

Fisheries enforcement



Between April 2016 and March 2017, our Enforcement Team have carried out a total of 10178 rod licence checks, which has resulted in 406 prosecutions for various types of illegal fishing.

Enforcement staff led an operation that involved six officers from Nottinghamshire Police Rural Crime Team and seven from the Angling Trust and local fishing clubs.

The operation involved patrols in road vehicles and the team's boat, and concentrated on high evasion areas of the River Trent and various still waters between Nottingham and Newark.

167 licence checks were made on the day, reassuring legal anglers and acting as a visible deterrent to those who may choose to fish illegally. The response from the public and anglers alike was brilliant.

Salmon return to the Trent



One of many Salmon that fisheries staff saw attempting to pass Cromwell Weir near Newark, autumn 2016. Once rainfall increased river levels the fish could progress upstream, and Salmon were seen as far as Belper on the Derwent.

EA Fisheries improvement programme – Habitat projects



The Agency has a pot of money, from rod licence income, which we can bid into each year to deliver projects that improve fish habitat. These projects range from low value works on a club stretch of river or Stillwater through to the bigger more complex river restoration or fish passage projects.

Last year the fisheries team completed a number of projects throughout the area, which aimed to improve fish stocks in both rivers and stillwaters. These included the River Trent at Holme Sluices, River Torne, Butterley Reservoir, River Wreake, River Derwent, River Leen, River Wye and Dover Beck.

Interested? Talk to us after the meeting or contact your local fisheries officer (details in the newsletter, copies on the table)

Fisheries improvement programme

River Torne



Working with the EA Field Team we planted trees alongside the River Torne. A total of 480 trees, Oak, Alder, Black Poplar and Hornbeam have been split between three sites, Candy Farm, Tunnel Pits and Torne Gatehouse. Once established this will provide much needed shading and areas of refuge for the resident fish populations.

Fisheries improvement programme

River Derwent, Darley Dale



- 340 metres of fencing was installed to reduce overgrazing of the river bank. The banks had become so overgrazed that anglers could no longer safely access the watercourse. The buffer strip of long grass will trap fine sediment and pollutants, provide habitat and refuge for terrestrial mammals and invertebrates and overhanging cover for fish. The project was carried out in partnership with a local landowner and Darley Dale Fly Fishing club

Fisheries improvement programme

Butterley Reservoir



This project, working with Ripley and District Angling Club, installed floating reedbeds to boost and protect fish stocks. The fund provided 10 reedbed units and the club purchased 5 more. Individual reedbeds were joined together to create a larger area for fish protection. The cages on top to reduce bird grazing on vegetation and cages underneath provide refuge from predators. This project improves the survival rates of fry and small fish in the reservoir and reduces the need for stocking in the future. The club has also installed marginal refuge areas and improved angling pegs and paths.

Fisheries improvement programme

River Leen



Brown trout caught during pre-habitat enhancement fisheries survey.

Fisheries staff worked with Nottinghamshire County Council to improve the habitat for fish along the River Leen at Bestwood. Hazel bundles were used to stabilise the river bank, reposition the bank to ensure flows keep the gravels clean and to help marginal plants establish. Some trees were coppiced to increase the light over the water to encourage aquatic plants to grow and coarse woody debris was introduced to provide habitat for fish and invertebrates. Improving waters at the head of catchments ensures that fish can spawn, grow and move downstream to populate the main rivers where anglers fish.

Improving fish passage



Averham

We are developing a project to open up the lower Trent for fish. The idea is to create a partnership to build fish passes on all the weirs to Sawley. This will not be achieved quickly or cheaply and we keep you all informed as plans develop.



Hazleford

Improving fish passage



Holme Sluices, Colwick Park.

We are working on designs for an all-species fish pass around the Environment Agency owned sluices at Colwick, Nottingham. This sits within our larger ambition of enabling passage past all Trent weirs from Cromwell to Sawley. This will benefit all coarse fish, Eels, as well as Lamprey and Salmon

Offline Fish Refuge

- Offline Habitat/ Habitat Diversity
- Spawning Habitat
- Refuge (fry, flood refuge for adults)
- Increase in Biodiversity Value
- Angling Opportunity



Offline Fish Refuge

- 23 species of fish recorded using R. Trent fry refuges either during larval stage or as fry.
- Many species using it as spawning areas
- 0+ rheophilic species use them as nursery areas (including chub, dace and barbel).
- Provide substantial habitat for aquatic macrophytes, zooplankton and in turn larger animals.



Offline Fish Refuge

