

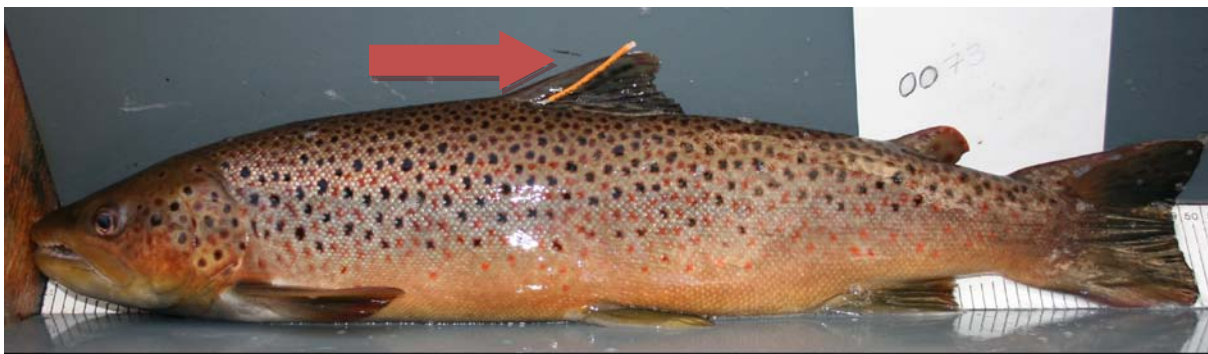


Have you caught a Floy Tagged Fish ?

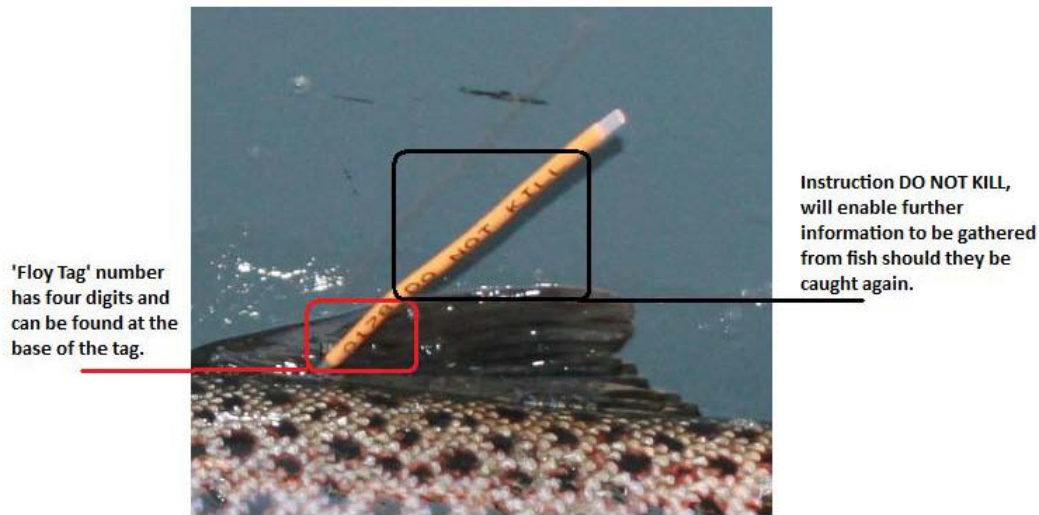
Background

During the autumn of 2010 the River Don Trust assisted the Don District Salmon Fishery Board with determining the run types of broodstock caught at the hatchery for the DDSFB restocking programme. Following new protocols developed by the Trust, (under guidance from Marine Scotland), the DDSFB refined its existing methodology. One component of the new protocol included the tagging of the fish to enable scales to be taken so that specific run types could be assigned through scale reading, thus preferentially selecting broodstock.

In order to identify the fish we used ‘Floy Tags’, these tags are small plastic cylinders colour coded with contact details and fish number printed on the tag. The tags are inserted in the back of the fish by the dorsal fin. They are held in much like clothing tags and have a flexible plastic bar which allows them to fold neatly against the fin. Minimal distress is caused during the insertion of the tags as all fish are anaesthetised during the broodstock stripping process, and there is also minimal impact to the fish as a result of wearing the ‘Floy Tag’ thereafter.



Floy tagged Brown Trout, orange coloured ‘Floy Tag’ can be clearly seen adjacent to the dorsal fin on back of fish indicated by the red arrow.



Close up of 'Floy Tag' with fish number at base of tag (to be recorded) and instruction Do Not Kill. The reverse of the tag has "Don Broodstock TEL: 01224 790005" inscribed.

How can you help?

During the programme we marked over 200 hundred fish a mixture of salmon, brown and sea trout.

We would be most interested to hear from any anglers who capture a floy tagged fish this season in order to build up more information on their life history, distribution, age and growth rates.

In line with the Don District Salmon Fishery Boards Conservation Code we would also urge that **these fish are returned** in order to maintain these records over further years especially in the case of both the brown and sea trout. We also ask that the **tags are not removed** from the fish in order to read the information.

We would like you to record where possible in order of importance the;

- Colour and Number of the 'Floy Tag'
- Date and location of capture
- Length and weight of the fish
- If possible collect a scale sample (See website www.riverdon.org.uk for more details).

Contact

Then please contact Jim Kerr the River Superintendent on 01224 790005 or Jamie Urquhart the Trust Biologist on 07860846999 or biologist@riverdon.org.uk

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Web Site: www.riverdon.org.uk