THE RIVER ANNAN DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

Annual Report 2012

Nick Chisholm, James Grubb, Michael Fearns & Chris Stones

River Annan Trust

Contents Page

Chairman's Introduction

Ladies and Gentleman,

It is my great pleasure to be writing this year's introduction to the River Annan Fishery Boards Annual Report on the year of 2012. This report gives a flavour of the huge amount of work that has been carried out over the last year. I hope that you find the following pages interesting and if you have any queries please contact Nick Chisholm.

Last year's salmon catch was down on the exceptionally high catch of 2011 but was still respectable against a background of depleted catches around Scotland. The five year average on the river is now at the highest rate it has been since records began in 1952. The sea trout totals however remain stubbornly low but the fishing effort for these fish is very low and conditions were very poor in the summer to angle for them.

2012 was the second year of operation of the River Annan Trust and whilst the economic conditions are difficult the Trust did manage to expand its portfolio of work. The Boards finances showed the difficulty many organisations are now finding as the government grants dry up. We have taken the regrettable step of losing a member of staff as a result of this and the Board should be heading towards the black in the next year or two. This will be challenging but there is still much work to do to improve the River Annan.

Once again I would like to express my gratitude for the support of all the Board members in the last year and to our Clerk, Mary Colville, for organising the office, keeping the books and preparing the Board papers. I would also like to express my gratitude for the hard work of Nick Chisholm (Director), James Grubb (Biologist), Michael Fearns (Head Bailiff) and Chris Stones (Bio-security Officer).

The Annual general meeting of the Board will be held in the Lesser Room of Lockerbie Town Hall on the 11th of April at 7PM. All proprietors and members of the public are welcome.

Chairman of the River Annan District Salmon Fisheries Board

The Earl of Annandale and Hartfell

Board Members 2012

Chairman:	The Earl of Annandale and Hartfell
Upper Proprietors:	Mr G Birkbeck
	Mr G Clark
	Mr C Corton (retired end 2012)
	Mr A Dickson
	Mr A D Guthe
	Mr R Pascoe
Lower Proprietors:	Councillor R Brodie
	Mr R Westoll
Tenant Netsman:	Mr John Warwick
Anglers:	Mr D Rothwell
	Mr F Sandison
	Mr F Sykes
Attendees:	SNH
	SEPA
	D & G Council

Office Bearers

Clerk:	Mary Colville
Director of Fisheries:	Nick Chisholm
Biologist:	James Grubb
Biosecurity Officer:	Chris Stones
Head Bailiff:	Michael Fearns

Directors Report 2012

Summary of the year

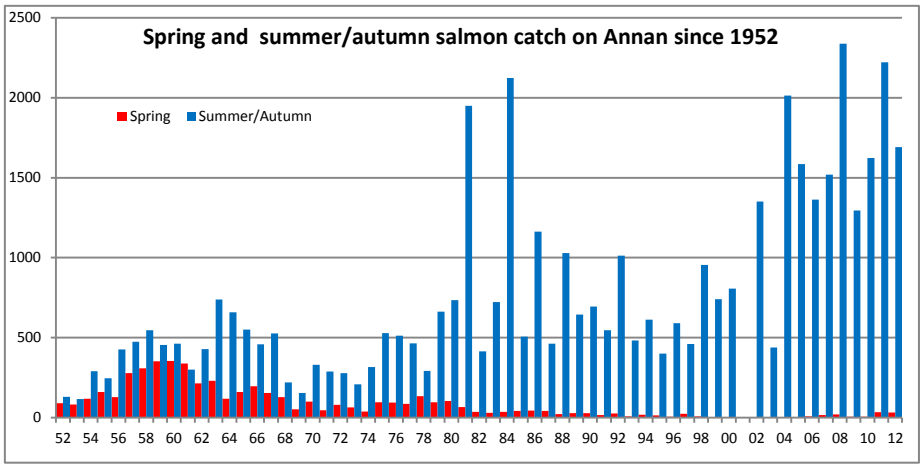
2012 as a very challenging year for the River Annan District Salmon Fishery Board and the River Annan Trust. This was the year when the full impact of the recession and restrictions in grant income, particularly from government bodies, became real. It has also been noticed that many other organisations are paying accounts far more slowly than in the past. European Leader funding has been a particular problem in this area which is ironic as European Structural funds are meant to assist in the development and sustainability of businesses. The accounts at the back of this report will make grim reading and as a result of this the Board had no option but to reduce its staff cuts with immediate effect. As a result of this the position of Biologist has been lost and James Grubb, who had been fulfilling this role for 5 years, was made redundant. Fortunately for him he has found alternative employment within the fisheries sector and we wish him the very best of luck for the future. We now have the challenge of bringing the Board back into the black and ensuring that this is sustained for the foreseeable future. All the remaining staff recognise this challenge.

Notwithstanding the tough economic conditions both the River Annan Trust and the Fisheries Board had a very busy year. The weather conditions impacted upon the work carried out but a range of projects ranging from scientific investigations through to practical work on the ground have been delivered. This report will detail much of this. In addition a couple of decision was made which, on the face of it, may seem controversial. The decision to not apply for a licence to shoot piscivourouse birds was made after the gut analysis of the birds shot in 2010 and 2011 showed that they were not foraging significantly on salmonids, despite the birds being shot in amongst aggregations of smolts. The closure of the hatchery will vex some people but again there is very little evidence that it was achieving anything. Results from other rivers have shown very poor returns from hatchery fish compared to wild fish, indeed wild spawned fish outperforming hatchery fish by orders of magnitude. It should be said that whilst the hatchery has been closed the ability for the Board to operate a hatchery, should conditions dictate that it is needed, remains.

Fish Catches 2012 - Salmon

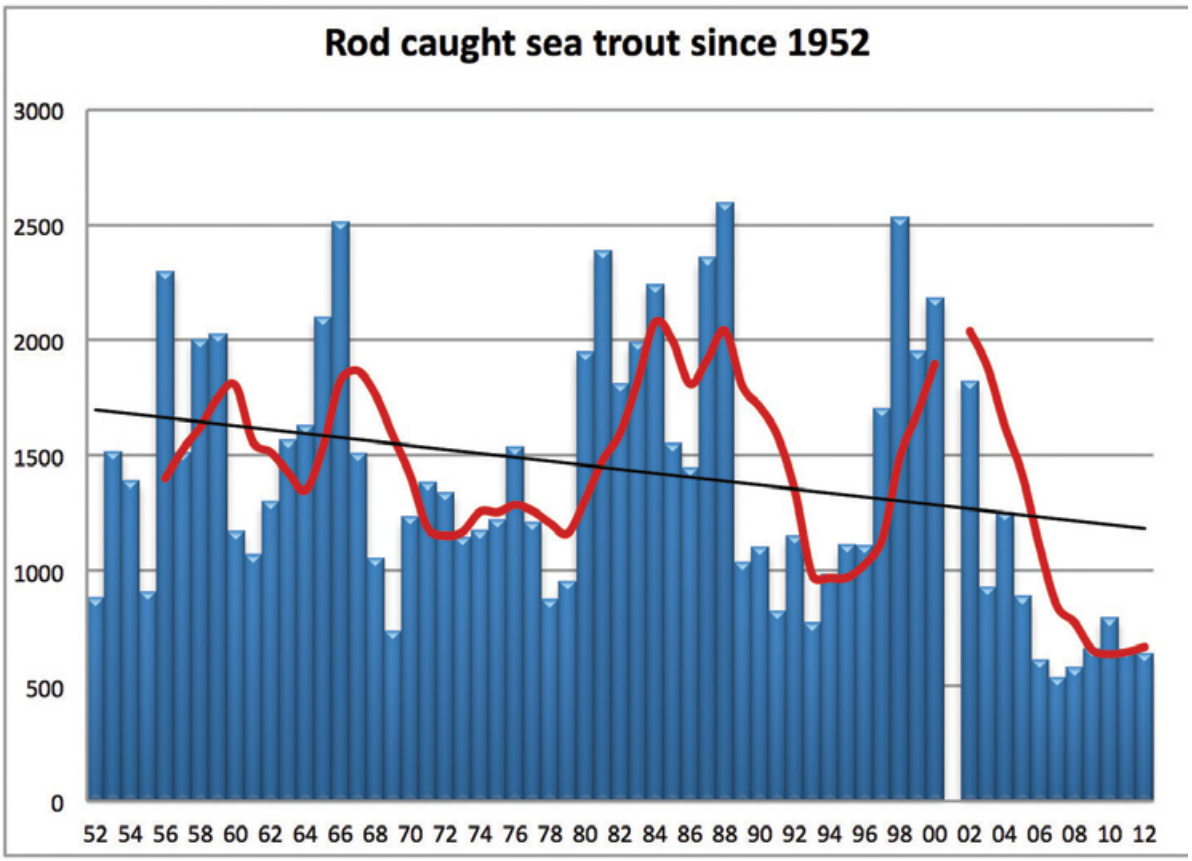
For salmon the year was an odd one with spring and early summer abundance seemingly higher than normal and very late fish seemingly pretty much absent. This is challenging for proprietors as whilst the overall catch was good the prime (and most expensive fishing) was poor. Anglers who only visited the river in the October period will have had a rather different view to those who visited in July and August. The grilse component of the run was down and the biggest majority of the fish caught where recorded as salmon (although only scale readings would actually confirm this as size is not always relevant). The total rod catch was 1,724, well down of the exceptional year of 2011 when 2255 where recorded. The five year average on the river currently stands at 1,854 which is the highest since records began. A large degree of caution does however need to be added when discussing the rod catch on the Annan as some beats are more accurate in their reporting than others and some anglers are more honest with their reporting than others! It should also be noted that three ownership changes in the last few years has increased the number of fish that are being declared by those fisheries. The catch and release rate seems to have levelled at around 50% for the whole river now and all beats are performing far better than a few years ago. It should be noted that the national average for released fish is now in the order of 70% and if we where to get closer to that figure we would be putting a lot more ova into the system for the future. Perhaps the area we could improve on most would be to encourage more anglers to return hen fish regardless of their condition. This is starting to happen. It would be difficult to regulate this however as in early summer even experienced anglers can make mistakes. Even later on in the year mistakes can happen, during the season extension an angler caught a fish that died upon him. The angler reported this to the Board as per the protocol and a number of experienced anglers where there when the fish was picked up. Some though it was a cock fish some were not sure and some thought it was a hen. To be sure of the sex the fish had to be opened and was proven to be a hen.

Whether the Annan can sustain the high catches it has had over the last five or so years are a moot point. For long periods of the recorded history it was rare for the total to exceed 1,000 fish, indeed since 1952 the number recorded has only exceeded 1,500 on nine occasions and seven of these years have been in the last ten years. Without details on the catches in the earlier years it is difficult to know whether fewer fish were about or were fewer anglers about or were fewer returns actually submitted. Scottish catch statistics did not included then and do not include now any measure of effort. We can say that whilst, at the moment, the Annan has the best salmon run in the Solway we should not expect this to be the case for ever as it is nowhere near the biggest river. In general the mood amongst the salmon anglers is buoyant.



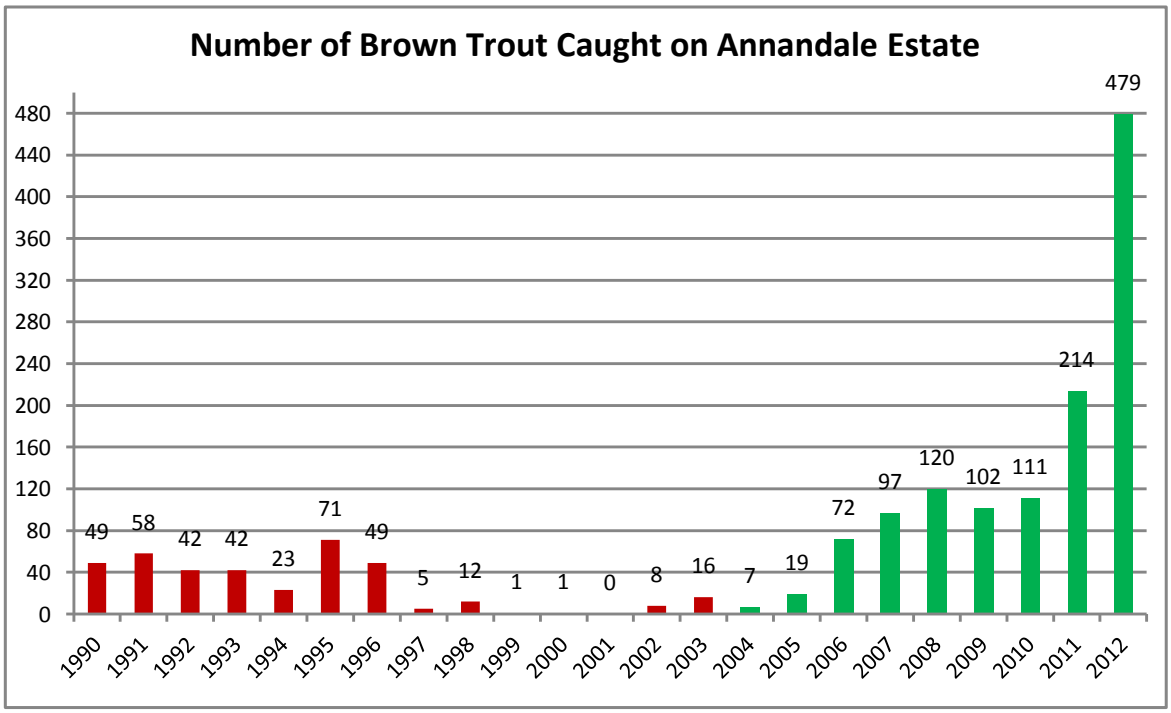
Fish Catches 2012 - Sea Trout

Whilst the salmon catches have been buoyant over the last few years the sea trout numbers do not appear to be recovering at all. In fact whilst there has been some boom periods it would appear that the sea trout have been in decline now for several decades. The reported catch of 643 (70% returned) is one of the lowest we have recorded although ever so slightly up on the low of 2007. It is a moot point whether we should be killing any of these fish in either the rod or net fishery, indeed some of the most startlingly successful sea trout fisheries in the world are nearly 100% catch and release. The hugely successful fishery is South America is a good example of this, whilst it was a catch and kill fishery with a variety of methods being used it was of little significance. After a few years of catch and release it has become the 'must fish' destination for sea trout anglers. The lack of numbers this year has to be tempered with the fact that the fishing conditions were very poor and the effort very low. Many of the fish were caught as a by product of salmon and brown trout fishing rather than by the deliberate targeting of them.



Sea trout, more than salmon, will have been affected by land use changes over the last 50/60 years. Sea trout are specialists of the smaller water courses, water courses that are narrower than 2m. These are the very water courses that have suffered most from straightening, dredging, livestock poaching, forestry over shading and many other issues. There are also clearly issues at sea as the decline is not confined just to the Annan or indeed to the Solway. The Celtic Sea Trout project will hopefully answer some of these questions and will be reporting back this year.

Fish Catches 2012 - Brown Trout

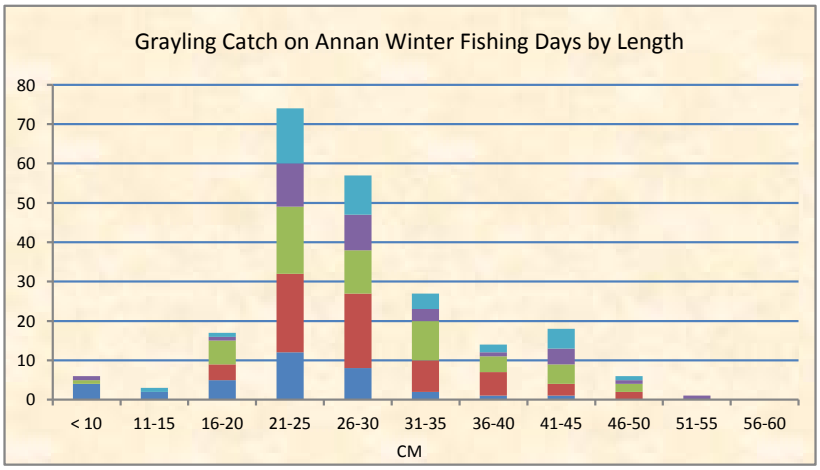


Not all of the fisheries record the number of brown trout reported on their beats so the picture is not as clear cut as with salmon and sea trout fisheries. On the other hand there is strong anecdotal evidence that since the imposition of catch and release that the brown trout fishing has got better and better. We have some evidence of this if we examine individual fisheries. The graph below illustrates a change in the catches on this fishery from largely catch and kill (red) to imposed catch and release (green). It should be remembered that as the fishery is now 100% catch and release these figures are only illustrative of abundance but do not take repeat captures into account. The other facet of the Annan Trout fishery that has got a number of people interested is the average size of the fish that are getting caught. The vast majority of the fish recorded are over 2lb with many topping 5lb and some even being reported at weights of over 8lb. This is very different from most wild trout fisheries and makes the Annan a fairly unique proposition for a wild trout angler.

It is interesting to note that whilst the imposition of catch and release on this fishery was not without some protest the vast majority of anglers agreed to it. There are still some who would wish to see a resumption of catch and kill but they are in the minority. Even with a bag limit the numbers of fish available across the fishery would soon collapse if lots of people were to start taking a brace of fish away every time they went fishing. Comments have also been made by a small number of died in the wool salmon anglers that these large trout will be eating smolts and should therefore be culled. Whilst it is undoubtedly true that these large fish eat other fish, such as smolts, to get to the sizes they attain it is also true that they have been doing this for several thousand years and the salmon, it would seem, have thrived despite this over pretty much the same time period.

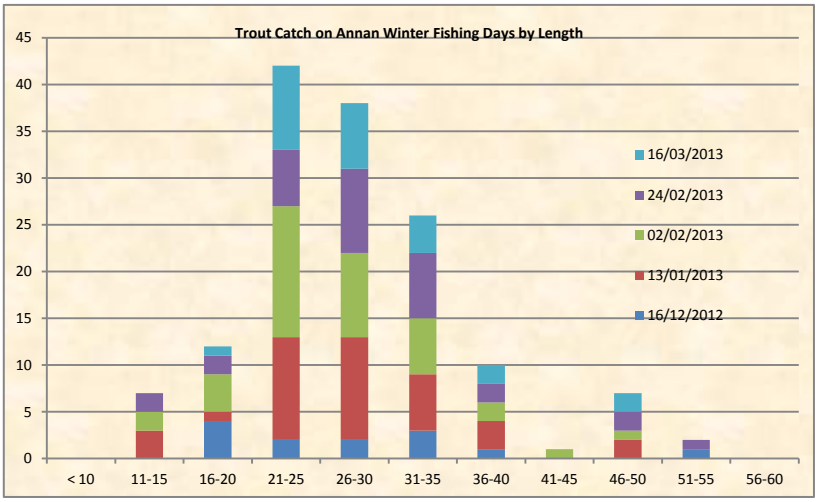
One thing that has been noticed by many anglers and seems to be true is that there is a far greater abundance of these fish in the river now with even the less favourable pieces of water holding fish. It will be interesting to see whether or not this increased competition leads to more fish moving further downstream and eventually to sea? The mechanisms for what makes fish go to sea and others stay at home are not fully understood but competition may well have a part to play.

Winter Fishing



The winter of 2012/13 saw a big increase in the number of grayling anglers visiting the river. The Grayling days that have been organised by the Trust have been a great success and we have got some useful data from them. In addition to getting the data, each angler who fishes on these days makes a £10 gift aided donation to the Trust which whilst not a huge amount of money is very useful. From the results we are getting there seems to be a strong year class from the 2011 spawning season with lots of fish in the 20 - 30cm size range being recorded. Grayling are a fish which seems to be prone to boom and bust years. 2011 for some reason appears to have been a boom year. This has also been noted on other rivers, particularly the Tweed.

Grayling are becoming a very fashionable fish and it is important that we try and understand what is happening with them. We know that they can be pretty quick at growing but we have little information on their longevity. To assist in this a number of scale samples were taken from the fish caught this year. These are currently being read by Ross Gardiner at Marine Scotland Pitlochry. He has samples of Annan grayling that were taken in the late seventies and early eighties so it will be interesting to note whether there has been any change in the growth patterns of the fish since then. Certainly the fish were regarded by many people at that time as vermin and a lot of the population was killed each year. We may find that now we have a lot more older fish as now very few of these fish are killed by anglers and the fish have a got an opportunity to reach their full potential.

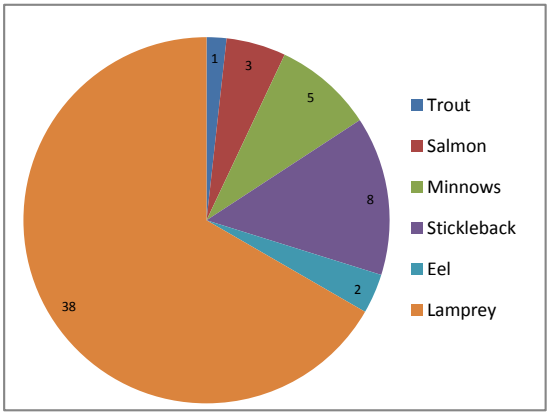


In addition to Grayling Trout are also caught in these events. Whilst the trout are out of season it they are caught so the anglers are asked to record the same information about these fish. It would appear, from the results that there is a reasonable number of 20 – 35cm fish about. These will be from at least 2 spawning years, 2010 and 2009. These fish seem to be conspicuous by their absence when anglers are fishing for trout in early summer which is a bit odd! In total 223 grayling and 145 trout where caught in this winters events and this represents one of the best samples we have had in recent years from these events. In past years we have had to cancel a lot of days due to bad weather and this is the first year for about 5 years that we have been able to use every day. These days would not work without the generosity of the Annan proprietors in giving up their fishing free of charge so thanks has to be given to all those who contributed. The success of the events this year will contribute to the awareness raising of the river within angling circles and many of the angler contributors will be visiting the river on other days.

2012 Projects

Notwithstanding the tough economic conditions the Board and Trust has been involved with a number of projects on the river during 2012. The largest of these, the INNS project has been particularly successful and has attracted a lot of attention. This project is dealt with in more detail in a separate chapter written by the Invasive Species Project Officer, Chris Stones. The other projects range across different topic areas and include investigations into the use of cypermethrin, surveys looking for freshwater pearl mussels, assisting in a PhD which is looking at the mechanisms which cause trout to take up an anadromous or resident life choices, creation of better access for anglers and a volunteering project using river fly life as an indicator of river health. Some detail on these projects and others is given below but if any more information is required or people want to get involved contact the office.

Diet of Goosanders on the River Annan



For many years the proprietors on the river, through the fishery improvement association have applied for and obtained licences to shoot goosanders. There has been an increasing body of evidence required to obtain these licences as the birds are a protected species. In order to provide more compelling evidence during April 2011 and April 2012 carcasses of shot birds were retained to look at the stomach contents. The birds were all shot in areas where salmon and sea trout smolts were aggregating in numbers and we had assumed the birds were foraging on these smolts. The results were surprising. As the chart shows lampreys made up the vast majority of the birds diets (in the 2012 survey there were no salmonids). This is perhaps not surprising as lamprey are very common throughout the Annan, indeed we have on a number of occasions watched otters sifting through bankside silts foraging on them. Lampreys are probably a lot easier than smolts for the birds to catch as well as they will stick to the river bed instead of actively swimming in the water column.

As a result of these results the Annan has not applied for a licence to shoot goosanders this year. Caution must however be used when extrapolating these results to other rivers. The Annan has a very rich variety of species within it, far more than most rivers in Scotland. Goosanders are a general piscivorous bird species and will feed on whatever is the most abundant food supply available to them. In many other rivers (mainly to the north) similar work has been carried out and salmon have made up a significant part of their diet.

Cypermethrin in Forestry

Cypermethrin is used to kill pine weevils in commercial forestry plantations. It is a highly toxic chemical and was the cause of a fish kill in the Water of Dryfe during 2011. As a result of this we felt it would be worthwhile looking at whether or not cypermethrin was regularly contaminating watercourses. We applied for and were granted funding from the Wild Trout Trust, The Salmon and Trout Association and the John Spedan Lewis Foundation. The Environment Agency, for a couple of years, has been using river mosses as a bio-accumulator of chemicals. We followed this method with the help of a consultancy called APEM and collected nearly 60 samples from watercourses in commercial forestry areas of the Annan and White Esk catchments. The sites were selected based on the ages of the trees in the proximity of the watercourses, i.e. young trees that would be vulnerable to pine weevil attack and would therefore be treated. All of the results where a blank except for one site on the White Esk where evidence of a pyrethroid insecticide was found. This chemical was linked to agriculture, not forestry. The evidence was handed over to SEPA and GFT to investigate further as it was not in the Annan catchment. The lack of cypermethrin in the watercourses is encouraging but there is still some significant doubt over whether this chemical should be used or not as even very low levels of the chemical can have devastating effects.

Freshwater Pearl Mussel Surveys

Freshwater pearl mussels used to be relatively common in the Annan catchment, indeed there was a pearl mussel fishery on the river at one time. They were thought to be extinct but in 2008 a single shell was handed in by an angler. The health of pearl mussels and the health of salmon are linked as the mussel uses young salmon as a host in part of its lifecycle. We decided that this was sufficient evidence to look for any animals left and attempt to map the population. The surveys began in December 2012 and were completed in February. We surveyed over 10km of river in that period using bathascopes to view the river bed. This was particularly cold work as the river temperature was often less than 3°C. In that period we did not find any live specimens we did however obtain four more shells of animals that will have been recently deceased within the search area. These were all shells of really old animals (possibly well over 100yrs old) and have probably been washed out in floods. This tells us that freshwater pearl mussels are still present within the river, although extremely rare. It may be that all we have is old individuals left and that they are not breeding. We can also give an indicative area where they are likely to be found. What would be really useful is for all anglers to keep a look out for shells. It is important to note that this is a highly protected species and interfering with them without a licence is an offence. Any sightings should be reported to the Trust as soon as possible, these are one of the world's rarest molluscs and the majority of the world's population is in Scotland.

We were funded in this search by the John Spedan Lewis Foundation.

Access work with APEX

During 2012 we managed to form a partnership with an organisation called APEX. APEX works with vulnerable people who may have had issues with substance abuse and or criminal behaviour. Individuals volunteer to join APEX work parties to try and gain skills and confidence with a more normal work routine. The volunteers have been helping carry out access projects along the upper river by building stiles, bridges and benches. The owners of the fishing in these areas purchase the materials and the Boards head water bailiff, Michael, acts as a foreman to ensure the work is carried out in the right places and to a high standard. The feedback that we have had from the anglers and other river users has been excellent and the programme will be rolled out across other parts of the river during 2013 as long as proprietors are able to und materials.

Description of PHD Sea Trout/Brown Trout Project

At present my work is concentrating on understanding the mechanisms that drive sea migration in brown trout. Partial migration, in which some members of a population migrate while others remain resident, has been documented in a number of fish species including brown trout (Fig 1). Resident brown trout (Fig 1a) spend their entire life in fresh water, whereas migratory brown trout (sea trout) (Fig 1b) metamorphose into smolts and spend time at sea before returning to their original stream to spawn. Both life history forms have been shown to occur in the same river, possibly derived from a single gene pool with migratory and resident parents having the ability to produce offspring capable of adopting either life history. Up to the point of seaward migration, usually two years of age, migratory brown trout are indistinguishable from resident brown trout, making management and stock assessments during early life stages especially difficult.

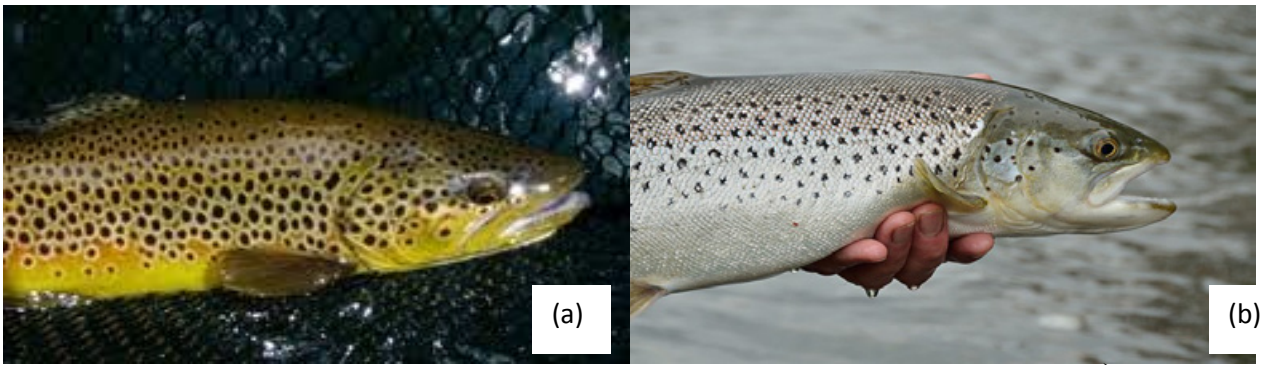


Fig 1: **Picture of a resident brown trout (a) and migratory (sea) trout (b)**

Significance of research:

Brown trout stocks have diminished substantially across Scotland and Ireland since the late 1980's (Fig. 2), but continue to be an important economic and social asset to both the recreational and commercial fishery. Despite their importance relatively little is known about the mechanisms that drive sea migration in brown trout. Here, we propose to take a multidisciplinary approach using ecology, physiology and genetics to gain a greater insight into mechanisms underpinning the differences between resident and migratory brown trout.

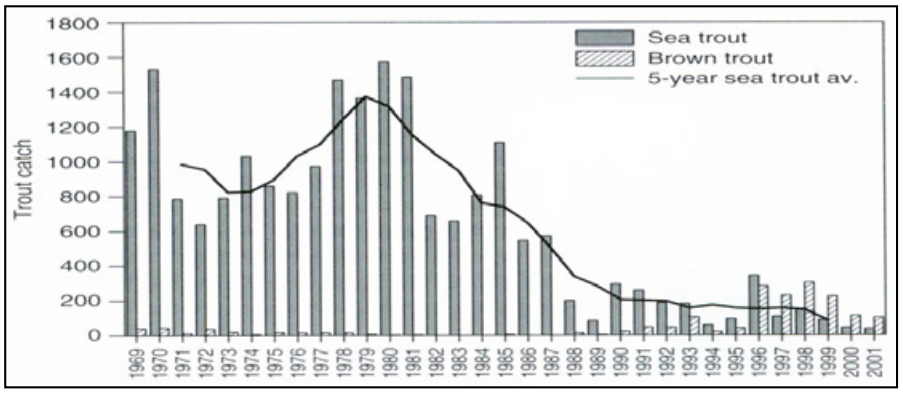


Fig 2: **Long-term rod catch data collected from anglers across Scotland showing a collapse in the sea trout fishery in the late 1980's.**

Research objectives:

We propose to use both laboratory and field studies to address three main objectives: (1) To further our understanding of the mechanisms that promote sea migration in brown trout (2) To improve our understanding of brown trout migration patterns, and to establish the relative proportions of resident and migratory brown trout within populations. (3) To ascertain, using genetic analysis, population structures of migratory and resident brown trout within catchments.

Current status of the project

Currently, a large scale laboratory experiment is being carried out at The Scottish Centre for Ecology and the Natural Environment, a field research station affiliated with the University of Glasgow. With the help of the Annan Fisheries Trust (Fig. 3) we managed to collect eggs from mature resident and migratory brown trout from various tributaries of the river Annan (Fig 4). Offspring began hatching as of 23 December 2012 and are currently being held in small flow through tanks (Fig 5). Once large enough, fish will be marked (so that individuals can be indentified) and stocked into large aquaria (Fig 6). Half of the offspring from resident and migratory parents will be placed on a high food treatment (satiation), with the other half placed on a low food treatment (maintenance food ration). Over the next few years fish will be subjected to various measures of metabolism, morphology, behavior and digestion. This experiment will continue until smolting occurs, which will allow for migratory individuals to be distinguished from resident individuals.

Fig 3: PhD researcher Travis Van Leeuwen from the University of Glasgow and Nick Chisholm from the Annan Fisheries Trust collecting resident and migratory brown trout.

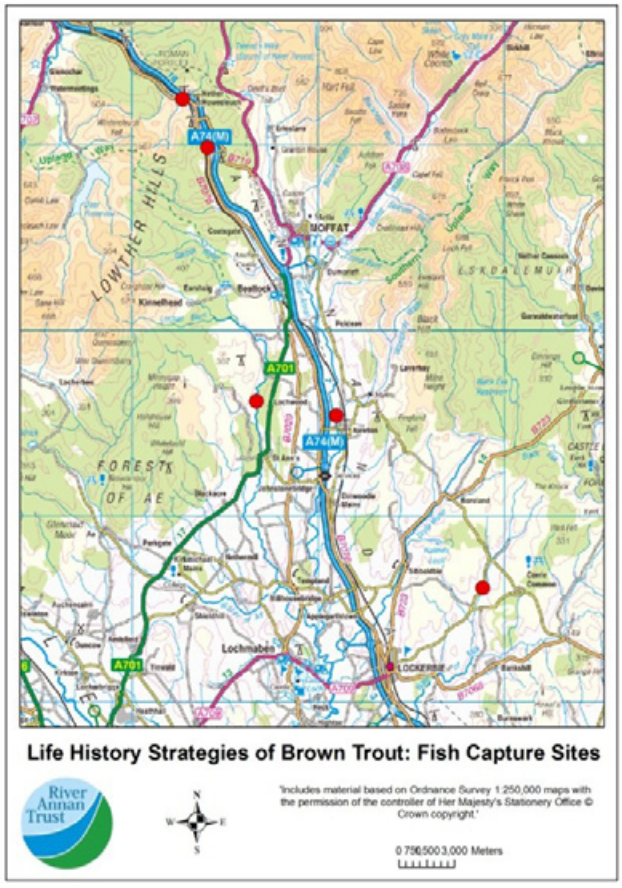


Fig 4: Map showing the locations of broodstock collection

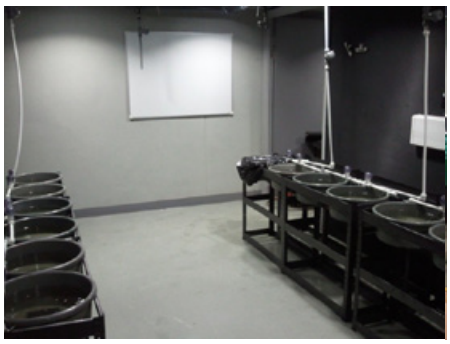
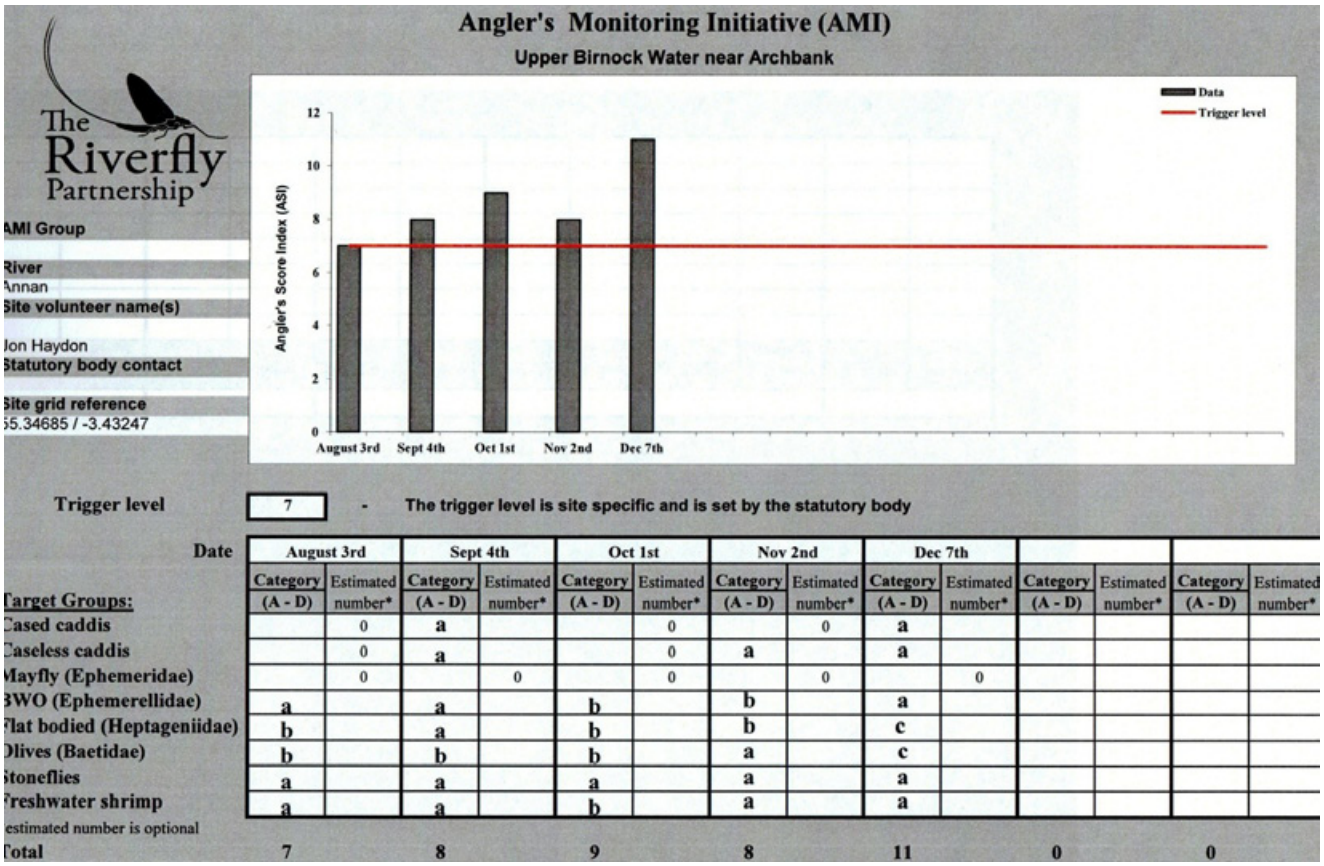


Fig 5: Tanks currently being used to hold newly emerged trout

Fig 6: Tanks which will be stocked with individually marked trout for the remainder of the experiment

Citizen Science Project (River Fly Partnership)



Angler's Monitoring Initiative (AMI)

Upper Birnock Water near Archbank

The Riverfly Partnership

AMI Group

River
Annan
Site volunteer name(s)

Jon Haydon
Statutory body contact

Site grid reference
55.34685 / -3.43247

Trigger level 7 - The trigger level is site specific and is set by the statutory body

Date	August 3rd		Sept 4th		Oct 1st		Nov 2nd		Dec 7th					
Target Groups:	Category (A - D)	Estimated number*	Category (A - D)	Estimated number*	Category (A - D)	Estimated number*	Category (A - D)	Estimated number*	Category (A - D)	Estimated number*	Category (A - D)	Estimated number*	Category (A - D)	Estimated number*
Cased caddis		0	a			0		0	a					
Caseless caddis		0	a			0	a		a					
Mayfly (Ephemeridae)		0		0		0		0		0				
BWO (Ephemerellidae)	a		a		b		b		a					
Flat bodied (Heptageniidae)	b		a		b		b		c					
Olives (Baetidae)	b		b		b		a		c					
Stoneflies	a		a		a		a		a					
Freshwater shrimp	a		a		b		a		a					
*estimated number is optional														
Total	7		8		9		8		11		0		0	

We have been able to train a number of volunteers to provide high quality data on the invertebrate communities within the river. Invertebrates are an excellent indicator of water quality and we have now have about 40 locations being sampled on a regular basis. In general the results are pretty good but there are a few locations that are causing concern. These areas are highlighted to SEPA. SEPA are partners in the river fly partnership projects and are expected to react and investigate any issues of water quality. We will be continuing this programme in 2013 and anyone who wishes to get further training should contact the office. An example of the data sheets used by the volunteers is above. The trigger level is a level set by SEPA, if the results fall below that level SEPA are informed.

RASSP

The River Annan Small Stream Passport was launched in 2012 and whilst there has been some take up so far it has been poor. We will need to give this project an extra push if we are going to make the most of it. Articles will be written in national magazines which will help. Experience for other similar projects in the UK have indicated that these fisheries do not become an overnight success so a bit of patience is required along with increased publicity about the opportunities.

Celtic Sea Trout Project

The Celtic Sea Trout project is due to report later in 2013. Staff from the Board have provided all the data that is needed but unfortunately scales from anglers have been very slow in coming forward. The Annan is not alone in this as many other rivers across the Solway have had similar problems. As soon as information is available it will be distributed widely.

Author - Chris Stones

Invasive Non-Native Species Project

The Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) project entered its third year in 2012 and work continued to control invasive plants and animals and to raise awareness of these species. INNS continue to be in the news with damage being caused to people's property by Japanese knotweed (Fallopia japonica) and the emergence of new INNS such as the killer shrimp (*Dikerogammarus villosus*). It has become clear that prevention is better than the cure and a greater emphasis needs to be put on biosecurity to prevent new INNS from becoming a problem. This is everyone's responsibility and the Check, Clean Dry campaign gives simple advice which if followed could be enormously helpful in the fight against INNS (https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/nonnativespecies/checkcleandry/index.cfm).

Himalayan Balsam Control

We had lost the use of the Criminal Justice Service (CJS) unpaid volunteers for 2012 with the end of the LEADER element of the project. Luckily enough we were able to find a number of volunteers as well as a group known as the Apex Trust to provide people for balsam control work. Control work initially focused on Mill Loch as a new area of balsam has appeared there over the last year or so. This work was carried out with the Dumfries & Galloway Countryside Ranger and a handful of volunteers from the local area. Accessibility was much better than along the river and all the visible balsam was removed. We will return in2013 and hopefully find much less balsam if any at all.

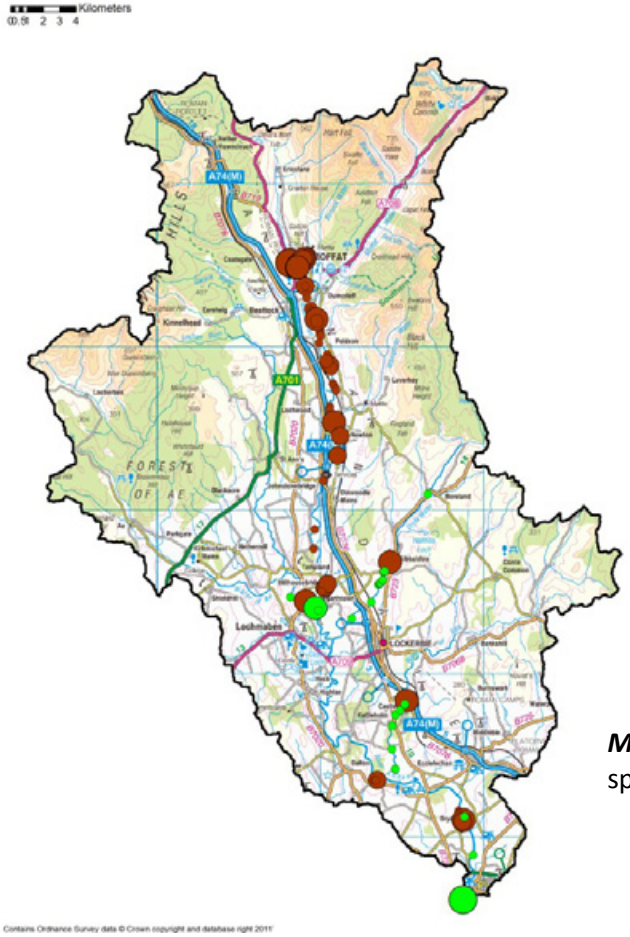
A volunteer day was organised in July to attack the areas that had been controlled by CJS in the previous 2 years. This past control had been fairly successful in reducing the amount of balsam in a 500 metre stretch of river upstream of Woodfoot Bridge. Only small areas of balsam within this stretch of river were found and most of it was cleared within a few hours. Unfortunately balsam is growing in some difficult to access places just upstream of this area and we will need to look at tackling this to prevent re-colonisation.

Towards the end of the balsam growing season we began to work with the Apex Trust, a charitable organisation that provides voluntary work based opportunities to ex-offenders and vulnerable adults. They worked in areas with easy access and particularly along fishing beats to remove balsam, improving access to the river as well as reducing the spread of the plant. In conjunction with this Apex have also worked on the 'improving access' project. Apex will continue to work on balsam control in 2013 and a new group from Annan called Kate's Kitchen have also expressed an interest in helping

Balsam control work will continue to target new infestations within the catchment to manage its extent and spread rather than focus on eradication. We are grateful to the volunteer groups that have given their time to help with this project, however despite a number of complaints from anglers about the balsam problem in 2011 and after posters were put up in most of the fishing huts and shelters asking for volunteers, rather disappointingly not one angler responded.

Japanese Knotweed Control

Japanese knotweed control began in late July in 2012 and unlike the slow progress of balsam we have quickly made our way down the catchment. The stem injection method has been very effective in reducing stands by more than 95% in the first year of treatment while allowing us to apply herbicide during the wet summers we have been experiencing. A small number of stands are showing no signs of re-growth while the rest are producing small canes or 'bonsai' growth. The best method for treating the re-growth is currently being debated by the river and fisheries trusts involved in similar projects. We have chosen to treat any re-growth that has been found rather than letting it grow and treating it when it is a larger size. The coming year will give us an idea how effective this has been but we will probably trial a few different methods for treating re-growth over the summer of 2013.



Treated knotweed

Un-treated knotweed

Map 1 – Japanese knotweed spread & control

Treating re-growth over the summer of 2012 was hampered by one of the wettest summers on record. The canes that re-grow are too thin and wispy to be injected and need to be sprayed to prevent them from breaking. This requires at least 6 hours of dry weather to allow the leaves time to fully absorb the herbicide. Fingers crossed for a bit more dry weather in 2013.

The Kirtle catchment was surveyed for invasive species in July with the help of a BTCV volunteer who was with us for one month. The length of the kirtle was walked and the location and size of any knotweed stands found were recorded (also included in the survey were Himalayan balsam and giant hogweed, but thankfully neither were found). The survey found 38 stands of knotweed totalling an approximate 700 M^2.

The project also provided funding for two Apex volunteers to be trained in the safe use of pesticides at Barony College. Once they had completed their qualification they assisted with the treating of Japanese knotweed. Towards the end of the summer a new 'large' stand was reported at Annan harbour by the Solway Partnership. Upon further investigation this 'large' stand was indeed large at an estimated 3000 M^2. This is far bigger than anything we have tackled so far. It has been added to the GIS database for consideration at a later date.

Fig 4: Typical Japanese knotweed growth in second and third season

Other knotweed species

Two more knotweed species have been discovered on the River Annan during the course of the control work. The first one to be discovered was lesser knotweed (*Persicaria campanulata*) which has been found on the Water of Ae and Cleuchhead. This plant is not considered to be as invasive as Japanese knotweed but still retains that familiar vigour of growth. Superficially it looks a little like Himalayan balsam and has a preference for similar growing conditions. Lesser knotweed has so far failed to dominate in the same way Japanese knotweed has, however invasive plants often have a 'lag period' before they begin to spread (often due to a change in environmental conditions). If we are to learn any lessons from the expensive control we are currently undertaking it is to surely remove potential invasive species before they become a problem.

Fig 5: **Lesser knotweed has recently been found in the catchment**

Towards the end of the 2012 growing season a stand of giant knotweed (Fallopia sachalinensis) was discovered at Brydekirk next to the road bridge. This species is closely related to Japanese knotweed but is far less wide spread in the UK. It can be distinguished from Japanese knotweed by its larger size growing up to 5 metres tall with leaves growing to around 40cm. Both hermaphrodite and female individuals are known to exist in the UK and this species is capable of hybridising with Japanese knotweed creating Fallopia x bohemica, a plant which is worryingly capable of producing seed (which Japanese knotweed is not). The stand of giant knotweed will be treated as a priority in 2013.

Fig 6: **Giant knotweed has recently been found in the catchment**

Giant Hogweed

In 2012 we discovered that the Annan was not free from giant hogweed as we had previously believed. A homeowner who lives next to the river contacted us as they believed they had the plant growing in their garden. This discovery was down to the efforts being made across the region to raise awareness of INNS and the projects being undertaken to control them. Once we confirmed this was indeed giant hogweed, the whole of the Water of Ae was surveyed but thankfully no more plants were found. The landowner has been attempting to control the plant in the past by removing the flower heads and it is possible that this has reduced its ability to spread.

Giant hogweed was treated using the stem injection unit and as the picture above shows it was successful in killing off the plants. It is thought that the seeds of giant hogweed can be viable in the seed bank for up to 15 years so we will have to wait and see what returns next year. Hopefully the seed bank has already been reduced by the land owner's efforts in previous years.

American Mink

Three mink were trapped on the main river just below the confluence with the Kinnel Water in early November, the first since February 2012. Reports of mink have increased but this has coincided with a growth in the number of people now aware of and contributing to the project. Prints on rafts have decreased over the last few years and we are trying to increase the presence of rafts on the river. This aim has become more achievable now we are able to build rafts for around £12 each. The monitoring of mink rafts continued through the summer where possible. The wet weather played havoc with this, washing off the clay, dumping rafts on banks and damaging tunnels. We have built more of the light weight, cheap rafts that Ayrshire had designed. These are ideal for volunteers and we now have 5 of these on the river at Hoddom (x2), Annan Water, Green Frog and Three Waters Meet. The rafts cost around £10 to construct and it is hoped that over the next year we can recruit more volunteers to check rafts allowing us to increase the areas being monitored. We will be taking the rafts to shows with the idea of encouraging local residents to check a mink raft for us.Another positive note was the discovery of a possible water vole latrine on the Annan Water just north of Moffat. This was found next to a mink raft which had previously trapped seven mink in one summer. The photo was sent to the county mammal recorder who agreed that it looked promising as an indicator to the presence of water voles. Traps have been loaned to land owners who are attempting to trap mink in the lower reaches of the catchment as we attempt to expand the area covered by the mink monitoring and trapping program.

Anyone who is interested in helping with mink monitoring should contact the invasive species project officer at invasives@annanfisheryboard.co.uk or on 01576 470600.

Author - Chris Stones

North American Signal Crayfish

Crayfish surveys were carried out in early spring in the burns closest to the crayfish barrier installed on the Clyde. None were found.

Trapping was carried out in areas that were deemed to be of a high risk to crayfish introduction. These were Mill Loch, Castle Loch and the Water of Ae (although trapping will start on the Ae next year). Baited traps were left for 48 hours a few hundred metres apart around both lochs. No crayfish were found and our eagerness to prevent crayfish from entering the lochs was shared by most of the anglers we encountered while putting out the traps. We will continue to survey these areas and may expand to other sites if resources allow.

Crayfish were confirmed in the Nith catchment in 2012 and this was reported in the local press. Another crayfish related story in the news reported on the plan to commercially harvest crayfish from Loch Ken as a way to compensate for the decline in anglers due to the huge numbers of crayfish in the loch having a detrimental affect on the fishing. If this went ahead (it is currently unlikely that SNH will grant a licence to commercially trap crayfish) then it would create a market place for crayfish and they would be quickly moved around by 'budding entrepreneurs' who feel they can make a quick buck but don't want to have to travel to Loch Ken every time to trap them.

Even without the added pressure of a commercial fishery the Annan is still in a vulnerable position and we will have to increase our efforts to ensure pathways for introduction have been identified and measures put in place to reduce the chance of crayfish being introduced. We will continue to get the message out there.

Biosecurity & Awareness

During 2012 the fishery board and trust took part in the Dumfries & Lockerbie Agricultural Show and the Galloway Country Fair to raise awareness of the work that we do. The Dumfries show went well until the afternoon when heavy rains flooded the marquee and brought an end to the day. Despite that we managed to engage with lots of people, hand out leaflets and talk to them about invasive species. It is clear that many people mix up the native common hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*) and the non-native giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) and the event was a good chance to display comparisons between the two preventing further confusion.

The Galloway Country Fair was a 2 day event which generated plenty of interest in the invasive species project amongst visitors. There was particular interest in the crayfish work and in particular the trapping and eating of crayfish as a way of helping to eradicate them. This was a popular misconception and one we are keen to dispel as trapping is illegal and is likely to make the situation much worse by encouraging the movement of crayfish. Events like this are not only useful for raising awareness but to gauge public opinion and perceptions on invasive non-native species.

In late summer we hosted the University of Glasgow (Dumfries campus) for half a day. They run an environmental stewardship course which has an invasive species element to it. They were interested to see how invasive species management was carried out, particularly on a catchment scale so I spent a few hours showing them what we do.

Fig 7: The Dumfries & Lockerbie show and the Dumfries & Galloway Country Fair

Electrofishing Report 2012

The contract juvenile salmonid electrofishing surveys carried out during 2012 included fully quantitative surveys for Harestanes and Robin Rigg windfarms and the Bearholm Wash sub-station and flood compensation scheme. The Robin Rigg site on the Dryfe which was devoid of fish last year and led to the initial investigation into the presence of cypermethrin showed densities of fish which were good in comparison to the historical data for the last few years.

The surveys for the Bearholm Wash flood alleviation scheme showed no immediate concerns. However, the channel diversion on the Bearholm Wash itself raised a couple of issues. Firstly, in May the lower section had dried up and disconnected from the original channel downstream. There had only been a few days of dry weather and this was not something previously known to occur in this watercourse. This may be a problem for any fish/invertebrates stranded in isolated pools as the channel dries out and also stops the feed of flowing water downstream. The new section of watercourse appears to be wider than the original channel which may be the cause or at least part of the cause of this issue. Also, at one of the survey sites there has been a change in habitat that is likely to have been an effect of the new channel. This site (downstream of the new section) now has a layer of silt substrate around half a metre thick. This silt has likely to have been deposited here as the flow upstream shapes the new channel and material from the newly-formed watercourse is transported downstream. Lamprey ammocoetes of the Lampetra genus were present in far greater numbers (>200) at this site than at any sites in 2010. This may be good news for juvenile lampreys but the silt has eliminated already sparse spawning gravels which would be utilised by adult lampreys and salmonids. These gravels also support the invertebrate community which is a major part of many fish diets. Discussions to resolve these issues are ongoing.

A section of disconnected channel on the Bearholm Wash

Fully quantitative surveys were also carried out on the Water of Milk at the specific request of SEPA as part of the Water Framework Directive. SEPA paid for the data from these surveys.

Annual minimum density surveys began earlier than usual in June on the Mein Water and Wamphray Water. The mild winter meant that egg hatching was also likely to be earlier so we felt it would be of interest to see how fry numbers were under these circumstances. The site on the Wamphray Water below the west coast mainline obstruction showed fry densities to be exceptional. This site normally produces high numbers of fry but on this occasion 650 salmon fry were captured during a single run survey. If this site had been undertaken as a 3 run survey it is likely that numbers would have exceeded 1000 fish per 100m2. This is far greater than anything found in the catchment since electrofishing began in 1997. The early nature of the survey means that some fry may well be lost to predation and competition for food and territory but it is generally accepted that initially high and variable salmonid mortality rates have already occurred by the first summer of life in streams and subsequent freshwater mortality rates are less variable. The intention at this point was to re-assess the site in August or September to discover just how high subsequent mortality rates would be, however, horrendous weather conditions made this impossible. Whatever the mortality rates it is obvious that the Wamphray Water has the potential to be a significant producer of fish if the mainline obstruction is altered to include a viable fish pass.

Annual monitoring was also carried out on the Annan Water, Kinnel Water, Kirtle Water and Moffat Water. There were reduced numbers of trout parr on the Kirtle below Winterhope Reservoir. This may be due to a large reduction in bankside vegetation cover caused by bank erosion. However, there were still sufficient numbers of fish to suggest that there are no major issues at this particular site. As has previously been documented, the main concerns on the Kirtle are further downstream where fish numbers are still poor. The Butcherbeck Burn near Annan also showed very few fish and invertebrate surveys suggested poor water quality. SEPA are of the opinion that low invertebrate diversity and fish numbers in a stream of this size are of little concern, however, we have sampled many similar watercourses which are much more productive and we feel a little more investigation is required.

During July we had the assistance of Conservation Volunteer (TCV) trainee Jude Hartley. Jude was of great help to all of the staff during her time with the Fisheries Board. She was helpful in allowing us to complete around 40 annual monitoring electrofishing surveys during the month despite some poor weather. Jude learned quickly how to be an efficient part of an electrofishing team and was also showed how to carry out juvenile salmonid habitat surveys. At the end of her placement she was sorry to leave and felt her time had been very well spent, having learned a great deal about fisheries science/management and invasive species control.

After entering the data from the 2012 surveys it is apparent that the flaws in the SFCC electrofishing database are now slowly but surely being eliminated. However, data entry still remains a little slower in comparison to the previous incarnation and will remain so due to the database design. The internal shambolic state of the Annan electrofishing data has now been resolved.

Lamprey surveys were completed for Robin Rigg windfarm. The numbers of lampreys found at a few of the sites were down substantially to that of previous years. Last year's surveys showed unusually poor results at Newbie timeshare beat and the Dukes Pool on Hoddam Estate. This year the results at Newbie were much improved but the site at Dukes pool was still poor despite the continuing presence of good lamprey habitat. The site on the Kirtle Water contained 3 juvenile sea lampreys (Petromyzon marinus), the first time they have been recorded here since these assessments began.

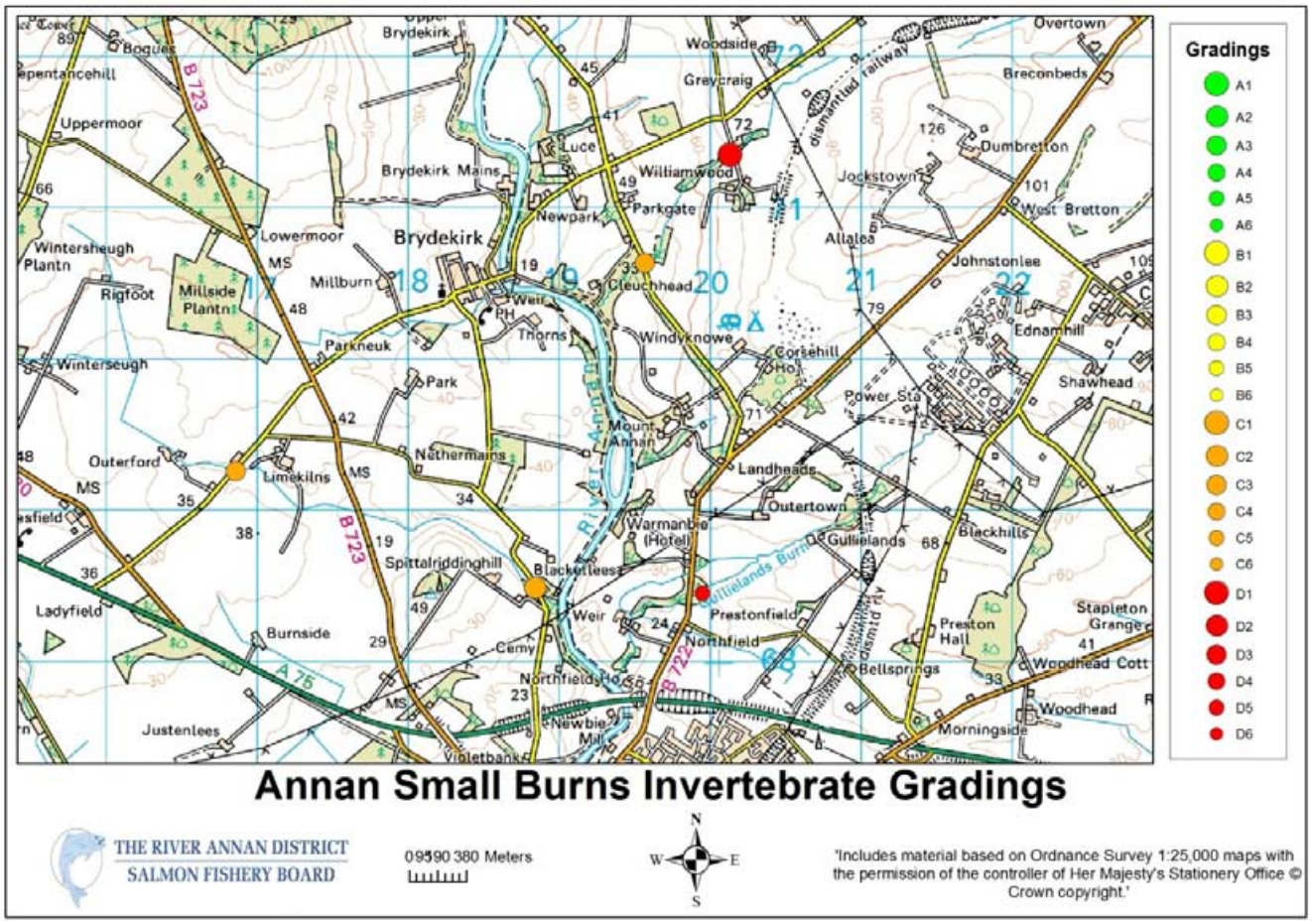
Invertebrate Surveys 2012

The Riverfly Partership monitoring course organised by Nick Chisholm proved to be a success with an oversubscription of volunteers attending the course. This training allowed volunteers to undertake invertebrate kick samples and add to the water quality sampling monitoring undertaken by SEPA and the Annan DSFB. These surveys have been pivotal in identifying/verifying various pollution incidents within the catchment over the last few years and the additional data provided should prove to be of value.

Since starting the Riverfly surveys a few years ago we have interpreted the data using a scoring technique devised by the Ayrshire Rivers Trust (ART2). We are now also using the method recommended by the Riverfly group and SEPA which is slightly different (SEPA have stated that the ART method does not identify toxic pollution). We shall continue to grade results using our previous system in addition to the new as we have a historical database which allows us to compare present surveys with those completed in the past.

Riverfly Surveys carried out by Annan DSFB staff identified a number of small burns above the town of Annan as being of poor water quality. This area will continue to be monitored Surveys were also carried out on the Water of Milk with varied results ranging from A to C gradings, which would translate into sites rating from good to poor. The surveys on the Milk also allowed Peter McDougall our work placement student from Moffat Academy the opportunity to take part and learn the procedure. Peter also became part of our electrofishing team for surveys carried out during June, an experience which he thoroughly enjoyed.

Invertebrate survey results suggesting poor water quality in small main stem burns above the town of Annan



Young Peter ***(a)*** carries out a kick sample on the Corrie Water and
(b) gauges water temperature without the aid of a thermometer

While undertaking the above surveys photographs were taken some of the riparian fencing projects which were completed 3-4 years ago as part of Sulwath Connections. It was pleasing to see that in the majority of cases there was a vast improvement in the riparian and bankside habitat in these areas which will be utilised by aquatic and terrestrial wildlife and improve the general morphology of the watercourse. Examples of the improvements are shown below.

Original and recent photos taken at fencing sites on *(a)* Water of Milk at Whitstonhills Farm and *(b)* Corrie Water at Wynholm Farm

All personnel were given the opportunity to increase their invertebrate knowledge by attending a course to take identification to family level for freshwater taxon. This course was funded by **Integrated Aquatic Resource Management** between Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland (IBIS), tutored by the Freshwater Biological Association (FBA) and held at SCENE in Loch Lomond. The standard of teaching from FBA staff was excellent which led to an enjoyable albeit extremely intensive three days. In spite of this high standard of teaching, attendance on the course was only a starting point towards being proficient at family level identification. Staff members will now have to practice their identification skills to become competent.

Volunteers collecting kick samples on the Birnock Water in Moffat & Identifying Freshwater Invertebrates course at SCENE

Bailiffs Report

The 2012 salmon run was unusual by Annan standards with good numbers of fish entering the river throughout July, during this month the river levels remained up at a good height and many of the lower beats caught fish. Further up the river most anglers were caught out by the early runs but when they did venture out onto the river the numbers of fish did not appear to be there. There were good runs of both salmon and sea trout seen going up the Milk during August and September, during September it was noticeable that many of these fish were quite heavily coloured and had therefore been in the river for a length of time. This run of fish through the Milk quickly became public knowledge and cameras were placed in key areas to help monitor them as well as regular bailiff patrols, although the cameras did not pick up any suspicious activity they did highlight how popular these areas are with anglers and members of the public as a high number of images were taken of people watching fish.

Similar good runs were witnessed by anglers and our bailiffs on the Kinnel during late August and into September, again mostly coloured summer salmon and grilse. On the upper river there was not such good runs reported or seen. However, at the Wamphray Water during the autumn there were good numbers of fish running the burn, many of which were relatively clean. These fish were seen below the weir at the railway bridge at certain heights of water and consisted mostly of grilse with some larger salmon amongst them. These fish were very quick to drop back into the main river during low flows and for a short period of time a large number of fish accumulated there and again we installed cameras in the area to monitor the pool as well as doing night patrols in the area. During higher water cameras were installed on the Wamphray Water, although as with other sites, the only images taken were of anglers watching the fish in the pools and shallower runs and members of the public with no suspicious activity recorded.

Over the last year we have established a network to provide information on poaching activity within the catchment, this information comes through a number of sources from within the area (other organisations, the police, water bailiffs, members of the public and anglers), this information is valuable to us to provide a true picture as to where poaching is of greatest concern. The information received is often very specific and is easily cross referenced with other information received and through other organisations. The advantage of this kind of intelligence gathering is that we are no longer relying on rumour, gossip or one person's opinion to base our bailiffing strategy on. Instead we now have an intelligence based system and from the information received we have now identified a number of areas within the catchment including the inner Solway, some of our coastal burns and areas on both the lower and upper river which require our attention. In total we will be running five operations this year covering these areas and acting on precise information as to how, where and when these areas are being targeted which allows us to target our resources in an attempt to disrupt and stop this sort of activity and eventually lead to a meaningful arrest. All of this information is shared with the local police as well as details of forthcoming operations and we have full police support on this.

On the back of this a meeting was arranged with pc Iain Leggett from Annan police station to discuss and organise some community work to raise awareness with local residents within a proximity to the river and hopefully as a result of this we can further increase our network. We have some leaflets provided by pc Paul Barr of the National Wildlife Crimes Unit to hand out, these leaflets highlight the fact that poaching is a crime taken seriously by the police and that the police are working closely with fishery boards and their bailiffs, contact details for the police and fishery board bailiffs will also be given out to improve lines of communication. The idea is to stress the importance of not only reporting poaching activity but also what could be considered suspicious

behavior or suspected poaching activity as well as explaining the financial effect poaching can have on local communities through potential income loss as a result of possible depleted fish stocks caused by the poaching of salmon and other freshwater fish (the poaching of salmon and other fish has now been formally classified as a wildlife crime). The police will also be assisting us on some low and high profile river walks over the coming year to demonstrate that the police are working closely with the Fishery Board and its bailiffs and that both parties are taking poaching offences very seriously. This will also be demonstrated through local media with a joint press release from both the Annan Fishery Board and the police.

Over the course of the season night patrols on the river have continued, combined with the use of cameras covering certain pools and areas for access. Other than some interesting wild life pictures, no suspicious activity was recorded on any of the cameras. These night patrols on the river will continue throughout next year as a means of monitoring and disrupting poaching activity.

There was a very small number of anglers stopped last year for fishing without written permission and although the numbers of these appear to be minimal it is still unacceptable for this to happen and we will continue our day time patrols to keep on top of this as well as continuing to respond to calls from anglers and fishery owners regarding this issue.

As with last season the catch and release effort by anglers on the Annan has been just above 50% with some beats on the river showing an improvement on the numbers of fish they have returned. Last year there were some reports of anglers taking coloured fish although these incidents were rare, information on the identity of these anglers has been passed on to us and this season these anglers will be monitored as and when they are found on the river.

Last year's spring legislation appeared to go very well with no reports of anglers taking fish. In total 32 spring salmon were caught on the Annan with very little angling pressure and many of those were caught during the early months of the season. Following on from last year we will be discreetly monitoring the lower and middle river during the period of the legislation and we hope that anglers will again enjoy their fishing and continue to practise catch and release during this period.

The River Annan and District Salmon Fishery Board

Financial Statements

31 December 2012

Armstrong Watson
Chartered Accountants
51 Rae Street
Dumfries
Dumfriesshire
DG1 1JD

THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE, ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

CONTENTS	PAGE

THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE, ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

PROPRIETORS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Principal address	c/o Ms M Colville Clerk of the Board Fisheries Board Office Annandale Estates St Anns Lockerbie DG11 1HQ
Accountants	Armstrong Watson Chartered Accountants 51 Rae Street Dumfries Dumfriesshire DG1 1JD
Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc 47 High Street Lockerbie Dumfriesshire DG11 2JH

THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE, ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO FISHERY BOARD

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

In accordance with our terms of engagement, we have prepared for your approval the financial information of The River Annan and District Salmon Fishery Board for the year ended 31 December 2012 which comprises of Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and the related notes from the entity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at www.icaew.com/regulations.

This report is made solely to you, in accordance with our terms of engagement. Our work has been undertaken in accordance with the guidance of ICAEW as detailed at www.icaew.com/compilation. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the proprietor of the business for our work or for this report.

You have acknowledged your responsibility for the financial information, for the appropriateness of the financial reporting framework adopted and for providing all information and explanations necessary for its compilation.

We have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial information.

DEPRECIATION
Provision for depreciation is made on a reducing balance basis so as to reduce the book value of the asset to it's scrap value at the end of the assets estimated useful life.

V.A.T.
Not being registered for V.A.T. purposes, all expenditure is inclusive of V.A.T. charged.

51 Rae Street
Dumfries
Dumfriesshire
DG1 1JD
25 March 2013

ARMSTRONG WATSON
Chartered Accountants

THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE, ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

	2012		2011
	£	£	£
TURNOVER			
Assessments		**68,983**	70,069
Donations and Voluntary Contributions		**66**	5,903
Fish scotland		**3,572**	4,028
Sulwath project		**-**	540
INNS project		**26,572**	36,433
Investment and Bank Interest		**1,783**	2,123
Crayfish barrier project		**-**	50,000
Commercial Activities		**25,260**	19,408
		126,236	188,504
EXPENDITURE			
EXPENSES			
Crayfish barrier project	**-**		41,613
Celtic sea trout project	**5,001**		5,000
INNS project	**227**		3,352
RASSP project	**20**		112
Salmon cycle project	**-**		2,602
Citizen science project	**42**		-
Wages	**101,941**		93,610
Protective clothing	**566**		219
Annandale Estate Office Rent	**3,000**		2,973
Light and heat	**1,749**		1,227
Insurance	**1,946**		2,288
Motor expenses	**16,540**		14,303
Travel and other Meetings Courses	**204**		160
Staff training	**3,209**		2,603
Land line, mobile & internet charges	**2,276**		2,700
Equipment repairs and renewals	**1,415**		1,418
Printing, stationery and postage	**3,907**		3,716
Sundry expenses	**50**		632
Association Subscription	**2,313**		2,483
Donations	**-**		35
Scottish Fisheries Organisation	**1,260**		1,260
Advertising	**1,067**		2,266
Accountancy fees	**1,056**		1,008
Depreciation	**5,565**		6,002
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**1,616**		-
Bad debts written off	**1,050**		-
Bank charges	**256**		236
		156,276	191,818
Carried forward		**(30,040)**	(3,314)

THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE, ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT *(continued)*

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

	2012 £	2011 £
Brought forward	**(30,040)**	(3,314)
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME	**(30,040)**	(3,314)

THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE, ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

BALANCE SHEET

31 DECEMBER 2012

	Note	2012 £	£	2011 £
FIXED ASSETS	**2**		**22,291**	24,472
CURRENT ASSETS				
Trade debtors		**3,956**		5,093
Rowan Dartington Portfolio		**45,331**		50,331
National Savings Bank		**526**		9,526
Royal Bank of Scotland Bus High Int A/c		**59**		9,475
Prepayments		**1,227**		1,227
Cash at bank		**7,926**		6,272
Cash in hand		**59**		41
		59,084		81,965
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Payments received on account		**–**		3
Trade creditors		**3,593**		1,673
Loan - R.A.F.I.A.		**3,062**		–
		6,655		1,676
NET CURRENT ASSETS			**52,429**	80,289
NET ASSETS			**74,720**	104,761
FINANCED BY:				
Capital account	**3**		**74,720**	104,761

PROPRIETOR'S APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

I approve these financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012 set out on pages 3 to 6 and confirm that I have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation and give my authority for them to be submitted to HM Revenue and Customs.

.....
For and on behalf of Fishery Board

25 March 2013

THE RIVER ANNAN AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

C/O MS M COLVILLE, CLERK OF THE BOARD, FISHERIES BOARD OFFICE, ANNANDALE ESTATES, ST ANNS, LOCKERBIE, DG11 1HQ

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

1. WAGES

Baliff	14,392
Clerk	4,649
Director of Fisheries	23,596
Biologist	16,283
Invasives Officer	15,729
TAX/NIC	27,292
	£101,941

2. FIXED ASSETS

	Brought forward 1 Jan 12 £	Additions £	Disposals £	Dep'n for the year £	Carried forward 31 Dec 12 £
Equipment	11,454	–	–	(1,699)	9,755
Hatchery shed	1,224	–	–	(72)	1,152
Motor vehicles	11,794	7,488	(4,104)	(3,794)	11,384
	24,472	7,488	(4,104)	(5,565)	22,291

3. PROPRIETOR'S CAPITAL ACCOUNT

	2012 £	2011 £
Opening balance	104,760	108,075
Net loss for the year	(30,040)	(3,314)
Carried forward at 31 Dec 12	74,720	104,761

4. INNS PROJECT

The INNS income is grant funding towards the cost of the Invasives Officer.

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THE RIVER ANNAN DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD

River Annan Trust

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