



Kyle Lines



The Newsletter for Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries - December 2014

Broodstock Collected on the Shin

Early November saw Board staff, Shin ghillies and volunteers undertake broodstock collection on the River Shin. Two pools were netted with the fish collected held at the Board's holding tank facilities until they were ready to be stripped. Several large fish were caught including one estimated to be in excess of 30lbs. The fish captured have produced around 150,000 eggs which will be planted out in tributaries of Loch Shin in the spring of 2015. The stocking is in support of ongoing research efforts on the Shin system. Many thanks to all those that helped on the day and additional thanks to SSE and SEPA for helping to facilitate the lowering of flows which allowed the netting to be undertaken as safely as possible.



Disappointing Catches for 2014

In common with the vast majority of Scottish fisheries the preliminary catch statistics for the Kyle catchment are below expected levels. With a few returns still to come in, totals currently stand at around 1600 salmon and 700 sea trout. Poor salmon returns have also been reported from English, Welsh and Irish rivers as well as further afield in Iceland and Canada. The widespread nature of the poor catch numbers would suggest that the primary issue is one of survival in the marine environment. Better news comes from the two fish counters on the system at Duchally on the Cassley and at Lairg Diversion on the Shin. Preliminary indications suggest that both are close to their five year average which may suggest that runs to the upper parts of the catchment are not quite as poor as may first appear. Sea trout catches appear to have generally been up compared to recent years particularly within the Moray Firth district. As a matter of priority, would those who have yet to put in their catch returns please do so at the earliest opportunity.

www.kylefisheries.org



Salmon's Tale

In conjunction with the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust the final two parts of the Salmon's Tale series of events were delivered in November. The first part involved observing spawning fish in the wild whereas the second concentrated on the hatchery operations undertaken by the fishery board staff. The latter event was very 'hands on' as demonstrated in the picture opposite which shows Leanne from Aberdeen carefully laying out the salmon eggs in the hatchery trays. Thanks to everybody who helped organise or took part in the events over 2014.



In Brief

Kyle Fisheries is in the process of selling off surplus equipment such as boats, vans, quad bikes and trailers - if you are interested take a look at the website for more details..... The Pearl Mussel Warden recently paid a visit to the Oykel and the Evelix..... The new salmon season starts for the Kyle rivers on the 12th January, please send us any photographs of opening day on your beats and we look forward to seeing a picture of the first clean salmon of the 2015 season!

2015 Diary Dates

River Workers Meeting - 27th February, 2pm.

Kyle Trust Ordinary Meeting - 12th March, 6.30pm.

Kyle Fishery Board Annual Public Meeting - 13th March, 9.30am.

Kyle Trust Ordinary Meeting - 22nd June, 6.30pm.

Kyle Fishery Board Ordinary Meeting - 23rd June, 9.30am.

Kyle Trust AGM & Ordinary Meeting - 5th November, 6.30pm.

Kyle Fishery Board Annual Meeting of Proprietors and Ordinary Meeting - 23rd June, 9.30am.

Keep in Touch

The key phone number for the office is 01863 766702.

Email contacts are admin@kylefisheries.org and director@kylefisheries.org

Merry Christmas!

www.kylefisheries.org

