

Proposed Changes to the 2014 NJ Trout Stocking Program

The NJ DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife's 2014 spring trout stocking program has been modified due to the outbreak of a fish disease (furunculosis) at the Pequest Trout Hatchery. The Division has implemented a plan to control the disease at the hatchery, but it is necessary to modify the trout stocking program this spring in order to conserve and protect our wild trout resources and other year round trout fisheries. In order to protect priority trout resources, no trout will be stocked in Trophy Trout Lakes, Holdover Trout Lakes and certain trout production streams, or waters directly connected to them. These year round fisheries will still provide anglers excellent trout fishing opportunities this spring. Trout waters still scheduled to be stocked will be allocated the hatchery's supply of negative trout (never documented to have the bacterium). As there is a limited number of negative trout the traditional seven-week in-season stocking season has been shortened to four in-season weeks.

Other waters traditionally stocked with trout that do not support trout year round (non-trout waters primarily lakes and ponds in the eastern, central, and southern areas of the state) have been allocated more trout than usual this spring as trout treated for furunculosis cannot be utilized in waters with existing trout populations. These waters will receive an additional allocation of trout prior to opening day and an additional stocking the week following opening day. In addition, several other waters not typically stocked with trout will be stocked with trout this spring which provide additional trout fishing opportunities.

The Division reminds anglers that there are no human health risks associated with the bacterium, *Aeromonas salmonicida*, that causes this disease and recommends anglers consult Division's website for any additional changes to the 2014 trout stocking program.

Scheduled Changes Include:

In order to protect existing trout population present the following waters **will not be** stocked in Spring 2014. Anglers are reminded these waters support year round trout fisheries and still provide anglers trout fishing opportunities.

Trophy Trout Lakes

Merrill Creek Reservoir
Round Valley Reservoir

Holdover Trout Lakes

Clinton Reservoir
Lake Aeroflex
Lake Wawayanda
Sheppard Lake
White Lake

Trout Production Streams

Beaver Brook (Hunterdon)
Buckhorn Creek
Capoolong Creek
Franklin Pond Creek
Furnace Brook
Hakihohake Creek
India Brook

Hackettstown Hatchery (connected)

Trout Brook (Hackettstown)

Little Flat Brook
 Lopatcong Creek
 Mulhockaway Creek
 Peapack Brook
 Pequannock River
 Rockaway Creek S/Br
 S/Br Raritan River – upstream Lake Solitude Dam
 Spruce Run Creek
 Trout Brook (Middleville)
 Wanaque River - Lower
 Whippany River

Directly connected to Trout Production Streams

Barbours Pond
 Blue Mtn. Lake
 Beaver Brook (Morris)
 Drakes Brook
 Green Turtle Pond
 Furnace Lake
 Hibernia Brook
 Manny's Pond
 Mountain Farm Pond
 Passaic River – White Bridge Rd to Rt 24 Bridge, Chatham Borough
 Pond Brook
 Pophandusing Creek
 Russia Brook
 Saddle River (Upper/Lower)
 Silver Lake (Sussex)
 Speedwell Lake
 Stony Lake

The following waters, not typically or scheduled to be stocked with trout during spring, will be stocked this spring only:

<u>Waterbody</u>	<u>Trout</u>
DOD Lake	4,000
Farrington Lake (Middlesex)	8,000
Hackensack River (below Oradel Reservoir dam)	12,000
Hockhockson Brook (below Tinton Falls)	4,000
Mercer Lake (Mercer)	8,000
Passaic River – (below Great Falls to Dundee Dam)	24,000
Raritan River (below Duke Island Park)	24,000
Rahway River (St George to Lawrence)	3,000
Shadow Lake (Monmouth)	4,000