

LUCE DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD
2014 Chairman's report

*** Relates to fishing season to Oct 2014***

The past season was characterised by the distinctly dry summer and virtually no fresh water until the start of October.

Aside from removal of fallen or obstructing trees and cutting back bankside vegetation, no other significant or structural works were carried out in 2014.

The work programme for 2015 will be reassessed in spring after the winter floods. It is likely that there will be bank reinstatement works required at the Red Brew; and there is an ongoing concern about erosion between River Cottage and the fishing hut.

Catch and release policy for the Luce had been reviewed and the requirement put to all day ticket and syndicate anglers was all anglers were *"limited to 12 fish per week. A policy of catch and release is encouraged, and notwithstanding the total permitted per week, a release rate of 50%, and all fish over 10lbs should be achieved. As many sea trout as possible and all herling are to be returned. A maximum of 2 sea trout per rod per day may be killed."*

The Board continues to work closely with GFT with ongoing annual electrofishing surveys; and liaison on wind farm impacts and other issues such as the Penwhirn Dam improvement works, potential drought orders and the current Wild Fisheries Review.

The Board recruited 3 new volunteer river watchers this season and the intention for next year is to continue with the scheme. Head Bailiff Martin Lock will give a report later in the meeting.