

## **Annual Report 2013**

Nick Chisholm, Michael Fearns & Chris Stones



## **Contents Page**

Chairman's Introduction	Page 1
Board Members 2013	Page 2
Directors Report 2013	
Summary of the year	Page 3
Recorded Rod Catches	Page 4
Salmon	Page 4
Sea Trout	Page 6
Brown Trout	Page 7
Greyling	Page <b>7</b>
Net Catches	Page 8
Conservation policies	Page 8
Summary of Fish Population Surveys	Page 9
Pressures on the Catchment	Page <b>11</b>
Land Management	Page <b>12</b>
Construction activities	Page <b>13</b>
Fishery Promotion	Page <b>14</b>
Bailiffs Report 2013	Page <b>15</b>
2013 Bailiffing Summary	Page <b>15</b>
Bailiffing Priorities	Page <b>16</b>
Initiatives for 2014	Page <b>18</b>
Fisheries development	Page <b>19</b>
Invasive Non-Native Species Project	Page <b>20</b>
INNS Project Funding	Page <b>20</b>
Himalayan Balsam Control	Page <b>21</b>
Japanese Knotweed Control	Page <b>23</b>
Other Invasive Riparian Plants	Page <b>25</b>
American Mink & Signal Crayfish	Page <b>26</b>
Raising Awareness of INNS	Page <b>27</b>
The Future	Page <b>28</b>
2013 Accounts	Page <b>29</b>

### **Chairman's Introduction**

It has been my great pleasure to take over from the Earl of Annandale and Hartfell as the Chair of both the River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board and the River Annan Trust. The Earl had held the post of chair of the Board for some 25years, longer than any other Chairman in Scotland and over that time had ushered in many changes which have professionalised the way in which we undertake fishery management in this District. There is much to do, not least engaging in the Governments Wild Fishery Review, which may usher in even more changes. We have been lucky enough to meet the Chairman of the review on a number of times now and have impressed upon him the importance of recognising the good work that can be dome when rivers are managed on a catchment basis, something that I believe is fundamental for success.

2013 was a difficult year for salmon and sea trout throughout Scotland. Indeed the total catch of sea trout in the whole of Scotland was the lowest since records began in 1952 and the salmon catch was not much better. Sea trout numbers are a real concern on this river and we need to do more to help them, releasing all of the fish to spawn, improving their habitat and removing barriers are essential if we wish to see a recovery. Salmon numbers on the river have been buoyant in recent years, indeed the Annan is one of the few areas in Scotland that has seen a steady increase in salmon over the last ten years. Last year was however poor by recent standards and we hope not the start of a trend. With both salmon and sea trout we can only do so much within the river and it is clear that the majority of the problems are at sea, out with the reach of local management. we must remain focused on understanding what these problems are and seek ways to remedy them.

I would like to thank all of the staff, Michael Fearns (Head Water Bailiff), Chris Stones (Invasive Species Officer) Mary Colville (Clerk to the Board) and Nick Chisholm (River Director) for the tireless work they continue to do to help manage the river.

May I wish you a successful season for 2014 with lots of fish and kind weather!

Chairman of the River Annan District Salmon Fisheries Board

Justen Tark

Mr Alister Jack

### **Board Members 2013**

Chairman: Earl of Annadale and Hartfell (Retired October 2013)

Mr Alister Jack (Elected October 2013)

Upper Proprietors: Mr G Birkbeck

Mr G Clark

Mr A Dickson
Mr A D Guthe
Mr R Pascoe

Mr Oliver Routledge

Mr R Pascoe (retired June 2013)

Lower Proprietors: Councillor R Brodie

Mr R Westoll

**Tenant Netsman:** Mr John Warwick

Salmon Anglers: Mr D Rothwell

Mr F Sandison

Mr Lawson Devery

Coarse Angler: Mr F Sykes

Attendees: SNH

SEPA

D & G Council

**Office Bearers** 

Clerk: Mary Colville

Director of Fisheries: Nick Chisholm

INNS Officer: Chris Stones

Head Bailiff: Michael Fearns

### **Directors Report 2013**

#### Summary of the year

2013 was a tough year on the river for many, the long tail of the winter meant that the early spring trout anglers were faced with snow and sub zero temperatures, not conducive to the good hatches of up winged flies which bring the fish to top and make them catchable. The early salmon anglers however faired fairly well and the numbers of spring salmon caught continue to be at a level far higher than just ten years ago. We are not out of the woods regarding spring fish but the 2013 total of 48 pre June represents a significant improvement on the single digit figures of a decade or so ago. May finally saw the end of winter and some warm weather produced some phenomenal hatches of grannom (Brachycentrus subnubilis) on the river, indeed the gliss of flies in the air from the grannom was so dense that non fishing members of the public were reporting it as unusual. Trout anglers who stayed late in the evening did very well and a good number of very large trout were reported from the full length of the river.

As the summer wore on though the lack of rain started to cause issues in the river and by June the river was on its bones and few fish were able to make it in from the sea. 2011 and 12 were years of relatively high water and as a result the net fishery in the Inner Solway relatively poor returns, 2013 was different and the haaf and stake nets did pretty well compared to recent declared catches. The low water did see better conditions for sea trout fishing but despite increased effort on a couple of fisheries the numbers of fish about were fairly poor and the final declared catch was low.

As the summer came to a close we finally got some rain and a few fish started to appear in the river. Angler catches in late August and September were quiet good but things seemed to peter out and despite good running conditions few fish seemed to enter the river after the end of September.

The end result was a pretty poor return for the anglers after migratory fish (worst since 2003) and a fair return for the netsmen.

The Board made the fairly contentious decision that the catches of sea trout over the last decade or so had reached a point was dramatic intervention was needed and proposed a 100% catch and release regulation affecting both the net and rod fisheries. Inevitably this created strong feelings on all sides but after a lengthy consultation process there was a clear majority in favour. We are now in the process of applying for these regulations. In the end it will be up to the Government to decide whether they think the measures are appropriate.

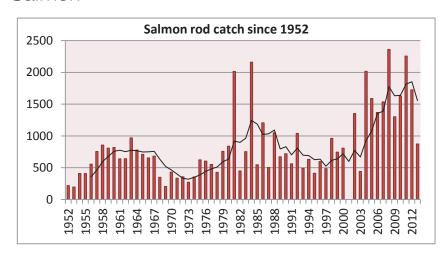
2014 is already shaping up to be another challenging year for the Annan Board, indeed for all Scottish Salmon Fishery Boards. The Government announced at the beginning of the year the scope for a complete review on wild fisheries management in Scotland. The Board will be engaging fully with the process but it is inevitable that there will be significant changes across the whole of Scotland. There is a real risk that DSFBs may be disbanded altogether but we will be trying to harness this as an opportunity to make measured changes that benefit all fisheries and do not destroy the principle that locally made management decisions are the best.

Hopefully you find the content of this report interesting and hope that you all have a good year on the river with lots of fish and just the right amount of water to keep all fisheries and fishermen happy!

Author - Nick Chisholm www.fishannan.co.uk

### **Recorded Rod Catches**

#### Salmon

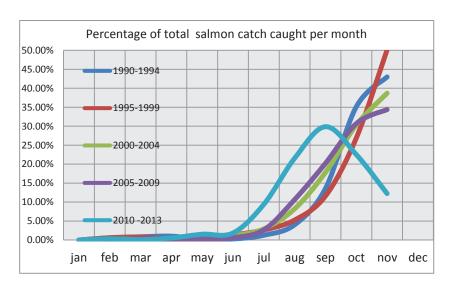


The final tally of salmon declared in 2013 on the river was 882, 48 of which were recorded before the 1st of June. This is the lowest rod catch since 2003 and well below the 5 year average of around 1550 fish. The suppressed return on the Annan was matched on all of the other Solway Rivers and indeed throughout the whole of Scotland the declared rod catch fell from 86,000 in 2012 to well below 70,000. The long hot summer, unsurprisingly, seemed to affect the smaller rivers more than the larger

rivers. Very few river bucked this trend and those that did were the larger rivers that attract fish into them whatever the height of water is, the Tay and the Ness both showed improved catches.

The spring catch does show some improvement and although nowhere near the 2-300 fish we used to catch at this time of year steady progress is being made compared to the late 90s and early 00s when as little as 5 fish were recorded in some years. Effort is very low at this time of year but as catches of these fish are recorded we will hopefully see an increase in effort and get a better reflection on the status of this stock component.

Whilst we have long been worried about the spring component of the stock we should not forget that it is likely that there are multiple other stock components to the Annan's salmon population. We are now pretty certain that run timing is largely driven by genetics and there does appear to be a trend for earlier running fish with far more fish being caught in July and August now. These fish have always been present but for some reason they have not done so well and numbers have been relatively low. Environmental conditions, probably at sea seem to



have changed significantly and this population of fish is now doing better and is in the ascendency. The late run on the other hand seems to have diminished and may well become even less important in future years. It should be noted that a very high proportion of the fish caught in October this year were coloured and had clearly been in the river for a while . From a fisheries marketing point of view this offers a new challenge as many of the visiting anglers are still assuming that October and November is the time to get the best of the river, this may well not be the case for the next few years.

#### Salmon - Continued

Catch and release rat	te across each fishery
Jardine Hall	100%
Hoddom	93%
Halleaths	90%
Upper Cleuchhead	88%
Annandale Estates	79%
Kirkwood	76%
UAA Upper Beat	74%
Warmambie	68%
Dryfeholm	67%
UAA Applegarth	62%
Newbie and Distillery	60%
Lower Cleuchhead	56%
Castle Milk	50%
Mount Annan	48%
Dormont	46%
RFT	43%
Average	70%

Encouragingly the number of fish that anglers are returning has yet again gone up with just over 70% of all the fish landed in 2013 being returned. In a year of low catches this is particularly important and whilst some fisheries are lagging behind the vast majority are now on board with the conservation message. For those fisheries that are lagging behind a wee bit it would not take much of a push to get the release rate higher, indeed peer pressure from other anglers is definitely having an effect here. To put this into context in the early 90s we were only returning about 20% so the shift in attitude has been significant and welcome.

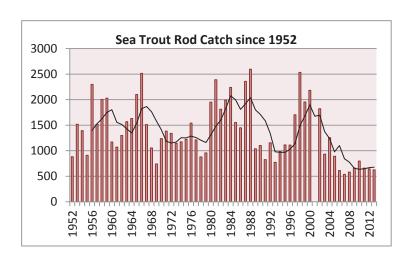
The conservation message of catch and release is clear. If we assume 50% of the fish released were female it is estimated that the released

fish contributed something in the order of 520,000 ova in 2013. This is probably an underestimate as one of the features of the run of fish now is that there appears to be a slight bias towards larger MSW fish which are mainly female. 1/2million ova is far more than any hatchery on the Annan ever achieved and unlike hatchery fish we know that the fish have selected their mates themselves and bred in the places best suited to them.

Author - Nick Chisholm www.fishannan.co.uk

#### Sea Trout

The sea trout catch was once again very low (4th lowest since records began) and there does not appear to be any sign of improvement. The catch across all of the last 9 years appears are all amongst the lowest since record began in 1952. The conditions for night time sea trout fishing were quite good and on one fishery at least (Hoddom) more anglers than in recent years attempted to catch sea trout. What is also apparent from the returns in recent years is that sea trout caught as stale fish in September and October that were note recorded by many anglers are now recorded. There is also a larger number of



late running sea trout about (fresh run September – November fish). Whenever Sea trout are thought about on the Annan it should always be borne in mind that the Annan was once one of the great sea trout rivers in Scotland and recorded catches below 1,000 have been rarely seen on the river prior to 2005. The reasons for the decline are not understood at all and the best we can do at the moment is maximise the number of fish spawning and try and find opportunities to restore degraded habitats.

Catch and release rat	te across each fishery
Mount Annan	100%
Lower Cleuchead	100%
Dormont	100%
Annandale Estates	100%
Kirkwood	98%
Hoddom	97%
Jardine Hall	92%
Newbie and Distillery	88%
RFT	84%
Warmambie	84%
Halleaths	79%
UAA Upper Beat	74%
Upper Cleuchead	71%
UAA Applegarth	61%
Dryfeholm	52%
Castle Milk	9%
Average	83%

The release rate of sea trout was the highest it has ever been at 83% and most fisheries were pretty high. This effort by the majority of anglers on the river will have resulted in the released fish laying something in the order of 80,000 ova. Some fisheries though still need to do much better, although if it becomes mandatory, as we plan, this will resolve itself.

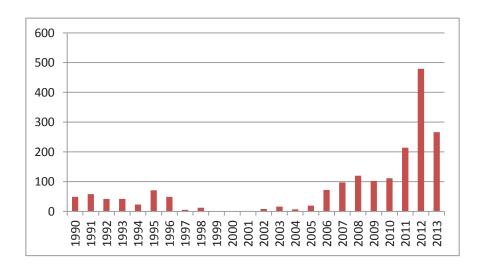
There is no record of herling (finnock) in the presented sea trout figures as recording of these has been erratic in the past. Anglers fishing the lower parts of the river this year have commented that there has been more herling than normal. Whether this is true or as a result of the low water is unclear. Herling were not reported much above Bridekirk in 2013 but were in the wetter years of 2011 and 2012. It may have simply been that the

herling were trapped and concentrated below the caul in the low water in late July and August instead of spreading themselves through the river. The reports are however encouraging although the ova yield from such small fish is not normally very significant and there evidence that post spawning mortality of 0SW sea trout is very high, unlike the post spawning mortality of 1SW+ sea trout.

It should be noted that reported national catch for sea trout was also very low, the lowest since records began. Sea Trout are not just a local problem, the problem is clearly national.

#### **Brown Trout**

The Brown Trout catch was poorer than in 2012 (an exceptional year) but still very robust. The biggest issue seemed to be the very low temperatures that we experienced in spring which affected fly hatches followed by a quick change into very hot conditions. Most anglers reported seeing plenty of fish. We do not get a brown trout return from all of the fisheries so getting a true picture is not that straight forward but if we use Annandale Est as an index beat we can see that the catch was still excellent.



And it would appear that the catch and release rule imposed by most proprietors on the river is having dividends. Interestingly the average weight on this fisher has dropped from a high of 1.27kg in 2011 to 0.97kg. This is still very high but may be an indicator that the progeny of released fish in the early years of this policy are now getting to a size where they are appearing in the fishery, prior to that were we just catching survivors multiple times? Regardless of this we are lucky to have resident trout fisheries of such quality.

### Grayling

The early part of 2013 saw some excellent grayling fishing on many parts of the river and the winter fishing days organised by the River Annan Trust were well attended and some good data was gleaned. 20 - 30cm fish in particular were pretty abundant with some anglers reporting catches of 20-30 in a day of fish of this stamp. Unfortunately at the other end of the year high water conditions meant that opportunities to fish for grayling were very infrequent so we do not have any clear understanding of how well the fishery has preformed this winter. We managed to organise one event in December that was well attended and the angler that recorded fish recorded a lot of 10cm sized fish, far more than in any other event, so it would appear that we may have a strong year class coming through, depending upon how well they over wintered.

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#### **Net Catches**

Rumours were rife around the Solway that the nets had had a Klondike year but the catch reports do not support this. There was a higher catch than in 2011 & 12, but this is not surprising when one considers the low water conditions that stopped fish entering the river caused them to accumulate in the Solway. The figures below put this so called excessive catch into context. Certainly the highest sea trout catch for a number of years is encouraging however sea trout numbers are still way below historical levels it is a shame that the nets have disregarded the conservation message with sea trout. It would have been useful to have all these fish spawning instead of being harvested. The figure quoted is of the fish killed, a further 10% or so sea trout were declared to have been returned. In the light of the recent report from the Scottish Governments recent bulletin the reported catch for the fixed engine net fishery nationally was just 2,681, the declared Annan catch makes up a

	salmon and grilse	sea trout
2006	1220	114
2007	939	383
2008	662	678
2009	591	791
2010	626	474
2011	604	583
2012	523	557
2013	828	1236

46% of that total and it will be a matter of national concern for those who wish to see sustainable sea trout fisheries into the future. It should be pointed out that over this period effort from the poke nets and half nets have fluctuated and only one poke net licence holder fished in 2013 against 10 in 2006. Haaf net licences issued have fluctuated between 32 and 38.

Approximately half of the salmon and about two thirds of the sea trout were caught in the stake nets which are a commercial operation. It is difficult to see how a living can be made on the figures declared by the stake net fishery so investigations will have to be undertaken this year to ensure that future declarations are accurate.

### Conservation policies and regulatory measures

The Annan has had a 100% return rate of salmon before the 1st of June on the rod fishery by regulation for a while now and this appears to be working in terms of compliance. There has been a long term voluntary agreement with the nets men not to take salmon before the 1st of May. This has appeared to work up until now but it would appear that the stake net fishery may have taken some April fish during 2013. If this continues, in breach of the agreement with the council, the Board will have to consider whether it should take stronger measures. This would be a shame as the voluntary agreement appears to have work well up until now.

The concerns about sea trout are well know and whilst there has been a lot of resistance from some quarters the overwhelming majority of people involved with the fisheries in the Annan District support the Boards proposal to put regulatory measures in place to make the release of all sea trout compulsory. We will not know the outcome of all of this until later on in the year but meanwhile the Board is clear in its wish for catch and release to be practiced across all of the fisheries. It is encouraging to note that on the rod fishery the release rate of 83% is the highest it has ever been. It should be noted that if this level of voluntary release could be achieved in the net fishery that there would be little need for an application for conservation measures.

### **Summary of Fish Population Surveys**

During 2013 82 electro fishing sites were visited for a variety of reasons. About 50% of these were for commercial contracts, mainly for wind farm developments and small hydros and the rest were for monitoring purposes. Due to the wet weather of 2011 and 12 many of the monitoring sites could not be visited, flood conditions make for poor electro fishing conditions! A a result effort was made to catch up with as many of the missed sites as possible. What is apparent is that in general juvenile fish populations are showing that much of the system is healthy but there are some issues in some parts of the catchment. An example here is from two similarly sized burns in the Lower Annan catchment, the Hallguards Burn and the Dalton Burn. Both burns should be productive although the habitat is more denuded through grazing pressure on the Hallgaurds burn.

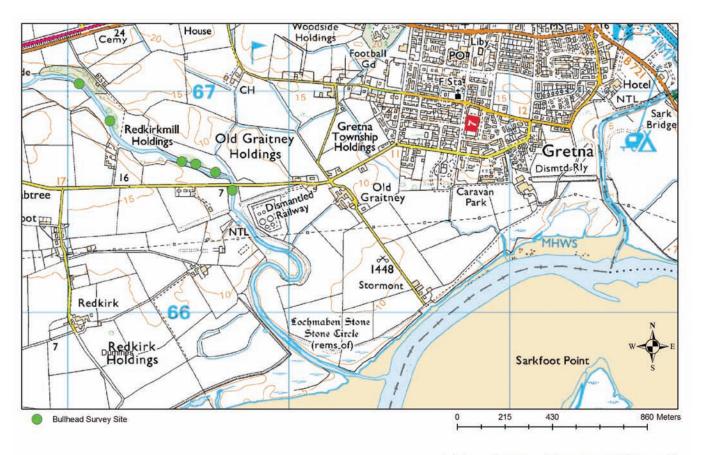
Divino		Salmon	Trout		
Burn		0+/100m <sup>2</sup>	1++/100m <sup>2</sup>	0+/100m <sup>2</sup>	1++/100m <sup>2</sup>
Dalton	2009	68.6	12.2	82.8	61.5
Burn	2013	110.9	42.3	100.2	12.3
Hallguards	2009	3.0	1.0	22.0	43.4
Burn	2013	0	0	0	0.4

As can be seen clearly here something has happened on the Hallguards burn that has caused a collapse in fish. There are a small number of these types of record around the catchment and they are all being collated to give to SEPA. In general slight changes in fish numbers at sites don't tell us a great deal but coarse changes like this are a concern, it should be reiterated that this is rare and most of the picture is of a healthy water course.

Year	S0+/100m <sup>2</sup>	S1++/100m <sup>2</sup>	T0+/100m <sup>2</sup>	T1++/100m <sup>2</sup>
2003	156.7	11.1	64.4	1.7
2005	68.4	3.7	10.3	30.9
2006	99.3	40.5	3.9	3.9
2007	76.9	7.0	6.0	1.5
2008	15.3	2.9	5.1	1.5
2009	288.2	9.4	14.1	3.5
2010	145.9	18.4	19.6	1.2
2011	50.0	6.1	27.0	0.7
2012	58.5	8.8	13.0	0.5
2013	94.7	11.6	12.1	1.2

The table on the left is from a site on the Water of Milk at Whiteknowe. As can be seen here the data is incredibly noisy. Something clearly happened in the spawning season 2007 which caused a collapse in fish numbers in 2008 but the situation has recovered itself rapidly. There are a number of weirs on the Water of Milk. These weirs are passable to fish under the correct flow conditions but it may be that these conditions were not met in the backend of 2007. The Milk is relatively narrow at this electro fishing location so it is quite possible that the mating of just a handful of salmon would be required to create high densities.

Author - Nick Chisholm www.fishannan.co.uk



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As well as finding out about salmon and trout populations we monitor for other fish species as well and in 2013 we found the first population of bullheads recorded on the Kirtle. The population is very new as we have surveyed this area on a regular basis since 1999, they may have migrated to the Kirtle from the Border Esk or the Eden where they are regarded as native. We came across some adult fish in a survey at the tidal limit of the Kirtle in July and went back in September for a more detailed look. We found that the population was definitely breeding as there were a number of age classes present. All the other populations in Scotland are regarded as both non-native and (by many) as invasive. If the Kirtle population has arrived on its own steam it is Scotland's first native population, whether they cause problems or not is too early to tell but any reports from others will be gratefully received.



At the moment there extent is the bottom km or so of the river but there is no reason why they will not expand their range further up the river. This migration is interesting as one of the major issues for the next century or so is going to be how do freshwater species adapt to climate change. If things get to warm for salt water and anadromous species there range can move north, species that are confined in freshwater and have low tolerance to salt will find it more difficult. We are speculating that the very wet summers of 2011 and 12 may have caused the Inner Solway to become largely freshwater, enabling fish washed out of either the Eden or Esk to survive the transfer across the estuary.

Annual Report 2013 Author - Nick Chisholm

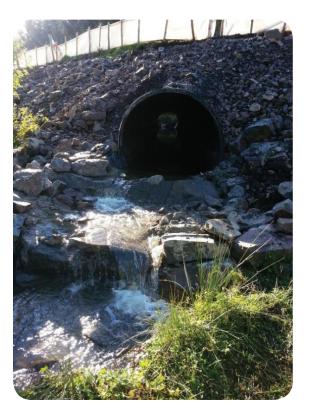
### **Pressures on the Catchment**

#### Barriers

Barriers to the migration of fish are a significant impediment. On the Annan there are not that many but the Annan has seven included within the RAFTS 'top priority' impassable barrier list. One of these is presumed eligible for the Water Environment Fund (WEF), Irish bridge on the Dryfe Water, but this requires confirmation. A further six are presumed ineligible for WEF, but are impassable and therefore high priority 'restoration projects'. These are: three barriers on the Evan Water (One Network Rails); one on the Wamphray Water (Network Rail); one on the Cloffin Burn (Network Rail); and one on the Dryfe Water. The weir on the Duff Kinnel would have been on this list but a fish pass was installed as part of a hydro development during 2013 after The DSFB and SEPA successfully made it part of the conditions for licensing. There are several smaller barriers in the catchment as well. The bulk of these are on very small burns and typically are above road or forestry culverts. When opportunities arise we have been successful in removing several of these. These smaller burn barriers are particularly important for trout which tend to spawn in narrower watercourses than salmon.



A new Alaskan A style fish pass designed by fish way and installed on the Duff Kinnel, 20 miles of salmon and trout spawning habitat opened up.



A rock cascade fish pass built in front of an impassable culvert on a tiny tributary of the Kinnel, 5-6 miles of trout spawning habitat opened up.

The activities of the River Annan DSFB and the River Annan Trust, with support from, SEPA has opened up 26 or so miles of new habitat for trout and salmon to colonise in 2013. On the Duff Kinnel large redds were seen upstream of the barrier just a few weeks after the fish pass was installed. This has happened on very rare occasions since the weir was built in the 1790s but as long as the pass is maintained it should happen every year from now on. The Trust will be surveying these areas next year and for the next 5 or so years to check that these passes work.

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### **Land Management**

The effect of farming and forestry on the Annan is inevitably significant and whilst much good practice is evident in these industries there are still issues which need to be addressed.



Successive environmental schemes ran by the Board since 1997 have sought to address the issues of over grazing but in reality we have only scratched the surface and much more is required. The most effective way to stop overgrazing is through the provision of bank side fencing but unfortunately many of the funds that allow us to do this on a strategic basis have dried up as SRDP funds cover it. There has been some applications in the previous SRDP plans but not as many as we would like have been successful. The River Annan Trust and DSFB will always support and help in any applications for future SRDP funding that includes riparian management such as fencing. Indeed, in an era of low sea trout returns, increasing the investment into small unfenced burns can only help.

Over the past few years the rate of felling in forestry has increased dramatically and we are seeing increases in issues of siltation around this. This is an issue that unless the whole of the forestry industry full engages in it will get worse. Most of the siltation is in places along way of the beaten track and it is unlikely to get reported. In fairness when spotted by forest managers it is often dealt with but far more vigilance is needed. It seems that in many areas SUDS ponds that would be essential in a commercial development are not even considered for a felling programme. We have seen similar problems in new forestry road construction in upland areas. The most likely species to be damaged by this activity are sea trout and chronic repetition of these sorts of incidents will cause problems.



Enrichment from agriculture continues to be an issue and a number of small slurry incidents were reported during 2013, more reporting of these incidents is required. It is likely that the poor results in the Hallguards burn reported earlier in this report are likely to be as a result of this type of issue. continued working with partners such as SEPA is required to reduce the impacts of this.

Removal of gravel from the river remains an ongoing issue, although much reduced. A number of reports to the DSFB were recorded during 2013 which were handed over to SEPA. Some licensed sediment removal is allowed under SEPA licences but it is clear that some landowners are still removing gravel from the river on a commercial basis; sometimes under the guise/excuse of flood prevention. SEPA have been quite firm on this and warnings have been issued, one of these warnings was a final warning on a serial offender. Removal of river sediments can sometimes be a good thing but most of the time it causes significant environmental damage and disruption.

Annual Report 2013 Author - Nick Chisholm

### **Construction activities**



The most significant industrial development during 2013 was the ongoing construction of the Harestanes Wind Farm. For a period of time over the winter and early spring the pollution control measures on this site were insufficient to stop silt from entering the watercourses. The problems with this were ongoing over a number of months but pressure from SEPA and advice from the Fishery Board did, in the end, come to bare and the situation changed significantly. By early summer the incidents of pollution were much reduced by the introduction of a more robust SUDS pond system and innovative design. The pollution issues during the

construction of Harestanes has been a bit of a landmark event and negotiations with the developer at a new wind farm being constructed shortly at Ewes Hill indicate that the issue of site run of is being taken very seriously.

Upgrading the A75 near Carrutherston has also led to significant environmental problems, again from silt run of. It is depressing that despite a significant amount of work that has gone into education the construction industry that the same mistakes are being repeated that were made in the 1980s, 1900s and 2000s. On the A75 it has escalated to the sage were SEPA are taking formal samples which could be used in a prosecution, if they see fit. The incidents as a result of the A75 construction were reported almost entirely by the farmer through the land agent which was a clumsy method that led to slow reaction times from SEPA as they were unaware of the issues for a day or two after the event. It must be reiterated that swift reporting as soon as anything is amiss is essential if we wish to see these events dealt with.



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### **Fishery Promotion**

The Annan Board and Trust has continued to work closely with FishPal and the media in demonstrating the quality of fisheries in the area. During 2013 articles appeared in Trout and Salmon Magazine and on line. Low water conditions made fishing. Chris Stones redesigned the rivers web site www.riverannan.org which is now receiving regular traffic. We regularly post updates on this site and through social media (Facebook and Twitter). Anyone who wishes to find us will do so on Twitter @riverannan and on Facebook via https://www.facebook.com/RiverAnnanTrust. The use of social media is essential in the 21st century and we are pleased to say that currently the Annan's twitter feed has more followers than any of the other fishery organisations in Scotland.





www.facebook.com/RiverAnnanTrust



@riverannan

### **Bailiffs Report 2013**

The 2013 season was a poor one in terms of salmon and sea trout caught within the river and also in terms of the weather, a very dry summer resulted in low water levels for much of the that period and into the early autumn making fishing conditions very difficult. As a result of this a decrease in the numbers of anglers fishing the river was very noticeable on most of the beats over the course of the season. The autumn period was no exception with excessive rain causing multiple floods towards the end of the season and apart from a short cold dry spell in early December these wet conditions continued right through the winter and into early spring.

Generally over the season anglers have conducted themselves well and with little incident. However, there have been a few exceptions and there are some issues which we will continue to look into next year and deal with accordingly based on the information we have gathered and received.

### 2013 Bailiffing Summary

#### Number of bailiffs

The River Annan District Salmon Fishery board employs one full time water bailiff in the role of Head Water bailiff with two other full time members of staff that possess ASFB national warrant cards, all three full time employees have received training through the Institute of Fisheries Management. In addition to this there are also a number of volunteer bailiffs of which three have received training through the Institute of Fisheries Management and also carry the ASFB national warrant card. There are an additional five volunteer water bailiffs that carry an ID card issued by the RADSFB that carry out bailiffing work accompanied by a warranted fishery board bailiff.

### Summary of Activities

During the season of 2013 one monofilament gill net was seized during March of that year which was found hidden on the river bank and despite the location being under surveillance after the net was found, no one was apprehended in connection to the net.

A total of eleven offences were reported to Police Scotland during 2013 of which five resulted in police assistance and further action was taken (statements from water bailiffs involved, statements from people involved in the offence). None of the offences reported led to any charges being made and no court cases.

### Initiatives Completed During 2013

A partnership was set up last year involving a number of organisations with the intention being to collect and collate information relating to poaching offences, rural crime and wildlife crime on the Annan and its tributaries, the inner Solway and the coastal burns within the Annan catchment. This partnership involves the RADSFB, Police Scotland, SNH and local residents. As a result of this partnership, information on the illegal netting of the Lochar estuary was received and action taken as well as information and images relating to two air rifle offences (one of which resulted in a walker being shot in the leg). With regards to the other offence, information received resulted in two boys being questioned by police relating to the discharge of an air rifle onto the M74.

Author - Michael Fearns www.fishannan.co.uk

During the summer the Environment Agency alerted us to an issue regarding haaf netters from England crossing the border to fish in the Annan Borough. Although a small number of Annan Borough licences were available for English haaf netters the ones in question did not possess a licence for the Annan Borough but were reported to be crossing the boundary with haaf netters that did possess a licence. An operation was then set up between the RADSFB and the EA to do regular surveillance on the inner Solway to identify these men and their location whilst fishing with regards to the boundaries. This was done as a high profile operation and within the first week the EA bailiffs stopped and questioned one man leaving the south side of the Solway after it became apparent that he was fishing on or just over the boundary (there are obvious difficulties with regards to providing evidence of some ones exact location whilst stood in a large expanse of water). The man was advised of the legislation regarding haaf netting for both the English and Scottish side of the inner Solway and warned with regards to his future conduct. No more incidents were then seen or reported. As a deterrent the operation was a success by providing a high profile presence on the shore and a similar operation will be put into place for this year to continue to monitor the situation.

### **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)

This season there is continued legislation in place making it an offence for anyone to take a salmon before the 1st June. This legislation is in place to protect the Annan's low spring stock 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.

There has over the past year been a noticeable increase in the number of anglers fishing without written permission on the river Annan and its tributaries. It is an offence in Scotland to fish for salmon and sea trout without written permission (Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003 section 6 Fishing without written permission or legal right).

Although many of these incidents are nothing more than a nuisance to anglers and fishery owners they still need to be dealt with and repeat offenders are now being reported to us having previously been issued with warnings or cautions. Over the coming season it is our intention to deal with this problem using a zero tolerance approach as advised by Police Scotland and with the assistance of Police Scotland meaning that anyone found to be fishing without written permission or legal right for salmon or sea trout will be charged for that offence (claiming to be fishing for brown trout is not a defence if the equipment and methods used are deemed suitable for the taking of salmon and sea trout). More information on this is included in Initiatives for 2014.

All other offences as outlined in the 2003 Act will be treated as before (meaning anyone found to have committed an offence will be cautioned and depending on the evidence gathered, charged for that offence). The taking of salmon or sea trout without lawful right whilst fishing applies to a number of sections within the legislation even with written permission or lawful right to fish. The main offences that we have within the Annan catchment are the taking of unclean fish (salmon and sea trout), the use and possession of illegal articles (gaffs, tailers and the use of articles to deliberately foul hook fish) and the possession of salmon that have been illegally taken (applies mainly to fish that have been foul hooked intentionally or otherwise). All of these are offences as described in the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003 (In the case of tailers and gaffs; inserted within the 2007 Act).

Over the coming season there will be increased patrols and surveillance on the river covering the key areas where these offences are reported to be happening. The individuals involved have been identified as well as vehicles used, methods used and general timing. All of this information has been shared with Police Scotland and when required they will provide assistance to resolve these issues and offences.

The use of nets to illegally take salmon and sea trout in the inner Solway and the River Annan and its tributaries is not as common now as it was several or more years ago but it remains a threat to salmon and sea trout stocks and it is one that we take very serious. The areas in which this is reported to take place have been identified as well as some of the individuals involved, vehicles used, access points and timings; surveillance and patrols will continue in these areas when required as well as the continued collection of information from the catchment partnership between Police Scotland, SNH, and local residents that was set up last year.

Without the co-operation of other organisations, our volunteer bailiffs, anglers and the local community much of the information we have now received on poaching issues within the catchment would not have been possible and as this is often the way with this type of rural crime we believe that by working closely with the Police Scotland to help increase public awareness we can further improve links between other organisations, members of the public, land owners, anglers and ourselves so that in the future this sort of information can be collected and acted upon immediately to;

- i. Verify the report
- ii. Inform the police
- iii. Gather further evidence
- iv. Make an arrest (if required)

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### **Initiatives for 2014**

This year the River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board and Police Scotland will be applying a zero tolerance policy on fishing for salmon and sea trout without written permission or legal right. The intention of this initiative is to increase the deterrent to anyone fishing the river without such permission and not to victimise anglers who may have forgotten or lost their permit or have been given verbal permission from the fishery owner. There has been an increase in the numbers of anglers found to be fishing without written permission or legal right and it is felt that more severe consequences are needed to reduce the numbers of such incidents therefore anyone found fishing on the river without such permission and is fishing for salmon or sea trout will be cautioned resulting in their equipment being seized and then charged (possession of one or more salmon or sea trout will result in a charge for a separate offence).

During the end of the 2013 season a trial was run on the upper river using calling cards to be left on the windows of vehicles parked by the river and in angling car parks. These cards are used to let anglers and river users know that bailiffs are patrolling in the immediate area and include a list of contact numbers to report incidents to the Fisheries Board, Police Scotland and SEPA. They are not meant to replace the need for bailiffs to patrol the river and should be seen as a useful way to pass out contact details and assure people that bailiffs are present within that area. They are also being used to hand out to river users such as walkers, wildlife enthusiasts and dog walkers as these people are ever present on the banks of our rivers and can be a valuable source of information in relation to poaching and other wildlife and rural crime.

### **Fisheries development**

#### Apex Volunteer group

Work has continued on the River with Apex Scotland (an organisation working with ex-offenders, young people and adults at risk to give them the necessary skills to change their behaviour and lead a fulfilling live). This work has proven very important with regards to building infrastructure on the river bank in the form of styles, bridges, walkways, benches, steps and fishing huts on much of the upper river which is available for the use of anglers and other river users. The continued maintenance of this will be done by a small team of volunteers.

There is further work planned and agreed for the U.A.A.A and Applegarth fisheries to build more fishing huts and improve access for local and visiting anglers as well as other river users. Work with Apex will also continue with the Halleaths fishery and later this year the option of this type of work will be offered in writing to all other fishery owners.

#### Education

In September of this year there are plans between Police Scotland and the RADSFB to attend all of the local schools to talk to pupils about wildlife and rural crime. RADSFB bailiffs will be in attendance for this to further talk about the issues regarding poaching and fisheries crime. The expected outcome of this is to educate pupils of the importance of tackling wildlife and rural crime as well relevant aspects of the legislation that covers these types of crime.

The option of joining an angling project as an out of school activity will be offered and this will be run jointly by PC lain Leggett and the RADSFB using funding obtained through Police Scotland. This will cover an introduction to the problems caused by wildlife crime, relevant aspects of the fisheries legislation, fishing tuition through qualified instructors and fishing events held on the River Annan and Lochs within the catchment.

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### **Invasive Non-Native Species Project**

The Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) project entered its fourth year in 2013 successfully building on the work done in previous years. The funding received for the project covers the control of the three most infamous riparian species, Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed and Himalayan balsam as well as the awareness raising activities we carry out. In addition to the funded elements of the project we also carry out mink control, crayfish surveys and promote good biosecurity and the check, clean dry campaign to limit the spread of invasive non-native species.

The development of a strategy to control invasive species on a catchment wide scale was identified by the fisheries management plan.

### **INNS Project Funding**

Funding for the 2013/2014 project year was secured from Patersons Quarries, Landfill Communities Fund (both administered through the LandTrust), Dumfries & Galloway Council Area Committee Grant, SEPA Water Environment Fund (administered via the Rivers And Fisheries Trust of Scotland).

Funding Source	Amount
Patersons Quarries LTD (through LandTrust)	£10,000
Landfill Communities Fund (through LandTrust)	£2,500
Dumfries & Galloway Council – Area Committee Grant	£6,120
SEPA Water Environment Fund (though RAFTS)	£12,217.38
River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board (In kind)	£3,722.50
Total	£34,559.88













### **Himalayan Balsam Control**

The cold winter which extended into April had a significant impact on the timing of the control work which usually begins in June. This year work started in July at Archwood. This area had a significant problem with Himalayan balsam until it was grazed with sheep. The sheep have removed almost all the balsam leaving only a few plants at the bottom of the river bank or in amongst nettles and brambles. These were removed by hand and we may even see a balsam free area next year.

For the second year running we were joined in the battle against Himalayan balsam by Apex Scotland (fig 4). Apex provides volunteer opportunities for ex offenders, at risk adults and young people to gain skills and experiences valued by employers. Through a combination of hand pulling and strimming Apex removed areas of balsam from Applegarth and Millhouse Bridge covering 250 metres of river bank. The aim of this work is to manage the spread of balsam and to improve access along the river bank for anglers and walkers. Although Himalayan balsam is now widespread throughout the catchment it is important to prevent it spreading to previously unaffected areas. A large colony was discovered on a natural spring that runs in to the Water of Ae (fig 1), where no balsam has been found. We teamed up with another volunteer group called Kate's Kitchen to tackle this particular problem. Kate's Kitchen are based in Annan and provide volunteer opportunities to young and vulnerable people. A group of 5 volunteers assisted with the work and gained a 'Saltire Award' for participating in a team volunteering event. The volunteers enjoyed their day on the river so much that they came back an extra day to complete the job (fig 2). Over the 2 days they removed a large area of balsam along 50 metres of the spring, although this is a particularly large area and more work will be required before it can declared free of balsam.

With the assistance of a volunteer we were able to continue the work started in 2012 to remove balsam from around Mill Loch in Lochmaben (fig 3). Mill Loch is connected to the Annan and the balsam found here is certainly at a size that could allow complete eradication. All balsam found over a 150 metre stretch was removed. Over the course of the summer the volunteers worked on approximately 10,000 m2 of river bank.

Along with the control work carried out above the River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board was asked to provide a site management report for Himalayan balsam for a building contractor at Ruthwell Station. The plant had been identified in the surveyors report as growing on or near the site. On inspection the plant was growing along part of the boundary and on neighbouring land rather than on the development site. It is interesting that the plant was highlighted at all by the surveyors report as it is not capable of causing any structural damage. The suspicion is that the surveyor has confused balsam with knotweed and has taken no chances. Nevertheless the opportunity was taken to produce a report that advised the developer of best practice methods when working around invasive non-native plants.

Author - Chris Stones www.fishannan.co.uk









Fig 1- Himalayan balsam on the Water of Ae – before control

Fig 2 – The Water of Ae after Kate's Kitchen had removed the balsam

Fig 3 – A volunteer removing balsam from Mill Loch in Lochmaben

Fig 4 – An Apex work day at Applegarth

Annual Report 2013 Author - Chris Stones

### **Japanese Knotweed Control**

The control of Japanese knotweed started earlier than usual as the dead canes of some of the larger stands were removed during the winter months (fig 5 & 6). This vastly improved access and manoeuvrability during the treatment phase. The dead canes were piled up in the hope they would provide cover for invertebrates in a similar way that bamboo is often used to create 'insect hotels'.





Fig 5 & 6 - The dead canes of Japanese knotweed can persist for many years restricting access for future treatment.

The early part of the summer was spent monitoring and assessing the success of the previous 3 years. This is an important part of the project because if we fail to monitor these areas all the hard work could be undermined. The monitoring work discovered that most sites have been reduced by at least 95% with some sites showing no re-growth. Where re-growth is taking place it is in the form of very small canes which are too small to inject and are instead treated with a foliar application of herbicide. What is encouraging is that native vegetation appears to be re-establishing in treated areas fairly quickly (fig 7, 8 & 9).







- Fig 7 Japanese knotweed before treatment in 2010
- Fig 8 The same area one year after treatment in 2011
- Fig 9 The same area in 2013 with considerable natural re-generation

Author - Chris Stones www.fishannan.co.uk

Two Apex volunteers were trained and successfully completed a course in the 'safe use of pesticides' at the Barony College. They were then able their new skills in to practice by helping with the project. Control work began in August with the help of an Apex volunteer who was available outside of the normal Apex work day. This was a huge help and contributed significantly to us treating 100 stands of the plant which equated to approximately 3000 m2 over the course of the summer. The dry summer and low water levels, although not necessarily good for anglers, certainly helped, allowing the foliar application of herbicide on re-growth while having access to all parts of the river.

Over the course of the project (2010 – 2013) 190 stands of Japanese knotweed at approximately 9095 m2 have been treated (fig 10). New stands are still discovered, in large because anglers and landowners are much more aware and are reporting them. Some of these are upstream of treated areas and will be treated as a matter of priority in 2014. Unless any more are discovered or reported there are 8 stands left to treat on the main catchment with one of those being the large stand at Annan harbour.

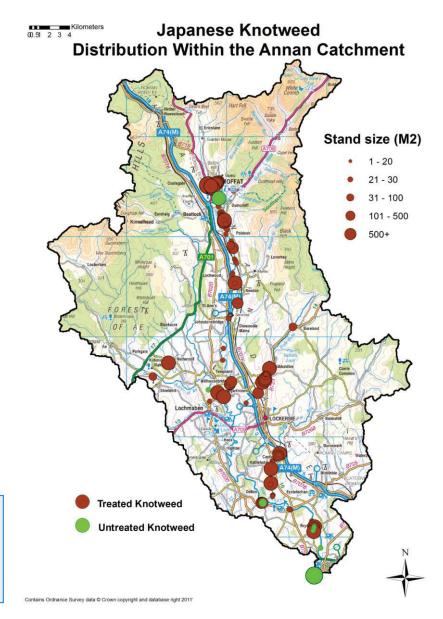


Fig 10 – Fig 10 – Showing treated areas versus untreated. Green dots at the top of the catchment are new discoveries and will be treated as a matter of priority in the summer of 2014.

### **Other Invasive Riparian Plants**

Giant hogweed was first discovered to be growing in the Annan catchment in 2012 and was treated that year. The stem injection method used for Japanese knotweed has proved to be extremely effective. The area was assessed in May 2013 with a reduction in the density of plants clearly visible. Around seven new plants had appeared compared to 20 plants the previous year. The seeds of giant hogweed can be viable for 10 to 15 years so this regrowth is to be expected.

During the course of the summer a number of other invasive non-native plants were discovered. Including Japanese knotweed four species of knotweed have now been found. These additional knotweeds are giant knotweed, bohemian knotweed and Himalayan knotweed. Luckily the principal control method is still applies.



Fig 11 – The leaves of the four knotweed species from left to right, giant, bohemian, Japanese and Himalayan knotweed.

Also new to the catchment was the discovery of American skunk cabbage (Lysichiton americanus), so called because of the odour it emits to attract pollinating insects. The plant has yet to be found growing along the river but has been found around a number of garden ponds close to the river and in one particular case, linked to the river. The landowners have been advised of its invasive nature and the best methods to control it.

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### **American Mink & Signal Crayfish**

This year has focused on getting volunteers involved in the monitoring and trapping of American mink to increase the coverage of the programme. Volunteer sites are located at Core Head, Annan Water, the Green Frog (Moffat), Three Waters Meet, Riverside Mill at Dalton Hook, Newbie and Kinnel Water. With the help of the volunteers 12 mink were trapped in 2013, the low number reflecting the lack of prints and sightings around the catchment.



Fig 12 – An American mink trapped at Archwood in December 2013. One of 12 mink caught that year.

Trapping also took place around Mill Loch where there had been regular sightings of mink, particularly during the wild fowl breeding season. Despite our best efforts over a one month period no mink were trapped. We placed three permanent trapping slots at Mill Loch and will attempt to trap there again this year.

The annual survey of burns close to the Clyde crayfish barrier were carried out and completed in June with the help of a volunteer from Carlisle. No crayfish were found. An assessment of the barrier revealed that the winter weather had taken its toll and a small amount of damage had been caused. This has been reported to South Lanarkshire Council who are responsible for maintaining the structure.

A report of American signal crayfish caught by a pike angler at Castle Loch was received and investigated. A trapping programme was instigated but it eventually turned out to be a false alarm. Nevertheless it is always important to respond quickly to such reports.

Annual Report 2013 Author - Michael Fearns

### **Raising Awareness of INNS**

Raising awareness of the problems caused by INNS and how they spread through human behaviour is an essential part of the project. To do this we attend a number of shows and events.

In 2013 we attended the Environment Fair at DG One in Dumfries for the first time. The fair is very much geared towards families and children and gave us the opportunity to target a new audience for the INNS project. People visiting the stand had the opportunity to play a game where they had to match a photo of an invasive plant to its correct name. Encouragingly most visitors answered correctly.

The summer has also seen the fishery board attend the Dumfries & Lockerbie Agricultural Show (attended by local landowners and farmers) and the Lowther Country Fair (attended by visiting anglers). The shows have a different audience and spreading the message about invasive species at both was a worthwhile endeavour.

As well as the shows we held meetings with two local councillors which allowed us to demonstrate the work done by the INNS project, particularly with controlling Japanese knotweed. The meeting included a whistle stop tour of sites we have previously treated and demonstrated the success of the project so far. We also raised issues that have been encountered due to a lack of communication and joined up thinking by council departments involved in land management. Dumfries and Galloway Council fund part of the project and this was a great opportunity to demonstrate what was being done with their money, particularly as some of the knotweed is on council owned land.

The University Of Glasgow – Dumfries Campus arranged an invasive species trip around the Annan catchment so their Environmental Stewardship students could see first hand how invasive species are managed on a catchment scale.



Fig 13 – Raising awareness at the Environment Fair.



Fig 14 – The need for awareness raising demonstrated by this stand which was cut and dumped in the River Annan

Author - Michael Fearns www.fishannan.co.uk

### The Future

Subject to funding the current INNS project will finish in 2016. We currently have partial funding for this period but hope to secure further funding to keep the project running until its completion. We have been invited to join the CIRB II (Controlling Invasive Priority Non-Native Species & Restoring Native Biodiversity) project in 2016, which is a European Union funded invasive species project that adopts a partnership approach between Northern Ireland and Southern Scotland.

In the mean time we will continue to follow the successful top down approach to tackling INNS on the River Annan. We hope to have treated every stand of Japanese knotweed at least once by the end of project and this includes the large stand at Annan harbour which is around 3-4000 M2 . To successfully control invasive species requires a long term effort, for the species that are already here this is the only approach available. This highlights the importance of preventing the spread of new species through the promotion of the check, clean dry campaign while emphasising good biosecurity to prevent further problems and damage to the river ecosystem which is enjoyed by so many.

The River Annan and District Salmon Fishery Board

#### **Financial Statements**

31 December 2013

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

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 2013

CONTENTS	PAGE
Proprietors and professional advisers	1
Accountants' report	2
Income and expenditure account	3
Balance sheet	4
Notes to the financial statements	5

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

#### PROPRIETORS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Principal address c/o Ms M Colville

Clerk of the Board Fisheries Board Office Annandale Estates

St Anns Lockerbie DG11 1HQ

Accountants Armstrong Watson

Chartered Accountants

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Bankers The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc

47 High Street Lockerbie Dumfriesshire DG11 2JH

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 2013

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 2013 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.

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. 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 it's scrap value at the end of the assets estimated useful life.

#### VAT

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

51 Rae Street Dumfries Dumfriesshire DG1 1JD 4 April 2014 ARMSTRONG WATSON Chartered Accountants

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 2013

	2013	£	2012 £
TURNOVER			
Assessments Donations and Voluntary Contributions Fish scotland INNS project Investment and Bank Interest Commercial Activities Gain on sale of investments		66,654 1,900 3,250 25,955 1,315 33,442 3,231 135,747	69,733 66 6,016 26,572 1,783 25,260
EXPENDITURE			
EXPENSES Celtic sea trout project INNS project	5,007 224		5,001 227
RASSP project Citizen science project	-		20 42
Sampling costs Wages Protective clothing	4,559 91,358 805		- 101,941 566
Annandale Estate Office Rent Light and heat	3,000 2,225		3,000 1,749
Insurance Motor expenses Travel and other Meetings Courses	2,146 11,461 637		1,946 16,540 204
Staff training Land line, mobile & internet charges	619 2,422		3,209 2,276
Equipment repairs and renewals Printing, stationery and postage Sundry expenses	103 2,712 21		1,415 3,907 50
Association Subscription Scottish Fisheries Organisation	2,486 1,200		2,313 1,260
Advertising Accountancy fees Depreciation	1,086 1,320 3,885		1,067 1,056 5,565
Loss on disposal of fixed assets Bad debts written off Bank charges	1,408 - 135		1,616 1,050 256
		138,819	156,276
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME		(3,072)	(26,846)

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

#### **BALANCE SHEET**

#### **31 DECEMBER 2013**

		2013		2012
	Note	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS	2		16,482	22,291
CURRENT ASSETS				
Trade debtors		7,655		7,150
Rowan Dartington Portfolio		34,720		45,331
National Savings Bank		526		526
Royal Bank of Scotland Bus High Int A/c		14,148		59
Prepayments		1,227		1,227
Cash at bank		4,966		7,926
Cash in hand		15		59
		63,257		62,278
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade creditors		3,584		3,592
Loan - R.A.F.I.A.		1,312		3,062
		4,896		6,654
NET CURRENT ASSETS			58,361	55,624
NET ASSETS			74,843	77,915
FINANCED BY:				
Capital account	3		74,843	77,915

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 2013

#### 1. WAGES

Baliff	15,344
Clerk	4,966
Director of fisheries	23,763
Biologist	3,931
Invasives officer	16,124
TAX/NIC	23,440
Redundancy	2,995
Temporary projects officer	795
	£91,358

#### 2. FIXED ASSETS

	Brought			Carried
	forward	Dep	o'n for the	forward
	1 Jan 13	Disposals	year	31 Dec 13
	£	£	£	£
Equipment	9,755	_	(1,448)	8,307
Hatchery shed	1,152	_	(72)	1,080
Motor vehicles	11,384	(1,924)	(2,365)	7,095
	22,291	(1,924)	(3,885)	16,482

#### 3. PROPRIETOR'S CAPITAL ACCOUNT

	2013	2012
	£	£
Opening balance	77,915	104,761
Net loss for the year	(3,072)	(26,846)
Carried forward at 31 Dec 13	74,843	77,915

#### 4. INNS PROJECT

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





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### **Useful Contacts**

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