



River Earn Improvement Association



2013 A.G.M.

Chairman's Update Season 2012

I would like to start my report with a series of thank you's. Firstly to the members who have continued their support. Secondly to the committee who have worked very hard this year with considerable enthusiasm. Tom Monaghan has revitalised the website and worked tirelessly behind the scenes. John Young continues to put in a huge amount of work on the ground and his efforts over the past year have been supported hugely by members Bob Mitchell, Jim Perritt and Sandy McIntosh and Derek Trevis.

Ian Dalglish continues to keep a weather eye on our finances and Duncan Clark the Trout Protection Order liaison. Further huge contributions are received from the various members representing some of the clubs on the river, Mostyn Morgan, Gordon Taylor, Gavin Harrower and Drew McIntyre. I am indeed lucky to have had such a hard working committee during my tenure as Chairman.

All the other helpers who have given up their valuable time to try and protect the river and particularly the three individuals (including 2 Committee members) who have given up 6 days of their own valuable time in order to attend the Lantra Chainsaw Course. Their dedication will allow our Association, in cooperation with the T.D.S.F.B. Bailliff force, to ensure our spawning and nursery habitat remains accessible to migratory fish at all times.

As Tom has mentioned 2013 will see us continue to undertake considerable amount of survey work, target stock spring eggs and monitoring their progress, undertake habitat improvement to assist juvenile survival and liaise with the TDSFB on invasive species control. For example, we now hold electronically in our own data base, all electrofishing population survey information and will continue to build the picture to help us identify potential stocking areas. We also hold electronically details of all areas of Invasive Plants sprayed during our current programme, which is set to continue for the foreseeable future. Although this particular programme is primarily funded by external sources, the Association have been called upon from time to time to contribute a considerable amount to support the ongoing works, which in our opinion is very important in both eliminating these plants and protecting our banks from erosion.

Finally, I would urge you to continue to move forward with catch and release. Dead fish cannot spawn! The Earn is a wonderful river in magnificent countryside. Anything you can do to help would be much appreciated.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Lowson'.

Colin Lowson
Chairman