

## Summary of 2014 NJ Trout Stocking Changes

The NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife's 2014 spring trout stocking program has been modified due to the impacts 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 accordance with the Division's Fish Health Policy.

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 updates to the 2014 trout stocking program as the season progresses.

### **Highlights of these changes include:**

Traditional seven-week in-season stocking season was shortened to four in-season weeks.

With the exception of the Toms River, Pequest, Metedeconk N/Br and S/Br, and the Manasquan River waters with designated in-season closures will only be stocked the first three weeks of the in-season stocking period and at reduced allocations. The Toms River, Pequest River, Metedeconk N/Br and S/Br, and the Manasquan River will be stocked for the first four in-season weeks and will receive their usual allotments.

Five lakes; Lake Hopatcong, Swartswood Lake, Little Swartswood Lake, Lake Musconetcong, and Columbia Lake will be stocked pre-season only.

Trophy Trout (2), Holdover Trout (5), trout production (18), and waters connected to trout production waters (16) will not be stocked in order to protect priority trout resources. The year round fisheries in Trophy Trout, Holdover Trout and trout production waters will still provide anglers excellent trout fishing opportunities this spring. Anglers are encouraged to practice catch and release on small trout production streams.

Rainbow trout and brown trout were stocked during the pre-season instead of the brook trout typically stocked in most waters for the season opener.

87 warmwater lakes and streams traditionally stocked with trout that do not support trout year round (primarily lakes and ponds in the eastern, central, and southern areas of the state) have been allocated more trout than usual this spring.

Four new river sections; Hackensack River (below Oradell Reservoir dam), Rahway River (St Georges Ave. to Milton Ave.), Raritan River (below Rt. 206 bridge), and Passaic River (below Great Falls to Dundee Dam) were added to the program for 2014 only. In addition, DOD Lake and Farrington Lake not scheduled to be stocked will receive trout this year.

### **Waterbodies which will not be stocked in 2014**

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  
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

#### Hackettstown Hatchery (connected)

Trout Brook (Hackettstown)

#### Directly connected to Trout Production Streams

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