

## **APPENDIX 8a: KEY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is assisted by two advisory councils, the Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) and the Fisheries Advisory Council (FAC). The members of these Councils represent academic, business, municipal, non-governmental organization (NGO), and public citizen interests. The Councils serve in an advisory capacity, providing comments on policies, rules, and regulations. Several of the conservation organizations in the state that regularly partner with DEEP on fish and wildlife conservation programs and projects are discussed below.

### **National Audubon Society**

Audubon Connecticut – an operating unit of the National Audubon Society (<http://www.audubon.org>) has protected birds and their habitats in Connecticut since 1941. In a partnership with the American Bird Conservancy, the National Audubon Society has established the Important Bird Areas (IBA) program that identifies the most critical locations for breeding, migrating, and wintering birds (<http://www.audubon.org/bird/iba>). Audubon Connecticut has established 27 IBAs in Connecticut and prepared 12 Conservation Plans. Also, with funding from the U.S. Forest Service, Audubon Connecticut is implementing a Forest Bird Initiative that integrates science, education, public policy, and land management expertise to ensure the continued existence of high-quality breeding habitat for forest songbirds along the Atlantic Flyway. Forest bird habitat assessments are conducted on private properties at the request of the landowner by an Audubon conservation biologist and Certified Foresters from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and Ferruci and Walicki, LLC during the spring or summer months. Audubon Connecticut has been an active participant in the revision of the Wildlife Action Plan.

### **Connecticut Audubon Society**

Connecticut Audubon is the oldest environmental conservation organization in Connecticut and was founded in 1898 (<http://www.ctaudubon.org>). This group is not affiliated with the National Audubon Society. The organization is an active partner in the conservation of avian resources and their habitats in Connecticut, focusing on education, conservation, and advocacy. Connecticut Audubon offers educational programs and opportunities for the public, and supports scientific research and monitoring of Connecticut's birds and their habitats. The organization owns and operates eight environmental educational centers and 19 bird sanctuaries that have conserved over 2,600 acres of open space. In partnership with the Wildlife Division, Connecticut Audubon Society launched an Osprey Nation program in 2014. The program uses citizen-science volunteers to monitor osprey nests and fledging success statewide. Since 2012 a citizen-science program called Audubon Alliance for Coastal Waterbirds has been in place where Audubon Connecticut and the Connecticut Audubon Society have partnered to improve conditions for coastal waterbirds in Connecticut. The Connecticut Audubon Society has been an active participant in the revision of the Wildlife Action Plan.

### **Connecticut Ornithological Association**

The Connecticut Ornithological Association (COA) is devoted to birds and birding opportunities in Connecticut (<http://www.ctbirding.org>). The Connecticut Ornithological Association is a volunteer organization that promotes bird conservation, and the collection, preparation, and dissemination of scientific information on the status of Connecticut birds and their habitats. Since its founding in 1981, its membership has grown to well over 500 people who range from

## 2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan

beginning birders to professional ornithologists. COA publishes the highly regarded quarterly journal, *The Connecticut Warbler*, and the newsletter, *COA Bulletin*. An organ of COA, the Avian Records Committee of Connecticut (ARCC), maintains the official state list of bird species and adjudicates submitted records of species new or rare in Connecticut.

### **The Nature Conservancy**

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has several programs and projects in Connecticut and throughout the region to identify, delineate, and study the numerous ecoregions in the country. Connecticut's landscape falls within two of TNC's Ecoregions: the Lower New England - Northern Piedmont Ecoregion and the North Atlantic Coast Ecoregion. TNC has completed Ecoregional Conservation Plans for both of these ecoregions, summarizing the natural resources within them, prioritizing habitats and species for conservation, and identifying conservation actions to conserve the species and habitats in greatest need of conservation.

In addition to these Ecoregional Conservation Plans, the Connecticut Chapter of TNC (<http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/connecticut/index.htm>) has focused on preparing for climate change, conserving critical lands, and restoring freshwater resources with fishways and water release programs. Altogether, the Connecticut Chapter of TNC has conserved over 45,000 acres of land in the state on 55 nature preserves. The Connecticut Chapter also initiated Long Island Sound Blue Plan legislation, which was passed in May 2015. The Blue Plan will allow Connecticut to comprehensively plan for multiple future uses of Long Island Sound. Once the planning process is complete and approved by the legislature, it will become part of the Connecticut Coastal Management Program and will officially guide DEEP and Department of Agriculture's Division of Aquaculture in the review of permit applications for activities conducted in coastal areas. This organization has been an active participant in the development of Connecticut's Plan revision.

### **Connecticut Forest and Park Association**

The Connecticut Forest and Park Association (CFPA) is one of the oldest conservation organizations in Connecticut and has promoted the protection and enhancement of public and private natural forest resources through proper state and local land use planning, policies, laws, regulations, and on-the-ground practices (<http://www.ctwoodlands.org>). CFPA works cooperatively with a wide range of agencies, organizations, and groups and thus fulfills the objective of the Plan. Working mostly on terrestrial forests, CFPA maintains parks and trails in Connecticut's forests and assists land acquisition efforts of the state, community land trusts, and conservation organizations by providing technical expertise and, when necessary, by acquiring land. CFPA provides a variety of high quality environmental education programs to a wide audience, including landowners, municipalities, teachers, students, natural resource professionals, and the conservation-minded public. CFPA also offers professional development workshops for formal and informal educators, student programs, scout badge programs as well as adult and family activities for members and the public.

### **Appalachian Trail Conservancy**

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) has been charged with preserving and managing the Appalachian Trail since 1925. Cooperatively with federal, state, and local agencies, as well as the 31 Appalachian Trail maintaining clubs, ATC works to protect the natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources, as well as the recreational qualities, of the Appalachian Trail and its vast corridor of surrounding lands. ATC and their partner agency, the National Park Service (NPS) through its Appalachian National Scenic Trail Office, are engaged in many resource

## 2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan

management efforts. As “Trail Partners” in a “Memorandum of Understanding for the Appalachian National Scenic Trail in the State of Connecticut” (June 1st, 2012), ATC seeks opportunities to collaborate with DEEP in order to further support both the ATC’s and DEEP’s goal of landscape level conservation.

### **Ducks Unlimited**

Ducks Unlimited (DU) has active conservation programs in Connecticut (<http://www.ducks.org>). Focusing on the conservation of waterfowl, the goal of DU is “to become the leading waterfowl and wetlands conservation entity in North America” (Ducks Unlimited, 2001). Many of DU’s members are concerned with the maintenance of waterfowl hunting opportunities as well; the group was founded by hunters and 90 percent of its current members are waterfowl hunters. In Connecticut, DU has committed over \$462,000 on conservation projects—conserving over 1,000 acres of waterfowl and wetland habitat. The approximately 3,000 Connecticut members of DU have enhanced wetlands, restored grasslands and arranged private land easements along the state’s coast, Connecticut River, and elsewhere. The primary species that have benefited from these projects include wood duck, mallard, black duck, Canada goose, green-winged teal, and blue-winged teal.

### **Trout Unlimited**

Trout Unlimited (TU) strives to conserve coldwater fisheries populations and habitat throughout the country (<http://www.tu.org/>). The group’s members are largely trout and salmon fishermen, and their mission is to conserve, protect and restore coldwater fisheries and their watersheds throughout North America. Trout Unlimited has identified four key threats to coldwater fisheries: habitat loss and degradation, hydropower blockages of fish passage, unsustainable harvest of the fisheries, and the propagation of non-native, exotic or diseased fish through hatchery stocking efforts. As a result, TU has identified solutions to each of these threats and developed a National Conservation Agenda annually to implement them. In Connecticut, Trout Unlimited has eight local chapters and councils that have implemented conservation projects along many of the state’s rivers and streams. The Mianus Chapter, for example, is partnering with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Town of Wilton in the Norwalk River Watershed Initiative to restore trout breeding and rearing habitat in the Norwalk River. Its members frequently conduct river clean-ups and assist DEEP in trout stocking operations in the state.

### **Ruffed Grouse Society**

The Ruffed Grouse Society (RGS) is devoted to the conservation of ruffed grouse, American woodcock, and other forest wildlife populations and their habitat; many of its members are hunters (<http://www.ruffedgrousesociety.org>). The RGS has supported several scientific studies and publications regarding habitat management techniques and the conservation biology of ruffed grouse and American woodcock (e.g., the Appalachian Cooperative Grouse Research Project). In Connecticut, the Ruffed Grouse Society Nutmeg Chapter has contributed to the conservation of these two game species by partnering with DEEP to enhance over 3,000 acres of habitat on state lands in the Connecticut River valley.

### **Connecticut Waterfowl Association**

The Connecticut Waterfowl Association’s mission is “to preserve, reclaim, and enhance wetland and wildlife habitat in the state of Connecticut in a manner that promotes the wise use of our natural resources and the progress of society” (<http://www.ctwaterfowlers.org>). The organization holds seminars and educational programs on waterfowl hunting including a

## 2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan

Mentor Program that provides novice hunters the opportunity to learn from experienced, veteran hunters. The organization also educates the public on the importance of wetland habitats, acquires and manages wetlands and associated upland habitats and contributes funding to wetland restoration projects.

### **Coastal America Partnership**

Coastal America Partnership is a network of federal natural resource and infrastructure agencies, military, NGOs, state, local, and tribal governments that facilitates the collaboration of expertise, resources, and authorities to address threats to coastal and wetland habitats (<http://www.coastalamerica.gov>). Partners include state coastal management agencies, the U.S. Department of the Interior (USFWS, NPS, and Minerals Management Service), USACE, NOAA, USDA, EPA, the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), and the U.S. Departments of Housing and Urban Development, Energy, State, Transportation, and Defense. The Coastal America Partnership has established several Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers to improve public understanding of coastal issues and provide environmental education opportunities; one of these centers is located at the Mystic Aquarium Institute for Exploration (<http://www.mysticaquarium.org>). Through its Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (CWRP) program, Coastal America incorporates private businesses in wetlands restoration projects. In Connecticut, the Coastal America Partnership has worked with Amtrak, DEEP, and the Connecticut Department of Transportation to restore tidal flow and wetlands along transportation corridors during transportation infrastructure replacement projects. Nationally, Coastal America Partnership has collaborated with over 300 nonfederal partners to dedicate more than \$100 million to the conservation of coastal ecosystems.

### **Connecticut River Watershed Council**

The Connecticut River Watershed Council (CRWC), founded in 1952, seeks to improve water quality and restore, conserve, wisely develop, and use the natural resources found in the Connecticut River watershed (<http://www.criver.org>). The Council disseminates information to the public, produces publications relevant to its mission, and initiates partnerships and programs to help achieve its mission. The CRWC advocated for the establishment of the Silvio O. Conte NWR, led the successful effort to have the Connecticut River designated as a federal "American Heritage River," created a River Steward Program to have on-site advocates in the valley, helped protect over 8,000 acres of land in the watershed, supported the removal of dams to restore anadromous fish habitat, and worked to restore salmon to the river and its tributaries. The CRWC was an instrumental partner in May 2012 when the Connecticut River was designated as the first National Blueway by President Obama. The organization's Migratory Fisheries Restoration Initiative serves as both an advocate and a funding source through a partnership with DEEP, the USFWS, other federal agencies, and the other three watershed states. CRWC launched the *One Great River* initiative, combining scientific analysis and advocacy to assure that the water quality standards in each of the four states (CT, MA, VT, NH) are ambitious enough and consistent enough to meet the Clean Water Act. The Council also has a small grants program that funds academic studies of students relating to the watershed's biology and/or environment.

### **Other Watershed Organizations**

Connecticut has numerous watershed and river protection organizations, including the Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, which is a statewide coalition of 100 local groups (<http://www.riversalliance.org>). The mission of the Rivers Alliance is to assist these local and

## 2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan

state NGOs, support and promote environmentally sound state public policies, and educate the public about aquatic habitats and water conservation. This coalition group has initiated collaborative partnerships with water companies to shape instream flow policies; land trusts and other environmental NGOs to maximize watershed protection efforts; and with state agencies and the legislature on water quality, quantity, and hydropower policies and regulations. The Rivers Alliance also has partnered with Coastal America Partnership to identify a list of sites for potential aquatic restoration projects under the Corporate Wetland Restoration Program.

The Connecticut River Salmon Association, Save the Sound, and the Connecticut River Watershed Council are all members of the Rivers Alliance, exhibiting the range of local watershed protection efforts in the state. The Connecticut River Salmon Association focuses on the restoration of salmon to the Connecticut River, working with the USFWS, NMFS, and the four watershed states on the Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission; it is based in Connecticut. The nonprofit corporation's programs for public school education projects, fry stocking, and funding conservation biology research on Atlantic salmon garnered the U.S. Department of the Interior's Conservation Service Award in 2002 (<http://www.ctriversalmon.org>).

Save the Sound is devoted to the protection of Long Island Sound and is the only non-governmental partner in the Long Island Sound Study program with the State of Connecticut and various federal agencies; the group has a water quality monitoring program in the Sound, conducts environmental education and outreach, and has identified over 400 sites for habitat restoration projects (<http://www.ctenvironment.org/index.htm>).

### **Land Trust Organizations**

The Northeast region has the highest number of land trust organizations in the country; these organizations have protected 2.9 million acres of land across the region (Land Trust Alliance 2004).

Land trust organizations seek to preserve local lands for natural resource purposes. The Trust for Public Land (<http://www.tpl.org>) is a national land trust organization and has partnered with DEEP on the implementation of the Open Spaces Initiative. This organization has contributed to the Initiative's goal of protecting over 45,500 acres of the state's land through nonprofit NGOs by preserving parts or all of Skiff Mountain, Webb Mountain, Mather Meadows, the Mill River corridor, Chapman Mill Pond, the Hunt Hill Farm, and the lands surrounding the Hammonasset Reservoir; many of these projects were undertaken in partnership with local land trust organizations. In April 2015, TPL was instrumental in purchasing 1,000 acres of undeveloped coastal forest in Connecticut along with many partners. This property, known as The Preserve, occurs mostly in Old Saybrook with parts in Essex and Westbrook.

The Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC) was organized in 2006 by the merger of two existing and well-known programs: the Land Trust Service Bureau (LTSB), which was organized in 1980 to provide technical support to land trusts, and the Land Conservation Coalition for Connecticut (LCCC), which was organized in 1987 to serve as the advocacy arm of the land conservation movement. This merger created an effective and unified statewide land trust service organization and is an umbrella organization for the land trust community. CLCC works with land trusts, other conservation and advocacy organizations, government entities, landowners, and other interested individuals to increase the pace, quality, and scale of land

## 2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan

conservation in Connecticut. It focuses on building land trust capacity and as a voice for public policies that support land conservation while engaging broad constituencies to understand the need for land conservation.

Connecticut has over 120 local land trust organizations, each of which has preserved portions of Connecticut's landscape. For example, The Old Lyme Conservation Trust has utilized private donations and DEEP grants to preserve Watch Rock Park in Old Lyme, install a fish passageway at the Lower Mill Pond Dam on Mill Brook, and conserve several riparian properties along the Connecticut River (<http://www.oldlymelandtrust.org/>). The Essex Land Conservation Trust owns or manages eleven preserves totaling over 570 acres of wetland, grassland, open field, riparian, tidal marsh, and forest habitats (<http://www.essexlandtrust.org>). The Greenwich Land Trust manages over 50 acres obtained through donations, purchase, and conservation easement; properties include meadows, a coastal island, ponds, and waterfront areas (<http://www.gltrust.org>). The New Hartford Land Trust has preserved over 270 acres of land on 19 separate properties around New Hartford, conserving forest, wetland, open field, streams, and marsh habitats (<http://www.newhartfordlandtrust.org/Index.html>). The Aspetuck Land Trust is devoted to the preservation of open space and the natural resources in and around Easton, Fairfield, Weston, and Westport and has preserved over 1,700 acres of land to date (<http://www.aspetucklandtrust.org>). The Kent and Sharon Land Trusts have partnered with the Trust for Public Land on efforts to protect Skiff Mountain. The Roxbury Land Trust is one of the DEEP's longest term partners contributing both management of open space and participation in field work for many non-game programs.

*2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan*

## APPENDIX 8b: LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS, COLLABORATORS, AND EXPERTS

This appendix lists Connecticut’s stakeholders that were contacted in the development of this Plan. These stakeholders received email, mail, phone and personal meetings, presentations, or workshops for information and input on the development and implementation of Connecticut’s Plan.

### 1) ACADEMIC STAKEHOLDERS, COLLABORATORS AND/OR EXPERTS CONSULTED

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Contacts</i>
Connecticut College	Staff
Connecticut DEEP Scientific Advisory Committee	5 Taxa Committees representing Numerous Academic Institutions and organizations.
St. Joseph’s University	Staff
University of Connecticut	Department of Natural Resources and the Environment Staff Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Staff
University of Rhode Island	Coastal Institute staff
Wesleyan University	Staff
Yale University	Peabody Museum and School of Forestry Staff
Yale University	Environmental Studies Staff

### 2) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDERS, COLLABORATORS AND/OR EXPERTS CONSULTED

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Hartford Armory	Facility and Management Office
National Guard Armory	Staff
U.S. Army Aviation Support Facility	Bradley International Airport
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Park Managers, Colebrook River Lake Office Park Manager, Hop Brook Lake Park Manager, Mansfield Hollow Lake Office Park Manager, Thomaston Dam Office New England District Regional Office
U.S. Coast Guard Group/ MSO	Staff

*2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan*

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Contact</i>
U.S. Department of Agriculture	Environmental Quality Incentive Program Staff Natural Resource Conservation Service State Executive Director Natural Resources Inventory Program UCONN Office staff Cooperative Extension Service Wildlife Services
U.S. Department of Defense	Bradley Air National Guard
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Long Island Sound Study Staff
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Atlantic Coast Joint Venture Silvio O. Conte National Wildlife Refuge Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge Region 5 staff- numerous divisions and staff Federal Assistance Staff Ecological Services. Regional and Field Office (Concord, NH) Staff Connecticut River-Long Island Sound Ecoteam Migratory Birds Program
U.S. Forest Service	Staff
U.S. Geological Survey	CT Director
U.S. National Park Service	Appalachian Trail Park Office
U.S. Naval Submarine Base	Staff

**3) STATE, REGIONAL AND LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS, COLLABORATORS AND/OR EXPERTS CONSULTED**

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Animal Control Division	Staff
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station	Staff
Connecticut Department of Agriculture	State Veterinarian Bureau of Aquaculture and Lab Services Staff Farmland Preservation Staff
Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development	Staff
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Watershed Coordinators and Multiple divisions, sections.
Connecticut Department of Transportation	Environmental Planning Staff



*2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan*

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Connecticut Office of Policy and Management	Staff
Connecticut Shellfish and Aquaculture Program	Staff
Conservation Advisory Council (CAC)	Members
Fisheries Advisory Council (FAC)	Members
Large landowners	To be initiated at appropriate time
Municipalities (planners, CACIWC, conservation commissions, etc.)	Regional councils
Soil and Water Conservation Districts	Staff
The Connecticut Open Space Initiative	Staff

**4) TRIBAL STAKEHOLDERS, COLLABORATORS AND/OR EXPERTS CONSULTED**

<i>Association</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Indian Affairs Liaison
Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation	Staff
Mohegan Tribal Nation	Staff
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Northeast Indian Affairs Coordinator

**5) PRIVATE AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION STAKEHOLDERS, COLLABORATORS AND/OR EXPERTS CONSULTED**

<i>Association</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Appalachian Trail Conservancy	Coordinator
Aquarion Water Company	Staff
Audubon Connecticut	Board and staff members
Beardsley Zoological Gardens	Director
Connecticut Audubon	Board and staff members
Connecticut Forest and Park Association	Staff
Connecticut Land Conservation Council	Staff
Connecticut Ornithological Association	Board and staff members
Connecticut Professional Timber Producers	Staff
Connecticut River Gateway Commission	Staff
Connecticut River Salmon Assoc.	Staff
Connecticut River Watershed Assoc.	Staff

*2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan*

<i>Association</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Connecticut Waterfowlers Assoc.	Staff
Ducks Unlimited	Staff
Farmington River Watershed Assoc.	Staff
Green Valley Institute	Staff
Hartford Sportsmen Club	Staff
Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk	Staff
Mystic Aquarium	Staff
National Wildlife Federation	Staff
Northeast Utilities	Real Estate and Land Planning Staff
Rivers Alliance Connecticut	Staff
The Jonah Center for Earth and Art	Staff
The Last Green Valley	Staff
The Metropolitan District	Barkhamsted Headquarters Staff
The Nature Conservancy	Connecticut Chapter Staff
The Ruffed Grouse Society	Staff
The Trust for Public Land	Staff
Trout Unlimited	Staff
United Illuminating	Staff
Weir Farm, National Historic Site	Superintendent

2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan

**APPENDIX 8c: PUBLIC INPUT PLAN**

This appendix summarizes the input plan that was designed for use in Connecticut’s CWCS process to contact Connecticut’s stakeholders and publics. It identified three tiers of stakeholders and developed appropriate messages, methods, and objectives for each group. The Bleiker Citizen Participation by Objective (CPO) and Systematic Development of Informed Consent (SDIC) techniques and programs were used to develop this plan and they were consulted for follow-up during this process in order to develop the most effective methods for outreach to the many publics. An “X” in a column indicates that the contact method or promotion was applied.

Connecticut's Plan  Bleiker CPO/SDIC worksheet results: - Contact Method - Type of Promotion	Audiences Targeted			Target Dates  During development of Plan and continuation through implementation of Plan
	Group 1 Stakeholders- TWW, DEEP, Taxa Fed/state partners Collaborators Goal: Consult and collaborate	Group 2 Stakeholders- Interested but limited investment Goal: Inform and involve	Group 3 General Public Goal- Inform	
Direct Mail/email Fact sheets/ program material	Email, mail – begun 7/2013	Email, mail- begun 7/2013		Quarterly (Same as website- see below)
Direct mail/email Bookmarks/Flyers	Email, mail – begun 7/2013	Email, mail-begun 3/2014  Bookmarks 9/2014	9/2014	Initial mailing, then distribute at meetings and presentations throughout 2014-2015
Website- Updated quarterly Phase 1- Introductory material Phase -2 GCN species/habitat info Phase 3- Conservation Actions, Threats Phase 4- Conservation Actions Draft Phase 5- Draft Plan update, Phase 6- final plan announcement Implementation updates as developed	Text and threats to help ID conservation Actions	X	X	Jan 13-15,2014 Intro materials April- August 2014 Species/Habitats July-Dec 2014 GCN info and solicit Conservation actions - solicit input Oct 2014 August- September 2015- draft plan Jan 2016 Approved Plan
Planning Committee meetings DEEP/agency internal memos- Inreach Expert/Taxa consultation/correspondence	X			Meeting- Every month as required, monthly updates as required

*2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan*

Newsletters- put in org newsletters	X	X		DEEP E-newsletter to businesses and municipalities (Your Environmental Connection -- <a href="http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs031/1104335014923/archive/1105188393849.html">http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs031/1104335014923/archive/1105188393849.html</a> )
Magazine articles- DEEP or state conservation orgs	Begun 7/2014	X	X	Bi-monthly in <i>Connecticut Wildlife</i> magazine
Public relations: press releases Facebook Page DEEP calendar on-line Twitter site (UConn Students)	X	X	X	Coordinated with website. Facebook and DEEP calendar monthly updates
Workshop	November 2014 – Threats and Conservation Actions X	X	X	Workshops open to all Tiers
Exhibit /poster at Meetings	X	X		Many state meetings; set up traveling exhibit with handouts
DEEP staff briefing/report at all meetings possible	Distribute brochures and updates	Distribute brochures and updates	Distribute brochures and updates	All meetings possible Develop schedule and list
Presentations to Tier 2 and 3 groups				As requested

The Citizen Participation by Objective (CPO) worksheet results identified the following specific techniques as the most effective to meet the communication objectives for the SWG Plan: Open Meetings and Forums; Content-type Advice-Giving Advisory Committees, Existing Clubs, Groups, Organizations and their newsletters; Existing School Systems and Institutions, and Electronic Bulletin Boards and Websites.

APPENDIX 8d: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MECHANISMS

### Input Sought for Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan





In a 2005, Connecticut completed its Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, a Wildlife Action Plan (WAP), creating a blueprint for the conservation of our state's wildlife. The history of wildlife conservation in our state is long and its need for a new plan is clear. This article written by Terwilliger was published in the issue of conservation of Connecticut's wildlife. The plan is a roadmap for conserving wildlife species and their habitats in our state and its impacts to wildlife conservation. The plan is a roadmap for conserving wildlife species and their habitats in our state and its impacts to wildlife conservation. The plan is a roadmap for conserving wildlife species and their habitats in our state and its impacts to wildlife conservation.

The saltmarsh sparrow breeds only in saltmarsh habitat. Global climate change is its biggest threat. As ocean levels gradually rise, marshes will likely be flooded to the extent that these birds will not be able to nest successfully. Connecticut has a high responsibility for stewardship of this species of special concern because our state is in the heart of the bird's breeding range. Loss of habitat is probably the greatest threat to Connecticut's turtles. Some turtles may be killed directly by construction activities, but many more are lost when habitat areas for shelter, feeding, hibernation, or nesting are destroyed. As remaining habitat is fragmented into smaller pieces, turtle populations can become small and isolated. Roads crossing through habitat can seriously deplete local populations. Most vehicle fatalities are females searching for new sites.

Participation by conservation partners, academic institutions, municipalities, and the public is key to making the revised WAP an effective tool for conserving Connecticut's diverse wildlife resources for future generations. Now is the time to provide input. Help the DEEP with "creating a vision for the future of wildlife conservation." Take the opportunity to read through the original plan (called the Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy or CWCS) that was completed in October 2005 and approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in January 2006. The entire plan can be downloaded or viewed from the DEEP website at [www.ct.gov/deep/Wildlife-ActionPlan](http://www.ct.gov/deep/Wildlife-ActionPlan). Comments on the plan can be submitted to the DEEP Wildlife Division via email ([deep@wildlifeactionplan.ct.gov](mailto:deep@wildlifeactionplan.ct.gov)) or online.

July/August 2014 Connecticut Wildlife 3

CONNECTICUT WILDLIFE MAGAZINE



State of Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy Search

Department of ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Home About Us Programs & Services Publications Forms Contact Us

ENERGY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NATURAL RESOURCES OUTDOOR RECREATION PURA

CT-WAP

Current Status Requirements Species and Habits Questions and Answers Get Involved CT-WAP Main Page Wildlife Main Page Main Menu

Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan  
"Creating a vision for the future of wildlife conservation"

Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan is currently being revised and we want your input!

2015 Revision: Keep up-to-date about on-going revisions to the Plan. Find out how you can get involved and submit your comments.

Report an ENVIRONMENTAL Concern/Problem  
Calendar of Events  
Laws and Regulations  
Maps and GIS Data  
The Child Left Inside  
DOWNLOAD OUR FREE GPS MOBILE APP  
energize CT  
DEEP Store  
Sign Up To Receive Updates / Newsletters by E-Mail  
Connecticut still revolutionary  
REGISTER Online to VOTE  
Regulations of CT State Agencies  
access health CT  
VETERANS ct.gov  
Connecticut Recovers

Introduction

In 2005, Connecticut completed its Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, now known as the Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan (WAP), creating a blueprint for the conservation of wildlife over a decade. Connecticut, along with other states across the country, is currently working on revisions to the Wildlife Action Plan that will establish both a state and national framework for proactively conserving our fish and wildlife, including their habitats, for the next 10 years.

As part of this effort, Connecticut's List of Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) is being revised. This effort also involves adding new information on climate change and its impacts to wildlife conservation, updating resource mapping, refining conservation threats, and incorporating information gained through the implementation of the first Wildlife Action Plan. The revision also will include the identification of new or revised conservation actions to help advance wildlife conservation over the next decade. Participation by conservation partners, academic institutions, and the public is a key to making the revised Wildlife Action Plan an effective tool for conserving Connecticut's diversity of wildlife resources for future generations.

Background

Connecticut's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (now known as Wildlife Action Plan) was approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2006. This plan has allowed the Department and its partners to integrate the management of natural resources, build valuable partnerships, and support regional and national efforts to secure long-term funding for wildlife conservation.

The plan identifies species of greatest conservation need and their affiliated habitats. It also identifies priority research needs and conservation actions needed to address problems facing these species and habitats.

Goals of Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan (CT-WAP)

The intent of the CT-WAP is to provide guidance and vision for wildlife conservation in Connecticut. Accordingly, the plan:

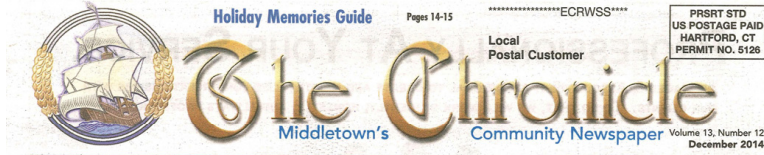
1. Addresses the broad array of all fish, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrate species.
2. Uses available funding to address the species in greatest need of conservation and their habitats.
3. Identifies actions needed to conserve species diversity and keep common species common.
4. Builds upon past efforts to conserve all species of wildlife.
5. Encourages the creation of partnerships with conservation organizations at local, state, and regional levels to enhance opportunities for implementation of actions to conserve wildlife.

Through passage of the Forsythe-Chaffee Nongame Act of 1980, Congress recognized the need for new sources of federal funding for state wildlife conservation programs to complement funding provided through the Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Programs. Key elements in the success of the Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Programs have been long-term stability, equitable and reasonably predictable annual allocations, and safeguards against diversion of such funds away from the purposes established by Congress.

Subsequent to the passage of the Forsythe-Chaffee Nongame Act, an unprecedented national grassroots coalition (Cleaning With Wildlife) was created. This coalition comprises all 50 states, their governmental and nongovernmental partners in conservation, and the corporate sector. For over a decade, the coalition has developed strong Congressional support to fund the conservation of nongame species. Since 2001, this effort has resulted in annual appropriations to states under the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program.

CONNECTICUT DEEP WEBSITE

# 2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan



## Public Gives Wildlife Plan Feedback

by Dortha Cool Willets

About 30 people attended Session I of the first public feedback workshop for preparing the revised CT Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). They met at the Connecticut Forest & Park Association, Rockfall, Nov. 6 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The session was also held again that evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This plan, dated 2005, was introduced in a meeting at the DeKoven House in Middletown Sept. 30. The mission of the plan is to conserve, protect and restore wildlife habitats.



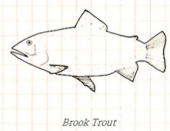
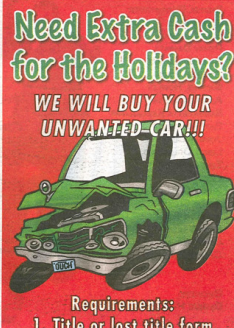
Nelson DeBarnis leads session on Key Habitats. Photo: Dortha Cool Willets.

The state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is responsible for writing a revision to the plan every ten years. The revision timeline requires a rough draft of

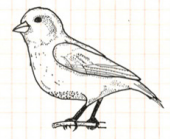
mental conservation policies. Two workshops were held in October and nine are slated in November at venues throughout the state.

at this workshop. Dickson gave an overview of the DEEP Wildlife Action Plan, calling it, "a

and Conservation & Restoration Program (WCRP) funds. The plan, required by Congress, is a "blueprint of conservation" across the



Brook Trout



Purple Finch



Black Bear

## A decade brings dramatic change to Connecticut wildlife

by Jan Ellen Spiegel

Patrick Comins, the director of bird conservation for Audubon Connecticut, stands along the perimeter of Guilford's Leetes Island Marsh and surveys the serene scene: a few stray birds and ducks on a cold, clear morning. But the scene masks the marsh's true natural state.

"That's an example of a drowned marsh. This is really what all of our marshes are at risk of becoming," Comins says.

### NEWSPAPER ARTICLES



### SPORTSMEN SHOWS

# 2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan

**Learn About Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan**

Connecticut Fish and Wildlife

Public · Talk · Hosted by Connecticut Fish and Wildlife

Monday, November 24, 2014 at 7:00pm  
about 3 months ago

Andover Public Library (CT)  
355 Route 6, PO Box 117, Andover, Connecticut 06232

DEEP is in the process of revising Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan. Learn about revisions to the Plan and find out how you can provide input for the future of fish and wildlife conservation in our state for the next 10

230 reached  
0 new this week

Check out August's Species of the Month: the smooth greensnake. This snake looks like no other snake in Connecticut. Its bright green color and thin body make it an easily distinguishable member of the state's reptile community. Greensnakes are most commonly found in grassy fields, meadows, and wetland edges, and their green coloration enables them to blend into these herbaceous surroundings. They emerge from hibernation in April and May and are active throughout summer, eventually returning to underground burrows in October. This non-venomous snake feeds on insects and spiders. When hiding in vegetation, a greensnake may remain still or sway slightly to imitate surrounding plants. To the keen observer who finds one, this behavior can present the perfect opportunity to get a video of this striking, but uncommon snake. Tweet photos and videos @CT\_SWAP and #SpeciesoftheMonth.

**SOCIAL MEDIA: FACEBOOK**

**CT Wildlife**  
@CT\_SWAP

Keeping common species common  
Official Twitter of the CT State Wildlife Action Plan Posting updates on latest Wildlife Research and CT SWAP revision process

Connecticut  
wfcc.uconn.edu/ConnecticutSt...

36 Photos and videos

Tweets Tweets & replies Photos & videos

#CT #SpeciesoftheMonth is Chain Pickerel. Tweet photos of this rare #CTSGCN @CT\_SWAP

Using past change to create an action plan for the future. [ctmirror.org/a-decade-bring](http://ctmirror.org/a-decade-bring)

Check out revised Key Habitats for @CT\_SWAP tinyurl.com/DraftCTkeyhabi...

#CTSGCN #SpeciesoftheMonth is the #Bobcat. Any @Mammalogists or @eMammal followers have #mammalwatching photos or video in #CT?

White Nose Bats @USFWS\_WHS - Oct 30  
#WhiteNoseSyndrome infographic for #BatWeek bit.ly/1pZhasj

**SOCIAL MEDIA: TWITTER**

# 2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan



79 Elm Street • Hartford, CT 06106-5127

[www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep)

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

## **Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan – Public Feedback Forum**

### ***Agenda***

#### **Arrival, handouts, and refreshments**

Prior to start of the forum

#### **Creating a Blueprint for Conserving Wildlife for Future Generations – Jenny Dickson**

15 minutes

#### **Species of Greatest Conservation Need – Explanation and Feedback Session**

15 minutes

#### **Habitats and SGCN Plants – Explanation and Feedback Session**

15 minutes

#### **Threats – Explanation and Feedback Session**

15 minutes

#### **Break**

10 minutes

#### **Conservation Actions – Explanation and Feedback Session**

45 minutes

#### **How to submit feedback after the forum**

5 minutes

#### **End of forum**

### **WORKSHOP AGENDA**



### **WORKSHOP**



2015 Connecticut Wildlife Action Plan



**BOOKMARKS**