

RTC

2010

ANNUAL

REPORT

&

ACCOUNTS

River Tweed Commission  
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*Established by Order  
under an Act of Parliament  
to protect the fish stocks in  
the Tweed River System*

# RTC

## 2010 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Something truly extraordinary happened from about mid-August on the Tweed.

The spring fishing had been poor, not as bad as 2009, but still well below what we had come to expect as the norm. In mid April we asked all anglers and in-river nets to stop killing Salmon until 30th June for conservation purposes.

This provoked fury amongst some anglers and angling pundits; much of the subsequent blogging, correspondence and press comment was low grade, often pretty unpleasant and vitriolic stuff, some anonymous (which is unforgiveable). As Chairman, flak-taking goes with the territory, but much was directed personally at our senior staff, and I cannot forgive that. There is something hugely ironic about what our more civilised critics were saying then ("*no Salmon left in the Tweed*", "*declining trend of catches*" "*give nature a helping hand by starting a hatchery*" etc., etc.). You may wonder why all these commentators (without exception) went very quiet from mid-August onwards.

It was a depressing period which I trust will never again be visited on the wholly excellent senior RTC and Tweed Foundation staff.

We called a public meeting in August in Kelso to give the wider angling and associated business community the chance to question the RTC, and I am grateful to Dr Lorraine Hawkin from the Dee and Andrew Wallace, CEO of the Association of Salmon Fishery Boards (ASFB), for attending and answering questions along with our team. The principal purpose was to discuss the RTC decision, such is the weak state of spring stocks, that we will be applying 100% Catch-and-Release for the next 5 years (from 2011) for Salmon from 1st February until 30th June. This brings us into line (with minor variations) with most other Scottish rivers and with all of England and Wales. We will be seeking the same level of abstinence, with compensation, from all river and coastal nets. The public meeting discussed many other subjects and there is a paper showing the detail on the Tweed website. Lurking behind many questions was the old chestnut of

stocking. There remains the belief that you can engineer a spring run by stocking, despite there being no evidence that you can.

I am indebted as always to my Committee. They and the wider body of the RTC are simply terrific in their counsel and support. However convinced you are that your decisions are right, there is nothing like another 80 good men/women and true on our Commission to add further conviction (or not!) that all is well. Other Boards see our large Board as unimaginably unwieldy; I have never found that and consider it a source of strength.

So what happened from mid-August?

There had already been signs of something unusual; there was a big run of Sea-trout and the nets had done well with summer Salmon in July, but from August up until the end of November rod catches of Salmon were, as The Clerk says later in this report, "*unprecedented*", not just in Tweed terms, and in UK terms, but also I suspect in all other North Atlantic Salmon river terms; Russia, Norway, Iceland you name it, has any river ever caught more by rod and line than our 2010 total of 23,219?

I say this without any sense of pride or triumphalism, but more in wonder because we do not know why (after a lower than average total in 2009). Some will say it is because we fish harder, that we have a longer season than anyone else, that the average size was smaller than in the 1980s. I have heard it all before and most of it is just not true; even if the Tweed had little more than a 3 month season (like many Russian, Norwegian and Icelandic rivers) from say mid-August to November, we would still have broken all records. On my own beat, we fish precisely the same number of rods as we did 25 years ago (when we used to catch 300+ a year, not three times that) and although our average weight was down on the 1980s because of the huge number of grilse, we have also never caught so many fish over 10lbs. If I had to pick a concern for the autumn run, it was the comparative lack of fish over 20lbs.

Nature is fickle and I am reminded that it was after

a bumper year in 1966 that UDN appeared and blighted all forms of fishing for years thereafter, and arguably the spring runs never recovered from the massive mortality. There are so many dangers out there for our fish, of which the continuing threat of *Gyrodactylus salaris* is just one. This is no time for complacency, if anything, for increased vigilance and adherence to the management principles which have worked well for us so far, and in which we strongly believe.

My annual reports tend to concentrate on Salmon, and I suppose that is bound to be, given the economic import of Salmon as compared to trout. Of course, in recreational and local terms it may well be that trout are more important and I was delighted to be asked to the 150th Anniversary Dinner of the Galashiels Angling Association in November. In my last few months as RTC Chairman, if I have a regret it is that we are perceived by many trout anglers to have been heavy-handed in persuading them to stop stocking, and thereby damaging their trout fishing; I may be wrong but it seems this is particularly so from Melrose/Galashiels upstream and maybe also on the Teviot towards Jedburgh and Hawick. The comments are polite and well meaning, but there is no doubting the view in those parts that the trout fishing is not what it was in the 1960s and 1970s. Where we differ is that I believe the right way to correct it is to leave it to the fish and not to try to engineer something. It will take time but maybe one day the trout fishing will be what we old stagers remember it to have been.

As Tweed's head biologist never stops telling me, it is man and his harmful interventions and impacts which are the problem, not the fish. This is a wholly wild fish river (no stocking at all) and it will be a sad day if it ever ceases to be so.

I wish all Tweed fishermen/women well for 2011; if some trout anglers can become happier and if the Salmon rod catch is even half of the 2010 total, we should all be able, once more, to rejoice at our good fortune.

## **FISH CATCHES**

2010 was unusual in many respects. Whilst the

Spring Salmon catch was less than the five-year average, there was an extremely large run of smolts to sea which was particularly evident due to the low River levels. There followed a large Sea-trout run and then a very large Salmon run. Whilst it is clear that the runs were exceptional, rod catches were helped by almost perfect fishing conditions right through to the last day of the season. The season began (and closed) with cold wintry weather when both the River and fishing were affected by the conditions. By the end of April the River was almost at summer flows and such rain as did fall over the summer itself did little to increase flows until the early autumn. With moderate rain throughout the autumn very few rod fishing days were lost to high water and this allowed the fish to spread throughout the system allowing most main stem rod beats to have larger catches, many of which were records.

### **Salmon**

31,321 Salmon were caught in 2010 (12,199 in 2009) of which 8,102 were caught by nets and 23,219 by rod and line. The spring rod catch (to the end of June) of 1,445 was better than 2009 (1,147) but was still low compared with the recent average catch; 91% of fish were returned under the Spring Salmon Conservation Measures. The summer and later runs were strong and all parts of the Tweed enjoyed increased runs in the autumn, the greatest being in lower Tweed. All sub-catchments had catches better than their five-year averages, some significantly so. The nets also had a particularly good year surpassing their previous recent high in 2000. The total rod catch was unprecedented.

### **Sea-Trout**

10,039 Sea-trout were caught in the 2010 season (6,671 in 2009), of which 7,418 were by net and 2,621 by rod. The net catch of Sea-trout was also very large. The Tweed Sea-trout catch is known to be inaccurate with many caught legally by trout anglers, but returned and therefore not declared. So, despite a very high net and rod catch, the declared catch cannot be taken as having any relation to abundance although this was, by common agreement, extremely large.

## **Other Freshwater Fish**

The 2010 trout fishing season started off with water temperatures far lower than the April average, which made angling tricky at times. However some good catches were made. Of the fish caught the catch of small "oversize" trout in the 10" size class seemed higher than normal – trout of this size normally make up a low percentage of the catch in April but figures build, prominently from mid May onwards. One angler reported catching 18 trout between 8 and 10" in April on the Middle Tweed. However the average catch for the month may have been below the usual expected.

Low water levels from May onwards suited some of the larger channels of the Tweed system but made angling difficult in the smaller and medium sized channels. Irrespective of this, large "specimen" trout were reported throughout the River Tweed and its larger tributaries in May and, to a lesser extent, June, as is the case for most seasons. July and August are normally the hardest months for trout fishing and the 2010 season proved to be no different although catches did pick up again in September with most "oversize" trout caught being in the 10" to 11" sizes class. Some anglers also reported catching encouraging numbers of undersize trout in 2010.

In addition there were numerous reports of anglers picking up lots of this year's Grayling fry towards the end of the season. Whilst this was also reported last year, 2010 appeared even more prolific. Hopefully these fish will survive for a few more seasons yet.

## **SPRING SALMON CONSERVATION**

At the start of the year, the Commission had decided that if the Spring catch turned out to be as poor as that of 2009 mandatory Catch-and-Release (C&R) would be introduced for the remainder of the 2010 Spring season. By April this was indeed the case and full C&R was introduced on the basis that the spawning escapement would not be reached if anglers continued to kill Springers. This decision caused a considerable amount of controversy, it being clear that some rods and net fisheries still wanted to kill Spring

fish. However, once this decision had been taken, both of the operational in-river net fisheries agreed to return all Salmon caught in June and were compensated financially for doing so.

After much discussion by the Commission, Tweed Boatmen, and at a public meeting in Kelso, Commission decided to introduce full C&R for Spring Salmon on all rod fisheries from 2011, initially for a period of 5 years. It also decided to request net fisheries to do the same, or not to fish at all, in consideration of fair compensation to be paid by the Commission.

## **CONSERVATION PAYMENTS**

53 eligible fisheries from the Tributaries and Upper Tweed signed contractual agreements to be part of the Scheme in 2010 against 51 in 2009. Despite some fisheries leaving the scheme, overall there were significant additional subscribers in both Upper Tweed and Ettrick. Under the scheme fisheries receive payments to agree by contract to additional measures on their fisheries that would otherwise not be mandatory; they include compliance with the Spring Salmon Conservation Measures, restrictions on fishing methods and provision of information.

## **POLICY**

### **Nets**

During the year the netting rights of the Canny net fishery were purchased by the Commission. Their rights were passed to The Tweed Foundation which already owns the leasehold of other netting rights in England.

### **Out of Season Genetic Sampling**

Consent was granted to The Tweed Foundation to collect out of season genetic samples after the close of the rod season. However despite attempts by Boatmen, weather and floods hampered the sampling exercise and only one fresh Salmon was caught in December which was not enough to constitute a valid sample.

### **Predatory Birds**

There was a widespread view on the River that predatory birds, mainly Cormorants and

Goosanders, caused great damage to the fish stocks. As usual the Commission applied to the Scottish Government for a licence to shoot predatory birds under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 supported by advice from The Tweed Foundation, which was based upon evidence that it had collected for many years from counts of Cormorants and Goosanders on the main stem of the River. The application was supported by a comprehensive report that included calculations of the economic damage done to the fishery using the counts, scientific research, and data collected from the recent Economic Impact Survey. Licences had been granted historically as an aid to non-lethal scaring techniques rather than as a method of making a long-term reduction in the numbers of birds, and on the basis that there was no other satisfactory solution to preventing serious economic damage. In 2010, however, the Government's advisors raised concerns that the application made by the Commission (to shoot 130 Goosanders and 15 Cormorants) constituted "*a widespread cull rather than an aid to scaring*". As such, a very much-reduced licence was granted; this was challenged by the Commission but the Government refused to change its stance. The ASFB was asked to progress the issue by considering with other Boards. Also, through the ASFB, an initiative commenced with The Game Conservancy and Wildlife Trust to make more comprehensive assessments of the population sizes of avian, piscivorous predators.

### **Adoption of Principles for Commissioners**

The Commission formally approved Principles that Commissioners operated by and agreed to be bound to. They are equivalent to those applicable to all public offices and for those who serve in public life embodying selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

### **The Tweed Fisheries Management Plan V5 2010-2014**

An updated fifth version of the Plan was approved by Commission. The Plan was reviewed at a joint, annual meeting of the River Tweed Executive Committee and the Directors of The Tweed Foundation. This group reviews the work undertaken in the previous year and that which

is appropriate for the forthcoming year. The proposals were approved by the Commission and subsequently incorporated into both its budget and that of The Foundation.

### **RTC Indemnity of The Tweed Foundation**

Legal advice was received that it was appropriate for the RTC to provide a measure of protection to The Foundation, and its Directors, in respect of the work that it carried out on behalf of the Commission, not all Directors of The Foundation being Commissioners. As such, an Indemnity Agreement was signed that relieves the Directors of The Foundation of any liability for work undertaken on behalf of the RTC. This was separate from the liability insurances and Directors' and Officers' insurances that were held by both bodies. The agreement pertained to work carried out by The Foundation as part of the Tweed Fisheries Management Plan and which has been approved by the Commission.

## **CAULDS**

### **Murray Cauld, Etrick Water**

Following a request from developers, the Commission contributed £5,000 to a feasibility study to investigate the installation of an Archimedes screw turbine in the cauld. It requested that the plan should incorporate long-term repairs to the cauld; the location of both a new fish pass and the screw so that both work effectively; prioritisation of water use (the fish pass to always have priority); hydrological and water velocity models; and appropriate screening both at the intake and the outfall.

### **Haugh Head Ford, River Till**

No progress was made by Northumberland County Council regarding fish passage at Haugh Head ford on the River Till where the fish pass is inoperable; some Sea-trout managed to get through the pass but it was a complete block to Salmon; The Tweed Foundation found no Salmon fry above the ford when they electric-fished in the summer.

### **Hedgeley Bridge, River Breamish**

On the River Breamish, the structure of Hedgeley Bridge was compromised by undermining and

Northumberland County Council took emergency work to secure it. This happened at a critical time for fish, in the main run, but as the condition of the fish pass was so bad (only some Sea-trout were managing to pass it anyway) there was probably no long-term damage to the fish stocks being done greater than that which already existed. A positive benefit was that a new fish pass would be included in the new structure and would be concluded by the summer of 2011.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

The predominant features of the year were the weather and river conditions at both the start and end, having a direct impact on illegal activity. Fish movements at the beginning of the year were also noticeably quite slow. The total of illegal nets recovered was well below the monthly averages until April when there was a significant increase that continued throughout the summer months before tailing off again in September. October, November and December saw the lowest net totals since 1999. In all, 93 nets were retrieved compared to a figure of 62 in 2009. As always, it was the same few individuals that were engaged in these illegal activities but, and as reported in previous years, their number was reduced more probably as a direct result of more 'pro-active' penalties from the Courts. Additionally, it became harder to dispose of those fish illegally taken to legitimate markets with other illegal activities perhaps having become more fruitful. The RTC made 7 prosecution cases to the Magistrates and one to the Fiscal; 3 of those cases were pending at the year end.

Throughout the year the Commission continued its close working practices with the Police, both north and south of the Border. Training sessions were conducted to enable Police Officers to recognise when possible fisheries offences were being committed and these were well received. More sessions are planned in coming years to reach as many officers as possible. The bailiff team also worked closely with the Wildlife and Environmental Crime Officer for the region, undertaking a number of joint stop and search operations as well as liaising to transfer intelligence.

Over the summer months the bailiff team undertook the re-photographing of The Tweed Foundation's habitat sites to gain a pictorial overview of the progress made. Baseline pictures were taken in 2006 at fixed points along the fencelines and the repeat pictures were taken at the same points and referenced to a contact print of the original view. The majority of sites showed stability and much improved habitat. A few sites have had problems with flood damage necessitating regular repairs but, where possible, these sites have been modified to make them better resistant. Modification of fencing methods also means that the minimum fence length is damaged in the event of flood or debris.

Throughout the season the bailiff team undertook the routine inspection of catch records, prioritising those beats where it had been difficult to see books previously. The vast majority of beats were keeping excellent records as a matter of course. However, in a few cases records have either been non-existent or the individual responsible for maintaining them unidentifiable. Additionally, not all records were being held in the catchment as the Commission required. Suitable arrangements were made for these to be inspected as and when requested or an alternative keeper found.

## **CARCASS TAGGING OF NET-CAUGHT FISH**

For the 2010 season the RTC introduced a voluntary carcass tagging scheme for netsmen modelled on the compulsory scheme initiated by the Environment Agency (EA) in 2009. Based on the five-year average catch for all the netting stations (plus 25%) it was thought 7,000 tags would suffice. However, due to the exceptional Sea-trout run, an additional 4,000 tags had to be ordered and, regrettably, these too ran out days before the end of the season. Whilst these figures would suggest the scheme was a success, post season it was apparent that such a voluntary scheme was ineffective if all netsmen did not take part, or failed to keep the proper records. Of the 7 netting stations in operation, 2 declined to take part from the outset and a further 2

either did not, or only partially, applied the tags issued to them. Of the 7 netting stations, the required records were only received back from 3. Comments received from those stations that did participate suggested that they would continue with the scheme if they had to, but that applying the tags and recording details took extra time. Without legal means to enforce the scheme on all netsmen the overall aim was lost and, as such, the Commission decided to discontinue the scheme in 2011. Commission will, however, make representations to Government, through the ASFB, to try to introduce an enforceable national carcass tagging scheme. It is of note that the EA had identified the loophole in their system which was that, without tagging in Scotland, illegally caught English fish could reach the market masquerading as Scottish produce.

## **BIOSECURITY**

A Biosecurity Report was prepared during the year. The document is a compendium of information that would be required in the event of an outbreak of *Gyrodactylus salaris* (Gs) or other major disease on the River. Experience, particularly in Norway, has shown that speed of action is of the essence when dealing with Gs. This report follows guidance from the Government's Gs Contingency Plan which provides the Authorities that in the event of an outbreak would take control of the River with additional, detailed, supplementary information on Tweed. The Report is available on the RTC's website.

## **THE TWEED FOUNDATION**

The Tweed Foundation continued to provide the Commission with objective advice on a number of different specialist matters and generally in terms of the Tweed Fisheries Management Plan. These matters are reported separately in The Foundation's publications and on their website.

# INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31st December 2010

<b>2009</b>		<b>2010</b>
	<b>INCOME</b>	
640,693	Statutory Assessments	639,653
15,707	Policing & Property Income	9,850
2,782	Interest Received	1,450
<u>659,182</u>	<b>Total Income</b>	<u>650,953</u>
	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
	<b>Bailiff Costs, Etc.</b>	
12,573	Boat Costs	2,309
3,742	Telecommunications Costs	5,513
816	Other Equipment Maintenance	319
246,954	Salaries & Other Direct Staff Costs	247,571
38,920	Vehicle Costs	43,611
<u>303,005</u>		<u>299,323</u>
	<b>Administrative Costs</b>	
52,284	Management & Costs	52,976
4,187	Printing, Telephone, Stationery, Etc.	5,077
43,491	Insurances, Office Costs & Repairs	17,797
1,881	Interest & Charges	1,549
1,523	I.T. Costs	4,172
2,990	Professional Fees	7,646
18,465	Subscriptions	19,240
989	Meeting Costs	1,644
2,655	Sundries	1,954
<u>128,465</u>		<u>112,055</u>
	<b>Research &amp; Improvements</b>	
129,000	Research & Conservation	130,935
9,663	Spring Salmon Conservation	15,050
8,000	Caulds	6,750
9,182	Biosecurity	-
18,927	Conservation Payment Scheme	20,967
-	Tagging	25,813
<u>174,772</u>		<u>199,515</u>
	<b>Depreciation, Etc.</b>	
31,040	Depreciation	36,931
8,988	Fisheries	36,716
-	(Loss)/Profit on Sale of Fixed Assets	-10,538
<u>40,028</u>		<u>63,109</u>
<u>646,270</u>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u>674,002</u>
<u>12,912</u>	<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>	<u>(23,049)</u>
584	Corporation Tax	305
<u>12,328</u>	<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>	<u>(23,354)</u>

# BALANCE SHEET

As at 31st December 2010

2009		2010
	<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
257,354	Property	249,343
27,951	Motor Vehicles	56,246
141	Boats	-
1,266	Miscellaneous Equipment	431
<u>286,712</u>		<u>306,020</u>
	<b>Current Assets</b>	
22,923	Debtors & Prepayments	13,913
190,896	Cash at bank and in hand	182,006
<u>213,819</u>		<u>195,919</u>
	<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
-2,299	Bank overdraft	-8,024
-14,532	Creditors/Accrued Charges	-13,216
-584	Corporation Tax	-305
-9,038	Term Loan	-9,438
-	Fishery Buy-out	-5,000
<u>-26,453</u>		<u>-35,983</u>
<u>187,366</u>	<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>159,936</u>
474,078	Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	465,956
	Creditors: Amounts falling due after	
<u>-46,995</u>	more than one year	<u>-62,227</u>
<u>427,083</u>	<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u>403,729</u>
	<b>Represented by:</b>	
	<b>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</b>	
414,755	Balance as at 1/1/10	427,083
12,328	Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	-23,354
<u>427,083</u>	<b>Balance at 31/12/10</b>	<u>403,729</u>

## EXTRACT FROM THE 2010 ACCOUNTS

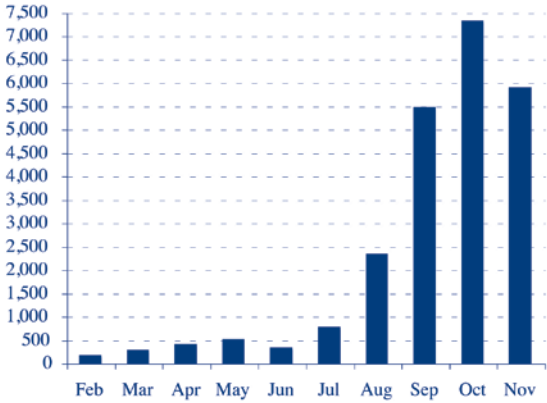
The financial information set out on these pages has been extracted from the R.T.C.'s full audited accounts, on which the auditors, Rennie Welch, reported without qualification.

Copies of the full audited accounts are available on request.

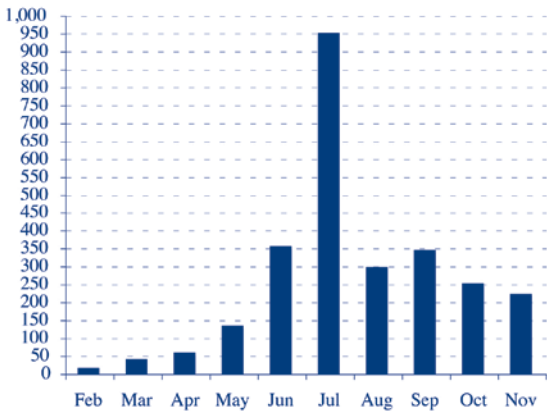
# APPENDICES

## Appendix I - 2010 MONTHLY CATCHES

### SALMON - RODS

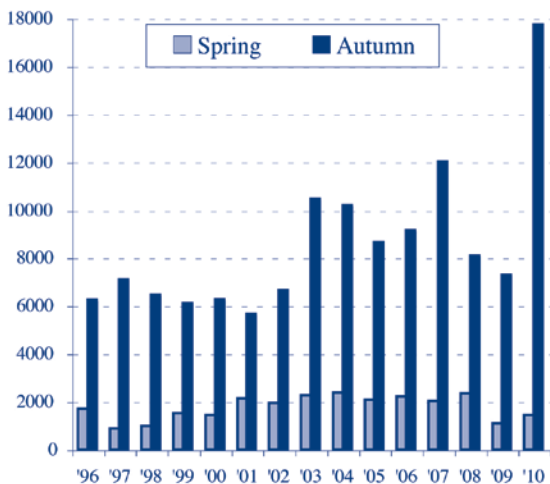


### SEA-TROUT - RODS



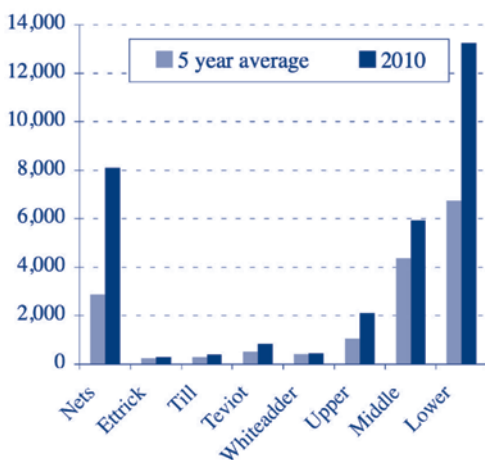
## Appendix II - SPRING v. AUTUMN TRENDS

For rod-caught Salmon below Ettrickmouth



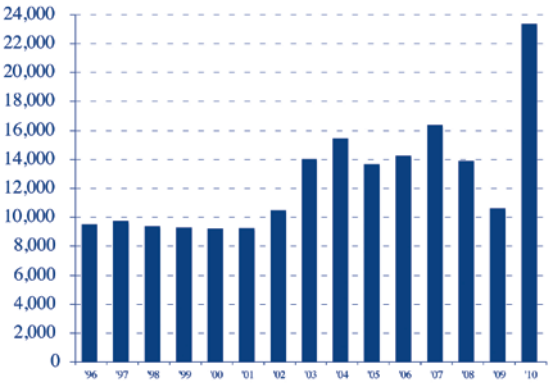
## Appendix III - TWEED SALMON TRENDS

Salmon Rod Catch vs Previous Five-Year Average

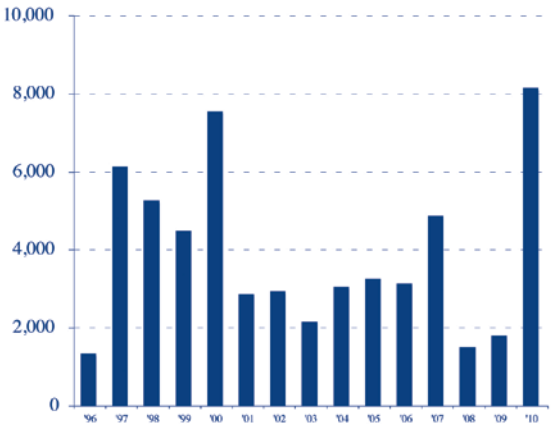


## Appendix IV - ANNUAL CATCH TRENDS

### SALMON - RODS

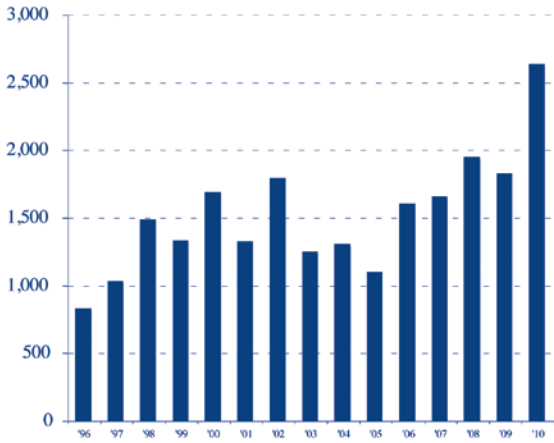


### SALMON - NETS

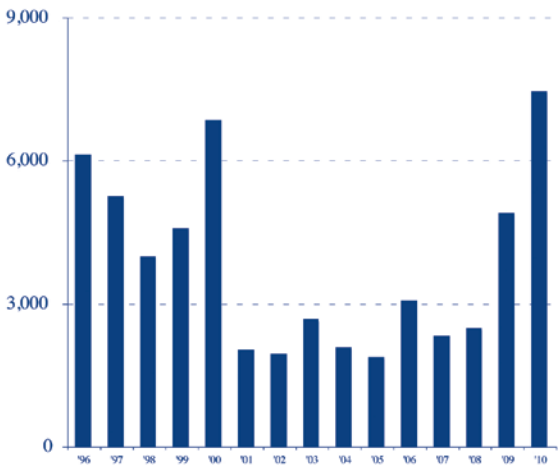


## Appendix IV (cont'd) - Annual Catch Trends

### SEA-TROUT - RODS



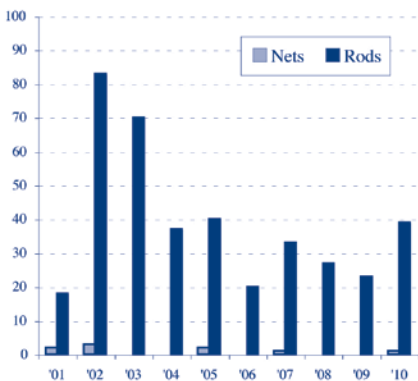
### SEA-TROUT NETS



## Appendix V - SALMON OF 25lbs & OVER

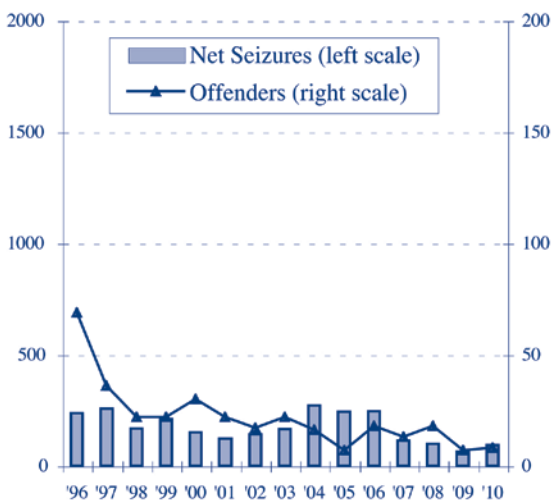
<b>Net Fisheries</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Individual Weight (lbs)</b>
Goswick North (Pt A)	1	28
<b>Rod Fisheries</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Individual Weight (lbs)</b>
Middle Ettrick	1	28
Eckford	1	25
Tillmouth Water	1	29
Tweedmill	2	26, 25
Lennel	2	28, 26
Upper North Wark	1	25
Birgham Dub	2	30, 25
Sprouston	2	26, 26
Hendersyde	2	26, 25
Junction	2	25, 25
Floors Lower	2	30, 28
Floors Upper	1	25
Makerstoun	3	30, 28, 25
Mertoun Middle	1	25
Mertoun Upper	1	25
Drygrange	2	30, 25
Tweedswood	1	25
Pavilion Lower	1	28
Pavilion Middle	2	28, 26
Boleside	2	26, 25
The Yair	1	26
Caberston Upper	5	35, 30, 26, 25, 25
Traquair	1	26

**10 Year Catches of Salmon of 25lbs and Over**



## Appendix VI

### Offenders and Seizures over the last 15 Years



# TWEEDLINE



*Up-to-date information on Tweed can be obtained on the  
Tweedline telephone numbers as follows:*

**Information & Prospects 09060 400 410**

**Daily River Levels 09060 400 411**

*Calls cost £1.50 per minute from a BT Landline (other network & mobile costs may vary). Profits from your call will go to The Tweed Foundation to help preserve fish stocks. Service provided by The Tweed Foundation, Drygrange Steading, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DJ. In case of any problems with this service, please call +44 (0)1896 848271.*

## **Appendix VII - TWEED COMMISSION MEMBERS**

As at 31st December 2010

**Tweed Committee:** See asterisks below:

### **Appointed by Local Councils**

#### **Scottish Borders Council**

##### **Berwickshire (9)**

M Crozier (Coldstream)  
J. Fairgrieve (Gordon)  
W.L. Forrest  
P.J. Huddleston  
M. Keysell (Whiteadder)  
F. Scott  
J. Todd  
F. Turnbull  
W.W. Quarry

##### **Ettrick & Lauderdale (11)**

T.B. Hardy (Gala)  
N.J.H. Houldsworth  
T. McLeish (Melrose)  
J. MacLennan (Earlston)  
V. Pemberton (Selkirk)  
W. Rodger (St Boswells)  
J.P.H. Scott  
R.L. Simpson (St Mary's)  
T.L. Speirs  
G. Sutherland (Lauderdale)  
A. Virtue

##### **Roxburgh (9)**

J. Curtis (Upper Teviotdale)  
I. Davis  
R. Glass (Kelso)\*  
A.H. Hutton  
R. Johnston\*  
Dr. D. H. Mills  
T. Reid (Hawick)  
R. Young (Jedforest)  
J. T. Scott

##### **Tweeddale (5)**

N. Brown  
D.G. Fyfe  
J. Lees (Peebles)  
A. J. Panter  
Capt. D. Younger

#### **Berwick upon Tweed Borough Council (9)**

P. Cowe (Berwick) J.M.F. Nesbit (Chatton)  
D. A. Ewart (Ladykirk & Norham) Mrs P.A. Scott  
C. Hallam-Baker (Glendale) J.A.Taylor  
Dr. J. H. Mitchell R.J.D. Watkin  
A.H. Murray

*Representatives of Angling Associations  
are denoted by the name of their Club.  
The remainder are independents.*

(Appendix VII continued)  
**Elected by Proprietors**  
As at 31st December 2010

Ms M. Andrews	-	Paxton
Mrs C.K. Balfour	-	Birgham Lower
P.A. Baxendale	-	Sprouston
S. Blades	-	Elibank
Lord Biddulph	-	Makerstoun
A. Brough	-	Middle Ettrick
J.McK. Brownlie	-	Drygrange
C. Crawford	-	Middle Pavilion
M. Cuddigan	-	Ford & Etal
D.J. Dobie*	-	The Retreat
A. Douglas-Home*	-	Lees Upper
I. Fleming	-	Birgham Dub
Dr. G.M. Fraser	-	Horncliffe
J.R. Gardiner	-	Caddonfoot
J. Gill	-	West Learmouth
Mrs C.A. Hoare	-	Dryburgh South
F.G. Jennings	-	Boleside
C. Lapsa	-	Tillmouth
Miss J.J. Lovett*	-	South Wark
J.H. Lovett	-	Lower North Wark
J. McCorquodale	-	Maxton
C.A. Matheson	-	Tweedhill
R.J.Onslow	-	Tweedmill
P. Pitchford	-	Bemersyde
D. Platt	-	Milne Graden
The Earl of Portarlington	-	Gledswood
J. Pringle	-	The Nest
The Duke of Roxburghe*	-	Floors
J.C. Rutherford	-	Rutherford
J. G. Scott	-	Ancrum
Mrs F. Simpson	-	Crown Estate
		Fisheries
R.D. Smyly	-	Sunderland Hall
P.D. Straker-Smith*	-	Birgham Middle
The Duke of Sutherland	-	Mertoun
D. Theaker	-	Mounthooly
N. Thompson	-	Cornhill
D. Wilson	-	Kirkbank
Lt. Col. D.J. Younger	-	Ravenswood

## Appendix VIII - RTC OFFICIALS & EMPLOYEES

At January 2011

**Chairman:** A. Douglas-Home  
**Vice Chairman:** R. Johnston  
**Treasurer:** Miss J. J. Lovett

**Clerk:** N. P. Yonge  
**Administrator:** Miss F. B. L. Hieatt

**Office:** The North Court, Drygrange Steading,  
Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DJ  
Tel: (01896) 848294  
Fax: (01896) 848277  
Email: enquiries@rtc.org.uk  
Website: www.rtc.org.uk

### **Bailiff**

**Superintendent:** A.P. Coleman  
**KELSO**  
Mobile: 07831 126969

### **Bailiff**

**Chief Inspector:** E.A. Hastings  
**MELROSE**  
Mobile: 07836 686254

### **Bailiffs:**

D.R.M. Brown  
**BIGGAR**  
Mobile: 07884 230043

A. Davison  
**BERWICK**  
Mobile: 07884 230048

K.G. Graham  
**BERWICK**  
Mobile: 07884 230047

T.A. Heard  
**JEDBURGH**  
Mobile: 07884 230046

K. B. Wardhaugh  
**MELROSE**  
Mobile: 07884 230045

M. M. Wardhaugh  
**MELROSE**  
Mobile: 07884 230044

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The River Tweed Commission is charged under The Scotland Act 1998 (River Tweed) Order 2006 with the general preservation and increase of Salmon, Sea-trout, Trout and other freshwater fish in the River Tweed and its Tributaries, and in particular with the regulation of fisheries, the removal of nuisances and obstructions and the prevention of illegal fishing. The area of jurisdiction extends eight kilometres out to sea and includes the coastline between Cockburnspath and Holy Island. Powers are granted to the Commission by this Order in Council made in accordance with an Act of Parliament to help fulfil these duties.

The Governing body is the Commission which consists of 43 members appointed by Local Authorities (23 from Local Angling Clubs and 20 from other interests), and 38 members elected by the Proprietors of the River from their number. The Commission levies an annual assessment on the owners of all Fisheries.

The Commission only has statutory duties and powers relating to fish, although this inevitably necessitates an interest in many other aspects of Tweed management. The statutory responsibilities for these other areas are, however, held by other organisations, with whom we maintain close links:-

### **Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)**

Burnbrae, Mossilee Road, Galashiels, TD1 1NF. Tel: 01896 752425/754797 - Pollution and control of water quality & quantity in Scotland.

### **Environment Agency**

Tyneside House, Skinnerburn Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE4 7AR. Tel: 08708 506 506 - Pollution and control of water quality and quantity in England.

### **Scottish Water**

Winston Road, Galashiels, TD1 3HH. Tel: 0845 501 8855 - Sewage disposal and water supplies on the Scottish side.

### **Northumbrian Water**

Abbey Road, Pity Me, Durham, DH1 5FJ. Tel: 0870 608 4820 - Sewage disposal and water supplies on the English side.

### **Scottish Natural Heritage**

Anderson's Chambers, Market Street, Galashiels, TD1 3AF. Tel: 01896 756652 - Protection of the Site of Special Scientific Interest which covers most of the main river and of the Special Area of Conservation on the Scottish side.

### **Natural England**

The Quadrant, Newburn Riverside, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE15 8NZ. Tel: 0191 229 5500 - Protection of the Site of Special Scientific Interest which covers most of the main river and of the Special Area of Conservation on the English side.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

**River Tweed Commission**  
[www.rtc.org.uk](http://www.rtc.org.uk)

**River Tweed News**  
[www.rivertweed.org.uk](http://www.rivertweed.org.uk)

All up to date information on the River from the RTC and Tweed Foundation can be found on this site.

**The Tweed Foundation**  
[www.tweedfoundation.org.uk](http://www.tweedfoundation.org.uk)

**Tweed Trout & Grayling Initiative**  
[www.ttgi.org.uk](http://www.ttgi.org.uk)

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Association of Salmon Fishery Boards  
[www.asfb.org.uk](http://www.asfb.org.uk)

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs  
(DEFRA)  
[www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

Environment Agency  
[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

FishTweed  
[www.fishtweed.co.uk](http://www.fishtweed.co.uk)

The Scottish Government - Marine Scotland  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/marine](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/marine)

Natural England  
[www.naturalengland.gov.uk](http://www.naturalengland.gov.uk)

Northumberland County Council  
[www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

Northumbrian Water  
[www.nwg.co.uk](http://www.nwg.co.uk)

Scottish Borders Council  
[www.scotborders.gov.uk](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk)

Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)  
[www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk)

The Scottish Government, Marine Scotland  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse)

Scottish Natural Heritage  
[www.snh.org.uk](http://www.snh.org.uk)

Scottish Water  
[www.scottishwater.co.uk](http://www.scottishwater.co.uk)

Tweed Forum  
[www.tweedforum.com](http://www.tweedforum.com)

# KEEP GYRODACTYLUS SALARIS (Gs)

## OUT OF *Tweed*

*Gyrodactylus salaris* (Gs) is an extremely dangerous parasite and the RTC is taking most careful steps to ensure that it does not enter the Tweed fishery. As such, we are adopting rigorous biosecurity procedures, which we are sure you will support.

### WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

In order to minimize the risk of spreading *Gyrodactylus salaris* to Scotland, it is imperative that you clean and treat your equipment before fishing on Tweed in one of the following ways **if** the equipment has been used outside Britain and Ireland in the preceding seven days:

- a) Dry at a minimum temperature of 20°C for at least 2 days, OR
- b) Heat for at least one hour at a temperature above 60°C, OR
- c) Immerse in a suitable solution. Virkon (at 1% solution); Wescodyne (at 1%); a 3% solution of common salt (Sodium Chloride), or a 0.2% solution of Sodium Hydroxide, OR
- d) Deep freeze for at least one day.

Gs has been shown to survive away from a live fish host for 5-7 days at ambient river temperatures. Equipment or product that has been kept cool and damp and is transferred rapidly (within one week) may present high levels of risk.

This notorious parasite has destroyed the Salmon stocks of over 20 rivers in Norway. It is also indigenous to, or has been spread to, Russia, Finland, Sweden, Germany, France, Spain and Portugal - largely through fish-farm movements of Rainbow Trout.

**If this parasite gets into Tweed it means the absolute end of our Salmon**

