

New policy on stocking only triploid (non-fertile) and local origin trout into open inland waters.

A new policy on sea/brown and rainbow trout stocking is being phased in over the period from January 2016 to January 2020, depending on the type of water and stocking history. These new arrangements seek to protect Scottish native brown trout populations from the potential negative impact on their genetic composition caused by breeding either with introduced wild origin fish or with farm reared stocks. In the case of rainbow trout, the policy aims to minimise potential risk to biodiversity. Exemptions to this policy may only be made on scientific or conservation grounds. England and Wales already have a similar stated policy on brown trout stocking.

The majority of trout stocking occurs in waters which have regularly been stocked, therefore the implementation timetable aims to provide time both for commercial suppliers and other producers to adjust stock production to meet requirements.

Full details of the implementation timetable are laid out within our [introductions policy document](#).