



The River



News from Tweed Fisheries Management: The River Tweed Commission & The Tweed Foundation

Generous Donation of £5,000

Peebles Angling Club have been a generous supporter of Tweed Foundation initiatives, helping to fund the tracking of Upper Tweed brown trout in recent years. Their donation of £5,000 will go toward the research being carried out by the Foundation to assess whether freshet releases from local reservoirs can help to reduce water temperatures in hot summers, and also provide equipment for the Tweed river guardian initiative.

During 2022 temperatures exceeded 23° in places across the catchment. Please consider a donation towards our tree planting initiative, designed to cool the river in those recognised vulnerable areas of spawning and nursery

Trout Tracking Part 2



Following on from last years Lower Tweed trout tracking, a further 40 trout will be tagged in 2023. Anglers from Kelso and Coldstream will be on hand to help catch our samples. You can watch the presentation last month again via the QR code.



If you would be interested in sponsoring a fish, please could you make contact with the Tweed Foundation. Each tag costs £320.



Following in the footsteps of the reinvigorated opening day for the salmon season, a trout open day was held on The Green in Peebles on the 1st April, with the well known local TV presenter, Fiona Armstrong, dispensing some customary Glenkinshie whisky into the river.

A range of events were on offer from fly tying, casting and fly life sampling. The Tweed Foundation showcased their work with a particular focus on temperature monitoring and the practical steps we can take to help future proof the river against climate change. Alongside the Foundation, Peebles Angling Club were in attendance, demonstrating fly tying and helping out with fly casting lessons while FastFlies were also introducing young people to fly tying.

You can watch coverage from the day on ITV Border Life Friday 12th May at 7pm.

Students on Work Placement

Two S4 pupils from Earlston High School are on a week long placement with The Tweed Foundation, working as assistant biologists. On Tuesday they were at the Gala smolt trap, helping to measure, catch and tag smolts before being released back to the river.

Tweed Smolt Run

Each year we tag Smolts leaving the Tweed to monitor their survival and this year 1000 Salmon and 500 Sea trout smolts will be tagged. Losses at this stage of the Atlantic salmon life cycle cannot be replaced. With numbers of returning adult salmon continuing to decline, we need to make sure as many smolts make it to the sea as possible.

Please help us by informing the fishery officers when and where you are seeing smolts and share the message to sponsor a Tweed smolt.



Chirnside outfall, Whiteadder

Scottish Water have increased inspections to reduce sewage related debris leaving the site at Chirnside, monitoring the outfall and clean-ups if sewage related debris such as rags enter the Whiteadder Water. SEPA has previously identified that the screen at the inlet CSO is not compliant with the licence. The site is subject to a growth project which will upgrade the works. This will include screens to all discharges of 6mm and a new storm tank. The growth project is expected to commence at the end of Summer/start of Autumn 2023.

Please keep reporting incidences of pollution to Tweed fishery officers.

Fish Eating Birds

To continue applying for a licence to minimise economic damage of fish eating birds to the salmon fishery, Foundation and Commission staff, along with volunteers, continue to carry out comprehensive Goosander and Cormorant counts in January, April, May and October. Counts of Goosanders for the last few years continue to show below average numbers in the main stem of the Tweed. Cormorants are more variable and are subject in influxes of birds, perhaps from the continent.

The graph below shows the number of birds per kilometre from Ettrickmouth to Berwick in January. Numbers from 2021 to 2023 have been half the average.

Please keep informing the fishery officers of large groups of bird sightings.

Boatman Vacancy

An exciting opportunity to join the Wark salmon fishing team has arisen. Send your CV to fishing@warkestate.co.uk

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RIVER  TWEED





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