

I am writing to request that no decision or exemption to the new regulations on unrestricted limits to bow fishing be made without allowing all interested parties to be engaged in the discussion.

I am concerned to hear that there are changes or amendments being sought without an opportunity for discussion among all interested parties.

It is my understanding that the changes would give an exemption to bow fishing on certain parts of the CT river.

Bow fishers focus on killing big fish. This is detrimental to your waterways. It is often seen that heavily bow fished areas do not reduce the quantity of common carp but in fact increase the numbers of smaller sized common carp. Large carp are what the catch and release rod and line angler goes for and is a major draw to that waterway. Common carp are not to be confused with invasive Asian carp.

CT has been progressive in its recent new regulations and is currently seen as the place to go among catch and release carp fishing enthusiasts.

Catch & Release Trophy carp fishing has seen a significant growth in recent years here in North America and especially Connecticut. The new carp regulations (without exemptions) would certainly support growth of the catch and release rod and line fishing which is becoming increasingly popular.

I request that the regulations remain unchanged without any amendment for such exemptions.

Sincerely,

Vern Williams