



# Annual Report 2015



The River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board and the River Annan Trust would like to thank the following organisations for their support during 2015.



**FRONT COVER**  
The new fish pass at Wamphray Weir will mean fish can explore the habitat upstream for the first time in over 20 years.  
Photo - Chris Stones

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## Chairman’s Introduction

After eighteen years of dedicated and passionate hard work Nick Chisholm left his role as Director of Fisheries in September 2015 to seek new challenges as an ecological consultant within the renewable energy industry. Nick made a big and positive impact on the River Annan. The Board, and I am sure many anglers will wish him well for the future.

Nick has been succeeded by Tony Donnelly who has a strong fisheries background and is an obsessive fly angler. I must say a special thank you to Chris, Michael and Mary for supporting the Board during the change of Director and subsequently helping Tony to settle into his new role.

Chris Stones continued with the INNS projects within the catchment, which has now delivered £230,000 of improvements to our ecosystem over the past six years. Chris has also taken on more responsibility for the fishery biology projects and is producing an excellent standard of work for our commercial clients. As angler numbers continue to dwindle Michael Fearn will be dedicating more of his time to angling development and marketing of the River Annan. I believe these responsibilities fit nicely into Michael’s Head Bailiff role, and he should be seen as an ambassador for the river when out on patrols.

Following on from the lowest recorded salmon rod catch in 2014, we saw a very slight improvement in 2015. Last year was a better year for sea trout, both locally and nationally, with more fish present at higher average weights than previous years. Without question the biggest factor affecting rod catches in 2015 was the weather and resulting water conditions. Spring never arrived for the trout fishing and there were very few mild evenings in early summer for sea trout anglers to enjoy. Then ideal water conditions in July and August saw reasonable runs of salmon when there was little angling pressure and once the perceived peak time for salmon fishing arrived in September and October the river was at summer lows. The final two weeks of the season were a wash out and that theme continued beyond the end of the fishing season.

The frequent and extreme flooding in late 2015 will certainly have had physical and ecological impacts on the river but it will be impossible to understand the extent of the problems until data can be gathered from electrofishing and smolt trapping. Tony assures me that there will be a comprehensive monitoring programme in place for 2016 to assess juvenile populations throughout the entire catchment and we will tentatively await a report on the findings.

There is a detailed explanation about the Wild Fisheries Reform process within this report but I would like to take this opportunity to comment on the new Conservation Regulations. Our river is “Category 3” and that means 100% catch and release for salmon and grilse for both anglers and netsmen (though there will be a limited number of salmon taken by Haaf netters for scientific purposes). All Solway rivers are Category 3 and must produce a Conservation Plan to illustrate how they intend to increase fish numbers and move to Category 2 or higher. These new measures are not part of WFR, but instead have been introduced to meet obligations the European Union have imposed on the Scottish Government. I know a lot of anglers are frustrated by the new rules, however the positive message is that salmon and grilse returning to the Solway to spawn have better prospects of success in 2016 than they have had in the previous five hundred years. However, as a Board we must remain realistic that C&R is not the only answer and ensure that we continue to control predators, remove barriers and protect good spawning grounds for our salmonids.

As the new season approaches, there are reasons for optimism that 2016 will be a good year for angling on the Annan. Sea trout populations are steadily improving and we are now awaiting the return of adult salmon that were produced in the autumn of 2011, the year which saw the Annan record a record high rod catch. I hope 2016 is a prosperous year for anglers visiting our river banks and wish you all tight lines.



Alister Jack

## Board Members 2015

<b>Chairman:</b>	Alister Jack
<b>Upper Proprietors:</b>	Earl of Annandale and Hartfell George Birkbeck John Cunningham-Jardine (from July 2015) Andy Dickson Alex Guthe Oliver Routledge Keith Snow (until March 2015)
<b>Lower Proprietors:</b>	Councillor Richard Brodie Richard Westoll
<b>Co-optees</b>	
<b>Tenant Netsman:</b>	John Warwick
<b>Salmon Anglers:</b>	Lawson Devery David Rothwell Francis Sandison
<b>Coarse Angler:</b>	Fred Sykes
<b>Office Bearers</b>	
<b>Clerk:</b>	Mary Colville
<b>Director of Fisheries:</b>	Nick Chisholm (until September 2015) Tony Donnelly (from September 2015)
<b>Operations Manager::</b>	Chris Stones
<b>Head Bailiff:</b>	Michael Fearn



# Fishery Performance 2015

## Salmon Fishing

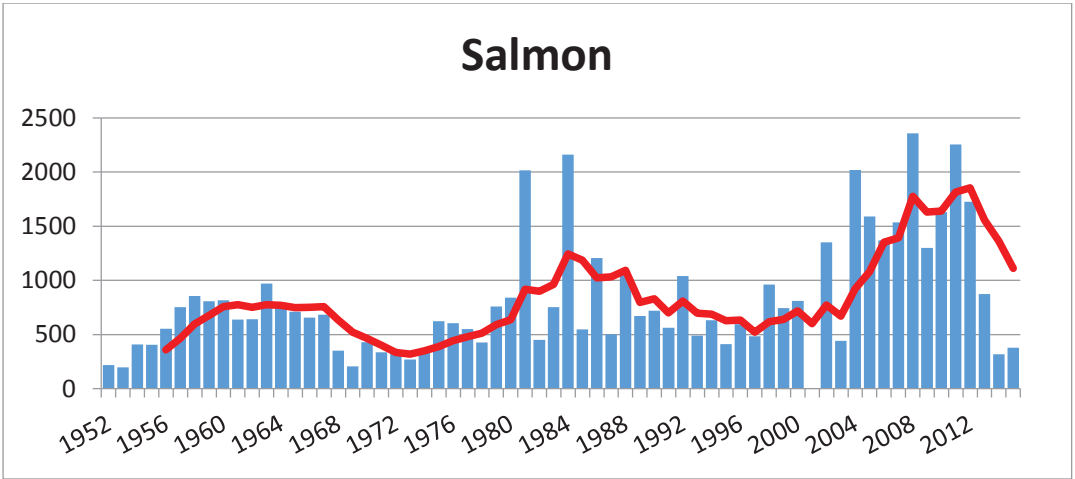


Fig 1 - Salmon Catch Data from 1952 to 2015

2015 was a frustrating year for salmon anglers and all told the total rod catch for salmon and grilse was 378, which is a modest improvement from the previous year’s catch of 317. Good numbers of salmon arrived in the Solway by mid-June and regular lifts in river levels encouraged fish to enter the system steadily throughout July and August. However, there was very little rod effort during this period and word was slow to spread that the river was holding fish all the way up to the Kinnel by July and the upper river by August. Following good water conditions during summer, the months of September and October provided an altogether different story. The extremely low water levels and bright sunshine meant that most of the river was practically unfishable. Rain finally arrived on October 27th and frustratingly didn’t stop until after the close of the season on Saturday 14th November.

For the fourth year in a row there appeared to be no meaningful back end run that the Annan was once renowned for. In the low water of early autumn very few fish were caught on the Newbie beat which does suggest a lack of fish, however a few noteworthy fish around the 25lb mark were landed by Newbie anglers in low water conditions during September and October but fresh fish were scarce. Interestingly RADSFB staff received reports from two separate people that they had seen fresh salmon running the river in flood conditions in the run up to Christmas. One report had seen fish at Halleaths while the other sighting was upstream of the weir at Johnstonebridge.

## Sea Trout

The River Annan sea trout run is becoming increasingly more difficult to gauge in terms of run numbers as our best indication of this is from rod catches and with the numbers of anglers specifically fishing for sea trout in decline it is more difficult now to assess the accuracy of this. During last year’s summer, although at times we had good water heights for sea trout fishing, we did not have a warm summer and the evenings during June and July often turned cold going into darkness meaning less than ideal fishing conditions and very few sea trout anglers were seen on the river at night.

Sea trout are often a bycatch of salmon and trout anglers but with a decrease in salmon anglers as well as sea trout anglers throughout the Annan during 2015 the rod catch for sea trout, although down on last year, by comparison appears to be remaining fairly steady.

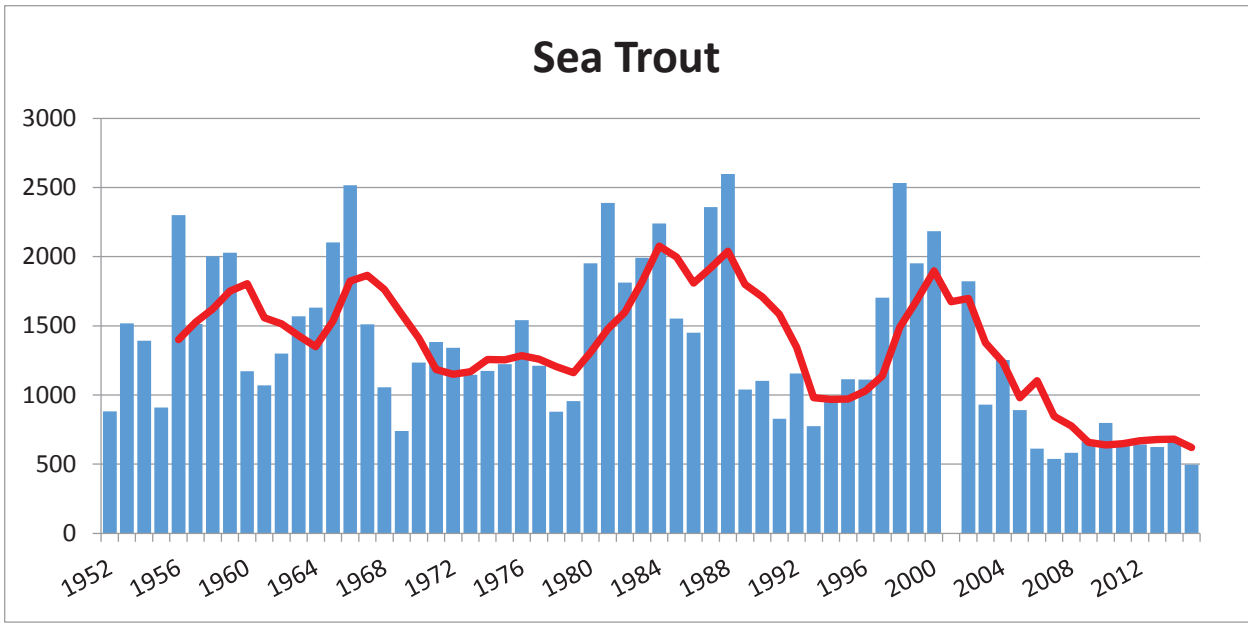


Fig 2 - Sea trout catch data from 1952 to 2015

During late summer and early autumn good numbers of sea trout were seen in many of the lower parts of tributaries during periods of very low water after several weeks with little or no rain. From late October onwards we did not seem to suffer from any lack of rain and with constant high water it became difficult to track fish in the headwaters as an indication of spawning and the counting of redds became impossible.

Last year a number of charity sea trout nights were organised on the lower river and despite the fact some of these were cancelled due to rising and coloured water during an otherwise dry summer, in total £780 was raised for cancer research. During 2016 similar sea trout events will be planned in a slightly changed format in an effort to encourage anglers onto the river at night to fish for sea trout so we can more accurately assess the abundance of our runs.



Brown Trout

With the number of salmon anglers fishing the upper river in decline over recent seasons the current stocks of brown trout on those fisheries are becoming more valuable in terms of marketing the river. The Annan has been renowned for its excellent trout fishing for a number of years now and the majority of anglers fishing the upper river beats either on a day ticket or season ticket basis are now fishing for trout. With a sudden reduction in salmon anglers last year, this is a trend that is likely to continue and through future fishery development work we intend to develop and market the trout fishing and the availability of trout fishing further.

As with the grayling the brown trout are ever present and there is a demand from anglers to fish for them. With balanced marketing of the river covering all fisheries offering trout fishing (on a day to day basis trout fishing is available for the same cost as salmon fishing due to the price structure on the Annan with very affordable fishing available throughout the river during the spring and early summer) there appears to be little conflict of interest in terms of fishing availability and space.



Fig 3 - Chris Wall with an excellent 5lb plus brown trout from the upper river caught on a dry fly in May

Last season saw a very warm end to March before a sudden change to much colder and unsettled weather during April and May. This certainly affected the spring hatches and with reduced fly life the early fishing was at times tough. The advantage we have with our brown trout population is that the majority of the river now operates on a catch and release basis and the brown trout stocks appear to be very healthy and balanced now with much improved numbers of smaller fish and juveniles.

As the season progressed the hatches picked up and the fishing was at times excellent right through the summer months and into the early autumn where due to the reduced numbers of salmon anglers on some of the upper beats, trout anglers were able to continue their fishing and enjoy both good hatches and some very good fishing right up until the close of the season.

Grayling

There has been a sharp rise in the popularity of winter grayling fishing in recent years which has coincided with increased availability of winter grayling fishing throughout the river on both a day ticket and season ticket basis. Due to the changed attitude to grayling as a species in a primarily salmon and sea trout fishery (most anglers are now practising 100% catch and release), much like our brown trout population, numbers of grayling are on the increase and we currently have healthy populations of grayling through all year classes.

Information gained from the winter grayling days has been very useful to assess these populations and grayling of all sizes are now commonly found in good numbers from Three Waters Meet on the upper river to Newbie on the lower river.

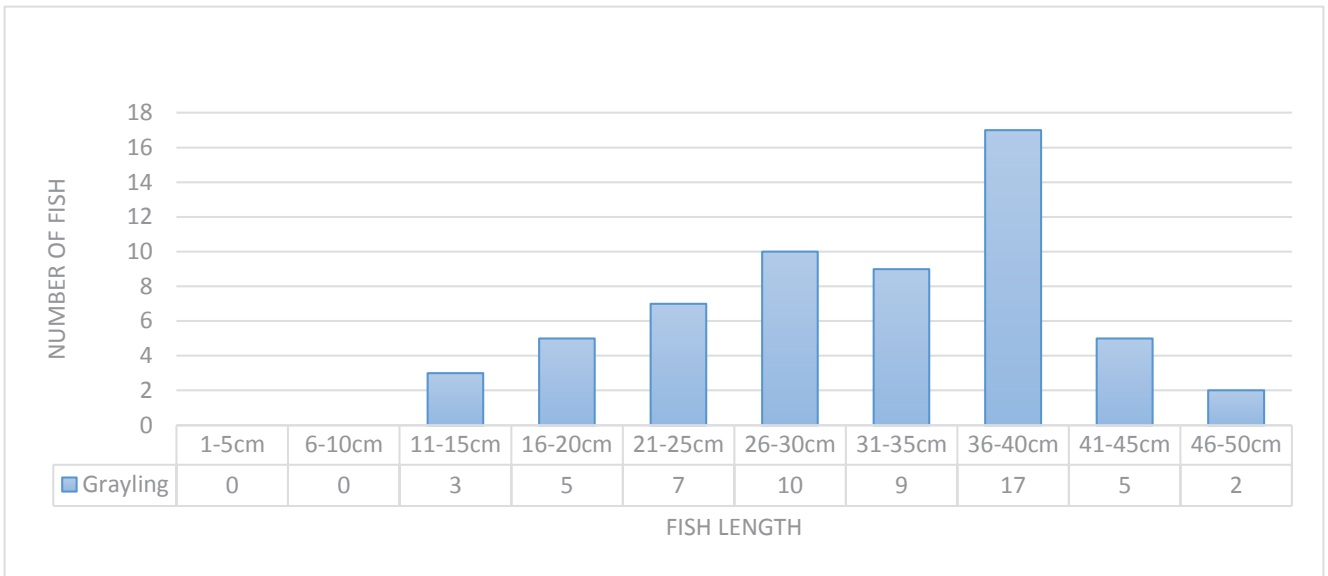


Fig 4 - Graph showing the lengths and numbers of grayling caught during a winter grayling event

As always, the biggest contributing factor to the availability and success of winter grayling fishing is the weather and with the river height during the 2014/2015 winter season being very high at times many of the fishing days available were lost due to the poor conditions.

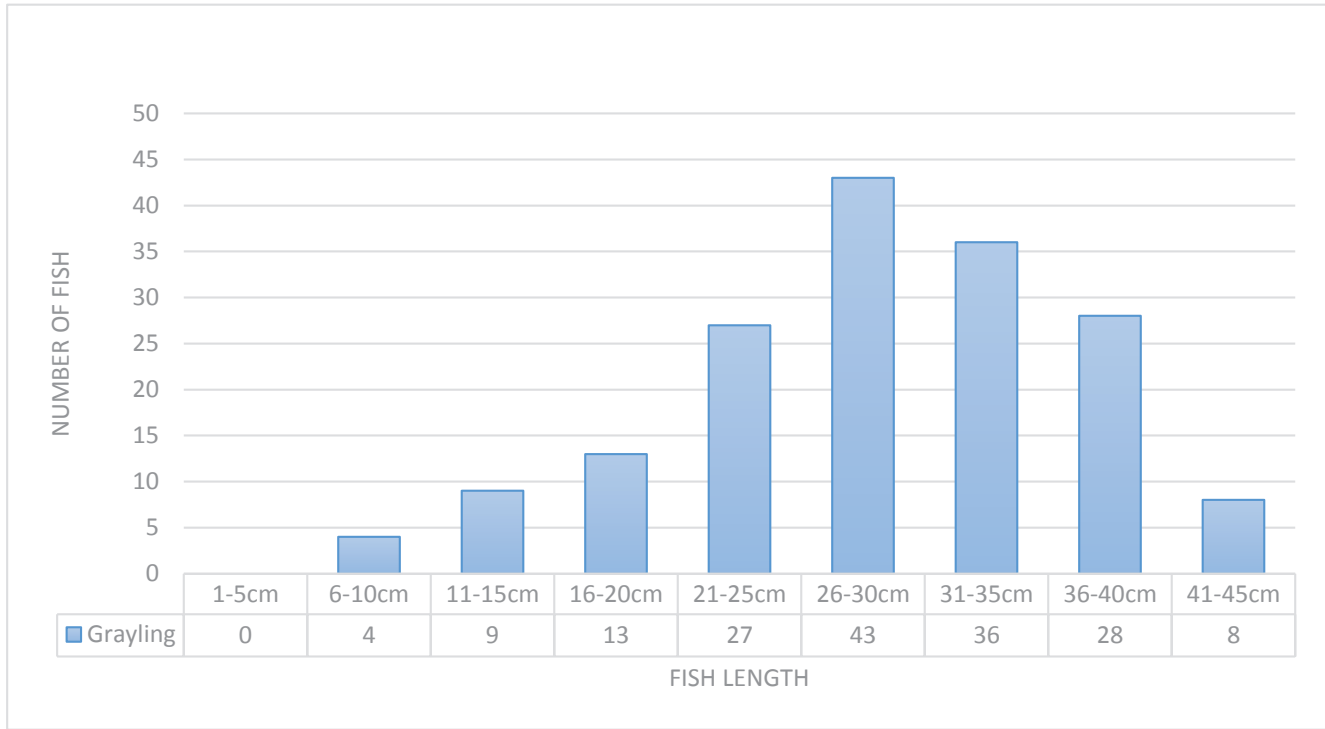
## Grayling Society Symposium 2015

In October 2015 the Grayling Society Symposium was held on the Annan at the Dryfesdale Hotel in Lockerbie. The event was well attended with over 50 delegates for the Saturday conference which was very informative with some excellent presentations followed by a day's grayling fishing on the Annan.



We would like to thank all of the fishery owners who donated fishing for the event and the volunteers that gave up their day to guide for the anglers. There were 168 fish recorded in the returns showing a good average weight of grayling. Of the 8 fish caught over 40cm four weighed 2lb plus with the majority of the fish caught on dry flies during some excellent afternoon hatches of olives after a slow start in the morning.

**Fig 5 - Kris Kent playing a small grayling on Cleuchhead during the Grayling Society fishing day**



**Fig 6 - Graph showing the lengths and numbers of grayling caught during the Grayling Society Sunday fishing session in early October.**

## Wild Fisheries Reform

Following a Scottish National Party manifesto commitment to modernising fishery management, the Wild Fisheries Review was initiated by Andrew Thin's Report in 2014. The report explored opportunities to develop and promote a modern, evidence-based management system for wild fisheries that is fit for purpose in the 21st century, and capable of responding to the changing environment. The review also had a strong emphasis on managing, conserving and developing our wild fisheries to maximise the sustainable benefit of Scotland's wild fish resources to the country as a whole and particularly to rural areas. The final report was published in late 2014 and made 53 recommendations to improve fish populations, fisheries and angling opportunity.

2015 saw the Wild Fisheries Review rapidly evolve into the Wild Fisheries Reform. An extensive consultation on the Thin Report findings was launched in spring 2015 which asked questions on a wide range of topics such as the creation of Fishery Management Organisations, the introduction of a rod licence and new legislation to enhance protection of fish populations. A further two consultations followed later in the year and fisheries organisations had to contribute considerable time and effort to respond to what are challenging questions. Reassuringly Scottish Government have strongly emphasised that the WFR will be evolved using a bottom up approach and have invested considerable resources into disseminating consultation responses and adjusting their proposals accordingly.

During 2015 Scottish Government has established various steering groups to inform the development of the broad principles for a new management system and see these through to detailed proposals and new legislation. Our Chairman Alister Jack sits on the Stakeholder Reference Group with representatives from other organisations such as ASFB, RAFTS and S&TA. Additional working groups will be established to focus on key topics within the reform such as scientific data, enforcement, angler participation. As the reform continues to evolve in 2016 the RADSFB will continue to engage constructively with Scottish Government and all other stakeholders in an attempt to positively influence the future form and function of fisheries management.

RADSFB responded comprehensively to all consultation phases and our representations can be viewed via the following link:

<http://www.riverannan.org/#!/fisheries-review/ct7s>



# Conservation Limits

Simultaneously to the Wild Fisheries Review, the report published in October 2014, recommended that in advance of consideration of the broader reform agenda for wild fisheries, Ministers take immediate action to conserve wild Atlantic Salmon by introducing as soon as practicable a ban on killing in netting and rod and line fisheries except under licence.

Salmon is a protected species under the Habitats Directive. In addition, The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation Fishery (NASCO), to which the European Union is a party, provides guidance that makes it clear that fisheries are best managed on a single river stock basis and that action should be taken to reduce the risks posed by any Mixed Stock Fisheries (those fisheries exploiting salmon from more than one river). NASCO has recommended that conservation limits and management targets be set for each river and combined as appropriate for the management of different stock groupings defined by managers and that stocks be maintained above conservation limits by means of management targets.

The initial proposal was to establish quotas for populations that were deemed sustainable and introduce a licencing system whereby those wishing to retain fish applied for carcass tags in order to effectively monitor exploitation. Widespread concern over the practicality of such a system led to a revised proposal of categorising rivers based on the health of salmon stocks and applying broader measures to reduce exploitation on rivers deemed to be failing to achieve Conservation Limits (CLs).

Fulfilling these responsibilities requires balance between the conservation of Atlantic salmon and losses to fisheries and other anthropogenic impacts. Scotland (as part of the UK) is accountable both to the EU and the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO). The proposed new management system takes account of obligations to both organisations and in particular to the Habitats Directive and NASCO guidelines on the management of salmon fisheries.

To inform the process modelling was undertaken, at the request of Scottish Government, by Marine Scotland Science (MSS) to establish (CLs) for 118 river districts throughout Scotland. This process is part of the management of fisheries designed to target areas where intervention is required to conserve salmon stocks. It is recognised that the management of salmon fisheries needs to take account of national and international commitments in relation to economic growth, environmental conservation and the development of green energy.

## Calculating Conservation Limits

Conservation Limits are established by calculating the egg requirement for a given catchment and assessing if the estimated egg deposition from returning adult salmon was sufficient to meet or exceed egg requirement for the available habitat.

The following factors were considered in initial MSS modelling;

## Quantifying egg deposition

- Grilse Error** – Establishing the number of grilse and salmon within the total population. This is important for accurate estimates of fish size and therefore fecundity.
- Exploitation** – In order to estimate the total number of returning adults rod & line catch data was extrapolated to estimate the total number of returning adults.
- In-river Losses** – Adult losses in freshwater were considered so that the population surviving to spawning was accurate. Consideration was given to mortality associated with catch and release practice form rod and line fishing, predation and diseases.
- Sex Ratio** – Establishing the proportion of females to males within the population is necessary to estimate total egg deposition
- Egg Content** – Numerous studies have been undertaken both nationally and internationally to quantify the relationship between fish weight/condition and numbers of eggs produced. It can be assumed the figures used in the modelling will be of reasonable accuracy.

## Quantifying egg requirement

Conservation Limit – A CL is generally derived from a long term monitoring programme that produces a stock and recruitment (SR) curve relating the number of spawners (often expressed as potential egg deposition rates) in each year to the subsequently derived progeny. In the absence of high resolution data on egg requirements for different river types in Scotland it has been assumed that they fall into the range of CLs (1.1 to 9.8 eggs m<sup>2</sup>) derived from internationally monitored rivers at the same latitudes.

Wetted Stream Bed Area – Wetted area is calculated by multiplying the length of accessible habitat by the channel width. MSS used mapping data to establish wetted area that did not take into account locally collected data which would have provided a more accurate assessment of habitat quality and availability.

## Refining Conservation Limits

It is widely recognised that there is a requirement for more specific, local data to be fed into the system in order to improve the accuracy of the modelling outputs. In the opinion of the RADSFB the most obvious inaccuracy related to how MSS quantified the wetted area for the Annan catchment. Coastal burns and still waters were included although local data identifies that those habitats are not utilised by salmon. Also the mapping data used by MSS did not take into account locally gathered data collected through electrofishing surveys, habitat surveys and barrier assessments.

In order to accurately assess the egg requirement for the River Annan a desk based study will be conducted in 2016 to accurately establish the availability of wetted area used for salmon reproduction. This will require a database to be compiled that combines all our electrofishing, habitat and barrier data. In total there will be approximately 950 electrofishing sites and a further 500 potential barriers which have been assessed and classified for passage. By adding all site information into GIS it will be possible to identify the extent to which salmon can access and utilise habitat throughout the catchment.



# Fisheries development

A meeting with Fishpal took place in early October 2015 to discuss future marketing ideas for the River Annan. Suggestions made during the meeting included:

- Create and develop a Fishannan Facebook page to market the river and deliver up to date information to anglers.
- Create and publish informative articles in a format of text, image and video to market the Annan and its individual fisheries.
- Organise angling weekends to introduce anglers to the River Annan through a series of workshops, presentations and discussion followed by casting instruction and guided fishing on the river.
- Renew and update much of the content on the Fishpal (Fishannan) website.
- Continue with regular angling reports through the Fishpal (Fishannan) website.
- Continue with the winter grayling days held monthly on the River Annan (weather depending) and discuss possible changes to the format.

In October the Fish Annan Facebook page was created to help further develop the fishing on the river through regular angling reports, photographs of fish caught by anglers, news articles and to market future events on the Annan.

The Fish Annan Facebook page will be developed through regular posts on fishing conditions, fishing reports, news stories and to market all of the fishing available on the Annan. The quality and variety of content is essential in maintaining interest from anglers and a number of ideas for the type of format for future posts and articles has been discussed with many of these having now been published with a good response from anglers following the page.

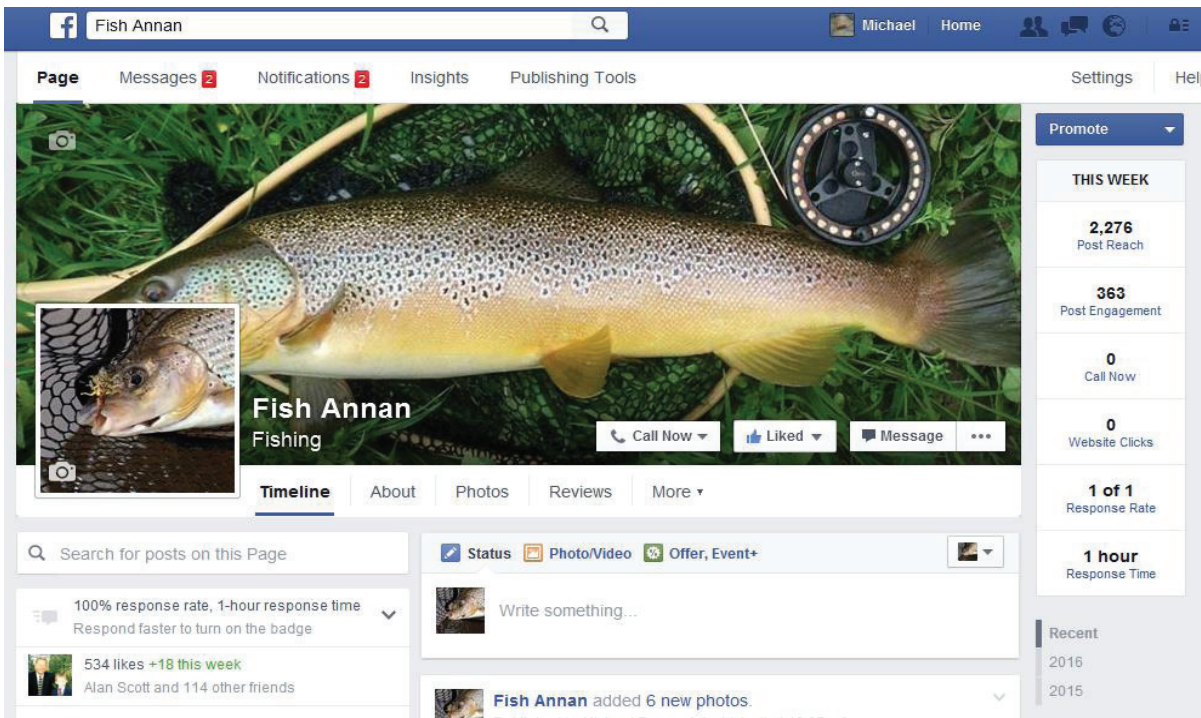


Fig 9 - Screen shot of the Fishannan Facebook home page

As well as the regular content of photographs and fishing reports, we also intend to publish short articles on individual fisheries. The intention is to cover all fishing beats throughout the river and showcase the variety of species present throughout the year at the relative peak times for the respective quarry. These articles will advise anglers on where and when to fish the Annan to ensure the best possible experience during their visit.

All future events on the River Annan will be marketed through the Fish Annan Facebook page as well as Fishpal with continued support from the Fishpal marketing team. Winter grayling days will continue and Facebook will be used heavily in advertising these days and updating anglers on conditions prior to the event and to publish the results after the event.

During the spring of 2016 the first of the Fish Annan Guided Weekends will take place covering salmon fishing on the Saturday and trout fishing on the Sunday using various beats on the upper, lower and middle river focussing on casting, tactics and technique. This will be followed by further salmon, sea trout and trout events over the 2016 season with a similar format planned for some of our winter grayling days.

These events will be used as a platform to promote the Annan and its individual fisheries to anglers that have some or no experience of fishing the Annan using both angling guides and instructors either local to, or familiar, with the Annan as well as volunteers that are regular visiting anglers to the river.

# Bailiff Report

This report is a summary of the work undertaken during 2015:

- Continue to use the partnership set up between Police Scotland at a local level and the River Annan DSFB.
- Continue to monitor and deal with the threat of serious poaching in the Annan catchment through planned operations.
- Continue bailiff development on a local level within the Annan catchment and on a national level through the Bailiff Development Group.
- Continue to build on joint training with the River Nith DSFB and other DSFB's within South West Scotland.
- Continue to plan and undertake joint operations with the EA under the Lower Border Rivers Order and the River Nith DSFB under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003.

## Summary

During the spring of 2015 there were a number of reports of dead or dying salmon and sea trout on the lower Annan and this was mirrored by other rivers throughout Scotland. This prompted fears of UDN with fish displaying similar symptoms although through testing on other rivers it was found that the fish sampled were suffering from the spread of saprolegnia fungus which is an ever present pathogen in all freshwater and thrives in cold the water conditions which we had during late spring and early summer last year (the difficulty with testing fish for UDN is that they need to be alive at the time of or just prior to testing).

Saprolegnia fungus spreads on any open wound or damage to fish and can be a secondary infection to other conditions which is why it is often associated with UDN. Only low numbers of salmon and sea trout were seen and recovered on the lower river and the causes of damage which resulted in the spread of the fungus appeared to be, from examination of the carcasses', a result of predator damage, net damage and on one occasion a catch and release casualty.

Under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003 section 8 it is an offence to remove a dead salmon or trout from a watercourse and anglers were advised of this at the time as much to prevent reports of this to the Annan DSFB. The Anglers and those associated with the lower fisheries were of great help last year in notifying the Annan DSFB about any cases of dead or dying salmon or trout allowing us to act quickly to remove and deal with these fish.

Much of the season we suffered from dry and cold weather with a few exceptions during the summer months, a high proportion of the enforcement work undertaken during this time was on the lower river and Solway often working in partnership with the Environment Agency both within the Annan catchment and the Lower Border Esk catchment.

Over the season the angling pressure for salmon and sea trout was very light throughout the river which suffered for much of last year from low water. The majority of the Annan's salmon catch was recorded from the lower beats last year and much of the bailiffing work was carried out in these areas as well as the Annan's main lower river tributary the Water of Milk until rain arrived and fish progressed upstream.

When the first substantial rainfall came in October, unfortunately from an angling point of view it just didn't stop raining. This gave the salmon and sea trout free passage through to the headwaters and the high water effectively continued right through the winter.

## Bailiff Training and Development

In 2012 the ASFB set up the bailiff development group in response to the Wild Fisheries Review. This was inspired by the need to continue to develop and refine a number of initiatives and products relating to fisheries enforcement in Scotland. These include:

- Helping to inform and influence the Wild Fisheries Reform process in relation to fisheries enforcement and compliance.
- Working with IFM, Scottish Government and others to promote the continued professional development of fisheries enforcement staff in Scotland.
- Co-ordinate the delivery of the annual bailiff's conference. This allows the networking of the national bailiffing force to allow information exchange and sharing of best practice.
- Delivery of briefings and training sessions for prospective bailiffs. This also extends to local training sessions for police officers who are unfamiliar with salmon fisheries legislation.
- Production of standard 'tools' to improve consistency in enforcement. This includes standard issue notebooks, guidance on the law and guidance on good operational practice.
- Developing strong partnerships with other enforcement agencies – this includes the Partnership Against Wildlife Crime (PAW) and the National Wildlife Crime Unit (NWCU).

The Bailiff Development Group meetings are held quarterly in Edinburgh chaired by Jim Henderson Nith DSFB and with Brian Davidson ASFB, Jeff Gibbons Scottish Government, Kerrie Campbell Scottish Government and bailiffs from throughout Scotland in attendance.

In September last year the first Solway Bailiff training night was held at the River Nith DSFB with bailiffs from the Annan, Nith and Galloway rivers. The training nights involve a mix of practical sessions on the river and theory sessions at the Nith DSFB office talking through various scenarios and discussions on the application of the legislation.

So far the workshops have been well attended and they have proved essential for the training of volunteer bailiff's pre and post passing the IFM bailiffing exam as well as helping the further development of full time and more experienced volunteer bailiffs, these workshops will serve as additional training to the National workshops currently being run by the ASFB, IFM and Scottish Government and organised through the bailiff development group.



***Some of the bailiffs attending a training night taking a close look at a trammel net seized on the river Nith by the Nith DSFB.***

## Bailiff Training and Development - CONTINUED

The River Annan District Salmon Fishery board employs one full time bailiff in the role of Head Water bailiff with two other full time members of staff in possession of the ASFB national warrant card, all three full time members of staff have passed the IFM and ASFB Bailiffs Exam. In addition to this there are also a number of volunteer bailiffs of which two have passed the IFM and ASFB Bailiffs Exam and also hold the ASFB national warrant card. An additional bailiff will sit the exam in March 2016 and he has so far attended all of the training nights held at the River Nith DSFB over the autumn and will be attending the winter training nights as well as an additional revision and exam training night set up for bailiffs looking to sit the March exam during the 2016 Bailiffs Conference.

## Bailiffing Priorities

The main issues present on the Annan can be split into three different categories;

- i. Fishing without written permission*
- ii. The taking of salmon or sea trout without lawful right whilst fishing (with or without written permission)*
- iii. Commercial poaching (taking of salmon and sea trout for financial gain)*

The National legislation is in place making it an offence for anyone to take a salmon before the 1st April. This legislation is in place to protect the Scotland's spring salmon stocks by ensuring 100% catch and release on all spring salmon. This legislation will be enforced and anyone deliberately taking a salmon during this period will be subject to prosecution. It is hoped that this action will be unnecessary and that anglers will continue to release all salmon caught during the period covered by the legislation.

Due to our category three status, from the 1st April it will be an offence for anyone to take salmon in inland waters and coastal waters (with exceptions for a purpose mentioned in section 27(1) (a) of the 2003 Act exemption for certain offences in respect of acts done for scientific and other purposes) within the Annan Catchment under the Conservation of Salmon (Scotland) Regulations 2016. As with the Scottish National Legislation this will be enforced and anyone found in possession of salmon whilst the Annan continues to have category three status will be committing an offence and will be subject to prosecution. Meetings with Police Scotland will take place in the spring to update the police and their wildlife liaison officers at local level with regards to changes in the legislation and the effects this may have.

## Smolt Trap Update

The River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board operated a smolt trap on the Water of Milk during the spring of 2015 with an objective to collect data on the Milks smolt run. The trap was located on the lower reaches of the Milk just above where it joins the main River Annan at the top of the Hoddum Fishery.

Fishing commenced on Thursday 16th April and stopped on Friday 10th July. The smolt trap was in position on the River Milk for a total of 85 days during this period out of which 24 days were lost to excessive high water and flood conditions giving us an active fishing time of 61 days in total. For the duration that the trap was on site, the trap was checked every day and during flood conditions at least twice a day by RADSFB staff and or volunteers. The trap was emptied every day in the morning except for during periods of high fish numbers when the trap was emptied twice a day.

Occasional checks were made during periods of low water and low fish capture, during these times 99% of fish captured were captured between 8pm and 10am. During higher flows and high fish capture this number dropped to 80% with 20% being captured between 10am and 8pm.

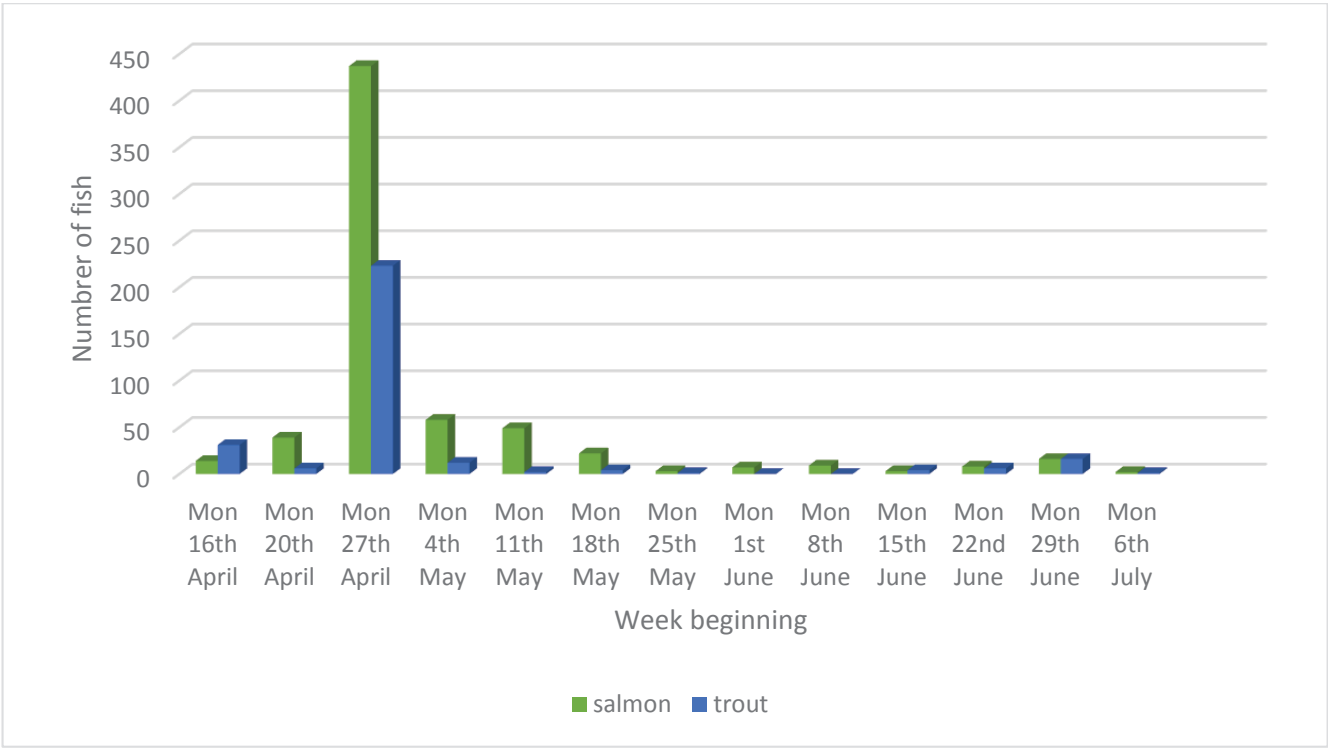
The intention was to keep the catch effort of the trap consistent at all times by fishing all heights of water without moving the trap from its original location and without risk to the trap itself. The only variation would be in the release of fish. Consistent catch effort was achieved without the need for moving the trap excessively within the chosen site (when removing the trap due to floods, every attempt was made to locate it in the same position once the river levels had dropped). This gave us catch data for a variety of water heights, water conditions and temperatures to work with any usable recapture data.

A percentage of the smolts captured were to be marked by adipose fin removal and released at a point upstream of the trap to be recorded upon recapture, all fish captured and not marked were released at a point downstream of the trap. All of the smolts captured were measured for length and 50% of the smolts captured were weighed to give us data on their condition factor.

Other data recorded daily included water temperature, water flow in metres per second, water Ph and the visible water conditions on arrival at the trap as well as the time the trap was emptied. Additional data collected and recorded from a percentage of the fish caught included scale and genetic samples.



Smolt Trap Update - CONTINUED



The chart above shows the run timing of salmon and trout smolts on the Water of milk during 2015. Each bar shows the number of fish caught by the trap that week.

Over half the total numbers of smolts captured were recorded during a period of 3 days at the end of week 3. This was immediately followed by heavy rain bringing flash floods and constant high water and during week 4 of trapping the trap was removed for 6 of the 7 days that week due to flood conditions and trapping resumed at the beginning of week 5. A further 18 days were lost over the remaining weeks due to flood conditions.

Trapping continued throughout June when conditions allowed and into July. After a period of low water there was slight increase in smolt numbers following a rise in water at the end of June and the beginning of July which quickly tailed off before the trap was removed.

	Caught	Marked	Recaptured
Salmon smolts	667	404	36
Trout smolts	306	195	10
Salmon	7	N/A	N/A
Trout	13	N/A	N/A
Chub	4	N/A	N/A
Minnow	14	N/A	N/A
Lamprey	8	N/A	N/A
Stone loach	10	N/A	N/A
TOTALS	1029	599	46

The table above shows the total numbers of fish caught as well as a breakdown of species numbers and recapture numbers.

It was our intention to experiment and use various methods of release for marked fish which started with a distance of 150 meters upstream, the initial recapture percentage during this period was very poor with out of 101 fish released during the first two weeks only 1 fish was recaptured giving a recapture percentage of 1%. At this time we were experiencing a period of dry weather with very low flows and this was taken into consideration.

The remaining 498 fish marked and released were caught and released in two days during week 3 at the end of April when the river height was up after a spate. During the following 10 days the trap was out of operation for 6 of those days due to flash flooding and high water, despite this we recorded during that week a total of 45 recaptures. Some of these recaptures were recorded almost a week after the last marked fish had been released.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Mr Anthony Steel and the River Annan Fisheries Improvement Association for the purchase and loan of the smolt trap.

We would also like to thank Bill Ronson from Hoddum Fishery for his continuous help both day and night for the duration of the smolt trap operation as well as all of the other volunteers from the Hoddum Fishery, Annelise Clebant for her volunteering during the operation of the smolt trap and the many anglers who also gave us their time and support.



# Invasive Non-Native Species Project

The Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) Project started back in 2010 and entered its sixth year in 2015. The project continued with its successful top down approach to tackling Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed, American skunk cabbage and Himalayan balsam. In addition to the three plants the Trust also carries out control of American mink and monitoring work for American signal crayfish. Running in conjunction to this are the awareness raising activities designed to raise the profile of the project and to promote good biosecurity.

The project has been a great success and has removed and reduced the amount of INNS within the catchment improving biodiversity and access within the River Annan catchment.

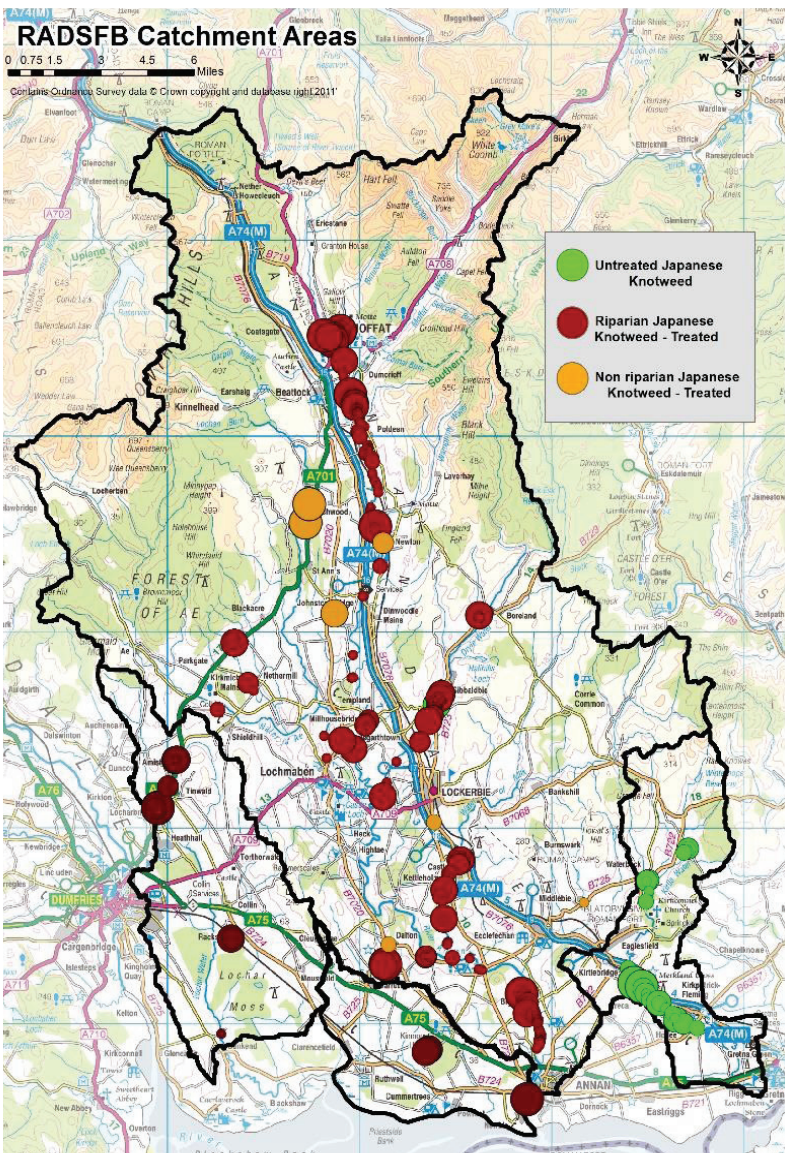


Fig 10 – Japanese knotweed treatment across the River Annan catchment

## Japanese Knotweed

The Pow Burn and Lochar water were surveyed for invasive non-native plants in the spring of 2015, recording and mapping the locations of any that were found. Only one stand was found on the Pow Burn at 500m2. The Lochar Water harboured 16 stands of Japanese knotweed at 1,920m2. The RADSFB employed a seasonal worker to assist with the control of Japanese knotweed and they successfully completed the Safe use of Pesticides course. Funding for this was provided through the INNS project.

In 2015 approximately 5700m2 (23 stands) of Japanese knotweed were treated. This included everything found in the Pow Burn and Lochar Water surveys as well as the large stand at Annan harbour which is estimated to be 5000m2. Due to the size and the difficulty of accessing the stand only 2000-2500 was accessible for treatment.

Since the project began in 2010 approximately 18,000m2 or 311 stands of Japanese knotweed has been treated. This has been broken down by catchment in table 1 opposite.

River Catchment	Amount treated m <sup>2</sup>	No of Stands
River Annan	15,000	285
Lochar Water	1,920	16
Pow Burn	500	1
Not on the river (roadsides gardens etc)	795	9

Table 1 - Japanese knotweed treatment by river catchment since 2010



Fig 11 - Japanese knotweed before (2014) and after treatment (2015) on the Frenchland Burn

## American Skunk Cabbage

Small populations were previously found on the Water of Ae and Dalton, over the last two years increasing numbers of this plant have been found in other areas. The plant spreads by producing seeds, however it is a long lived perennial and needs to be removed by manual labour (digging it out) or through the application of herbicide.

In the spring of 2015 we removed 50 plants from around the catchment, largely on the main river between Waterside House and Murraythwaite. The plants were removed by digging them out as the root system is short (although can often be deep in larger plants). They were left to dry out before burning. This was done in May to ensure that none of the plants had produced any fruiting berries which contain the seeds that allow short distance dispersal.



Fig 12 - American skunk cabbage control on the River Annan involved digging up the plant



Giant Hogweed

Giant hogweed plants are still being found at the same site on the Water of Ae. Ten plants were treated in 2010 using stem injection as this method has proved to be particularly successful in killing the plant before it sets seed. Giant hogweed has been prevented from seeding for at least 4 years on the Water of Ae and possibly longer as the landowner had been attempting to control the plant by removing the flower heads when they appeared. It is likely that we will continue to find plants on this site for a few more years yet until the seedbank has been exhausted.



Fig 13 - Giant hogweed emerging through the vegetation in its first year of growth

Himalayan Balsam

The last few years have demonstrated that catchment wide control of this plant is not possible, it is too widespread and propagates too rapidly. Instead control has focused on small, isolated populations on Mill Loch and the Birnock Water. In 2015 control continued on Mill Loch, work in 2014 had significantly reduced the population but had not eradicated it entirely. Work to control the plant on the Birnock Water also continued, however it became clear that the small, isolated population discovered in 2014 was actually part of a larger population that continues into the adjacent caravan park. The removal of this population will need to be reassessed and will almost certainly require the permission and assistance of the caravan park.

It is generally thought that seeds are viable in the seed bank for 18 months although this has been disputed with the reasoning that any plants growing after this time have propagated from Himalayan balsam that was missed during the initial control. It is certainly the case that removing every plant, even from a small population is difficult.

American Mink

The numbers of usable mink rafts have been in decline over the years through a combination of wear and tear, weather and flooding. The hardened polystyrene rafts built in 2011/12 are not suitable for larger water courses and can only be used in slow flowing burns and still waters. As a consequence, trapping is in response to sightings of mink or evidence of recent mink activity (such as prints or scats).

The numbers of mink trapped remains relatively low and only six were caught in 2015, five male and one unsexed. These were trapped on the Fishbeck Burn (x2), Hoddom, Dryfeholme and Torwood on the Dryfe Water.



Fig 14 - An American mink on the Water of Dryfe taken by George Trudt

Summary of INNS Work

Species	Achievements
Japanese knotweed	311 Stands treated since 2010 18,000m <sup>2</sup> treated since 2010 23 Stands treated in 2014 5700m <sup>2</sup> treated in 2014 One seasonal worker trained in the safe use of pesticides (PA1 & PA6aw)
Himalayan balsam	22,203m <sup>2</sup> cleared since 2010 2074m <sup>2</sup> cleared in 2014
Giant hogweed	10 plants stem injected in 2015
American Mink	6 Animals trapped in 2015
American Skunk Cabbage	50 Plants removed in 2015

Table 2 - Summary of work carried out for the INNS project

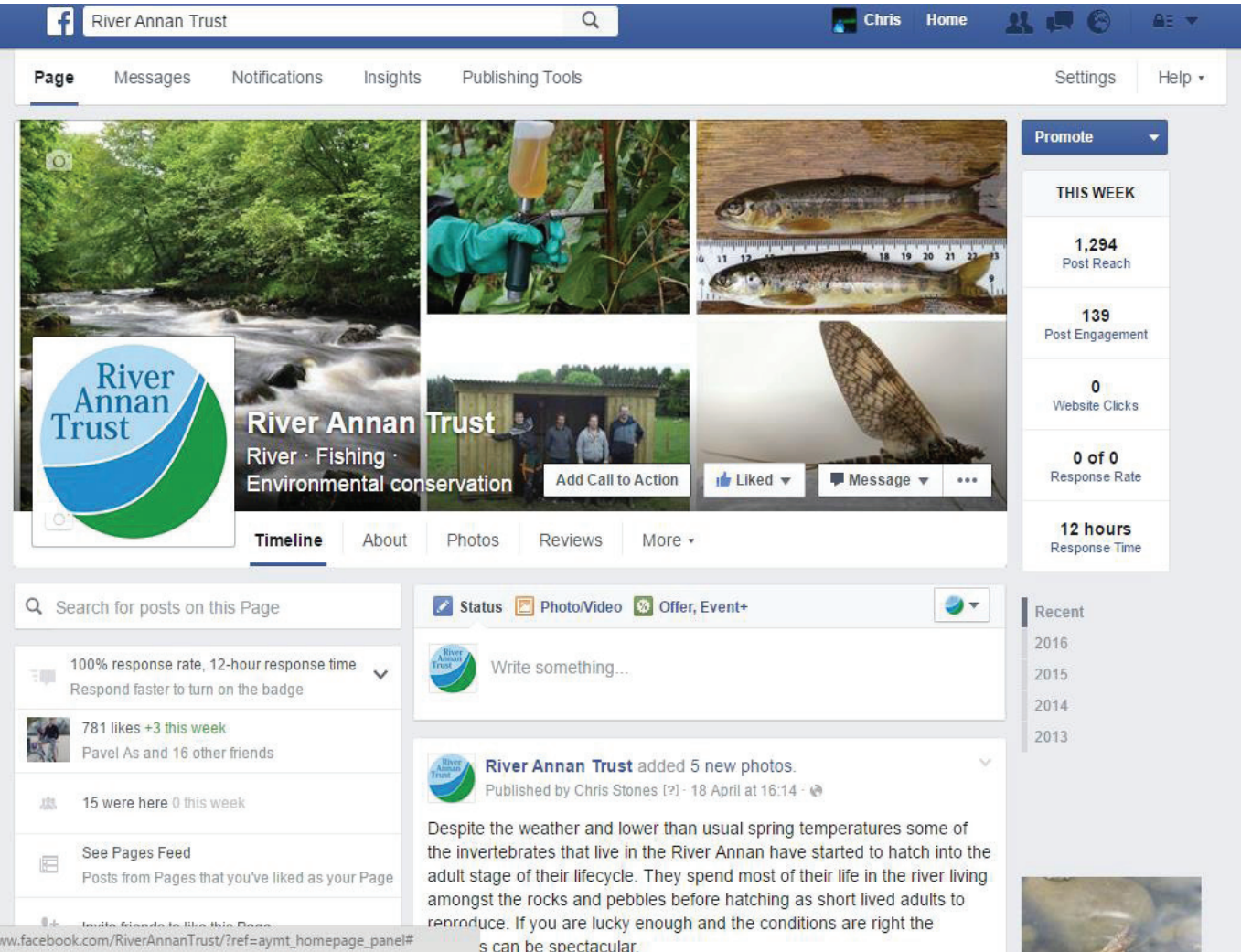


Awareness Raising

The INNS project continues to be promoted at various shows and events the first of which was the Environment Fair in March followed by the Williamswood Farm open day in June. Later in the summer was the Lowther Show.

The INNS project has collated and shared all of its data on invasive non-native plants with the Dumfries & Galloway Environmental Records Centre as part of a Dumfries & Galloway wide mapping project. This is a collaborative attempt to share INNS data across a range of organisations to improve decision making and minimise the risk of accidental spread of plants such as Japanese knotweed.

The River Annan Trust & Fishery Board continue to promote the work that is carried out on the River Annan via social media. The River Annan Facebook page has 781 followers at the time of going to print and continues to grow.



Restoring Annan Water Programme

Restoring Annan Water (RAW) is a partnership group comprised of statutory and voluntary organisations which intends to protect and enhance ecosystems within the Annan catchment. The objective of the RAW programme is to deliver catchment management best practice to restore the Annan to its natural state. The potential projects that could be delivered through the RAW programme are wide ranging. Management options under the RAW programme could include habitat restoration and creation, natural flood management, barrier removal/easement and invasive species control. Community engagement, education and citizen science projects will also be integral elements of RAW objectives.

Discussions in late 2015 identified a consensus among the RAW committee that project ideas had been discussed for too long without actually delivering any objectives. As a commitment to delivering improvements within the Annan catchment, the River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board in partnership with the River Annan Trust has budgeted to recruit a Project Assistant during 2016. The Project Assistant will initially be employed on a six month fixed term contract with a view to extending this if additional funding can be secured.

With support from existing staff the post holder will be responsible for helping to deliver the following objectives:

- Creation of RAW Programme Strategic Framework Document.
- Undertaking surveys of various stakeholders & landowners.
- Collect & collate all relevant data regarding catchment ecosystems and biota.
- Instigate and co-ordinate one habitat restoration project and one barrier easement project.
- Promotion of RAW projects through website, social media and public engagement
- Assist future project funding applications.

While delivery of large scale projects will be unfeasible during the initial six months there are various opportunities to explore. It is hopeful that additional funding can be secured by the end of 2016 for the delivery of community engagement, educational and citizen science projects. While delivery of these small scale projects is rolled out over the next 12 months we can continue to work behind the scenes to develop large scale schemes supported by funding from LEADER, HLF, WEF etc RAW presents an excellent opportunity for the RADSFB and RAT to engage in projects that will have a wider benefit to fish populations and natural river processes. The proactive role we have taken in developing RAW demonstrates that fisheries management organisations can evolve to embrace all fish species and catchment management approaches to enhance populations. Additionally, an all species management approach will be a key function of the proposed Fishery Management Organisations.



Electrofishing Report

During the 2015 electrofishing season 97 sites were surveyed for contract, monitoring or investigative purposes. Contract surveys (table 3) accounted for 51 sites across the catchment and covered a range of work; monitoring the impacts of windfarms, hydro schemes, floodplain compensation schemes, fish pass installation and new road culverts. The pre-work surveys of the newly installed Wamphray fish pass commenced in 2015 and as expected high densities of salmon were found just below the weir while no salmon were found above. Low densities of non-migratory brown trout were found above the weir. Surveys will continue for a further 5 years and it is hoped we will find salmon above the weir for the first time in almost 20 years.

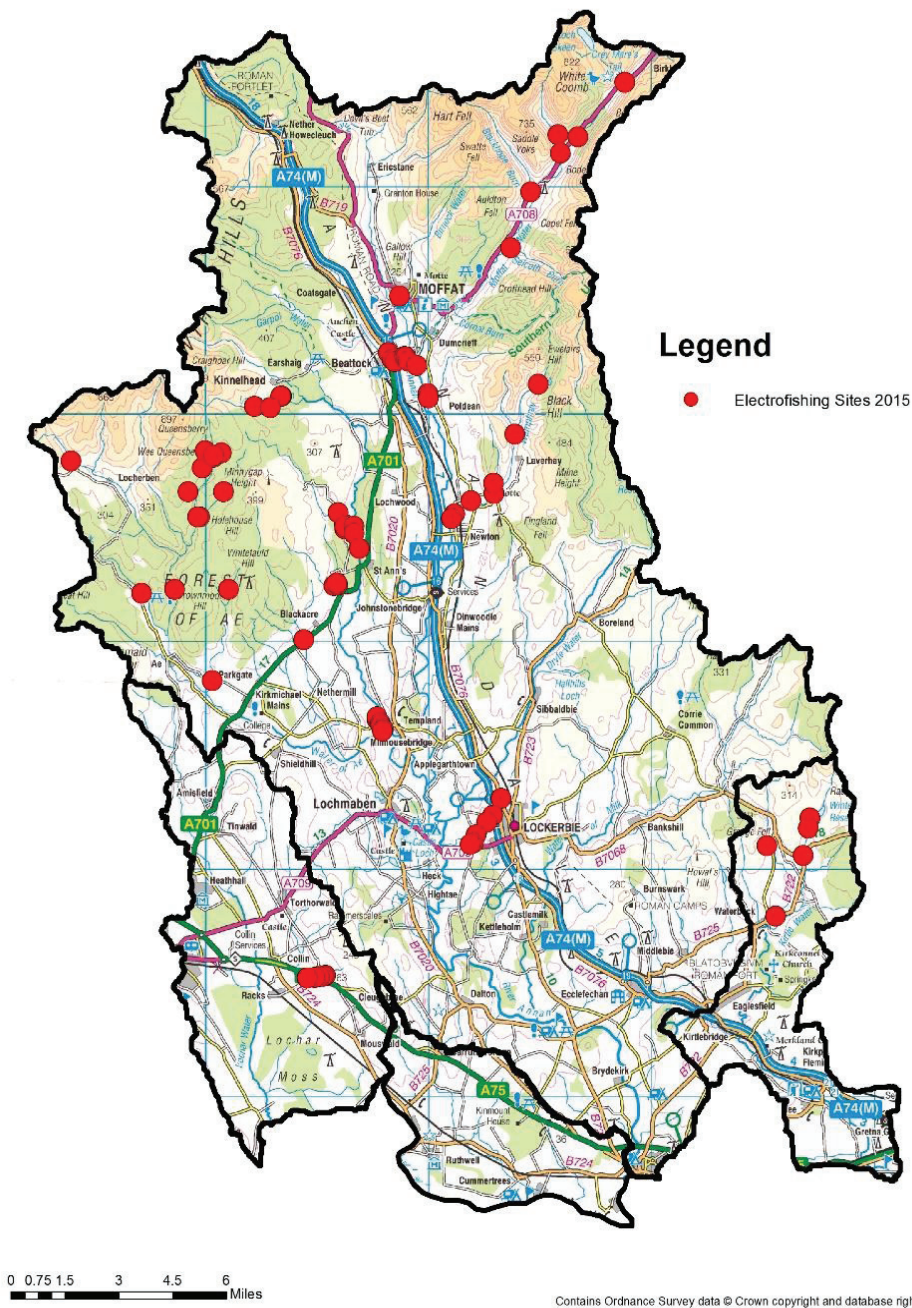


Fig 15 - Electrofishing sites around the catchment

the weir for the first time in almost 20 years.

Another contract survey of note was conducted on the Rockhall Burn and Shaw Burn within the Lochar Catchment. The Lochar Catchment has suffered from a variety of pressures and as a consequence many of the waterbodies are failing to achieve good ecological status under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). The sites had all suffered from cattle poaching and riparian grazing which often leads to an increase in sedimentation. It is likely that some of the pressures that have contributed to the poor ecological status of these waterbodies has impacted upon the availability of suitable habitat for fish. Fish were absent from three of the five sites surveyed and only seven fish found across the remaining two. Six were the European eel while one was a brown trout. SEPA are the competent body for the WFD and the findings were passed on to them.



Fig 16 - One of the sites on the Rockhall burn. The photo demonstrates some of the issues that can impact upon habitat quality. Lack of bankside vegetation, cattle poaching and siltation are all issues here.

General monitoring and investigative surveys to assess the health of juvenile salmonid populations across the catchment made up the remaining 46 sites. It was felt that the number of salmon fry found in surveys throughout the catchment is lower than previous years and in some cases the decline appears to be quite dramatic. Is this a consequence of a more general decline in Atlantic salmon across Scotland and further afield? Unfortunately, not enough monitoring sites were completed in 2015 to really assess this and only longer term electrofishing data collected from continued monitoring of sites across the River Annan will tell us if this is a long term trend or otherwise. Following discussions over incomplete data sets we have agreed to design a routine monitoring programme that ensures a defined number of sites are visited on annual basis.

Location	Client	Reason for Work
Bearholm Wash Flood	SP Energy Networks	Monitor the impact of a floodplain compensation scheme
Rockhall Burn & Shaw Burn – Lochar Catchment	Boghead Farm	Required as part of a proposed hydro scheme
Harestanes	Scottish Power Renewables	Monitor the impact of Harestanes windfarm
Kinnel Water & Duff Kinnel	Raehills Renewables	Monitor the impact of a hydro scheme and fish pass
Rough Burn	SP Energy Networks	Monitor the impact of a road culvert and fish pass
Wamphray Water	Network Rail	Monitor the Impact of a fish pass
Whiteknowe Head Burn & Mollin Burn	Mollin HEP	Monitor the impact of a hydro scheme

Table 3 - Summary of contract work carried out in 2015



# Barrier Assessment & Prioritisation

In 2015 the desktop exercise of mapping water crossings across the River Annan was complete and the process of assessing the impact of these structures on fish passage began. Man-made structures such as weirs and culverts can prevent the passage of a number of fish species such as salmon, trout, eels and lamprey. The impact of larger barriers on the main river and the major tributaries was already well understood and was reported on in 2011. The aim of this work was to get a better understanding of the impacts of structures on smaller water bodies which can provide important spawning habitat, in particularly for trout.

Assessments have been completed for 504 water crossings on the Moffat Water, Annan Water, Evan Water, Wamphray Water (in anticipation of the new fish pass) and the Water of Milk. Most of these structures do not cause any problems however 28 have been assessed as complete barriers to fish migration while a further 37 were partial barriers. Although fish can pass the latter in certain flows, if there are a number of these structures on a waterbody their cumulative impact can prevent fish from utilising habitat further upstream.

The information gathered from the barrier surveys has been submitted to the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and will contribute to their barrier prioritisation programme under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). SEPA currently have funds available through the Water Environment Fund to remove redundant man-made barriers such as weirs and culverts to assist with the delivery of river basin management plan targets.



**Fig 17 - A selection of the water crossings we encountered demonstrating their variability. There certainly is not a standard approach to designing these structures**

# Wamphray Culvert & Fish Pass

## Background

The culvert where the Wamphray Burn flows under the West Coast Mainline had been the most significant complete barrier to fish migration within the entire Annan catchment. For over 20 years the old culvert had presented a barrier to migrating fish trying to reach spawning grounds further upstream. The size of the existing culvert also provided a problem to local residents and Network Rail, during periods of heavy rain as when the river was in spate the culvert was unable to deal with the volumes of water leading to homes surrounding the culvert being inundated with flood water, it also impacted on the Railway embankment supporting the West Coast Main Line and led to scour erosion.

## Design

The original scope of works involved the construction of an over flow channel directly next to the existing channel that would assist the existing channel during periods of high rain. Network Rail, working with AMCO Rail and in collaboration with the River Annan Trust and Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) took the decision to implement a much larger scheme which would use the existing Wamphray culvert as the over flow channel and construct a brand new river channel which included a box culvert detail under the West Coast Main Line, a pre-cast downstream channel using U shaped channel units and an insitu concrete river channel upstream of the works. This new channel created a longer section of stream thus reducing the gradient which would further enhance its suitability for fish passage.

## Construction

The first phase of construction work was carried out during a 52hour possession of the West Coast Main Line in May 2015. This initial phase involved removing the track, excavating down to level, before installing six pre cast box sections across the West Coast Main Line. The track was then relaid and the line was back in operation for trains to run first thing on Monday morning.

The second phase of construction work involved the installation of 19 U-shaped pre-cast sections, each section weighed in at 19t and was lifted by a 200t crane working from a failsafe position adjacent to the live railway.

The third phase of construction involved constructing a reinforced 350mm deep concrete base connecting the Box culvert sections to the U-shaped sections. The wall pours on this section were of radius design, which required a high level of joiner expertise to ensure the wall kickers were set on the perfect line.

The fourth phase of construction involved installing the temporary works required to facilitate the permanent works upstream. To enable works upstream the waterway needed to be dammed and diverted. There was positive engagement with River Annan Trust during this period, who carried out a succession of fish rescues downstream of the works, so there was no impact on fish currently in the Wamphray. Once the diversion was in place, large scale temporary works were installed in the shape of 10m sheet piles in cantilever form, creating a safe environment to excavate down to the desired level.

The fifth and final stage of construction involved the construction of a new permanent upstream river channel, the new channel would begin at the box culvert and extend for 60 metres upstream. The channel would increase in width from 5m at the box culvert, extending out to 15m at the upstream tie in, where it connects back into the natural river. The work involved constructing the 4 bases in a 'hit & miss' sequence, each base consisting of circa 150m3 of structural concrete. The base levels would gradually step up to eventually tie in with the natural river bed level. All concrete was placed using a 36m concrete pump.



## Wamphray Culvert & Fish Pass - Construction - CONTINUED

Weir walls were constructed at each step in the base, these will hold shingle washed down by the river, providing a natural habitat for fish to spawn. V notch fish passages are also incorporated into each weir wall allowing fish to travel upstream and downstream during times of low water flow.

The newly constructed Wamphray culvert was completed on January 15th 2016. The project was delivered during the wettest winter ever recorded in Scotland – on two separate occasions the river burst its bank upstream of the works inundating the worksite with a torrent of water and leaving behind hundreds of tonnes of stone.

### Project Benefits

Network Rail have funded five years of post-work monitoring upstream of the fish pass and we will be undertaking electrofishing in Summer 2016 as adult salmon and sea trout were seen ascending the partly constructed fish pass during the large flood in mid-November.

The project has also significantly increased the capacity of water that can now flow under the West Coast Main Line. This has reduced the chance of flood water impacting on local residents, plagued by flooding events for many years now, as well as lessening the impact on the operational railway, the main artery between London & Glasgow.



Fig 18 - The construction of the Wamphray fish pass and bypass channel

## Milnbie Caul

The 2014 Annual Report described the SNIFFER assessment of the structure for fish passage and identified concerns for European eel, Lamprey species. The 2014 report also provided evidence that the distribution of eels encountered at electrofishing sites throughout the Annan catchment was low in comparison to the neighbouring Border Esk system. As a result of evidence submitted by RADSFB to SEPA, the entire River Annan has subsequently been downgraded to poor ecological status under the WFD on the basis of fish ecology.

The SNIFFER assessment also raised concerns about the possibility of the existing fish pass to act as a temperature barrier for salmonids under certain flows and temperatures. RADSFB has also expressed concerns to SEPA and SNH about increased predation risk to downstream migrating salmon and sea trout smolts. During periods of low flows as a result of the bottle neck effect created by water only flowing through the fish pass tight to the east bank. As discussions continue to identify a solution to the problems caused by Milnbie we will ensure concerns about the upstream and downstream migration of salmonids are at the forefront of our representations.

By early 2016 SEPA will be publishing an update to the Solway/Tweed River Basin Management Plan. Within the RBMP there will be a requirement for the fish passage issue at Milnbie to be addressed by 2027, when the WFD requires all water bodies to be of good ecological quality. It is possible that grants could be secured to carry out easement or removal works at Milnbie but this would require SEPA to prioritise the structure and undertake options appraisals to determine the most cost effective solution. It is likely that our 2016 annual report will be able to explain what remedial option has been agreed and then outline a timeframe for delivery.



## Governance

In compliance with the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation)(Scotland) Act 2003 and introduced by Section 24 of the Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2013, In 2015, The Board of River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board held six meetings. These were advertised in various ways; on our website, **www.riverannan.org**, in the local press, via social media and on the public noticeboards of Lockerbie, Annan and Moffat Town Halls. All meetings were open to the Public, on average three members of the Public attended.

The Annual Meeting of the Qualified Proprietors was held on the 28th April. It was advertised in the local press, on our website and a copy of the notice emailed to the Scottish Government. The Minute of this meeting was approved on the 8th August and a copy of this was posted on our website and also sent to the Scottish Government. Seven Qualified Proprietors and members of the public chose to attend.

The Annual Public Meeting was held on the 8th of August. It also was advertised in the local press, on our website (**www.riverannan.org**), on social media, and a copy emailed to the Scottish Government. Only one member of the public chose to attend. The Minute of this meeting was approved on 1st December and posted on our website. An electronic copy was mailed to the Scottish Government.

As was the case for 2014, this 2015 Annual Report and Accounts, once approved, will be published on our website (**www.riverannan.org**), electronic or hard copies sent to all proprietors and the Scottish Government. Further hard copies will be made available on request at a cost of £5.

The Board has set up a Complaints Procedure which can be viewed on our website (**www.riverannan.org**). In 2015 the Board received only one official complaint on an access issue which was later withdrawn.

A Register of Member's Interest is kept up to date and is held at the Fisheries Office. Conflicts of interest are declared and reviewed at the commencement of each meeting of the Board. This register is kept by the Clerk and can be viewed on written request.

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The River Annan and District Salmon  
Fishery Board

**Financial Statements**

31 December 2015

# Draft Accounts

Armstrong Watson  
Chartered Accountants  
51 Rae Street  
Dumfries  
Dumfriesshire  
DG1 1JD

## THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

*C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE,  
ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ*

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

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**THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON  
FISHERY BOARD**

*C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE,  
ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ*

**PROPRIETORS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS**

<b>Principal address</b>	c/o Ms M Colville Clerk of the Board Fisheries Board Office Annandale Estates St Anns Lockerbie DG11 1HQ
<b>Accountants</b>	Armstrong Watson Chartered Accountants 51 Rae Street Dumfries Dumfriesshire DG1 1JD
<b>Bankers</b>	The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc 47 High Street Lockerbie Dumfriesshire DG11 2JH

**THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON  
FISHERY BOARD**

*C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE,  
ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ*

**ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO FISHERY BOARD**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

In accordance with our terms of engagement, we have prepared for your approval the financial information of The River Annan and District Salmon Fishery Board for the year ended 31 December 2015 which comprises of Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and the related notes from the entity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at [www.icaew.com/regulations](http://www.icaew.com/regulations).

This report is made solely to you, in accordance with our terms of engagement. Our work has been undertaken in accordance with the guidance of ICAEW as detailed at [www.icaew.com/compilation](http://www.icaew.com/compilation). To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the proprietor of the business for our work or for this report.

You have acknowledged your responsibility for the financial information, for the appropriateness of the financial reporting framework adopted and for providing all information and explanations necessary for its compilation.

We have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial information.

**DEPRECIATION**

Provision for depreciation is made on a reducing balance basis so as to reduce the book value of the asset to its scrap value at the end of the assets estimated useful life.

**V.A.T.**

Not being registered for V.A.T. purposes, all expenditure is inclusive of V.A.T. charged.

51 Rae Street  
Dumfries  
Dumfriesshire  
DG1 1JD

.....

ARMSTRONG WATSON  
Chartered Accountants



## THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE,  
ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	2015 £	2014 £
<b>TURNOVER</b>		
Assessments	73,376	70,879
Fish Scotland	1,379	1,965
INNS project	6,529	16,538
Investment and Bank Interest	1,552	1,565
Crayfish survey work	500	-
Commercial Activities	53,174	43,011
	<b>136,510</b>	<b>133,958</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
INNS project	595	240
RASSP project	-	25
Wages	87,507	87,110
Employers contributions to pension	3,263	6,906
Protective clothing	388	497
Annandale Estate Office Rent	3,000	3,000
Light and heat	1,943	1,508
Insurance	2,317	2,354
Motor expenses	6,645	10,810
Travel and other Meetings Courses	579	816
Staff training	842	2,232
Land line, mobile & internet charges	2,557	2,401
Equipment repairs and renewals	839	2,980
Printing, stationery and postage	2,419	2,206
Sundry office expenses	-	585
Sundry expenses	677	521
Association Subscription	2,557	2,624
Scottish Fisheries Organisation	1,200	1,200
Donation - River Annan Trust	10,000	-
Advertising	915	1,088
Accountancy fees	1,152	1,128
Depreciation	4,845	5,320
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	-	(712)
Bank charges	208	330
HP/Finance lease charges	478	285
	<b>134,926</b>	<b>135,454</b>
<b>SURPLUS OF/(SHORTFALL IN) INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>(1,496)</b>

## THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE,  
ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

### BALANCE SHEET

31 DECEMBER 2015

	Note	2015 £	2014 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19,131</b>	<b>19,012</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Trade debtors		12,087	18,679
Rowan Dartington Portfolio		34,688	34,752
National Savings Bank		541	537
Royal Bank of Scotland Bus High Int A/c		36,334	8,236
Prepayments		1,227	1,227
Cash at bank		6,363	4,330
Cash in hand		1	4
		<b>91,241</b>	<b>67,765</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade creditors		3,243	4,466
HP/Finance leases		6,574	8,965
Deferred income		25,625	-
		<b>35,442</b>	<b>13,431</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>55,799</b>	<b>54,334</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>74,930</b>	<b>73,346</b>
<b>FINANCED BY:</b>			
Capital account	<b>3</b>	<b>74,930</b>	<b>73,346</b>

### PROPRIETOR'S APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

I approve these financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 set out on pages 3 to 5 and confirm that I have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation and give my authority for them to be submitted to HM Revenue and Customs.

.....  
For and on behalf of Fishery Board

.....

THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON  
FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE,  
ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

1. WAGES

Baliff	17,098
Clerk	5,983
Director of fisheries	22,140
Invasives officer	16,909
TAX/NIC	19,522
Temporary projects officer	3,839
Employees Pension Contributions	2,016
	-----
	£87,507
	-----

2. FIXED ASSETS

	Brought forward 1 Jan 15 £	Additions £	Dep'n for the year £	Carried forward 31 Dec 15 £
Equipment	6,355	4,964	(1,683)	9,636
Motor vehicles	12,657	—	(3,162)	9,495
	<u>19,012</u>	<u>4,964</u>	<u>(4,845)</u>	<u>19,131</u>

3. PROPRIETOR'S CAPITAL ACCOUNT

	2015 £	2014 £
Opening balance	73,346	74,842
Net profit for the year	<u>1,584</u>	<u>(1,496)</u>
Carried forward at 31 Dec 15	<u>74,930</u>	<u>73,346</u>

4. INNS PROJECT

The INNS income is grant funding towards the cost of the Invasives Officer.



Company Registration Number SC383497  
Charity number: SC041774

This draft produced on 18/4/2016 08:50

RIVER ANNAN TRUST  
UNAUDITED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
31 DECEMBER 2015  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**ArmstrongWatson<sup>®</sup>**  
Accountants, Business & Financial Advisers

**RIVER ANNAN TRUST**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

Trustees	Mr G. C. E. Birkbeck Mr L. Devery Mr A. D. Guthe Earl of Annandale and Hartfell P. A. W. Hope-Johnstone Mr F. G. Sandison Mr A. W. Jack Mr O. M. Routledge
Company registered number	SC383497
Charity registered number	SC041774
Registered office	Fisheries Board Office Annandale Estates St Anns Lockerbie DG11 1HQ
Company secretary	Mrs M. S. Colville
Accountants	Armstrong Watson Chartered Accountants 51 Rae Street Dumfries Dumfries and Galloway DG1 1JD
Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc 47 High Street Lockerbie Dumfriesshire DG11 2JH

TRUSTEES' REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the financial statements of River Annan Trust (the company) for the year ended 31 December 2015. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Standard for Smaller Entities.

Structure, governance and management

a. CONSTITUTION

The company, which is a recognised charity in Scotland, is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 11 August 2010 and is a registered charity number SC041774. In the event of the company being wound up trustees are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

b. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law. Under the requirements of the Articles of Association at each annual general meeting all of the directors shall retire from office, but shall then be eligible for re-election. Directors may also be co-opted onto the board during the year.

No employed staff shall serve as directors. The Company Secretary may be an employee of the company.

c. POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

- All new directors / trustees shall:
- be made aware of their legal and organisational responsibilities during their first three months membership of the board;
  - be given relevant documentation from Companies House, and copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. They shall also be given copies of and/or access to Policy and Procedure documents of the company;
  - meet with the Chair to accustom themselves with the day to day business of the company;
  - be asked to complete an entry in the Conflict of Interest Register;
  - be required to attend training organised through a third party appointed by the board.

d. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The board of directors comprise a maximum of 8 directors who meet at regular intervals as determined in the Memorandum and Articles. The Board and Company Secretary are responsible for governance of the company as defined in the Memorandum and Articles and relevant law and contractual obligations. The Board are also responsible for enabling and ratifying the strategic direction and policy of the company, once again in relation to the governing documents and contractual obligations of the company.

The company secretary acts as a non-voting officer of the Board, and is responsible for ensuring that proper governance and Board procedure is followed, including the registration of Companies House matters, the preparation of accounts and reports and for assisting the Board with its own strategic development.

e. RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

The Trust has a close relationship with the River Annan and District Salmon Fisheries Board and works with them to further the objectives and activities of the charity. They have been successfully working together on the Invasive Non-native Species Control project which seeks to control and eradicate species present within the river.



**TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

**f. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the company, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

The company is fully insured against risk through commercial insurance and also directors and officers insurance liability.

**Objectives and Activities**

**a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The charitable objects of the River Annan Trust are:

- to advance for public benefit the conservation and enhancement of native freshwater fish (including migratory salmonids) and their environments (to include the flora and fauna proximate to the rivers and stillwaters) primarily but not limited to the inland and coastal waters of the River Annan catchment and the jurisdictional area of the River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board.

- to advance the education of the public and any association, company, local authority, administrative, or government agency or public board or representative body in:

1. the understanding of aquatic ecosystems, including their fauna, flora and economic and social activity, and river catchment management.

2. the need for, and benefits of, protection, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of aquatic environments.

**Achievements and performance**

**a. REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES**

Achievements during 2015

During 2015 the Trust has been active in a number of areas, in partnership with the River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board. The following is a list of the types of projects that have been delivered:

Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS)

In 2015 23 stands, approximately 5700m<sup>2</sup> of Japanese knotweed has been treated and since 2010 all known stands in the River Annan catchment, the Pow Burn and the Lochar Water have been through at least one cycle of treatment. This amounts to approximately 18,000m<sup>2</sup> of Japanese knotweed.

The INNS project has been successfully treating giant hogweed and all known areas are currently under control with no seeding plants for at least 4 years.

American skunk cabbage has become an increasing problem on the river over the years and in 2015 50 plants were removed from around the River Annan catchment.

Himalayan Balsam continues to be controlled in areas where small isolated populations exist and eradication is realistic.

Control of American mink continues in response to sightings and evidence of recent activity.

The funding for the existing program ran out in March 2016 but we are confident that funding will be secured to continue until 2017.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

**Barrier Surveys**

A large program to map and assess all the water crossings within the River Annan catchment was undertaken in 2015. Water crossings are potential barriers to the movement of fish. The work involved a desk based study to identify all the potential water crossings using mapping software. Once identified, each water crossing was visited and assessed for its potential to impede the movement of fish. 504 water crossings have been assessed with 28 acting as complete barriers to fish. The information has been sent to SEPA to inform their barrier prioritisation scheme under the water framework directive.

**Small Streams Project**

The River Annan Trust assisted with the delivery of a partnership project with the Atlantic Salmon Trust and the Strangford Lough partnership in Ireland. The project delivered a citizen science training manual for use within small burns (less than 1m wide) so members of the public can identify any potential problems with their local burn.

**b. FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES/INCOME GENERATION**

**Results**

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 7. The company received funding from the following organisations:

Dumfries and Galloway Council - £6,985 - INNS project

RAFTS - £11,638 - INNS project

Land Trust - £8,681 - INNS project

River Annan & District Salmon Fishery Board - £10,000

Fishpal - £386 - Angler Donations

Anglers and Public - £400

Other incoming resources amounted to £1,676. Total resources expended amounted to £30,540. The overall surplus for the year is £9,226.

**c. INVESTMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE**

At present the company holds no investments.

**Financial review**

**a. RESERVES POLICY**

The Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets (the 'free reserves' held by the charity should be between six and nine months of the resources expended. At this level, the Trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the short term, at least, in the event of a significant drop in funding. It would obviously be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed. At present the 'free reserves' exceeds this target.

**Plans for the future**

**a. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

The Trust is committed to developing projects which fulfil all of its objectives. To help realise this vision the trust will be continuing with the projects outlined in the progress report.

**INNS**

Partial funding has been secured for the INNS project until 2017 although it is likely that previous project funders will support the project until March 2017.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

**Restoring Annan Water (RAW)**

This is a partnership project comprised of statutory and voluntary organisations which intends to protect and enhance ecosystems within the River Annan catchment. A Project Officer Intern will be employed, initially on a 6 month contract with the possibility of extension if further funding can be secured. It is envisaged that the project will deliver the following:

- Creation of a RAW Programme Strategic Framework Document
- Undertaking surveys of various stakeholders & landowners
- Collect & collate all relevant data regarding catchment ecosystems and biota
- Instigate and co-ordinate one habitat restoration project and one barrier easement project
- Promotion of RAW projects through the website, social media and public engagement
- Securing project funding to ensure the longevity of the project

**Angler Monitoring**

The trust will continue to organise angler monitoring events to determine the stock of the various fish in the river.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees on \_\_\_\_\_ and signed on their behalf by:

**Mr A. W. Jack**  
**Chairman**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF RIVER ANNAN TRUST**

I report on the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2015 which are set out on pages 7 to 14.

This report is made solely to the company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER**

The Trustees, who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the Act) and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the Accounts Regulations). The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the financial statements as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

My examination was carried out in accordance with regulation 11 of the Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the company and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and regulation 4 of the Accounts Regulations; and
  - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with regulation 8 of the Accounts Regulationshave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed:

Dated:

Thomas McC Riddet BA, CA

Armstrong Watson, Dumfries.



**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
(incorporating income and expenditure account)  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds 2015 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2015 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2015 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2014 £</b>
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	12,457	-	12,457	2,866
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	500
Investments	4	5	-	5	3
Charitable activities	5	-	27,304	27,304	22,170
<b>TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		<b>12,462</b>	<b>27,304</b>	<b>39,766</b>	<b>25,539</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities	8	5,683	24,857	30,540	22,396
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>5,683</b>	<b>24,857</b>	<b>30,540</b>	<b>22,396</b>
<b>MOVEMENT IN TOTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR - NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>6,779</b>	<b>2,447</b>	<b>9,226</b>	<b>3,143</b>
Total funds at 1 January 2015		11,007	10,295	21,302	18,159
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015</b>		<b>17,786</b>	<b>12,742</b>	<b>30,528</b>	<b>21,302</b>

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2015 £</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2014 £</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	11		879		1,170
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	12	5,014		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		27,488		25,732	
		<b>32,502</b>		<b>25,732</b>	
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due within one year	13	(2,853)		(5,600)	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<b>29,649</b>		<b>20,132</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			<b>30,528</b>		<b>21,302</b>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>					
Restricted funds	14		12,742		10,295
Unrestricted funds	14		17,786		11,007
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			<b>30,528</b>		<b>21,302</b>

The Trustees consider that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 December 2015 and of its net incoming resources for the year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 of the Act and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on  
behalf, by:

and signed on their

**Mr A. W. Jack**

**Mr G. C. E. Birkbeck**

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015). The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities, applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006.

#### 1.2 Company status

The company was incorporated on 11 August 2010 as a company limited by guarantee, without share capital. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to an amount not exceeding £1 per member of the company.

The company is a registered charity and accordingly no liability to corporation tax arises on these accounts.

#### 1.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

#### 1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of financial activities when the company has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donated services or facilities, which comprise donated services, are included in income at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised where there is no financial cost borne by a third party.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### 1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company and include project management carried out at Headquarters.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### 1.6 Cash flow

The financial statements do not include a Cash flow statement because the charitable company, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

#### 1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Office equipment - 25% reducing balance

### 2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Donations	11,770	-	11,770	1,935
Gift Aid	224	-	224	493
RASSP project tokens	463	-	463	438
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	<b>12,457</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,457</b>	<b>2,866</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

### 3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Advertising income	-	-	-	500
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

**4. INVESTMENTS**

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Investment income	5	-	5	3

**5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Charitable activities - grants	-	27,304	27,304	22,170

**6. DIRECT COSTS**

	Charitable activities £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Project expenses	24,857	24,857	13,155

**7. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Charitable activities £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Insurance	992	992	916
Marketing and advertising	5	5	4,347
Dues and subscriptions	1,035	1,035	1,035
Sundry	148	148	22
Printing, stationery and postage	699	699	498
Travel and meeting expenses	153	153	10
Bank charges	90	90	105
Governance costs	2,270	2,270	1,920
Depreciation	291	291	388
	<u>5,683</u>	<u>5,683</u>	<u>9,241</u>

**8. ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED BY ACTIVITIES**

	Activities undertaken directly 2015 £	Support costs 2015 £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Charitable activities	24,857	5,683	30,540	20,476

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

**9. NET INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:**

This is stated after charging:

	2015 £	2014 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: - owned by the charity	<u>291</u>	<u>388</u>

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2014 - £NIL).  
During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2014 - £NIL).  
During the year, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2014 - £NIL).

**10. STAFF COSTS**

The company has no employees other than the Trustees, who did not receive any remuneration (2014 - £NIL).

During the year staff costs totalling £14,937 (2014 - £11,501) were recharged from the River Annan and District Salmon Fishery Board.

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

**11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Office equipment £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2015	<u>2,253</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 January 2015	<u>1,083</u>
Charge for the year	<u>291</u>
At 31 December 2015	<u>1,374</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 December 2015	<u>879</u>
At 31 December 2014	<u>1,170</u>

**12. DEBTORS**

	2015 £	2014 £
Trade debtors	<u>5,014</u>	<u>-</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

**13. CREDITORS:  
Amounts falling due within one year**

	2015 £	2014 £
Trade creditors	1,203	4,300
Accruals and deferred income	1,650	1,300
	<u>2,853</u>	<u>5,600</u>

**14. STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

	Brought Forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Carried Forward £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General Funds - all funds	<u>11,007</u>	<u>12,462</u>	<u>(5,683)</u>	<u>17,786</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Citizen Science Project	2,710	-	-	2,710
DGC - INNS project	7,585	27,304	(24,857)	10,032
	<u>10,295</u>	<u>27,304</u>	<u>(24,857)</u>	<u>12,742</u>
Total of funds	<u>21,302</u>	<u>39,766</u>	<u>(30,540)</u>	<u>30,528</u>

The Citizen Science project delivers volunteer based monitoring across the catchment using invertebrates as an indicator of river quality.

The INNS project was set up to tackle the spread of non native invasive species in the catchment.

**SUMMARY OF FUNDS**

	Brought Forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Carried Forward £
General funds	11,007	12,462	(5,683)	17,786
Restricted funds	10,295	27,304	(24,857)	12,742
	<u>21,302</u>	<u>39,766</u>	<u>(30,540)</u>	<u>30,528</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

**15. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Tangible fixed assets	879	-	879	1,170
Current assets	19,760	12,742	32,502	25,732
Creditors due within one year	(2,853)	-	(2,853)	(5,600)
	<u>17,786</u>	<u>12,742</u>	<u>30,528</u>	<u>21,302</u>

**16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

During the year, the charity paid £16,271 (2014 - £12,704) for project expenses to the River Annan and District Salmon Fishery Board, a related party by virtue of the trustees being involved in the management of this business. £nil (2014 - £4,048) was outstanding at the year end date.





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## Useful Contacts

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**Mobile:**

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**Clerk:**

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