Housatonic River, that portion of the Housatonic River extending from the Derby Dam (Derby-Shelton) downstream to its confluence with Long Island Sound (Stratford-Milford), and that portion of the Shetucket River extending from the Scotland Dam (Windham) downstream to the Water Street Bridge (Norwich); and Crystal Lake (Ellington, Stafford) and Mount Tom Pond (Litchfield, Morris, Washington). The taking of Atlantic Salmon remains prohibited in all other areas of the State of Connecticut.

The open seasons and daily creel limits for Atlantic Salmon in open areas of the Naugatuck River, Housatonic River, and Shetucket River shall be as follows:

- (1) From September 1, 2025, through December 15, 2025, inclusive, angling will be restricted to catch-and-release only in all areas. The daily creel limit is zero and all Atlantic Salmon shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which taken.
- (2) From December 16, 2025, through August 31, 2026, inclusive, the daily creel limit for Atlantic Salmon is one.

The open seasons and daily creel limits for Atlantic Salmon in Crystal Lake and Mount Tom Pond shall be as follows:

- (1) From September 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026, inclusive, the daily creel limit for Atlantic Salmon is one.
- (2) From March 1, 2026, to 6:00 AM on April 11, 2026, inclusive, angling for Atlantic Salmon will be restricted to catch-and-release only. The daily creel limit is zero and all Atlantic Salmon shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken at Crystal Lake and Mount Tom Pond.
- (3) From 6:00 AM on April 11, 2026, through August 31, 2026, inclusive, the daily creel limit for Atlantic Salmon is one.

There shall be no minimum length for Atlantic Salmon in all areas open to the taking of Atlantic Salmon.

During the open season, the legal methods for taking Atlantic Salmon in open areas of the Naugatuck River, Housatonic River, and Shetucket River are limited to angling using a single fly, or an artificial lure with a single free-swinging hook. Additional weight may not be added to the line. A bubble float attached to the line or leader to adjust buoyancy shall not be considered additional weight.

During the open season, the legal methods for taking Atlantic Salmon in Crystal Lake and Mount Tom Pond are limited to angling and ice fishing.

9/19/2025

Date

Katherine S. Dykes

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Commissioner