

# Wild Fisheries Reform Update – June 2015



## Introduction

Welcome to the first progress bulletin to be issued by the Scottish Government's Wild Fisheries Reform Team. These bulletins will be issued on a regular basis throughout the reform process. Please feel free to pass this bulletin on to anyone who may have an interest. If anyone would like to be included on the circulation list please contact us at the address below.

## Wild Fisheries Reform: a response to the report of the Wild Fisheries Review

The Environment Minister, Aileen McLeod, [announced](#) on 15 May 2015 the publication of a paper which sets out the Government's response to the independent Wild Fisheries Review.

The paper:

- Confirms Ministers' commitment to reforming management structures and working with all interested parties to deliver reform
- Sets out the fundamental principles that will guide development of the new system
- Announces the development of a new national wild fisheries strategy
- Starts consultation on broad policy options for the new system including roles and responsibilities at a local and national level; funding; skills and science; regulation and compliance; and access and opportunity.

This is the next substantive stage in the reform process. The current [consultation on broad policy options](#) for a new management system, will be followed by a consultation on a draft Wild Fisheries Bill before the end of the parliamentary session. The current consultation is open for responses until **7 August 2015**.

## Stakeholder Reference Group

We have established a [Stakeholder Reference Group](#) for representatives of the fisheries sector to inform the detailed proposals for legislation arising from the consultation on the broad policy principles on the reform of the management system for wild fisheries. The group has now met twice and the minutes of these meetings will be published on the Scottish Government website.

## Kill licence

The introduction of a Kill licence was a key recommendation of the Wild Fisheries Review which called for it to be given immediate consideration. The consultation on the proposal to introduce a Kill licence at the start of the 2016 season together with associated carcass tagging and baits and lures regulations closed on 30 April and an analysis of the (over 600) responses is underway.

Stakeholders can keep up to date with what is happening with the Kill licence including details of drop in events and a proposed on-line discussion forum using the following link <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse/fishreform/licence>. Further brief updates will also be included in this bulletin.

# Wild Fisheries Reform Update – June 2015



## Stakeholder Engagement

In addition to formal meetings of the stakeholder reference group, we intend to engage with a wide range of individuals and groups during the consultation period. We will set up meetings with a number of organisations and we are planning nine 'drop-in' events across Scotland which will allow interested parties, and particularly the general public, to discuss the issues raised in the consultation with Scottish Government officials. The first two events will be in Aberdeen and Fort William:

22 June: Jury's Inn Hotel, Aberdeen. 11am – 3pm.

29 June: Ben Nevis Hotel, Fort William. 11am – 3pm.

Details of further events will be circulated in future bulletins and included on the Wild Fisheries Reform webpages.

## Further Information

If you would like further information about the wild fisheries reform process, please email [wildfisheriesreform@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:wildfisheriesreform@scotland.gsi.gov.uk), telephone Alan Wells on 0131 244 7061, write to Wild Fisheries Reform, Area 1B North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ or visit [www.gov.scot/wildfishreform](http://www.gov.scot/wildfishreform).

If you do not wish to receive these bulletins please e-mail [wildfisheriesreform@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:wildfisheriesreform@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)