



# Connecticut Fish Consumption Advisory Program

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## Objectives

- Develop safe levels for fish consumption for both commercial and recreationally caught fish
- Some fish species have elevated levels of contaminants (mercury, PCBs, PFOS)
- High risk groups and general population
- Focus on safe fish eating
- Health education and outreach
- Special Consideration for subsistence fishermen



# Current Consumption Advisories

## Freshwater

- Statewide
  - Based on Mercury Concentrations
  - Advisories for low and high risk populations
- Housatonic River
  - Based on PCB Concentrations
  - Species specific
- Other Waterbody Specific Advisories
  - Based on Mercury, Chlordane, Lead, PCBs and PFOS Levels

## Current Consumption Advisories

- Marine Advisories
  - Long Island Sound
  - Species Specific
  - Based on PCB Concentrations



## **PFOs in Fish Consumption Advisories**

- Derivation of updated fish consumption limits for PFOs using the PFOs toxicity value finalized in June 15, 2022
  - PFOs is the primary PFAS found in fish tissue
- Retrospective evaluation of PFOs fish tissue data from 14 CT waterbodies using the updated consumption limits
- Updated and/or new advisories needed in 11 waterbodies



# New and Modified Consumption Advisories

## Based on PFOS Levels in Fish

### Modified

- Connecticut River
- Quinnipiac River
- Natchaug River
- Willimantic River
- Shetucket River
- Housatonic River
- (@ O'Sullivan's Island)

### New

- Naugatuck River
- Pequabuck River
- Scantic River
- Still River (Winsted)
- Upper and Lower Farmington River



## Waterbodies With No Advisory Changes

- Hockanum and Tankerhoosen River  
(All fish species-Do Not Eat)
- Quinebaug River (No Specific Advisory)



## **Advisories – Roll Out Actions**

- ✓ Coordination with DEEP Inland Fisheries regarding advisory boundaries and waterbody descriptions
- ✓ Draft Press Release
- ✓ Verbal notice to all Directors of Health in towns/districts with new or updated advisories (N=27)
- ✓ Update “If I Catch It” brochure
- Hold a Q & A for impacted LHDs before Press Release is issued
- Distribute Signage Template to LHDs
- Issue Press Release, post updated “If I Catch It,” LHDs post signage