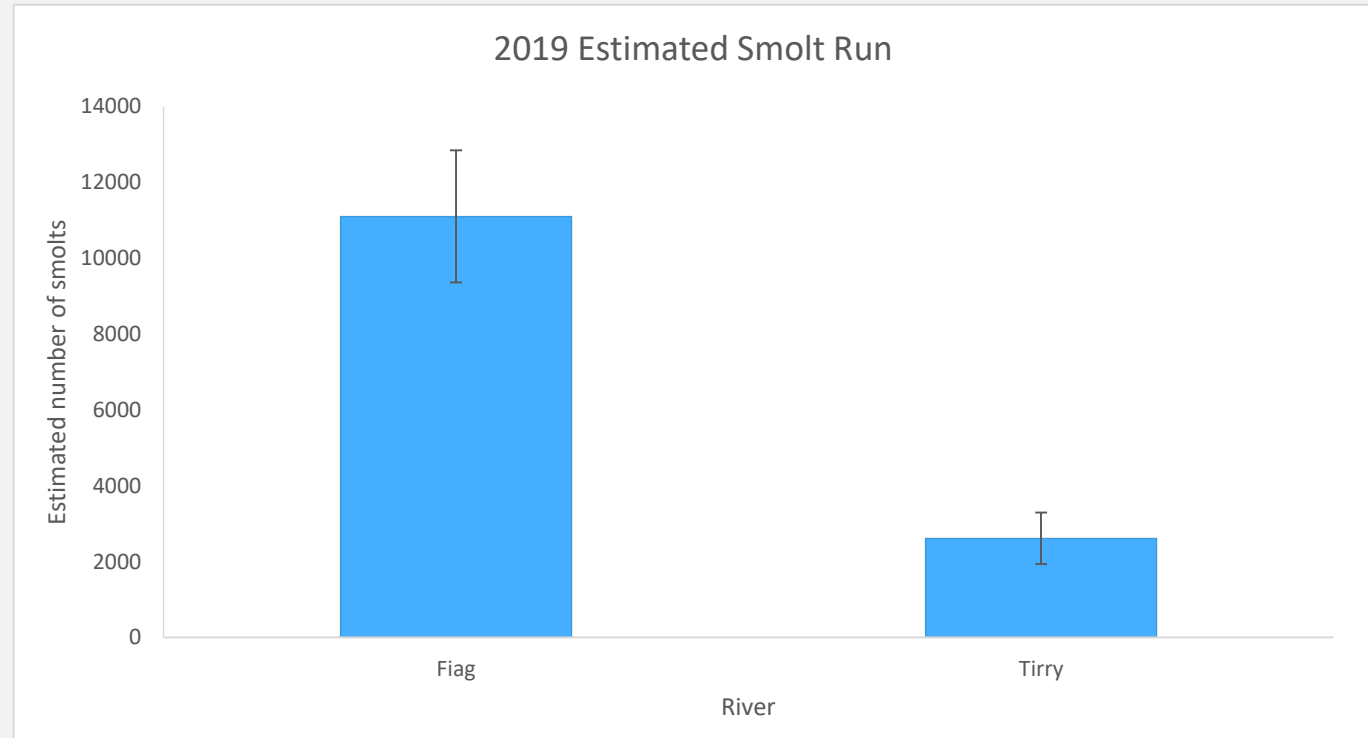


# KYLE OF SUTHERLAND FISHERIES 2019

# Smolt Trapping – PIT tagging

- We operate smolt traps on the River Shin annually in partnership with SSE to mitigate for the dams at Lairg.
- In 2019 Over 1300 were tagged on the River Fiag, and over 400 on the River Tirry.
- Mark Recapture trials allow us to assess the efficiency of traps, and also to estimate the total size of the smolt run.



# 2017 Cohort Grilse & MSW Returns

Corriekinloch

Merkland

Fiag

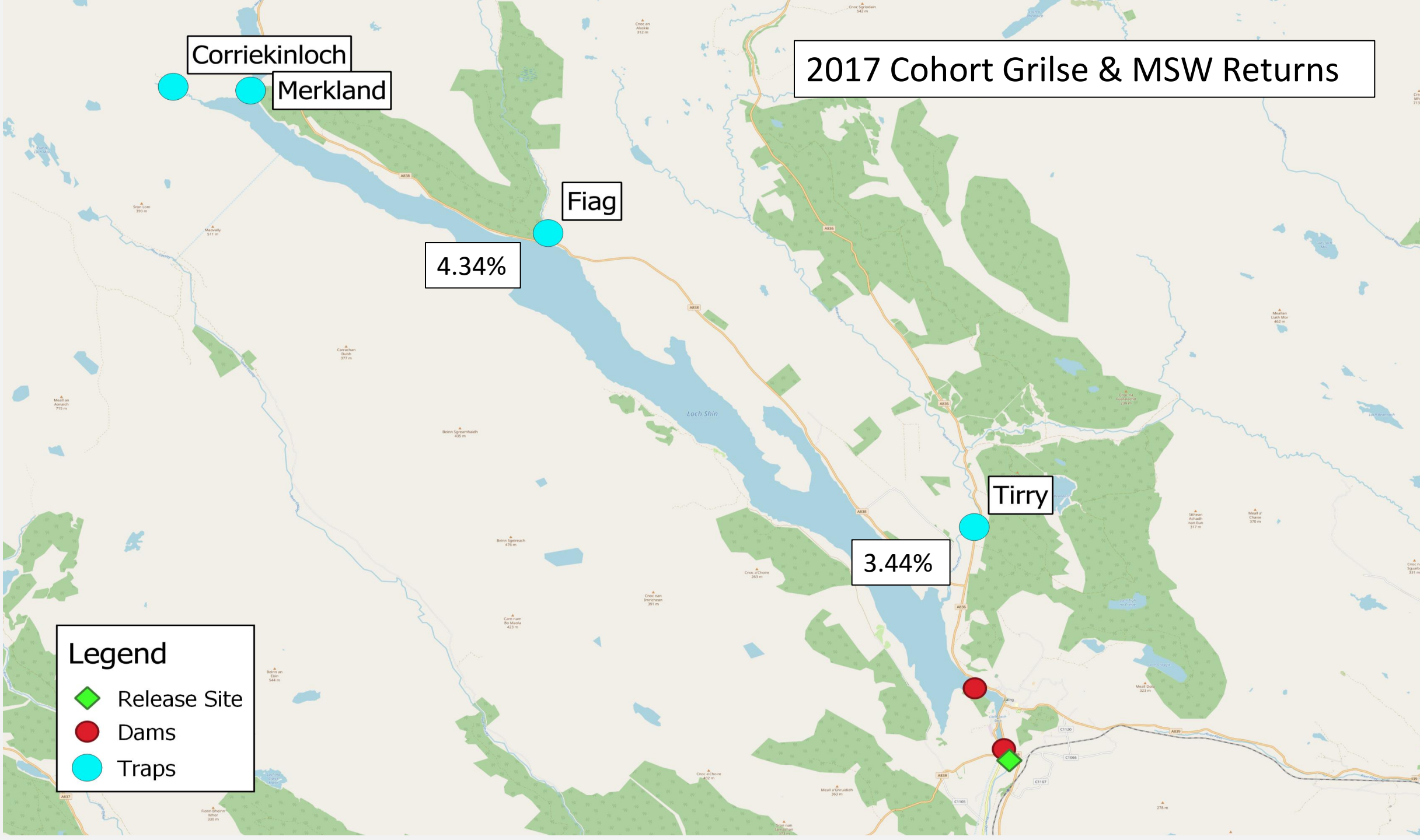
4.34%

Tirry

3.44%

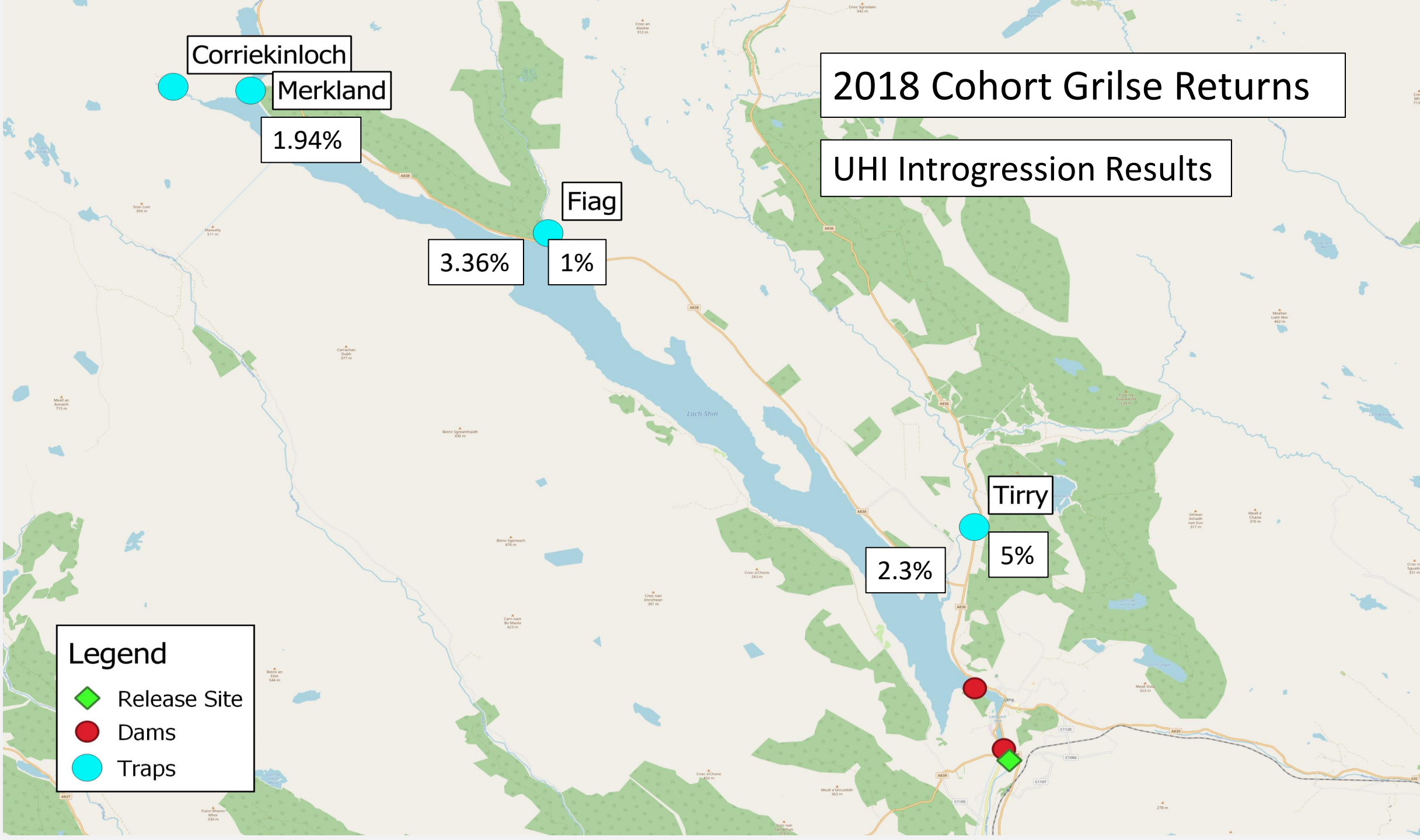
**Legend**

- ◆ Release Site
- Dams
- Traps



# 2018 Cohort Grilse Returns

## UHI Introggression Results



Corriekinloch

Merkland

1.94%

Fiag

3.36%

1%

Tirry

2.3%

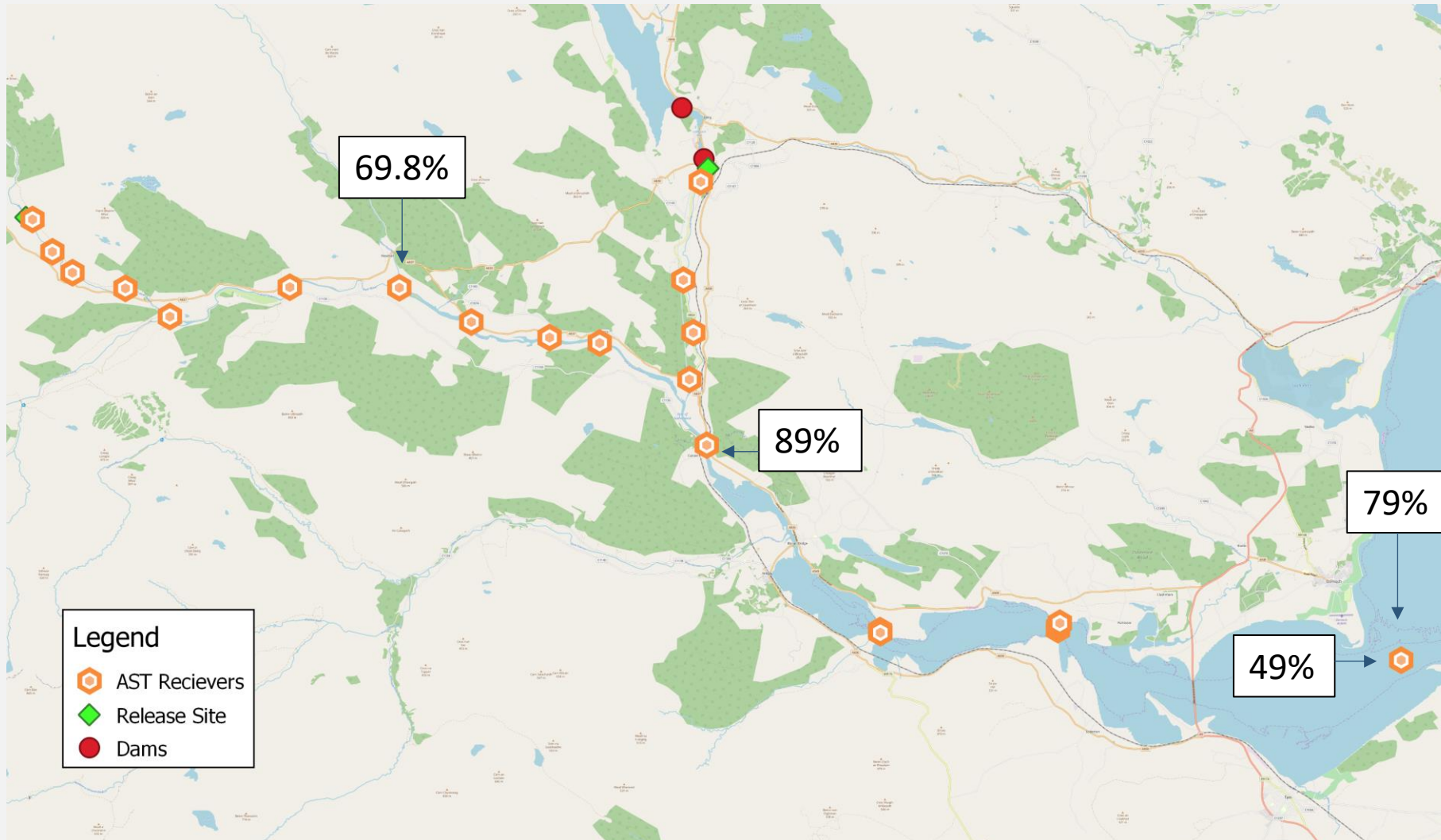
5%

**Legend**

- ◆ Release Site
- Dams
- Traps

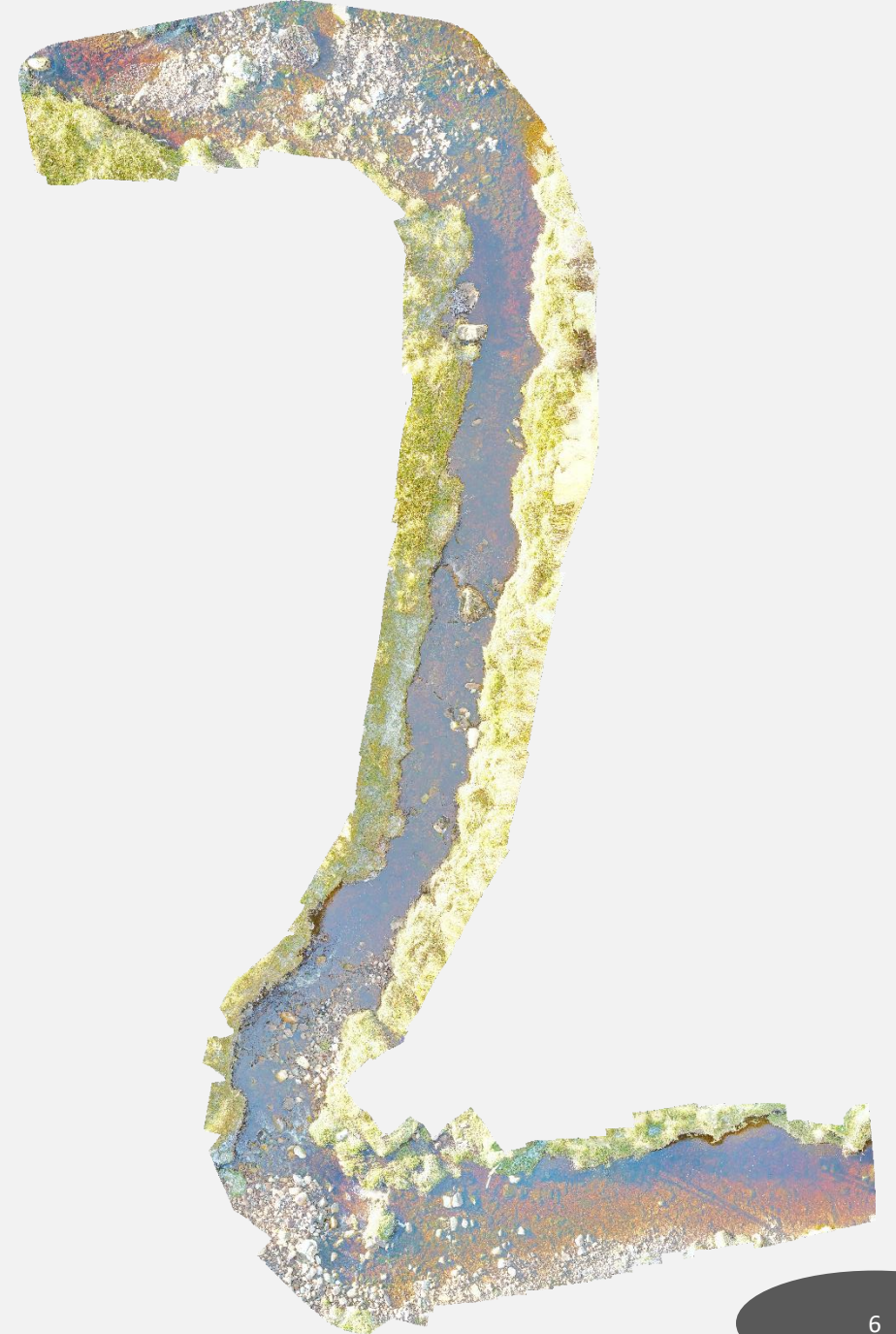
# AST – Missing Salmon Project

- Smolts from the Oykel and the Shin were used in the missing salmon project, 100 from the Shin and 147 from the Oykel.
- Four Sea Trout smolts were also tagged from the Oykel.



# Drone Usage for Habitat Surveying

- In June Sean attended an SFCC workshop on drone usage.
- Subsequently completing CAA approved Training.
- This has been used to find Pink Salmon redds.
- Additionally have been experimenting with different techniques and software for mapping substrate types, dronedeploy, Maps made easy
- Outputs can be loaded straight into GIS











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# River Carron Adult Radio Tracking

- A project was set up with funding from SSE to examine habitat use of adult salmon. Additionally, juvenile salmon have been recorded above a barrier designed to prevent fish access (water abstracted to a different catchment).
- Only a small number of fish were tagged, as it was thought fish at Glencalvie falls would be most likely to go to the upper part of the catchment.
- Some fish caught for the project (on rod and line) were afflicted with ventral haemorrhaging, and therefore were not tagged.



# Other Activities

- We have contracted APEM working with Plymouth University to conduct some sediment fingerprinting. Originally in the Oykel, this has been moved to the River Shin. We are awaiting results from this.
- We were successful in a bid with Galloway Fisheries Trust and Argyll Fisheries trust for the “Biodiversity Challenge Fund”. Work has begun planting 5,000 trees in the Tirry Catchment.
- Some fish across our Rivers had been reported with disease (ventral haemorrhaging). One was taken by FHI for analysis.
- Pink Salmon were recorded in the River Oykel and had successfully spawned.

