

River Eden 2015 Migratory Angler Codes

Conservation Measures and Salmon Carcass Tagging Scheme

Background to Voluntary Conservation codes

The River Eden with many neighbouring NW Rivers has experienced a significant decline in salmon and sea trout rod catches in recent years. For the Eden a ten year downward trend in salmon rod catch reached a point in 2013 of only 61% of its Conservation Limit on a recorded annual rod catch of 634 salmon. This is estimated as a spawning egg deposition of 8.39 million eggs across the catchment. By comparison 2004 saw a high catch of 2622 salmon.

Returns received by REDFA from Fisheries and Clubs in November last year after a season affected by low water conditions and reduced rod effort indicate that the 2014 figure will be approximately 500 fish and below 50% of CL, with spawning stock levels that are unsustainable.

If the final EA rod count confirms this the River Eden will fail its SAC status for salmon, triggering a formal Stock Assessment by the Environment Agency and Natural England. A review of the NLO (Net Limitation Order) and Bye laws which expire in 2017 may be brought forward as part of this process.

Conservation Measures

Against this backdrop of stocks currently at risk, REDFA and its member Clubs, Riparian Owners and Fisheries, are to extend the Migratory Measures introduced last year on 16th June 2014.

These measures are designed to heighten angler awareness and the need for restraint whilst stocks remain at risk.

REDFA is committed to lifting the overall C&R rate from 71% in 2013 towards 90% in the lead up to the NLO review. The Fisheries rod returns for 2014 shows this has exceeded 80% in 2014.

We strongly recommend that it is in each and every angler's interest to return fish to maximise the spawning potential of returning salmon and sea trout stocks.

The measures are effective from the 16th June, immediately the Spring salmon restrictions end.

We acknowledge that some beats and Fisheries may have existing rules which in many cases call for tighter restrictions.

Please familiarise yourself with the code attached.

Tagging Scheme

In addition and to compliment these angler led initiatives both the Rivers Eden and Ribble will run their own Voluntary Tagging schemes in 2015.

Any angler wishing or intending to take a salmon within existing permitted Byelaw periods must register for and use their own tags.

Further to this we also recommend that each angler considers carrying at least one tag in the event of a fish which is unable to recover and has to be killed due to exhaustion or bleeding during permitted takeable periods.

Tags are available at two Eden outlets from 1st April when the new Migratory Licences come into operation. They are non transferable and cannot be reused. Each tag is numbered, with river of origin and colour coded for year of use.

Tags are inserted via the mouth and out by the gill cover and secured by a cable tie type fastening.

Similar schemes have been deployed successfully for extended periods on other river systems.

Registration and distribution of tags will be coordinated by REDFA through each outlet and any special circumstances or concerns that anglers or fisheries have can be dealt with.

Please frequent yourself with the code and use of tags in advance of their 16th June operation.

River Eden Catchment Migratory Rod Fishery Conservation Measures for the 2015 season

Salmon

1. Daily kill limit of 1 fish per day.
2. Maximum season kill limit of 6 fish
3. All gravid cock and hen fish to be released in a responsible manner, as quickly and safely as possible.
4. Salmon Carcass Tagging System effective from 16th June 2015 (see over)
Any killed fish must be gill tagged immediately at the point of capture.
5. 6 tags per licence holder per season with a 100% catch and release once all tags are used up. Tags are non-transferable between licence holders.

Sea Trout

1. Daily kill limit of 1 fish per day.
2. Maximum season kill limit of 3 fish

Further 2015 Voluntary recommendations

Maximum annual kill of 3 salmon

**Maximum annual kill of 2 Salmon per licence holder on the River Eden below
Caldew Foot junction.**

100% catch and release of migratory fish on the River Caldew.

Fly only on summer level and below on the River Eden system.

The use of single and double hooks on flies and artificial lures.

100 % catch and release for Sea Trout on the River Eden system.



River Eden & District Fisheries Association

RIVER EDEN SALMON CARCASS TAGGING SCHEME ANGLERS CODE & USE OF TAGS

- 1. ALL ANGLERS (LOCAL OR VISITING) WISHING TO KILL A SALMON ON THE EDEN SYSTEM DURING THE 2015 SEASON MUST BE IN POSSESSION OF A TAG**
- 2. THESE GUIDELINES DO NOT OVERRIDE CURRENT BYELAWS WHICH STATE**
 - NO KILLING OF ANY SALMON UNTIL AFTER THE 16TH JUNE**
 - ALL HEN FISH MUST BE RETURNED AS QUICKLY AND SAFELY AS POSSIBLE FROM THE 10TH SETEMBER**
- 3. ANGLERS CAN USE A LIMIT OF 6 TAGS PER SEASON, BUT WITH A 1 FISH PER DAY KILL RESTRICTION. ANY ANGLER USING UP THEIR TAG ALLOWANCE MUST OBSERVE A STRICT 100% CATCH AND RELEASE.
WE RECOMMEND THAT ALL ANGLERS CONSIDER CARRYING A TAG IN THE EVENT THAT A SALMON HAS TO BE KILLED IN THE PERMITTED TAKEABLE PERIOD DUE TO BLEEDING OR EXHAUSTION**
- 4. TAGS WILL IDENTIFY THE RIVER EDEN, BE COLOUR SPECIFIC FOR EACH YEAR AND HAVE A UNIQUE NUMBER WHICH WILL BE RECORDED AGAINST THE ANGLERS NAME AT THE POINT OF ISSUE**
- 5. TAGS WILL BE ISSUED FROM THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE IN CARLISLE AND FROM JOHN NORRIS FISHING TACKLE SHOP IN PENRITH**
- 6. ANGLERS COLLECTING TAGS FROM EITHER EDEN DISTRIBUTION OUTLET MUST PRESENT THEIR NEW 2015 EA MIGRATORY ROD LICENCE.
THE NUMBER FROM THIS EA LICENCE WILL BE RECORDED WITH ANGLER DETAILS AND TAGS NUMBERS TO PREVENT A DUPLICATION OF TAGS BEING ISSUED**
- 7. THE ROD LICENCE WILL BE HOLE PUNCHED IN THE TOP CORNER INDICATING TAGS HAVE BEEN ISSUED AND THE LICENCE HOLDER IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FURTHER TAGS**
- 8. TAGS MUST BE CARRIED AT ALL TIMES WHEN SALMON FISHING**
- 9. IF YOU DO TAKE A FISH, THE SALMON MUST BE GILL TAGGED IMMEDIATELY AT THE RIVERSIDE.**



River Eden & District Fisheries Association (Est 1949)

www.edenfishing.co.uk