

23rd ANNUAL BIOLOGISTS' MEETING –Feb 3rd & 4th



DAY 1, February 3rd

- 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 4th

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 Changes in Tweed salmon & how scale-reading helps understand them
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**