



Website; www.cromarty.dsfb.org.uk

Director's Report April 2014

General

Bailiffs attended a conflict resolution training day run by the Police in Inverness. This will refresh and enhance their skills in dealing with poaching incidents.

The Wild Fisheries Review process is ongoing. There are a series of round table meetings being held at venues around Scotland. There are further opportunities to input to the process including by giving written evidence (see link below).

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/wildfisheriesreview>.

Projects / research

April has been a very busy month with unfed fry planting and running two smolt trapping and tagging projects.

Bailiffs completed unfed fry planting by the end of April helped by excellent low water conditions for planting.

A Rotary Screw Trap was installed upstream of Loch Meig thanks to the use of a Loch Achonachie Angling Club boat. The trap is being used to catch and PIT tag 1,000 downstream migrating smolts. This will be completed in May and allow a direct comparison of the survival of Meig smolts with those leaving the Bran. Using an automatic PIT tag decoder in Meig Dam we are hoping to collect new data on smolt survival and passage through Loch Meig.

The Bran smolt trap at Achanalt was opened at the start of April. By the end of the month 4,700 smolts had been trapped, transported by road and released below Tor Achilty Dam. A thousand of these smolts were tagged with electronic PIT tags as part of our long term smolt research programme with Marine Scotland Science.

Tree planting work with The Conservation Volunteers continued in April along the banks of Strath Rannoch.

Meetings attended / consultations

IFM Scottish Branch Meeting
West Sutherland Fishery Trust Presentation
Wild Fishery Review Meeting
Bailiffs Conflict Resolution Training
Hatchery Open day
Alness AA meeting
Scottish Mink Initiative Meeting