

Gyrodactylus Salaris and Invasive Species Declaration

Gyrodactylus Salaris is an extremely dangerous parasite and we are taking careful steps to make sure it does not enter the Kyle of Sutherland fishery. Fishing equipment or clothing that has been kept cool and damp and is transferred rapidly (within one week) may present high levels of risk.

It is also indigenous to, or has been spread to most of Europe largely through fish-farm movements of Rainbow Trout. Desperate methods being used in Norway involve poisoning all the fish in a river and leaving it fallow for several months to try and break the cycle. No successes have yet been reported.

Ulcerative Dermal Necrosis: (UDN = death of skin, with ulcers). Fish come in from the sea with ulcers (what triggers the condition in fish out at sea is unknown), typically on the head but also on other areas of their bodies that lack scales, and the bare flesh can then be attacked by the freshwater fungus Saprolegnia. In the past it was most prevalent in cold-water temperatures and the ulcers can heal as the water warms up in summer, allowing complete recovery. UDN is not the cause of death; the effect of secondary infestation by fungus and other organisms is responsible. It is recommended that moribund fish should be removed from the river. However, it is important to note that all fresh run fish exhibiting head lesions, but otherwise free of fungal infection, should be returned to the river in the hope that they will recover and spawn naturally.

If you have been fishing outside the Kyle of Sutherland catchment all your equipment must be sterilized by freezing for 24 hours or spraying with 1% solution of Virkon

Invasive Non Native species: Invasive non-native species such as signal crayfish, killer shrimp, Floating Pennywort, Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam can have a damaging impact on British plants, animals and ecosystems - by spreading disease, competing for habitat and food and direct predation.

Plants that grow profusely can block waterways while some animals can damage riverbanks - so they also affect economic uses of our environment and add significant management costs.

As a water user, you may unknowingly be helping to spread invasive species from one water body to another in equipment, shoes and clothing.

***Help stop this happening by following three simple steps:
Check, Clean, Dry.***

If Gyrodactylus Salaris or other non-native invasive species get into the Kyle of Sutherland it could mean the absolute end of our salmon and sea trout populations. As part of our bio-security measures we require you to sign ONE of the declarations overleaf before you commence fishing and present it to:

..... (Proprietor to insert name of representative)

DECLARATION BY ANGLER

A: I declare that my fishing equipment has not been used either **inside** or **outside** the United Kingdom within the last 21 days.

Signed: Print Name:

B: I declare that my fishing equipment has been used outside the United Kingdom in the last 7 days and that it has been **properly sterilised** by (*please indicate method of sterilisation*):

.....

Signed: Print Name:

C: I declare that my fishing equipment has been used outside the United Kingdom in the last 7 days but that it has **NOT been sterilised**. I agree that it will be sterilised by the fishery proprietors before I commence fishing and I understand that this may result in a delay to the start of my fishing.

Signed: Print Name:

D: I declare that my fishing equipment has been used within the United Kingdom in the last 21 days but that I have observed the **CHECK, CLEAN, DRY** precautions.

Signed: Print Name:

E: I declare that my fishing equipment has been used within the United Kingdom in the last 21 days but that I have not observed the **CHECK, CLEAN, DRY** precautions. I agree that this will be undertaken by the fishery proprietors before I commence fishing and I understand that this may result in a delay to the start of my fishing.

Signed: Print Name: