



**North
West
Water**

Dawson House, Great Sankey
Warrington WA5 3LW
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F2/A10

31st December, 1979

To: Members of the Derwent and West Cumbria
Fisheries Advisory Committee;
(Messrs W. F. Hobson (Chairman);
F. Bunting; A. Gleadon; J.M. Mawson;
S. G. Payne; G. Richardson; G. B. Sedgwick;
R. J. W. Slack; G. N. F. Wingate; E. Young
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 Sir,

A meeting of the DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE will be held at 2.30 P.M. on MONDAY, 7TH JANUARY, 1980, in the COUNCIL CHAMBER at the OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, ALLERDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL, 'HOLMEWOOD', EGREMONT ROAD, COCKERMOUTH, 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 8th October, 1979, (enclosed herewith along with the Minutes of the meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee held on 12th November, 1979).
3. Appointment of Mr. G. Richardson to the Committee.
4. Net and fixed engine licence duties.
5. Pollution incidents.
6. EEC Directive on the quality of freshwaters.
7. Water resource development for West Cumbria - British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. - Abstraction from Wastwater.
8. Terminated angling leases - Category 3 sites - Report on progress.
9. Report by the Area Fisheries Officer on fisheries activities.
10. Any other business.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

8TH OCTOBER, 1979

Present: F. Bunting, Esq. G.B. Sedgewick, Esq.
A. Gleadon, Esq. G.N.F Wingate, Esq.
W.F. Hobson, Esq. E. Young, Esq.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED:

That Mr. W.F. Hobson be appointed Chairman of the Derwent and West Cumbria Fisheries Advisory Committee for the ensuing 'Authority Year'.

(W.F. HOBSON, ESQ., CHAIRMAN)

2. DEATH OF MR. E.H. FLEMING SMITH

The Chairman reported with deep regret the death of Mr. E.H. Fleming Smith a Member of the Committee since March, 1977.

The Chairman paid tribute to Mr. Fleming Smith's service to fisheries, and Members and Officers stood in silence as a mark of respect.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr. T.A.F. Barnes, Mr. G. Mann, Mr. S.G. Payne and Mr. A. Richardson.

The Chairman informed the Committee that Mr. S.G. Payne had suffered a mild heart attack on 7th October, 1979. Members joined with the Chairman in wishing Mr. Payne a speedy recovery to full health.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

In relation to Minute No. 36 (Minutes of the last meeting) - (River Ellen, Aspatria - Pollution Incident), the Area Fisheries Officer informed the Committee that no further pollution problems had been encountered and that the condition of the River Ellen was now satisfactory.

RESOLVED:

That subject to the addition of the name of Mr. G.B. Sedgewick in Minute No. 35 (Apologies for Absence), the Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 25th June, 1979, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS LIMITED, ABSTRACTION FROM WASTWATER

The Committee considered a report further to that discussed at the last meeting, which concerned BNFL's licence applications for abstraction from Wastwater and which dealt specifically with the results of computer simulations of the lake levels and River Irt flows for various conditions of abstraction from the lake, together with predictions of the effects of some of the proposals on the availability of flows needed by fish for migration.

The Committee having been reminded that the Secretary of State for the Environment had directed that BNFL's applications in respect of their proposed Wastwater development, should be referred to him to facilitate the holding of a combined Inquiry into both the Ennerdale and Wastwater proposals was informed that the Authority would provide information at that Inquiry on matters related to water management, allied fishery matters, and details of compensation water flows.

Mr. Young referred to the recommendation of the Committee of 28th March, 1977, (Minute No. 20(2), regarding Water Resources Development in West Cumbria):

"That as a general principle, significant water abstractions likely to affect fisheries be made as near to the sea as possible,"

and after full discussion the Committee generally agreed that if BNFL needed more water from the River Irt catchment, then such abstraction should take place from the lower end of the river rather than in accordance with BNFL's present proposals for abstraction from Wastwater.

RESOLVED:

(1) The Committee reaffirms its resolution of 25th June, 1979, (Minute No. 37) of total opposition to abstraction of water from Wastwater or the River Irt by BNFL.

(2) If abstraction of water by BNFL from Wastwater is to be approved in principle then in the view of this Committee, consideration should be given to the water's being abstracted from the lower end of the River Irt, on the grounds that this would be likely to be less damaging to fisheries.

(3) That subject to any comments of the Regional Committee, the Policy and Resources Committee be informed accordingly.

6. APPLICATION TO ABSTRACT WATER FROM THE RIVER EHEN,
DUMFRIESSHIRE LIMESTONE COMPANY

A report was received which set out the details of an application received by the Authority from the Dumfriesshire Limestone Company Limited for a licence to abstract water from the River Ehen at Beckermat.

In relation to this application, the Authority had received a representation from the Egremont and District Anglers Association who, although not objecting to the abstraction, had requested that the water, after usage, should be adequately filtered and returned to the River Ehen in the same condition as when abstracted. The Association had also requested that no chemicals which could be harmful to fish life, or to conditions in the river, should be added during the washing process.

The Committee was assured that should the application be approved, the returned water would be subject to a discharge consent containing stringent conditions including a requirement for flocculation of the effluent.

In answer to questions, the Area Fisheries Officer stated that he would not countenance any discharge to the river containing toxic chemicals, also in this case the discharge should be returned to the river through a properly constructed channel which would incorporate a proper sampling point to enable samples of returned water to be taken for analysis.

7. REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

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

In response to comments from Members concerning item 1 of the report (River Conditions and Fishing), that in their estimation catches of fish had not been as good as were stated in the report, the Area Fisheries Officer replied that this section of his report had been compiled as a result of information supplied by his staff responsible for the areas concerned. He had no reason to doubt the summary of their information. In particular, runs of sea trout had been good.

In relation to item 5 of the report (Pollution Incidents and Fish Mortalities), the Committee was particularly concerned over the pollution incidents which occurred in the River Cocker at Cornhow on 12th July 1979 and at Wilton Beck on 16th July, 1979 whereby fish mortalities had taken place as a result of discharges from Authority installations. It was felt that the Authority should ensure that stringent precautions were always taken on their own installations to ensure that incidents of this nature did not occur. In this context, the Committee requested further information on these two incidents together with the recommendations which had been made following those incidents.

Commenting upon item 6 of the report (Consultation with Outside Interests), the Area Fisheries Officer advised the Committee that the consultations with the Cumbria Sea Fisheries Committee had covered such items as illegal salmon fishing off the coast and byelaw problems concerning the use of fixed nets which had come to his notice as a result of the use of the offshore patrol boat.

8. PRESS COVERAGE FOR PUBLIC NOTICES

A report was submitted which described the policy adopted by the Authority's Public Information Department in relation to the press coverage of public notices, and in particular notices relating to fishing licence duties and associated fishery matters.

RECOMMENDED:

That public notices in relation to fishery byelaws, licence duties and related fisheries matters be advertised by the Authority in all weekly newspapers of the Cumbria newspaper group [where a special block booking rate is available for the placing of such advertisements] and not in the evening newspapers circulating in the same localities.

9. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

The Chairman referred to the vacancy on the Committee resulting from the death of Mr. E.H. Fleming Smith and reported that on behalf of the Committee he had consulted with the Salmon and Trout Association and the South and West Cumberland Fisheries Association who had nominated Mr. Gordon Richardson of 14 Ellerbeck Lane, Workington, to serve on the Committee as Mr. Fleming Smith's successor.

RESOLVED:

That the Regional Committee be invited to confirm the appointment of Mr. G. Richardson to the Committee.

10. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 -
EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: (with Mr. A. Gleadon dissenting)

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

11. OIL POLLUTION OF RIVERS KEEKLE AND EHEN

The Committee received a report concerning an oil pollution of the Rivers Keekle and Ehen which resulted from vandalism during the night of 3/4th July, 1979, at the Authority's Summer Grove Pumping Station near Hensingham.

The Authority's Assistant Director of Administration had completed a formal internal investigation of the incident as a result of which, the Director of Operations had issued firm instructions to Divisions to check all arrangements for oil and dangerous chemical storage at the Authority's installations and for regular inspections of such installations to be carried out. It was also proposed to improve the security of the release valves to the installations where it was practicable to do so.

In the ensuing discussion the Committee was informed that recovery of the river systems had taken place to such an extent that the invertebrate fauna which constitutes the natural food of fish was now almost back to normal in the rivers with the exception of a few species such as mayfly larvae. It was expected that these would however, again develop during the summer of 1980. Restocking with brown trout would be taking place in the immediate future.

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

12TH NOVEMBER 1979

Present: T. A. F. Barnes, Esq., (Chairman)
 J. S. Bailey, Esq. Wm. McKenna, Esq.
 A. G. R. Brown, Esq. R. A. Parkin, Esq.
 W. F. Hobson, Esq. A. Richardson, Esq.
 R. D. Houghton, Esq. L. B. Williams, Esq.
 J. Johnson, Esq. Mrs. D. Wilson
 Mrs. W. Lomas G. Wilson, Esq.

17. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO MEMBER

The Chairman welcomed Mrs. W. Lomas to her first meeting of the Committee.

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr. J. M. Croft, Mr. E. P. Ecroyd, Mr. T. M. Farrer, Mr. J. H. Fell and Mr. G. Mann.

19. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 12th July, 1979, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

20. MINUTES OF LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. 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 8th October, 1979.

In relation to Minute No. 5 (British Nuclear Fuels Limited, Abstraction from Wastwater), he expressed the concern felt by his Committee over alternative proposals for a scheme of water abstraction from the River Derwent and in particular the fact that that Committee and fisheries interests generally had had no recent opportunity to discuss the implications of these alternative proposals. The officers undertook to review the procedural implications of the alternative proposals in relation to the forthcoming Ministerial Inquiry.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Derwent and West Cumbria Advisory Committee held on 8th October, 1979, be received.

(2) That the resolution contained in Minute No. 5 (British Nuclear Fuels Limited, Abstraction from Wastwater), be noted and submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee.

(3) That the recommendation contained in Minute No. 8 (Press Coverage of Public Notices), be approved.

B. Lune, Wyre and Furness

In the absence of the Chairman of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Fisheries Advisory Committee, Mr. T. A. F. Barnes submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 11th October, 1979.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Lune, Wyre and Furness Advisory Committee held on 11th October, 1979, be received.

(2) That the recommendation contained in Minute No. 10 (River Leven and River Crake - Catchment Study Report), be accepted for submission to the Water Management Committee.

(3) That a report concerning the outcome of the discussions presently taking place between the Authority and the Water Research Centre into fish avoidance behaviour in the Leven Estuary be submitted to the April meeting of this Committee.

(4) That the recommendation contained in Minute No. 11 (Stronachullin Fish Culture Station), be approved.

C. North Cumbria

In the absence of the Chairman of the North Cumbria Advisory Committee, Mr. T.A.F. Barnes submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 16th October, 1979.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the North Cumbria Advisory Committee held on 16th October, 1979, be received.

D. South Lancashire

The Chairman of the South Lancashire Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 17th October, 1979.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the South Lancashire Advisory Committee held on 17th October, 1979, be received.

(2) That the recommendation contained in Minute No. 4 (Disposal of Redundant Reservoirs and Acquisition of Bow Lee Reservoir by the Middleton Angling Society), be accepted for submission to the Policy and Resources Committee.

(3) That the recommendation contained in Minute No. 6 (Stocks Reservoir), be approved.

E. Mersey and Weaver

The Chairman of the Mersey and Weaver Advisory Committee submitted the Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 24th October, 1979.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Mersey and Weaver Advisory Committee held on 24th October, 1979, be received.

(2) That the recommendation contained in Minute No. 5 (Acquisition and Use of Bow Lee Reservoir as a Fishery by the Middleton Angling Society), be accepted for submission to the Policy and Resources Committee.

21. FISHING LICENCE DUTIES

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food approved the Authority's application for a proposed new structure and scale of fishing licence duties on 23rd October, 1979, subject to the inclusion of registered disabled persons in the concessionary rates already applicable to old age pensioners and juveniles. The date for the new licence duties to take effect is 1st January, 1980.

22. NET AND FIXED ENGINE LICENCE DUTIES

RESOLVED:

That the existing net and fixed engine licence duties within the Authority area be reviewed and a full report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee including appropriate comparisons with duties for similar instruments in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

23. EEL FISHING IN TIDAL AND ESTUARIAL WATERS

On 11th October, 1979 the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food approved the Authority's application for a renewal of the exemption from their system of licensing duties in respect of fishing for eels seaward of the high water mark (as defined on the Ordnance Survey Map 1:50,000 series) within the Authority's area, from the 18th November, 1979, the date of expiration of the previous excusal.

The excusal was given under the provisions of Section 25(1) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1975, and was subject to revocation at any time at the Minister's discretion.

24. MEMBERSHIP OF DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At the meeting on 8th October, 1979, (Minute No. 9), the Derwent and West Cumbria Advisory Committee recommended the appointment of Mr. Gordon Richardson, (the nominee of the Salmon and Trout Association and the South and West Cumberland Fisheries Association), of 14 Ellerbeck Lane, Workington, to serve on that Committee as successor to the late Mr. E. H. Fleming Smith.

RESOLVED:

That the appointment of Mr. G. Richardson to the Derwent and West Cumbria Fisheries Advisory Committee be approved.

25. MEMBERSHIP OF NORTH CUMBRIA FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At the meeting on 16th October, 1979, (Minute No. 9), the North Cumbria Advisory Committee recommended the appointment of Mr. John Thompson, (the nominee of the Solway Haaf Netsmens Association), of 'Inglenook', Rockcliff, Carlisle, Cumbria, to fill one of the two outstanding vacancies on the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the appointment of Mr. J. Thompson to the North Cumbria Fisheries Advisory Committee be approved.

26. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 - EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

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

27. FISHERIES FUNCTIONS OF WATER AUTHORITIES

The Committee considered a report concerning possible changes in the structure of fisheries administration and other associated measures which were currently under consideration by MAFF.

Although at the present time formal consultations with water authorities had not taken place, tentative suggestions had been discussed by the Fisheries Advisory Committee of the National Water Council, of which the Chairman was a member. A Special Meeting of that Committee was due to take place on 14th November, 1979, and Mr. Barnes invited the informal views of the Committee for his information prior to attending that meeting.

28. MERSEY ESTUARY - SEABIRD MORTALITY

The officers advised the Committee that investigations into the seabird mortality were presently being pursued by the Authority and other organisations. Over the past five years, investigations into the lead content of the sediments within the estuary which had been carried out by the Authority had shown no increase and consequently it was doubtful whether this lead had been the cause. In the meantime efforts were continuing in an endeavour to identify a positive cause of the mortality

F2/A2

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7TH JANUARY 1980

APPOINTMENT OF MR. GORDON RICHARDSON TO THE COMMITTEE

On 12th November, 1979, (Minute No. 24), the Regional Committee confirmed the appointment of Mr. Gordon Richardson of 14 Ellerbeck Lane, Workington, who was nominated by the Salmon and Trout Association and the South and West Cumberland Fisheries Association to serve on this Committee as successor to the late Mr. E.H. Fleming Smith.

F2/A7

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7TH JANUARY 1980

NET AND FIXED ENGINE LICENCE DUTIES

1. The existing scale of licence duties in relation to nets and fixed engines throughout the Authority area came into force on 1st January, 1978, and is listed in the appendix attached hereto.
2. On 12th November, 1979, (Minute No.22) the Regional Committee resolved that the existing net and fixed engine licence duties within the Authority area be reviewed and a full report be submitted to the next meeting of that Committee including appropriate comparisons with duties for similar instruments in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
3. The observations of the Committee are invited.

FL/A20

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYNET AND FIXED ENGINE LICENCE DUTIES

1. The existing scale of licence duties in relation to nets and fixed engines throughout the Authority area came into force on 1st January, 1978, and is as follows:

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)	78.00
River Eden Draw, Draft or Seine Net (not exceeding when wet 275 metres in length)	195.00
River Esk (Border) Draw, Draft or Seine Net (not exceeding when wet 275 metres in length)	65.00
Whole Area Heave or Haaf Net	16.90
River Eden Coop	117.00
River Derwent Coop	260.00
South West Cumberland Garth	130.00

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)	52.00
River Lune Drift Hang or Whammel Net (not exceeding when wet 300 metres in length)	104.00
River Lune Draw, Draft or Seine Net (not exceeding when wet 185 metres in length)	91.00
River Duddon Draw, Draft or Seine Net (not exceeding when wet 185 metres in length)	71.50
River Lune Heave or Haaf Net	39.00
River Kent Lave Net	39.00
River Leven Lave Net	32.50

F2/A4

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY
DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7TH JANUARY 1980

POLLUTION INCIDENTS

1. On 8th October, 1979, the Committee requested further information on the two incidents detailed below, together with the recommendations which had been made following those incidents (Minute No. 7).

2. River Cocker, Cornhow 12th July, 1979

The Cornhow water treatment plant was closed down following the failure of washwater pumps on the microstrainers and the contact tanks were emptied so that they could be inspected and cleaned during this period. Before recommissioning, a small amount of clorous was added to sterilise one of the tanks which was then drained directly to the river, causing a minor fish mortality (one sea trout of about 1 lbs. and 8 brown trout up to 8 inches).

3. Wilton Beck 16th July, 1979

The Authority was informed of an alleged fish mortality in Wilton Beck on 16th July and subsequent investigations appeared to confirm that a minor mortality had occurred in the stream, six small dead fish and a number of dead eels which were in an advanced stage of decomposition were observed. Following consumer complaints, Wilton Reservoir was taken out of service between 25th June and 2nd July for cleaning and sterilisation and the lower levels of water were discharged to stream via the 9" outlet pipe, thus effectively desilting the reservoir. After cleaning the walls and floor, the reservoir was sterilised by the use of sodium hypochlorite in water and this mixture was discharged to stream via the outlet. The discharge caused some siltation and discolouration but the reports of a fish kill arising specifically therefrom were not substantiated.

4. To ensure that incidents of this nature do not occur again the Director of Operations has written to all Divisional Managers detailing the legal position and setting out procedures to be adopted; involving close liaison between the Dual Function and Rivers Divisions, with recourse to the Director of Operations where circumstances warrant.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY
DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7TH JANUARY 1980

EEC DIRECTIVE ON THE QUALITY OF FRESHWATERS
NEEDING PROTECTION OR IMPROVEMENT IN ORDER
TO SUPPORT FISH LIFE

1. On 17th December, 1979, each member was provided with a copy of the "Consultation Paper on the Initial List of Designated Waters", along with a copy of an explanatory letter both of which have been circulated also to local authorities and other interested organisations in the region.
2. Initial lists of waters to be designated are required to be submitted to the EEC by July 1980, and authorities and organisations have been asked to forward comments on the Paper to the Authority by the end of February, 1980.
3. Members are requested to bring their copies of the Paper to the meeting when the proposals and progress on consultations with the fisheries associations will be discussed and any observations thereon will be welcomed.

F2/A5

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY
DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7TH JANUARY 1980

WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT FOR WEST CUMBRIA -
BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS LTD. ABSTRACTION FROM WASTWATER

1. On 8th October, 1979, (Minute No. 5), the Committee reaffirmed its opposition to abstraction of water from Wastwater and the River Irt by BNFL. It was resolved however that should such abstraction be approved in principle, then consideration should be given to the abstraction point being sited in the lower reaches of the River Irt, on the grounds that this location would be the least likely to harm fisheries.
2. On 12th November, 1979, the Regional Committee noted the observations without comment and on 3rd December, 1979, the Policy and Resources Committee noted the views of this Committee. The Policy and Resources Committee concluded that there was a need for some delegation on issues which might arise in connection with the Public Inquiry and therefore resolved:

"That a special Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Authority and the Chairman of the Water Management Committee be appointed with power to make any decisions on behalf of the Authority on issues arising in connection with the forthcoming Inquiry into proposals for water supply in West Cumbria."

F2/A6

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYDERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE7TH JANUARY 1980TERMINATED ANGLING LEASES - CATEGORY 3 SITES -
REPORT ON PROGRESS

1. At the meeting on 3rd April, 1978, the Committee considered a report setting out the three categories into which the Authority had placed reservoirs where angling leases thereon had expired.
2. Category 3 related to those reservoirs where informal consultations indicated serious local interest in the setting up of public angling facilities under direct Authority management or joint arrangements with local authorities. Ennerdale Lake is the only water in Category 3 in this Committee's area.
3. Since April, 1978, discussions have taken place with representatives of Copeland District Council, whose Recreation and Amenities Committee have considered the present arrangement whereby the angling rights are leased to the Ennerdale Lake Fishery, and endorsed the view that this is the best arrangement, as it not only ensures angling for local club members, but enables the general public to enjoy the facilities.
4. Discussions with representatives of Ennerdale Lake Fishery, the present lessees, have indicated a willingness to maintain a satisfactory marketing of permits to the general public.
5. It is therefore recommended that the Lake be reclassified as Category 1 (i.e. a treatment plant rating of D or better where there is no apparent reason why angling rights should not be re-let for club use for a period of 7 years).
6. This recommendation is made even though treatment is only a class "F" rating, in view of the general non-ownership by the Authority of the catchment area and the existing widespread public access, as it is considered that it would not be reasonable to exclude anglers; indeed, it could be argued that the Clubs control of angling in this particular case offers an additional safeguard against pollution. Nevertheless, pending the provision of improved treatment facilities, restrictions on numbers fishing and their distribution, should be imposed.
7. In any new lease to the Club it is proposed to include (inter alia) provision for an annual report by the Club on management policies and public usage of the lake, prohibition of angling within 400 metres of the intake, and a restriction on the maximum number of persons fishing at any one time.

DERWENT AND WEST CUMBRIA

FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7TH JANUARY, 1980.

REPORT BY THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICER

ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

1. RIVER CONDITIONS AND FISHING

Throughout September and for most of October all rivers ran fairly full but predominantly clear, giving excellent salmon fishing conditions. On about 20th October they rose into full spate and from then until the end of the period under review spate levels predominated.

Salmon fishing on the Derwent improved in October and November, in comparison with the earlier parts of the season. The best fish was one of 32lbs from near Ouse Bridge in October. In the south-western rivers salmon were generally scarce; significant numbers were reported only from the middle reaches of the Ehen and Calder. Sea trout were moderately plentiful in all rivers except the Esk and there were fair shoals of herling in the lower reaches of the Derwent and Ehen. Catches were generally quite good for the time of year and in view of the high river levels.

2. MIGRATORY FISH MOVEMENT

After the end of the fishing seasons very significant fresh runs of salmon were observed in the Ehen and to a lesser degree in the Irt and Annas. At Yearl runs totalling 358 large and 715 small fish were recorded.

3. HOLMWRANGLE HATCHERY

(i) General Comment

The exceptionally wet weather from October onwards caused problems with poor water quality, and leaves blocking the inlet screens, and necessitated extensive use of the borehole water supply. Improvements have been made to the concrete hatchery troughs, including some new pipework, and to the access road and to electrical installations. Also the hatchery building has been shored up in an effort to control subsidence.

(ii) Fish in Stock

	Ova on 29.11.79	Fish in Stock on 3.11.79	
		Year Hatched 1979	1978
Eden Salmon	203,000	11,161	-
Wye Salmon	-	-	200
Kincardine Salmon	-	15,196	-
West Cumberland Salmon	13,000	-	-
West Cumberland Sea Trout	6,000	-	-
Brown Trout	60,000	13,489	4,571
Char (Ennerdale)	1,500	-	-
Border Esk Sea Trout	-	6,001	-

A further 400,000 salmon ova and 300,000 sea trout ova are on order from commercial hatcheries for delivery in January-February 1980.

(iii) Fish Delivered

1,075 brown trout sold.

8,500 rainbow trout fingerlings transferred to the Authority's rearing unit at Tintwistle Reservoir in the southern fisheries area.

17,075 salmon parr taken to the cage rearing unit at Dalton-in-Furness.

2,750 salmon parr, 4,500 sea trout parr and 2,500 brown trout stocked into the River Ehen in West Cumbria to make good pollution damage.

4. STOCKING BY THE WATER AUTHORITY

The initial restocking of the River Ehen, occasioned by mortality caused by last summer's oil pollution, was carried out in October (details under (3) Holmwrangle Hatchery). Unfortunately one load of about 1500 salmon parr died in transit. This loss will as far as possible be made good by extra fry stocking in the Spring.

5. FISH DISEASE

Few fish have been seen with any of the symptoms associated with U.D.N. disease, fewer than in any of the last twelve years. The clearest sign of the declining virulence of this disease is the occurrence of salmon which have survived to spawn a second time; two such fish have this season been identified from scale samples sent in from the Derwent.

6. BIOLOGICAL WORK

It was decided that, in view of the possible development of Ennerdale Water for water supply, that an attempt should be made to assess the size of the char population and also perhaps recruitment and mortality rates. This information will give an idea of the potential significance and stability of the char population and, if repeated in subsequent years, will allow identification of any harm it may suffer. The method chosen was to mark a large proportion of the population in the tributary streams during this year's spawning season and then at the same time next year to ascertain the proportion of marked char in the total spawning population. The population size and other parameters may then readily be calculated from the numerical data obtained.

The char spawning season is in mid to late November, and on the nights of 21st, 22nd and 26th November a total of 1,306 char were taken. The char were trapped on their return downstream to the lake, so as not to interfere with their spawning. The fish were marked by simple clipping of the adipose fin. None were observed to have suffered any harm in handling. This year repeated spates allowed the trapping to be carried out on only these three nights out of the spawning period of about two weeks. The exercise will be repeated next year but the success is largely dependent on the prevailing weather conditions.

7. COLLECTING BROOD FISH ETC.

- (i) Throughout November the bailiffs were standing by to gather ripe salmon for stripping at Holmwrangle Hatchery, but because of the high water levels there were only 3 days when worthwhile attempts could be made. In all just 4 hen and 3 cock salmon and 27 hen and 9 cock sea trout were taken.
- (ii) After the end of the fishing season small samples of sea trout were collected from south western rivers on behalf of M.A.F.F. and B.N.F.L. for their radio-biological monitoring programme.

8. POACHING

The high river levels have this Autumn made poaching less easy than usual, however, such is their determination that organised gangs were encountered by the bailiffs on the Derwent on three occasions in October alone. A reasonably satisfactory number of offenders have been apprehended, but it would seem that the increasing value of the fish is counteracting the deterrent effect of the bailiffs.

9. RESOURCES - STAFFING

The bailiff post in the Maryport area is to be filled by the appointment of a bailiff/coxswain with particular responsibility for operating the fisheries patrol boat.

O. SUMMARY OF PROSECUTIONS

<u>Name and address</u>	<u>Offence</u>	<u>River</u>	<u>Court</u>	<u>Result</u>
Johnson, Leefoil Wood, son, Illesborough.	Fishing for trout, freshwater fish or eels otherwise than by means of a licensed instrument.	Bassenthwaite 1.6.79	Keswick 21.9.79	Fined £10
nam Payne, Farndale Drive, sborough, veland.	ditto	Bassenthwaite 4.7.79	Keswick 21.9.79	Fined £10
Harrison, Catherine Street, ham, kham, cashire.	ditto	Bassenthwaite 4.7.79	Keswick 21.9.79	Fined £10
phen Veitch, Kings Arms, n Street, wick.	(1) Fishing for trout, freshwater fish or eels otherwise than by means of a licensed instrument. (2) Failing to state correctly name and address.	Derwent 5.6.79	Keswick 21.9.79	(1) Fined £10 (2) Fined £20
id Woods, egar Street, ham, kham, cashire.	Fishing for trout, freshwater fish or eels otherwise than by means of a licensed instrument.	Bassenthwaite 4.7.79	Keswick 28.9.79	Fined £10
Christopher Green, Stockport Road, ton, chester.	ditto	Bassenthwaite 4.7.79	Keswick 28.9.79	Fined £10
istian Ingham, uskin Avenue, son, chester.	ditto	Bassenthwaite 4.7.79	Keswick 28.9.79	Fined £10
Apps, White Hill, am Lane, ceshead.	ditto	Bassenthwaite 13.7.79	Cockermouth 1.10.79	Fined £5
MARK Irving, Edinburgh Road, anrigg, ryport.	(1) Using a gaff for the purpose of taking salmon or trout. (2) Taking sea trout otherwise than by means of a licensed instrument. (hands)	Ellen 9.7.79	Maryport 28.9.79	(1) Fined £30 (2) Fined £30
ian Edward Watson, 3 Main Street, izington.	Being in possession of a gaff.	Ehen 27.8.79	Whitehaven 19.11.79	Fined £75
ephen Taylor, Lingla Bank, izington.	Being in possession of a gaff.	Ehen 27.8.79	Whitehaven 19.11.79	Fined £75