

I travel to Connecticut multiple times a year to fish for carp in the Connecticut River. I am completely in favor of making the entire CT River a trophy water. I think that allowing bow hunters (call them fishermen if you want, but they are hunting) to kill many large carp is detrimental to the purpose of trophy waters. I can tell you as a non-resident, I buy a license just to fish for carp. I buy a meal and gas in your state each time I go. The economic benefits from myself and other carp fishermen is certainly a reason to not allow the bow hunting exception.

I can tell you from personal experience that I used to go to Lake Quinnsigamond in Worcester. Bowhunting for carp is allowed there. The fishing has gone completely downhill ever since the guy shot the record carp. Many guys come there now and it is almost impossible to have a good day. Sure, there are still a few carp, but fishing is not like it was.

So instead of taking a 50 minute drive to Lake Q, I drive an hour and forty five minutes to fish the Middletown section of the Conn River. Please protect this fishery. Catch and release guys can catch the same large carp multiple times. Yet when a bow guy gets one, the trophy is gone for the rest of us. Please do not allow this terrific fishery to be wasted by a few guys with a bow that will do nothing but let the fish rot anyway.

To me this decision is a no-brainer.

Thank you,

Nick Pacelli