



## Analysis & Reporting

Monitoring ecosystems; identifying pollution causes & impacts

Major issues over the last three months:

- Killer Shrimp invades South Wales
- Know your rivers
- Mawddach eel monitoring
- Padarn Char migration

### Killer Shrimp invades South Wales

*Dikerogammarus* sp. or 'killer shrimp' is an invasive non-native voracious predator. Monitoring surveys have been carried out at Llyn Alwen, Brenig, Maelog, Cefni and Alaw and further monitoring is ongoing. Anglers should clean and dry equipment between uses and check for any signs of the shrimp. For more information go to [www.nonnativespecies.org](http://www.nonnativespecies.org)



Title: *Dikerogammarus villosus*

### Know your river

Catchment summaries have been produced for all major salmon and sea trout rivers in North Wales. These show juvenile data, rod catch, conservation limits, sea trout stocks and salmon action plan data. These are available to see at [www.cpwf.co.uk](http://www.cpwf.co.uk)



Title: Nant Peris Fish Pass

### Mawddach eel monitoring

Eel recruitment has been declining and to determine trends in the eel fishery there are now 10 dedicated eel monitoring sites on both the Mawddach and Dee. The catchments are fished bi-annually using eel specific electro-fishing settings. The Mawddach sites fished this year yielded high densities of eels in the lowland rivers.

### Padarn Char migration

The char migration is being monitored with a Dual Frequency Identification Sonar (DIDSON) and fyke nets at Afon y Bala. Some char have now been caught with fyke nets and lots of fish movement has been recorded by the DIDSON. There is also a camera at Nant Peris but only Salmon & Sea trout have been recorded. This work is in collaboration with the Fisheries Acoustic Team (FAT) Cardiff.

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## Environmental Crime

Reducing illegal fisheries and waste activities in North Wales.

Major issues over the last three months:

- **Illegal Netting Dee Estuary**
- **£1,000 to catch poachers on the Conwy**

### Two men fined for illegal nets

In December Two men were prosecuted at Mold Magistrates court for using nets illegally in the Dee Estuary near Point of Ayr. Christopher Ernest Bailey of Gwespyr near Holywell was fined £200 with £115 Costs and Gino Ghisloni was fined £200 with £115 costs.

The Men were caught on July 30<sup>th</sup> following an operation by Environmental Crime team officers acting on information received from a member of the public. The Men were observed collecting the net and were apprehended as they walked back up the beach. Officers Seized the net and the fish caught from the men



Title: Dee Estuary at Point of Ayr



Title: Crimestoppers Poster

### £1,000 to catch poachers on the Conwy

A reward of up to £1,000 is being offered to catch poachers in North Wales most important rivers. The Environment Agency has teamed up with Crime stoppers and is appealing for people to come forward with any information on illegal fishing activity on the Conwy river.

If you have information please call **Crime stoppers on 0800 555 111** or to report an incident contact the Environment Agency on **0800 807060**

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## Technical Fisheries

### Maintaining and improving fisheries

#### Major issues over the last three months

- Pont y Capel fish pass
- Bontuchel fishpass improvements
- Rossett fish pass drop in day
- £1,000 reward for information on Conwy poachers

#### Pont Y Capel Fish Pass

An innovative fish pass was installed onto an Environment Agency Wales gauging weir at Pont Y Capel. Eight galvanised steel baffles were bolted to the face of the weir to help improve the flow of water for fish passage. The new weir will help meet water framework directive actions for the Alyn.



Title: Pont y Capel fish pass baffles

#### Bontuchel fish pass improvements.

A recent risk assessment at the Bontuchel fish pass highlighted the need for a new fence, three new signs and some minor tree work, which has been completed. The work was done to improve safety at the site.



Title: Existing weir at Rossett

#### Rossett fish pass drop in day

Local concern was expressed over the proposal to improve fish passage at Rossett weir. A drop in day was held at the village hall; giving residents the opportunity to view plans, ask questions and express their views. The event was well attended, with 75% of people choosing their preferred options.

**£1,000 reward for information on Conwy poachers** Environment Agency Wales have appealed for people to contact **Crimestoppers** (0800 555 111), anonymously if they have information about people engaged in poaching on the Conwy. Successful prosecutions will receive a reward of up to £1,000 donated by the Conwy Valley Fisheries and Conservation Association

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## Technical Fisheries

### Maintaining and improving fisheries

#### Major issues over the last three months:

- Wild Fishing Wales – Gwernan Hotel
- Angling event at Llyn Gweryd
- North Wales Coaching

#### Wild Fishing Wales – Gwernan Hotel

Gwernan hotel has completed access works from round 2 of WFW. These works will allow anglers of all abilities to utilise the facilities available on the lake.

Wild Fishing Wales is an Environment Agency Wales initiative part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Assembly Government and a component element of the Countryside Council for Wales' Communities and Nature strategic project



Title: Gwernan acces path



Title: Angling day at Llyn Gweryd

#### Angling event at Llyn Gweryd

On Saturday 23/10/2010 the fisheries team ran a free coaching event at Llyn Gweryd fishery. The event was attended by a cross section of abilities, ages and nationalities. Tackle and bait were provided free by Environment Agency Wales and the majority of people managed to catch fish in less than perfect conditions.

#### North Wales coaching 2010 summary

Environment Agency Wales and the Federation of Welsh Anglers gave angling tuition at organised events to over 540 adults and children in 2010. There were also another 500 people introduced to the sport at other events. The target groups for the year were families and special needs groups.

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## Technical Fisheries

### Maintaining and improving fisheries

#### Major issues over the last three months:

- Afon Hafesp habitat project
- Work on Dolmelynllyn Pool
- Angler caught broodstock collection on the Seiont
- Fish stocking at Pandy and Greenfield

#### Afon Hafesp Habitat Project

A habitat restoration project was installed on the river Hafesp a tributary that enters the Dee just below Bala. Approximately 1Km of fencing and other work to re-direct a farm track from crossing the river was completed. We hope that the work will protect the river from siltation and promote increased survival of fish in this area.

#### Work on Dolmelynllyn pool

Fisheries have been advising the National Trust on the renovation work at a Victorian ornamental pond at Dolmelynllyn Hall, Ganolwyd. After advice from fisheries staff contractors were careful not to upset sensitive spawning grounds for sea trout directly above and below the site. The work was partly funded by the Splash fund.



Title: Afon Hafesp habitat scheme



Title: Stocking at Pandy

**Angler Caught Broodstock Collection on the Seiont** Seiont Gwyrfaï & Llyfni Angling Association caught a total of 5 female and 4 male salmon by rod and line. The adult fish will kept at Mawddach hatchery will have their ova stripped before being returned to the Seiont. This is the first time that angler caught fish has been used in catching brood stock on the Seiont.

#### Fish stocking at Pandy and Greenfield

Two community fisheries in Flintshire, Pandy and Greenfield had Crucian Carp, Bream and Roach stocked into them. The fish will add to the range of species for anglers to target and will encourage local people to take up the sport.

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## Fish Culture

### Mitigating damage to fisheries

#### Major issues over the last three months:

- Arctic Char released into Llyn Crafnant
- River Dee anglers broodstock collection
- Seiont Gwyrfai & Llyfni / Conwy broodstock collection

#### Arctic Char released into Llyn Crafnant

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of November approximately 800 Arctic Charr were released into Llyn Crafnant by members of the fisheries technical team. The fish reared at Mawddach hatchery we captured last winter from Llyn Padarn. It is hoped that these Char and subsequent releases will establish themselves in Llyn Crafnant.

#### River Dee anglers broodstock collection

Dee anglers from various clubs have been catching broodstock for Maerdy Hatchery. The fish will be kept on site until they are ready to strip, which is usually from about the second week in December through to the beginning of January. The fish produced will be stocked back into the upper tributaries of the Dee.



Title: Arctic Char fry



Title: Adult Salmon

#### Seiont Gwyrfai & Llyfni / Conwy broodstock collection

Members of the Seiont, Gwyrfai and Llyfni Angling Association and the Conwy Valley Fisheries Association have collected adult salmon broodstock for their respective self funded stocking enhancement schemes.

Anglers from each organisation were authorised to collect the fish by rod and line and transport them to Mawddach hatchery. There have been no losses of fish and all fish are now at Mawddach hatchery in segregated tanks. They were stripped of their ova a few weeks after capture.

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