

RECORDING YOUR FISH

This should clearly be done as quickly as possible.

- **PHOTOGRAPHY** Keep the fish in or briefly just above the water. Support it gently under the belly and loosely hold the wrist of the tail.
- **WEIGHING** If possible use a weigh net or scales hooked on to your net. Some luggage scales are small enough to fit in a pocket.
- **MEASURING** Do it in the water. Take a tape in your pocket or mark up your wading stick or the butt of your rod. Fish should be measured from nose to fork of tail. Use the recognised scale reproduced below.

Length (ins)	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
Weight (lbs)	5	6	6½	7½	8¾	9¾	10½	12	13	14¾	16	17	19	20¾	22½	24¾	26¾	29	31

Further information:

The Deveron, Bogie & Isla Rivers Charitable Trust

The Offices,

Avochie Stables,

Avochie,

Huntly,

Aberdeenshire AB54 7YY

Tel: 01466 711388

www.deveron.org



The River Deveron District
Salmon Fishery Board

Deveron, Bogie and Isla
Rivers Charitable Trust



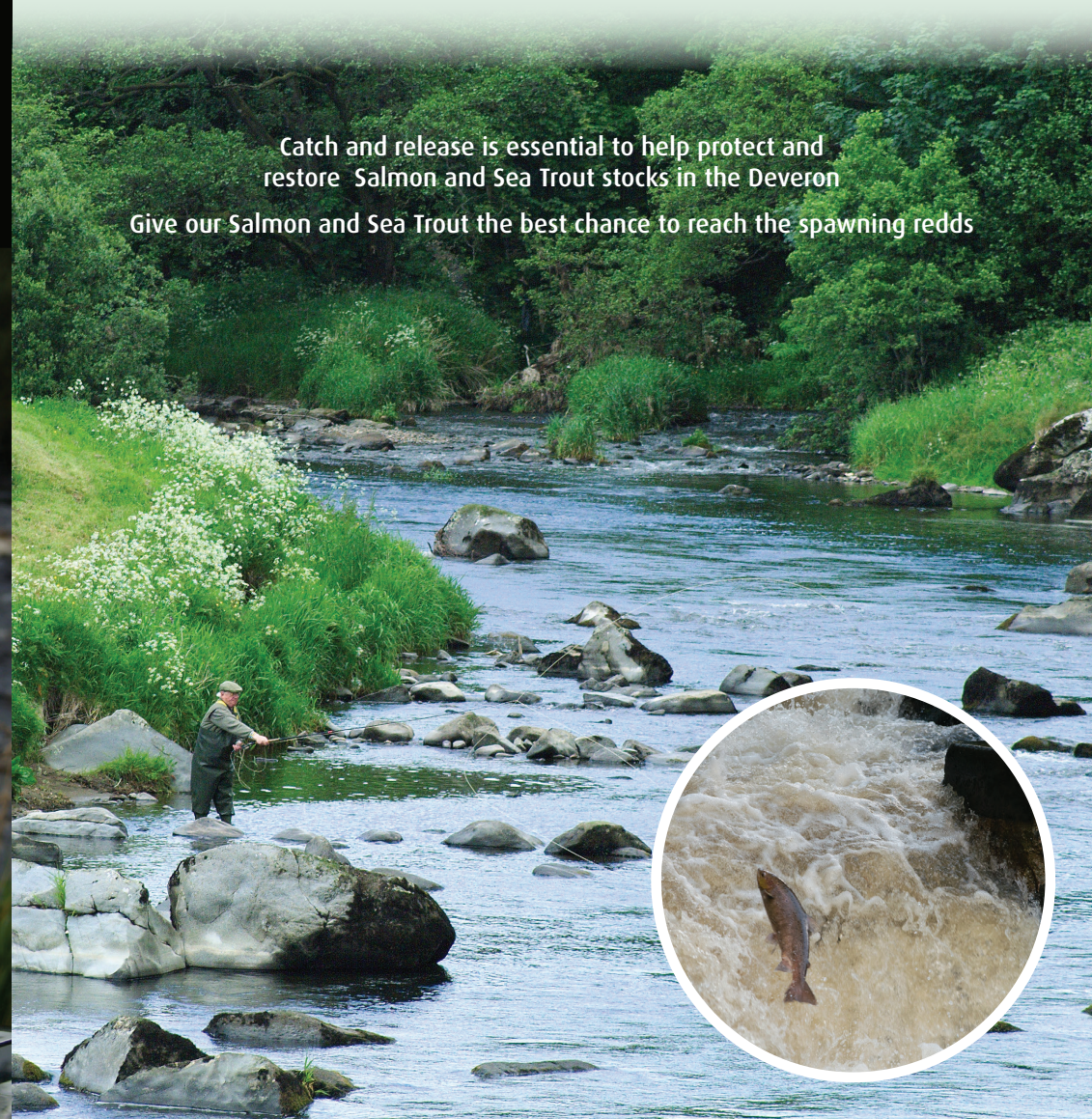
www.deveron.org

Catch and Release

A Deveron Angler's Guide

Catch and release is essential to help protect and restore Salmon and Sea Trout stocks in the Deveron

Give our Salmon and Sea Trout the best chance to reach the spawning redds





Catch and Release

Catch and release is vital to help protect and restore salmon and sea trout stocks in the Deveron. Give your fish the best opportunity of reaching the spawning redds. Follow the advice in this leaflet.

TACKLE

Use small, barbless hooks, singles or doubles:

- They do less damage
- Unhooking is quicker
- Use size 8, or preferably smaller.

Always use a strong leader or line as possible. This will ensure fish can be brought to the net quickly and safely.

SPINNING

Salmon often take Flying Cs deep down throat and more than 10% die. The use of multi-hook spinning lures (see top right) can cause significant damage to fish and reduce their chances of survival. Fitting a barbless single will help but it's better to use other lures, with hooks altered, or to fly fish. Worm fishing often results in fish dying. Where worm fishing is allowed, using a circle hook will reduce the chances of deephooking.

Find out why these lures are NOT recommended. See spinning section below.



PLANNING AHEAD

Before fishing a pool, always identify where a fish can be safely landed without risk of damage on rocks or stones. If fishing alone, take a net. Traditional large mesh salmon nets can cause split fins and tails, therefore please use soft-mesh or notless nets. Have long-nosed forceps or a similar tool close to hand for prompt hook removal. If you want a photo of your salmon before release, have your camera ready, for example, on a neck lanyard.

LANDING FISH

Fish should be played as quickly as possible so that they can be released before becoming too exhausted.

- Fish should not be dragged across stones.
- Fish should not be taken out of the water.
- Fish should never be lifted from the water by the tail or gill cover.

RELEASING SALMON & SEA TROUT

- Fish should be retained in the net on the surface of the water whilst the hook is removed.
- The hook should be removed as quickly as possible and the use of a pair of long forceps, which can fit in the pocket, causes less damage and stress.
- Slide the fish from the net and hold it gently by the wrist of the tail, with the second hand under the belly, and its head upstream in steady flowing clean - but not fast flowing - water.
- Fish take differing times to recover - be patient, it will tell you when it is ready to leave, and that is the time to release the wrist.

