

# 23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL BIOLOGISTS' MEETING –Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>



## DAY 1, February 3<sup>rd</sup>

- 10:00**      ***Welcome & Introductions***  
*Chair: Joanna Girvan, Forth Rivers Trust*
- 10:05**      **Session 1 – SFCC member updates**
- 11:15**      **Comfort break**
- 11:30**      **SFCC member updates continued...**
- 12:30**      **LUNCH**
- 13:30**      **Session 2 –Communicating pressures acting on Atlantic salmon**  
*Chair: John Armstrong, Marine Scotland Science*
- 13:30      Introduction to the session and summary of the key issues for salmon in Scotland  
*John Armstrong, Marine Scotland Science*
- 13:40      Mapping pressures on Atlantic salmon in Scotland  
*Sean Dugan, Scottish Fisheries Co-ordination Centre & Iain Malcolm, Marine Scotland Science*
- 14:00      Assessing threats to Atlantic salmon in Norway  
*Torbjørn Forseth, Norwegian Scientific Advisory Committee for Atlantic Salmon Management*
- 14:20      *Discussion*
- 14:45**      **Close**

## DAY 2, February 4<sup>th</sup>

**10:00**      ***Welcome and introductions***

### **Session 3 – Water quality issues and solutions**

*Chair: Marcus Walters, Deveron, Bogie & Isla Rivers Trust*

10:05      Designed riparian buffers to improve functions and uptake  
*Marc Stutter – James Hutton Institute*

10:20      Forests, Fish and Freshwater Pearl Mussel: Water Quality Monitoring for Ecological  
Protection - *Nadeem Shah – Forest Research*

10:35      Water Quality – what do the bugs know?  
*Craig Macadam - Buglife*

10:50      Q & A / General discussion

**11:00**      **Comfort break**

### **Session 4 – Evidence from fish scales to inform conservation**

*Chair: Sean Dugan, Scottish Fisheries Co-ordination Centre*

11:15      Unlocking the Archive Project – new insights from fish scales  
*Deirdre Brophy, Galway Mayo Institute of Technology*

11:30      Machine learning approaches to extracting growth information from scales  
*James Ounsley & Bruno Caneco, Marine Scotland Science*

11:45      Salmon on the run: How scale-reading helps understand current changes  
*Ronald Campbell, The Tweed Foundation*

12:00      Escaped farmed salmon – presenting the evidence  
*Polly Burns, Fisheries Management Scotland & Stuart Brabbs, Ayrshire Rivers Trust*

12:15      Q & A / General discussion

**12:30**      **LUNCH**

### **Session 5 –European eel conservation**

*Chair: Jack Wootton, Forth Rivers Trust*

13:30      European eel conservation in Scotland  
*Jack Wootton, Forth Rivers Trust*

13:50      European eel trade and conservation efforts: Brexit impacts  
*Andrew Kerr, Sustainable Eel Group*

14:10      Eel management planning in Scotland and update from the ICES Working Group on Eels  
*Jason Godfrey, Marine Scotland Science*

14:30      Q & A / General discussion

**14:45**      **Close**