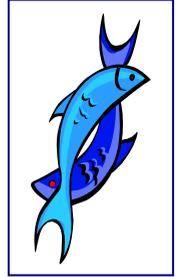


The River Taw Fisheries Association Newsletter



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Summer 2017

Chairman's Report



This season has started in promising fashion with about 40 salmon caught by the end of May. Sea trout though have been slow to arrive with only a few caught. As always we pray for rain.

Last season our prayers for rain were not answered and there was little to remember. We had difficult, windy and cold conditions early on, followed by a prolonged drought. Fishing effort was limited. Only one spate of note occurred, at the beginning of August and only for the Mole, Bray and Lower Taw. Catches reflected this. The EA numbers were 145 salmon and 299 sea trout with return percentages of 79% and 82% respectively. Our own beat survey showed 185 salmon and 302 sea trout. Comparative numbers from 2015 were: EA 225 salmon and 493 sea trout against the beat survey 313 salmon and 575 sea trout.

Our beat numbers and the EA numbers should of course correspond more closely. The difference must be accounted for by fishermen not sending in their annual returns to the EA. Please ensure that your EA returns are in for this season by 31 December.

Older members will look at the rod catch numbers and talk about the 'good old days', an exercise in nostalgia, but it's probably more sensible to look at the Taw in relation to other rivers in the southwest. For example for the 2015 season, the last season for which comparative numbers are available, the Taw was number two for salmon behind the Tamar and number two behind the Fowey for sea trout. I am not trying to encourage a league table mentality, but simply to indicate

how good our river is, providing an attractive balance between salmon and sea trout fishing.

Other good news comes from the brown trout fishing community which caught about 2,000 brown trout in 2015 and about 2,500 last season. (It is worth noting that these numbers do not include brown trout caught on what might be termed the salmon and sea trout beats.) I understand that the quality and size of these wonderful fish continues to improve across the catchment. We have been actively welcoming brown trout fishermen, their clubs and syndicates into RTFA where they can play a more active role. They, I am pleased to say, have produced a good number of RiverFly volunteers. After a slow start, we now monitor about 10 sites and I hope there will be more to come. RiverFly monitoring provides another useful guide for us, alongside juvenile surveys, walk-over surveys and rod catch numbers, by which to assess the river and its fish stocks.

Unfortunately the salmon netmen in the Taw/Torridge estuary continue to land fish, 44 salmon and 55 sea trout last season. On the bright side I would say that a head of steam is building up to ban salmon netting on a broad basis. RTFA fully supports the *Save our Salmon* campaign.



While still on the estuary I should report on the IFCA Bye-law Review, a saga that runs and runs. For us the importance is the banning of sea fish netting in the Taw/Torridge which will eliminate the salmon and sea trout by-catch. This ban has been recommended by Devon & Severn IFCA despite a continuing campaign by the commercial fishermen. Final sign off is still required by the Maritime Management Organisation, DEFRA and the Minister. We are not quite there yet and unfortunately the General Election has created a further delay.



On a broader front what has been happening? We continue to work closely with Environment Agency and Westcountry Rivers Trust through quarterly meetings. This resulted in the following work carried out by WRT last season: over 3km of coppicing, 4 debris dams removed, Upper Taw gravel cleaning, 1 Lapford Yeo weir assessed, 25km of walk-over surveys, 3 farm advice work-shops and a catchment-wide fry index fish survey. This fry survey has led us in the short term to focus on the Little Dart for remedial work and a walk-over survey has already started.

Water quality remains a major issue and Andy Gray has written an informative article on soil, water quality and conservation farming which appears later in the Newsletter. We are fortunate to have two strong supporters of conservation farming on our Committee, Andy Gray and Anthony Pope. We learn a great deal from them. We are hopeful that their knowledge and consultancy skills may benefit WRT in its farm advisory activity.

Still on the subject of soil and farming, I am sure that members will have noticed the huge increase in the amount of maize grown in our catchment. Fields which were used for grazing have been converted to arable. We also have three biodigesters, one on the Mole and two on the Little Dart, for which maize is an important feedstock. This change to our environment is unwelcome to say the least and poses a further threat to the water quality of our streams. We will have to see how we can mitigate this situation. For more detail on this topic please refer to the Angling Trust article later in the Newsletter.

 We are active members of South West Rivers Association, the Exmoor Rivers and Streams Group and Dartmoor Steering Group and are well-connected to Angling Trust. Our relationship with Torridge Association remains as strong and productive as ever.

We are of course sorry to see the demise of the Devon Branch of Salmon & Trout Conservation UK with whom we have always had an excellent relationship. Steve Phelps writes about this later in the Newsletter and I would like to thank him for all his good work. He has been a good friend of the Taw and Torridge through his S+T UK work.

 Roger Furniss, who has recently retired as Secretary of SWRA, writes a farewell article for us in this Newsletter. It would be impossible to overstate the contribution Roger has made to the rivers in the southwest in general and to the Taw in particular during his 13 years as Secretary. I personally will miss his wise counsel, the breadth of his knowledge and experience and his enthusiasm for the battle when we have had campaigns to fight. We owe him a huge vote of thanks.

The Committee remains unchanged from last year. The membership is strong, but could be stronger if everyone who fishes the Taw could be persuaded to join. The Committee continues to work actively on this, but members could also do their bit. Riparian owners, for example, could ask their guests to join. That's what I do. It's a very simple and painless request to make. The importance is not so much the additional income from subscriptions, though that is of course welcome. It is rather to give RTFA more clout when it comes to fighting campaigns. The IFCA bye-law campaign would be a good example. We want to be able to say that we represent the whole river and all those who fish it.

The AGM in March at Highbullen was well attended and we raised a record amount from the auction, £4,438, which will go towards river improvement work. Thanks are due as always to our auctioneer, Chris Taylor, for the entertaining and painless way in which he extracts funds from us all and to all those who kindly donated lots.

The river does remain vulnerable after a dry winter and a cold, dry spring. Perhaps this will be offset by a wet summer. We can only hope so, but the early signs are not good. As always rain is the fisherman's best friend.

Two final requests. Please pay your subscriptions on time preferably by using the standard order form found under Membership on our website and with an eye to the future see whether you can introduce young fishermen to the river.

Alex Gibson, Chairman

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Hon. Treasurer's Report

Having completed my first year as Treasurer I am pleased to report that RTFA continues to control its costs and operate within its means. We gained 11 new members last year, and our active recruitment programme continues. I do emphasise the need for new members, particularly younger anglers, as any improvements made to the Taw will surely benefit them in the future.



A surplus of £3,788 was transferred to the Taw Trust account increasing funds held there for river improvement work to just over £11,000. In March we enjoyed a most successful AGM with the auction raising a record £4,438. This will be another significant boost to Taw Trust funds. Thanks must be given to all those who donated lots and to Chris Taylor for organising the auction and for his auctioneering prowess.

We made two contributions to Westcountry Rivers Trust in 2015 - £10,000 towards the fry index survey and £1000 towards the Upper Taw invasive plant survey. Both surveys have been completed. We are now looking at another joint funded river improvement project with WRT. Our contribution will again come from Taw Trust funds.

Subscriptions are now due. A good proportion of the membership pays by Standing Order, which is our preferred method of collecting subscriptions. We would like to collect subs from all members by this means. Details are to be found on the RTFA website under the membership heading. On setting up a SO in favour of RTFA please inform me.

Contact details:

richard@blakewell.co.uk
Blakewell Fisheries, Muddiford, Barnstaple, North Devon EX31 4ET.

Rates

Full Members (Riparian Owners) £35.00

Associate Members £15.00



Raising money requires hard work and commitment. I would like to thank you for your continued support.

Richard Nickell, Hon. Treasurer

Westcountry Rivers Trust (WRT)

On St George's Day earlier this year I had my decade anniversary at the Trust. I find it hard to believe I've worked in one place for 10 years! I find myself in a position of having worked with the RTFA for over 7 of those years now and like all good things; I'm pleased to say it doesn't have to end.

My role within Westcountry Rivers Trust has always been to put more fins in the river as one of our founding Trustees always used to say (a Taw inhabitant): to make sure we are delivering action on the river that will benefit the water and the fish. This goal will continue with my new position as the River and Fisheries Manager for the whole county.

In moving my job to a wider area, I don't see it as a dilution of WRT presence in the Taw, but as a transposition of the Taw's excellent passion and dedication for the river to the rest of Devon. I have learnt a lot working in the Taw and I want improvements to the rivers to continue in the same vein across the area/county/region.



So what's going to change for me? I hope it won't be too much as I believe consistency of staff and experience in an area are worth their weight in gold. I will still attend the Taw meetings and generate projects to benefit our waterways, but I hope that by one person being responsible for the county, we will get more joined up thinking and initiatives across the area as a whole: after all, our problems are largely the same. I would like to see the Taw Access over Weirs project being rolled out across Devon whilst still identifying important side tributaries here in the Taw and accessing more vital spawning for our depleted stocks.

As I look at other catchments in conjunction with the Taw, I am pleased to say that WRT will increase its presence in the Taw catchment with the creation of a Rivers Officer role for the area. This will enable a full-time staff member to concentrate efforts in the North Devon catchments and really get to know the rivers and the people there, helping work towards better rivers and fish stocks.

Our annual fish surveys looking at the salmon and trout fry of the year have yielded disappointing results of late. Luckily we are in a position to see exactly what is going on through interpretation of these results and do something about it now. This is the importance of continuously monitoring the system to see what is happening and how we should adaptively manage.

Extremely high river flows in 2012/13 and dry or warm winters these last two winters will not have helped fish stocks as seasons of flood or drought serve to present extreme ends of the weather spectrum where the redds can be washed out or the emergence happen too early. It is therefore very important we continue to monitor what is happening with stocks and concentrate our efforts accordingly.



We will be taking a closer look at the Little Dart this year to identify why this river is not as productive as it used to be. Once we find out if the access for fish is open in the lower half of the catchment we will make sure the upper half has suitable spawning gravels and make sure they are clean and free-moving so that arriving fish can lay their brood. This continues our

remit of direct action on the ground to put more fish in the river; guided by science, and helped by teamwork from RTFA committee, Environment Agency, and Westcountry Rivers Trust who continue to meet regularly to steer the Tow along the road to recovery.

I mentioned consistency of staff and experience in an area being invaluable and on that note I would like to wish Roger Furniss a happy retirement from the SWRA.

(The survey report on the Tow can be read or downloaded from <http://wrt.org.uk/fish-survey-results-2016/>)

Adrian Dowding
Devon River and Fisheries Manager at Westcountry Rivers Trust



If you want to know.....



About the state of the river and for fishing reports visit the River Tow Fisheries Association Web Site on

www.rivertawfisheries.co.uk

and click on Current News and Webcams & Gauges



SOUTH WEST RIVERS ASSOCIATION

THE VOICE OF THE RIVERS

Along with the other 19 river associations in the region RTFA both supports and benefits from the work of SWRA – a key player at local, regional and national level. The work of river associations is increasingly important with reductions in Environment Agency staff and fisheries funding, and a diminishing number of salmon and sea trout anglers to influence political decisions affecting our interests.



SWRA has been especially active in several areas directly affecting the Taw:

National Salmon Strategy

The Environment Agency and Defra have adopted a Five Point Approach to restoring salmon stocks, including:

- Improve Marine Survival;
- Further Reduce Exploitation by Nets and Rods
- Remove Barriers to Migration and Enhance Habitat
- Safeguard Sufficient Flows; and
- Maximise Spawning Success and Juvenile Survival by Improving Water Quality

I am a member of a national group advising the EA on voluntary measures to increase catch and release numbers and improve survival of returned salmon. We are very clear that there should be no more mandatory restrictions on anglers who do so much to conserve salmon. At the time of writing a public consultation on measures to reduce exploitation by rods and nets has been delayed because of ‘General Election Purdah’ – when the consultation is triggered it is essential that each river responds to ensure that any changes reflect the relative values of rod and net fishing and the contribution anglers and riparian owners make to salmon conservation.

IFCA Byelaw Review

SWRA has worked closely with the Taw and Torridge Associations to ensure that the current review of sea fisheries byelaws by the Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority produced the best possible protection for salmon and sea trout in estuaries and inshore waters. Subject to formal approval, ultimately by the Fisheries Minister, the proposed byelaws meet our needs and include:

- A ban on all sea fish netting in estuaries, with the exception of small nets for catching sand eels;
- An extension of the seaward limit of the Taw/Torridge estuary to a line from Down End to Rock Nose, i.e. well outside the estuary proper.

The changes will make enforcement much simpler and reduce the by-catch of salmon and sea trout which happens now.

Direct input from RTFA to IFCA officers has been vital in combating efforts by sea fishermen and their representatives to oppose the new byelaw. I must also mention the contribution made by Simon Toms of the Environment Agency to the successful outcome.

Retirement

At the AGM in April I retired as Secretary after 13 years and reported on my experience in that time. The main feature has been a continuing decline in the Environment Agency's delivery of its statutory duty to 'maintain, improve and develop ... fisheries'. RTFA has been an exemplar of how an active river association can use enlightened self-interest for the benefit of its own river, especially through the Taw Access Over Weirs project and its input to the IFCA Byelaw Review. My best wishes for a continued successful future go to the officers and members of the association.



Roger Furniss

furniss740@btinternet.com

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The Environment Agency (EA)

At your March AGM I informed members the good news that the Agency has trained and fully warranted on a fisheries basis three current Devon Enforcement Officers from other departments. These officers are able to help me and the other full time bailiffs on a part-time basis. One is based in Barnstaple which is great news for your river.

Unfortunately by the time of your AGM the effect of this year's reductions in staff due to DEFRA funding cuts was not yet clear. It has now been confirmed that a Fisheries Officer based in West Cornwall will be retiring at the end of May. This will mean that the remaining FEO's will have to increase the geographical areas that they are responsible for.



As always I request that you report any illegal or suspicious fishing activities or pollution incidents to the Agency's 24 hour hotline on 0800 80 70 60. This will help us plan and target our enforcement

Paul Carter

EA Fisheries Enforcement Officer North Devon

pj.carter@environment-agency.gov.uk

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Salmon & Trout Conservation UK

It is with considerable sadness that I let you know that the Devon Branch will be closing at the end of 2017. I, as Branch Chairman and Treasurer, and Dave Williams, as Secretary, are standing down and there are no members willing to take on these roles. May I thank you all on behalf of the over 300 youngsters who have enjoyed an introduction to fly fishing over the last number of years utilising the skills and time of our volunteers.



Our Junior Fishing Introduction has been a key initiative and we are looking at ways for it to continue, either as part of a broader “West Country” S+TC initiative or via the Angling Trust here in the South West. Either way it is fully funded for 2017. If you wish to put youngsters forward please contact me (see below) and I will pass you on to our coordinator Fred Leach. There will be 2 Basic Courses held at Exe Valley Fishery Exebridge on Sunday 11th June and Sunday 24th September - plus an Intermediates Day on Sunday 2nd July at Bellbrook Valley Fishery. It has become plain that students with the background knowledge wish to be more “challenged” and this Intermediate Day will accomplish this.

Riverfly is another important initiative of S+TC and I am very pleased to report that this work is now flourishing here in the South West and will continue independently of S+TC.

Another important role is Water Resource Officer. We receive a copy of the Environment Agency’s list of licence applications to abstract or discharge and go through them for Devon and Cornwall raising issues of concern with the relevant River Associations. This year we identified a potential problem when South West Water put in 15 applications the week before Christmas, to “vary” their current licences for 15 rural sewage treatment works across the region to allow an increase in suspended solid volumes by as much as 45%. We notified all the River Associations as well as Devon Wildlife Trust, North Devon Biosphere, West Country Rivers Trust and SWRA, who all put in objections. The outcome was that all were refused except the most modest with a 5% increase.

I am pleased to say that this important role will be continued Neil Yeandle, a member who is also Secretary of the Teign Association and SWRA Council Member.

Unfortunately we won’t be able to continue our active presence at the Country Shows after this year, but we will be at the Devon County Show, Exeter, Thursday to Saturday 19th to 21st May (prior to this Newsletter), at the Mid

Devon Show, Saturday 22nd July and at the North Devon Show, Wednesday 2nd August. We look forward to seeing you.



All that remains then is to say thank you again for your support. And whilst I am sad about our demise, I am pleased to be able to confirm that the major initiatives we have undertaken will continue after we close down in December this year.

Regards and tight lines

Steve Phelps, Chairman
Salmon & Trout Conservation UK, Devon Branch
E mail s.phelps127@btinternet.com
Tel: 01647 432373

River Taw Fisheries Association Committee

Chairman	Alex Gibson
Secretary	George Marsh
Treasurer	Richard Nickell
Lower Taw	Simon Hillcox Mark Maitland-Jones Anthony Pope Julian Zealey
Upper Taw	Simon Phillips John Smith Peter Tyjas
River Mole	Andy Gray John Macro Chris Taylor

Associate Members' Representative	Ian Blewett*
IT Adviser	Bryan Martin*
Newsletter Editor	Judith Kauntze*
Salmon & Trout Conservation UK	Paul Ashworth*

* Non-voting Members

Salmon and Soil



As a result of his concerns about water quality in the Taw catchment Alex Gibson has asked me to write a piece about soil and our rivers from the perspective of a fishing farmer with a foot in both camps.

As fishermen and riparian conservationists, we tend to focus almost solely on the river and the problems in it. In my view, we need to look further up the hill and try to expand our sphere of knowledge and influence.

The rain that falls on our catchment will arrive in our river. It can sink into the land to arrive slowly and cleanly or dash across the top, sweeping with it all the things we don't want in our rivers such as soil, manures and agricultural pesticides. This high-speed surface water causes flooding in towns, river bank erosion and sharp dirty spates. Slow flow benefits farmer, fisherman, householder, water companies and the environment. There is no downside to having precipitation absorbed and then slowly released by the land.

If everybody wins then why aren't we all trying to achieve this? The answer is that many are. There is a movement for change amongst the more progressive commercial farmers. How are they doing it? Soil management! Helping the soil do what it does best - allowing it to revert to a more naturally structured and healthy state.

The way land is managed affects soil structure. Well-structured soils absorb rain and retain moisture thereby reducing run-off into rivers and keeping moisture available for growing crops. In dry springs like this one this retained moisture is the difference between success and failure for crops. Poorly structured soils produce run-off into rivers which causes terrible damage to the river structure, water quality and fish stocks and depletes the land for the future.

The concern about soil loss has sparked a good deal of research into how to minimise or ameliorate it. One strand is a technique called "Conservation Agriculture", also known as "Min Till", where the crop is drilled directly into the previous crop's stubbles without using the plough and cultivator. Some points about Min Till:

Min Till reduces the costs of establishing the crops that follow as there is a single pass of the machine rather than plough, cultivate, drill and perhaps roll.

Fewer passes reduce compaction.

Min Till reduces the disturbance to the underlying soil structure and this allows it to develop airgaps over time and other routes for infiltration.

Less organic matter is exposed to be lost to oxidisation. Old root tunnels remain which offer easier ingress.

Fewer worms are killed and the complex relationships between the micro flora and fauna beneath our feet can build the soil structure.

A cereal crop can be re-established quickly after maize and this reduces the time the land is bare in the critical autumn/winter months when maize, that most damaging of crops, leaves the soil most vulnerable.



Whilst not a universal panacea, Min Till is incredibly useful as an extra tool in the farmer's kit. It could be much more widely adopted in arable systems in the UK. A lot of hardnosed commercial farmers are converts, mainly in the east of England and areas where there is more arable farming. Conservation farming converts are now interested in counting earthworms. They realise that worms assist them in making money and that soil is better in fields than in rivers.

Interestingly most of the rest of the world is ahead of us: for example, the Australians and Americans, both North and South, consider British soil management to be 30 years behind. We need to play catch-up and think urgently and in depth about soil management in all its forms.



Soil is a fascinating and complex subject as is the science that goes with it. These observations are a tiny insight into an enormously important opportunity to improve our environment, increase our crops yields and at the same time improve the water quality and the number of fish in our rivers.

Andy Gray



Angling Trust

Maize Cultivation & Anaerobic Digesters.

Extracts from an Angling Trust response (14.7.16) to a Department for Energy & Climate Change (DECC) consultation.

In July 2015, the Soil Association published Runaway Maize, a report setting out their concerns about the rapid increase in maize cultivation in the UK, the environmental damage that is caused by its mismanagement and its use as a feedstock for energy generation – specifically biogas from anaerobic digestion (AD). The Angling Trust is firm in supporting genuinely renewable energy production, but there is evidence to support the view that the practice of growing maize for biomass is environmentally unsustainable and that the damage caused offsets any benefit in reduced greenhouse gas emissions. The Soil Association concluded their report with a number of recommendations to policymakers, including the complete removal of the subsidies available for biogas derived from maize. We are therefore encouraged to see a proposal by DECC which seeks to restrict subsidy payments for biogas on the basis of the feedstock used.

The problem

Maize is now probably the most rapidly expanding crop in the UK – up from just 8,000 hectares in England in 1973 to 186,000 hectares in 2015. Most maize is used as a livestock feed, but an increasing proportion – currently around 20% - is cultivated as a feedstock for AD, and this new use seems to be driving the dramatic expansion of maize. Maize is not native to northern Europe and, despite the development of more resilient varieties, remains a difficult crop to grow in our maritime climate without a high degree of artificial inputs. Maize is strongly associated with causing severe damage to soils and rivers and with increasing the risk of flooding.

Maize grows in wide rows and matures slowly, leaving soil exposed throughout the growing season. It is harvested late in the year, sometimes into late November depending on weather, when the ground is often sodden. Maize harvest requires heavy machinery and repeated heavy tractor movements on wet soil can cause severe compaction and rutting. Many farmers aim to follow good practice, harvesting earlier and establishing a winter cover crop, but often this is not possible.

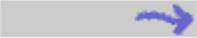


During periods of heavy rain, on many maize fields rainwater contaminated by pesticides, fertilisers and soil washes off fields, resulting in flooding, pollution

and damage to rivers. Soil smothers the gravels where fish spawn and invertebrates (the main food for fish) live. It also carries with it high levels of phosphates and pesticides, which poison aquatic life. Invertebrate populations on many rivers are in steep decline.

A study conducted in 2014 found that 75% of late-harvested sites in South West England showed high or severe levels of soil degradation. One of the study's authors estimated that during the floods over the winter of 2013/14 every 10 hectare block of land under maize stubbles produced 375 million litres of enhanced runoff.

The public subsidies available for biogas from AD that have encouraged expansion of maize crops have also led to significant increases in rent for arable land, a huge problem for tenant farmers and all farmers wishing to rent extra land. This is placing often struggling farmers under even greater pressure.

 The Angling Trust is not opposed to all anaerobic digestion and recognises the potential that this technology has, particularly in its capacity to recycle food and agricultural and municipal waste. It supports small-scale waste-fed AD units, as it does other forms of renewable energy production, including small-scale solar, onshore wind and hydropower and large-scale offshore wind power. The Angling Trust would like to see support for these renewables increased.

The Angling Trust, along with other environmental organisations, is firm in its support for the Government's commitments to an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions under the Climate Change Act.

Angling Trust
www.anglingtrust.net

Fishing Hotels on the Taw and Mole

The Highbullen Hotel, Chittlehamholt
The Fox and Hounds Hotel, Eggesford
The Rising Sun, Umberleigh

Tel: 01769 540561
01769 580345
01769 560447

RTFA AGM and Dinner

River Taw Fisheries Association AGM

Friday 16th March 2018



Highbullen Hotel

End of Season Gathering

On the evening of the 30th September The Rising Sun at UMBERLEIGH will be holding its now traditional End of Season Fishing Soirée including a special fish menu and a chance for all fisherfolk to reflect on the season. To book a table call Julian Zealey on 01769 560447

Angling for wisdom?

A selection of the sagest things ever said about fishing:

“It has always been my private conviction that any man who pits his intelligence against a fish and loses has it coming”.

John Steinbeck, writer

“The planet is covered with sordid men who demand that he who spends time fishing shall show returns in fish”.

Leonidas Hubbard Jr, adventurer and journalist

“The charm of fishing is that it is the pursuit of what is elusive but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope”.

John Buchan, novelist and politician

“All the romance of trout fishing exists in the mind of the angler and is in no way shared by the fish”.

Harold F Blaisdell, author of The Philosophical Fisherman

“The fishing was good. It was the catching that was bad”.

A K Best, fly-fishing guru



River Taw Byelaws

Seasons

Salmon	1 March to 30 September
Sea Trout & Brown Trout	15 March to 30 September

Methods

Fly fishing permitted all season
Spinning permitted until 31 March
No other method or bait fishing permitted

Limits

Salmon	No salmon to be retained before 16 June No salmon greater than 70cms in length to be retained after 31 July
Salmon bag limits	2 fish in any 24 hour period 3 fish in any 7 day period 10 fish in a season
No rod caught salmon to be sold or offered for sale	
Sea Trout bag limits	5 fish in any 24 hour period 15 fish in any 7 day period 40 fish in a season Size limit 25cms
No rod caught sea trout to be sold or offered for sale	
Brown Trout	Size limit 20cms

Please remember our Voluntary Code:
return **ALL Sea Trout** under 1lb and over 4lb
and fish well within the bag limits

**The River Taw Fisheries Association is most grateful for
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