



## Conservation Code for 2018 Season

### Teith

The Forth District Salmon Fishery Board, in consultation with the River Forth Fisheries Trust, are issuing the following conservation guidelines for the forthcoming season. It is expected that all anglers will follow these in order to protect and conserve stocks of migratory fish.

These Conservation Codes supplement Regulations issued by the Scottish Government and referred to in the Conservation Limit (CL) setting evaluation below. Under the Conservation of Salmon (Annual Close Time and Catch and Release) (Scotland) Regulations 2014 **no fish to be retained before 1<sup>st</sup> April**. Under the Conservation of Salmon (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2017, the Teith has been given an assessment category of **1**

Category	Probability of Meeting CL	Effectively CL Met in:	Advice
1	At least 80%	4 out of 5 years	Exploitation is sustainable therefore no additional management action is currently required. This recognises the effectiveness of existing non-statutory local management interventions.

The Board is aiming to achieve 100% catch and release of spring salmon and sea trout across the District. For the latter part of the season the Board is promoting restraint and anglers are advised that the following guidelines outline the maximum number and type of fish that should be taken. It is hoped that many anglers will be satisfied with taking fewer fish than these guidelines permit:

#### Salmon:

No retention of salmon greater than 28" (70cm)

1<sup>st</sup> Feb – 31<sup>st</sup> May - All salmon and grilse should be returned.

1<sup>st</sup> June – 31<sup>st</sup> Oct: No angler should kill more than one salmon or grilse in any given day

No angler should kill more than a maximum of three salmon or grilse.

No hen salmon or hen grilse caught in September or October should be retained.

If anglers feel they must take sea trout the following guidelines should apply:

#### Sea trout

No retention of sea trout greater than 20" (50cm)

No retention of sea trout smaller than 14" (35cm)

1<sup>st</sup> Feb – 31<sup>st</sup> May - All sea trout should be returned.

1<sup>st</sup> June – 31<sup>st</sup> Oct: No angler should kill more than one sea trout in any given day

No angler should kill more than a maximum of three sea trout.

No hen sea trout caught in September or October should be retained.

**Rates of catch & release:** The Board has set an aim of 85% catch & release for salmon or grilse and 75% for sea trout for 2018. This will be reviewed annually and used to inform Conservation Codes for following years.

**Baits & lures:** Before 1<sup>st</sup> June: Barbless hooks to be used.

Between 1<sup>st</sup> February and 31<sup>st</sup> May and between 27<sup>th</sup> August and 31<sup>st</sup> October: No organic baits to be used.