

THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2014

SALMON

With the objective of achieving a “catch and release” rate for salmon of 90%, as required by the EA, the DFA strongly recommends that ALL ANGLERS:

- [Return all salmon caught before June 16th as required by the EA’s National Byelaw
- [After June 16th, in an attempt to encourage more fishing “effort”, the first salmon may be kept, but please do not keep more than two salmon in the season
- [Notwithstanding the above, if possible return any hen salmon or salmon over 10lbs [approx. 32ins long], or one which is coloured, or which has been tagged.
- [To make return of salmon easier, whatever the method of fishing used, only fish with single or double barbless hooks no larger than size 6

NB Notwithstanding the above, in view of the continuing serious state of our salmon stocks, it is strongly recommended THAT ALL SALMON BE RELEASED unless unlikely to survive due, for example, to extensive bleeding.

SEATROUT

It is recommended that not more than 2 sea trout be kept per night, with all fish over 6lbs, and all those under 12inches, being returned if possible.

Additionally: [a] no angler should keep more than 24 sea trout in the season
[b] the practice of continuing to fish after catching the nightly quota of 2, knowing they should be released, is not recommended.

GENERAL

It would be appreciated if all riparian owners could ensure that their tenants and guests are made aware of the above regulations, and could send a note of their own, as well as their guests/tenants, catches to the Secretary at the end of the season TO INCLUDE THE NUMBER OF FISH RELEASED to give the Committee the information they need to manage the river.

It would also be helpful if a record of salmon hooked, but lost ie “hook ups”, could be kept, also the number of hours, as well as days, fished for salmon and sea trout kept separately. This latter information will give us a useful indication of fishing “ effort” , one of the indicators used by the EA to calculate whether or not the river is meeting its Conservation Target for salmon, which currently it is not.

