



THE Tweed
FOUNDATION

A Tweed Foundation Paper

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

for the

TWEED & EYE FISHERIES

DISTRICT

4th Edition
2005 - 2009

STRATEGY and STRUCTURE of the MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of this plan is :-

To arrange and order the gathering of the information needed to be able to assess the status of the different stocks of the exploited fish species of the Tweed. On the basis of these stock assessments, the appropriate Management Levels for each stock are recommended to the RTC. The purpose of these Management Levels is either to ensure enough fish of each Salmon, Sea-trout and Brown-trout stock survive all the pressures on them to fully stock their spawning areas for their next generations and to maximise their production (Levels 4 and 5) or to make progress towards such conditions (Levels 1, 2 and 3). Ensuring sufficient spawning escapement is classified as "Output 1" of the fisheries management process and maximisation of juvenile survival as "Output 2". The various categories of information needed to make the Stock Assessments are classified as the "Inputs" of the process (see Section 4).

These two outputs should result in both the preservation of the existing diversity of the Salmon, Sea-trout and Brown-trout stocks and the maximisation of their abundances but the importance of conserving stock diversity in particular is recognised. Stock diversity is the safeguard against a changing environment, the greater the range of stocks, the greater the adaptability of the population to new factors and conditions. The diversity of Salmon stocks is also the basis for the long, ten month, Salmon fishing season of the Tweed.

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A charitable trust established by the River Tweed Commission to promote the development of fish stocks in the Tweed River System

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The Inputs required to forward this strategy are the gathering of information on: -

- (A) The different stocks of fish and their home areas
 - (B) The quality and quantity of their nursery habitats
 - (C) The extent and state of their juvenile stocks and trends in their abundance
 - (D) The extent and effect of the fisheries on the adults
 - (E) The exploitation rate of the fisheries on each stock
- and
- (F) The counting / estimation of the size of adult populations of each stock

-and the purpose of this plan is to set out how these categories of information will be gathered and analysed over the next five years

The plan sets out the policies to be followed over the next five years to achieve these aims. It should be noted that the plan is a guide, it is not a series of prescriptions. Not all the policies will be put into operation during this period, and some may need particular opportunities to arise to become practicable. Annual combined meetings of the Trustees of the Tweed Foundation and the Committee of the RTC are held each year to see if any further parts of the Plan can be put into execution and, if so, what the priorities should be.

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