GYRODACTYLUS SALARIS ANGLER DECLARATION

Gyrodactylus salaries (GS) is the greatest threat to wild salmon in our Scottish rivers, and the UK as a whole. It is a parasitic freshwater fluke which is indigenous to rivers in parts of Russia, Norway and Sweden, where salmon have evolved resistance to it. However, GS has spread to rivers in Norway, Denmark, Germany, France, Spain and Portugal where native salmon have no resistance, resulting in mass mortality of juvenile fish. In Norway infected rivers lost 98% of their salmon within 5 years. Infected rivers must be poisoned to remove all fish hosts, and barriers erected to stop salmon entering the river to spawn and generate more hosts. GS can survive for 5 to 7 days without a host in damp conditions (eg angling clothing, waders, wet reels, lines or landing nets).

Currently the UK is GS-free. The economic and ecological consequences of GS entering the country would be catastrophic. Please do your part to prevent GS from decimating our wild salmon by signing this Angler Declaration **before fishing**.

ANGLER DECLARATION (complete one only)

A I declare that none of my fishing equipment has been outside the United Kingdom in the three months prior to the commencement of my fishing on …….. *(insert date)*

Signed ..……Print Name ……*(Fishing Tenant)*

B I declare that my fishing equipment **has** been used outside the United Kingdom in the three months prior to the commencement of my fishing on ……*(insert date)* and that it has been properly sterilised adopting one of the following methods *(please tick one of the following)*:

Method A: Drying to a minimum of 20°C for a least two days

Method B: Heating to above 60°C for at least one hour ′

Method C: Deep freezing for a least one day ′

Method D: Immersion of materials in a solution of, or addition of one of the following chemicals to water to the concentration indicated for a **minimum** of 10 minutes:

Virkon 1% ′ Wescodyne 1% ′

Sodium Chloride (common salt) 3% ′ Sodium Hydroxide 0.2% ′

NB The chemicals above may be available from agricultural chemical suppliers. The use of trade names is for illustrative purposes only and does not imply endorsement of any particular product. Users should check that their use does not damage their equipment.

Signed ……. Print Name ……*(Fishing Tenant)*

C I declare that my fishing equipment has been used outside the United Kingdom in the three months prior to the commencement of my fishing on ……*(insert date)* and has **not** been sterilised.

I agree that it will be sterilised by the fishery proprietors before I commence fishing and I understand that this may result in a delay in the start of my fishing.

Signed ……. Print Name ……*(Fishing Tenant)*

Please return the signed declaration to the ghillie before fishing