

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED

AUGUST 31ST 2022

Prepared by
ANNE A LAING
Chartered Accountants
ELGIN

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD

CONTENTS	PAGES
Board Members, Officers and Professional Advisers	1
Annual Report	2 to 4
Board Members' Report and Statement of Board Members' Responsibilities	5 and 6
Independent Accountant's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD
BOARD MEMBERS, OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICE BEARERS	: Crinan Dunbar Tomas Christie Fred Rhind Mark Laing Bill Fraser Charlie Gerrie Eddie Gormanley John Fielding Poppy Holdsworth	Chairman resigned 01.03.2022 resigned 21.06.2022 appointed 21.06.2022 appointed 01.03.2022
---	--	--

BANKERS	: Royal Bank of Scotland 209 High Street ELGIN, IV30 1DL
----------------	--

CONTACT ADDRESS	: Fisheries Office Logie Steading Dunphail FORRES IV36 2QN
------------------------	--

Independent Examiner	: Roy J Laing (partner in the firm of) Anne A Laing, Chartered Accountants Lavona, Calcots ELGIN IV30 8NB
-----------------------------	---

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31ST 2022

2022 Season Review

There was some water in April, which is never a good fishing month on the Lossie, followed by a reasonable spate at the end of May which brought in some fish. From the second week in June till the middle of September there was no rain to refresh the river. What fish may have been in the river at that time just became stale and lay sheltered in the undercut banks of the river. Few fish were seen in the lower river, however, anglers reported seeing reasonable numbers in the town and Cloddach area. Sea Trout catches were up slightly for 2021, slightly above the 5 year average. Salmon numbers appear to have slipped back to pre-2019 levels, down by a third on last seasons catch.

Catch Returns	Salmon	Sea Trout
2017	32	70
2018	37	36
2019	94	154
2020	61	87
2021	39	105
5 year average	53	90

2022 Season

Catch data will not be available until January 2023. This season saw a small spate of catches in May; however, the larger part of the year has seen the number of fish caught extremely small. The lack of rainfall along with water extraction from the river has caused water levels in the Lossie to be low. The latter half of the season could see some improvement with some rainfall.

National Electrofishing Programme for Scotland (NEPS)

NEPS went ahead in 2021 and 14 sites on the Lossie were undertaken. Juvenile salmon and trout were found across all the sites in good numbers, and comparable to results from previous years. Marine Scotland are working on the data and the report will be available shortly. Sadly, the NEPS survey for 2022 was postponed due to staffing shortages but should commence in 2023.

Habitat Management

Mayne Farm Sediment Removal- Significant build-up of sediment has occurred on the Lossie which has raised the riverbed and blocked the farm drains, leading to drainage and flooding problems. Sediment removal was licenced by SEPA and completed in autumn 2021. Revisit to the site indicates the river bed is re-establishing a range of spawning areas and holding pools. Habitat survey was carried out at two locations on the Lossie with respect to proposed Miltonduff Distillery expansion.

Cloddach Bridge

Cloddach Bridge was closed to traffic during late 2021, however, concern remains that the erosion of the abutment is still causing a partial barrier to fish passage, especially during low to medium flows. This is particular concern when fish are migrating to spawning areas in the Autumn. The LDSFB, Elgin AA and FNLRT continue to monitor fish passage and continue to apply for a license to facilitate fish passage. Spawning redds were present at Torcastle, Dallas in December 2021, indicating fish are able to migrate above this barrier. Discussions with Moray Council, the owner of the bridge, are ongoing to resolve this intermittent barrier to fish passage.

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31ST 2022

Catchment Developments

Clashgour Wind Farm and Rothes III Windfarm have gone to public enquiry and a report on the outcome is awaited.

Kellas windfarm – comments were submitted on the scoping report.

A96 Dualling- Currently the development is under review.

Lhanbryde burn – river works were completed to protect housing within Lhanbryde, fish survey completed regarding proposed Kirkhill Bridge replacement in Lhanbryde.

Spynie Canal – siltation problems were inspected at the outflow of the canal overflow channel into the estuary.

Lossiemouth footbridge – regular visits were maintained with the developers of the new footbridge. Works were completed to a very high standard.

The FNLFT continues to monitor catchment developments.

INNS

Control of Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed along the Lossie and Longmorn Burn continued with funding from the Scottish Invasive Species Initiative (SISI), Crown Estate and MEDCO. GH control completed from Kellas to Wester Manbeen in 2022. GH densities from Kellas to Bogside are dropping considerably and improving from Bogside to Wester Manbeen. However, still several years of treatment required.

Control of Japanese Knotweed was undertaken using stem injection and foliar spraying using back-packs and substantial areas were treated within Kellas, Brokentore, Bogside and Wester Manbeen. Work on skunk cabbage was completed on Dallas Pond and the Doual Burn in July and August 2021 and approximately 90% of the weed was removed. Further treatments were completed in August 2022. Mink monitoring continued through the SISI project, several sightings were reported in Elgin and near Cloddach but no mink were captured.

Schools

School sessions continued to be postponed due to Coronavirus restrictions.

Bailiffing

Bailiffing by the Findhorn DSFB bailiffs continued during the season with a number of incidents dealt with.

Lossie DSF Board Activities 2021-22

Annual Meeting of Qualified Proprietors 30/11/21 at 3pm by videoconference

Annual General Meeting 01/03/2022 at 3pm by videoconference

Salmon Conservation Policy

The River Lossie is Grade 3 so all Salmon and Grilse caught on the Lossie must be released back to the river under the Conservation of Salmon Regulations, which make retaining salmon a criminal offence.

Sea Trout Conservation Policy

RELEASE

- All fish under 1 lb/14 ins
- All sea trout over 3 lbs/20 ins
- All stale and gravid fish

RELEASE RATE

- Sea Trout 75% ie, 1 sea trout in 4 may be retained

METHODS

- Fly fishing is encouraged.
- Use pinched or barbless hooks. Avoid using triple hooks.
- Shrimp and prawning is banned.
- Bait fishing (worming) may be used with the AA or owner's permission.

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31ST 2022

Season: 25th Feb – 31st Oct. However, many of the fishing estates and Angling Associations vary the season length within this. Elgin and District Angling Association (EDAA) delays the opening on their fishing until the 1st April for salmon and sea trout and closes the season for sea trout on the 30th September. They close the salmon season on the 31st October.

Main Pressures on the Catchment

There is a high concentration of Distilleries in the catchment which extract water for production and cooling, creating issues of raised water temperatures and ineffective screens at offtake weirs damaging fish populations. The urbanisation, industrialisation and expansion of Elgin impinges on riparian habitats and increases pollution risks. Agricultural activities can result in overgrazing by stock and pollution through fertiliser run off. Further windfarm developments are planned which may affect water courses. Elgin AA remain active but report that angling effort on the river continues to decline.

Funding of Fisheries Trust

The Lossie DSFB continues to contribute financially to the work of the FNLRT for biologist's projects and office costs.

Activities for 2022 to 2023

A Service level Agreement between the FNLRT and the LDSFB was approved. The priority areas detailed in the FNLRT Management Plan will continue to guide all activities: Climate Crisis, River Habitat and Land Use, Biosecurity and Invasive Non-Native Species, Fish and Fisheries, Marine and Inshore Environment, Education and Publicity.

The project to eradicate GH and JK will continue in 2023 through the SISI Project, with the aim for treatment to reach downstream to the southern edge of Elgin. Mink control will also continue under the SISI project.

The installation of further fish passes on distillery weirs on the Linkwood Burn will be supported.

The FNLRT will continue to investigate improvements to fish assess under the Cloddach Bridge.

Glenlatterach Reservoir- LDSFB & FNLRT will continue to engage with Scottish Water in the management of compensation water and taking supply from the Lossie in emergency conditions.

The school visits to Kellas Trout fishery funded by Heldon CC from the Rothes Wind Farm will be undertaken in 2023.

Monitoring of wind farm and infrastructure developments will continue.

Dates of Future Meetings:

Annual Meeting of Qualified Proprietors 30th November 2022 at 3pm, venue to be arranged.

Annual Public Meeting date t.b.c. March 2023 at 3 pm.

The Lossie DSF Board continues to implement procedures to comply with the Aquaculture and Fisheries Act in maintaining a complaints procedure, register of members' interests, and the publicising of meetings, minutes and accounts. No complaints were received.

The Lossie DSF Board will continue to support the FNLRT in collecting fisheries data and undertaking surveys to identify opportunities for riparian improvements. The Board will continue to make a financial contribution to the FNLRT.

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD
BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT AND STATEMENT
OF BOARD MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31ST 2022

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Board have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the company for the year ended August 31st 2022.

BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The Board are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position.

The Board are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing these financial statements the officials are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- b. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- c. prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to do so on the grounds that the charity is unlikely to continue in existence.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Protect, preserve and manage salmon and sea trout fisheries on the River Lossie.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The Board agreed that there would be an increase in Bailiffing activity.

A conservation code has been finalised and is in place for the future.

The Board agreed to continue with the responsibility for leasing the Net Fishings at the mouth of the River Lossie, as a conservation measure.

RISKS REVIEW

The members have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Board, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The surplus at the year end enables the Board to carry on with their objectives.

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD
BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT AND STATEMENT
OF BOARD MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31ST 2022

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

The members who served on the Board during the year were as follows :

Crinan Dunbar	Chairman
Tomas Christie	
Fred Rhind	
Mark Laing	
Bill Fraser	
Charlie Gerrie	resigned 01.03.2022
Eddie Gormanley	resigned 21.06.2022
John Fielding	appointed 21.06.2022
Poppy Holdsworth	appointed 01.03.2022

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf on29/11/22..... by


Crinan Dunbar

Chairman

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT TO THE PARTNERS ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF
RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31ST 2022.

In accordance with the engagement letter we have prepared the accounts of River Lossie and District Salmon Fisheries Board on pages 8 to 9 from accounting records and information and explanations supplies to us.

The report is made to you, in accordance with the terms of our engagement.
Our work has been undertaken to enable us to prepare the accounts on your behalf and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Board Members of the River Lossie and District Salmon Fisheries Board for our work or for this report.

We have carried out this engagement in accordance with best practice guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland and have complied with ethical guidance laid down by the Institute relating to members undertaking the preparation of accounts.

You have acknowledged on the balance sheet for the year ended August 31st 2022 and your responsibility for the accounts.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit of the accounts. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements ;
- to keep accounting records and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records have not been met, or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


.....

Roy J Laing, partner

Date 05/12/22

Anne A. Laing
Chartered Accountants
Lavona
Calcots
ELGIN
Moray, IV30 8NB.

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31ST 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS <u>2022</u> £	RESTRICTED FUNDS <u>2022</u> £	TOTAL FUNDS <u>2022</u> £	TOTAL FUNDS <u>2021</u> £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Other income	125	0	125	0
Assessments	9,602	0	9,602	9,602
Total incoming resources	9,727	0	9,727	9,602
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Insurance	487	0	487	438
Bailiff	1,419	0	1,419	1,138
Assessment refunds	0	0	0	0
Professional Fees	420	0	420	490
Meeting Costs	0	0	0	0
Subscriptions	485	0	485	383
Contribution to FNLFT	6,900	0	6,900	6,900
Total resources expended	9,711	0	9,711	9,349
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	16	0	16	253
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS				
Fund balances as at September 1st 2021	11,152	0	11,152	10,899
Fund balances as at August 31st 2022	11,168	0	11,168	11,152

RIVER LOSSIE AND DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT AUGUST 31ST 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	3,128	5,490
Cash at bank and in hand	8,490	6,112
	<u>11,618</u>	<u>11,602</u>
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Creditors and accruals	450	450
	<u>450</u>	<u>450</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>11,168</u>	<u>11,152</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>11,168</u>	<u>11,152</u>
REPRESENTED BY		
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>11,168</u>	<u>11,152</u>

These financial statements were approved by the members of the Board on ...29/11/22 and signed on their behalf by :



Crinan Dunbar

Chairman