



North West Water

Dawson House, Great Sankey
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F1/B23

17th June, 1980

To: Members of the North Cumbria
Fisheries Advisory Committee:
(Messrs E. P. Ecroyd (Chairman);
A. E. I. Bell; E. Cave; T. Cousins;
A. C. Findlay; B. Irving; J. S. Marshall;
Wm. McKenna; R. K. Nicholson; J. Thompson;
Dr. I. J. Faulkner; and the Chairman of
the Authority (G. Mann); the Vice Chairman
of the Authority (A. Richardson) and the
Chairman of the Regional Fisheries Advisory
Committee (T. A. F. Barnes)(ex officio)).

Dear Member,

A meeting of the NORTH CUMBRIA FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE will
be held at 2.30 p.m. on TUESDAY 24TH JUNE, 1980, at the NORTH
CUMBRIA AREA OFFICE OF THE RIVERS DIVISION, CHERTSEY HILL, LONDON
ROAD, CARLISLE, for consideration of the following business.

Yours faithfully,

G. W. SHAW,

Director of Administration.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 1st April, 1980 (enclosed herewith together with the Minutes of the meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee held on 28th April, 1980).
3. Membership of the Committee - Resignation of Dr. I. J. Faulkner.
4. Fishing Offences and Prosecutions 1979/80.
5. Report by the Area Fisheries Officer on Fisheries Activities.
6. Review of Local Fisheries Advisory Committees (Oral Report).
- *7. Draft Netting Rights - River Eden.
8. Any other business.

*NOTE: The report relating to item 7 is enclosed for Members only.

F2/A22

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
NORTH CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1ST APRIL, 1980

Present: E.P. Ecroyd Esq., (Chairman)
T.A.F. Barnes Esq., B. Irving Esq.,
A.E.I. Bell Esq., J.S. Marshall Esq.,
E. Cave Esq., R.K. Nicholson Esq.,
T. Cousins Esq., J. Thompson Esq.,

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Dr. I.J. Faulkner, Mr. A.C. Findlay, Mr. Wm. McKenna, Mr. G. Mann and Mr. A. Richardson.

19. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 8th January, 1980 and joint meeting with the Lune, Wyre and Furness Committee held on 14th February, 1980 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

20. ROD AND LINE LICENCE DUTIES

In accordance with Minute No.40(7) of the Authority on 11th February, 1980 instructing the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee to formulate proposals for increases in fishing licence duties to be effective from 1st January, 1981 of a level at least equal to forecast increases in inflation up to and including 1981, consideration was given to increases in the rod and line licence duties from 1st January, 1981 as follows:-

	<u>Present Duty</u>		<u>Revised Duty</u>	
	£	p	£	p
<u>Salmon Whole Area</u>				
Season Adult	15.00		21.70	
Part Season from June 1	10.00		14.50	
Season Junior etc.	7.50		10.90	
Part Season Junior from June 1	5.00		7.20	
7 day	2.50		3.70	
<u>Migratory Trout Whole Area</u>				
Season Adult	5.00		7.20	
Season Junior etc.	2.50		3.60	
7 day	1.00		1.50	
<u>Non Migratory Trout (Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout & Char) Freshwater Fish and Eels</u>				
Season Adult	3.00		4.30	
Season Junior	1.50		2.20	
7 day	.50		.80	

<u>Commercial Eel Fishing</u>	<u>Present Duty</u>		<u>Revised Duty</u>	
	£	p	£	p
Fixed Eel Traps	25.00	per trap	36.25	
Eel or Fyke nets	.50	per net	.75	
Traps, Putcheons or Baskets	5.00	per 25 (or part thereof).	7.25	

To conform with the instruction of the Authority it was necessary to increase licence duties by 45% using the probable gross expenditure on fisheries in 1979-80 as the base point and measuring forecast increases in inflation from that point.

Although appreciating the need for licence duties to take account of inflation, Members expressed concern at the method by which the proposed duties were calculated. It was suggested that further consideration be given to the licence duty structure which appeared to discriminate against freshwater anglers.

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That the proposals for increases in rod and line licence duties as detailed above be accepted.
- (2) That consideration be given to the introduction of a separate licence duty for freshwater fish at £2 per season.

21. SALMON COOPS--RIVER EDEN AND RIVER DERWENT

It was reported that a letter had been received from Castle Fisheries, querying the present arrangement for the operation and licensing of coops on the Rivers Eden and Derwent and objecting to any further increases in the licence duty for the River Derwent coop. A report was submitted detailing the arrangements of the coops on each river and comparing the potential catch of each coop with the level of coop fees. This indicated that the River Derwent had the greater potential catch which was reflected in the respective fees for the coops.

RECOMMENDED:

That no alteration be made to the proposals for increasing the licence fees for the coops on the Rivers Eden and Derwent.

22. BRITISH GAS CORPORATION - PIPELINE PROJECT

A report outlining proposals by the British Gas Corporation to construct a 36" diameter pipeline between Longtown, near Carlisle and Lupton, near Kirkby Lonsdale, and a 42" diameter pipeline between a proposed Junction Station near Milnthorpe and a proposed Coastal Gas Reception Terminal near Barrow-in-Furness was submitted for information.

Discussions were commencing with the Corporation's Project HQ to advise upon the special requirements of the Authority, particularly in respect of the protection of watercourses, fisheries and drainage areas which would include measures to ensure that all possible precautions were taken to ensure effective protection against pollution of, and damage to, fisheries and spawning grounds.

23. FISHERIES BYELAW 14 - BAITING

It was reported that the Lancashire Fisheries Consultative Association had recently discussed the provisions of Byelaw 14 relating to baiting and had suggested that the use of maggots and chrysalises thereof be permitted on the lakes listed in the Byelaw for a trial period of one year, with a view to reassessing the impact on migrating smolts of the use of such baits.

The Regional Fisheries Officer pointed out that such an arrangement would necessitate the repeal of the existing Byelaw 14 and that in any case a period of one year would be unlikely to give a fair indication of the results of using baits hitherto prohibited.

RECOMMENDED:

That the provisions of Byelaw 14 be not relaxed.

24. SURVEY OF MERGANSERS AND GOOSANDERS

Further to Minute 21 of the meeting of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Fisheries Advisory Committee on 10th January, 1980 an approach had been made to the Freshwater Biological Association to ask if they were able to undertake, for the Authority, a rather less detailed and costly survey of mergansers and goosanders than that originally envisaged by the Department of Terrestrial Ecology.

The Association had presented three alternatives costed at £1,050, £1,260 or £1,600, all based on a survey of the population of mergansers and goosanders on the River Kent which would produce population figures for comparison with those obtained previously by Authority staff. It was reported that as no provision for this research had been made in the 1980-81 estimates, the work could not be financed from existing provisions and in the present financial climate a supplement any estimate would not be approved.

RECOMMENDED:

That consideration of this matter be deferred until finance becomes available.

25. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 1980-81

The proposed dates for meetings of the Regional and Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for the 'Authority Year' 1980-81 were submitted for information, dates for meetings of the Local Committee being noted as follows:

- Tuesday, 24th June 1980
- Tuesday, 14th October, 1980
- Tuesday, 6th January, 1981
- Tuesday, 31st March, 1981.

26. REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES.

The Area Fisheries Officer presented his report on fisheries activities in the area since the last meeting of the Committee.

At the end of February there had been evidence of attempts of "Cymaging" at Eden Brow but investigation into the matter had produced no result.

A small fish mortality had occurred at the River Wiza at Wigton and subsequent investigations had revealed that the fish probably died as a result of iso-propyl-alcohol entering the river.

A summary of monthly catch returns by rod and line and nets and fixed engines was submitted and the Area Fisheries Officer asked the Committee to impress again upon Clubs and Associations and the local press the need and statutory obligation for all holders of migratory fish licences to make a return of their catches for the Authority.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received and approved.

27. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960
EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That because of the confidential nature of the following item, the public be excluded from the meeting during its consideration.

28. DRAFT NETTING RIGHTS - RIVER EDEN

Further to Minute No. 40 of this Committee on 26th June, 1979, a report was submitted outlining the progress of investigations into the ownership of the draft netting rights on the lower part of the River Eden. This indicated that the sub-division of the boat rights into many fractional parts had resulted in the dispersion of the net rights amongst an unknown number of part owners. The only draft netting taking place on the river was carried out by one partnership who leased the rights of the Lowther Estates and owned or leased part or all of the 18 boat rights which were believed to exist.

The Committee considered terms drawn up by the Partnership for which they were prepared to surrender their draft netting interests. It was pointed out that a request for details of the Partnership's interests and of income expenditure in order to prepare a detailed valuation had been refused. An indication was given of the estimated value of the known rights and the added value to rod fisheries on the River Eden by the Authority's requisition of the draft netting rights.

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this matter be deferred pending the submission of more detailed fisheries statistics for the River Eden.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

28TH APRIL, 1980

Present:

T.A.F. Barnes, Esq. (Chairman)	
J.S. Bailey, Esq	R.D. Houghton, Esq.
A.G.R. Brown, Esq.	Mrs. W. Lomas
J.M. Croft, Esq.	Wm. McKenna, Esq.
E.P. Ecroyd, Esq.	R.A. Parkin, Esq.
J.H. Fell, Esq.	Major J.G.W. Skipwith
W.F. Hobson, Esq.	L.B. Williams, Esq.

37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr. J. Johnson, Mr. G. Mann, Mr. A. Richardson and Mr. G. Wilson.

38. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4th February, 1980, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

39. MINUTES OF LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. Joint Meeting of North Cumbria and Lune, Wyre and Furness.

The Chairman of the Joint Meeting of the North Cumbria and Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committees submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 14th February, 1980.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendation contained in Minute No.3 (Net and Fixed Engine Licence Duties) be considered along with the recommendation contained in Minute No.27 of the Derwent and West Cumbria Advisory Committee of 31st March, 1980, (Minute No.39B).

B. Derwent and West Cumbria

The Chairman of the Derwent and West Cumbria Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 31st March, 1980.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Derwent and West Cumbria Advisory Committee held on 31st March, 1980, be received.
- (2) That the recommendation contained in Minute No.24 (Rod and Line Licence Duties) be considered under the appropriate Agenda item.

- (3) That the recommendations contained in Minutes numbered 26 (Salmon Coops - River Eden and River Derwent), and 28 (Fisheries Byelaw 14 - Baiting) be approved.

Following consideration of the recommendation of the Joint Meeting of the North Cumbria and Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committees held on 14th February, 1980, contained in Minute No.3, (Net and Fixed Engine Licence Duties) which was made subject to the comments of the March 1980 meeting of the Derwent and West Cumbria Advisory Committee; and of Minute No. 27 (Net and Fixed Engine Licence Duties) of the Derwent and West Cumbria Advisory Committee and the recommendation contained therein (which also catered for the recommendation of the Joint Meeting of the North Cumbria and Lune, Wyre and Furness Committees), it was

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That the Policy and Resources Committee approve the following scale of licence duties in respect of nets and fixed engines used throughout the region come into force from 1st January, 1981:-

NETS AND FIXED ENGINES (Area within the boundaries of the former Cumberland River Authority).

Whole Area, Drift, Hang or Whammel Net (not exceeding when wet 275 metres in length)	- £125.00
River Eden Draw, Draft or Seine Net (not exceeding when wet 275 metres in length)	- £300.00
Whole Area, Heave or Haaf Net	- £ 25.00
River Eden Coop	- £175.00
River Derwent Coop	- £390.00
South West Cumberland Garth	- £195.00

NETS (Area within the boundaries of the former Lancashire River Authority).

River Ribble, Drift, Hang or Whammel Net (not exceeding when wet 140 metres in length)	- £ 80.00
River Lune Drift, Hang or Whammel Net (not exceeding when wet 300 metres in length)	- £133.00
River Lune Draw, Draft or Seine Net (not exceeding when wet 185 metres in length)	- £116.00

NETS (Area within the boundaries of the former Lancashire River Authority) continued/....

River Duddon Draw, Draft or Seine Net (not exceeding when wet 185 metres in length)	- £110.00
River Lune Heave or Haaf Net	- £ 51.00
River Kent Lave Net	- £ 60.00
River Leven Lave Net	- £ 50.00

- (2) That subject to the approval of recommendation (1) above by the Policy and Resources Committee, the Director of Administration be authorised to publish a Notice of the Authority's intention to fix these fishing licence duties in appropriate newspapers as required by Clause 3 of Schedule 2 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975.
- (3) That the Director of Administration be authorised to take all such steps as may be necessary, including representation at a Public Inquiry, in the event of objections to the proposals being received by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

C. North Cumbria

The Chairman of the North Cumbria Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 1st April, 1980.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the North Cumbria Advisory Committee held on 1st April, 1980, be received.
- (2) That the recommendation contained in Minute No.20 (Rod and Line Licence Duties) be considered under the appropriate Agenda item.
- (3) That the recommendations contained in Minutes numbered 21 (Salmon Coops - River Eden and River Derwent), 23 (Fisheries Byelaw 14 - Baiting), and 24 (Survey of Mergansers and Goosanders) be approved.

D. South Lancashire

The Chairman of the South Lancashire Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 2nd April, 1980.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Minutes of the South Lancashire Advisory Committee held on 2nd April, 1980, be received.
- (2) That the recommendations contained in Minutes numbered 24 (Rod and Line Licence Duties) and 28 (Calendar of Meetings 1980-81) be considered under the appropriate Agenda items.

E. Mersey and Weaver

The Chairman of the Mersey and Weaver Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 9th April, 1980.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Minutes of the Mersey and Weaver Advisory Committee held on 9th April, 1980 be received.
- (2) That the recommendation contained in Minute No.24 (Rod and Line Licence Duties) be considered under the appropriate Agenda item.
- (3) That the recommendation contained in Minute No.25 (Jumbles Reservoir) be approved for submission to the Recreation Sub-Committee.

F. Lune, Wyre and Furness

The Chairman of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 10th April, 1980.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committee held on 10th April, 1980 be received.
- (2) That the recommendations contained in Minutes numbered 32 (Rod and Line Licence Duties), and 41 (Calendar of Meetings 1980-81) be considered under the appropriate Agenda items.

- (3) That the recommendations contained in Minutes numbered 34 (Fisheries Byelaw 14 - Baiting), 35 (Survey of Mergansers and Goosanders), and 37 (Skerton Fishery - Match Fishing) be approved.

40. ROD AND LINE LICENCE DUTIES

Further to Minute No.35 of the last meeting of the Committee, proposals were submitted for a new scale of rod and line licence duties to take effect on 1st January, 1981.

In particular, on 11th February, 1980, the Authority had considered Estimates and Charges for 1980-81 and had approved, inter alia, the following recommendation:

"That the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee be instructed to formulate proposals for increases in fishing licence duties to be effective from 1st January, 1981, of a level at least equal to forecast increases in inflation up to and including 1981".

The Chairman reminded the Committee that a review of the then existing rod and line licence duties was undertaken in 1978 with a view at that time to introducing a two licence structure in 1979, but that the proposals had been unacceptable to MAFF. Consequently the 1978 duties had remained in operation throughout 1979. Revised proposals had been submitted to MAFF in June, 1979 and approved and these duties had come into operation on 1st January, 1980.

The proposals now before the Committee envisaged a straight increase of 45% on all existing rod and line licence duties and included those duties in respect of fixed eel traps, eel or fyke nets, and traps putcheons or baskets used in commercial eel fishing.

These proposals had been considered by the Local Committees at their March/April round of meetings and, as indicated in the Minutes of the respective Committees, only the North Cumbria and the Lune, Wyre and Furness Committees had accepted an overall increase in duty of 45%. The Derwent and West Cumbria Committee were against such an increase and both the South Lancashire and Mersey and Weaver Committees had recommended that the increases be limited to 20% to account for inflation in the current year.

The Chairman then drew the attention of the Committee to Minute No.40(2) of their meeting of 15th February, 1979:

"That in the event of a further revision of licence duties in the future, prime consideration be given to the introduction of Option 2 (a single tier licence system) subject to such variation in the amount of the duties as may be considered necessary, at the time".

but the Committee were advised that it was not appropriate to pursue this proposal as no structural revision of the system was contemplated although it was an objective for the future. This was accepted.

After a full and detailed discussion the Committee considered that an increase in the duties of 20% only was justifiable.

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That the Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to approve that the following scale of licence duties in respect of rod and line and commercial eel fishing throughout the region come into force from 1st January, 1981:-

Salmon (Whole area)

Single Rod and Line Licence - Season Adult	-	£18.00
Part Season Adult from June 1st	-	£12.00
Season Junior (14 to 16 years inclusive) man aged 65 or over and woman aged 60 or over, and registered disabled persons.	-	£ 9.00
Part Season Junior from June 1st (14 to 16 years inclusive) man aged 65 or over and woman aged 60 or over, and registered disabled persons.	-	£ 6.00
7 day	-	£ 3.00
Junior (10 to 13 years inclusive)	-	NIL

Migratory Trout (Whole area)

Single Rod and Line Licence - Season Adult	-	£ 6.00
Season Junior (14 to 16 years inclusive) man aged 65 or over and woman aged 60 or over, and registered disabled persons.	-	£ 3.00
7 day	-	£ 1.20
Junior (10 to 13 years inclusive)	-	NIL

Non Migratory Trout (Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout and Char)

Freshwater Fish and Eels

Single Rod and Line Licence - Season Adult	-	£ 3.60
Season Junior (14 to 16 years inclusive) man aged 65 or over and woman aged 60 or over, and registered disabled persons.	-	£ 1.80
7 day	-	£ 0.60
Junior (10 to 13 years inclusive)	-	NIL

Commercial Eel Fishing

Fixed Eel Traps	-	£30 per trap per annum
Eel or Fyke Nets	-	60p per net
Traps, Putcheons or Baskets	-	£6 per 25 (or part thereof) traps per annum

- (2) That subject to the approval of this recommendation by the Policy and Resources Committee, the Director of Administration be authorised to publish a Notice of the Authority's intention to fix these fishing licence duties in appropriate newspapers, as required by Clause 3 of Schedule 2 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975.
- (3) That the Director of Administration be authorised to take all such steps as may be necessary, including representation at a Public Inquiry, in the event of objections to the proposals being received by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

41. DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC TROUT FISHERIES

The Committee considered a report concerning the selection of possible sites for public trout fisheries.

Current investigations suggested that on grounds of marketability, accessibility and lower costs, initial efforts should be concentrated on bringing the existing fisheries in the Rivington/Roddlesworth group into proper management but in the meantime further research and investigation ought to be carried out into the development of new sites.

The fundamental problem lay in respect of site management, in particular it was agreed that the need for a warden, not only during permitted fishing hours but at other random times, was an essential pre-requisite to the establishment and management of any public fishery, and in the present economic situation the Authority was experiencing severe problems with manpower recruitment. Consequently

the requirement for any warden would need to be assessed in relation to requirements by the Authority for additional operational and other staff.

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That in the development of public trout fisheries, the Authority continue to give priority consideration to the Rivington/Roddlesworth group.
- (2) That the Authority consider favourably the appointment of wardens to manage public trout fisheries.
- (3) That the Recreation Sub-Committee be informed accordingly.

42. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 1980-81.

The proposed dates for meetings of the Regional and Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for the "Authority Year" 1980-81 were submitted for information, dates for meetings of the Regional Committee being noted as follows:-

Monday, 28th July, 1980
Monday, 10th November, 1980
Monday, 2nd February, 1981
Monday, 27th April, 1981

At the meeting on 2nd April, 1980, (Minute No.28) the South Lancashire Local Committee recommended that the proposed date of 25th June, 1980 be altered to 19th June, 1980 and the Lune, Wyre and Furness Local Committee recommended at the meeting on 10th April, 1980 (Minute No.41) that the officers be requested to find an alternative date for the January, 1981 meeting of the Committee which was now recommended to be held on Thursday 8th January, 1981.

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That the dates for the meetings of the South Lancashire Advisory Committee during the "Authority Year" 1980-81 be as follows:-

Thursday, 19th June, 1980
Wednesday, 15th October, 1980
Wednesday, 7th January, 1981
Wednesday, 1st April, 1981

- (2) That the dates for the meetings of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committee during the "Authority Year" 1980-81 be as follows:-.

Monday, 30th June, 1980
Monday, 20th October, 1980
Thursday, 8th January, 1981
Monday, 13th April, 1981

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NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

NORTH CUMBRIA

FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

24TH JUNE, 1980

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE -
RESIGNATION OF DR. I.J. FAULKNER

1. Dr. I.J. Faulkner who has served on the Committee since 29th April, 1975 has indicated his intention, for health reasons, to retire from the Committee after the meeting which is due to take place on 14th October, 1980.
2. Dr. Faulkner who lives in Harrogate, has given advance notice of his resignation to allow adequate time for a successor to be obtained.

F1/A23

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYNORTH CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE24TH JUNE, 1980FISHING OFFENCES AND PROSECUTIONS 1979/80

1. The total number of persons prosecuted by the Authority within the whole Region for fishing offences during 1979/80 was 414 compared with 390 in 1978/79, which indicates that the number of prosecutions has been maintained at a reasonably consistent level.
2. In the area of this Committee, 27 persons were prosecuted for byelaw offences and giving false names and addresses and 44 for fishing without a licence. Action was taken on a further 21 cases which did not result in legal proceedings being instituted. These figures reflect a slight reduction in the number of licence offences compared with last years figures.
3. The following is a summary of offences and prosecutions within the Committee area during 1979/80.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Byelaw offences and false names and addresses</u>	<u>Licence Offences</u>
Number of prosecutions	71	27	44
Warning letters	57	10	47
Other cases not taken to Court due to insufficient evidence or being unable to trace alleged offenders	21	8	13
Total fines imposed	£967	£395	£572
Costs awarded to the Authority	£332	£142	£190

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NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYNORTH CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE24TH JUNE, 1980REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER
ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

1. RIVER CONDITIONS AND FISHING

No measurable rain fell in the area from the beginning of April until 20th May. River conditions thus fell steadily to a very low level by the middle of April and have remained low up to the present time. Salmon fishing has suffered accordingly and catches are now running at about the post-disease average for the Eden. This means that catches are lower than last year and very much lower than 1978.

Some sea trout have been reported moving into the bottom of the Border Esk but very few catches have been reported.

Brown trout catches in Ullswater have been very good at times, the local bailiff recording 217 having been taken on one Sunday in March. However, no exceptionally large fish have been reported. Elsewhere only average brown trout fishing has been reported.

2. MIGRATORY FISH MOVEMENT

Any remaining kelts have now returned to sea. Smolts have been seen throughout the river systems, but no particularly large shoals have been seen, this is disappointing as conditions have been ideal for observation.

3. HOLMWRANGLE HATCHERY

The absence of rainfall and consequently low stream flows has led to clean water conditions in the supply beck, and the hatchery has been running on the beck supply during most of the period. At the end of April the borehole pump failed due to an accumulation of silt at the bottom of the borehole. The repair of the pump (which is submerged at the bottom of the borehole) necessitated the lifting of the borehole supply pipe, but this was accomplished very quickly and without any damage being caused to fish stocks.

Problems have been experienced with Costia and Furunculosis, but these have been contained by medication. Losses have been experienced amongst the alevins due to yolk-sac distortion caused by alternating supply water sources during the early spring.

Fish deliveries from Holmwrangle have been as follows:-

5,000 sea trout ova and	
5,000 salmon ova	to Keswick AA Hatchery
34,000 brown trout fry	to South Cumbria
1,700 brown trout	sold to Angling Clubs
200 brown trout	to Halton Fishery
45,000 sea trout fry	to West Cumbria
300 sea trout smolts	to River Esk
200 salmon and	
200 sea trout smolts	to River Ehen

4. FISH MORTALITIES

On 30th April a discharge of contaminated cooling water from British Sidac at Wigton caused a fish mortality in the River Wiza. Few fish were killed, possibly as a result of the pollution from the same site in March. British Sidac have agreed to pay for restocking the river.

5. FISH DISEASE

During April, reports were received covering large parts of the Eden Catchment and the Lower Esk concerning a disease which appeared to affect a wide range of fish species. Superficially this disease appeared to resemble UDN but the wide range of species affected detracted from this diagnosis. The Veterinary Investigation Centre at Calthwaite was provided with a fresh specimen and they were able to culture two species of bacteria from the internal organs of this fish. In order for the centre to draw any worthwhile conclusions, further diseased specimens were required, but these could not be obtained as the disease appeared to abate fairly quickly. At no time were large numbers of fish involved, but the diseased fish were so widespread that it was cause for serious concern. The Veterinary Investigation Centre was able to confirm that it was not an outbreak of bacterial kidney disease.

6. MANAGEMENT WORK

On 8th and 9th April, chub were removed by electro-fishing from the River Irthing below Lanercost Bridge. Ninety-five fish weighing from 2 to 2½ lbs. were transferred to ponds in the Furness area of Cumbria. This exercise, which was carried out at the request of Brampton AA, revealed very low fish stocks in general, brown trout being particularly scarce.

Chub were also removed from the upper Eden at Sandford on 6th May at the request of the Appleby AA. These fish, about 20 in number, were transferred to local ponds.

7. POACHING

In the early hours of 26th April, two men were apprehended on Ullswater using illegal equipment and a large number of unlicensed rods. The equipment was seized and the offenders reported for possible prosecution.

On 27th May, dead fish were found in a pool on the Border Esk. As there was no possibility of pollution being the cause, and in the light of all the available facts, it is considered that this mortality was caused by the use of Cymag. Unfortunately it was not possible to get the fish to a laboratory in time for a definite identification, but there appears little doubt that Cymag had been used.

8. BRITISH GAS CORPORATION - PIPELINE PROJECT

A report on this subject was submitted to the Committee on 1st April 1980, (Minute No. 22) since when a meeting took place on 24th April between British Gas and officers of the Authority. Unlike the previous pipeline it is anticipated that all the work will be carried

out by one main contractor. This should allow better control of the work than existed when the previous pipeline was laid. It is anticipated that the work will start in the spring of 1981 and that the contractor will work progressively along the pipeline from north to south. The Barrow link may be the subject of a Public Inquiry and thus the date of its construction is not yet definite.

9. COUNTY BOUNDARY STONE - SOLWAY ESTUARY

The south east corner of the boundary of the Royal Borough of Annan's "Charter Area " in which the Borough have an exclusive right of fishing is marked by a boulder known as the "Altar Stone". This stone is quite small and is frequently buried beneath the moving sands in the Solway Firth. Even when it is above the sands, it cannot be easily located at distance during low water periods, when nets operate.

At the present time the stone is visible, and the opportunity is being taken to plot its position accurately on a large scale map, using cross bearings on fixed features. This will assist the bailiffs when the stone again becomes buried, in identifying the "Charter Area" boundary.

F1/B2

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYNORTH CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE24TH JUNE, 1980DRAFT NETTING RIGHTS - RIVER EDEN

1. At the meeting of the Committee held on 1st April, 1980, (Minute No. 28) members asked for more details of relevant River Eden salmon catches to be made available.
2. It is clearly understood by licence holders that the catch returns which they make to the Authority are regarded as being strictly confidential. Publication of the actual figures for the draft net catches from the River Eden by a single licence holder would thus be a breach of this confidence. However, in order to indicate to members the relative importance of the draft net catch, a table and graph are attached (Appendices 1 and 2), in which the annual draft net catches are expressed as percentages of the total Eden in-river catches for those years for which data are available.

River Eden Salmon Catches

<u>Year</u>	<u>Draft net catch as a % of total in-river catch</u>
1959	43.9
60	40.1
61	39.2
62	33.8
63	27.7
64	43.3
65	18.7
66	45.7
67	54.7
68	68.6
69	80.3
70	52.5
71	69.3
72	54.2
73	62.9
74	64.4
75	54.5
76	71.6
77	71.6
78	43.0
79	29.2

Note All catch data is based on licence returns.

RIVER EDEN SALMON CATCH DATA

DRAFT NET CATCH AS A % OF TOTAL IN - RIVER CATCH

