



Wye salmon association

Dear Member,

WSA Newsletter

Hi everybody,

Welcome to the latest WSA newsletter. Again this newsletter is generated from our website and provides information regarding the latest news, reports and documents added to our news magazine. For an update on our latest activities, progress on our planned projects etc go to <http://www.wyesalmon.com/>

See the case study on the SNR pilot project. It does not prove that SNR will deliver returning fish, only time will tell that, but it does demonstrate how the project was set up, what it cost and how successful it was in raising high quality smolts.

News soon of another Junior Fly Fishing Course on Aug 23rd at Letton Court. This time it will be coupled with a Spey Casting day for adults. We will also have a display of rods and reels by Sportfish of Winforton. There are still a few vacancies so join up soon.

Details too of a petition to control avian predator that we recommend you consider signing, an angling survey, our letter to MPs and AMs regarding the Severn Barrage, details of new byelaws and of course a roundup of catches on the river.



Petition to Control Avian Predators

Date: **Wednesday, 25 July 2012**

Anglers are being urged to ramp up the fight against spiralling cormorant numbers by signing an online petition that will hopefully pressurise the Government to change the law on controlling these avian predators.....

[...see petition](#)



National Angling Survey

Date: **Wednesday, 25 July 2012**

Anglers in England and Wales have been given a unique opportunity to highlight the issues that matter to them and their fishing by the Environment Agency, which has commissioned the Angling Trust to carry out.....

[...see 10 minute Survey](#)



River Wye Fishing Reports July 2012

Date: **Wednesday, 25 July 2012**

25-July

River conditions are now approaching excellent on the upper river and clearing well on middle river beats too with 41 fish caught, mainly in upper river over last 5 days. Rectory, Spreadeagle, The Nyth leading the charge with Ty Newydd, Abernant and above Caerwnon and Goytre Pool weighing in. With dry weather and sunshine comes a slowing of catches with middle beats at Caemawr, Letton Court and Red Lion adding to their totals. the latter two having their best seasons for many years! Catches reported at Cadora and Wyebanks yesterday and today so expect some more reports from below Monmouth over next week.

19-July

Yet another spate ruined the fishing once again for the upper river with the upper river and tributaries all having substantial rises. More rain last night which will I think ensure only a slow drop. Looks like there is light at the end of the tunnel with at least a few decent days forecast next week Should be really interesting when things drop back in again with a settled river at last. Only a few grilse so far but fish size and quality is pretty good.

16-July

Several fish taken over this weekend in upper river where conditions even allowing for rain have been excellent. River below Glasbury still generally too high and compromised by red colour coming out of Llynfi in particular. The Nyth beat now has total 30 for season with a fish of 7lb on Sat plus one angler taking 3 today of 10lbs 12lbs and 16lb on fly. Oliver Birch lost a good fish on Wednesday 11th at Pwll y Faedda and Brian Skinner took 2 salmon on Thursday 12th at 10lbs and 14lbs from the same beat. Again today Adam Tobin landed his first Wye Salmon on the fly of approx 15lb from the Rectory. A beautiful 5lbs Brown trout reported on Sunday for Robert Wheatcroft from the Rectory and fish taken at Abernant, Spreadeagle, a double of 13lbs and 15lbs for Louis McDonald Ames. Further fish reported for Christopher Morley at Glanwye, Wayne Tyler at Ty Newydd. 13-July Some really good catches from river around Llyswen, in particular the Rectory beat and Spreadeagle. The Nyth, Ty Newydd and Abernant have joined in the catches. Rest of river struggling in their wake with high coloured water seemingly holding up catches. Ken Powell did manage a fish of 13lb from Red Lion [Moccas] yesterday and there were any number of anglers around Letton Court, Red Lion, Eardisley and Winforton with no fish seen. Plenty of rods on Builth and Newbridge waters. Interesting distribution of catches with traditional upper river beats such as Builth and Glanwye not catching but others seemingly picking up a number of fish every day. Is it to do with holding water or high water levels? Are there natal environs attracting fish?

11-July

River falling away after considerable time in spate and fish taken at Abernant, The Nyth and Rectory as upper river begins to come back into form. Forecast is still not too bright and more rain forecast! Jim Fisher has already had a coloured cock fish of about 10lbs spinning at Newbridge earlier in the

week. The worst affected by these continuing spates has been the lower river where below Monmouth they have been unfishable for many many days. As for when the lower beats will fish well your guess is as good as mine. Running fish spotted at Holme Lacy so there will be more for the upper beats. I had an 8lbs fish taken on a devon minnow at Letton in poor water. Reports of a couple more fish from the main river, the Ithon junction pool and a couple more for Nick Hope at Caerwnon and a good fish from Rhosferrig all above Builth



Semi Natural Rearing [SNR].....The Case Study

Date: **Sunday, 08 July 2012**

A voluntary partnership between Environment Agency Wales, river Wye fishery owners and private individuals was created in 2011 to research the inclusion of Semi Natural Rearing (SNR) of salmon smolts as part of a long term stocking strategy for the river Wye. SNR differs from traditional fry / parr stocking. It combines the advantages of hatchery technology in achieving high survival to early juveniles, with the 'real life' experiences of a wild environment which is also protected from predation. There is substantial evidence that post release survival can be improved by increasing 'real life' experiences. A spring fed pond situated above an impassable barrier close to the Nant Gwyn stream was selected for a pilot SNR scheme.....[see the full case study](#)



Severn Barrage.....WSA Join the Fight

Date: **Tuesday, 03 July 2012**

Wye Salmon Association today began seeking representation from its local MP's and AM's to fight the proposed Severn Barrage. The content of their letter is as follows:

'Wye Salmon Association would like to express our deep concerns over the recently revived proposal for a Severn tidal barrage. Our remit as an organisation is; 'to strive to improve the salmon population of the River Wye' and 'to lobby the agencies and bodies responsible for factors that are perceived detrimental to that objective' The environmental effects of a barrage across the River Severn would be enormous and have been rightly opposed by a many conservation groups including the National Trust, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Salmon and Trout Association, the Atlantic Salmon Trust, the Wildlife Trust, the Angling Trust, the Wye Salmon Fishery Owners Association and The Wye and Usk Foundation along with WWF and Friends of the Earth, the latter of whom have launched a campaign against the plans to construct the barrage. The Severn Estuary is designated a Special Scientific Area for Conservation [SSAC]. We note the Government has nominated the estuary for EU protection because of its importance to fish stocks and in particular 6 species of migratory fish, including salmon, sea trout, twaite shad, allis shad, European eel and sea lamprey. These fish return to their native rivers to reproduce and if access is denied they will cease to exist! Placing a

barrage across the estuary would have devastating consequences for the whole fishery, with a knock-on impact on to the regional economy. EA surveys have shown the public put an existence value on salmon fisheries of some £350 million a year. Bearing in mind 25% of the spawning habitat for salmon in England and Wales is upstream of the proposed Severn barrage, and given its construction would effectively destroy migratory fish runs, the simple conclusion is that the Severn barrage would be cataclysmic. We understand the need for new sources of renewable energy to meet EU targets and to bridge the UK energy gap. However, it is our opinion that the Government must drop the Barrage plans and seek other ways of harnessing the phenomenal tidal power of the River Severn'



EAW River Wye Catch & Release Byelaw

Date: **Monday, 25 June 2012**

A press release from EA{Wales} today;

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Welsh Government and DEFRA ministers have given their approval for confirmation of the catch and release byelaws on the River Wye. The byelaws are therefore duly confirmed and came into force on Saturday 23rd June. The Environment Agency welcomes this decision. Our application for confirmation of these byelaws was not taken lightly. It was driven by the ongoing seriously depleted nature of the salmon stock in the River Wye. We are aware that the majority of anglers have acted very responsibly over the past decade or so and have returned their fish in response to ongoing requests by the Environment Agency and the Wye and Usk Foundation. However a minority of anglers has continued to kill fish, despite the depleted nature of the stocks, and it is for that reason that these byelaws have become essential. The effect of the byelaws on stock abundance will be kept under review, and ministers have required a formal mid-term review of the effect of the new measures. We hope that stock recovery will result in the end of this byelaw at the earliest opportunity. We stress that alongside this action many other initiatives are underway to improve the environment of the River Wye and its fish populations including:- The Agency has taken further action to strictly regulate the estuary fisheries that catch salmon destined for the River Wye. This will reduce the number of salmon caught in the estuary by about 75%. The Agency and its partner, the Wye and Usk Foundation, has invested in building fish passes and removing barriers to improve access for salmon and other fish to high quality habitats. For example two Agency fish passage projects in the Monnow have made over 180km of previously inaccessible stream available. The Agency has facilitated major new funding streams in the Wye catchment and together with the Wye and Usk Foundation will undertake more work to restore damaged habitats and to improve water quality. The Agency has supported, as key partner, the Wye and Usk Foundation with funding, technical support and advice since 1998. A healthy salmon population in the river will

not only benefit local anglers, but will also benefit local economies by attracting visiting anglers from across the country. Fishing in all of its forms is worth over £150m to the Welsh economy.

Under the byelaws:-

All salmon and sea trout caught must be returned to the river

The byelaws will be in place for 10 years

There will be a formal mid-term review



Fly Fishing Tuition

Date: **Thursday 23rd August 2012**

Learn to fly fish and cast with the experts. Wye Salmon Association (WSA) are offering a one day Spey Casting Course for adults and a Fly Fishing Course for youngsters between the ages of 10 and 16 years.....[Spey & Fly Fishing Courses](#)

Good Fishing
Wye Salmon Association Team

Think about the Environment before printing this e-mail! 

The information contained in this message and or attachments is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance up on, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from your system and destroy any copies.