

Mission Statement

"To preserve a valuable part of our natural heritage for the enjoyment of current and future generations, through the conservation, enhancement and development of our freshwater habitats and the fisheries they support."

Trustees

Chairman Peter Kennedy	William Stafford	Vice Chairman Peter Galloway	
Fiona Ross	Sir Patrick Hunter Blair	Geoff Lockett	
Alex Anderson	Robin Wilson	Stuart Lang	

The Trust owes a huge debt of gratitude to George Steel who sadly died after a short illness in January 2012. He became our first Treasurer and later a Trustee and, although his interests did not include fishing, he became a dedicated supporter of the Trust. Few people could have had a chat with George without being persuaded to become a member of the Trust. In his good humoured way he kept an eagle eye on expenditure. A visit to his home would invariably result in an excellent cup of tea and cakes produced by his wife Margaret. We all miss him and we send our condolences to his family, especially Margaret.

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Main Cover Photo: Wellwood area of River Ayr

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Chairman's Introduction

Although this is the 11th Annual Report, it actually covers the two years to 31st January 2013. We had intended to send out a report last year, but, as it became delayed, we decided to produce one covering two years. The last two years have been ones of change in both the work that we do and also in personnel.

Our work has seen a large amount of time devoted to the eradication of invasive non-native weeds. The main project is funded by the EU to the tune of £347,000 over four years, involving the employment of contractors. Our other eradication project is in the Girvan and Stinchar valleys funded by LEADER and local entities. We were also busy reintroducing the endangered water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*). We have, of course, continued our core work of monitoring the state of our rivers with electro-fishing and monitoring water quality. We have also overseen river barrier improvements to allow freer passage to migratory fish - work which is likely to continue. I expect an increase in more fish related work will transpire in future years.

The major staff change was the departure of Brian Shaw to the Spey Foundation at the end of 2011. Brian worked tirelessly for the Trust taking it to new levels in the seven years he was with us, expanding the remit of our work. We owe him a huge debt of gratitude, but as the saying goes "you can't keep a good man down". We wish him and his wife Aleta well on their return to his native land. We also said a sad goodbye early in 2012 to Janette Galbraith. She worked with efficiency and devotion in the administration of the Trust in the six years she was with us. Stuart Brabbs was promoted to Trust Manager and Gillian McIntyre was promoted to Biologist and Project Manager. In April 2012, Meryl Norris joined us to deliver the Carrick Invasive Species Project in the South of Ayrshire. In May 2012 Gordon Macdermid joined as seasonal Project Officer for the EU CIRB Invasives Project and combined that role with Trust Administrator. Helen Downie was recruited to assist with the water vole project in 2012 and has proved a most useful staff member, now fulfilling a variety of roles.

George Steel joined ART as Treasurer in the early days, later becoming a Trustee, and it is with great sadness that I have to report he died after a short illness in January 2012. We include an Obituary on page 2. Jim Stevens, one of our founding Trustees, retired in January 2012 due to increasing other commitments. Not only was he Vice Chairman but he was also dedicated to the Trust and did an enormous amount in his quiet dedicated way. Robert Dalrymple, another founding Trustee stepped down in 2011. His dedication to the Trust was exemplary, not least in his willingness to travel to meetings from the depths of South Ayrshire. Tom Lothian who also served the Trust with dedication retired as a Trustee early this year to look after his wife. In order to fill these vacancies William Stafford, Sir Patrick Hunter-Blair and Fiona Ross were appointed Trustees in late 2011, Peter Galloway joined in 2012 and Stuart Lang earlier this year. They all bring a wide array of talents and experience to the Trust, and have already shown that they will take Trust forward with confidence.

I was the motivator in the formation of the Trust in 2000, and its success in the following years has been of great personal pride to me. However, none of the achievements of the Trust would have been possible without the enthusiasm and dedication of Trustees and Staff they appointed. I feel incredibly lucky to have such an excellent team, but have decided it is time for me to take a back seat. To that end, I shall shortly be handing over Chairman to William Stafford in the knowledge that leaving the Trust it will be taken forward by an excellent team.

Manager's Report

2011 and 2012 were busy years for the Trust and we forged ahead delivering several major projects during this period over and above our regular fish monitoring activities. Poor weather throughout the late summer and autumn of 2011 and most of 2012 hampered our work, but these are the challenges we face. With all Ayrshire rivers experiencing regular spate conditions from July onwards in 2012, our annual monitoring programmes suffered delay after delay and it wasn't until October that we completed some surveys. Angling conditions were challenging, and despite reports of poor catches on the rivers, the final tally for most was encouraging given the unfavourable conditions. I suppose it has been a good year for fish on the whole with salmon ascending the rivers to the upper reaches earlier than normal. Hopefully this will translate into increased juvenile recruitment and survival.

Our INTERREG IVA funded project CIRB (Controlling Invasive Non Native Riparian Plants and Restoring Native Biodiversity) commenced widespread control across Ayrshire in 2011. 140 man days were allocated for controlling giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*, GHW) and 54 man days for Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*, JK), all delivered to a high standard by contractors. Volunteers from angling clubs and communities also received training to enable them to take control once the project ends in 2014 and more are expected to come forward in 2013. We are confident that the enthusiasm shown by all those involved will bring great results.

The Carrick Invasive Species Project (CISP), commenced in April 2012 focussing on controlling non-native plant and animal species in the Girvan and Stinchar catchments. Again, this project relies on volunteer support to deliver its aims and training is provided as required.

Working closely with the River Doon DSFB, ART has tackled Japanese knotweed for three years across the catchment and this strategy appears to have been highly successful with little regrowth evident. If required, further work will be included in the CIRB project as will continued effort to prevent Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*, HB) becoming widely established on the river.

The 'Save the Doon Campaign' came to a conclusion in 2011 with Scottish Power abandoning their plans for increased abstraction for hydro purposes. ART provided advice throughout the consultation process to 'Save the Doon' to ensure that the ecology of the river was protected. Elsewhere in Ayrshire, ART provide advice and comment on many other hydro and wind farm developments within the river catchments.

Easing barriers to fish migration continues to be an area where we are active. The Girvan Dykes were first identified as a significant barrier to upstream passage over 100 years ago but in 2011 ART's contractors installed fish passes in both weirs. Instantly fish were observed using the passes and reports indicate that the build-up of fish that normally occurred downstream of the weirs didn't happen in 2011/12. On the Kilmarnock Water, contractors were engaged to install 2 weirs with fish passes below the modified Black Rocks Waterfall, increasing the pool depth. Unfortunately, poor weather in 2011 hampered construction and this was eventually postponed until 2012. Soon after the weirs were completed, salmon and sea trout were observed leaping the falls. We will be monitoring the recovery of fish stocks on this river in the coming years. Hopefully next year we will be able to report that Dean Ford has been replaced with a bridge.

Water vole conservation has been a focus of ART's attention for some time and in July 2011 we reintroduced captive bred voles to two locations. This was the first lowland attempt at reintroduction in Scotland and it will be interesting to monitor how successful this is as the animals establish themselves in the coming years.

Volunteers are becoming increasingly important to the Trust as they allow us to deliver work that we would otherwise be unable to tackle. Of course this works both ways, and volunteers gain valuable work experience that stands them in good stead to secure future employment. We were fortunate to secure two Catalan interns, Alba Bonas Piella and Natalia Pérez-Ruiz, through the Leonardo da Vinci Programme (funded by -EUROACCIÓ VI program), who assisted with delivering valuable research into water chemistry and invasive weeds in 2012. Many others helped too with different tasks and we are grateful for all their hard work.

As with any organisation, there are staff changes from time to time. ART's long serving senior biologist, Brian Shaw, left the Trust at the end of 2011. I thoroughly enjoyed working with Brian over the years and learned a great deal from him, and I'm sure we will continue to discuss issues that arise both in Ayrshire and on the Spey for years to come. Janette Galbraith, ART's administrator for the last 6 years, also left the Trust in May 2012. We wish both Brian and Janette well for the future.

Meryl Norris and Gordon Macdermid joined the Trust as project officers for our invasive species projects and Gordon has since also taken on the role of administrator. Helen Downie came to the Trust in 2012 as a volunteer and is still with us working as an assistant to the biologists, which demonstrates that volunteering works.

Finally, it will come as no surprise to readers to hear that the Trust has faced financial challenges during the recession that still blights the country. Trust staff are constantly searching for opportunities that meet our remit and, although fisheries funding is reduced, there is an increasing move towards integrated catchment management and by tapping into new areas of interest we expect to deliver substantial benefits to our rivers and fisheries in the years ahead.



Stuart Brabbs. May 2013

Staff Profiles

Stuart Brabbs. Trust Manager & Senior Scientific Officer

Email: stuart@ayrshireriverstrust.org



Stuart Brabbs was born and bred in Ayrshire and lives in Mauchline with his 12 year old daughter. Formerly running a local contracting business in Ayrshire for 14 years, he changed career path completely at the age of 40 returning to full time education. 4 years later he graduated with a BSc (Hons.) in Sustainable Environmental Management awarded by Edinburgh University during which time he focused on soil science, catchment management, ecology and diffuse pollution. Stuart joined the Trust as a full time member of staff in 2008 and took over the senior role in 2012. Stuart is a lifelong salmon angler but is increasingly found on remote Highland lochs in search of ferox trout.

Gillian McIntyre. Biologist & Project Manager

Email: gillian@ayrshireriverstrust.org



Gillian McIntyre was born and bred in Coylton and has recently bought a house in the village of Tarbolton. In 2009 she graduated from Edinburgh Napier University with a BSc (Hons.) in Marine and Freshwater Biology. Gillian started with the Trust in June 2009, originally with a summer contract, which was then extended to a permanent post. Throughout her time at the Trust her role and responsibilities have increased, but Gillian loves nothing more than a challenge. Gillian is the project manager for both the CIRB and CISP invasive projects and is involved in all aspects of the Trust's work. Outside of work, she enjoys exploring the great outdoors with her two dogs

and enjoys other hobbies including swimming and playing squash.

Gordon Macdermid. CIRB Invasives Project Officer/Administrator

Email: gordon@ayrshireriverstrust.org



Gordon Macdermid lives in Mauchline where he has lived for most of his life. Growing up on the River Ayr, he has a passion for salmon angling and all things river related. With this passion running through his veins, a background in outdoor leisure management and student finance, Gordon decided to pursue a career in fisheries management and is currently studying modules through the Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM) that will lead to a diploma. Gordon joined the Trust in May 2012 as the CIRB Invasives Project Officer. Gordon is involved in most aspects of the Trust's work and has also taken over the role of administrator.

Meryl Norris. Carrick Invasives Project Officer

Email: meryl@ayrshireriverstrust.org



Meryl was born and bred in County Donegal in Ireland. She moved to Scotland in 2006 to attend Stirling University where she studied for a BSc (Hons.) in Marine Biology. Her interest in invasive species began in her final year at university where her final research project focused on invasive non-native species and their impact on biodiversity. She graduated from Stirling in June 2010 and commenced a one year invasive species apprenticeship with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers Natural Talent Apprenticeship scheme. This apprenticeship was hosted by the Cromarty Firth Fisheries Trust (CFFT) and focused on invasive species management in the freshwater/riparian environment. Meryl remained with CFFT following her apprenticeship running

their invasive species and biosecurity projects. In April 2012 she took up the post of Carrick Invasive Species project officer with Ayrshire Rivers Trust. She now lives in the Carrick region and enjoys being out and about in the Girvan and Stinchar catchments as much as possible.

Helen Downie. Assistant to the biologist

Email: helen@ayrshireriverstrust.org



Helen Downie was born and raised in Ayr, though now stays in Prestwick. Initially volunteering for the Trust in spring 2012, she took up the post of assistant to the biologist upon completion of her BSc (Hons.) degree in Animal Behaviour and Welfare at the University of Chester in June 2012. Helen focussed on wildlife conservation throughout her degree and is keen to continue water vole conservation and mink control as part of her remit. Electrofishing and habitat surveying were new skills that Helen enjoyed developing in her first year with the Trust and her enthusiasm for field work regardless of the weather shows no limits. Outside of work, Helen can often be found scaling various indoor climbing walls in Glasgow, and likes to climb in

the great outdoors when weather permits.



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CIRB Project



In 2012, Gordon Macdermid was recruited as the Seasonal Project Officer for the CIRB (Controlling Invasive Non Native Riparian Plants and Restoring Native Biodiversity) project. He is responsible for coordinating contractors engaged to control invasives. In 2012, eleven contracts were allocated for controlling giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed. This work was carried out to a high standard and followed a strategic plan set out for controlling invasive non-native species (INNS) plants across riparian Ayrshire. The project still has two years to run, so we should see dramatic changes to riparian Ayrshire once the project is complete.

Volunteer Training

Volunteer training in pesticide application in or near water (NPTC PA6AW) is an essential component of the CIRB project and this will allow for continuation of control once the funding period ends at the end of 2014. To date, ART has trained 23 volunteers across Ayrshire through this project. We are always keen to hear from new prospective candidates.

Giant hogweed Control

Since ART commenced giant hogweed control in 2008, there has been a significant reduction on all rivers affected by this plant. By the end of 2012, we were confident that we had successfully controlled giant hogweed across all affected river catchments, and additional outlying areas have also been included as they pose a threat to the control strategy. This control will continue until the end of 2014 under the CIRB project and ART will actively seek funding opportunities to continue this strategy once the project is complete.





Above is a large area of giant hogweed at Enterkine (River Ayr) before and after control

Japanese knotweed Control

Poor weather made control difficult in 2012 but contractors were out at every available opportunity and the task was completed by the first week in October.

ART revisited areas previously controlled and also many new areas now included in ART's strategy. By the end of the 2012, a large percentage of Japanese knotweed had been treated across Ayrshire. The largest single stand treated measured an estimated 1600 square metres.



A huge stand of Japanese knotweed controlled on the River Irvine in 2012

Himalayan balsam Control

Himalayan balsam was a known problem on all of Ayrshire's rivers, with the exception of the River Ayr until 2012 when sadly three plants were found near Craigie Pool on the lower river. Himalayan balsam spreads easily from seed and, once established, is extremely difficult to eradicate. Despite this, ART has made inroads controlling this plant in 2011 and 2012 on the upper River Irvine catchment with the assistance of a handful of enthusiastic volunteers. ART aim to extend control of this plant in 2013 and 2014 into the Garnock, Doon and lower Irvine catchments.

Himalayan balsam can be controlled by pulling or strimming. The project officer will be coordinating training and volunteer days for anyone interested.



The work of two volunteers

Research

ART secured the services of a Catalan intern in 2012. Alba Bonas Piella carried out important research into root and seed development of giant hogweed and native plant recovery following control, which was invaluable to meet CIRB project requirements. The details of her findings can be found on our blog. Alba was a great addition to the staff in the three months she was with us.

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Carrick Invasive Species Project (CISP)

The Carrick Invasive Species Project was launched in April 2012 to tackle the issue of invasive non-native species (INNS) throughout the Girvan and Stinchar catchments. The project is funded by LEADER Ayrshire, Carrick Futures, Hadyard Hill, Lendal Environmental Trust, Stinchar DSFB and Girvan DSFB. Riparian surveys from 2008/2009 identified significant problems with Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam on both catchments.

The Carrick Invasive Species Project is the latest ART project to tackle INNS in Ayrshire and the first of its kind running in the Carrick region. The main aims are to raise awareness of the issues associated with INNS and to bring high priority INNS under control with the support and help of the local communities.

Awareness and volunteer recruitment

The project officer, Meryl Norris, began in April 2012 and quickly set about raising awareness of the project in the Carrick region. Project leaflets, posters and website www.ayrshireriverstrust.org/cisp were developed and local events attended to raise the project profile.

To help with the control of the target species, free LANTRA and NPTC training courses are available to volunteers. In 2012, six candidates from the Girvan catchment and ten from the Stinchar catchment completed the NPTC pesticides training courses held throughout the summer. Unfortunately, there was no uptake for the strimmer/brushcutter training in 2012 but this will be available again in 2013 to anyone interested.

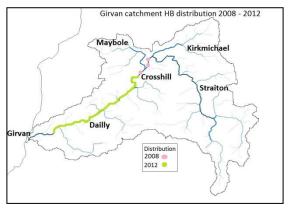
Himalayan balsam control 2012

Girvan catchment

Surveys in 2008 identified low density Himalayan balsam in the middle river. However, by 2012 this appears to have spread downstream to the lower reaches. Fortunately the spread remains at a low density with some stretches only having a handful of plants per 100m. Plants discovered during surveys were uprooted by ART staff and enthusiastic anglers have been uprooting them whilst out fishing.



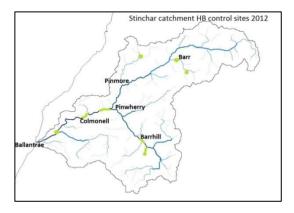
Sparse plants on river bank





Hand pulled seconds later

Stinchar catchment



Approximately 24 km of the main stem River Stinchar is affected by balsam, as is 5km of the Duisk and the lower reaches of the Garnaburn and Water of Tig. The lower river is heavily infested in comparison to the upper river where densities are low but increasing. There were 3 isolated infestations away from the main stem that threatened to spread into tributaries, but these were controlled by landowners and volunteers in 2012 to prevent any further spread.

Other areas tackled on the main stem include Balnowlart, Craig House and Hallowchapel, where large monocultures of balsam were strimmed and sprayed. Although this was not strategic control, it will make a huge difference to our efforts in 2013 as we expect the density of the infestation in these areas to be much reduced, aiding more manual control methods.



Dense infestations along field embankments



Before strimming

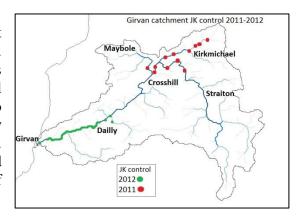


After strimming

Japanese knotweed Control 2012

Girvan catchment

Treatment was severely hampered by constant wet weather conditions throughout Aug-Sept. To spray JK you need dry, calm conditions which were severely lacking during optimal spraying time in 2012. Large floods also flattened JK at the waters edge and this may have affected the plants uptake of the herbicide. Never the less a huge effort was put in by trained volunteers and Trust staff and an infected area of approximately **5,100m**² was treated.

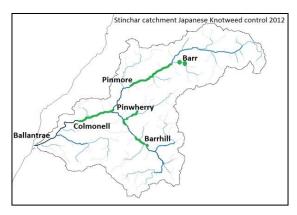


Following control of the upper catchment in 2011, the main area of control for the Carrick project begins at Dailly and continues downstream to the tidal reaches. Several of the larger stands have already been treated in 2012 with the remaining outbreaks to be targeted in 2013.

Stinchar catchment

Japanese knotweed is widespread in the Stinchar catchment covering large swaths of banking in some areas. The Duisk and Muck Water are heavily infested and are contributing to problems downstream.

Again wet weather and floods severely hampered the control efforts and an early frost in late September brought an end to spraying several weeks earlier than anticipated. Never the less, volunteers made the most of the limited dry



conditions and treated a huge area of JK in 2012: Stinchar main stem (inc. Water of Gregg): 16,455m², Duisk: 5708m², Crosswater: 1740m², Muck Water (inc. Docherniel Burn) 5252m².



JK stand before stem injection in September



JK stand dying back after stem injection

American mink (Neovison vison)

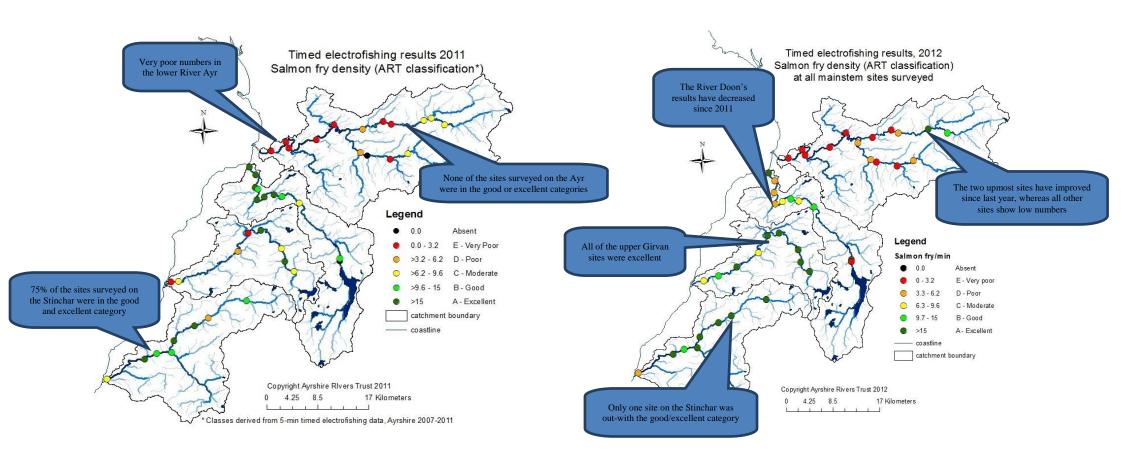
The Carrick project is also on the lookout for the invasive non-native predator, the American mink. These furry creatures are especially bad news for ground nesting birds and water voles but are also known to catch and eat fish. ART have developed their own light weight mink raft for monitoring the presence of mink. The raft is initially set up in monitoring mode with a clay tracking pad to pick up footprints, if mink prints are detected the raft can be switched to trapping mode. 14 rafts have been deployed within the project catchment and with the assistance of volunteers we hope to have many more in future.



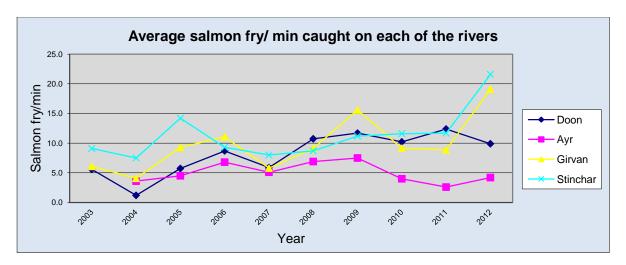
Volunteers admiring the raft at work!

Electrofishing 2011 and 2012

Every year we conduct timed electrofishing at roughly the same sites on the main stem rivers. This involves electrofishing suitable fry habitat, generally shallow areas displaying run and riffle, for 5 minutes, giving results which can be calculated as fry per minute. This technique is repeated for each site along each of the Ayrshire Rivers with District Salmon Fishery Boards (DSFBs), allowing us to easily compare the different rivers.



The graph below shows timed data from the four rivers since 2003. Overall, the Stinchar displays consistently good results, and the Girvan seems to peak every three years, with a large increase showing in 2012. The River Ayr improved slightly in 2012, but is still consistently lower than the other three rivers. The River Doon results have remained stable since 2008, with the five year average resulting in the good category.

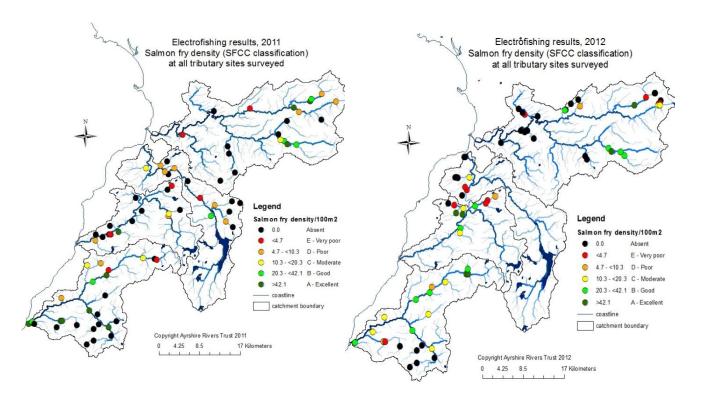


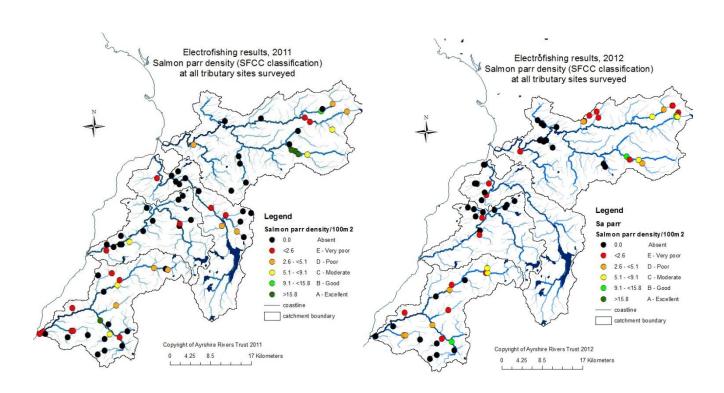
The maps on the following pages detail the results and the sites electrofished during 2011 and 2012 on the tributaries of the four main rivers. All results are calculated as density/100m² and are expressed within the colour coded classification scheme ranging between red being very poor and dark green with excellent. The density classification uses national data to generate a classification, using data obtained from 1638 Scottish sites covering the period 1997-2002 (Godfrey 2005). This allows ART and the reader to interpret local fish populations in a Scotland-wide context.

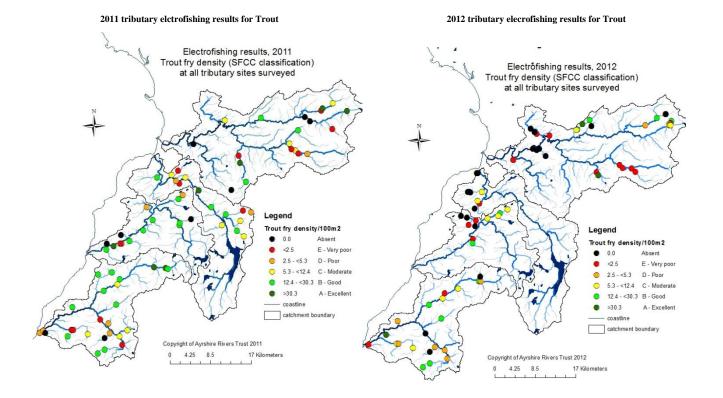


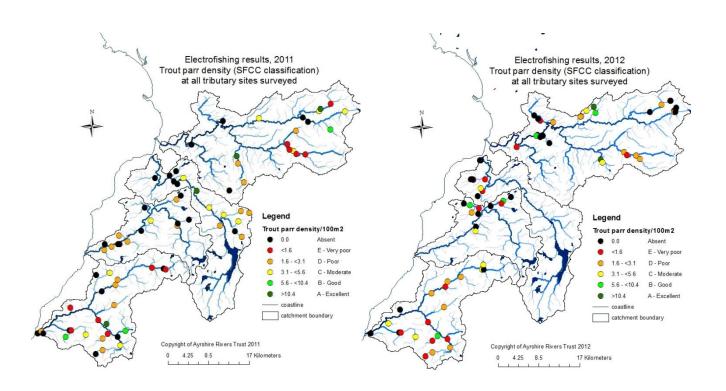
2011 tributary elctrofishing results for Salmon

2012 tributary elctrofishing results for Salmon





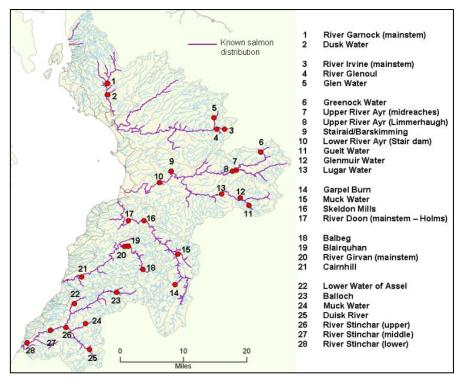




Genetic Structuring in Ayrshire's salmon rivers

The long awaited genetics report from the Focussing Atlantic Salmon Management on Populations (FASMOP) Project finally arrived and makes interesting reading, although the results are not as definitive as we had hoped for.

28 sites across Ayrshire were analysed in order to help inform and develop fisheries management activities. The key objective for the Trust was to define the genetic structure of the locations under investigation, in order to determine whether salmon in an area represent distinct breeding populations and thus provide informed management advice to the District Salmon Fishery Boards and the River Irvine Angling Improvement Association. The sample sites are illustrated in the diagram below.

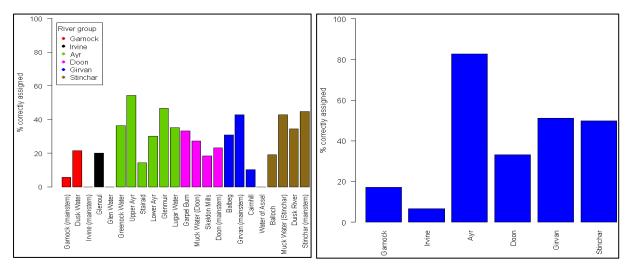


Map detailing sample sites included in this report (indicated in red) with associated site names

The analysis showed that most sites exhibited weak to no genetic differences from one another with the markers used, although there is a tendency for the River Ayr salmon in particular to be more distinct than the others. Assigning fish back to their original site was successful on average 25% of the time. Assigning them back to their river was on average correct 47% of the time, which is higher than one would expect if there was no genetic structure in the data. However, with River Ayr salmon, correct river assignment rose to 80% (random would be 16%). Correct river level assignment across the 6 rivers within the report ranged from 80% on the Ayr to just 12% on the Irvine. The remaining rivers assigned between 15-50%.

There are two possible reasons for the observed low levels of genetic structuring seen:

- There is reproductive mixing of individuals between the different parts of the system. This could include possible stocking events in the past.
- The microsatellites in the study do not give the resolution required to adequately describe population structuring within the river.



% of fish correctly assigned back to site

% of fish correctly assigned back to river

Analyses of the results demonstrate overall weak levels of population structuring within and amongst Ayrshire's rivers. The results suggest that there may be distinct breeding populations. However, the degree of these differences is not sufficient to allow for robust application to management at present. The use of other genetic markers may help to identify population structuring in future.

When there is clear evidence of distinct breeding populations, then a continued caution with respect to sourcing brood stock would be desirable in respect of stocking programmes. However, even with weak to little observed differentiation, the same caution should be exercised. Locations may still differ with respect to adaptive traits and until such issues can be addressed, then locally sourced brood stock should reduce the risk of disrupting any local adaptations that lead to increased survival.



Salmon in the classroom (SITC)

In 2011 SITC was delivered to 11 schools within Ayrshire, with a further 12 participating in 2012. In total, approximately 840 pupils, teachers, students and volunteer staff were involved in the project over the course of 2011/12.

The project consisted of three sessions;

- 1. On the first day a class was provided with a tank and 100 salmon eggs for which they were responsible. They received a talk and game educating them about the water cycle and freshwater food webs, before being left to incubate the eggs.
- hatched 'alevins' to the river for release. Whilst
- electrofishing demonstration by ART staff. This enabled them to see their salmon now in the 'fry' stage, as well as look at a number of different fish species (and touch them once anaesthetised!). This creates high levels of interest and is a fun day out for everybody.

Patna pupils releasing the fish 2. A few weeks later ART took pupils and their newly they caught there, a 'bug sample' was collected to show children the variety of invertebrates present in a small area, allowing them to see another part of the food web. 3. Later in the season, everyone returned to the river and the children observed an

In 2009, ART produced a SITC ruler detailing the salmon lifecycle. The ruler was an overwhelming success with pupils and staff alike, who felt it was a valuable learning tool. In 2011/12 this was sponsored by BAE Systems.

The Government's Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) provides a range of learning experiences and outcomes. In 2010, ART identified and listed the learning outcomes that can be achieved through SITC. Alignment of the project outcomes with learning outcomes and experiences highlighted in the CfE should increase the academic value of SITC. We consider that the SITC project has huge potential in assisting schools to fulfil the aims of the CfE.



Barshare pupils showing how big their salmon will be!

The schools ranged from small rural to large urban schools with the inclusion of a private, fee paying school. It is obvious from interaction with pupils that they enjoy the project. However, we obviously want it to be more than just an enjoyable day for pupils and teachers alike. As such, we have a formal feedback sheet which is given to all school teachers on completion of the project. In 2010 we introduced a pupil's feedback form. Both provide valuable information which can be used to improve the project. A summary of the responses returned by teachers and pupils in 2011 are shown in the tables on the following page.

The responses from participating teachers were 100% positive, with all responses in the very happy or happy categories. Combined with pupil feedback, this shows that all schools enjoyed the project, and all were interested in participating in the future.

Table 1: Summary of teacher feedback responses 2011 (Results expressed as %)

	Initial	Salmon Aquarium		Day 2:Salmon egg release			
	Talk		Instructions	Organisation	Health and Safety	Visit Duration	
Very Happy	92	100	100	100	100	100	
Нарру	8	0	0	0	0	0	
Okay	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Poor	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Needs improved	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Table 2: Pupils feedback summary 2011 (Results expressed as %)

	Enjoy presentation	Looking after salmon	Releasing salmon	Electro- fishing	Bug hunting	Different fish	Learn anything	Do it again
Yes	84	89	71	96	61	93	91	94
Undecided	16	11	20	4	39	7	9	6
No	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0

ART found pupils' feedback valuable as it shows they enjoy the fish aspects of the project. The majority of pupils did not like releasing the alevins into the river, as they wanted to keep them in the class or take them home. 91% of pupils felt they had learnt something from the project; how to identify between the fish species and learn about the different stages of the salmon were the most popular.

Due to staffing pressures, we once again asked Dr Nick Martin, a retired teacher and lecturer, to help by delivering day one of the project. This was a successful move, allowing staff to focus on the outdoor aspects of the project.

ART is very grateful for the financial support provided by the following funders over 2011 & 2012; SNH, People's Postcode Trust, Robertson Trust, Ernest Cook Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, North Ayrshire Council, ATH, Kier Mining and Wellington School.

ART successfully trialled another educational programme called "Wonderful World of Water" in 2012. Unfortunately due to difficulties in securing future funding, these programmes are unlikely to continue without direct contribution from local businesses.



Barriers

Barriers in rivers prevent migratory species penetrating to their full range within catchments. Ayrshire's industrial heritage led to many dams and weirs being constructed to harness the power of the rivers for the benefit of local industries. Today, almost all the remaining weirs have fallen into disrepair and are redundant. Few have dedicated fish passes and those that do are not always effective. It has long been a priority for the Trust to remove redundant obstacles that slow or prevent fish passage.

Early in 2011, Doonholm Dam was breached due to erosion and a gap appeared in the centre of the structure. This soon extended to over 30 foot wide and posed a serious risk of entrapment to river users. SEPA and the landowner acted quickly and dangerous remnants of the weir were removed and free fish passage was restored.

Also in 2011, we successfully installed fish passes in the Girvan Dykes at the lower end of the river. These weirs had long been identified as a problem to migration, especially in low flows, when salmon congregated in large numbers in the Millers Pool just a short distance downstream, leaving them susceptible to poaching and over exploitation.

Funding was secured and, on receipt of the necessary CAR licences from SEPA, contractors moved onto the site and quickly progressed with the works. Simple notches with side baulks were constructed to increase the depth over the face of the centre of the weirs. Before the upper pass was completed, the river rose and sea trout and salmon were observed moving upstream through the pass. A couple of weeks later, the second pass was completed. anglers reported that fish were using the passes to move upstream even in low flows soon after contractors moved off site. The Millers Pool still holds salmon but not in the same numbers. Angling on the river has improved and catch returns support this. It is nice to think that this work has contributed to this result.

Early in 2012, Newmilns Dam on the upper River Irvine was undermined during a spate and ART intervened to ensure that the landowners and SEPA quickly agreed on a strategy to make the structure safe. Fish passage was always a problem in this area, as was poaching. These problems have now been removed and salmon and trout can move further upstream without delay as a result. In this instance a lovely run appeared at the head of the pool that will benefit anglers.



Girvan dykes



Newmilns dam undermining



Early work at Black Rocks Waterfall

Perhaps the most challenging barrier that we have dealt with so far was the Black Rocks Waterfall on Kilmarnock Water. This natural waterfall had been modified around 1960 following a tragic drowning incident. The deep falls pool was filled with concrete to prevent a repeat incident. However, this left the falls almost impassable to migratory salmon and trout. Poaching was rife as the fish were easy targets when they reached the bottom of the falls and struggled to progress further. By the late 90's, the salmon that once ran this wee river in numbers had virtually disappeared.

ART, in conjunction with Kilmarnock Angling Club, managed to persuade the local authority and SEPA to allow modification of the structure with the aim of restoring fish migration. With funding secured from SEPA Restoration Fund, SCORE and East Ayrshire Council, Fishway Engineering were engaged and came up with a design that relied on two weirs with fish passes to increase the depth of the pool below the falls, thereby easing fish passage upstream.

I.H. Borland Contractors undertook the works commencing in autumn 2011, however they were unable to complete the construction due to high flows until June 2012. Although a completely artificial solution to a problem, it wasn't too long before we saw salmon and sea trout below the falls and, although as yet unconfirmed, we assume they managed to pass and spawn in the upper reaches of the Fenwick or Craufurdland Waters. There are over 20km of watercourse upstream of the falls that are now available for salmon and sea trout spawning, and we hope that several hundred salmon may be produced annually in years to come. We will be monitoring these rivers to assess fish stock recovery commencing in 2013.



Completed works



Sea trout leaps at the waterfall

Galston Angling Club installed timber fish passes on the Burn Anne in 2009 following the flood prevention works in the town centre. The flood prevention scheme included improvements that allow migratory species access to this burn for the first time in many years. It didn't take long for salmon to return in numbers at spawning time and this may have been largely due to successive stockings of salmon fry by the Galston Hatchery.

In November 2011, East Ayrshire Council informed ART of their intention to replace the timber fish pass at Cemetery Road Bridge as they required to stabilise the right bank. ART suggested that a more permanent structure be built and directed the Council to take advice from a fish pass engineer. In 2012, contractors were instructed to commence the works and, after stabilising the erosion, a concrete fish pass was constructed. Minor modifications are



All fish are identified and measured

required to improve the structure further and these will be carried out in 2013.

ART electrofished the Burn Anne in 2012 and for the first time recorded salmon far upstream of both passes. This just goes to show how simple improvements can bring great benefits to migratory species. We will continue to assess barriers and seek to mitigate problems in future. SEPA, RAFTS and ART work together to prioritise, fund and complete these works.

i.h.borland (contractors) ltd



40 MAIN ROAD

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Ayrshire Rivers Trust, keep up the good work & "C'mon the fish!"

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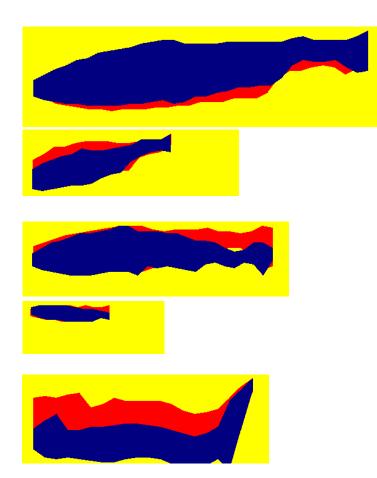
VAKI - Loch Doon fish counter

Ayrshire Rivers Trust and Scottish Power monitor results collected from a fish counter installed at Loch Doon dam. This allows for fish movements between the River Doon and the loch to be recorded. The counter data generated provides invaluable information on salmonid populations in this part of the Doon catchment.

The VAKI fish counter is situated in the fish pass at the dam and records silhouette images of fish or other objects passing through using infra-red sensors. The infra-red sensors generate two silhouettes of objects passing through the frame, so it is usually possible to reject counts generated by debris or turbulence. A cable relays data from the infra-red sensors on the frame to a control panel housed in a building at Loch Doon dam. The control panel is set to display the total upstream versus downstream movements, water temperature and time.

Below are a few images produced by the counter in 2011 & 2012. The first image is obviously salmon, with a clear profile of the fish from both sides. Many are less clear but can either be accepted or rejected as fish based on an assessment of each image, including features such as image shape, swimming direction and speed. Silhouettes from larger fish such as salmon can usually be identified with a higher degree of confidence than those from smaller fish, e.g. trout, as features such as fins are larger and more easily visible on the silhouettes.

Images from VAKI counter



- 1. 22/05/2011 21:16 96cm 1.04m/s SALMON UP
- 2. 07/09/2011 14:54 46cm 1.28 m/s MEDIUM UP Could be a large brown or sea trout
- 3. 08/09/2011 10:59 70cm 1.12m/s SALMON UP
- 4. 12/10/2011 10:27 24cm 1.04m/s TROUT UP
- 5. 29/04/2011 72cm 1.9m/s Indistinct but possibly an OTTER going upstream

Results for 2011& 2012

2011			
Predominant species	Up	Down	Net upstream
Brown trout	7	10	-3
Brown or sea trout	6	3	3
Salmon	10	3	7
Total	23	16	7
2012			
Predominant species	Up	Down	Net upstream
Brown trout	46	36	10
Brown or sea trout	130	15	115
Salmon	19	1	18
Total	195	52	143

From the above table, it can be seen that in 2011 a total of only 13 brown/brown or sea trout moved upstream into Loch Doon, in 2012 this number rose dramatically to a total of 176. A total of 19 salmon swam upstream into Loch Doon in 2012. This is slightly fewer than in 2011. An image qualifies to be a salmon if the fish is 50cm or above in length.

It is possible that some images identified as trout could be smolts descending the fish pass and we are aware that the smolt run timing varies slightly depending on where they are produced within the catchment. Smolts are thought to have difficulty locating the entrance to the fish pass during their downstream migration and many may not survive.

22,000 salmon fry were stocked to the burns upstream of the dam in 2009. It will be interesting to see if any significant increase in numbers of salmon ascending the fish pass to the loch can be identified in 2013.

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Water voles



A large male water vole poses prior to his release to the wild

Following captive breeding of Lanarkshire and Ayrshire water vole stock in Devon, we finally shipped the animals back up to Scotland and reintroduced 144 individuals to the wild in September 2011, with a further 75 animals released in September 2012. ART conducted mink control on the Darley and Slaphouse Burns prior to reintroduction, helping to maximise the voles' chances of survival. Riparian habitat at both sites was of a high quality and ideally suited to the animals, and both locations had previously supported healthy populations in the not too distant past.

All released animals were weighed, sexed and micro-chipped prior to release. This allowed us to compare the health of animals upon recapture and determine the number of newly caught and unrecorded animals. Ours was the first Scottish lowland reintroduction trial of its

kind, and has proved to be highly successful. Field signs suggest that breeding has occurred post-reintroduction, with a youngster captured in follow up surveys late in 2011. The whole project has been highly rewarding for staff and volunteers alike, with ART successfully meeting their objectives as the LBAP leader.

We have been fortunate throughout the project to receive help from a number of volunteers who gave their time freely for which we owe them all our thanks. Volunteers benefit from gaining hands on conservation experience that may help their future careers.

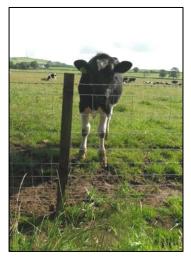


A number of volunteers turned out to lend a hand with a release



An ART mink raft in operation

Following the reintroduction, we have continued to develop the design of ART's own lightweight mink monitoring raft, and have a number of rafts floated across Ayrshire. These are checked regularly for mink and other mammal footprints. Using rafts we can quickly and efficiently identify when a mink enters an area and commence trapping. Mink are largely responsible for much of the declines in water vole populations. Rafts often reveal water vole footprints too, allowing us to monitor movements and distribution of populations.



New fencing protects the habitat and improves water quality

ART developed their new raft to overcome handling difficulties due to waterlogging of traditional rafts. Our rafts are now in use across Scotland and seen as a superior and low cost alternative to other models in widespread use. Helen first volunteered with the trust in 2012 making rafts for the Scottish Mink Initiative before being kept on after her graduation. Volunteering works!

In 2012, ART installed over 500m of stock fencing on Darley Burn to protect the habitat from trampling. Water quality has improved, which should benefit the small but varied fish population and other wildlife frequenting the burn. The cost of the fencing was met by both our funders (South Ayrshire Waste Environment Trust) and the land owner.

This project ended in 2012, however, ART continue to provide training days in water vole ecology and field survey. By sharing

our experience

with others we are able to extend our local conservation efforts for the water vole to a nationwide scale. The River Nith Catchment Fisheries Trust and DSFB both attended a course organised by the Coalfield Environment Initiative and delivered by ourselves. It is good to see others following our lead. We would like to continue to develop water vole conservation schemes; however in spite of our best efforts we have been unable to secure future funding.



A class learning to survey for water voles in the field

AYRSHIRE'S MINK RAFT



FEATURES



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- Easy to assemble (5 mins)
- Easy to monitor
- Otter guards
- Quick delivery on all orders
- Used by Scottish Mink Initiative

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Retail price from £37 (Discounts for bulk orders)

See contact details on page 3 for more information

Fish Rescues

During the course of our operations, we are occasionally required to rescue fish from an area to allow development to go ahead.

Ponesk Burn

To enable Scottish Coal to extract substantial coal reserves from below the course of the Ponesk Burn in the upper River Ayr catchment, ART were contracted to rescue as many fish as possible from the watercourse in July 2011. The burn was to be diverted to a new channel that has been constructed close to its original course prior to 1970's (hopefully this will be the last time that this burn is diverted).



The team electrofish the Ponesk Burn

Over 2 days, we removed nearly 2000 fish (mainly salmon and trout) from the burn and relocated them upstream. It was expected that, over time, salmon and trout would drop back downstream into the new channel by which time the invertebrate population would have developed to support them. The new channel was designed by Halcrow and prepared in advance of the fish rescue. If Scottish Coal and Halcrow have got it right, the new lower Ponesk will hopefully be as productive as the old channel was. We were delighted with the number of salmon that we found during the fish recue. especially in the lower 600m of the burn downstream of a restrictive culvert. A few salmon were present upstream of the culvert but there was a very healthy population of brown trout. The numbers of fish we encountered was very favorable when compared in a Scottish context.

When we returned to electrofish the Ponesk in 2012, we found low numbers of salmon and trout fry present indicating that both species had spawned there during the winter of 2011/12. Salmon parr were also present and it is assumed that these were fish that had been moved upstream during the rescue operation. Invertebrate numbers were poor but the species recorded indicates that water quality is good and numbers should improve with time. We will continue to monitor this burn.



The new channel of the Ponesk

Kilmarnock Water

March 2012, and again we were rescuing fish, this time from the Kilmarnock Water in the town centre. Contractors MBV had contracted ART to remove fish from the river prior to them commencing their work to replace the combined storm overflow system that was no longer fit for purpose. There should be a great improvement in water quality on the Irvine following completion.

We spent 2 days electrofishing over 5000m² of river between Howard Park and the town centre. Many fascinated onlookers were amazed at the number and types of fish that we captured. Species included salmon, trout, eels, stone loach, minnows, sticklebacks and gudgeon. Native species were restocked upstream on the Fenwick Water under licence from Marine Scotland Science. We were assisted by volunteers from Galston and Mauchline Angling Clubs to whom we owe our thanks.



A net full of parr

Additionally, ART controlled Japanese knotweed in this stretch of the river for MBV to reduce the risk of accidental transfer of this plant to other areas downstream. We can only commend Scottish Water and MBV for their proactive and comprehensive approach ensuring that damage to the ecology of the river was minimised.

GOT KNOTWEED? WE CAN HELP.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?



KEY FEATURES

- 1) Shield shape leaf
- (2) Creamy coloured flowers (late summer)
- 3 Zig Zag reddish stems, turning green lower down

WHAT IS IT?

Japanese knotweed is one of the most invasive plants in the UK, It grows rapidly (over 1.5m in a month) and spreads easily by stem fragments and rhizomes (underground creeping stems).

WHAT DAMAGE DOES IT CAUSE?

It can damage buildings, structures and roads. It can block drains and waterways leading to flood damage. It reduces biodiversity and dominates native plants. It prevents property sales, remortgaging and development until it is eradicated.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?









GENCY IWA. Getting to the root of the problem.

Snippets from 2012

The year it rained, and rained and rained some more.

2012 will be remembered for a lot of things but not least that it rained, an awful lot! This was one of the wettest years on record and caused all sorts of problems for ART during the course of the summer. Constant rain delayed electrofishing surveys and invasive species control, although we managed to complete the vast majority eventually by working in the evenings and at weekends.

Fish catches on Ayrshire's rivers were irregular. By the end of the season, most of the rivers had produced catch returns of around the ten year average. Middle and upper beats performed better than the lower reaches as fish ran through in high water.

Ayrshire experienced some huge spates and flash flooding across the county resulting in landslides, pool alterations and considerable damage to properties and infrastructure. By the end of 2012 we had witnessed construction workers being rescued from swamped machines, small villages under water and motorists being rescued by gamekeepers.



Sorn village under water



A machine washed away in the Kilmarnock Water

A bird's eye view

Keen to gain a different perspective on issues affecting the upper River Ayr and Doon catchments, Stuart jumped at an offer of a flight over these areas with ART supporter David Campbell at the controls. The extent of surface mining in the upper catchments gives ART cause for concern and the lack of restoration is worrying indeed, especially as there are still further plans for more coal extraction. During the flight, Stuart also looked at a channel diversion and disconnected meander that are causing erosion and ART hopes to be able to work with the landowner to reconnect this 1km spur with the Lugar.





Crayfish Eradication – Ballachulish

Although not an issue in Ayrshire at present, American Signal Crayfish (ASC) are all around us on the Clyde and in Dumfries and Galloway and they pose an enormous threat to our salmonid populations should they ever be introduced. Last year we had two reported sightings in Ayrshire but neither has been confirmed. With this in mind, ART staff are keen to take every opportunity to learn the very latest control techniques so, when the opportunity arose, Meryl, Gordon and Stuart headed to Ballachulish in Lochaber to assist with an emergency eradication attempt by Lochaber Fisheries Trust, Highland Council and Forestry Commission Scotland. Trusts provided staff to assist including the Annan, Galloway, Connon, Ness and Beauly and, of course, ART. Other helpers came from Forestry Commission, and Highland Council, SNH and SEPA (a total of around 25 people over the two days assisted). Why did so many organisations provide assistance? The answer is simple, biocide treatment is a relatively new and very much a developing method. Trusts in particular recognise that pulling resources in times of need can produce results. Lochaber FT could not have managed this without help and neither could we if we had a similar emergency. There was no better opportunity to gain this invaluable experience and capacity building will only strengthen and prepare the Trust should similar challenges arise.





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Events 2011

Fisherman's Supper, Hotel Kylestrome, Ayr – 18thNovember

This Fisherman's Supper was Brian Shaw's last official event before taking up his new post at the River Spey DSFB. The Kylestrome once again provided a delicious meal. After many years as our Master of Ceremonies, Ian McGregor decided to pass the baton on to our Trustee, Tom Lothian, who kept the night ticking along famously.

Brian delivered the biologists summary (with a tear in his eye) and was followed by Dr. Andy Walker, who spoke about his experiences at sea as part of his illustrious past in the sea trout world. Mr Robbie Duncan then took to his feet and had us in floods of laughter from start to finish. Overall it was an excellent evening and we raised £1335 through the auction and raffle. Our thanks to all those who participated and contributed to make this such a memorable evening.

Brian Shaw's Farewell Dinner, Carlton Hotel, Prestwick -14th December

ART staff and Trustees held a private farewell dinner for Brian and Aleta where we enjoyed an evening of reminiscences, laughter, poetry and even a few tears to celebrate the seven years that they spent as an integral part of the Trust. Brian acknowledged the fact that the Trust had taken a huge leap of faith by employing a fish farm manager as their head biologist, and thanked the Trustees for their bravery in making that decision. He also thanked the current and past staff for all they had managed to achieve as a team working so hard together, and also to his wife for her support over the years.



Brian and Aleta with their gifts

Our Chairman, Peter Kennedy, gave a heartfelt speech thanking Brian, and especially thanking Aleta for everything she had done for the Trust throughout Brian's stewardship.

Members and Trust supporters also contributed to a farewell gift fund and Brian was presented with a cheque which he admitted was overwhelming in its generosity. The Trust and Brian would like to publically thank all who donated to the fund!

Events 2012

Holy Fair, Mauchline –26th May



ART again had a stall at the 2012 Holy Fair which had around 12,000 people in attendance. This year, the sun shone for long periods and the stall attracted visitors young and old. We took the opportunity to raise awareness on invasive plant species in Ayrshire and our CIRB project including pesticide training opportunities. This attracted interest from anglers in particular and resulted in two new volunteers coming forward and offering their services.

Fisherman's Supper – Horizon Hotel 16th November



The 2012 Fisherman's supper moved to the Horizon Hotel to accommodate more people. Tom Lothian was master of ceremonies for the second year running while Stuart Brabbs and Denis Johnson were enlisted as the speakers. Tom kicked the evening off with his usual stories before passing the mic to Stuart who talked of the changes at ART and work carried out over the previous year. The raffle had an array of prizes ranging from bottles to trout fishing days. This always proves a great success and 2012

was no exception. Following the raffle, we seamlessly moved onto an auction for prime salmon fishing and shooting lots. A total of 13 lots were available with the room in full flow and bids coming from every table. This was our most successful supper to date, raising a total of £2650. Denis closed the evening with a humorous combination of jokes and stories leaving everyone with a smile on their face.

ART would like to express its thanks to all who attended and to those who donated prizes for the raffle. A special thanks to all who helped out including Tom Lothian for excelling as master of ceremonies once again and Denis Johnson our speaker, and to Robin and Ann Wilson for their help organising the event and for assisting on the evening. ART would also like to thank the following for donating auction lots: Tom Lothian, Stuart Lang, Gordon Hyslop, John Dalrymple Hamilton, Steven Lynch, Gilbert Browne, Lord Douro, Lord Richard Wellesley, Andrew Cowan, Douglas Stewart, Smithston Fishings and Carlos Van Heddegem.

Quiz Night – 23rd March

ART held their first ever Quiz Night at Ayr Rugby Club in 2012. The quiz master, Wallace Milligan, was ably assisted by his lovely wife Ruth. Gillian McIntyre, the Trust's Biologist, welcomed everyone with a short speech on the work of the Trust, and stressed the need for fundraising, a subject never far from our thoughts!

Almost 80 ardent "quizzers" attended, making 20 tables in all. Many congratulations to those who won prizes and many thanks to all who donated them! Around £400 was raised and our thanks goes out to all who contributed to the evening, especially to Colin and his staff at Ayr Rugby Club for all their hard work, to Robin Wilson and Tom Lothian for all their help, and lastly to Wallace and Ruth for being a superb double act as compere and assistant.



AYRSHIRE RIVERS TRUST INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2013

	Year to 31 January 2013		Year to 31 201	•	Year to 31 January 2011	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Fund raising (net of direct expense	es)					
Country fair	96		81		456	
Doonholm garden opening	0		739		0	
Fisherman's supper	2696		1248		1229	
Raffle	1069		1659		1351	
Merchandising	2844		2353		1327	
Annual report advertising	770		1110		1975	
Gift Aid tax reclaim	224		800		498	
Quiz night	410		0		<u>132</u>	
		8109		7990		6968
Membership						
Ordinary	1845		1980		2000	
Corporate	900		1130		1070	
Life	<u>440</u>		440		<u>220</u>	
		3185		3550		3290
Other income						
Donations	1996		3001		3006	
River Board subscriptions	21345		16700		10500	
Grants received	68331		24640		34925	
CIRB	12439		18580		0	
Consultancy fees	37683		36663		15784	
Interest received	<u>831</u>		<u>749</u>		<u>681</u>	
		<u>142625</u>		<u>100333</u>		<u>64896</u>
		153919		111873		75154
<u>Expenses</u>						
Employment costs	98595		91465		91866	
Trustees' expenses	0		2000		1000	
Printing, stationery and postage	1815		3211		3801	
Professional fees	2393		1728		1830	
Training fees	475		36		811	
Telephone	679		827		631	
Motor expenses	6840		5345		4563	
Subscriptions	6579		2291		2233	
Insurance	5392		4004		3835	
Office rent	3600		3802		3738	
General expenses	689		1798		1267	
Depreciation	5782		3183		3695	
Biologists' equipment	<u>1827</u>		<u>1080</u>		<u>2267</u>	
		(<u>134666</u>)		(<u>120770</u>)		(122343)
Net income/expenses		19253		(8897)		(47189)
Add/Less: movement in restricted fu	ınds	13317		22301		16336
Other gains and losses on investm	nents	4548		(1064)		<u>4924</u>
Net surplus - unrestricted funds		<u>37118</u>		12340		(25929)

AYRSHIRE RIVERS TRUST BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JANUARY 2013

	As at 31 January 2013		As at 31 January 2012		As at 31 January 2011	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets						
Motor vehicles	12375		4613		6151	
Equipment	3374		268		1914	
Computer equipment	884		0		0	
Investments	<u>27909</u>		<u>23361</u>		<u>24425</u>	
		44542		28242		32490
Current Assets						
Bank current accounts	1042		1158		1432	
High interest bank accounts	42523		30489		39880	
Debtors	34550		28489		23587	
Stock	<u>1182</u>		<u>1373</u>		<u>479</u>	
		79297		61509		65378
Current Liabilities						
Accrued charges	8765		8188		6344	
Loan due less than 1 year	<u>1884</u>		0	0.4.0.0	0	
		10649		8188		<u>6344</u>
~		113190		81563		91524
Creditors Loan due more than 1 year		7826		0		0
		<u>105364</u>		<u>81563</u>		<u>91524</u>
D						
Represented by:-						
Restricted Fund		<u>13171</u>		<u>26488</u>		<u>48789</u>
Unrestricted Fund		<u>92193</u>		<u>55075</u>		<u>42735</u>

This information is extracted from the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet included in the financial statements. The statutory financial statements have been independently examined and the examiners' report was unqualified. Statutory financial statements can be obtained by writing to the charity at the Donald Hendrie Building, Auchincruive, Ayr, KA6 5HW.

In an effort to reduce costs and our carbon footprint, please let us know if you would like us to email the Annual Report to you in the future. You can either write to us or send an email to info@ayrshireriverstrust.org with your details.

Thanks to ...







































Whitley Animal Protection Trust



Lendal Environmental Trust

Ayr, Doon, Girvan and Stinchar District Salmon Fishery Boards River Irvine Angling Improvement Association

Barnshean Fishing Club Galston Angling Club

Barr Angling Club Hurlford & Crookedholm Angling Club

Carrick Angling Club Irvine & District Angling Club

Catrine Angling Club Kilbirnie Angling Club

Colmonell Angling Club Kilmarnock Angling Club

Cumnock & District Angling Association Kilmaurs Angling Club

Dailly Angling Club Kirkmichael Angling Club

Dalry Garnock Angling Club Ladykirk Angling Club

Darvel Angling Club Mauchline & Ballochmyle Angling Club

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And to all our private donors, members and friends for their support

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