

## **1. Chairman's Introduction**

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## **2. Biologists summary**

In 2003 our fieldwork increased with the temporary employment of 2 additional biologists, Anthony Sykes and James Shannon, to help with the workload. The field season was taken up with an expanded fish monitoring programme on all of the rivers (including surveys of the Irvine and Garnock rivers for the first time), habitat surveying on the Stinchar and Irvine, and improvement works on the River Doon. We also took part in a survey of lampreys, as part of a national project to learn more about these poorly understood fish, which were once common in Scotland's rivers but are now thought to be in serious decline.

As we move into 2004, the trust has also been working on a strategic plan, setting out our aims, objectives and priorities for the next 5 years. The plan is currently in its final stages, and consultees responses are currently being incorporated. Once this is completed, it will form the basis of a detailed action plan, describing the projects and targets which will be needed to achieve the trusts aims.

The trust has settled well into new office accommodation at Auchincruive, which is allowing us to strengthen existing ties with agricultural organisations such as the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) and the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG). With farming being one of the most important influences on our local rivers, these links are promoting our work to a crucial audience, and allowing us to learn more about the increasingly positive environmental work which is being carried in farming.

## **3. Habitat Surveys**

ART has identified the need to collect information on river and riparian habitat quality as a key priority throughout Ayrshire. This information is needed to provide an inventory of available habitats in each river catchment, which can then be used to identify natural and artificial limitations on fish populations, particularly when combined with data from fish population surveys. Surveying a full catchment therefore allows the major causes of habitat degradation to be assessed, and is a vital first stage in designing effective long-term enhancement schemes. Habitat information can also be used to identify areas which may benefit from stocking, and therefore help to maximise the success of hatchery programmes.

In 2003, the Trust progressed these aims by carrying out detailed habitat surveys in the Stinchar and Irvine catchments.

### **3.1 Habitat survey of the Stinchar**

A detailed habitat survey of all rivers, streams and banksides in the Stinchar was completed to full industry standard in 2003. The survey clearly shows that main impacts on river habitat quality in the Stinchar are commercial coniferous plantations, intensive livestock farming and riverbed excavation. Forestry has resulted in acidification in the headwaters, and more rapid water runoff due to an increased number of drainage channels. Although the Stinchar has always been a

spate river due to the steep nature of its catchment, flash floods are increasingly common. These have degraded instream and riparian habitat, and transported large amounts of potential spawning gravel downstream.

Several areas of the upper Stinchar, Duisk River and smaller tributaries have also been affected by livestock grazing, which has resulted in extensive bank erosion and siltation. This has reduced spawning gravel quality, and instream cover for fry and parr. The report includes a detailed analysis of areas which require bankside fencing and tree planting, and ART is currently working with landowners and farming groups such as FWAG to help the District Salmon Fishery Board improve the worst affected areas.



***Gravel extraction in the upper Stinchar has severely degraded habitat in places (left), however, much of the River Stinchar contains good quality habitat (right).***

Compared with other Ayrshire rivers, the survey found few large point sources of pollution on the Stinchar. However, potential hazards created by farming include sheep dip pens near burns, farm drains and silage pits. Much of the lower Stinchar valley has been dominated by dairy farming including improved pasture for grazing and silage production. In many places improved bankside fencing would help protect the river from agricultural pollution. Other problems include septic tank overflows, as few rural dwellings in the region are linked to mains sewerage.



***Bridge aprons are likely to be restricting access to migrating fish in parts of the Stinchar valley.***

The lower Stinchar contains no serious obstructions to fish movement, although some fairly large rock weirs have been created for angling purposes. Obstructions on the Duisk include bridge aprons in poor condition, collapsed farm gates and waterfalls. There are also waterfalls in the upper reaches of most tributaries on the Stinchar and on the main river itself at the Stinchar Falls. This part of the catchment also contains a number of lag jams and some artificial obstructions, which should be cleared as a matter of priority.

### 3.2. Habitat on the River Irvine

During late summer 2003 ART was contracted by the River Irvine Angling Improvement Association (RIAIA) to carry out a habitat survey along the length of the main River Irvine and the most important salmonid spawning streams in the main Irvine valley. This habitat survey was planned as an important first step towards a detailed management plan, and was particularly aimed at providing the RIAIA with advice on potential priorities for habitat enhancement projects.

Due to resource constraints, a rapid walkover surveying method was used. While this does not give the same level of detail as the full protocol used in previous surveys, it provides an efficient way of the identifying major factors limiting fish production and the main opportunities for habitat enhancement.



*Habitat in the lower River Irvine is largely degraded due to canalisation (left). The upper parts of the river above Galston are generally more suitable for migratory fish (right).*

The survey found that juvenile salmonid production in the lower river below the Cessnock confluence is likely to be severely limited by habitat degradation, due to the canalised nature of the river channel. Suitable salmonid spawning and juvenile habitat in this part of the river is limited to a small number of discrete sections, mainly associated with bridges and weirs. The findings emphasize the value of these areas, and the need to ensure that they are protected. Habitat enhancement measures could be carried out in this part of the main river to increase flow diversity and provide additional areas of shallow juvenile habitat. However these methods are expensive, and carry significant risks, particularly given the flooding problems which affect the lower Irvine. Such improvements are also most likely to improve the fishery, rather than increase salmonid stock production significantly.



The vast majority of the salmon stock in the river is likely to be produced in the main river and larger streams above Galston, where habitat is much more suitable. However, livestock farming, particularly overgrazing of the riverbanks, is currently reducing habitat quality in the upper sections of the River Irvine, and parts of the Glen Water and Tongue Burn. The survey results suggest that this should be addressed as a high priority through a riparian fencing scheme. Agri-environmental grants may be the best way to achieve this, and this possibility should be discussed further with farming groups.

Information is also given in the report on places where bank stabilisation measures are needed. Given the likely importance of the upper part of the catchment in producing fish for the River Irvine salmonid fisheries, it is important that these areas are protected from any further degradation and initial habitat rehabilitation efforts should be targeted here.



***Weirs on the main River Irvine and tributaries are severely restricting adult fish migration.***

It is absolutely vital that migrating adult fish are able access the higher quality habitat in the upper catchment as easily as possible. However, the habitat survey identified several artificial obstructions which are likely to hamper migration, both on the main river and on some smaller watercourses. Most of these are either weirs or bridge aprons, and it is important that specialist engineering advice is sought on the most effective way to improve access over these. Once such information is available, a catchment-wide project to improve fish access could result in a significant increase in

available habitat, and should significantly improve the number of juvenile salmonids in the upper catchment.

#### **4. Habitat restoration**

Over the last year, ART has continued to initiate and assist with habitat restoration projects in Ayrshire. Our main focus has been to help the Doon DSFB address some of the habitat enhancement priorities identified in the Galloway Fisheries Trust habitat survey carried out in 2000. This long-term programme of habitat works involved two main areas- installing instream structures to improving flow diversity and spawning beds in the Chapleton Burn, and fencing an overgrazed stretch of the Muck Water.

The work on the Chapleton Burn was designed to speed up water flow across heavily silted spawning gravels, to reduce the accumulation of fine material in the bed and help maximise egg survival. This part of the burn also suffers from a lack of habitat diversity due to canalisation and dredging, and structures were also installed to increase flow diversity and instream cover for juvenile salmonids.



***Work on the Chapleton Burn was designed to improve flow diversity and reduce siltation over gravel beds.***

The work on the Muck Water was carried out by the landowner Mark Gibson, following an approach from the Trust in summer 2003. Livestock were fenced off from both banks, and a mixture of native broadleaved trees was planted in the newly created riparian zone. The area is also due to benefit from a new path network with disabled access, which will provide a new recreational amenity for the Dalmellington community.

Instream habitat at the site is also extremely degraded, due to channel realignment and overwidening in the last century. With the agreement of the landowner, ART and the

DSFB hope to begin addressing this in 2004 through a programme of instream works, designed to provide a more natural channel form.

Fish densities were monitored prior to the work being carried out at both of these sites and will be assessed again in the coming field season. The effect of the works can therefore be assessed over time, and the results used to inform future habitat enhancement projects.

## **5. Freshwater Fish Surveys**

In 2003, the Trust continued with long-term studies of freshwater fish in Ayrshire. This work is designed to survey both the distribution of fish species across the region, and also monitor changes in abundance over time. Fish surveys can therefore show how populations are responding to particular pressures, how recruitment to the population has changed over time, and whether stocking and habitat restoration projects have been effective.

Juvenile fish surveys were carried out across Ayrshire using standard electrofishing techniques. All personnel were trained by the Scottish Fisheries Coordination Centre prior to surveying, and the data was therefore collected to the highest standard.

### **5.1 Main stem surveys**

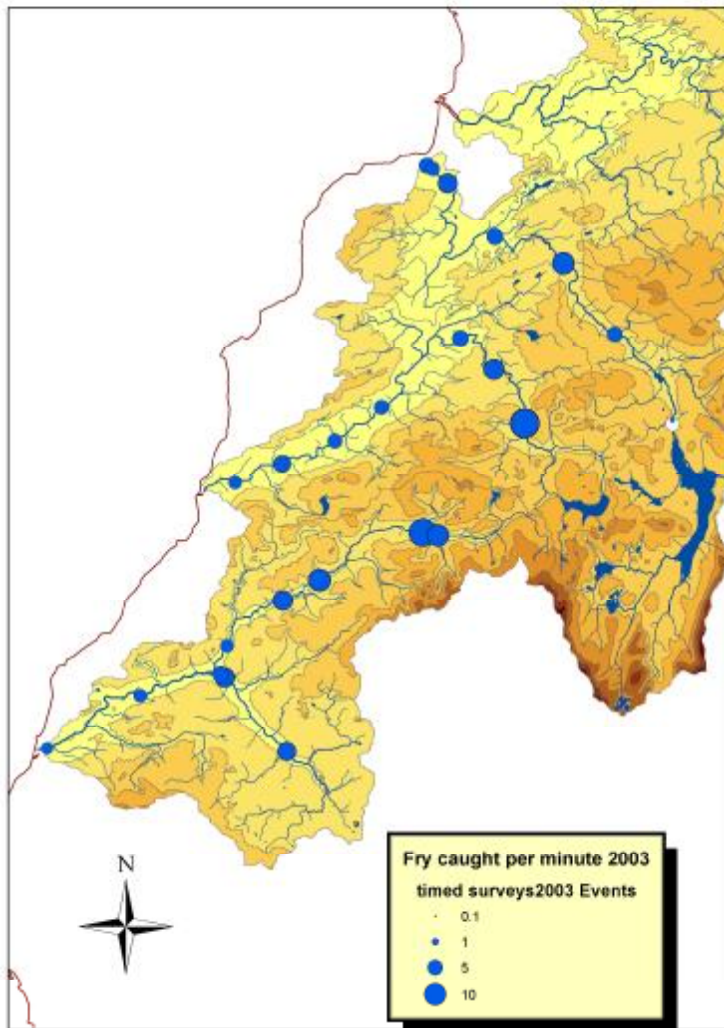
In the past, electrofishing surveys have tended to concentrate on smaller watercourses, due to the logistical problems of accurately surveying wide river channels. However, biologists are increasingly finding that timed surveys are an effective and efficient way of examining main river stems. It is particularly important to include these areas, because in many rivers the majority of salmon spawning and juvenile production is likely to take place in the main stem of a river, rather than smaller side tributaries. Restricting electrofishing surveys to smaller watercourses, using traditional area based surveys, may therefore fail to identify important factors affecting salmon populations.

In 2003, ART began a regular monitoring programme aimed specifically at examining salmon fry abundance in the main stem of the rivers Doon, Girvan and Stinchar. The 25 sites visited during the survey were chosen to cover suitable salmon fry habitat throughout as broad a geographic range as possible up the main stem of each river.

The main aim of the work is to act as baseline data for annual monitoring, when fry numbers can be compared to rod catches in the previous season, and possibly estimates of the smolt run size in the following season. However, the survey showed that:

- Low numbers of fry were found in the upper Doon below Ness Glen. This may be related to the artificially high compensation flow from the reservoir at Loch Doon.
- Salmon fry were widely distributed across all of the other sites, showing that salmon spawn throughout the main river in all three catchments.
- Salmon fry densities were particularly high in the upper parts of the Girvan and Stinchar, showing how important that these areas are for spawning and nursery production.





*Timed fishing along the main stems of the Doon, Girvan and Stinchar show that salmon fry are found throughout the main rivers, and are found in particularly high densities in the upper parts of the Girvan and Stinchar.*

## 5.2 Smaller watercourses

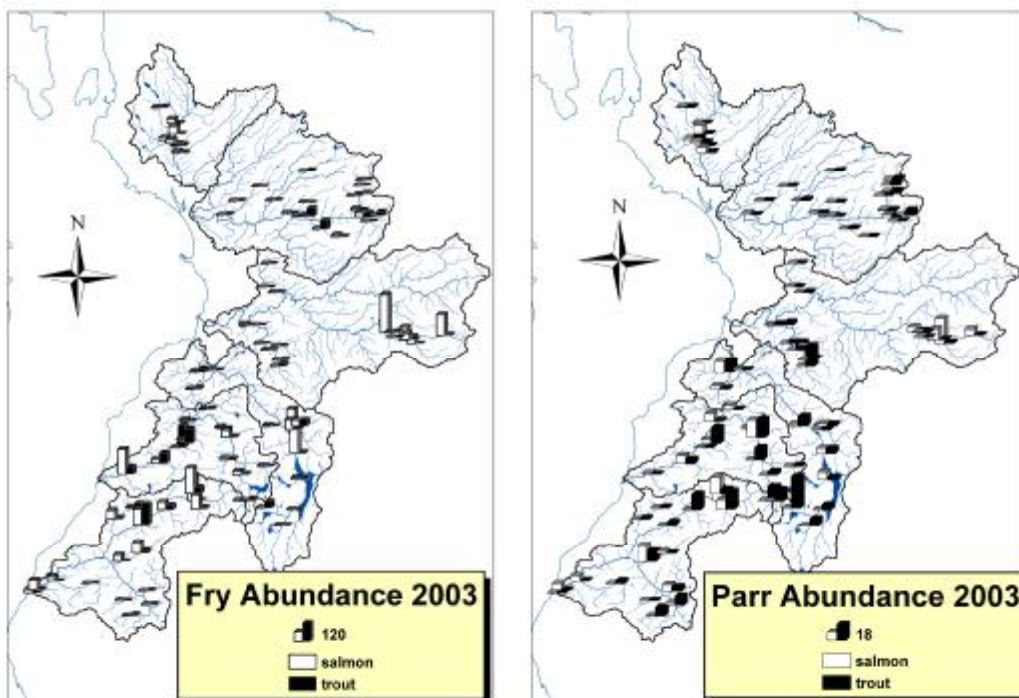
As well as surveying larger watercourses, ART also visited a network of reference sites on smaller streams to provide a more complete picture of fish populations across Ayrshire. In total, 96 sites were examined during the 2003 field season. Many of these had been surveyed in previous years, and were visited as part of a long term monitoring plan, while others were surveyed to assess the success of habitat enhancement and stocking.

The main points from each catchment revealed during the 2003 survey are:

- All of the sites visited in the Garnock catchment all contain salmon, although there is some evidence that habitat degradation has reduced parr numbers in places.
- Results from the Irvine catchment show the impact that artificial barriers are having in the catchment. Several areas above weirs and bridge aprons have absent, or severely impacted salmon populations. However, several accessible

sites in the Irvine catchment also contain low numbers of salmonids, which appears to be mainly due to poor water quality and habitat degradation. The Carmel Water in the Irvine catchment also contains a population of gudgeon- the first time that this species has been recorded by ART.

- The Ayr sites were chosen to complete the catchment wide survey started in 2002. Results showed that there are no salmon present above the falls on the Water of Coyle, and that trout populations there are impacted, probably as a result of pollution. Salmon were also absent from sites on the Water of Fail, which also contained poor trout populations, and appears to be heavily impacted by pollution. Larger watercourses in the upper parts of the Lugar catchment contained extremely high densities of juvenile salmon however, in both stocked and unstocked areas.
- Data from proposed habitat enhancement sites on the Doon confirms the need for restoration and has provided useful data for future post-works monitoring. Elsewhere on the Doon, mixed results were obtained from stocked sites, and the dry summer appears to have caused mortalities in some smaller streams. The Culroy Burn showed a continued improvement in both salmon and trout, following the removal of a sewage outflow in 2001 and subsequent remedial work. Results from most other sites were broadly comparable with previous years.
- Survival and growth of stocked fish has been good at sites above impassable barriers in the Girvan, but stocking has been less successful in areas with high natural spawning. Some sites showed a marked improvement from previous years, particularly in areas with good quality habitat such as the Lindsayston Burn and the upper Lady Burn.
- The Stinchar results also show that stocking in areas with little or no wild spawning has produced better survival and growth than in areas with natural production. Elsewhere, habitat degradation is clearly limiting production in the Water of Assel, but results were generally encouraging from other watercourses.





### 5.3 Lamprey Survey

ART was contracted by Ecological Research Associates (ERA) to carry out a survey of lamprey populations in Autumn 2003, as part of a national survey commissioned by Scottish Natural Heritage. There are three species of this primitive eel-like fish in Scotland- sea, river and brook lampreys. All three species live in muddy river beds during their juvenile stage, which lasts for approximately six years. They change into adults in the autumn, when sea and river lampreys migrate downstream to estuaries and the open sea to feed as parasites on larger fish species. River lampreys are thought to stay close to estuaries, or occasionally large freshwater lochs, while sea lampreys have also been found further offshore. As with salmon and sea trout, adult lampreys return to freshwater to spawn in gravelly stretches of running water. Adult river lampreys reach an average length of about 30cm, while sea lampreys grow to a larger size, and can be up to 1 metre long. Brook lampreys do not feed as adults, and survive until spawning on reserves stored up during the juvenile stage.

Relatively little is known about the distribution and abundance of the three species in Scotland. Although river and sea lampreys support important commercial fisheries elsewhere in Europe, pollution and obstructions have reduced river and sea lamprey numbers in the UK, and they are now protected by conservation legislation.

The ART survey examined the distribution of juvenile lamprey larvae in the Irvine, Doon and Girvan by using a specially designed electrofishing method. No sea lampreys were found during the survey, suggesting that this species is particularly rare in Ayrshire. Indeed, sea lamprey juveniles were rarely encountered anywhere in Scotland. River and brook lampreys were more abundant, and were generally present wherever suitable silt or sand banks were present.



*Juvenile brook lampreys were commonly found in suitable habitat, but sea lampreys were not present at the survey sites.*

As part of the project, Scottish Natural Heritage and ERA are compiling a database of recorded lamprey sightings in Scotland. Anglers can help greatly with this, and several records of adult lampreys have been received by the trust over the last year. The information received has suggested that sea lampreys were previously found in

most of our rivers, at least in the lowest stretches. However we have not received many recent records, so if you observe lampreys in Ayrshire while out on the river, please give details of these to the biologist.

#### **5.4 Survey of small watercourses along the proposed M77 route**

In spring 2003 ART and the Clyde River Foundation were contracted to carry out a survey of smaller watercourses along the proposed route of the M77 and Glasgow Southern Orbital upgrade.

In most cases, fish were found to be present, and the fish community often included salmonids. In these cases, the recommendation was to ensure that fish access was maintained by installing special structures within the new road crossings. However, several of the smaller streams and ditches which were surveyed are likely to dry up in summer months, and no fish were found in most of these cases. No special action was suggested for these watercourses.



*Several of the small watercourses along the proposed M77 upgrade support trout, such as this specimen caught near Floak.*

#### **6. Adult stocks**

In 2003 ART began an investigation into adult fish population structure in each of the major rivers. This was started by asking anglers throughout Ayrshire to collect scales from any adult fish which were being kept. ART biologists and staff at the Fisheries Research Services Montrose field station then examined the pattern of rings on each scale, to determine the age and growth rate of each fish, with the aim of building up a large database over time.

Special packets were distributed to many angling groups over the course of the season. Unfortunately however, the poor angling season in 2003 meant that returns were low from most areas, and numbers were too small for meaningful statistical analysis. Sufficient scales were returned from the River Doon to provide some

information on salmon stocks, although it should be borne in mind that even here the sample sizes were extremely small, and the true value of the study will be seen in future years, when sufficient additional samples have been collected.

The results from 2003 show that:

- Most of the samples (83%) were grilse.
- There was a slight overlap in sizes, with the smallest salmon weighing less than the largest grilse
- All of the grilse smolted as 2 year olds
- MSW salmon smolted at a range of ages, and the only 3 year old smolt was also the only repeat spawner.

It will be interesting to see whether additional samples in the future confirm that these patterns are truly representative, and whether other rivers in Ayrshire follow similar trends. ART therefore intends to repeat the work each year, and **would be grateful if anglers could continue to support us by collecting scale samples in 2004**. Special envelopes and instructions for this are available from the Trust on request.

	Grilse	MSW salmon
<b>Number</b>	34	7
<b>Size –mean</b>	6lb 1oz	11lb 8oz
<b>-minimum</b>	3lb 8oz	8lb 0oz
<b>-maximum</b>	10lb 0oz	14lb 0oz
<b>% S1</b>	0	43
<b>% S2</b>	100	43
<b>%S3</b>	0	14
<b>% repeat spawners</b>	0	14

## 7. Sea lice survey

In 2003 ART participated in a project to assess larval sea lice densities in intertidal waters along the west coast of Scotland. The project was a joint venture by the Association of West Coast Fisheries Trusts (AWCFT) and the government's Fishery Research Services (FRS). Lice are naturally present on wild salmon and sea trout and are often seen on adult fish caught by anglers throughout Scotland. However, in some locations, particularly in aquaculture areas in the north west of Scotland, exceptionally high levels of sea lice have been found in recent years. Research has shown that these can cause devastating damage to migrating smolts, particularly sea trout, as they tend to stay close to the coast, where the highest lice levels are found.

Ayrshire is unusual for the west coast in having no salmon farms in the immediate vicinity, although farms in Arran and the Kyles of Bute may have the potential to affect our rivers. This was examined in more detail by including the River Doon and Water of Girvan in the national 2003 survey, which examined 16 rivers in total. Sea lice levels were examined weekly at the river mouths by towing a plankton net for 50 metres and preserving the samples in formalin. These were then sent to the FRS Shildaig Field Station for analysis. The 2003 results showed that 20 of the 344



samples (5.8%) from throughout the West coast contained sea lice. However, neither the Doon nor Girvan samples returned a positive result, suggesting that sea lice are not commonly found in high numbers along the Ayrshire coast.

Nevertheless, sea lice cannot be completely discounted as a potential problem in Ayrshire, as negative samples were also returned from several sites in the North West where high lice levels are thought to cause at least intermittent problems for migrating smolts. This suggests that the technique may not be sensitive enough to pick up positive samples in all cases.

More research is also needed on the local salmonid stocks over the period immediately following migration to the sea, as this is the stage when infestation levels are likely to be a significant cause of mortality. Direct counts of lice numbers on post smolts from further north have shown that this may be a more effective method of examining lice burdens, although this method will require considerable additional resources if it is to be successful in Ayrshire.

## **8. Education**

### **8.1 Salmon in the classroom**

The Salmon in the Classroom project run by the Ayrshire Rivers Trust (ART) in 2003 is a modification of a project first developed by the Galloway Fisheries Trust and now run by many of the fishery trusts in Scotland. The Ayrshire Rivers Trust successfully carried out a pilot project in Dailly Primary School in 2002 and it was felt that it would benefit the local community and environment to expand the project throughout Ayrshire. Initial meetings with interested schools were arranged in 2002 through the Careers Scotland and Ayrshire Business Partnership scheme. From these meetings, Galston, St Sophia's, Annbank, Greenmills, and Ballantrae primary schools expressed a desire to be involved in the project. ART agreed to carry this out, together with re-running the project in Dailly Primary School.

Primary 6 and 7 pupils in these schools were given hands-on experience of rearing young salmon using specially designed mini hatcheries and approximately 100 salmon eggs from local broodstock. When the eggs had hatched, the class were taken to a local stream to release the young fry. During the project, the ART biologist also taught the children about the life cycle of the salmon and the importance of freshwater conservation by using a combination of lessons, class discussions, audio-visual aids and field trips to local streams.

The children developed a good sense of responsibility in every school, and looked after the eggs extremely well. The eggs hatched before the end of March, with the exact date being dependant on ambient temperatures. Water quality and temperature proved to be crucial at this stage, with mixed results between different schools. Certainly, the siting of the tanks is extremely important, and the best results came from schools where the tanks could be left outside.



*Pupils releasing salmon fry which they have nurtured in the school.*

The Trust is grateful to Scottish Natural Heritage and BAE systems for financial support towards the costs of the project and staff at the hatcheries for supplying suitable local eggs. The trust was also fortunate to receive a digital projector from the Ernest Cook Trust in January, and this was used to provide audiovisual teaching aids, which greatly enhanced the lessons. The Trust hopes to continue running the project in future years, and would like to hear from additional schools who would be interested in taking part.

## **8.2 Information and advice**

In 2003, ART ran an information stand at the Ayr Agricultural Show, where biologists and trustees were on hand to offer advice, as well as handing out printed information and providing visual displays. An expanded display was also used at the Trust's Country Fair at Barskimming, where over 1000 people (?) came to learn more about the work of the Trust, and the issues affecting local rivers.

ART has also been active with the farming community by taking part in the two summer FWAG farm walks at Blair House and Blairquhan Estate, where the Trust biologist gave advice and information to farmers and conservationists. Dr Duguid also continued this link by giving a talk to the FWAG committee and attending the 2003 FWAG AGM as an invited speaker.

Presentations and lectures were also given to the following meetings during 2003/4:

- The Girvan Camera Club
- The Ayr Rotary Club
- The AGMs of the Doon, Girvan, and Stinchar District Salmon Fishery Boards
- The Lendalfoot Environmental Trust
- The annual SFCC biologist's meeting

If you would like ART staff to speak to a meeting of your local organisation, please contact the biologist.

## **9. Meetings and field visits**

The ART biologist and other staff contributed to a large number of meetings during the year, covering a wide range of both national and local issues. Several of these took place in the field, to allow specific issues to be examined in detail. Notable events included:

- A discussion of problems at Underwood sewage treatment works with Scottish Water, SEPA staff and local angling clubs.
- A meeting with SSEB staff to discuss plans for a new windfarm at Hadyardhill.
- Meeting with FWAG, access officers and SEERAD to discuss options for improving grant access for water margin management.
- Discussions on improving aquatic biodiversity in coal sites with the East Ayrshire coalfield initiative biodiversity officer.
- Meetings with riparian owners to discuss habitat management issues
- Regular meetings with angling clubs to discuss fisheries and habitat management, stocking and hatchery practice and research findings
- Meetings to progress the Catrine Environmental Heritage Project to help improve habitat and heritage features around Catrine, including improvements to fish access over Catrine dam
- A SEPA information session and workshop on the implementation of the Water Framework Directive.
- All meetings of the district salmon fishery boards when requested.
- Contributions to the South Ayrshire Council sustainability forum
- Regular meetings of the Association of West Coast Fisheries Trusts
- Attendance at all Scottish Fisheries Coordination Centre (SFCC) biologists meetings.

ART staff also attended a number of conferences, where the latest developments in aquatic ecology and fisheries management were presented. These included a seminar on the use of latest GIS and habitat survey methods in fisheries management, regular attendance at Scottish Freshwater Group conferences, the annual AWCFT conference and seminars at the annual SFCC biologists meeting.

## **10. Training**

Over the course of the year, ART staff have attended several training courses and workshops, covering a broad range of necessary skills. The main subjects covered were:

- The principles and practical applications behind habitat restoration, in a workshop run by the Association of West Coast Fisheries Trusts
- Invertebrate sampling and identification, in a course run at the Tweed Foundation.
- SFCC accredited training in habitat surveying and electrofishing.
- Surveying and identifying lamprey species, in a course run by Ecological Research Associates and Scottish Natural Heritage.
- Help with fundraising, in a workshop organised by the Association of West Coast Fisheries Trusts.

## **13. Planning**



As the Trust has become established over the last three years, it has become clear that long term planning is necessary to ensure that our work remains focussed on addressing the most pressing issues and to better communicate our aims and objectives. To achieve this, the Trust prepared a 5-year strategic plan over the last year. The plan sets out the Trust's mission and aims, and outlines the operational objectives which we believe are needed to achieve these. The plan also includes a review of work which has been carried out to date, and also uses the operational objectives to set out a programme for action over the next five years, which outlines the most important targets. Sections are also included on operating principles, such as processes for reviewing and reporting, working in partnership with other groups, resource management and maintaining a policy of independence.

The plan has been sent out to a wide range of interested parties for consultation, and subsequent comments have been incorporated into a final draft. Copies of this are available to members and other interested parties on request.

## **14 Fundraising**

### **Events**

### **Membership**

### **Grants and Donations**

Over the year, the Trust was fortunate to receive help from a number of organisations and individuals. A total of £2,467 was received in smaller donations, which were mainly from individuals. This figure is higher than the previous year, and we are grateful to our members and supporters for this. This figure includes a generous bid which was received for the Trusts lot in the Association of West Coast Fisheries Trusts postal auction. This was the first time that this had been run, and we are grateful to the winning bidder, and the lot donors for their support, as well as the association for providing the auction administration.

Project funding was received from:

- The Lendalfoot Environmental Trust, the Stinchar District Salmon Fishery Board and the Forestry Commission towards the Stinchar Habitat Survey.
- The River Irvine Angling Improvement Association towards the Irvine Habitat Survey.
- The Scottish Executive towards the costs of sea lice sampling
- The Doon district salmon fishery board and Scottish Natural Heritage for habitat restoration on the Doon
- Scottish Natural Heritage and BAE systems, towards the Salmon in the Classroom project

Grants towards core funding are particularly valuable, as they allow the Trust to carry out work which is difficult to fund from other sources, such as surveying fish populations and providing best practice advice, as well as helping to pay for core costs such as office rental and vehicle upkeep. We are very grateful for the following organisations, who provided help towards this:

- The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation
- The Whitely Animal Protection Trust

- The McMillan Trust

## **15 Conclusion**

## 16. Finance

### Income and Expenditure

For the period 1 February 2003 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2004

	2004		2003	
<u>Income</u>	£	£	£	£
<b>Fundraising</b>				
Dinner Auction	11,951		14,214	
Garden Fair	2,990		4,033	
Fisherman's Supper	1,188		702	
Raffle	2,271		918	
Parachute Jump Sponsorship	-		<u>662</u>	
		18,400		20,529
<b>Membership</b>				
Ordinary	1,905		1,760	
Corporate	450		800	
Life	400		1,000	
Donations	2,467		2,094	
River Board Subscriptions	5,700		4,400	
Grants Received (Net)	44,608		16,230	
Tax Reclaimed	-		455	
Interest Received	<u>1,253</u>		<u>210</u>	
		<u>56,783</u>		<u>26,949</u>
		75,183		47,478
<b>Expenses</b>				
Employment Costs	31,167		21,494	
Administrators Honorarium	1,200		1,000	
Printing, Stationary and Postage	2,789		1,618	
Professional Fees	1,134		973	
Bank Charges	-		135	
Training Fees	352		940	
Telephone	667		602	
Motor Expenses	4,066		4,332	
Subsistence	75		382	
Subscriptions	2,858		2,250	
Insurance	882		780	
Heat and Light	-		383	
Office rent	600		-	
Loan interest	382		24	
General expenses	595		204	
Depreciation	4,791		5,349	
Biologists equipment	<u>650</u>		<u>1,928</u>	
		52,207		42,322
<b>SURPLUS</b>		<u><u>22,975</u></u>		<u><u>5,156</u></u>



## Balance Sheet

As at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2004

	2004		2003	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Motor Vehicle		8,857		11,809
Equipment		<u>5,515</u>		<u>4,237</u>
		14,372		16,046
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Bank Current a/c's		2,587		6,851
High interest a/c		43,545		33,609
Debtors		17,200		-
Prepayments		-		500
Tax recoverable		<u>497</u>		<u>497</u>
		63,829		41,457
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Bank loan for motor vehicle		5,000		7,537
Accrued charges		<u>1,879</u>		<u>1,619</u>
		6,879		9,156
		<u>71,322</u>		<u>48,347</u>
<b>Represented By:</b>				
Accumulated funds b/fwd		40,747		36,591
Surplus for year		22,575		4,156
Life membership fund				
B/fwd		7,600		6,600
Movement in year		<u>400</u>		<u>1,000</u>
C/fwd		<u>8,000</u>		<u>7,600</u>
		<u>71,322</u>		<u>48,347</u>