



Kyle Lines

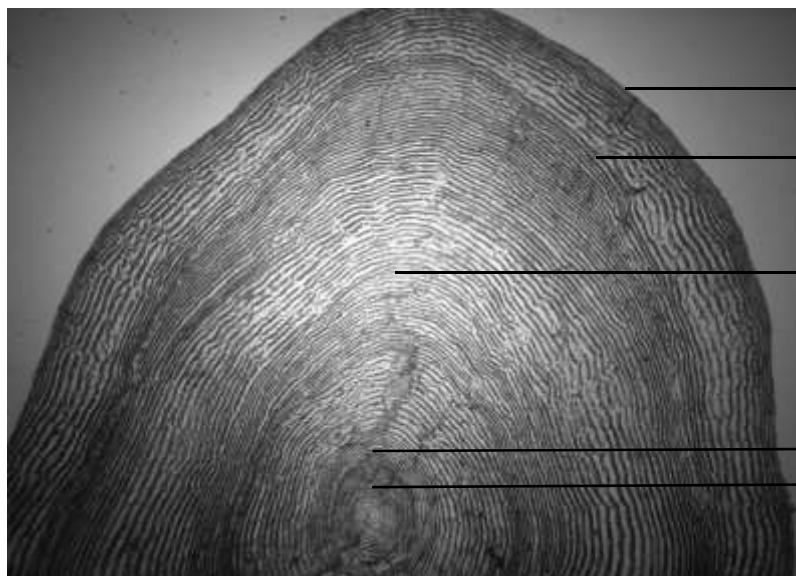


The Newsletter for Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries July 2014

Welcome to the first of what is hoped will be many newsletters put together by the Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries team. During the summer months it is expected that newsletters will be produced monthly with editions being less frequent during the quieter months of the year. The newsletter is expected to provide a regular supplement to the annual *Kyle News*. If you have any items of interest that you feel warrant inclusion in the newsletter then please get in touch.

Shin Produces a Big Springer



In common with most of Scotland, early-running salmon in the Kyle system were in very short supply. One of the few highlights of a forgettable spring was the capture of a salmon estimated at 35lbs by Mr David Somerville on the Lower Shin. Mr Somerville took a scale sample from the fish which has subsequently been read by Chris Conroy of the Ness & Beaulay Fisheries Trust and verified by Bryce White, an independent scale reading expert. The scale shows that the fish spent two winters in fresh water prior to spending three winters at sea. The picture below shows the scale and the key information it provides. Just to prove that fisheries scientists do make the very occasional error, the date of the scale reading should read May and not March!



Labels on the right side of the scale image:

- 4th Sea Winter
- 3rd Sea Winter
- 2nd Sea Winter
- 1st Sea Winter
- 2nd River } Juvenile
- 1st River } Freshwater Growth

Weight: 35lb (estimated)
 Condition: ~~Not stated~~
 Date: 24 March 2014
 Site: River Shin
 Age: 2.3
 Description: 'Spring' salmon that spent two years in freshwater as a juvenile, followed by three at sea. Total age 5 years, egg laid in ~~spring 2011~~, returned to river in spring 2014

New Office for Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries

The Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries Trust is delighted to announce that it has successfully obtained new office accommodation in Ardgay. The office will be situated in the former Alladale



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Stores/European Nature Trust building (Fraser's Shop for those with long memories) and will provide improved space and facilities for all Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries staff. Currently, available work space has been restricted to our administrator Audrey Campbell's office, known affectionately as the 'broom cupboard', situated in Bonar Bridge. We hope for a smooth transition in respect of phone lines and numbers etc. but if there are difficulties in the short term then please bear with us. It is expected that the new office will act as a key focal point for fisheries interests in this area and please feel free to pop in and say hello if you are passing.

In Brief

A habitat and electro-fishing survey has commenced on the Diebidale Burn, which flows into the River Carron, to assess the extent of usage by salmon...

Steven Mackenzie of the Oykel is raising funds for the Trust via a raffle which has excellent prizes. Contact Steven direct or Kyle Fisheries staff at the office to see if any tickets remain...

Smolt trapping on Loch Shin tributaries and Grudie went well with in excess of 8000 smolts caught and subsequently released on their way - this is the highest total in the last four years...

A mink was recently spotted in the Edderton area so please contact the office if you come across one...

Mink are not the only non-native visitors to this area and Himalayan balsam plants, for example, are also to be found in parts of the catchment, see picture to the right...



Funds are still required to complete the netting buyout - please get in touch if you want to make a donation, or even a further donation!

Keep up to date with the current wild fisheries review in Scotland via the official webpage at: www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/marine/salmon-trout-coarse/fishreview

Diary Dates

September 25th Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries Trust AGM.

September 26th Kyle of Sutherland District Salmon Fishery Board Annual Proprietors Meeting.

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