

Atlantic Salmon Trust

2026

Putting Wild Salmon First



Wild Atlantic salmon conservation is no longer a fisheries management challenge. It's a nature recovery mission.

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Putting Wild Salmon First

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Foreword
by Mark Bilsby

The Commitment This Moment Demands

Another year has passed in the story of wild Atlantic salmon - another year in which the pressures facing this remarkable species have continued to intensify.

Across Britain, we have once again witnessed exceptional heat in our rivers and our seas. Climate change is no longer a distant threat. It is reshaping the environments upon which wild salmon depend, adding to the many pressures they face throughout one of the most complex lifecycles in the natural world. These events are no longer exceptional. They are becoming our new reality.

It would be easy to respond with pessimism. But the challenge before us is no longer simply to describe the wild salmon crisis. We understand the scale of the problem. The question now is whether we are prepared to respond with the commitment, ambition and collaboration that this moment demands.

At the Atlantic Salmon Trust we believe that commitment begins with two simple principles: Act on what we know, learn what we don't.

We know that healthy, connected catchments give wild salmon the greatest chance of surviving an increasingly uncertain future. We know that restoring natural processes, improving habitat and building resilience across entire watersheds benefits not only salmon, but countless other species and the communities that depend upon healthy rivers. That knowledge gives us the confidence to act.

At the same time, we recognise that significant questions remain. We continue to invest in research to better understand the challenges salmon face beyond our rivers - in our coastal waters and across the North Atlantic, because today's unanswered questions will shape tomorrow's conservation decisions.

Uncertainty, however, cannot become an excuse for inaction. Nor can one organisation achieve wild salmon recovery alone – partnership and collaboration are essential. These philosophies run throughout every page of this year's Annual Review.

Together with our partners, we're helping to design, launch and scale-up landscape-scale restoration programmes, now covering upwards of 7,600km² across the UK. With our Missing Salmon Alliance partners, we continue to align national research, restoration and advocacy priorities. We're also working to reconnect communities with the wild salmon and rivers on their doorstep, both at the local level, and as part of the International Wild Salmon Day movement with our partners across the Atlantic and Pacific.

None of our efforts would be possible without the extraordinary dedication of our staff, trustees, supporters, funders and the many organisations we are privileged to work alongside. We are all connected by a shared commitment and a belief that lasting recovery is only possible when we work together.

As we mark another year in the Trust's history, I believe we are entering an important new chapter - our relationship with wild salmon is changing.

Increasingly, we recognise that this is not simply a story about the future of a single species. It is about the health of our rivers, the resilience of our landscapes and, ultimately, our relationship with the natural world itself.

The scale of the challenge is immense. But so too is the opportunity.

The question is no longer whether we understand what nature needs. It is whether we are prepared to commit to it.

Mark Bilsby, *CEO Atlantic Salmon Trust*

Our Impact in 2026

The Ripple Effect

Purpose. Partnership. Progress.

Partnership is at the heart of how we work. In 2026, we expanded our network of catchment restoration partnerships, bringing together the people, expertise and ambition needed to drive recovery at scale. From local partners delivering action on the ground to UK-wide and international collaborations, we're also helping to drive forward a movement for change. Together with our partners, we are scaling up our impact. Here are just a few of our highlights from 2026.

Expanded our catchment restoration partnership network by **3,000km²**

Restoration partnerships now cover over **7,600km²** across the UK

6 environmental award nominations

Reached over **7.5 million people in 40 countries** through Wild Salmon Day 2026

Connected with thousands of members of the community from the **Scottish Highlands to Hampshire**

Completed a **1,200km²** catchment audit for the entire Upper River Dee watershed

Counted **7,051** adult salmon on sonar imaging systems

PIT tagged **3,800** salmon parr on our Core Rivers

13,000 trees planted by our Core Rivers partners

11.5km of river channel directly protected by fenced enclosures and buffer strips

Working through partnerships we enabled over **£4.7 Million** of investment for wild salmon conservation across the UK & Ireland

Mission & Vision

Our Mission: To restore wild Atlantic salmon and their environment.

Our Vision: By 2050 the decline in wild Atlantic salmon has been halted across its range and numbers are increasing in over 50% of the catchments it calls home.

5 goals for 5 years: 2023 - 2028

1. **Define** why salmon are declining and continue to fill knowledge gaps.



2. **Identify** and prioritise the manageable pressures influencing that decline, and publish up-to-date reports on the efficacy of interventions, such as stocking.



3. **Design** and conduct a catchment audit and roll out a suite of restoration solutions on each of our Core Rivers, using salmon restoration as the driver to achieve wider biodiversity and climate goals.



4. **Demonstrate** that our strategy is working, through proven short-term successes on the Core Rivers and create a predictive model to demonstrate the potential long term restoration success.



5. **Create** catchment partnerships to share successful solutions, supporting others to implement them in their own watersheds.



Our Strategy

Evidence Solutions Partnership

Evidence:

Our Evidence pillar is about building the knowledge needed to make better decisions for wild Atlantic salmon. Through long-term monitoring, innovative technologies and targeted research projects, we work to understand why salmon are declining and whether conservation action is delivering meaningful results. By turning robust evidence into practical insight, we can focus effort where it will have the greatest impact – acting with confidence where the science is clear, while continuing to learn what we don't yet know.

Solutions:

Our Solutions pillar is about restoring the conditions wild salmon need to thrive. Through our Core Rivers and wider Watershed Connections network, we take an ecosystem-wide approach – working across whole catchments to reconnect habitats, restore natural river processes and secure the cold, clean water wild salmon depend upon. By building greater climate resilience into our rivers and surrounding landscapes, we're creating healthier, more connected ecosystems that can support wild salmon and wider nature for generations to come.

Partnership:

Our Partnership pillar is about bringing people together around a shared ambition for wild salmon. We work with trusted local partners to deliver meaningful action on the ground, collaborate across the UK through the Missing Salmon Alliance, and connect people across the world through International Wild Salmon Day. By sharing knowledge, expertise and ambition across catchments, organisations and borders, we can achieve more than any one organisation could alone – building not just stronger partnerships, but a growing movement for change.



Image: Gerald Spiers
One of a number of salmon found dead in the River Exe, Devon, during this year's heatwave and drought.

"The challenge is no longer about restoring ecosystems to the conditions they once experienced, it is about preparing them for the conditions they are facing now."

The New Reality

Building resilience in a rapidly changing world

There was a time when prolonged periods of high river temperatures were considered exceptional. Today, they are becoming increasingly familiar.



In the UK and Ireland, rivers that once rarely reached thermal stress thresholds for cold-water species like Atlantic salmon, now routinely exceed 20°C during the spring and summer months. Across our catchment restoration partnerships, we and our local partners have recorded water temperatures exceeding 27°C in known upland salmon spawning and juvenile nursery zones. These are conditions that place wild Atlantic salmon under severe, life-threatening physiological stress and fundamentally alter the ecosystems upon which they depend. The same story is unfolding beyond our rivers. This year the Met Office warned that UK waters experienced yet more intense marine heatwaves. Sea surface temperatures averaged around 2°C above normal, while some coastal waters reached 4-5°C above average, with conditions classified as strong, severe and, in places, extreme.

By early summer, despite an exceptionally wet winter, large parts of the UK were once again facing water scarcity concerns. By the end of July, 23 million people in England were issued with a hosepipe ban and only 13% of rivers were classed as at normal levels for the time of year. The Environment Agency declared more than half of England in a state of drought. It described a future increasingly characterised by rapid swings between flood and drought, which it defined as 'weather whiplash'. Too much water, then too little. Increasingly, our landscapes and watercourses are proving unable to retain water when they need it most.

These changes are already influencing how rivers are managed. In early July, the Galway Fishery suspended salmon angling on the River Corrib after water temperatures exceeded 20°C. Soon after, many other rivers across the UK & Ireland introduced restrictions or temporary closures as temperatures climbed. In our uplands, wildfires raged – the largest of which in the Cairngorms National Park ravaged an area over 10km². The cause of many wildfires may be human behaviour, but dry, simplified landscapes that don't hold onto water lack the natural fire defence that comes from a complex, resilient mosaic of habitats and vegetation.

Beyond our home shores, Denmark's River Skjern closed due to high water temperatures and, by mid-July, the Norwegian Environment Agency announced angling closures for the remainder of the season across several rivers, including the Gaula, Orkla and Verdal, in response to low salmon returns. Norway's Scientific Advisory Committee for Atlantic Salmon Management's latest status report cites climate change as a major threat to wild salmon, in addition to habitat degradation and the impact of open pen salmon farming in Norway's fjords.

These challenging environmental conditions are no longer isolated events. They are becoming the defining context for wild salmon and wider nature recovery across the Atlantic.

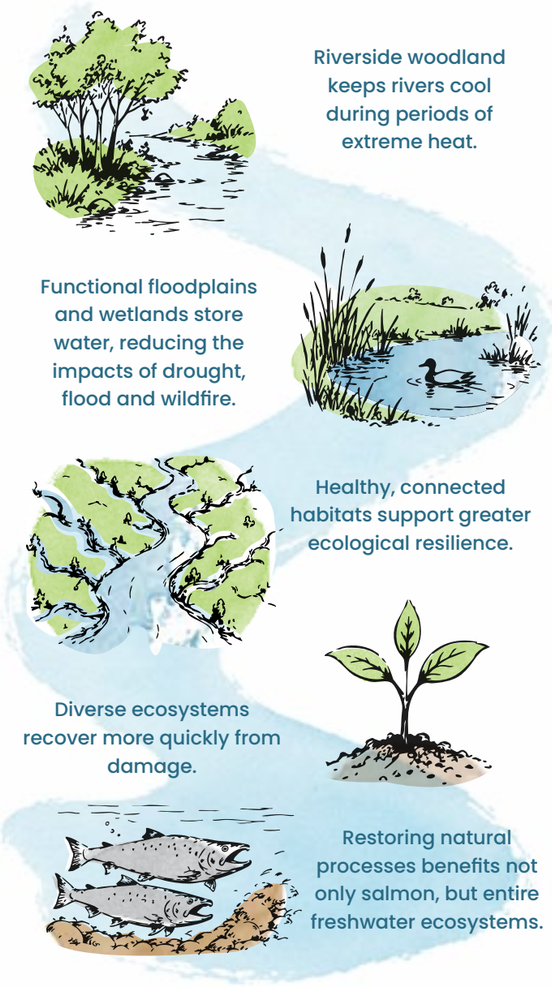
Yesterday's conservation approach won't solve today's challenges.

Over previous decades, conservation has focused on reversing the impacts of the past: improving water quality, restoring habitat, and removing barriers for example. These activities remain fundamental, but climate change has altered the context in which all of that work now takes place. The challenge is no longer about restoring ecosystems to the conditions they once experienced, it is about preparing them for the conditions they are facing now.

'Resilience' is becoming a defining term in wildlife conservation. Resilience is not about helping nature simply endure change. It is about restoring the natural processes that allow ecosystems to absorb disturbance, recover from it and continue to function. Resilient rivers are not created within their banks. They are shaped by the landscapes that surround them and cannot be achieved through isolated, disconnected interventions. They must be built at the catchment scale, from source to sea.

The encouraging news is that we are not starting from scratch. We know riverside woodland can significantly reduce summer water temperatures. We know healthy floodplains store water and reduce the impacts of both floods and droughts, and that wetted land reduces wildfire risk. We know biodiverse, connected habitats support greater ecological resilience and we know that healthy ecosystems recover more quickly from damage. This knowledge gives us the confidence to act.

What We Know







"The rivers that will best support wild salmon in 2050 are those that are taking action to shape that future now."

There remain profound questions about climatic changes occurring in the marine environment. As reported in last year's Annual Review, researchers working through the Missing Salmon Alliance's Likely Suspects Framework programme are drawing links between climate change-driven declines in marine zooplankton prey energy and wild salmon migration zones.

However, uncertainty cannot become an excuse for inaction. The rivers that will best support wild salmon in 2050 are those that are taking action to shape that future now - catchments where organisations, land managers, communities and governments choose to work together rather than alone, where long-term commitment replaces short-term intervention and where resilience becomes the organising principle of nature recovery.

Climate change has fundamentally changed the challenge before us. Our response must evolve with it. The question is no longer whether we understand what nature needs. It is whether we are prepared to match the scale of our commitment to the scale of the challenge.

From Species to Systems

Wild salmon conservation is no longer a fisheries management challenge. It's a nature recovery mission.

River Laxford catchment



If our ambition is to recover wild salmon, our action must become bigger than salmon.

For generations, wild salmon recovery has been viewed primarily through the lens of fisheries management. Monitoring populations, improving habitat, removing barriers and managing exploitation have all helped protect wild salmon through periods of immense change and remain an essential part of conservation.

But wild salmon do not exist in isolation. They are shaped by the health of the rivers they inhabit and the landscapes that feed those rivers. Water, woodland, wetlands, insects, sediment, floodplains, tributaries, estuaries and the countless natural processes that connect them together determine whether or not a catchment can support thriving salmon populations.

Healthy salmon populations are not the starting point of recovery. They are the outcome of healthy ecosystems.

Every catchment is an interconnected system, where what happens in the headwaters influences everything downstream. Woodland influences water temperature. Land management shapes water quality. Floodplains affect river flows. Tributaries provide spawning refuges and juvenile nurseries. Every part of the catchment contributes to the health and resilience of the whole.

Only by understanding the whole system can we make decisions equal to the scale of the challenge.

Understanding the whole catchment

At the Atlantic Salmon Trust, this philosophy has shaped the way we approach river restoration.

Rather than beginning with individual issues or isolated interventions, we begin by building a complete picture of a catchment. Our Catchment Audit process, developed and refined through our Core Rivers programme, brings together decades of existing knowledge alongside targeted new surveys to create a single, integrated understanding of how an entire river system functions. The aim is not simply to collect more data. It is to consolidate existing knowledge, fill the most important evidence gaps, and create the foundation for practical restoration at the scale today's challenges demand.



A major milestone on the River Dee

This year, that philosophy reached another major milestone through Save the Spring on the River Dee – a partnership with the River Dee Trust and Dee District Salmon Fishery Board.

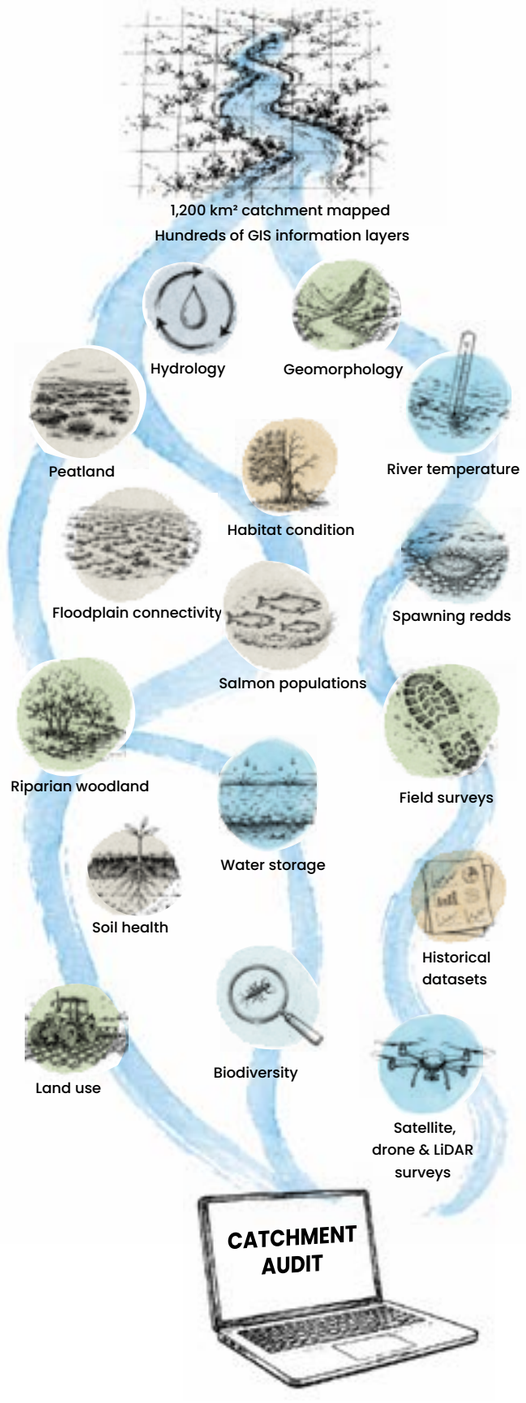
The partnership completed its detailed Catchment Audit for the entire Upper River Dee watershed, covering more than 1,200km² upstream of Aboyne. Believed to be Scotland's largest and most detailed catchment mapping exercise ever undertaken for a river system with wild salmon as the focus species, the audit represents a significant step forward in understanding one of Scotland's most iconic salmon catchments. This work was generously funded by the Cairngorms National Park Authority and private donations.

The audit has assembled a comprehensive picture of the catchment, combining existing knowledge with new, advanced habitat surveys into a single evidence base. It will now guide restoration at a greater scale than ever before.

The River Dee has long been recognised as one of Scotland's leading examples of river restoration, with years of work already delivered by the River Dee Trust, Dee District Salmon Fishery Board, local land managers and partner organisations. The Cairngorms National Park Authority's Cairngorms 2030 project is delivering an ambitious programme of work that will see the Cairngorms become the UK's first net zero National Park.

This level of work reflects that, in order to adapt to today's challenges, nature, communities and threatened species demand more than a collection of successful individual projects. Restoration must now be planned across the whole landscape. The challenge is no longer simply identifying good projects, but ensuring they work together as part of a coordinated strategy for the entire watershed.

Save the Spring Catchment Audit





Ballater, Deeside

By restoring the conditions for wild salmon, we also strengthen the resilience of the catchment itself, creating benefits for nature and communities.

Wild salmon remain at the heart of this work because they provide a clear indication of the health and resilience of a river ecosystem. By restoring conditions for salmon, we also strengthen the resilience of the catchment and people within it, reducing flood risk for communities, creating green and blue space for families to enjoy, and enhancing rural economies through tourism, recreation and more sustainable land use practices.

From Understanding to Action

The greatest value of a Catchment Audit is not the data itself. It is the shared understanding it creates.

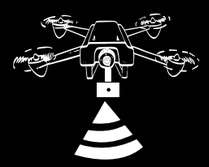
After a Catchment Audit is completed, the next important stage begins. Working collaboratively with landowners, estates, businesses, fishery managers, local communities, policymakers and environmental organisations, enables that shared understanding to be transformed into practical restoration plans. These identify where interventions will deliver the greatest benefit for wild salmon, biodiversity, climate resilience and people.

This approach is already being demonstrated across the Atlantic Salmon Trust's wider restoration partnerships. Earlier Catchment Audits have informed restoration planning on Project Laxford in northwest Sutherland in partnership with Grosvenor's Reay Forest Estate, and Linking the Lochs on the Isle of Lewis in partnership with Soval Estate.
The process is now at an advanced stage on Project Deveron – a partnership with the Deveron, Bogie & Isla Rivers Charitable Trust, and is underway on Project White Hart in partnership with Wessex Rivers Trust and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. There, restoration planning spans three Hampshire catchments: the Test, Itchen and Meon.

The future of wild salmon will not be secured through isolated interventions or single-species management alone. It will be secured by restoring the healthy, resilient ecosystems upon which salmon, and so much else, depend.

"Restoring wild salmon begins by seeing rivers differently, not simply as channels that carry water, but as living systems. Lasting recovery depends upon a shared understanding of ecosystems and the ambition to act at the scale nature now demands."

Using LiDAR at an unprecedented scale is enabling us to see our rivers differently – mapping entire landscapes to understand how water moves, where habitats connect, and where restoration can make the greatest difference.



Reconnecting Rivers

Nature hasn't forgotten how rivers should function. We just need to give them the chance.

Every healthy river catchment is built upon connections.

Water flowing from the hills connects the land to the sea. Streams and tributaries feed into larger rivers, like capillaries connecting to arteries. Riverside woodland overhangs watercourses, having a direct impact on temperature, food, shelter and habitat diversity. Floodplains store and release water. Gravel moves downstream replenishing salmon spawning beds, and the returning salmon themselves connect the ocean to the rivers where their lives began. Often dying after spawning, their bodies are a unique transportation vessel for marine-derived nutrients to be delivered far up into our freshwater catchments. Salmon connect to the animals which surround them, either as predator or prey, and there are also symbiotic relationships in which they are essential to the survival of other species - for example some populations of freshwater pearl mussel whose larvae can only survive by clinging to the gills of juvenile salmon. Without salmon, the pearl mussels die, their ability to filter and clean water is lost, and the wider ecosystem suffers.

For thousands of years these connections shaped our landscapes, allowing rivers to evolve as dynamic, living systems. Over time, many have been broken. Rivers have been straightened, dredged and confined to engineered channels, tributaries dammed and blocked, peatlands drained, floodplains cut off, woodlands cleared and natural processes interrupted.

The consequences extend far beyond wild salmon. When rivers lose their connections, they also lose what makes them healthy and resilient. Reconnection is about putting those relationships back together - reconnecting rivers with their floodplains, reopening historic spawning habitat, and rebuilding the relationship between woodland and water.

Each of the restoration projects we and our partners are driving forward looks slightly different, but each begins with the same simple idea: give nature the opportunity and its ability to recover is clear.

Rivers Reconnected



Some of the most powerful moments in river restoration come not when the machinery arrives, but when it leaves. Last year, we reported that Project Deveron had removed a long-standing barrier from the King Edward Burn, reopening more than 11 kilometres of tributary for the first time in over 150 years. The barrier had disrupted both the upstream and downstream migration of salmon and other species, preventing fish from reaching historic spawning habitat for generations. Its removal alone did not restore the river, but it has allowed the river to begin to restore itself. Freed from an artificial constraint, water, sediment and fish once again began responding to the landscape as they always had. Early observations and survey work are showing that wild salmon are recolonising their former territory.

Work was also undertaken this year on the Edinglassie Burn - a 2.2km tributary of the River Deveron, where restoration has focused on reducing sediment entering the river by fencing livestock away from the watercourse and providing alternative spring-fed drinking points that remain reliable during periods of drought. More than 8,000 native trees have also been planted, helping to create future shade that will moderate water temperatures as the climate warms, while increasing habitat complexity and supporting the insects and wildlife that underpin healthy river ecosystems. While only the lower reaches of the burn are currently accessible to salmon, restoration is continuing. Plans are underway to improve fish passage by replacing a low-flow barrier with a rock ramp, opening up additional habitat upstream. Temperature loggers have also been installed here to monitor the effects of this work over time. This suite of work was funded by the local landowner, in partnership with Chivas Brothers' The River Within, Ramboll Consulting, and the Highlands & Islands Environment Foundation.

Another reconnection story has unfolded in the River Dee catchment. As part of the Save the Spring partnership, a 190-metre side channel of the River Muick was reconnected in late 2025 after years of isolation from the main river. Just 44 days after the work was completed, spawning salmon had returned and were observed cutting redds - a reminder that nature is often ready to recover, it simply needs the opportunity.



Salmon filmed spawning in a newly reconnected channel, River Muick.



The River Deveron's King Edward tributary - restored, reconnected and recovering. This work was funded by the European Open Rivers Programme and Chivas Brothers' The River Within.



Landscapes Reconnected

In northern Scotland, Project Laxford on Grosvenor's Reay Forest Estate continues to rebuild one of the oldest relationships within a river catchment: the connection between rivers and woodland.

Across the estate, the new shoots of returning woodland continue to spring up from the ground. Natural regeneration is occurring in response to an ongoing, managed reduction in deer numbers, while strategic areas, including around salmon spawning streams, have been given a helping hand through fenced enclosures. Deer densities are between 4-7 per km^2 depending on location, and over 9km of fencing was installed in 2026 to exclude grazing and enable tree recovery in key areas. To date, over 26,000 trees have been planted around spawning streams. A further 45,000+ trees are set to be planted in the coming planting season in the lower parts of the catchment.

The Kinloch Burn is one such important salmon spawning tributary within the Laxford catchment. Last year we began a pilot programme of installing 'large wood structures' (dead trees) into the burn to help kick-start the natural processes which will be present again in the future when mature riverside woodland is re-established. These 'LWS' interact with the river's hydrology to create a more diverse range of habitats, including deep pockets, gravel bars, fast runs and slow glides – the complexity of habitat required by wild salmon at different life stages.

In order to understand the impact these LWS are having over time, this year the team collected environmental DNA (eDNA) samples from the burn. Analysis of these samples will show us the range of species present in the burn, and their relative biomass, including wild salmon, invertebrates (which juvenile salmon rely on as food), amphibians, mammals and birds. Collecting these samples regularly will enable us to map changes to the burn linked to our LWS work.

This study has significant implications beyond the Laxford and will provide nationally important data. With LWS being installed on many rivers throughout the UK, our study will help define the effects of LWS on wild salmon and share these findings outward. The team explored a number of ways to look at how LWS are interacting with the burn's hydrology, including experimenting with adding regular household cornstarch to the stream. The movement and pattern of this within the water was then easily visible and recorded from above by one of our high-resolution drone cameras. This video footage will be replicated over time to map changes to the burn's current and flows.

Across different rivers and different landscapes, though interventions must be tailored to each individual catchment, the same principle applies - healthy rivers cannot exist in isolation from the land around them.



Floodplains Reconnected

Perhaps nowhere illustrates the importance of reconnection more clearly than a floodplain. When given the space, rivers flow naturally, meander and spread across their floodplains, recharge groundwater, move sediment and create an extraordinary diversity of habitats.

Project Deveron's Edinglassie Burn restoration work reconnected the 2.2km stream with its floodplain, giving it more room to spill naturally during high flows and slowing the movement of water through the landscape.

Building on the understanding created through Save the Spring's Upper Dee Catchment Audit, this year work to reconnect sections of the River Dee with its historic floodplain also moved forward. In partnership with the



Cairngorms National Park Authority, the River Dee Trust carried out work across a 3km stretch of the river, reconnecting 1.35 km^2 of surrounding floodplain. Historic flood embankments had significantly degraded the quality and extent of natural habitats in the area, leading to a loss of habitat diversity and water storage. Now freed from its engineered constraints, the river can once again begin to spread, heal and grow more resilient over time.

Enabling Investment at Scale

Working through partnerships, this year we enabled over £4.7 million of investment in wild salmon conservation across the UK and Ireland. Together, we're turning shared ambition into meaningful action on the ground, at scale and pace.



"Historically wild salmon have been managed as a species almost in isolation, quantified by numbers of fish caught as they return from sea. We need to see the management of the species today as a wider nature recovery challenge."
Alison Baker, Restoration Director

Just 44 days after work was completed to reconnect a side channel of the River Muick, spawning salmon had returned and were observed cutting redds - a reminder that nature is often ready to recover, it simply needs the opportunity.

Exploring a Parallel Path

Can careful intervention help a depleted population recover?

Save the Spring Smolt-to-Adult Rearing Trial: Supporting Wild Spawning

Save the Spring's smolt-to-adult supplementation trial is a pioneering, pilot intervention designed to support the recovery of wild spring-run dominant salmon populations which spawn in upper catchment areas, while potentially avoiding the well-documented genetic and ecological risks associated with conventional hatcheries. It is focused on supporting wild spawning.

The approach is precautionary and time-limited, aiming to preserve local genetic diversity and accelerate population recovery while longer-term habitat resilience work is underway.

The overwhelming weight of evidence shows that traditional stocking approaches, which breed and release juvenile salmon, carry significant risks, including: reduced fitness and a disruption of natural selection, lower marine survival rates, altered behaviour and long-term genetic impacts on wild populations - effectively risking suppressing natural wild salmon recovery.

The partnership therefore set out to trial a different approach to helping wild salmon, focused on enabling mate selection, spawning behaviour, egg hatching and juvenile life stages all to take place in the wild. Findings will be shared with partners across the country and internationally to assist other river systems in their efforts to restore wild salmon populations.

The story so far

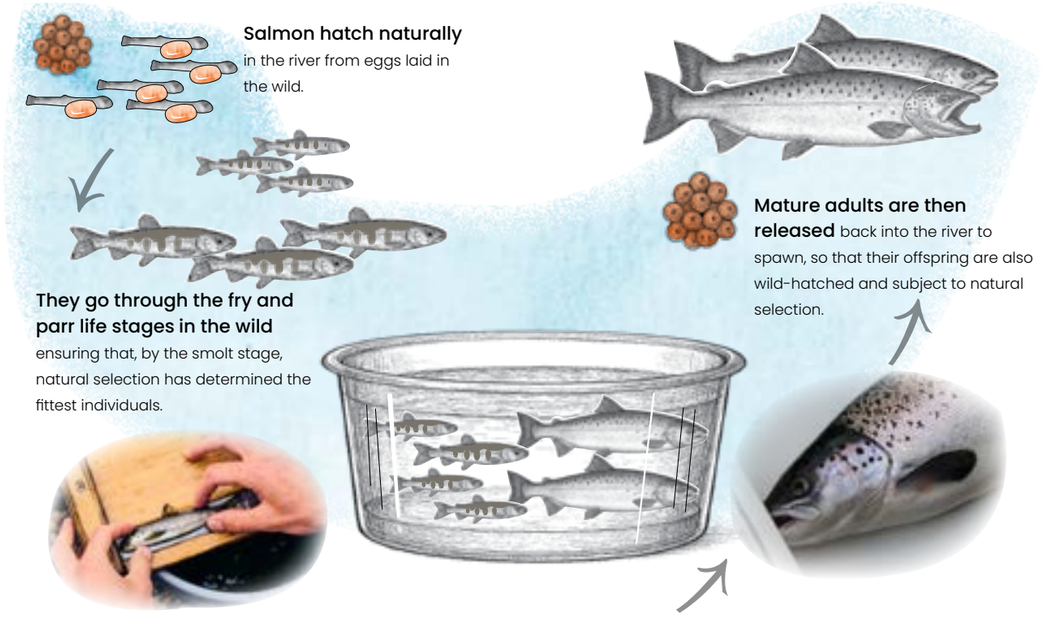
In autumn 2025, 75 mature adult salmon originally collected as smolts from the River Muick in spring 2024, were successfully returned to their natal river to spawn in the wild. These fish were reared to maturity in saltwater tanks at the University of Stirling's Marine Environmental Research Laboratory (MERL).

Prior to this, spring 2025 saw us collect a further 100 smolts (estimated to represent just 1.7% of the total Muick smolt run) which were carefully transferred to MERL. 91 of these fish, including some from cohort 1 which were kept for an additional year, were released back into the Muick as adults in autumn 2026.

Fish health and welfare have been prioritised throughout, with high survival rates, routine veterinary oversight, and comprehensive health screening prior to transport and release.

The project has been delivered through strong collaborative working with the University of Stirling, with open engagement and scrutiny from regulators, scientists and practitioners, ensuring that the work is transparent, well-governed and aligned with best practice. We also report to, and receive feedback regularly from, an international Scientific Advisory Group.

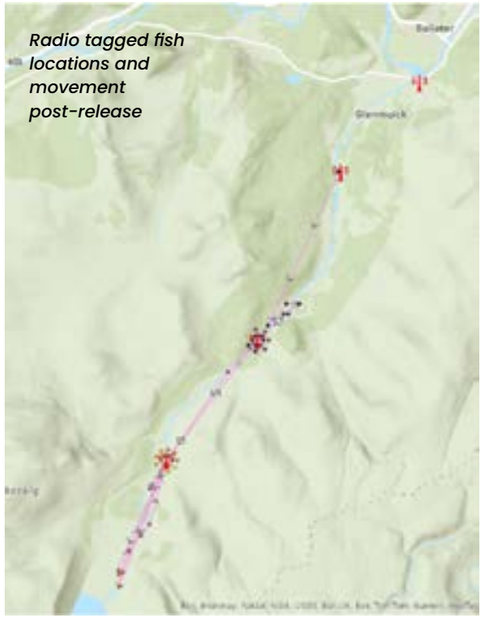




What was the outcome for released fish? Key facts, figures and observations

Out of the 75 fish successfully released by the River Dee team into the River Muick in autumn 2025, comprising 43 females (57%) and 32 males (43%), 48 fish were fitted with radio transmitters to allow detailed monitoring of their post-release movements, habitat use and likely spawning locations, while providing valuable insight into behaviour following reintroduction. Seven fish were released above the Linn of Muick falls, and the rest below - matching the locations of their initial capture.

Four fixed radio tracking stations were set up at strategic points throughout the Muick to record fish movements, while a fifth unit was deployed as a portable device, allowing the River Dee team to track the fish on foot. Radio tracking proved highly successful, with 47 of the 48 tagged fish subsequently detected. The single missing fish was likely either predated or experienced an early transmitter failure. The released females had an average weight of 950g, with the largest fish at 1.5kg. This was smaller than we would have hoped for, but nevertheless, based on an estimated 1,500 eggs per kilogramme, this represents a potential contribution of approximately 60,000 eggs to the river system. The largest of our male fish weighed 2.3kg.



Radio tagged fish locations and movement post-release


Female salmon from the trial having been predated, showing evidence of successful spawning.

Evidence of spawning

The radio tracking programme revealed some fascinating behavioural insights. At least three fish moved into the Allt Cholzie, one of the primary spawning tributaries of the Muick. A dead female was found who was likely to have spawned with one of the male fish still present in the area.

Despite eight fish from the lower release sites making it as far upriver as the Linn of Muick, only one fish successfully passed up through the fish ladder into the upper catchment - a large male that spent more than three weeks below the falls before finally ascending in November.

Fish passage up the ladder was lower last year in general, probably linked to low flows. Once upstream, the large male moved rapidly through the catchment and was later observed near important spawning gravels close to Loch Muick, where it was seen swimming alongside a wild fish of similar size. Another male, initially released above the falls, stayed close to its release site for much of the season while occasionally making exploratory upstream movements. After weeks of uncertainty over whether the fish was still alive, it was finally observed in good condition and full of energy, showing the darker colouration typical of salmon adapting back to river life from the sea.



Genetic sampling will be key

Key to measuring the impact of the trial over the long term will be juvenile surveys and genetic monitoring. Genetic samples were taken from every fish which has entered the trial. Through future juvenile survey work and genetic sampling, we will be able to determine the contribution to the population made by fish in the trial, matching juveniles to their parents. After conducting the trial for several years, we will be able to understand the impact that our efforts made.

2026 Update

Successful smolt capture

It was a tense few weeks on Deeside this spring as we waited for the weather to change and water temperatures to rise, prompting the smolts to begin their migration journey. All efforts were focused on bringing in the third cohort of fish for the trial – fish which will be released as adults in 2027-2028.

Finally, on the last weekend of April, the migration began and the team was able to collect and transport 100 smolts to MERL. Here they underwent gradual adaptation to seawater in their own dedicated accommodation tanks.

91 Adults released in autumn 2026

After the first cohort of fish released were not quite as large as we had hoped, growth with cohort 2 (to be released in 2026-2027) has appeared more positive. At the beginning of October, the River Dee team began transporting fish back to Deeside from MERL and reintroducing them to the river. The 91 adult fish released in autumn 2026 had a greater average weight, with the largest fish weighing around 3.3kg.

Once again, a number of fish were fitted with radio tags and the team will track their movements and behaviour, as well as looking for signs of spawning later this season. We continue to learn valuable lessons with each cohort of fish, and continue to move ahead with cautious optimism.

Wild spawning in wild places

The future of wild salmon cannot be bred in a hatchery. It must be built in our rivers through cold, clean water, healthy habitats and the freedom for wild fish to complete their extraordinary lifecycle naturally. Save the Spring's trial places this philosophy at its heart, investigating whether a time-limited intervention can help put a wild salmon population back on a self-sustaining upward trajectory. Ultimately, recovery is not about producing more salmon for the river - it is about creating rivers capable of producing more wild salmon themselves.

Mature adult salmon are returned to spawn in the River Muick, released into a recently reconnected channel. Significant habitat restoration is underway on this River Dee tributary, including woodland regeneration and wetland creation.

Reconnecting People

Wild salmon connect far more than rivers.

Long before we understood ecosystems, biodiversity or climate resilience, people understood salmon.

For thousands of years, wild Atlantic salmon have shaped the landscapes, communities and cultures of the North Atlantic. Their migrations linked rivers to oceans, but they also linked people to place. From our southern English chalk streams to the mighty rivers of Scotland, the rivers of the Iberian Peninsula to the fjords of Norway, from Iceland to eastern Canada, communities have lived alongside salmon for millennia. Though many populations have now been lost or severely depleted, what remains is still part of a shared natural and cultural heritage stretching across continents.

Our relationship with wild salmon is older than history itself. Around 25,000 years ago, during the last Ice Age, an artist carved the image of a salmon into the limestone of the Abri du Poisson rock shelter in what is now southwest France. It remains one of the oldest known depictions of a fish anywhere on Earth. Since then, salmon have appeared in mythology and folklore, on Pictish stones, in literature, art and architecture, and in the traditions of countless communities whose lives were shaped by the annual return of fish from the sea.

For generations, that return sustained families, supported livelihoods and inspired celebration. Later, rivers renowned for their salmon fostered an angling tradition that still connects people with wild places and the changing seasons. Whether as a source of food, inspiration or recreation, salmon became woven into the identity of landscapes across the North Atlantic.

As salmon have declined, something else has quietly been lost alongside them. Many people now live beside rivers without ever seeing a wild salmon. The seasonal rhythms that once connected communities to their rivers have faded from everyday life. In many places, salmon have become something we read about rather than something we experience.

The Atlantic Salmon Trust recognises that recovering wild salmon is about far more than work to restore a single species. It is about rebuilding the relationship between people and the natural world itself. Our communications and outreach work this year had this philosophy at its heart as we embraced new ways of connecting people and place.



"Wild salmon belong to all of us, not only those who fish for them. If we're to give them a future, we need to understand, and rebuild, the deeper connections between salmon, rivers, and people."
Jonathon Muir
Director of Communications

The Torridon Stone is a surviving memory of Atlantic salmon from the Pictish people, carved around 500-700AD.

TOGETHER, WE CAN BRING THEM BACK.

#WildSalmonDay

Inspiring a Global Movement for Change

International Wild Salmon Day 2026

On June 1st each year, communities across the Atlantic and Pacific are pausing to celebrate some of the world's most remarkable migratory species – wild salmon. Jointly launched last year by the Pacific Salmon Foundation, First Nations Fisheries Council of British Columbia, Atlantic Salmon Trust and Atlantic Salmon Federation, this year's campaign reached even more people across the world.

International Wild Salmon Day is proving to be more than a date in the calendar. It is a reminder that wild salmon connect people across continents, cultures, languages and generations. Although British and Irish rivers may seem far removed from those of British Columbia, Iceland or Newfoundland, the challenges facing wild salmon are strikingly familiar. Habitat degradation and climate change know no borders, but neither does the determination to restore wild salmon.

In 2026, conservation organisations from both sides of the Atlantic and Pacific came together with a shared message: **Wild salmon need healthy rivers now.**

The timing was deliberate. Early summer marks the beginning of the main restoration season across much of the Northern Hemisphere. Young salmon have already left for the sea, while adult fish have yet to spawn. It is the brief window when rivers become worksites - when barriers are removed, floodplains reconnected, estuaries restored and riverbanks replanted in preparation for the next generation of fish.

The message reflected both urgency and optimism. Across the North Atlantic, wild Atlantic salmon continue to face some of the lowest returns ever recorded. Many Pacific salmon populations have also experienced long-term declines. Yet wherever rivers have been given the chance to recover, there are encouraging signs that salmon can respond.

From dam removals on the Penobscot River in Maine which reconnected 2,000km of spawning habitat, as well as in the upper Klamath Basin in California and Oregon, the recovery of Fraser River sockeye, and our own partnership with the River Dee through Save the Spring, successful restoration examples from across the world showed what was possible when investment, science and local communities come together around a common purpose.



The Atlantic Salmon Trust, Atlantic Salmon Federation and Norwegian Salmon Rivers jointly raise the Wild Salmon Day flag at the Forty-Third Annual Meeting of NASCO in Aviemore.



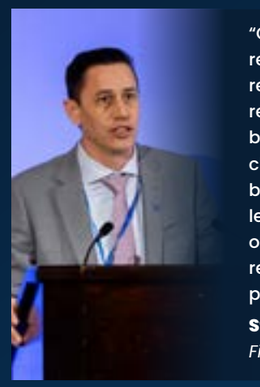
"It's easy to think about wild salmon in terms of local problems, but their problems aren't local — they're found across the globe. This year's call to action for greater scale and urgency for habitat restoration is a critical message. The Atlantic Salmon Trust and our partners are driving forward a growing network of catchment-scale restoration programmes across the UK, but wild salmon need us to go further, faster. Working with our wider partners across the Atlantic and Pacific is how we turn individual action into a collective, global movement."

Mark Bilsby *CEO Atlantic Salmon Trust*



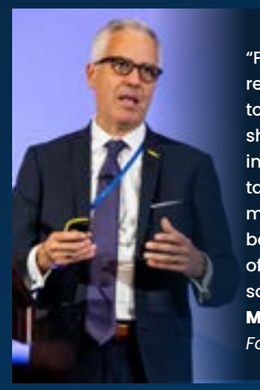
"Wild Atlantic salmon have demonstrated their resilience to the natural environment for millennia, but now they need our help more than ever. From targeted land and water protections, to ambitious dam removals, the Atlantic Salmon Federation and our partners are giving wild salmon access to the cold, clean water they need to thrive for generations to come,"

Nathan Wilbur, *President - Atlantic Salmon Federation*



"Communities are reconnecting rivers, rebuilding estuaries, and replanting riverbanks because when habitat is restored, salmon have a chance to return. First Nations have a right to fish, but that right is only meaningful if there are fish left to exercise it. This June 1 is more than a day of awareness; it is a call to support the habitat restoration work that is making a difference and protecting the future of the fishery,"

Stu Barnes, *Executive Director of the First Nations Fisheries Council of BC*



"Pacific salmon are remarkably resilient. When given the chance to rebound, we've seen them show signs of recovery against incredible odds. Now is the time to take a whole-system approach to restoration - from mountain to sea - so that salmon can return to the best possible conditions after surviving a gauntlet of challenges. It will take all of us to ensure healthy salmon for future generations,"

Michael Meneer, *President & CEO Pacific Salmon Foundation*

Wild Salmon Day Global Reach

Social media campaign

7.5 million people reached in **40 countries** around the world

21,000 interactions with our content

High profile recognition shared by actor

Leonardo DiCaprio to his **59 million** Instagram followers

18 million web reach through news articles

745 responses to our Wild Salmon Day poll

Content created in **6 languages** English, French, German, Norwegian, Icelandic and Swedish

8,500 visits to the Wild Salmon Day website

70,000 video views

Nature Connection

In conversation with Elle Adams, Executive Director at the Findhorn, Nairn and Lossie Rivers Trust

This summer our Director of Communications, Jonathon Muir, made a visit to the River Findhorn to interview Elle Adams. The pair discussed the challenges facing wild salmon in the catchment, and explored why rekindling the human relationship with nature is key to enabling recovery.

While wild salmon recovery is an urgent ecological issue, it is also about people. This conversation explores a critical component of nature recovery – the human connection with the natural world, and how we see, interact with and value nature.

Jonathon: Elle, tell me a bit about yourself. What's your background and what drew you to the River Findhorn?

Elle: I grew up in southwest London, and studied design in Edinburgh, so perhaps not a typical route to river conservation. But rivers have always been an important point of connection to the natural world for me. Even growing up in an urban environment, I have early memories playing pooh sticks on Beverley Brook which runs through Barnes Common, rowing on the Thames and visiting the wetlands centre at Barn Elms. I never felt like I fully belonged in London, but knew that I always loved rivers and that I wanted to do something to give back to them. Moving to Scotland to live alongside the River Findhorn was the culmination of a personal journey about rivers and belonging.

Jonathon: For those who aren't familiar with the Findhorn watershed, how would you describe its scale and character?

Elle: The Findhorn is 100km long with a catchment area of 1,300km^2, nestled between the Nairn and then Ness to the west and Lossie and Spey to the east. It's totally extraordinary, especially the wooded gorge section – having that sort of hidden gem feel about it. It's a very varied catchment, and therefore a microcosm of the different challenges facing Scottish rivers and competing land use priorities, from upland sporting estates and peatlands, to commercial forestry in the lower catchment, to fertile agricultural land and an intertidal estuary. There's also a real diversity of settlements, from the traditional fishing village and farming communities to military sites and an eco-village. Culturally too, there's a historic mix of Gaelic speaking and Doric speaking areas. There's therefore such a spectrum of ways in which people interact with our rivers.

Jonathon: Broadly speaking, what are the challenges facing wild salmon and nature here?

Elle: Rising water temperatures are a key concern. Our water temperature monitoring network records readings well into the thermal stress zone for wild salmon. A lot of our recent focus has therefore been on restoring riparian woodland. However, we're also realising that degraded peatland is just as big an issue. We think that we have tens of thousands of hectares of peatland in degraded condition in this watershed alone. The Findhorn is a spate river, and if the peatland isn't holding back water we get huge, destructive flows like tidal waves that suddenly sweep through and then disappear, rather than a steadier ingress of water to feed the system. The result of these huge peaks is destabilised habitats and spawning gravels, as well as cycles of drought and flooding.



"Nature recovery is as much about our human connection with the natural world, as it is about the physical work on the ground."



Jonathon: So similar challenges to many catchments when we think of a lack of resilience?

Elle: Yes, but we are also experiencing growing pressures from development too. There's substantial interest in establishing more onshore wind farms here, and then storage and transmission for the energy they generate. There are risks associated with construction, access tracks, culverts, and concrete. There's also road building. If we look at the catchment as a system, we have been beginning to ask at what point do the ecological risks of this development, such as a large siltation event, outweigh the benefits.

Jonathon: What about disease in wild salmon? I know the Findhorn is one of a number of rivers which have suffered in recent years from what seems to be a virulent strain of Saprolegnia.

Elle: Sadly yes. There are studies underway to try and learn more about the underlying causes, but we're finding that the stress that wild salmon are under from those broader environmental challenges doesn't help. Hot weather in spring creates large day-night water temperature swings, whilst low flows hold fish together in pools, stopping them from spreading throughout the river.

Jonathon: So how are you going about tackling all those challenges?

Elle: Firstly, there was an organisational pivot. We changed from being a fisheries trust to a rivers trust – part of a deliberate effort to shift from a narrow species focus, to thinking more systemically about the habitats it needs and what could be done to improve them. When I joined the Trust to establish the Findhorn Watershed Initiative in 2022, we set out three strategic strands to help us meet those challenges: Nature Recovery, Nature Connection and Nature-Positive Economy. The first strand is about restoring a mosaic of nature-rich habitats, with the understanding that this has to happen around other land uses. The second is about fostering a greater connection between humans and nature, ultimately to lead to pro-nature behaviour changes. The third is about having an awareness that, if we want to achieve change at the pace and scale that is commensurate with the nature and climate emergencies, we need to involve a lot of people, businesses, different sources of funding, creating jobs and skills – so how do we make sure local communities benefit? The process is a multi-generational one.



Jonathon: I'm really interested in talking about your Nature Connection work. What led to such a focus on that?

Elle: There was definitely a personal element to it. I'm deeply concerned about the disconnect between humans and the natural world and the knock-on effects that has through society. But this perspective is also being backed up in research and policy. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), a global network of 150 leading scientists, state in their recent Transformative Change Report that, 'Deep, fundamental shifts in how people view and interact with the natural world are urgently needed to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and safeguard life on earth.' Disconnect between humans and the natural world is increasingly seen as an indirect driver of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Jonathon: How has that strategy translated to work on the ground?

Elle: We've achieved quite a lot quite quickly in terms of riparian woodland, thanks in part to a public grant which enabled us to foster relationships with landowners and develop a project pipeline. Then a major partnership with Chivas Brothers' The River Within, enabled us to deliver these schemes on key salmon spawning tributaries. So far we've achieved 110 hectares of riparian woodland restoration with a further 74 scheduled for the coming season.

> "I'm deeply concerned about the disconnect between humans and the natural world and the knock-on effects that has through society."







Jonathon: Tell me about the work that you've done around cultural heritage, particularly the work that was commissioned in the Findhorn's headwaters.

Elle: We piloted a range of community engagement approaches, including citizen science, environmental education, and arts projects. We also engaged two local Gaelic-speaking creative ethnographers – Raghnaid Sandilands and Mairi McFadyen – who employ a practice they call 'cultural darning and mending', as our Human Ecology Researchers in Residence. Raghnaid and Mairi went through archives, exploring maps and manuscripts hundreds of years old, as well as old sound recordings from Gaelic speakers, which related to the upper part of the catchment. Their work gave us really practical outputs to support restoration – uncovering all the nature-related place names that had since been forgotten. If somewhere was called 'The burn of the willow', we can now make sure that willow is planted there. We also discovered that even the smallest trickles of water, not even streams, all had names. It has given us a restoration guide for the land, that was tied to people and culture. It also shows us that these areas were more populated in the past, and intimately named and known, giving a real sense that there was a deeper harmony with nature and place.

> "If somewhere was called 'The burn of the willow', we can now make sure that willow is planted there."

Jonathon: Creativity has clearly played a role in rekindling that cultural connection with nature. Can you tell me about the role that music has played?

Elle: Aside from the place names, the work also uncovered local songs and stories tied to the land – some of which weren't even in Scottish archives but were found in Nova Scotia, having gone on that journey when people emigrated. We brought those songs back to the watershed, held a series of concerts, and people were able to listen to them for the first time in hundreds of years. It's all been about fostering that connection, sense of belonging to place, and inspiring a deeper sense of care and shared responsibility.

Jonathon: You make the case that wild salmon recovery is a nature recovery challenge and a human relationship challenge, rather than just a fisheries management challenge. Has there been any resistance to that framing from more salmon-centric quarters?

Elle: I think some have been dismissive of parts of the cultural work, but we're under no illusions that the work we need to do to truly operate at the watershed scale and work with a living system, requires us to engage a huge diversity of people and world views. Not everyone is going to engage with everything we do, but we're trying to offer as many ways in as possible. We're finding that local anglers are engaging in our invertebrate monitoring for instance which may correlate closer with salmon interests, while other elements of the community may be more interested in cultural connections. We need as broad a base as possible.

Jonathon: In terms of the Nature-Positive Economy element, how is that working in practice?

Elle: A great example is around deer management. Deer came up as a cross-cutting issue with many land managers throughout the watershed, affecting the regeneration of riparian woodland in the upper catchment, but also impacting commercial forestry operations lower down the system. In response, we set up the Findhorn Watershed Deer Forum to encourage better collaboration and build capacity, and also to ensure the resource coming off the hills is valued and put to good use, and to get people excited about eating venison. There are multiple new venison enterprises that have sprung up locally in the last year, all creating local jobs while supporting ecological and economic goals.

Jonathon: Sounds like there's a huge amount of positive work going on, but also lots of work ahead. What's next in the pipeline for the coming weeks and months?

Elle: We're growing the team so we have more capacity to deliver at scale. We've recently recruited a Coastal Restoration Officer who will be working on seagrass restoration, as well as looking at salt marshes and mussel beds in Findhorn Bay – really exemplifying that source to sea approach. We're also exploring conservation cattle grazing to support capercaillie habitat and we have further woodland restoration schemes coming up around key salmon spawning tributaries, particularly those used by spring salmon.

Jonathon: And what about the long-term vision. Looking further into the future, what's your hope for the catchment's wild salmon, nature and people in the latter part of the 21st Century?

Elle: The watershed will always be the most coherent unit of belonging, connection and for restoration. I hope to see the rekindling of human-nature relationships and nature-positive livelihoods at that scale, so we establish a true biodiversity stronghold for generations to come. But I'd also like to see greater connectivity and collaboration between catchments at the bioregional level too – that could really unlock the wider economic and policy support which will also be pivotal.

Jonathon: Thanks very much for your time, Elle. I think there's a huge source of inspiration there for others looking to integrate people, culture and economics more closely with environmental goals. We look forward to following the Findhorn's story.

> "I hope to see the rekindling of human-nature relationships and nature-positive livelihoods at scale."



Taking Salmon to the Streets

Making the invisible visible.

Wild salmon have inhabited the chalk streams of southern England for thousands of years. Yet many of the people living beside these rivers may never have seen one. They cross bridges on their morning commute, walk riverside footpaths with their families and enjoy the beauty of these internationally important rivers, often without realising that one of Britain's rarest wild fish is swimming beneath the surface.

That invisibility presents one of conservation's greatest challenges. When a species disappears out of sight, it can disappear from public consciousness too. Decline becomes gradual, almost imperceptible. Rivers may still appear beautiful, even as the wildlife they support becomes increasingly fragile.

Project White Hart, launched last year, was created to change that. Its ambition is not simply to restore habitat for wild chalk stream salmon, but to reconnect people with the rivers they live alongside, using creativity, storytelling and community action to make the invisible visible.

As Project Founder and Atlantic Salmon Trust ambassador, Jim Murray, explains:
"We need to find ways to bring people closer to the rivers and help them see what is at stake. Many local residents won't realise that they have such a rare creature on their doorstep, or how close it is to extinction."



Project White Hart Founder, Jim Murray MBE



A Salmon in the City

Sometimes, the most powerful way to tell a conservation story is to take it somewhere people least expect to find it.

Over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend in 2026, visitors to Winchester City Centre were met by an extraordinary sight. Emerging from the pavement, a wild Atlantic salmon appeared to leap from beneath the streets, frozen in mid-air as if the River Itchen itself had burst through the city.

Created by internationally renowned street artist, Julian Beever, the spectacular three-dimensional chalk artwork stopped people in their tracks. Hundreds gathered to photograph it, examine it, and stopped to ask why it was there.
That moment of curiosity became an invitation into a much bigger story. Many people are unaware that Hampshire's chalk streams support one of the rarest and most threatened wild Atlantic salmon populations anywhere in the world. Yet despite their significance, they remain largely invisible.





By bringing a salmon into the heart of the city, Project White Hart was able to briefly make the hidden visible. For one weekend, an animal normally encountered only by anglers and conservationists became part of everyday life. Families, shoppers and visitors found themselves talking about wild salmon, chalk streams and the future of the rivers flowing quietly through their city.
The installation demonstrated something important – that conservation doesn't always begin beside a river, sometimes it begins on a busy pavement, with a moment of surprise that encourages people to look beneath the surface and see their local landscape differently.

For Project White Hart, that moment was never just about creating a piece of public art. It was about creating a conversation. One capable of reaching people who might never attend a public meeting, read a scientific report or consider themselves part of a conservation process, but who nevertheless have a stake in the future of the rivers that flow through their communities.





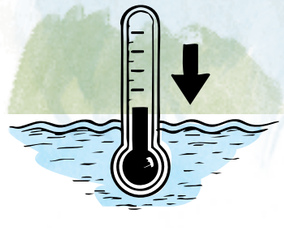
Did You Know?



Around **85%** of the world's chalk streams are found in England.

Wild chalk stream Atlantic salmon are among the rarest salmon populations on Earth.





Chalk streams run naturally cool, meaning they have built-in resilience to climate change and could act as globally important salmon strongholds – if we take action to save them.



In 2025 only **250** salmon returned to the River Itchen, just **33%** of the river's conservation limit – the number of spawning salmon required to sustain the population.

The River Starts Here



The Yellow Fish serve as a reminder that these drains do not lead to a sewage treatment works. Instead, they discharge directly into local watercourses, carrying with them anything that enters the drainage system.

The message is deliberately simple. Every drain is connected to the river and every action has consequences.

Returning adult salmon migrating upstream through the lower River Test must pass the outfall from Nursling Industrial Estate on their journey towards their spawning grounds. Pollutants entering the river can reduce water quality, harm aquatic plants and invertebrates that underpin the food web, and in some cases create chemical barriers that disrupt the migration of salmon and other fish.

The Yellow Fish project is transforming an ordinary part of the urban landscape into something that prompts people to stop, think and ask questions. A roadside drain becomes more than a piece of infrastructure; it becomes the beginning of a river.

Most people think of rivers beginning solely at their source high in the hills, at a spring, or at the head of a valley. But rivers begin in our towns and cities too.

Every road, pavement, industrial estate and car park forms part of the catchment. When rain falls, it carries with it everything left behind - oil, paint, detergents, chemicals, litter and sediment - before washing it into nearby streams and rivers.

What happens on our streets does not stay on our streets. It flows downstream.
That simple idea lay at the heart of another Project White Hart initiative this year, where bright yellow fish began to appear beside surface water drains across Nursling Industrial Estate on the banks of the River Test.
Working in partnership with Wessex Rivers Trust, Southern Water and the Testwood Wildlife Rangers, Project White Hart has been marking drains across the estate with eco-friendly chalk spray paint to encourage businesses, employees and visitors to think differently about the everyday choices that affect river health.



TAKING SALMON **TO THE STREETS**



Chalk streams are among the rarest freshwater habitats on Earth. Fed by clear, mineral-rich groundwater filtered through chalk aquifers, they are characterised by remarkably stable flows and support an extraordinary diversity of life. There are only around 200 chalk streams worldwide, with the vast majority found in England – making these rivers not simply nationally important, but globally significant ecosystems.







Measuring Recovery

Listening for nature's response

The signs of change after restoration efforts have been made are easy to see. Barriers removed, channels reconnected, and trees planted are all visible evidence of restoration in action. But they are not, in themselves, measures of success.

The true measure of restoration lies in how nature responds to this activity over time.

Do salmon return to newly restored habitats? Do young fish survive in greater numbers? Does the river become more resilient to floods and drought? Does wider biodiversity recover alongside wild salmon? These are questions that cannot be answered in a single season. They require patience, long-term commitment and, above all, careful observation.

It is essential that restoration demonstrates real ecological outcomes. It must show that interventions are delivering lasting benefits for rivers, wildlife and the communities that depend upon them.

Monitoring to provide that evidence is therefore a critical component of our catchment restoration partnerships. It allows us to move beyond assumptions and understand the complex relationships between restoration and recovery. It helps us identify what is working, recognise where approaches need to change, and build an evidence base that can inform future projects, not only within a single catchment but the country.

This commitment to evidence lies at the heart of our work. Across our partnership projects, we're combining long-term ecological monitoring with emerging technologies to build a detailed picture of how rivers are changing over time. From individual salmon navigating restored channels, to the physical evolution of river habitats, to the countless species that together form healthy freshwater ecosystems, every piece of information contributes to a deeper understanding of recovery.

By watching carefully for that response, we can ensure that every project leaves rivers not only restored, but better understood and that every lesson learned helps shape the wider future of wild Atlantic salmon conservation.

Understanding how salmon respond

For most of their lives, wild Atlantic salmon remain beyond our view. They hatch beneath river gravels and spend their first vulnerable years largely hidden in our rivers before embarking on the extraordinary migration that carries them thousands of kilometres across the North Atlantic.

For centuries, much of that journey remained a mystery. Scientists could observe salmon at the beginning and the end of their lives, but what happened in between was often left to inference. Where did they choose to spawn? How did they respond to restored habitat? Which routes did they take through a river? What obstacles delayed them? Why did some fish succeed while others failed? Today, those questions can begin to be answered with a level of detail that would have seemed unimaginable only a generation ago.



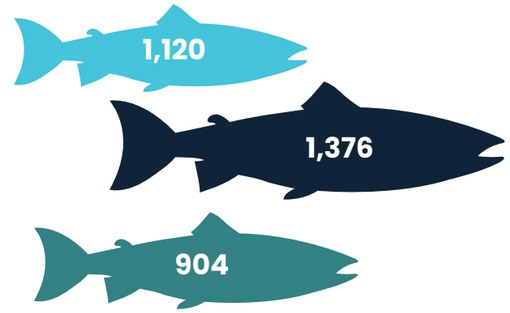
On the Atlantic Salmon Trust's two Core Rivers projects, Project Laxford and Project Deveron, tiny Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags are helping reveal the hidden movements of individual fish and providing us with a population level view of migration, behaviour and survival. Each autumn, up to 2,000 young salmon parr are tagged on each river. Implanted carefully beneath the skin, each tag carries a unique identity, allowing salmon to be detected automatically as they pass strategically placed monitoring antennae in the river. This enables us to track when they 'smolt' and go to sea, and understand how many survive their migration and return to the river as adults to spawn. Every detection allows us to build a picture of how salmon interact with their environment throughout their lives.

PIT tagging is complemented by sonar imaging technology – Adaptive Resolution Imaging Sonar (ARIS) cameras which allow returning adult fish to be counted without the need to handle or disturb them, operating day and night, and in conditions where traditional observation would be impossible. This year we supported our partners at Fisheries Management Scotland, whose work with AI software is enabling tens of thousands of hours of sonar footage to be processed more efficiently. On both projects our sonar equipment has been funded by the Scottish Government's Marine Directorate and is operated by our local project teams.

Both technologies are at work to enable us to link habitat restoration efforts to a response in the wild salmon population. Year-on-year fluctuations are to be expected, but we will be looking to identify longer-term trends in the population.

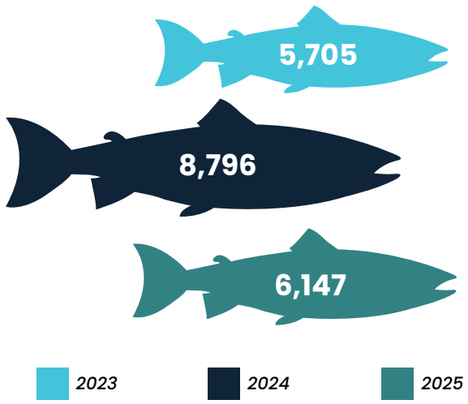
River Laxford

Returning Adult Salmon Sonar Count



River Deveron

Returning Adult Salmon Sonar Count



Tracking a Lifetime

Up to 2,000 salmon parr are PIT tagged each season on both Project Laxford and Project Deveron. Each fish has a unique ID code entered into our database, allowing us to track when they smolt and go to sea, and if they return as adults. This information is building our understanding of habitat use, migration behaviour, marine survival rates, and the impact of restoration efforts.

Understanding how rivers respond

A restored river is never finished. Unlike constructing a building or a bridge, a river is not designed to remain exactly as it was on the day the work was completed. Its channels shift, gravels move, banks erode and vegetation establishes. High flows reshape the landscape, while periods of drought test its resilience. Every season leaves its mark.

The aim of river restoration is not to create a fixed design, but to re-establish the natural processes that allow rivers to adapt, evolve and renew themselves over time. Understanding whether that is happening requires us to look beyond the water's surface.

Using drones, high-resolution aerial imagery and three-dimensional Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping, we can capture an entirely new perspective of rivers and their surrounding landscapes. These technologies allow us to measure subtle changes in channel shape, floodplain connectivity, and habitat complexity with remarkable precision, building an increasingly detailed picture of how restored rivers evolve through time.



At the same time, networks of environmental sensors continuously record conditions that cannot be seen with the naked eye. Water temperature, for example, is one of the most important factors influencing the survival of wild Atlantic salmon. As climate change brings warmer summers and more frequent extremes, long-term temperature monitoring helps us understand where rivers remain resilient, where restoration is providing cooler refuge, and where further action is needed. On Project Laxford and Project Deveron, a network of water temperature loggers records readings every 15 minutes.

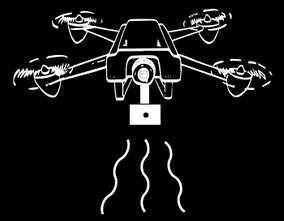


3D digital modelling is allowing us to replicate and investigate entire catchments, increasing the pace and impact of restoration decisions.

MEASURING **CHANGE**

Above & Below

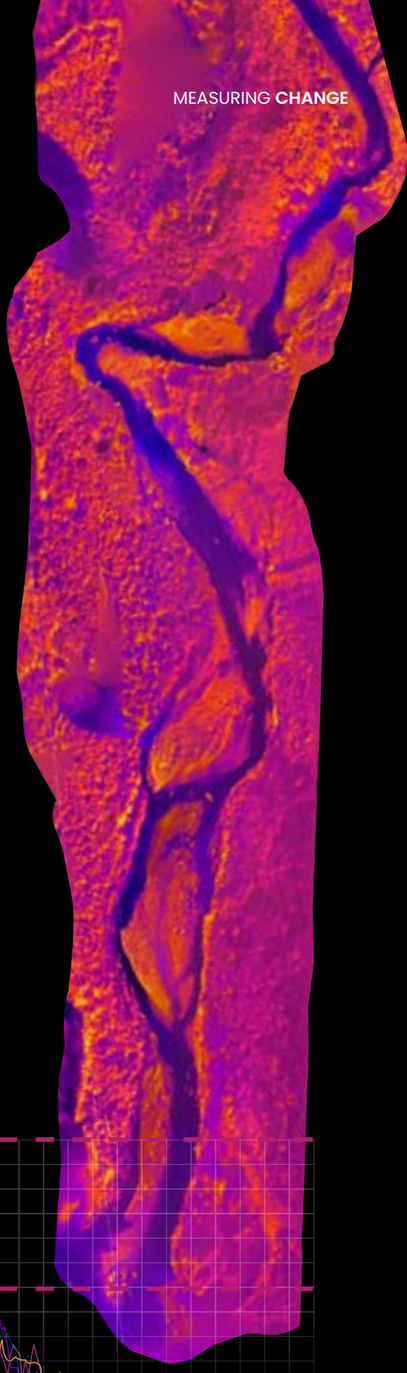
How we're monitoring temperature



Thermal Imaging Drone
sees infrared radiation (heat) from surfaces and converts this into thermal images, showing temperature differences across the landscape and water bodies. This highlights temperature variations in watercourses, identifying cold water refuges, potential fish habitats, and sources of thermal pollution.



In-river temperature loggers
are installed strategically throughout catchments. They record water temperatures every 15 minutes, allowing us to build a complete temperature picture over the course of a year.



Laxford Water Temperatures: 2022-2025



Understanding the wider ecosystem

Wild Atlantic salmon are an indicator species. Their presence tells us something critically important about the health of a river, but they are never the whole story. Healthy salmon populations do not exist in isolation. They depend upon intricate food webs, diverse habitats and countless interactions with other species. The insects that emerge from clean gravels, the freshwater mussels filtering the water, the birds hunting along the banks, the mammals moving through the landscape and the microscopic organisms invisible to the naked eye all play a part in shaping a healthy river. When we restore rivers for salmon, we restore them for far more than salmon alone.

Understanding those wider ecological responses has traditionally been a significant challenge. Surveying entire ecosystems is time-consuming, often requiring specialist knowledge across many different groups of plants and animals. Some species are elusive, others are active only at certain times of year, while many are simply too small to observe.

Today, new techniques are transforming that picture. Every river carries traces of the life within it. As fish swim, insects develop, mammals drink and birds feed, tiny fragments of genetic material are released into the water. Known as environmental DNA, or eDNA, these microscopic traces allow us to identify an extraordinary diversity of species from a small number of water samples, creating a snapshot of the ecosystem that would once have taken months of field surveys to assemble.

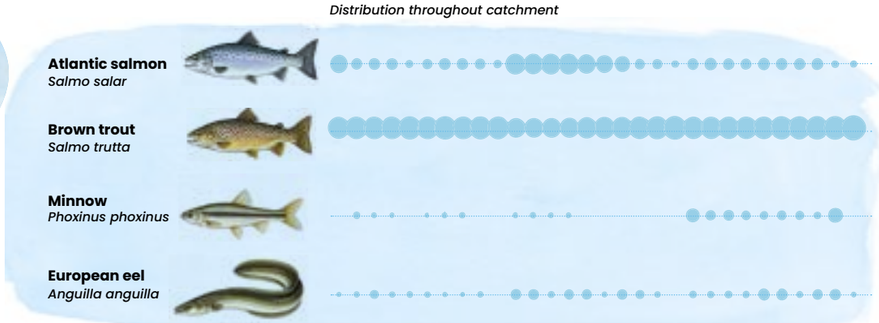
The results we are producing are remarkable. Project Laxford has embraced this approach, using eDNA to build one of the most comprehensive pictures yet of biodiversity across the catchment. The growing list of species identified demonstrates the remarkable richness of the watershed and provides a powerful baseline against which future restoration can be measured.

Wild salmon as an emblem of biodiversity

Insights from Project Laxford

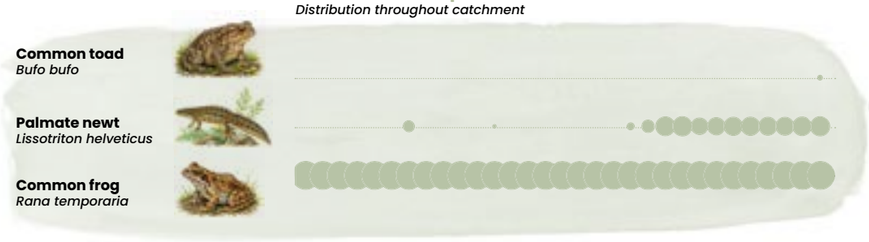
Laxford fish eDNA

Distribution throughout catchment



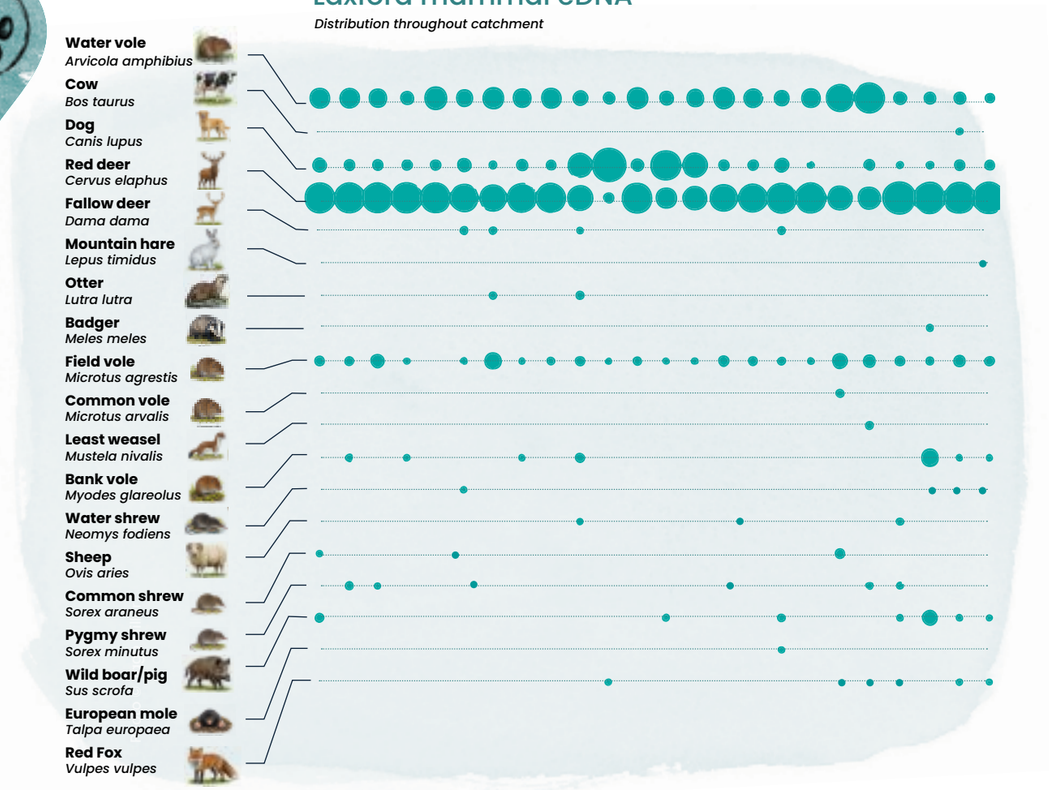
Laxford amphibian eDNA

Distribution throughout catchment



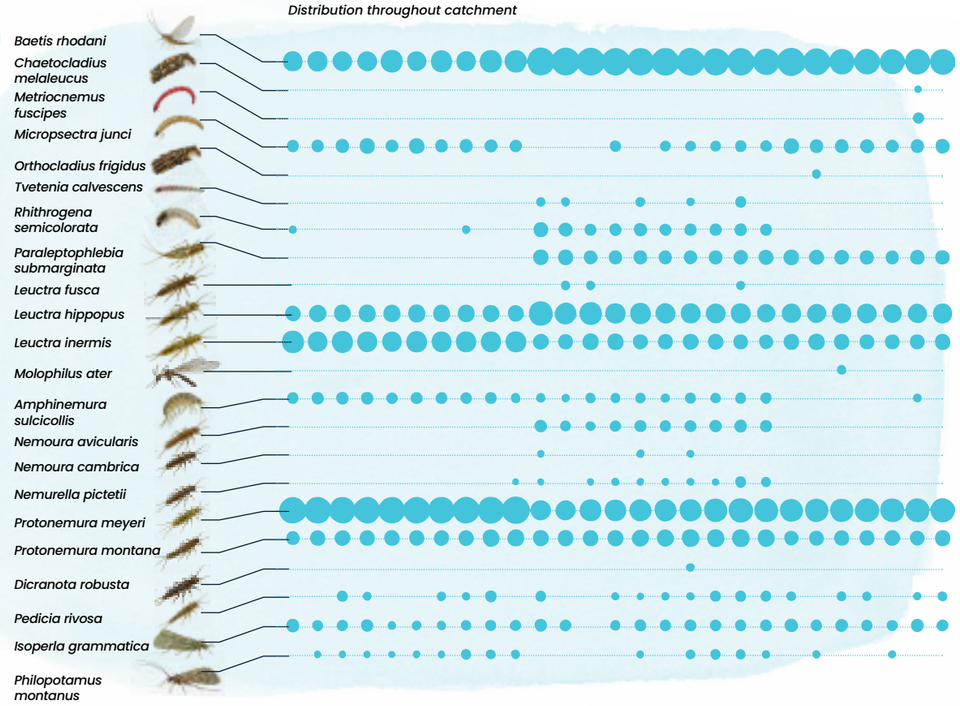
Laxford mammal eDNA

Distribution throughout catchment



Laxford key invertebrate species >1000 reads

Distribution throughout catchment



The Project Laxford team deploying a smolt trap in April 2026. Trapping, counting and quickly releasing smolts, paired with data modelling methods, enables us to calculate the catchment's total smolt output each season. Restoration work aims to maximise the number of healthy, wild smolts heading out to sea.

Beyond What We Know

The knowledge gaps that must be filled.

This year we welcomed Dr Caro Cowan to the Trust as Research Director.



At a time when wild Atlantic salmon are facing unprecedented pressures, robust scientific evidence has never been more important. Evidence is the foundation that underpins effective restoration, credible advocacy, and clear communication, helping to ensure that decisions are guided by data, insight, and measurable impact.

With extensive leadership experience within the conservation field in government and public bodies, Caro has been instrumental in driving forward a range of biodiversity outcomes for wildlife, including the management of marine protected areas, the Wild Salmon Implementation Plan, seabird conservation, and wider marine restoration, as well as being a senior policy advisor to Scottish Ministers on a wide range of marine environment issues. Caro's wealth of expertise, policy insight and leadership will strengthen our mission to protect and restore wild salmon and the environments they depend upon, helping to accelerate evidence-led solutions for wild salmon across the UK and beyond. In this article, Caro sets out the knowledge gaps that research must seek to fill if we are to better understand how to protect and restore wild salmon in freshwater, around our coasts and at sea.

Building resilience: acting on what we know, learning what we don't

Salmon are one of only a few species to move through vastly different ecosystems within a single lifecycle, spending part of their life in freshwater and part in the open ocean. That makes them a rare indicator of the health of both our marine and our terrestrial and freshwater environments. Protecting and improving both is fundamental to tackling the twin crises of biodiversity loss and climate change. Understanding how salmon operate across these systems can tell us not just about the fish, but about how the systems themselves interconnect, what is going wrong within them, and how we can build their resilience.

What we know

We already know a great deal. Salmon are among the most studied fish species in the world, owing to their economic, recreational and historical value. We know that in rivers they need cold, clean water and healthy habitat in which to spawn, but also in which to develop and feed before heading to sea. We know that removing barriers, improving the quality and quantity of habitat, planting trees to keep water cool, boosting invertebrate populations as a food source, improving water quality through buffer strips, removing livestock from riverbanks and tackling diffuse pollution, are all critical to giving salmon what they need. That evidence is strong enough that we do not need further research to confirm what we already know. We need to act on it, while being honest about the uncertainty in which every conservation decision is made. There will never be perfect information, but we know enough to move forward with confidence in catchment restoration projects.

"We already know a great deal. Salmon are among the most studied fish species in the world. There will never be perfect information, but we know enough to move forward with confidence in catchment restoration projects."

BEYOND WHAT **WE KNOW**

The knowledge gaps that must be closed

At the same time, targeted research is needed to close some genuinely critical evidence gaps. How salmon behave as they pass through estuaries — the transition from freshwater to marine life, in environments often subject to significant pollution and development — remains poorly understood. So does much of what happens to them once they reach the sea. Returns are falling: the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES) 2025 and 2026 advice on Atlantic salmon, reports declines and sustained low abundance in many countries, with a growing number of assessed rivers failing to meet conservation limits. On the River Frome in Dorset, the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust's long-running tagging programme has recorded around 3% of salmon returning after one winter at sea and around 1.5% after two winters — falling as low as 0.4% and 0.7% in some years. That should alarm anyone working on this species, given how difficult it already is to study and protect fish across such a vast marine area. Research into the marine phase is growing, and we have some understanding of the human and environmental pressures at play, but international bodies such as ICES and the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) need to take a stronger lead in driving cooperation among their member countries, so that our collective understanding of salmon in the marine environment improves at the pace this crisis demands. Salmon researchers need a seat at the table when that marine research is planned – this is something the Missing Salmon Alliance is working hard on.

There is no silver bullet

We also need to guard against focusing on a single pressure. Everyone has their favoured explanation for salmon decline, but as with most of the natural world, the reality is more complex: multiple pressures interact with each other and with a changing climate. There is no silver bullet. What we need instead is resilience - of the fish, and of the habitats and ecosystems that support them. Climate change and biodiversity loss touch nearly every part of the salmon life cycle: temperature, food webs, water quality and quantity - and we need to better understand how these interact if we are to give salmon the best possible chance of adapting and surviving, from source to sea and back again.

We cannot predict the future. We are living through a period of significant uncertainty, as climate change reshapes our weather and ecosystems, and biodiversity loss compounds it at a frightening pace. Models can help us understand possible futures, but they are not predictions, and we need to be ready to manage a range of climate and environmental outcomes. That means focusing on resilience: keeping salmon and their environments in the best possible condition to give them the best chance of adapting to change. Action on biodiversity loss can have a fast, visible impact. In 2025, Project Deveron's removal of the Mill of Eden weir on the King Edward tributary reopened over 11km of habitat immediately — part of the wider partnership restoring the Deveron, Bogie and Isla catchments. Tackling biodiversity loss is one of the most effective ways to tackle climate change too: healthy habitats stop releasing carbon and start storing it. Peat, for example, is one of the UK's largest carbon stores; restoring it not only stops emissions but improves water storage and habitat quality, both of which in turn support wild salmon resilience.

Our focus now needs to turn more deliberately to evidence-based decision-making. Our challenge is translating the work of scientists in the lab and in the field, into the work of restoration practitioners on the ground and, more importantly, into the policy and regulation that should enable conservation action but too often constrains it. No one disputes that salmon are a sensitive marine species, yet our marine protection legislation is often not used to protect them. There are tools for marine protection and governance that already exist but are not being applied to salmon, and identifying and using them, alongside targeted new tools where genuine gaps remain, is central to the Missing Salmon Alliance's new Inshore Project led by Fisheries Management Scotland. This is reviewing the existing levers available to protect salmon in the inshore marine environment.

Salmon do not exist independently of the habitats they need, and there is no single threat that, if eliminated, would secure their future. Like all biodiversity, they are part of a complex system, and building resilience means improving every part of it. The task ahead is to act on what we know, while being determined to learn what we don't.



Commitment to the Future

What is at stake, and what is required now.

Pedro Landale, Chairman – Atlantic Salmon Trust



Wild Salmon populations in the UK are in real peril. In some rivers salmon are extinct, in some they are on the verge of extinction, in some they are endangered. Sustainable populations exist in less than 10% of them. **This is what is at stake.**

For the Atlantic Salmon Trust, 2026 was about getting 'match fit' to be part of the team that has the responsibility of reversing the decline of this amazing species. I personally am convinced that we (everyone with an interest in wild salmon) can do it, but it is going to take a herculean effort, real commitment, professional teams focused on delivery, collaboration on a global scale, and most importantly bravery. **This is what is required.**

So, what did we do in 2026 to get match fit? This review has described the work of the Trust this year and how we are in a position to meet what is required.

None of this work happens in isolation. One of the strongest themes running through this review is partnership. Whether through the Missing Salmon Alliance, our growing network of catchment restoration partnerships, or the international collaboration that underpins International Wild Salmon Day across the Atlantic and Pacific, we are reminded that the challenges facing wild salmon are simply too great for any one organisation to solve alone.

However, the reality is that, despite decades of work and progress, wild Atlantic salmon continue to decline across much of their range. Climate change is reshaping our rivers and oceans at unprecedented speed. The pressures facing salmon are becoming more complex, more interconnected and more urgent with every passing year.

This new reality demands an equally new level of commitment. Not only from conservation organisations, but from governments and policymakers, businesses and industry, landowners, farmers, anglers and ghillies. From local communities and river trusts to scientists, educators and philanthropists, and from every individual who believes that future generations deserve to inherit living rivers and the extraordinary wildlife they support.

The future of wild salmon will not be secured by one breakthrough, one project or one organisation. It will be secured by thousands of people making a greater shared commitment than ever before. As we enter our seventh decade, I hope that you will make that renewed commitment with us.

"The future of wild salmon will not be secured by one breakthrough, one project or one organisation. It will be secured by thousands of people making a greater shared commitment than ever before."



Partners For Change

Working together for wild salmon

Our Partners for Change are a group of leading businesses and organisations choosing to play a major part in supporting our work. Through significant financial support, long-term commitment and a shared belief in our mission, they help enable ambitious restoration work, innovative science and measurable change on the ground.

Their support gives us the confidence to think bigger, plan further ahead and deliver work capable of making a lasting difference.

Restoring wild Atlantic salmon at the scale and pace required cannot be achieved by the conservation sector alone.

Welcome Frödinflies

At the end of last year, Scandinavian fly-fishing brand Frödinflies made a significant donation to the Atlantic Salmon Trust, supporting our restoration work across the United Kingdom.

The funding was generated through the company's Wild Salmon Series: limited-edition products specifically created to support wild salmon conservation. It followed a similar donation to the Baltic Salmon Fund the previous year.

Frödinflies has demonstrated what is possible when a business puts conservation at the heart of its relationship with its customers, transforming a shared passion for wild salmon into direct investment in their future.

Partners for Change

THE MACALLAN

The FISHMONGERS' Company

FRÖDINFLIES

GROSVENOR

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YETI

patagonia

Become a Partner

Across outdoor recreation, food and drink, rural businesses and beyond, there are companies whose heritage, customers and future are connected to healthy rivers and wild places. Partners for Change is an invitation to those businesses to stand with us - and help turn shared responsibility into significant action.

To discuss sponsorship and support options, please email our Corporate Ambassador, Mark Cockburn, at **mark.cockburn@atlanticsalmontrust.org**



"These are challenging times for businesses, and every investment has to count. But the decisions businesses make today can help shape the natural world we leave behind. Investing in the recovery of wild Atlantic salmon - an iconic keystone species and a powerful indicator of healthy rivers, is an investment in something much bigger: the future of our environment and our communities."
Mark Cockburn
Corporate Ambassador

The Wild Salmon Pledge

Business leadership for nature, climate and thriving rivers, coasts and seas.

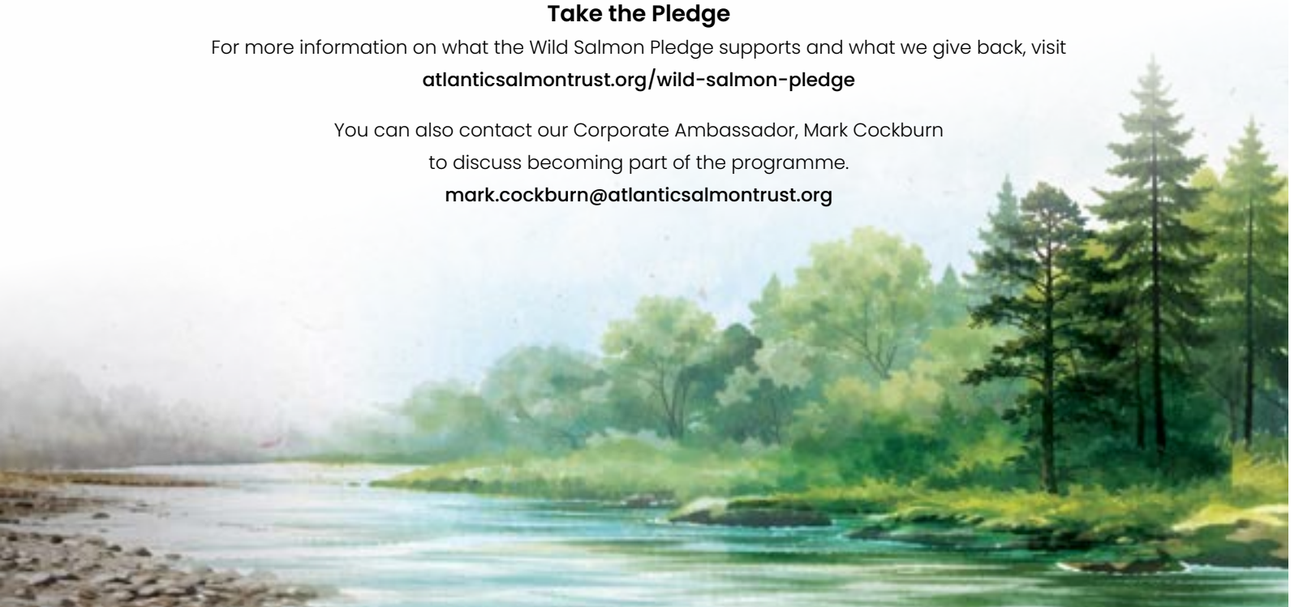
This year we introduced The Wild Salmon Pledge - a simple, meaningful commitment from businesses that want to play a visible role in tackling the nature and climate crisis. It brings together forward-thinking businesses that recognise healthy rivers and ecosystems as essential natural infrastructure, not optional extras.

By pledging a minimum of £5,000 per year to the Atlantic Salmon Trust, pledge partners play an important and recognised role in driving us forward.

Take the Pledge

For more information on what the Wild Salmon Pledge supports and what we give back, visit **atlanticsalmontrust.org/wild-salmon-pledge**

You can also contact our Corporate Ambassador, Mark Cockburn to discuss becoming part of the programme.
mark.cockburn@atlanticsalmontrust.org





Our Corporate Ambassador, Mark Cockburn, presents the Wild Salmon Pledge certificate to FishPal at the 2026 Tweed Salmon Festival.

Events

Great Days for a Great Cause

Our fundraising events are about more than raising money. They bring together friends, supporters, sponsors and partners, introduce our mission to new audiences, and create memorable days around a shared determination to give wild Atlantic salmon a thriving future.

The Fin & Fairway Cup

Swinley Forest Golf Club

In May 2026, 15 teams of golfers took to the stunning Swinley Forest Golf Club in Ascot for our second Fin & Fairway Cup – a day of outstanding golf, stunning surroundings and wonderful hospitality, all in support of our work to protect and restore wild Atlantic salmon. We would like to thank our 60 players for joining us, and our sponsors: Phoenix Liability, Tamdhu Speyside Whisky, and YETI. We would also like to extend our thanks to Swinley Forest Golf Club for their welcoming hospitality, plus a number of key individuals who helped make the day a success: our President – Earl Percy, Lord Edward Innes-Ker, Mr Michael Marsham, and Mr Christopher Clarke.



An outstanding day of golf was brought to a close with a prize giving ceremony, where prizes were awarded for the winning team, second and third placed teams, nearest the pin winner and straightest drive winner. Our thanks go to Tamdhu, YETI, Bute Fabrics, and Hawicko for providing a wonderful array of prizes.

Want to join us next year?

Email us at **events@atlanticsalmontrust.org** to pre-book your team. Or email Tiggy Pettifer at **tiggy@atlanticsalmontrust.org** for more information.



EVENTS | CONNECTING WITH SUPPORTERS























Lock, Stock & Salmon Challenge

In June we held our 2026 Lock, Stock & Salmon Challenge at Holland & Holland on the outskirts of London. We'd like to extend a huge thank you to all our guests and partners who supported the event. Not only did you help us raise thousands of pounds for wild salmon conservation - you also helped the message reach new networks and audiences.

A special thank you to YETI and Bothy Trading for supplying some lovely prizes and goodie bags, all our auction lot donors, John Henderson and the team at Holland & Holland, Dylan Williams for expertly running the day, and Katie Absalom of Wilde & Glorious for organising an outstanding event.



Turning the Tide Curzon Mayfair

In November 2025, 150 friends, supporters and partners from around the world joined us in London for Turning the Tide – an evening celebrating the projects and individuals driving action for wild Atlantic salmon.

From policy and practical conservation to catchment-scale restoration, the evening explored some of the biggest challenges facing salmon, including climate change, barriers and open-pen salmon farming. We also celebrated key figures driving change, including David Allison, Mikael Frödin and Jim Murray, and announced an exciting new partnership with Frödinflies.

Our thanks go to Lycetts Insurance Brokers & Financial Services for sponsoring the evening, and to YETI, The Gin Bothy and Baxters for generously supporting the event.













Leave a Legacy

A lasting gift to the King of Fish

Including the Atlantic Salmon Trust in your will is a significant and lasting way to support our work.

The world is constantly evolving, and so too are the pressures affecting wild salmon and sea trout. With your legacy we can be ready to meet those future challenges head-on.

Your legacy will help us to:

- Continue to design, develop and deliver the most ambitious and innovative salmon research projects in the UK, filling the knowledge gaps that still exist.
- Expand our network of Core Rivers and Watershed Connections partnerships to enable action at a national scale.
- Communicate our message and spread awareness of the salmon crisis to wider audiences through media and events.
- Continue to engage at a high level with governments, regulators and international bodies.
- Bring together the greatest salmon minds in the world through conferences, workshops, and meetings.

How to remember us in your will

There are several ways to leave a gift in your will. These could include:

- A share of your estate.
- A fixed sum.
- A particular item for sale in our fundraising auction.

If you need more information about remembering the Atlantic Salmon Trust in your will, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact us at **info@atlanticsalmontrust.org**

One legacy. A new generation of expertise.

Legacy giving can have an impact far beyond a single project. It can invest in people, build expertise and help develop the next generation of conservationists who will carry this work forward.

Through funding made possible by the Giles Wilson Fellowship, Maaike Vrancken spent the past year with us as a Research Assistant, gaining experience across science, research and practical conservation. Maaike had a direct impact on the delivery of our catchment restoration projects, helped develop a tool to assess annual adult salmon returns from sonar data, presented research at fisheries conferences, and worked in the field tagging juvenile salmon to better understand their migration and survival. Maaike's contribution has also been recognised beyond the Trust, as a finalist in the 2026 Schöffel Countryside Awards Rising Star category.

As Maaike's time in the fellowship programme comes to an end, she leaves us to study for a PhD in juvenile shad ecology and migration in relation to barrier removal efforts, developing knowledge and expertise that can contribute to the wider protection and recovery of freshwater fish populations and rivers. We wish her all the very best for the future.

Giles's legacy has helped launch a career dedicated to protecting our rivers and the remarkable species that depend on them. The impact of that legacy will be felt long into the future.

LEAVE A LEGACY



"Working in freshwater and marine conservation had long been a dream of mine. Thanks to the Giles Wilson Fellowship, that dream became a reality."

Maaike Vrancken, Research Assistant

The Atlantic Salmon Trust presents:

FILM PREMIERE 2026



Saving wild Atlantic salmon begins with a much bigger question - what do we truly value?

HOSTED BY BROADCASTER ELLA MCSWEENEY



FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:



Professor Ken Whelan
Atlantic Salmon Trust



Elle Adams
Findhorn, Nairn & Lossie Rivers Trust



Dr Caro Cowan
Atlantic Salmon Trust

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, LONDON
Thursday 19th November 2026 @ 7-9pm

Sponsored by: Lycetts
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Dylan Williams

Core Rivers & Watershed Connections
John Chantry - Watershed Connections Programme Coordinator and Project Laxford Catchment Restoration Manager

Jamie Gordon - Project Deveron Catchment Restoration Manager

Curtis Williams - Project White Hart Programme Coordinator

Salmon & Biodiversity Research Team
Dr Jon Emery – Theme Leader for Data Management & Analysis
Dr Jessica Rodger – Theme Leader for Biodiversity & Fish Communities
Maaike Vrancken– Research Assistant

Likely Suspects Framework Team
Dr Colin Bull – Co-Principal Investigator
Graeme Diack – Data Specialist
Dr Emma Tyledesly – Marine Data Modelling Specialist
Dr Neil Banas – Ecological Modeller

A member of MSA
MISSING SALMON ALLIANCE

Thank You

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David and Kim Stewart
Justin Maxwell Stuart
Jonathan Wood

And Those Who Wish
To Remain Anonymous

And Finally To **You**
For Putting Wild Salmon First

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Grosvenor's Reay Forest Estate
Deveron, Bogie & Isla Rivers Charitable Trust
Dee District Salmon Fishery Board
& River Dee Trust
Soval Estate
Spey Catchment Initiative
Project White Hart partners

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO

Jim Murray MBE for his steadfast support and dedication to giving a voice to wild Atlantic salmon.
Miranda Cloy for designing, creating and publishing our Annual Review.
Byron Pace for producing, filming and editing our documentary film, More Than a Fish.
James Sadler, Brandlove and Joyride for helping to launch Project White Hart to the world.

TO OUR AMBASSADORS

Sir Gareth Edwards
Lord Botham
Jim Murray MBE
Robson Green
Craig Somerville
Marina Gibson
Will and Al Peake
James Stokoe
Matt Harris
John Olav Oldren
Richard Davies
Lara Stroh
Richard Whyte

How you can help

Ways to support the Atlantic Salmon Trust

We can't continue our work without you – our supporters. There are a range of ways to support our work and we are grateful for any support you may give us, whether that's a one-off donation or becoming a more regular member of our family through our monthly Salmon Club membership programme, or by joining the President's Club to play an even more significant role in fundraising for the Trust.

Don't forget our annual fundraising auction either – this is live in October and November each year, featuring a range of wonderful auction lots to bid on from fishing and sporting experiences to holiday accommodation, tickets for unique events, spectacular art, and delicious food & drink – there's truly something for everyone.

SEND US A DONATION

DONATE

BID IN OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING AUCTION

JOIN The Salmon Club

JOIN *The* PRESIDENT'S CLUB

To enquire about joining our President's Club, please email Tiggy Pettifer at
tiggy@atlanticsalmontrust.org

To join our Salmon Club as a monthly member, please visit
atlanticsalmontrust.org/membership



Putting Wild Salmon First