

RIVER LOSSIE DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD
Minutes of the Annual Public Meeting (AGM)
 Held at Pitgaveny.
 Tuesday 18th March 2025 at 3pm.

	CD and WF are still to arrange a meeting with Alasdair Kennedy.	CD/WF
5	<p>Year 2024 Report and Update</p> <p>OS and RL are currently working on the final report of the results of the Lossie mainstem juvenile electrofishing survey carried out in 2024. OS provided a summary of preliminary findings which show that, since the last full survey in 2016, there has been a large decline in salmon density. There is some other survey data from the National Electrofishing Program (NEPS) which isn't yet incorporated and that may give a clearer picture of what was happening during the period since 2016.</p> <p>Adult catches remained low, although 2024 did see a slight increase on the previous year. The low numbers from 2022-2023 will be affecting the decline in juvenile salmon in the 2024 survey.</p> <p>Sea Trout have done slightly better, although densities in some tributaries show a decline. There was an uptick in adults caught in 2024.</p> <p>There are some restoration opportunities for the Lossie which could increase productivity, and it is hoped that FNLRT will be able to develop these in the coming years.</p> <p>RR observed that some of the historic data shown by OS from the mid-1980s to early 1990s shows an increase in juvenile populations and pointed out that this coincides with a period of hatchery stocking on the Lossie. The membership of the Elgin AA would like to explore the possibility of opening a hatchery and feel that this is something that Scottish Government/Fisheries Management Scotland/FNLRT should be funding. CW and ML confirmed that there is not funding available for such a project, and it would not be within the remit of FNLRT's charitable activity to fund a hatchery.</p> <p>CW offered to put together an organisational diagram to illustrate the relationships between the LDSFB and other organisations, such as FNLRT/FMS, including where responsibilities lie. This could be circulated to the Elgin AA's members to make these relationships a bit clearer.</p> <p>CW will also put together a brief document summarising the issues around opening a hatchery which could also be fed back to members so they get a clearer idea of why this wouldn't be possible at this time.</p>	<p>CW</p> <p>CW</p>
6	<p>Proposals for 2025</p> <p><i>New FNLRT Director Introduction</i></p> <p>EA gave a short introduction on her work with FNLRT as Project Development Lead for the Findhorn Watershed Initiative (FWI) project. She</p>	

	<p>will now be moving into the Director's role with OS taking on the Biologist/Ecologist part previously covered by RL. The focus of the FWI has been on the Findhorn to date, but the intention is that it is rolled out to the Lossie in future.</p> <p>CW confirmed the following activity for 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - INNS – the SISI project will continue through next year and tenders have been issued to contractors. Contracts renewed for 2025 with Crown Estate and Moray Estates. - Paul's Hill Windfarm – Small monitoring contract at the very top of the Lossie catchment <p>WF raised that Elgin AA that RL had previously supplied roundup to their certified sprayers. CW will confirm these arrangements with RL.</p>	CW
7	<p>AOCB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complaints Procedure – There were no changes suggested to the procedure. The procedure was approved, CW will publish on the website. 	CW
8	<p>Dates of 2025 Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 24th June 5:30pm - 25th November 3pm, Annual Meeting of Qualified Proprietors 	

With no further business CD closed the meeting at 16:10