



Kyle Lines



The Newsletter for Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries - October 2014

Elections and AGMs

Towards the end of what has been a very disappointing salmon fishing season the Trust's offices hosted a series of meetings. First up was the meeting of river workers at which we were joined by Natalie Young, Riverwatcher for the Pearls in Peril project. The meeting was the launch of the Riverwatch part of the project for the Kyle of Sutherland area. Natalie gave a very interesting presentation on the life cycle of pearl mussels and the many threats that they face. Any incidents relating to pearl mussels can be reported either to Kyle Fisheries or to Natalie on 01463 783505.

The Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries Trust held its AGM and Ordinary Meeting of Trustees on the 25th September with the AGM and elections of the Kyle of Sutherland District Salmon Fishery Board held the following day. No changes were made in respect of the Kyle Trust but the Kyle Board welcomes a number of new members. At the Board AGM we were joined by representatives of the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Trust who gave us an insight into the work of that organisation particularly their holding of many salmon netting rights in the Moray Firth. Many thanks to all the guests, owners and river workers who attended the meetings. The full list of the Kyle Board is now as follows:

Robbie Douglas Miller (Shin) - Chairman
Alex Hunter (Carron)
Nicky Griffiths (Carron)
John Green (Oykel)
Richard Sankey (Oykel)
Mike Hasson (Cassley)
Gary Gruber (Evelix)
William Patterson (Portmahomack Fishings)
Alastair Mathers (Kyle of Sutherland
Angling Association)
George Skinner (Tennant Netsman)



Pearl mussel kill (photo courtesy Chris Daphne)

Raffle Raises £2,500 for Kyle Trust

The lucky winner of a Scott Mackenzie salmon rod was Mr Barry Oldham. Other prizes in the raffle included various bottles of whisky and wine plus a meal for two at the Oykel Bridge Hotel. The raffle was organised by Oykel ghillie Steven Mackenzie with the Trust's coffers £2,500 to the good as a result. Many thanks to all those who donated prizes, sold tickets, bought tickets and a particularly big thank you to Steven for organising the raffle.

Wild Fisheries Review

Previous editions of *Kyle Lines* have mentioned the review of freshwater fishery management in Scotland being undertaken by a group headed by Andrew Thin. A final report has been produced and can be read via the following link:

www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/marine/salmon-trout-coarse/fishreview

Kyle Fisheries inputted to the review as much as possible and we await the consultation process regarding any future implementation of the proposals contained in the report.

Returns Needed

Requests for salmon and sea trout returns from each of the fisheries in the Kyle district have recently been sent out by the Kyle Board and already a number of completed forms have been received. Rod catch data is very important to the management of the fisheries in the area and represents one of the few long-term data sets available. Most fishery owners also receive a request from Marine Scotland for similar data and Kyle Fisheries has recently fielded a few enquiries asking why returns have to be submitted to more than one organisation. The short answer is that Kyle Fisheries will not be able to access the information submitted to Marine Scotland until some point in the spring of 2015 when they are published and we are obliged under our governance procedures to analyse rod catch information well before that time. Many thanks to those who have already sent returns to us and we look forward to receiving the outstanding returns in due course.

In Brief

Congratulations to Marcus Walters of the Moray Firth Trout Initiative for becoming the first ever recipient of the Wild Trout Trust Hero Award for work he undertook on the River Peffrey near Dingwall...

A salmon reel was recently found in the road in Ardgay, please contact us if you know of anybody missing a reel...

Diary Dates

November 10th and 15th. The Salmon's Tale. Search for Spawning Salmon.

November 24th & 29th. The Salmons Tale. A Helping Hand - Hatchery

For booking please contact the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust - 01863 766 190

Keep in Touch

The key phone number for the office is 01862-766702 and the email contacts are

admin@kylefisheries.org and director@kylefisheries.org

