

NOTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE SPEY FISHERY BOARD STOCKING SUB-COMMITTEE
HELD AT CONELOCH
ON WEDNESDAY 28TH AUGUST 2013 AT 1230HRS

PRESENT: Peter Graham (Chairman)
Allan Williams
Angus Gordon Lennox
Brian Doran
Steve Brand
Roger Knight
Jimmy Woods
Brian Shaw

1. During lunch Peter Graham welcomed everyone to the Spey Fishery Board Stocking sub-group committee meeting. The aims of the meeting were outlined a) to discuss the locations and stocking densities for the stock currently held in the hatchery and b) explore the potential for stocking in 2014 and thereby define the number of broodstock required and capture locations.
2. Brian Shaw presented the results from the 2013 electrofishing monitoring of sites stocked in 2011/12 along with a summary of salmon stocking strategies on the Spey since 2003.
3. Predicted smolt outputs, based on electrofishing results, derived from stocking (4200) and anticipated adults returns (210) were presented.
4. Discussion of the results concluded that the 2013 stocking should focus on those burns that had either produced better stocked fish densities or where the potential was considered to be better.
5. The group concluded that the stock currently available in the hatchery should be stocked as follows:

Burn	Site details		Stocking	
	Area	Quality	No 0+ parr required	Hatchery source
Mulben	24000	Moderate	24000	Lower Mainstem
Aldernie (Maggielknockater)		Poor		Not suitable
Corrie	6750	Good	32500	Fiddich
Mackalea	3220	Good	16000	Fiddich*
Ringorm	6250	Moderate	0	Not suitable
Cally	7500	Good	7500	No stocking 2013
Tommere	8800	Good	35000	Avon
Brown	12000	Good	50000	Avon
Knockando	17000	Good	0	No stocking 2013
Broad	8000	Good	32000	Lower Mainstem
Batten	8750	Good	17500	Dulnain
Glenbeg Burn	12900	Good		Now accessible
Deskie Burn	1600	Moderate		Not suitable
Total			214500	

* Additional Fiddich fish available.

6. No stocking was to take place in the Aldernie (poor quality habitat) and Deskie Burn (too small).
7. The Cally and Knockando Burns were not to be stocked in 2013 due to consistent low/moderate electrofishing results.
8. Research into the most appropriate stocking densities should be conducted by stocking the Burn of Brown and Tommore Burns at up to five 0+ parr/m².
9. The efficacy of stocking the Burn of Brown in alternate years should be trialled.
10. Steve Brand agreed to organise fin clipping of hatchery fish destined for the Burn of Brown and the Tommore Burn.
11. The locations for broodstock capture should be reviewed. Areas of low fry index counts on the mainstem should be avoided with broodstock sourced as close as possible to stocking location. For example the Mulben Burn broodstock should be sourced from the lower reaches of the Mulben Burn and the Fiddich tributaries should be stocked with fish from the Fiddich itself rather than Fiddich Mouth.
12. The committee concluded that a recommendation to maintain the hatchery at broadly similar outputs levels for a five year period should be made to the Spey Foundation/Fishery Board. This output level to be reviewed annually in light of subsequent monitoring.