



# What do wild salmon mean to me?

## Ronald Campbell



I'm from Highland Perthshire, took degrees at Aberdeen and Otago (NZ) universities then held a post-doctoral fellowship at Cork, followed by work on Acid Rain at the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology; a fellowship at the University of the Mediterranean, Turkey, then 28 years at the Tweed Foundation, the first fisheries biologist appointed to a major Scottish salmon river.

*Contra Nando Incrementum*: "I swim against the current and increase", is the meaning of the Motto of the Royal Burgh of Peebles, whose Arms show one salmon swimming upstream and two coming downstream. The first record of these Arms was in 1473 and just as they illustrated success against adversity for those mediaeval Scots who first adopted them as the communal symbol of their burgh and people, the Salmon means the same to me. The double struggle that is the life of the salmon, two fights that have to be won, in the river and then in the sea against all the dangers and enemies of two environments is a double inspiration, made visible in our rivers every time a smolt surfaces to a fly on its way downstream or a silver fish leaps high on its way back upstream.



Discover more about the importance of wild Atlantic salmon at:  
[www.fms.scot/what-do-wild-salmon-mean-to-me/](http://www.fms.scot/what-do-wild-salmon-mean-to-me/)  
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