

Functions of fishery management at a local level

Protect stocks

- Manage and control legal exploitation (rods and nets). Ensure compliance with legislative constraints on exploitation including national or local conservation measures and the weekly and annual close time.
- Address illegal exploitation – e.g. poaching or fishing without right or permission.
- Employment, management and development of water bailiffs
- Local input into National conservation measures (harvestable surplus calculated by Scottish Government)
- In consultation with National Unit and national guidelines, local management of conservation measures, including the applicable period and further constraints within which sustainable killing can take place (e.g. limits on size or sex of fish which can be killed - in line with current voluntary conservation measures controls on allowable baits and lures for fishing)
- Regular engagement with local stakeholders around local management issues.

Manage relevant species and habitats

- Ensure access to habitat through removal of man-made barriers to migration. Mitigate such barriers if removal is not possible (e.g. fish passes)
- Control Invasive Non-Native species
- Control predators where possible/desirable
- Undertake habitat improvement work (in-stream or riparian work)
- Ensure adequate flow regime for fish in areas impacted by impoundments

Research & Monitoring

- Undertake a range of research and monitoring of stocks in line with and in support of a national data and research strategy
- Obtain information from proprietors (either via Scottish Ministers or on the authorisation of Scottish Ministers) – e.g. fish catches, counter data etc.

Consultations and planning (developmental control)

- Ability to advise National Unit on e.g. changes to annual/weekly close times/estuary limits orders/planning application concerns
- Respond to all relevant developments with the potential to impact fish and fisheries
- Note: DSFBs are currently statutory consultees for fish farming

Fisheries Development & Angling Promotion

- Support the aspiration towards sustainable access to fisheries
- Support the development of new fishing opportunities
- Support all methods of legitimate fishing, including the development of angling (angling clubs and encouraging new participants)
- Promote sustainable angling tourism

Education

- Contribute to a range of education initiatives such as 'salmon in the classroom' and wider understanding of the river environment.