

# SFCC / RAFTS Annual Biologists' Meeting & SFCC AGM



Marine Scotland Freshwater Laboratory, Pitlochry



## Day 1: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2014

10:30 *Welcome & general introduction from the SFCC Chairman* **James Hunt**

### SESSION 1: UPDATES

10:35 **SFCC, RAFTS and Marine Scotland Science**  
*Updates from the three organisations with opportunities for questions & discussion*

11:20 **Satellite tracking of salmon on the Scottish coast** **Dr Jason Godfrey**  
*A report on 2013 field study of salmon behaviour in relation to marine renewable energy development on the North coast*

11:40 **The Loughs Agency and its role in freshwater fisheries monitoring** **Art Niven**  
*Current priorities & on-going monitoring efforts*

12:00 **Brief updates from: Galloway Fisheries Trust** **Jamie Ribbens**

12:10 **Esk Rivers & Fisheries Trust** **Dr Marshall Halliday**

12:20 **SEPA Classification Workshop News** **Anthony Watkins**

12:30 **LUNCH**

13:30 **SFCC Annual General Meeting**  
*Please see separate agenda*

14:45 **COFFEE**

### SESSION 2: Data, Evidence and Communication

Chair: Simon McKelvey

15:15 **Communication with Stakeholders** **Brian Shaw**  
*Experience from The Spey Foundation*

15:30 **"There are no salmon in The River Lossie!!"** **Robert Laughton**  
*Angling catches may be poor, but do smolts and juveniles offer hope for the future?*

15:45 **Digital habitat surveying on The River Dee Catchment** **Pamela Esson**  
*A new approach to catchment habitat surveying on The River Dee.*

16:00 **Re-meandering lowland streams: Is it worthwhile?** **Dr David Summers**

16:10 **Discussion:** In the context of the review of fisheries management: How can local biologists evidence and communicate their work?

16:20 **CLOSE**

19:00 **DINNER**

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## Day 2: Thursday 30th January 2014

10:00 Welcome & general introduction James Hunt

### SESSION 3: Updates from the IBIS Project

Chair: Dr Jennifer Dodd

10:05 Introduction to the IBIS project Dr Jennifer Dodd

10:20 In-stream barriers: Matt Newton  
*The effect on riverine migration of Atlantic salmon*

10:40 Partial migration in trout and their population structure Jessica Fordyce

11:00 Ecology of the freshwater pearl mussel Elizabeth Clements

11:20 Population ecology of the European eel James Barry

11:40 COFFEE

### SESSION 4: Species without an adipose fin: Managing our changing river environment

12:00 Developing sampling tools for lamprey population assessment Dr Colin Bull  
*Habitat mapping, ground-truthing and larval drift patterns*

12:15 Beaver-trout interactions: Tagging results from a Tayside stream Sean Dugan  
*Beaver Salmonid Working Group/ Marine Scotland Science*

12:30 Bullhead invasion on the Annan: Friend or foe? Nick Chisholm

Discussion: How to improve understanding of other species in the context of salmonids?

12:45 LUNCH

### SESSION 5 : Assessing sea trout populations for the purpose of fisheries management

Chair: Peter Cunningham

13:15 Introduction and Sea trout assessment in Wester Ross Peter Cunningham

13:30 Monitoring of Scottish sea trout populations - past and present, Andy Walker

13:45 Orkney's sea trout Malcolm Thomson  
*(By video link)*

14:00 Isotopic analysis: distinguish the origin of trout fry Kenny Galt

Sea trout sampling methodologies in the Baltic region Dr Ronald Campbell

14:15 Update from the Celtic Sea Trout Project Jim Henderson

14:30 Moray Firth Sea trout population Marcus Walters  
*A presentation from The Moray Firth Trout Initiative*

Discussion – A national strategy for sea trout assessment in Scotland

15:10 SUMMARY AND CLOSE