



# Kyle Lines



*The Newsletter for Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries - September 2015*

## *Catches and Catch Returns*

After a slow start to the season overall catches for the Kyle District look likely to be well up on the very disappointing 2014 season. This seems to fit in with the general situation of catches in the rest of Scotland and the UK as a whole. As ever, catches do not appear to be evenly spread throughout each river with some beats reporting good catches and others registering their disappointment. A notable feature of the 2015 season has been the disparity between catches upstream and downstream of major water falls. Lower beats of rivers in particular appear to be doing well whereas those anglers fishing upstream may be justified in believing that they are fishing an entirely different river! Angling association members will shortly be receiving requests for salmon and sea trout returns and the Kyle of Sutherland District Salmon Fishery Board will be writing to proprietors requesting 2015 catch information. Please send this information in as quickly as possible.

## *Netting Buyout*

Donations for the netting buyout continue to be made but more money is still required to complete the final payments. If you are willing to make a donation please contact us at the Kyle Fisheries Office or alternatively click on the Kyle Netting Buyout button on the homepage of [www.kylefisheries.org](http://www.kylefisheries.org)

## *Kyle Netting Survey*

In 2014 Kyle staff joined forces with the Moray Firth Trout Initiative to undertake a seine netting survey of the Kyle near Bonar Bridge. Armed with a new net, a survey was again undertaken at the end of August. Sea trout (pictured), eels, sticklebacks, flounder and both salmon fry and parr were captured and



measured. The capture of salmon fry was particularly interesting as only parr were captured in 2014. However, this is likely to be explained by the smaller mesh size in the new net compared with the one previously used. More details of the Moray Firth Trout Initiative are available at: <http://www.morayfirhtrout.org>

### *A Different Type of Net...*

Maclean nets are a popular brand amongst anglers and ghillies, particularly those with the inbuilt weighing scales. A new type of rubber mesh has been developed by the manufacturer which is believed to be more 'fish friendly' than the cotton mesh and replacement net bags can now be purchased. See <http://www.guideflyfishingonline.co.uk/page.php?id=1316> for more details. Steven Mackenzie usually has a stock of the nets so contact him at [mackenzie671@btinternet.com](mailto:mackenzie671@btinternet.com) if you wish to purchase a replacement.

### *Electro-fishing Surveys*

Despite the high water levels prevalent for much of the summer, Kyle Fisheries staff have been busy undertaking a number of juvenile salmon and sea trout surveys on all the Kyle rivers. It is the intention to fully report on the findings of the surveys once the results have been collated. The picture opposite is of a sexually mature male salmon parr recently captured at Glen Muick on the River Cassley.



### *In Brief*

A reminder that the river workers meeting will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> September at Ardgay Hall, please let us know if you plan to attend...

The tender process for a design study of remedial action at Diebidale Dam is ongoing, more updates in future copies of *Kyle Lines*...

A reminder that the Board and Trust meetings will be held in November this year rather than the usual September dates...

Details of the latest on Wild Fisheries Reform can be found at <http://www.asfb.org.uk/wild-fisheries-reform/>

### *2015 Diary Dates*

River Workers Autumn Meeting - 28<sup>th</sup> September, 6.30pm, Ardgay Hall.

Kyle Trust AGM & Ordinary Meeting - 5<sup>th</sup> November, 6.30pm

Kyle Fishery Board Annual Meeting of Proprietors - 6<sup>th</sup> November, 9.30am

### *Keep in Touch*

The key phone number for the office is 01863 766 702.

Email contacts are [admin@kylefisheries.org](mailto:admin@kylefisheries.org) and [director@kylefisheries.org](mailto:director@kylefisheries.org)

Please get in touch with any news snippets you want to include in future editions of *Kyle Lines*.