



Kyle of Sutherland District Salmon Fishery Board Conservation policy

**By law it is now illegal to retain salmon and grilse caught in Scotland before 1st April.
All salmon must be returned before this date, including fatally damaged fish.**

By law it is illegal to retain salmon and grilse in the Evelix catchment plus tidal and coastal waters inland to grid reference NH 260930 891210 (approximately 300m downstream of the bridge in Bonar Bridge during the ebb tide).

Salmon

Aim to achieve:

- A 100% release rate, catchment wide, over the season.
- Definition; fish 65 cm (approximately 7 lbs) and over, measuring from the nose to the fork of the tail.
- It is recommended that all salmon are returned in September.

Grilse

Aim to achieve:

- All fish released before 15th June.
- A minimum of 80% release rate, catchment wide, over the season.
- It is recommended that all grilse are returned in September.

Sea Trout

Aim to achieve:

- All fish released before the 15th of June.
- All fish 50 cm (approximately 3 lbs) and over, measuring from the nose to the fork of the tail released.
- A minimum of 80% release rate, catchment wide, over the season.

Method

- Fly only by statutory instrument.
- Treble hooks prohibited.
- Barbless hooks should be used as best practise.

In high temperatures

- If the water temperature exceeds 18°C it is recommended that fishing ceases.
- During spells of abnormally warm weather it is recommended that fishing is restricted to the early hours of the morning before water temperature rises to 18°C.
- This is a welfare issue for fish. In high temperatures water holds less oxygen, and can decrease survival rates for released fish.