

Nith Fishery Management Plan Quarterly Progress 2016

No.	Prescription	Quarter 01 - 10th December 2015 to 14th March 2016	Quarter 02 - 15th March to 3rd July	Quarter 03 - 4th July to 19th September	Quarter 04 - 19th September to 19th December
1	Enforcement	In spawning tributaries	Night patrols ongoing	Night patrols ongoing	Night patrols ongoing
		Policing grayling fishery	Coastal patrols conducted	Coastal patrols conducted	Poaching incident on Crawick Water resulting in 4 salmon being recovered
		Two Solway Bailiff training courses at Blackwood	Hosted Solway Bailiffs train event	Net training course delivered at Tweed HQ	Tutoring prospective voluntary bailiff
		Met with Police Scotland x 2	Police Scotland requested advice re netting incident in Galloway	Police Scotland requested advice regarding a further two netting incidents in Galloway	Chaired Regulatory Enforcement Meetings (Scottish Government)
		Assisted with the successful prosecution 3 people at Mochrum Park	Hosted Bailiff's conference in Dumfries	Meeting with Police Scotland re changing legislation	Assisted in the setting of the Water Bailiff's legal exam
		Attended National Bailiff Development Group meeting	Chaired Bailiff development group meeting	Chaired Bailiff Development Group meeting	Presented at Marine Scotland Compliance Conference
			Attended call out to reported gill netting incident (false information)	Chaired Crime and Enforcement Working Group for Scottish Government	Two Gold panners requested to move locations
			Gill net found coastal location	Gill net seized on coast	Police called to suspected poaching incident on Cairn
			Specialised surveillance equipment purchased		Attended Scottish Government meeting at Scottish Canals
					Provided technical advice to Forth DSFB
					Invigilated Scottish Legal Exam
					Chaired Bailiff Development Group Meeting (Scottish Government)
2	Exploitation	Assisting Scottish Government with categorisation	Nith conservation sub-committee meeting held - markers agreed with key beats	Draft conservation plan circulated for comment	Convened NDSFB conservation meeting
		Catch data received and collated	Assisting Marine Scotland Science on mapping project for salmon conservation	Requested ticket data from proprietors to demonstrate decline in angling to Scottish Government	Attended meeting with Friars Carse Management
		Nith Grayling Day delivered	Nith Angling Code altered to reflect government conservation policies	Met with Walter Crozier to discuss conservation limits on the River Nith	Hosted Walter Crozier visit to the catchment
		Preparation for 2016 Sea trout experience	Sea trout event commenced	Nith Sea Trout Event BBQ at Dalswinton	Attended Seminar at River Tweed on Marine Survival
		Attended Burgh AGM - discussed conservation			Successfully appealed Conservation Categorisations for 2017 Attended Biologist's meeting on Conservation Regulations
3	Engineering (Including Forestry)	Dalwhat Forest road infrastructure consultation	Electrofishing survey carried out in relation to new hospital fibre optic cable crossing Nith	Kier Annual electrofishing surveys conducted	Attended Kier Technical Working Group and
		Iberdrola Forestry preparation onsite meeting	Meeting with Scottish Woodland re forestry works associated with cable project	Attended inspection of Burgh Beat with Provost and Burgh Anglers	
		Project managing Upper Nith river restoration project	ARUP contracted for Upper Nith project and surveying underway and multiple meetings with SEPA attended	Land owners meeting with SEPA and CBEC at Lochside Hotel, project management continues and numerous meetings with SEPA attended	Convened landowner meeting for Upper Nith Flood Management Plan
		Preparation work with SEPA for Laggan and Crichton Linn restoration schemes	Tenders put out for Laggan Restoration Project	Numerous meetings with SEPA regarding Laggan Restoration tenders	Chaired Sepa Flood management meeting for the Laggan Restoration project.
		DG Council Whitesands Flood mitigation and Mid-river proposals	Walk-over fisheries survey conducted for DG Whitesands Flood Mitigation scheme	Consultation regarding DG Whitesands Flood Mitigation scheme	
		Flood bank repair site visit Hall Hill, Cairn	Electrofishing survey conducted in relation to New Cumnock Flood Mitigation Scheme	Consultation regarding reconstruction of Dalgig Burn	
		Inspection of flood damage along Nith and Cairn	Flood damage and repairs inspected Cowhill		Fish rescue on Tower Burn
		Site meeting at Glenmuckloch Coal Mine	Consulted on river Nith gravel removal at New Cumnock	Glenmuckloch Annual Electrofishing survey completed	
TWG meeting Kier	House of Water Technical meeting attended Dam at West Cluden inspected	House of Water annual survey completed	Attended HOW Technical Working Group Meeting Attended Directional Drill site on River Nith		
4	Renewables	Whiteside Hill WF road improvements and sub-station works		Glenmuckloch Pumped Hydro storage electrofishing completed	Attended Afton Wind farm site
		Hare Hill invertebrate surveys and fish rescue	Invertebrate surveys continue at Harehill	Invertebrate surveys continue at Harehill	
		Wanlochhead WF consultation	Electrofishing surveys commenced	Electrofishing surveys completed and report submitted for Wanlock Wind Farm	
		Provided quote to Sanquhar Community Windfarm		Conducted electrofishing in regards SWS Renewables Connection	
5	Planning & Consultation	Glenmuckloch pumped storage hydro - meetings attended and planning response provided	Consulted and withdrawn objections to Glenmuckloch Pumped storage hydro Responded to Grove Estate Forestry Plan	Planning consultation regarding Glenmuckloch Pumped Hydro Scheme Additional consultation regarding East Ayrshire Road New Cumnock Flood Alleviation Scheme	Responded to planning application for New Cumnock Flood Prevention Scheme Responded to proposed engineering works by Network Rail on Polveoch Burn, New Cumnock.
6	Biosecurity	Applied for grant funding for continuing INNS control programme- DG Council, Shambellie, Irvine Homes, Home	Funding gained and project assistant employed	All Japanese knotweed treated on River Nith and its tributaries and New Abbey Burn	Final WEF grant application for 2016 work conducted
		Final reports and funding claims completed for 2015 season	2015/16 INNS Claims paid in full	INNS database updated	
			D&G INNS meeting attended with local stakeholders including SEPA and SNH	American Signal Crayfish surveyed	
			Skunk cabbage treated on Cairn water	Sunk cabbage treatment continues	
		All Giant hogweed treated on Nith, Scaur and Cairn Waters			

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			Escape of Rainbow trout on River Cairn investigated	Meeting with Fish Health Inspectorate regarding rainbow trout escaping into Cairn Water	
7	Habitat	All schemes checked and repaired where necessary Willow whips cut in preparation for Kello planting	Repairs made to Shinnel Watergate Fallen trees removed from river at DGAA x 2, Dumfries Common Good and Friars Carse	Habitat surveys conducted Trees causing an obstruction for angling removed on River Cairn	Tree removal along Burns Walk
				Repairs conducted at Capenock Habitat Scheme	
8	Access	Pennyland Burn temporary easement successful - further works planned Tynron Road - fish barrier detected, reported to SEPA.	Electrofishing survey conducted upstream of Pennyland Burn easement - positive juvenile trout results. Further works planned. Re-reported Tynron barrier to SEPA	Design drawn up for improving barrier on Pennyland Burn Re-reported Tynron barrier to SEPA	Completion of modification to fish pass on the Pennyland Burn
9	Water Quality	Old Crawfordton tributary, Cairn Water - sewage fungus effluent problem reported to SEPA Report of flood debris placed within flood reach at Nithside received and reported to SEPA Whiteside Hill WF access road reported to SEPA Scottish Woodland Ltd, Kello Water - gross inert suspended solids reported to SEPA Neil Gourlay inappropriate slurry spreading reported to SEPA	Incident investigated at Drumlanrig Incident investigated at Auldgirth	Old Crawfordton tributary, Cairn Water - sewage fungus effluent problem reported to SEPA - second time this year.	
10	Marine Survival		Invited by Inland Fisheries Ireland to be associate member of Marine project re sea trout Discussed with Scottish Government possibilities to use Douglas Hall nets as scientific station		
11	Governance	Financial year end governance compliance met Board and Trust annual reports published Trust Directors trained Meeting regarding LEADER funding All WFR joint working group meetings attended Scottish Branch IFM meeting attended Presentation delivered at launch of Draft Fisheries Bill ASFB management group meeting attended H&S and other operating policies reviewed Meeting with Richard Arkless MP and DGAA reps Assisted DGAA with financial support from Government Fisheries Local Action Group meeting attended	Nith/Annan board member meeting held Attended RAFTS/ASFB conference Manual lifting training completed by staff All WFR joint working group meetings attended Scottish Branch IFM AGM attended ASFB management group meetings attended	Nith/Annan board member meeting held Presented to D&G Councillors regarding WFR All WFR joint working group meetings attended ASFB/RAFTS EGM attended River directors meeting attended FLAG meeting attended	Nith/Annan board member meeting held with Walter Crozier Met with Oliver Mundell MSP and Finlay Carson MSP All WFR joint working group meetings attended ASFB Group Management meetings attended Attended AFSB/RAFTS EGMs and AGMs Attended River Directors meeting Attended meeting with Sean Dugan from Scottish Fisheries Co-ordination Centre Attended Angling Development and Promotion Working Group
12	Predation	Licences applied for piscivorous birds, increase quota and licence being actioned Mink trapping ongoing	Licence return completed and filed with SNH 18 Mink captured to date	 Mink sightings reported and trapping scheduled	Licence applied for piscivorous birds
13	Fish Stock/Monitoring	Electrofishing data entry ongoing for 2015 Working on counter project Scale readings ongoing	Electrofishing surveys commenced for 2016 season - initial results are very positive Heritage Lottery Fund workshop attended re counter project	All electrofishing surveys completed Met with Inland Fisheries Ireland to discuss the feasibility of constructing a counter on the River Nith or its tributaries. 2015 and 2016 electrofishing data entry completed	Adult fish surveys conducted on Scaur Water and fecundity measurements Hosted Fish Counters meeting with Inland Fisheries Ireland Electrofishing licence applied for 2017
14	Hatchery	Ova hatched and fry starting to feeding in hatchery Maintained Board and Trust equipment	All fry planted out	DGAA brown trout project commenced for 2016 season	Collection of Brood stock for hatchery Repairs made to hatchery
15	Outreach/ Public Relations	Two volunteers trained in pesticide application All staff attended Burgh AGM Staff attended river opening ceremony River survey with Higher students from Dumfries High School	Attended DG Environment Fair Assisted at QI Biology Day with Wallace Hall Academy Assisting Closeburn Castle Fishing's with access arrangements River survey with Wallace Hall Advanced Biology students	Met with Trout and Salmon for editorial on Nith Sea Trout Event Galloway Country Fair attended Delivered fish dissection session at Wallace hall Academy	Gave comments to press regarding Category 2 status Met with SNH regarding future event to promote Board and Trust Attended presentation by Prof. Iain Stewart.

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		Funding application made to continue Fishing for the Future project	Not able to get funding to run Fishing for the Future project in 2016	Funding applications submitted for Fishing for the Future - additional funding secured. Met with DG Council Outdoor Education regarding education opportunities and materials	Fishing for the Future project sessions started. Over 120 children attended.