

Fisheries Research Services is an agency of the Scottish Government
FRS FRESHWATER LABORATORY FIELD STATION INCHBRAOCH HOUSE FERRYDEN
MONTROSE ANGUS DD10 8DLUK
TEL +44(0)1674 677070 FAX +44 (0)1674 672604
catchform@marlab.ac.uk <http://www.frs-scotland.gov.uk>



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Any queries about this Bulletin should be made to the address above.

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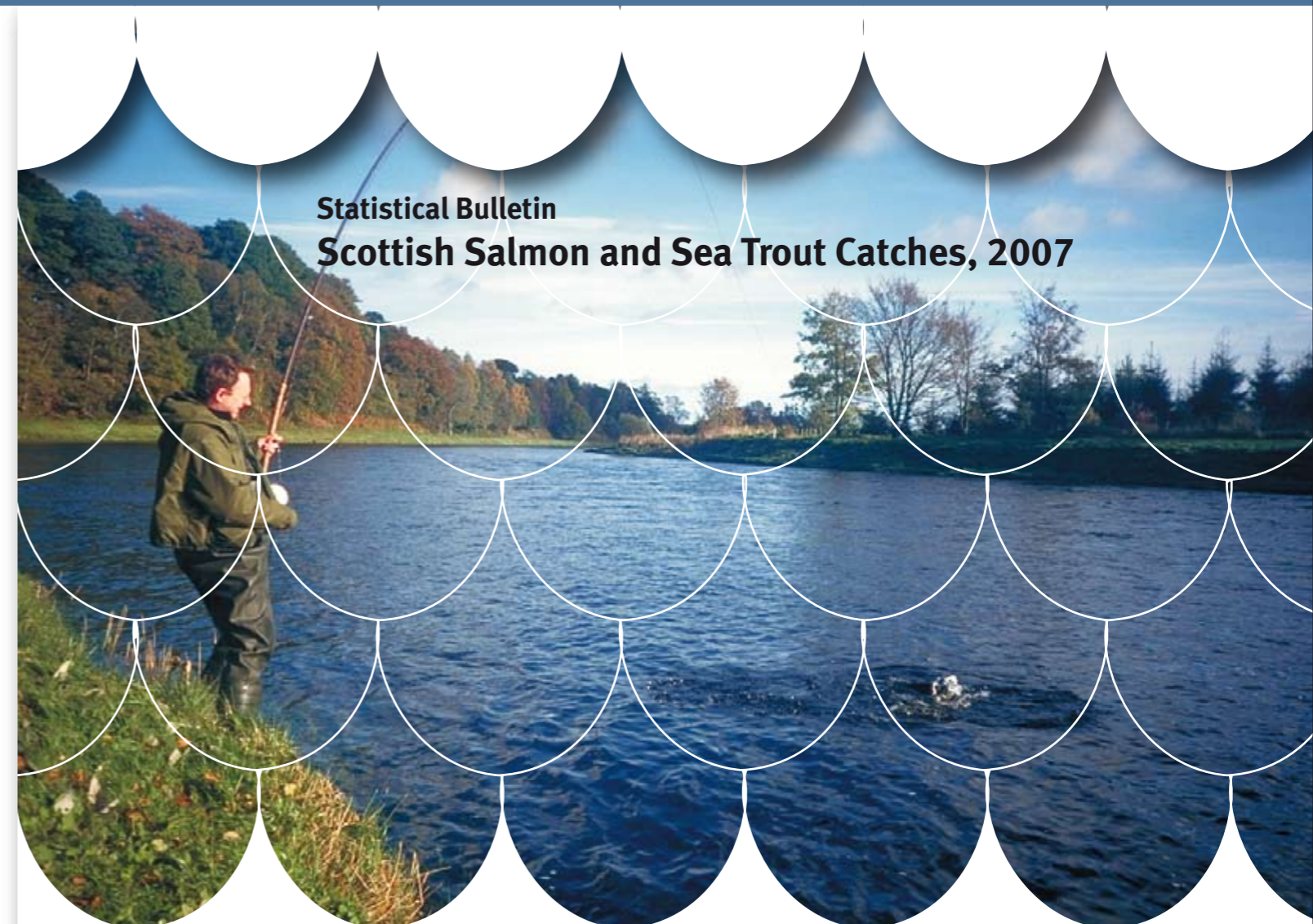
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**Statistical Bulletin
Scottish Salmon and Sea Trout Catches, 2007**

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1 | SUMMARY

Salmon

- 13,618, 6,279 and 35,581 wild salmon and grilse were reported caught and retained in the fixed engine, net and coble and rod and line fisheries respectively in 2007. A further 55,472 wild salmon and grilse were reported caught and released by the rod fishery. The national index of fishing effort for the fixed engine fishery was 236 trap months and for the net and coble fishery was 54 crew months. We have no record of the fishing effort associated with the rod and line fishery nationally.
- The reported number of spring salmon caught and retained by all methods in 2007 was 1,237, 93% of which were taken by rod and line.
- In 2007, catch and release accounted for 61% of the total rod catch and 74% of the spring rod catch.
- Fishing effort in both net fisheries was the lowest since records began in 1952. Catches in both net fisheries also declined compared to the previous 5-year average.
- Recent increases in rod catches have been sustained in 2007. Although the number of fish caught and retained was similar to the previous 5-year average, the number caught and released increased by 44%, resulting in an increase of 22% for the total rod catch compared to the previous 5-year average. These increases were not evident across all run-timing groups, however. Grilse catches increased substantially in 2007 compared to recent years. Overall rod catches in both east and west coast regions also showed increases over recent years. However, the rod catches of spring salmon declined while summer salmon catches remained close to the average.
- Long term trends in rod catch also vary among individual stock components. Reported catches of spring salmon show a general decline since records began in 1952 while grilse have increased and the catches of summer salmon show little trend over the same period.

Current Status of Salmon Stocks

Taken over the time series as a whole, the total annual rod catch shows no clear long term trend suggesting stable overall numbers both entering fresh water and escaping to spawn. The increases in the 2004 to 2007 rod catches compared to previous 5-year averages may be taken as evidence of a recent increase in the numbers of fish entering fresh water and, given the record levels of catch and release reported, escaping to spawn

However, the status of stocks on smaller geographical scales (e.g. among or within catchments) may differ both from each other and also from the overall assessments presented above and the long term decline in the total rod catch of spring salmon suggests that the populations associated with this stock component may be particularly weak.

Sea trout

- 2,671, 2,903 and 10,383 sea trout were reported caught and retained in the fixed engine, net and coble and rod and line fisheries respectively in 2007. A further 11,158 sea trout were reported caught and released by the rod fishery.
- In 2007, catch and release accounted for 52% of the total rod catch.
- Over the time series as a whole, broad scale geographic differences are apparent in the sea trout fisheries. Catches from west coast fisheries have declined while those on the east, although exhibiting considerable short-term variation, have shown no clear trend. In addition, catches from west coast fisheries are currently at the lowest levels recorded in the time series.
- Rod catch in both east and west coast rod fisheries were at historically low levels in 2007, maintaining the pattern of recent years. Catches in both east and west coast fisheries were lower than the previous 5-year average.

Current Status of Sea Trout Stocks

Since 2003, rod catches of sea trout for Scotland as a whole have been among the lowest in the time series and catches in both east and west coast rod fisheries are currently at historically low levels. Taking the time series as a whole, however, analysis of the catch data suggests contrasting trends on the east and west coasts. In the absence of other evidence to the contrary, the lack of clear trend in the east coast rod catches may be taken to indicate no clear long term trend in the numbers of fish both entering fresh water and escaping to spawn. In contrast, sea trout catches in west coast fisheries have declined markedly over the same period.

As with considerations of the status of salmon stocks, it should be borne in mind that the status of stocks on smaller geographical scales (e.g. among or within catchments) may differ both from each other and also from the overall assessments presented above.

2 | INTRODUCTION

Reported catch and effort from Scottish salmon and sea trout fisheries in 2007 are summarised in Section 3 and Tables 1 to 5 (pages 21 to 26). Long term trends in the fisheries are described in Section 4 and the interpretation of these trends in relation to the status of Scottish salmon and sea trout populations is considered in Section 5.

Data Collection

The statistics presented here are obtained from returns made in response to an annual questionnaire sent to the proprietors and occupiers of salmon and sea trout fisheries under the provisions of section 64 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003. In 2007, 1975 forms were sent, of which 95% were returned in time to be included in this summary (Table 6, page 26). The information presented in this bulletin is the summation of reports from individual fisheries; no attempt has been made to correct the data for non-returns or incomplete information held in the register of proprietors and occupiers.

Fishery Districts and Regions

For the purposes of this bulletin, data are combined geographically into 62 Districts which are further aggregated into 11 Regions (pages 27 and 28). Districts correspond either to a single river catchment together with adjacent coast or to groups of neighbouring river catchments and associated coastline. Some parts of Scotland are not considered to be fully covered by the survey at present. In this regard, Orkney and Shetland have been omitted from the regional analyses reported here. The register of owners and occupiers of Scottish salmon fisheries continues to be updated to improve the accuracy of the survey.

The Fisheries

Data in this bulletin are also collated by fishing method. All Scottish salmon and sea trout fisheries fall into one of three broad categories:

- Fixed Engine fisheries largely operate in coastal areas. Within this category, bag nets, stake nets and jumper nets operate throughout Scotland, while poke nets and haaf nets are restricted to the Solway Region.
- Net & Coble fisheries are beach seine operations which are generally restricted to estuaries and the lower reaches of rivers.
- Rod & Line fisheries comprise recreational angling activities which generally take place within rivers.

Catches

Each fishery is asked to provide the numbers and total weight of both wild and farmed salmon and grilse as well as sea trout caught and retained in each month of the fishing season. In addition, rod & line fisheries are asked to provide the monthly numbers and total weights of those salmon, grilse and sea trout which were caught and may have been retained but were released back into the river (catch & release). Data published in this bulletin are as reported. No attempt has been made to correct for “grilse error”, the mis-classification of fish between grilse and salmon categories.

Since 2004, information on “adult sea trout” and “finnock” (sea trout which have spent only a few months at sea before making their first return to fresh water and also known as whitling and herling) has been required to be recorded separately. Data on finnock catches will be reported in future bulletins when a reasonable time series of data has been built up.

Fishing Effort

Net fisheries are asked to provide monthly indices of fishing effort. All fisheries report the minimum and maximum number of individuals directly employed in fishing operations. In addition, fixed engine fisheries report minimum and maximum numbers of traps deployed while net & coble fisheries report the minimum and maximum number of crews that operated. In both cases, this latter information is used to derive the median monthly effort data reported in this bulletin. Effort returns from those fixed engine fisheries unique to the Solway (poke and haaf nets) do not yield data that can be easily combined with returns from the more common gear types. Data from this region are currently omitted when calculating a national index for fixed engine fishing effort (Figures 8 and 15).

Rod & line fisheries are not currently required to provide indices of fishing effort.

Provision of Data

The data summarised in Tables 1 to 5 are the best available information for the 2007 fishing season at the time of publication. Our records are amended when further information becomes available and the most accurate historical data may be obtained directly from FRS Freshwater Laboratory. Contact information is provided on the back cover of this bulletin. The numbers and weight of wild salmon and sea trout caught and retained by both net and rod fisheries have been collected since 1952 together with data on netting effort. In addition, net and rod catches of farmed salmon have been collected since 1994, together with information on catches salmon and sea trout caught and released by the rod fishery.

3 CATCH AND EFFORT REPORTED BY SCOTTISH FISHERIES IN 2007

The categories of fishing method referred to in this section are described in the Introduction. Tables 1 and 2 (pages 21 and 22) summarise the numbers and total weights of wild salmon, grilse and sea trout caught and retained in 2007. Table 3 (page 23) summarises the numbers and weights of wild salmon, grilse and sea trout caught by rod and line and released in 2007.

3.1 Salmon and Grilse

Annual Catch & Effort; all Scotland

13,618 wild salmon and grilse were reported caught and retained in the fixed engine fishery in 2007. The national index of netting effort, excluding Solway, was 236 trap months. 6,279 wild salmon and grilse were reported caught and retained in the net & coble fishery. Reported effort was 54 crew months.

35,581 wild salmon and grilse were reported caught and retained in the rod & line fishery. A further 55,472 wild salmon and grilse (61% of the total rod catch) were reported caught and released. We have no time series of fishing effort information associated with the rod & line fishery.

To assess the performance of the fisheries in 2007 compared to recent years, the reported annual catch and effort for each was expressed as a proportion of the previous 5-year average (Figure 1).

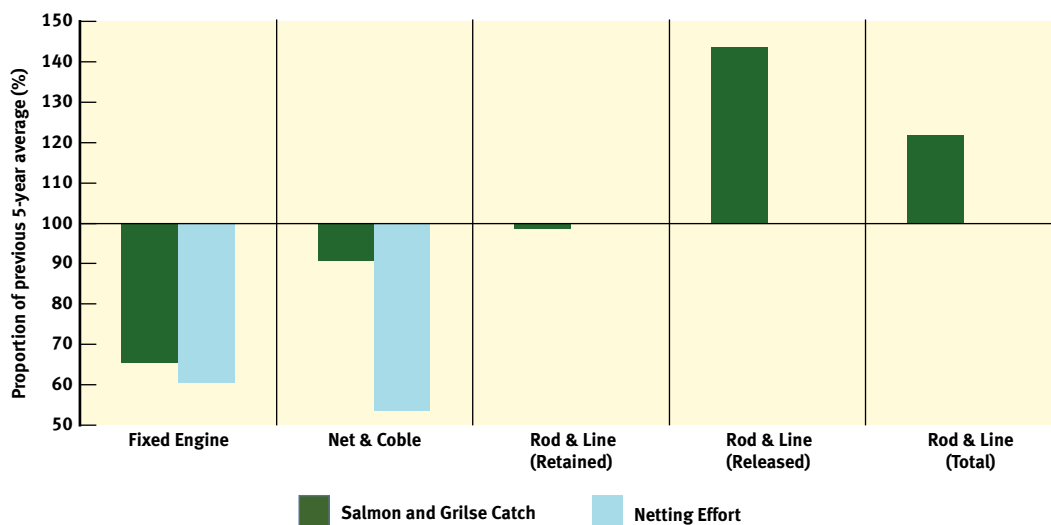


Figure 1. Reported salmon and grilse catch and netting effort for 2007 expressed as a proportion of the previous 5-year averages (2002 to 2006).

Fixed engine and net & coble effort declined in 2007 compared to the previous 5-year average, reported effort in both being the lowest since records began in 1952. Catches in both net fisheries also declined compared to the previous 5-year average. In the rod and line fishery, the number of fish caught and retained was similar to the previous 5-year average, while the number caught and released increased by 44%, resulting in an overall increase of 22% in total rod catch compared to the previous 5-year average.

Catches of Spring Salmon, Summer Salmon and Grilse; all Scotland

The reported number of spring salmon (multi sea-winter fish taken before 1 May) which were caught and retained in 2007 was 1,237, 93% of which were taken by rod and line, 7% by fixed engine and none by net & coble. A further 3,362 spring salmon (74% of the total rod catch) were caught by rod & line and released.

The reported number of summer salmon (multi sea-winter fish taken after 30 April) which were caught and retained in 2007 was 22,587. The rod & line fishery took 78% of the catch with the fixed engine and net & coble fisheries taking 16% and 6% respectively. A further 27,523 summer salmon (61% of the total rod catch) were caught by rod & line and released.

The reported number of grilse caught and retained in 2007 was 31,654. The rod & line fishery caught 53% of the total and the fixed engine and net & coble fisheries accounted for 31% and 16% respectively. A further 24,587 grilse (59% of the total rod catch) were caught by rod & line and released.

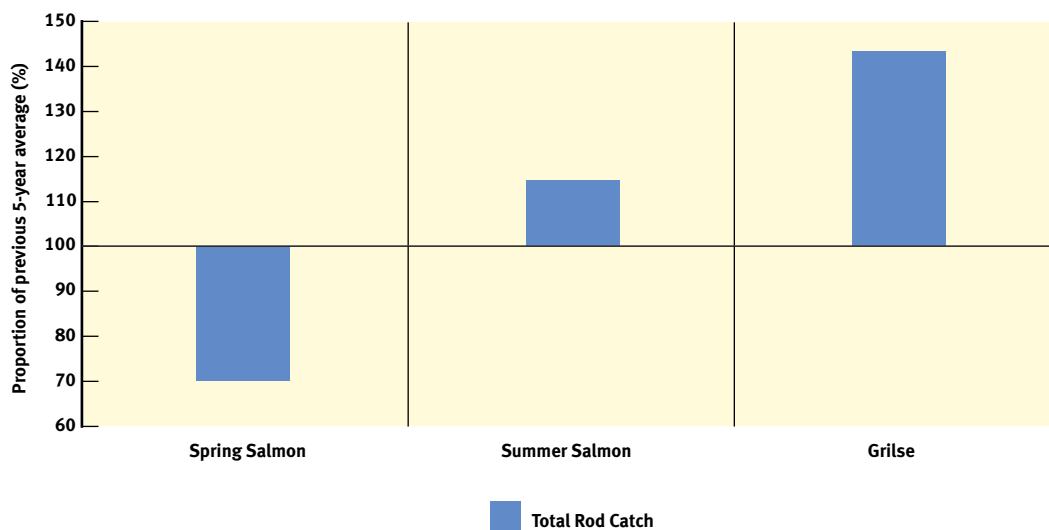


Figure 2. Reported catch of spring salmon, summer salmon and grilse by total rod catch, retained plus released, for 2007 expressed as a proportion of the previous 5-year averages (2002 to 2006).

Restricting the analysis to the rod fisheries, total catches (retained plus released) of spring salmon show declines in 2007 compared to the previous 5-year average. Grilse catches, on the other hand show substantial increases in 2007 compared to recent years, while summer salmon catches remained close to the average (Figure 2).

Annual Catch by Region and Fishing Method

The distribution of catch among regions is shown in Figure 3 by method. The catches in both net fisheries in 2007 were dominated by relatively few regions. 46% of fixed engine catches were taken in the North region, while 77% were taken in the North and North East combined. In the net & coble fishery, the East and North East accounted for 92% of the total. Rod & line catches (retained plus released) were more evenly spread although the East and Moray Firth regions accounted for 56% of the total catch. Orkney and Shetland have been omitted from the analysis.

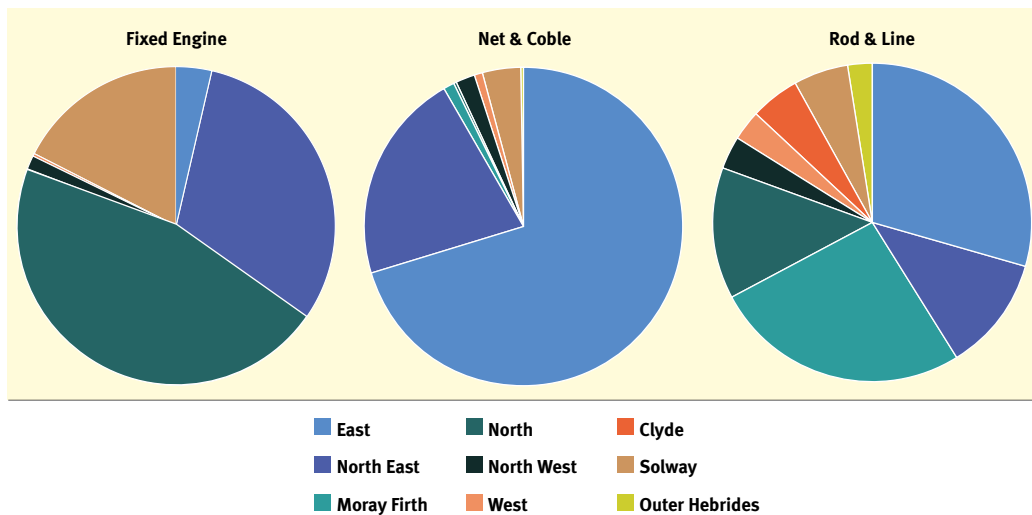


Figure 3. Distribution of the annual reported catch of salmon and grilse among regions. Data for each fishing method are shown separately. Rod & line catch includes both retained and released fish.

Comparison of East and West Coast Fisheries

To assess the regional performance of the fisheries in 2007 compared to recent years, total annual rod catch (retained plus released) of east coast (East, North East, Moray Firth and North regions; page 27) and west coast (North West, West, Clyde Coast, Solway and Outer Hebrides; page 27) fisheries were summed separately and expressed as a proportion of the previous 5-year average (Figure 4). The analysis was restricted to rod fisheries as these catches were more evenly spread among regions compared to the net fisheries. As in the previous two years, catches in 2007 increased in both geographical areas compared to the previous 5-year average.

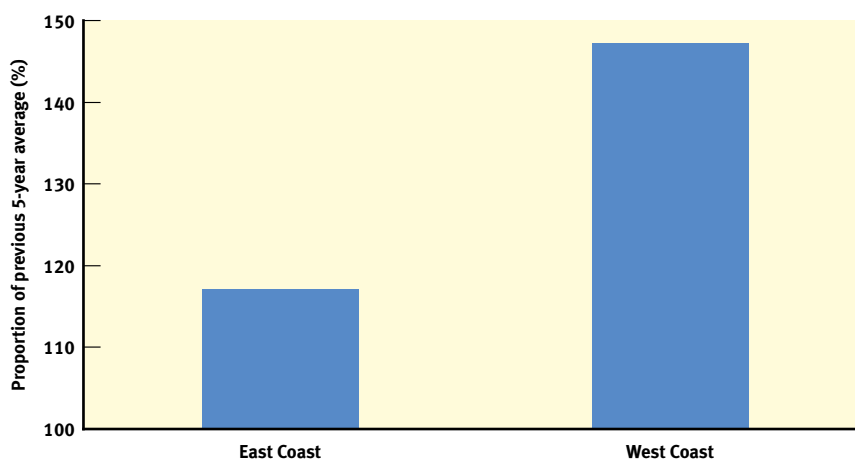


Figure 4. Total reported rod catch (retained + released) of salmon and grilse in 2007 expressed as a proportion of the previous 5-year averages (2002 to 2006). Data for east and west coast fisheries are shown separately.

Farmed Salmon and Grilse

Tables 4 and 5 (pages 24 and 25) summarise the reported numbers and total weights of salmon and grilse of farmed origin caught in 2007. A total of 336 fish of farmed origin were reported in 2007, an increase of 12% compared to the previous 5-year average. Salmon and grilse of farmed origin represented 0.3% of the total number of salmon and grilse caught in 2007.

The distribution of farmed origin fish was highly uneven, the North, North West and West regions (page 27) accounting for 78% of reports.

3.2 Sea Trout

Annual Catch & Effort; all Scotland

2,671 sea trout were reported caught and retained in the fixed engine fishery in 2007. The national index of fishing effort, excluding Solway, was 236 trap months. 2,903 sea trout were reported caught and retained in the net & coble fishery in 2007. The reported effort was 54 crew months.

10,383 sea trout were reported caught and retained in the rod & line fishery in 2007. A further 11,158 sea trout (52% of the total rod catch) were reported caught and released. We have no time series of fishing effort information associated with the rod & line fishery.

To assess the performance of the fisheries in 2007 compared to recent years, the reported annual catch and effort for each in 2007 was expressed as a proportion of the previous 5-year average (Figure 5).

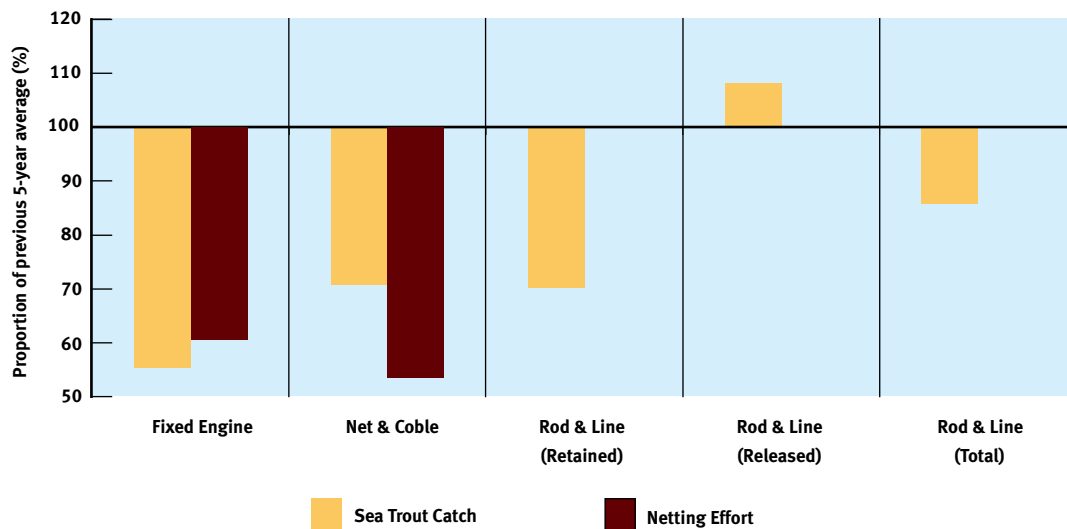


Figure 5.
Reported sea trout catch and netting effort for 2007 expressed as a proportion of the previous 5-year averages (2002 to 2006).

Fishing effort in both net fisheries in 2007 declined compared to the previous 5-year average, reported effort in both being the lowest since records began in 1952. In all but the numbers of fish caught & released from the rod fishery, reported catches of sea trout were close to or below the previous 5-year average.

Annual Catch by Region and Fishing Method

The distribution of the sea trout catch among regions is shown in Figure 6 by method. As with salmon and grilse returns, the catches of sea trout in both net fisheries were dominated by relatively few regions. Following the pattern of recent years, 99% of fixed engine catches were taken in East, North East and Solway regions while 99% of net & coble catches were taken in the East and North East regions. Rod & line catches (which includes both retained and released fish), showed a more even geographical spread with no region accounting for more than 20% of the catch. Orkney and Shetland have been omitted from the analysis.

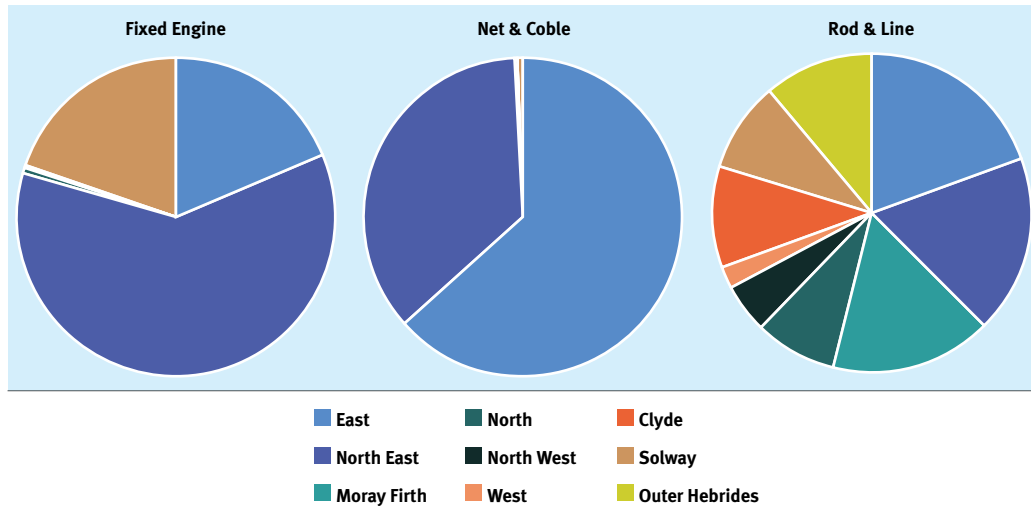


Figure 6. Distribution of the annual reported catch of sea trout among regions. Data for each fishing method are shown separately. Rod & line catch includes both retained and released fish.

Comparison of East and West Coast Fisheries

To assess the regional performance of the fisheries in 2007 compared to recent years, total annual rod catch (retained plus released) of east coast (East, North East, Moray Firth and North regions; page 27) and west coast (North West, West, Clyde Coast, Solway and Outer Hebrides; page 27) fisheries were summed separately and expressed as a proportion of the previous 5-year average (Figure 7). The analysis was restricted to rod fisheries as these catches were more evenly spread among regions compared to the net fisheries. Both geographical areas show declines in reported catch in 2007 compared to the previous 5-year average.

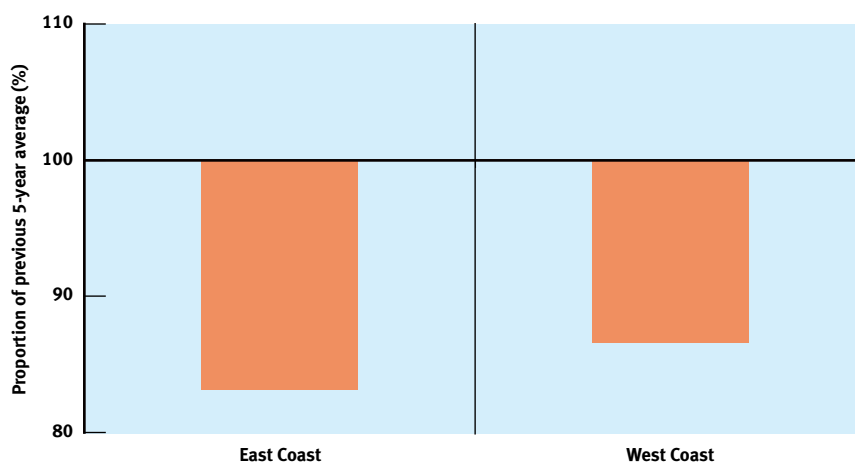


Figure 7. Total reported rod catch (retained + released) of sea trout in 2007 expressed as a proportion of the previous 5-year averages (2002 to 2006). Data for east and west coast fisheries are shown separately.

4 TRENDS IN SCOTTISH SALMON AND SEA TROUT FISHERIES

In this section, catch and effort in 2007 will be examined in relation to the historical records, collected since 1952.

4.1. Salmon

Reported catch and effort have declined in both net fisheries over much of the period covered by our records (Figures 8 & 9). In 2007 the annual catch of the fixed engine fishery was the second lowest recorded since 1952 and was 5% of the maximum reported catch (in 1964). Reported effort was the lowest on record at 4% of the maximum reported (in 1952). The reported annual catch for the net & coble fishery in 2007 was the second lowest on record, 2% of the maximum reported catch (in 1969). Reported effort was the lowest on record and 5% of the maximum reported (in 1959).

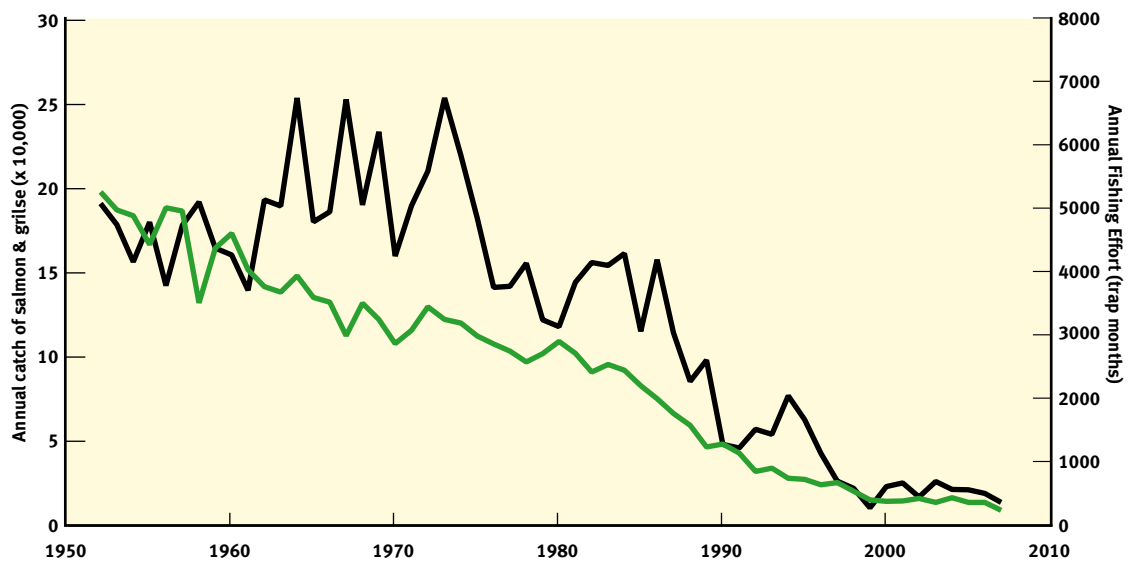


Figure 8.
Annual reported catch of salmon and grilse (black line) and the national index of fishing effort, excluding Solway, (green line) by fixed engine fisheries.

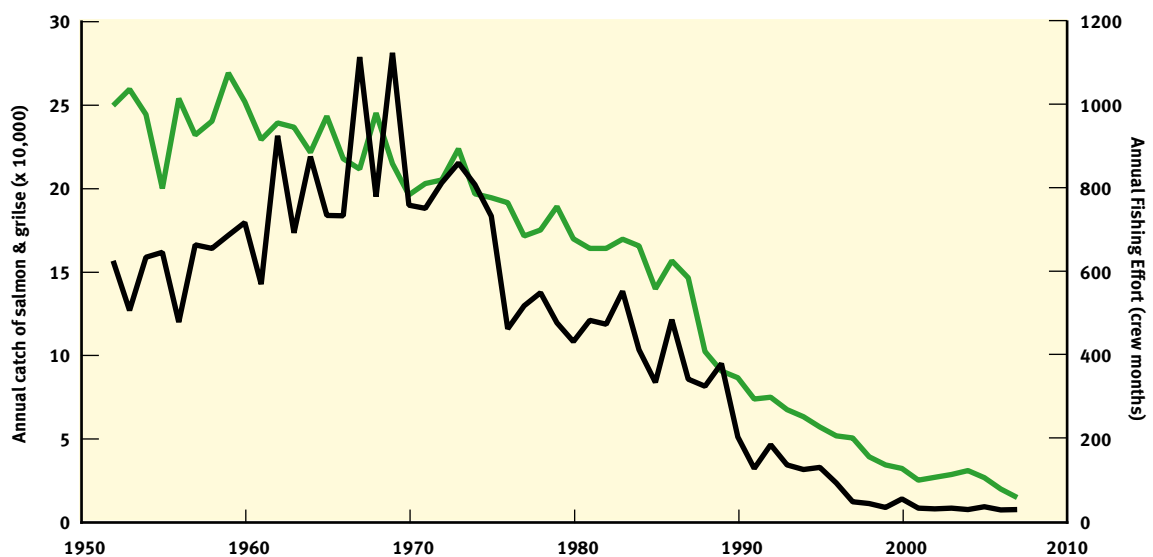


Figure 9.
Annual reported catch of salmon and grilse (black line) and reported fishing effort (green line) by net & coble fisheries.

Trends in rod and line catch since 1952 show a markedly different pattern from those observed in the net fisheries (Figure 10). The major decline shown by the net fisheries is not reflected in the rod fisheries. Thus the total rod catch in 2007 (retained plus released) was 134% of the average total rod catch for the period since 1952. In 2007, total rod and line catch constituted 82% of the total Scottish catch compared to 11% when records began in 1952.

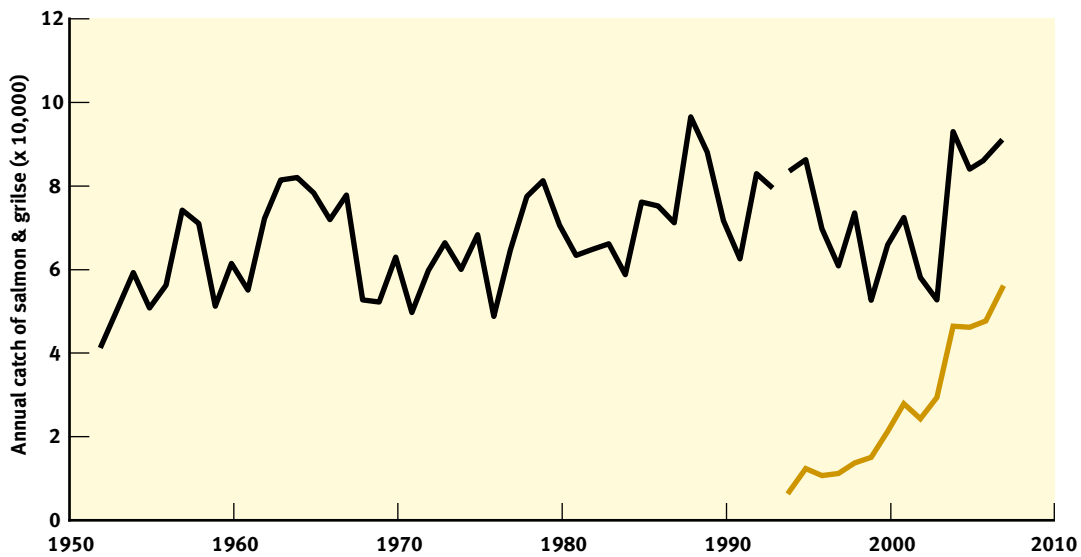


Figure 10. Annual reported catch of salmon and grilse by rod & line fisheries. Total numbers of fish caught (black line) and the numbers of fish caught and released (brown line) are shown separately. Information on catch & release has been collected since 1994.

A growing number of local management interests such as District Salmon Fishery Boards, Fisheries Trusts and proprietors encourage the practice of catch & release as a means of protecting salmon populations. Both the numbers of fish caught and released and the proportion of the total rod catch accounted for by these numbers have shown a general increase since 1994, when such information was first recorded. In 2007, catch and release accounted for 61% of the total rod catch (Figure 11).

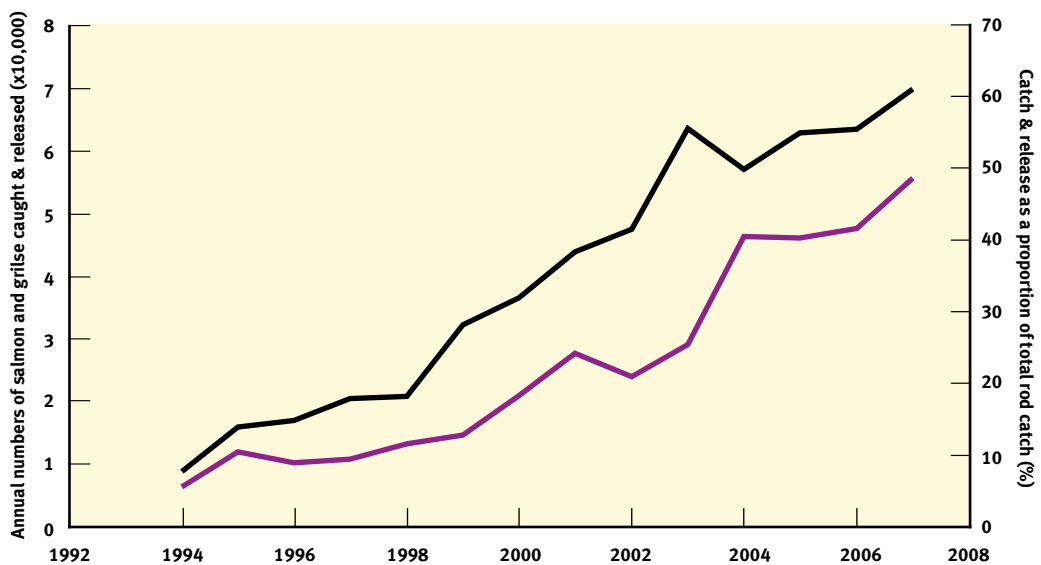


Figure 11. Annual reported numbers of salmon and grilse caught and released from rod & line fisheries (purple line) and the proportion of the total rod catch accounted for by catch & release (black line). Information on catch & release has been collected since 1994.

Catches of Spring Salmon, Summer Salmon and Grilse

Although rod catches of salmon have remained stable over the period under study (Figure 10), trends have varied among individual stocks components. Figure 12 shows the annual rod catch (retained plus released) since 1952 of spring salmon, summer salmon and grilse. Catches of spring salmon show a general decline over the period. Although there is some indication that spring salmon catches have shown a slight increase in recent years, these fell again in 2007 and remain at historically low levels. Grilse catches, on the other hand, have increased over the period while the catches of summer salmon show little overall trend.

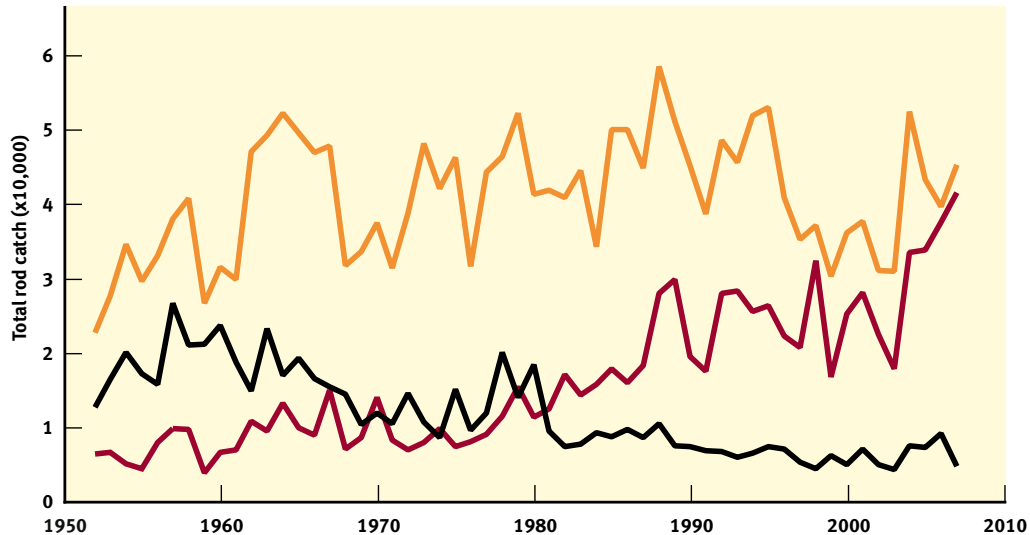


Figure 12.
The annual rod catch (retained + released) of spring salmon (black line), summer salmon (orange line) and grilse (maroon line).

In order to conserve spawning stocks of spring salmon, voluntary measures have been adopted by both net and rod fisheries. Most net fisheries no longer operate during the first six weeks of the season, and catch and release policies have been adopted by many rod fisheries throughout the country. Further, specific conservation orders have been made with respect to the districts covered by the Esk and Annan District Salmon Fishery Boards.

Figure 13 shows the percentage of rod caught spring fish which were subsequently released. Data on catch and release have been collected since 1994 and illustrate the rapid expansion of this practice. Less than 1% of rod caught spring salmon were released in 1994 whereas 74% were released in 2007.

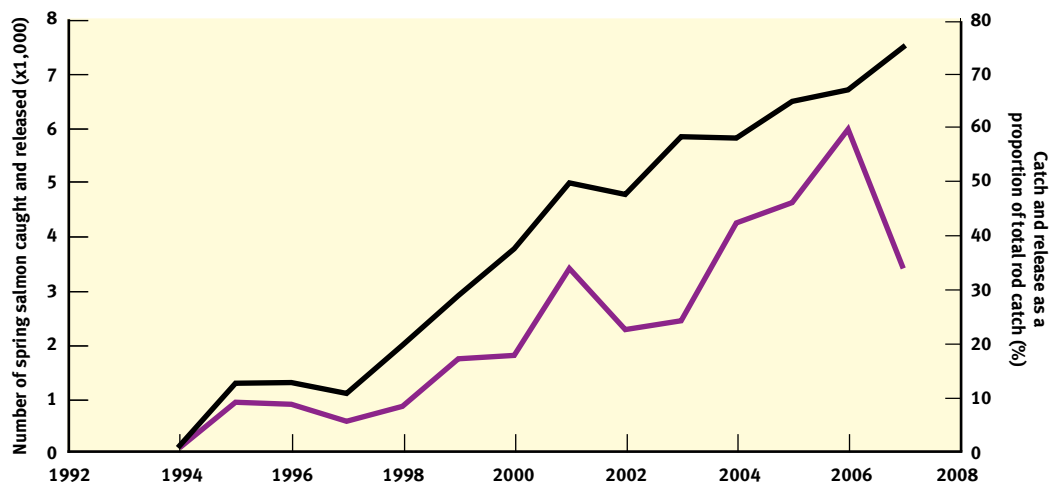


Figure 13.
Annual reported numbers of spring salmon caught and released from rod & line fisheries (purple line) together with the proportion of the total spring salmon rod catch accounted for by catch & release (black line). Information on catch and release has been collected since 1994.

Comparison of East and West Coast Fisheries

Analysing the data at finer geographical scales also reveals differences in catch trends between parts of the country. Figure 14 suggests that while total rod catches of salmon and grilse in the east coast (East, North East, Moray Firth and North regions; page 27) show a general upwards trend, no such trend is apparent in the west coast (North West, West, Clyde coast, Solway and Outer Hebrides; page 27).

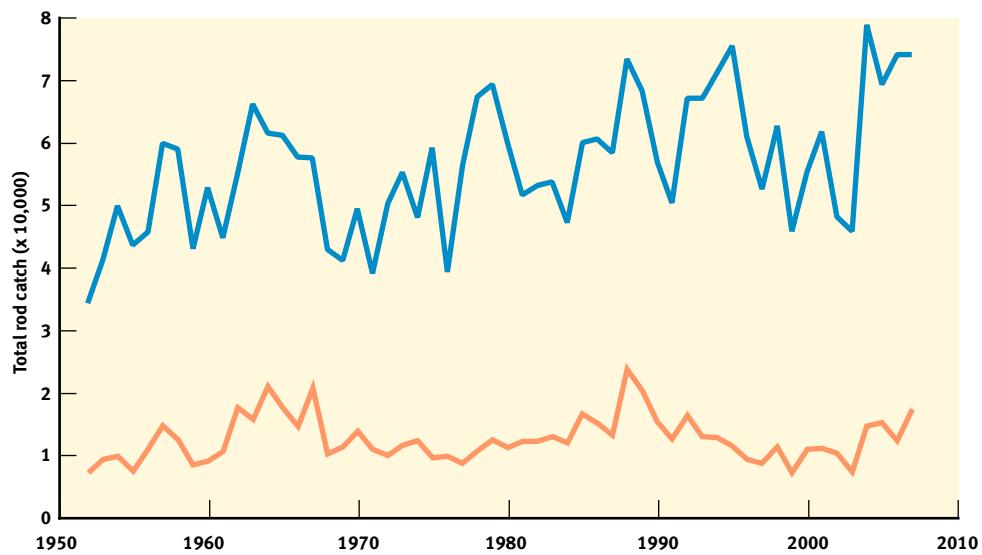


Figure 14.
Total annual rod catch (retained + released) of salmon and grilse reported by east coast (blue line) and west coast (orange line) fisheries.

4.2. Sea Trout

Reported catch and effort in both net fisheries have declined over much of the period covered by our records (Figures 15 & 16). Reported catch and effort for both net fisheries in 2007 were the lowest recorded since 1952. The annual catch of the fixed engine fishery was 4% of the maximum reported catch (in 1964). Reported effort was also 4% of the maximum reported (in 1952). The reported annual catch for the net & coble fishery in 2007 was 2% of the maximum reported catch (in 1969), while reported effort was 5% of the maximum reported (in 1959).

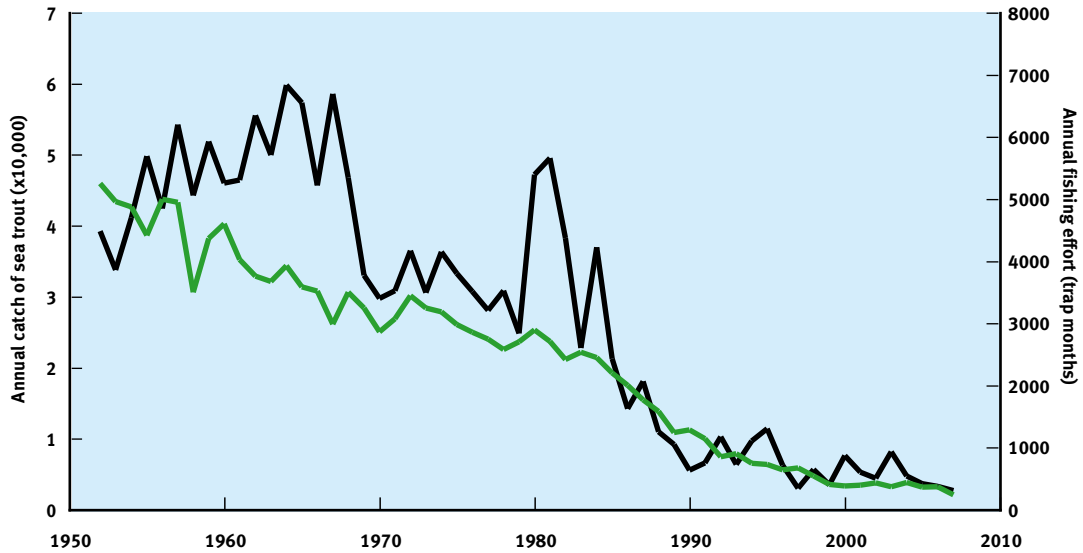


Figure 15.

Annual reported catch of sea trout (black line) and the national index of fishing effort, excluding Solway, (green line) by fixed engine fisheries.

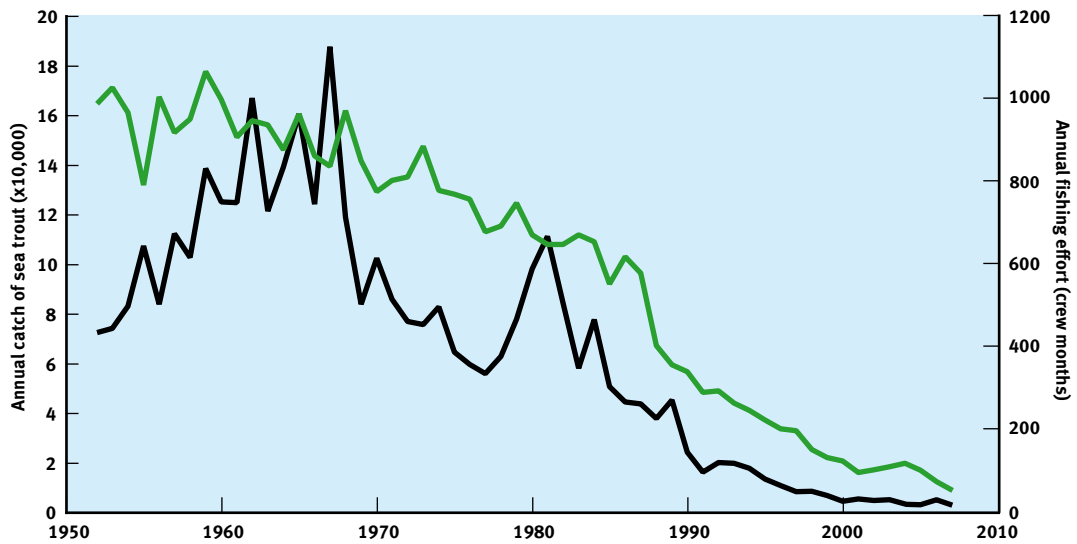


Figure 16.

Annual reported catch of sea trout (black line) and reported fishing effort (green line) by net & coble fisheries.

In contrast to salmon and grilse catches, rod catches of sea trout have also declined over the time series, although the major decline shown by the net fisheries is not apparent in the rod fisheries (Figure 17). The total rod catch (retained plus released) in 2007 was 51% of the average total rod catch for the period since 1952.

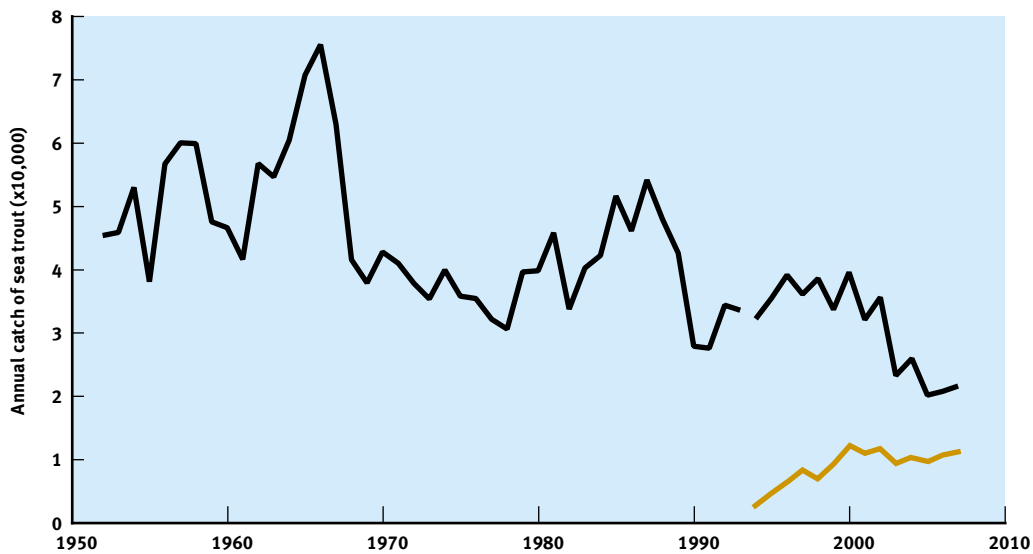


Figure 17. Annual reported catch of sea trout by rod & line fisheries. Total numbers of fish caught (black line) and the numbers of fish caught and released (brown line) are shown separately. Information on catch & release has been collected since 1994.

Catch and Release

A growing number of local management interests such as District Salmon Fishery Boards, Fisheries Trusts and proprietors encourage the practice of catch & release as a means of protecting populations. The proportion of the total rod catch accounted for by catch and release has tended to increase since 1994, when catch & release information was first recorded (Figure 18) and accounted for 52% of the total rod catch in 2007.

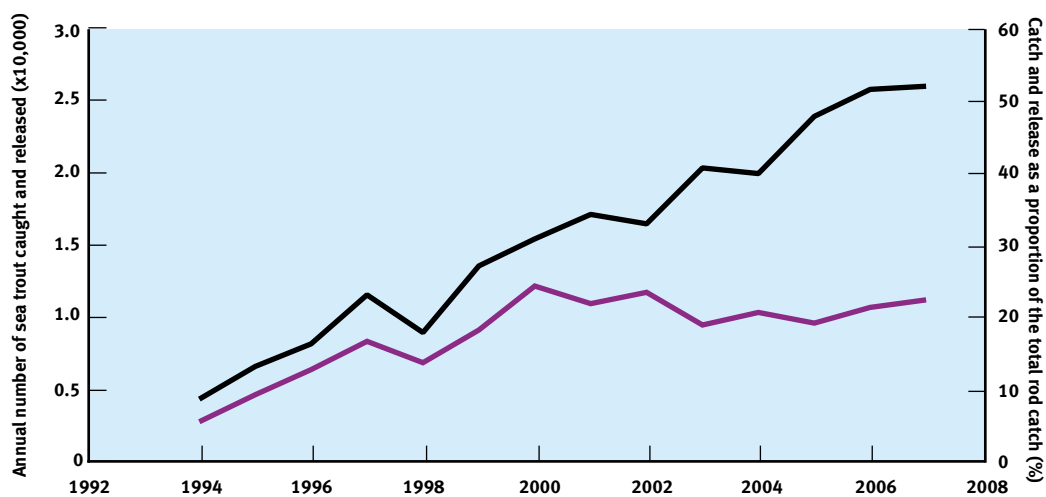


Figure 18. Annual reported numbers of sea trout caught and released from rod & line fisheries (purple line) together with the proportion of the total rod catch accounted for by catch & release (black line). Information on catch & release has been collected since 1994.

Comparison of East and West Coast Fisheries

Analysing the catch data at finer geographical scales reveals differences in trends between parts of the country. Trends in total annual rod catch (retained plus released) show clear differences between east coast (East, North East, Moray Firth and North regions; page 27) and west coast (North West, West, Clyde Coast, Solway and Outer Hebrides; page 27) fisheries (Figure 19). Over the time series as a whole, sea trout catches in west coast fisheries have declined while those in the east, although exhibiting considerable short-term variation, have shown no clear trend. Although showing a slight increase in 2007, catches from west coast fisheries are currently at the lowest levels recorded in the time series.

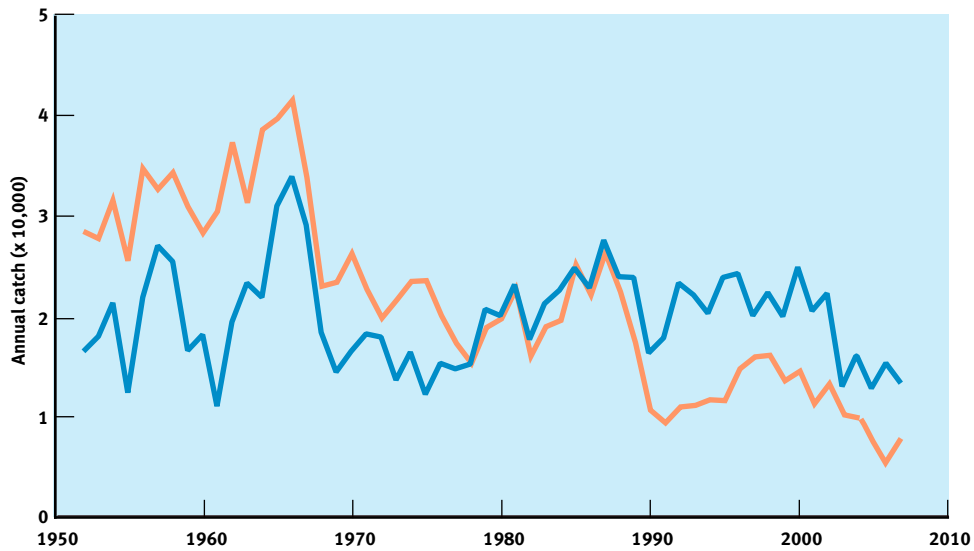


Figure 19.
Total annual rod catch (retained + released) of sea trout reported by east coast (blue line) and west coast (orange line) fisheries.

5 | INTERPRETATION

The previous sections of the bulletin describe both the past year's fishery data and the trends evident in these data over time. This section explores what light these fishery data may be able to shed on the status of salmon and sea trout populations in Scotland.

5.1 *Salmon*

Recent Events

As with 2006, both the weights and lengths of grilse returning to Scottish waters in 2007 were generally low. Similarly to 2006, there is no evidence that low grilse size was accompanied by sharp declines in the numbers of fish returning to Scottish rivers. Indeed, as in the previous 3 years, rod catches of grilse in 2007 showed an increase on recent years.

Total reported rod catch (retained plus released) remained at historically high levels in 2007. These data may be taken as evidence of high numbers of fish entering fresh water. Further, given the record levels of catch and release reported, it may be inferred that high numbers of fish were also subsequently escaping to spawn. It should be noted, however, that rod catches in 2007 did not show uniform trends across run-timing groups. Thus, although grilse catches increased substantially in 2007 compared to recent years and overall rod catches in both east and west coast regions showed increases over recent years, the rod catches of spring salmon declined while summer salmon catches remained close to the average.

Year on year changes in catch are not a simple reflection of changes in the underlying numbers of fish returning to Scottish waters. Both catch size and the allocation of catch among fishing methods may be influenced by many factors, most obvious of which are often fishing effort or environmental factors. Thus, when inferring the status of stocks from catch data, it is important to consider trends over a number of years rather than simply focussing on catch levels for the most recent year.

The Decline in Net Fisheries

Considering trends in reported catch for the time series as a whole, it is clear that catches in the two net fisheries exhibit markedly different trends from catches in the rod and line fishery. Both the fixed engine and net and coble fisheries show substantial decreases in catch over the period for which there are data (Figures 8 and 9). A major factor in this decline has been the long-term decrease in the size of the netting industry, indicated in these statistics by the decline in reported effort. Explanations for this trend are likely to include the fall in the market price of wild salmon due to the competition from the expanding aquaculture industry, the buy-out of many net fishing stations and changes in the abundance of salmon.

Declines in the Numbers of Salmon Returning to Home Waters

Comparing the number of adult salmon returning to home waters with estimates of smolt production from two monitored sites, the North Esk and the Gironck Burn (a tributary of the Aberdeenshire Dee), has shown that the marine survival of salmon has declined substantially over the period covered by the catch statistics. Such an observation is not unique to Scotland and similar declines have been detected in a number of monitored sites on both sides of the North Atlantic.

The Numbers of Salmon Entering Rivers Appear Stable for Now

In contrast to the net fisheries, the rod and line catch shows no clear decline (Figure 10). We have no information on trends in the effort expended in the rod fisheries. If we assume constant rod exploitation over time, however, the contrasting fortunes of net and rod fisheries provide insights into the current stock status of Scottish salmon. Thus, although declines in the marine survival of salmon have led to lower numbers returning to the Scottish coast, reductions in the netting industry have allowed a greater proportion of these fish to enter rivers resulting in a relatively stable number of fish to be available to the rod fisheries and, assuming stable rod exploitation over time, escaping to spawn.

To date, the decline in the netting industry has acted as a buffer for the rod fishery as marine survival has declined. However, net catches are now less than 10% of those taken 50 years ago and thus the buffering afforded to the numbers of salmon entering fresh water by the decline in net catch has been almost completely utilised. If marine survival continues to decrease then rod catches may decline and ultimately spawning populations may be put at risk.

Trends in Abundance Vary Among Stock Components

While the data summarised above represents an overall view of the status of Scottish salmon stocks, examining the catches of individual stock components shows clear differences in trends over time. Thus, although rod catches as a whole may have remained stable over the last 50 years, the numbers of spring salmon in the catch have declined markedly (Figure 12). Following the interpretation outlined above, it may be inferred that declines in the net catch have failed to buffer the rod fishery adequately from the decline in the marine survival of spring salmon. Support for this interpretation can be found in the data collected by FRS from its monitored sites on the Aberdeenshire Dee. Spring fish are thought to be major contributors to those populations that spawn high in the catchments of Scotland's largest salmon rivers and declines in their catch mirror declines in the number of adults returning to monitored sites in these upper catchment areas.

Thus, consideration of the catch information on smaller geographic scales (e.g. regions or districts) or considering particular components of the returning stock may indicate a different interpretation of stock status to the overall assessment presented above. In view of these insights, we need to continue to monitor the fisheries closely, particularly for different components of the stock.

Current Status of Salmon Stocks

Taken over the time series as a whole, the total annual rod catch shows no clear long term trend suggesting stable overall numbers both entering fresh water and escaping to spawn. The increases in the 2004 to 2007 rod catches compared to previous 5-year averages may be taken as evidence of a recent increase in the numbers of fish entering fresh water and, given the record levels of catch and release reported, escaping to spawn

However, the status of stocks on smaller geographical scales (e.g. among or within catchments) may differ both from each other and also from the overall assessments presented above and the long term decline in the total rod catch of spring salmon suggests that the populations associated with this stock component may be particularly weak.

5.2 Sea Trout

Recent Events

Returns from the last 5 years show rod catches for Scotland as a whole to be at historically low levels which, in turn, may indicate low numbers of fish both entering fresh water and escaping to spawn. These trends appear to be most pronounced in returns from west coast fisheries where catches are currently at the lowest levels recorded in the time series.

The Decline in Net Fisheries

As with salmon it is clear that, on a Scottish scale, catches in the two net fisheries exhibit markedly different trends from catches in the rod and line fishery. Both the fixed engine and net and coble fisheries show substantial decreases in catch over the period for which there are data (Figures 15 and 16). A major factor in this decline has been the long term decrease in the size of the netting industry, indicated in these statistics by the decline in reported effort. This decline has been largely driven by changes in the salmon netting industry, described above, as in the vast majority of cases, salmon is the primary target species for the net fisheries.

Trends in Rod Catch vary between Geographic Areas

Examining the catches on an east/west geographic split shows a clear difference in trends of rod catch over time. The rod catch in the western area of the country has declined markedly whereas that in the east, although exhibiting considerable variation, has shown no clear trend (Figure 19).

Trends in Rod Catch may be Taken to Infer Trends in Spawning

There is a monitored site for sea trout in Scotland on the River Shieldaig, but it has been operational only for the last eight years and consequently our best interpretation of sea trout stocks is derived from the catch figures. As with our interpretation of salmon catches, our lack of information on rod fishing effort weakens our ability to make inferences from catch trends. However, assuming constant rod exploitation over time, we can follow a similar logic to that outlined for the salmon catches above. The observation that the west coast rod catch has declined despite declining net catches suggests lower numbers of fish available for west coast fisheries and declining spawning escapement.

Current Status of Sea Trout Stocks

Since 2003, rod catches of sea trout for Scotland as a whole have been among the lowest in the time series and catches in both east and west coast rod fisheries are currently at historically low levels. Taking the time series as a whole, however, analysis of the catch data suggests contrasting trends on the east and west coasts. In the absence of other evidence to the contrary, the lack of clear trend in the east coast rod catches may be taken to indicate no clear long term trend in the numbers of fish both entering fresh water and escaping to spawn. In contrast, sea trout catches in west coast fisheries have declined markedly over the same period.

As with considerations of the status of salmon stocks, it should be borne in mind that the status of stocks on smaller geographical scales (e.g. among or within catchments) may differ both from each other and also from the overall assessments presented above.

Table 1:
Number and weight (rounded to the nearest kg) of wild salmon, grilse and sea trout caught and retained by salmon fishery region and by method during 2007.

| Region | Method | Number | | | | | Weight (kg) | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | Salmon | | Annual | Grilse | Salmon + Grilse | Sea Trout | Salmon | | Grilse | Salmon + Grilse | Sea Trout | |
| Jan-Apr | May-Dec | Jan-Apr | May-Dec | | | | | Jan-Apr | May-Dec | | | | Annual |
| East | Rod and Line | 669 | 7462 | 8131 | 4478 | 12609 | 2368 | 2866 | 29616 | 32482 | 10044 | 42525 | 3622 |
| | Net and Coble | | 770 | 770 | 3655 | 4425 | 1845 | | 3946 | 3946 | 8454 | 12400 | 3902 |
| | Fixed Engine | 72 | 200 | 272 | 231 | 503 | 503 | 236 | 812 | 1048 | 614 | 1662 | 758 |
| | All Methods | 741 | 8432 | 9173 | 8364 | 17537 | 4716 | 3102 | 34373 | 37475 | 19112 | 56587 | 8283 |
| North East | Rod and Line | 48 | 1018 | 1066 | 1209 | 2275 | 1750 | 164 | 4062 | 4226 | 2495 | 6721 | 1955 |
| | Net and Coble | | 429 | 429 | 904 | 1333 | 1039 | | 1835 | 1835 | 1671 | 3506 | 1130 |
| | Fixed Engine | 6 | 1783 | 1789 | 2437 | 4226 | 1620 | 23 | 8386 | 8409 | 6020 | 14429 | 975 |
| | All Methods | 54 | 3230 | 3284 | 4550 | 7834 | 4409 | 186 | 14283 | 14469 | 10186 | 24655 | 4060 |
| Moray Firth | Rod and Line | 269 | 4189 | 4458 | 4710 | 9168 | 1703 | 1159 | 17567 | 18726 | 9479 | 28205 | 1875 |
| | Net and Coble | | 36 | 36 | 42 | 78 | 2 | | 127 | 127 | 87 | 214 | 3 |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | 269 | 4225 | 4494 | 4752 | 9246 | 1705 | 1159 | 17694 | 18853 | 9566 | 28419 | 1878 |
| North | Rod and Line | 145 | 1019 | 1164 | 2763 | 3927 | 595 | 607 | 4334 | 4941 | 5683 | 10625 | 480 |
| | Net and Coble | | 10 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 5 | | 37 | 37 | 27 | 64 | 6 |
| | Fixed Engine | | 1231 | 1231 | 5037 | 6268 | 16 | | 5879 | 5879 | 10290 | 16169 | 22 |
| | All Methods | 145 | 2260 | 2405 | 7810 | 10215 | 616 | 607 | 10250 | 10856 | 16000 | 26857 | 508 |
| North West | Rod and Line | 1 | 247 | 248 | 455 | 703 | 185 | 4 | 899 | 902 | 993 | 1895 | 142 |
| | Net and Coble | | 9 | 9 | 108 | 117 | | | 41 | 41 | 245 | 286 | |
| | Fixed Engine | | 16 | 16 | 189 | 205 | 3 | | 67 | 67 | 460 | 527 | 4 |
| | All Methods | 1 | 272 | 273 | 752 | 1025 | 188 | 4 | 1007 | 1011 | 1698 | 2708 | 146 |
| West Coast | Rod and Line | | 163 | 163 | 349 | 512 | 158 | | 504 | 504 | 816 | 1320 | 116 |
| | Net and Coble | | 3 | 3 | 46 | 49 | 3 | | 9 | 9 | 111 | 120 | 4 |
| | Fixed Engine | 4 | 1 | 5 | 14 | 19 | 5 | 22 | 2 | 25 | 37 | 61 | 7 |
| | All Methods | 4 | 167 | 171 | 409 | 580 | 166 | 22 | 515 | 538 | 964 | 1501 | 127 |
| Clyde Coast | Rod and Line | 10 | 1545 | 1555 | 1105 | 2660 | 1101 | 41 | 5178 | 5219 | 2693 | 7912 | 881 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | 10 | 1545 | 1555 | 1105 | 2660 | 1101 | 41 | 5178 | 5219 | 2693 | 7912 | 881 |
| Solway | Rod and Line | 9 | 1800 | 1809 | 1064 | 2873 | 1032 | 32 | 7123 | 7155 | 2768 | 9924 | 1058 |
| | Net and Coble | | 23 | 23 | 224 | 247 | 9 | | 96 | 96 | 532 | 628 | 8 |
| | Fixed Engine | 4 | 454 | 458 | 1939 | 2397 | 524 | 14 | 2036 | 2049 | 4899 | 6948 | 576 |
| | All Methods | 13 | 2277 | 2290 | 3227 | 5517 | 1565 | 46 | 9254 | 9300 | 8199 | 17500 | 1642 |
| Orkney | Rod and Line | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shetland | Rod and Line | | 5 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 471 | | 16 | 16 | 3 | 20 | 478 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | | 5 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 471 | | 16 | 16 | 3 | 20 | 478 |
| Outer Hebrides | Rod and Line | | 174 | 174 | 673 | 847 | 1020 | | 437 | 437 | 1347 | 1784 | 868 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | 10 | 10 | | | | | 20 | 20 | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | | 174 | 174 | 683 | 857 | 1020 | | 437 | 437 | 1368 | 1805 | 868 |
| All Scotland | Rod and Line | 1151 | 17622 | 18773 | 16808 | 35581 | 10383 | 4872 | 69736 | 74608 | 36323 | 110931 | 11476 |
| | Net and Coble | | 1280 | 1280 | 4999 | 6279 | 2903 | | 6091 | 6091 | 11146 | 17237 | 5054 |
| | Fixed Engine | 86 | 3685 | 3771 | 9847 | 13618 | 2671 | 295 | 17181 | 17476 | 22320 | 39796 | 2342 |
| | All Methods | 1237 | 22587 | 23824 | 31654 | 55478 | 15957 | 5167 | 93008 | 98175 | 69789 | 167964 | 18871 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Table 2:
Number and weight (rounded to the nearest kg) of wild salmon, grilse and sea trout caught and retained by salmon fishery region and district during 2007.

| Region | District | Number | | | | | Sea Trout | Weight (kg) | | | | | Sea Trout | |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------|--------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|--------|--------|-----------------|-----------|------|
| | | Salmon Jan-Apr | Salmon May-Dec | Annual | Grilse | Salmon + Grilse | | Salmon Jan-Apr | Salmon May-Dec | Annual | Grilse | Salmon + Grilse | | |
| East | | 741 | 8432 | 9173 | 8364 | 17537 | 4716 | 3102 | 34373 | 37475 | 19112 | 56587 | 8283 | |
| | Tweed | 379 | 5051 | 5430 | 5630 | 11060 | 3341 | 1419 | 20473 | 21892 | 12907 | 34799 | 6742 | |
| | Forth | 23 | 720 | 743 | 441 | 1184 | 467 | 114 | 2714 | 2828 | 852 | 3680 | 542 | |
| | Tay | 339 | 2661 | 3000 | 2293 | 5293 | 908 | 1569 | 11187 | 12756 | 5352 | 18108 | 998 | |
| North East | | 54 | 3230 | 3284 | 4550 | 7834 | 4409 | 186 | 14283 | 14469 | 10186 | 24655 | 4060 | |
| | South Esk | 1 | 1653 | 1654 | 2104 | 3758 | 1980 | 3 | 7665 | 7669 | 5437 | 13105 | 1413 | |
| | North Esk and Bervie | 4 | 1056 | 1060 | 1884 | 2944 | 1220 | 13 | 4389 | 4401 | 3469 | 7870 | 1326 | |
| | Dee (Aberdeenshire) | 26 | 72 | 98 | 102 | 200 | 320 | 90 | 294 | 384 | 220 | 604 | 332 | |
| | Don | 23 | 212 | 235 | 174 | 409 | 92 | 81 | 919 | 1000 | 419 | 1419 | 111 | |
| | Ythan | | 195 | 195 | 205 | 400 | 503 | | 817 | 817 | 438 | 1255 | 537 | |
| | Ugie | | 42 | 42 | 81 | 123 | 294 | | 198 | 198 | 204 | 403 | 342 | |
| Moray Firth | | 269 | 4225 | 4494 | 4752 | 9246 | 1705 | 1159 | 17694 | 18853 | 9566 | 28419 | 1878 | |
| | Deveron | 44 | 1197 | 1241 | 1016 | 2257 | 289 | 158 | 4760 | 4918 | 2077 | 6995 | 398 | |
| | Spey | 154 | 1589 | 1743 | 1201 | 2944 | 1065 | 700 | 7357 | 8057 | 2369 | 10426 | 1130 | |
| | Lossie | | 49 | 49 | 61 | 110 | 153 | | 162 | 162 | 106 | 268 | 145 | |
| | Findhorn | 35 | 530 | 565 | 525 | 1090 | 32 | 148 | 2079 | 2227 | 942 | 3170 | 31 | |
| | Nairn | 1 | 295 | 296 | 631 | 927 | 59 | 6 | 1127 | 1133 | 1228 | 2361 | 76 | |
| | Ness | 22 | 267 | 289 | 358 | 647 | 51 | 97 | 1058 | 1155 | 723 | 1878 | 44 | |
| | Beaully | 3 | 114 | 117 | 296 | 413 | 6 | 14 | 417 | 430 | 661 | 1091 | 7 | |
| | Conon and Alness | 10 | 184 | 194 | 664 | 858 | 50 | 36 | 733 | 770 | 1460 | 2229 | 47 | |
| | North | | 145 | 2260 | 2405 | 7810 | 10215 | 616 | 607 | 10250 | 10856 | 16000 | 26857 | 508 |
| Kyle of Sutherland | | 12 | 263 | 275 | 855 | 1130 | 216 | 46 | 1119 | 1165 | 1787 | 2953 | 158 | |
| Fleet and Brora | | 23 | 67 | 90 | 97 | 187 | 19 | 93 | 290 | 382 | 213 | 595 | 13 | |
| Helmsdale | | 57 | 240 | 297 | 276 | 573 | 99 | 238 | 1068 | 1306 | 590 | 1896 | 88 | |
| Berriedale to Wick | | 3 | 40 | 43 | 60 | 103 | 3 | 11 | 131 | 143 | 119 | 262 | 3 | |
| Thurso and Forss | | 10 | 231 | 241 | 1291 | 1532 | 1 | 52 | 1024 | 1077 | 2680 | 3757 | 1 | |
| Halladale and Strathly | | 10 | 1259 | 1269 | 4609 | 5878 | 14 | 41 | 5958 | 5999 | 9374 | 15373 | 21 | |
| Naver and Kinloch | | 30 | 124 | 154 | 379 | 533 | 29 | 125 | 515 | 640 | 750 | 1390 | 19 | |
| Hope and Grudie | | | 36 | 36 | 243 | 279 | 235 | | 145 | 145 | 488 | 632 | 207 | |
| North West | | | 1 | 272 | 273 | 752 | 1025 | 188 | 4 | 1007 | 1011 | 1698 | 2708 | 146 |
| | Inchard to Kirkaig | 1 | 108 | 109 | 311 | 420 | 97 | 4 | 425 | 428 | 684 | 1112 | 78 | |
| | Kennart to Gruinard | | 18 | 18 | 55 | 73 | 7 | | 58 | 58 | 109 | 167 | 3 | |
| | Ewe | | 8 | 8 | 29 | 37 | 1 | | 41 | 41 | 67 | 107 | 1 | |
| | Badachro to Applecross | | 2 | 2 | 7 | 9 | | | 4 | 4 | 16 | 19 | | |
| | Kishorn and Carron | | 7 | 7 | 5 | 12 | | | 28 | 28 | 9 | 36 | | |
| | Loch Long and Croe | | 59 | 59 | 111 | 170 | 4 | | 202 | 202 | 254 | 456 | 3 | |
| | Glenelg to Kilchoan | | 4 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 1 | | 11 | 11 | 18 | 28 | 1 | |
| | Morar to Shiel | | 22 | 22 | 40 | 62 | 18 | | 79 | 79 | 92 | 171 | 14 | |
| | Skye and Small Isles | | 44 | 44 | 186 | 230 | 60 | | 160 | 160 | 451 | 611 | 46 | |
| | West Coast | | 4 | 167 | 171 | 409 | 580 | 166 | 22 | 515 | 538 | 964 | 1501 | 127 |
| | | Sunart and Aline | | 2 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 2 | | 8 | 8 | 12 | 20 | 3 |
| Sanda to Creran | | | 4 | 19 | 23 | 148 | 171 | 53 | 22 | 68 | 90 | 386 | 476 | 25 |
| Awe and Nell | | | 40 | 40 | 202 | 242 | 5 | | 160 | 160 | 467 | 627 | 5 | |
| Add and Ormsary | | | 12 | 12 | 7 | 19 | 15 | | 35 | 35 | 15 | 50 | 17 | |
| Island of Mull | | | 25 | 25 | 28 | 53 | 12 | | 81 | 81 | 54 | 135 | 17 | |
| Islay and Jura | | | 69 | 69 | 18 | 87 | 79 | | 162 | 162 | 30 | 192 | 59 | |
| Clyde Coast | | | 10 | 1545 | 1555 | 1105 | 2660 | 1101 | 41 | 5178 | 5219 | 2693 | 7912 | 881 |
| | Carradale and Iorsa | | 11 | 11 | 10 | 21 | 11 | | 24 | 24 | 20 | 44 | 12 | |
| | Fyne | | | | 8 | 8 | 21 | | | | 10 | 10 | 20 | |
| | Ruel and Drummachloy | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 3 | 3 | 1 | |
| | Eachaig | | 9 | 9 | 10 | 19 | 131 | | 33 | 33 | 23 | 56 | 125 | |
| | Clyde | 8 | 538 | 546 | 108 | 654 | 815 | 32 | 1618 | 1651 | 238 | 1888 | 593 | |
| | Irvine | | 76 | 76 | 220 | 296 | 97 | | 339 | 339 | 601 | 940 | 104 | |
| | Ayr | 2 | 441 | 443 | 225 | 668 | 3 | 9 | 1384 | 1393 | 484 | 1877 | 2 | |
| | Doon | | 117 | 117 | 321 | 438 | | | 481 | 481 | 819 | 1300 | | |
| | Girvan | | 136 | 136 | 78 | 214 | 6 | | 467 | 467 | 171 | 637 | 5 | |
| | Stinchar | | 217 | 217 | 124 | 341 | 16 | | 833 | 833 | 325 | 1159 | 21 | |
| | Solway | | 13 | 2277 | 2290 | 3227 | 5517 | 1565 | 46 | 9254 | 9300 | 8199 | 17500 | 1642 |
| Luce | | | 46 | 46 | 43 | 89 | 48 | | 167 | 167 | 103 | 270 | 59 | |
| Bladenoch | | | 17 | 17 | 37 | 54 | 1 | | 64 | 64 | 86 | 150 | 2 | |
| Cree and Fleet | | 2 | 129 | 131 | 700 | 831 | 167 | 9 | 497 | 506 | 1650 | 2156 | 129 | |
| Dee (Kirkcudbright) | | | 16 | 16 | 16 | 32 | 71 | | 71 | 71 | 48 | 118 | 181 | |
| Urr | | | 145 | 145 | 101 | 246 | 44 | | 511 | 511 | 222 | 733 | 35 | |
| Nith | | 11 | 1299 | 1310 | 1313 | 2623 | 644 | 37 | 5232 | 5269 | 3231 | 8500 | 628 | |
| Annan | | | 625 | 625 | 1017 | 1642 | 590 | | 2713 | 2713 | 2860 | 5573 | 608 | |
| Orkney | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shetland | | | 5 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 471 | | 16 | 16 | 3 | 20 | 478 | |
| | Shetland | | 5 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 471 | | 16 | 16 | 3 | 20 | 478 | |
| Outer Hebrides | | | 174 | 174 | 683 | 857 | 1020 | | 437 | 437 | 1368 | 1805 | 868 | |
| | Isle of Lewis | | 30 | 30 | 616 | 646 | 628 | | 120 | 120 | 1230 | 1350 | 396 | |
| | Harris | | 103 | 103 | 33 | 136 | 71 | | 224 | 224 | 66 | 291 | 67 | |
| | The Uists | | 41 | 41 | 34 | 75 | 321 | | 93 | 93 | 71 | 164 | 405 | |
| All Scotland | | 1237 | 22587 | 23824 | 31654 | 55478 | 15957 | 5167 | 93008 | 98175 | 69789 | 167964 | 18871 | |

Table 3:

Number and weight (rounded to the nearest kg) of wild salmon, grilse and sea trout caught and released by salmon fishery region and district from rod and line fisheries during 2007.

| Region | District | Number | | | | | | Weight (kg) | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | Salmon | | | Salmon | | Sea Trout | Salmon | | | Salmon | | Sea Trout |
| | | Jan-Apr | May-Dec | Annual | Grilse | + Grilse | | Jan-Apr | May-Dec | Annual | Grilse | + Grilse | |
| East | | 1066 | 9726 | 10792 | 3639 | 14431 | 1731 | 4412 | 38283 | 42695 | 8082 | 50778 | 2442 |
| | Tweed | 684 | 6892 | 7576 | 2046 | 9622 | 602 | 2552 | 27503 | 30055 | 4476 | 34531 | 1181 |
| | Forth | 33 | 999 | 1032 | 382 | 1414 | 317 | 148 | 3232 | 3380 | 828 | 4208 | 343 |
| | Tay | 349 | 1835 | 2184 | 1211 | 3395 | 812 | 1712 | 7549 | 9261 | 2778 | 12039 | 918 |
| North East | | 1479 | 4033 | 5512 | 2818 | 8330 | 2099 | 6093 | 16891 | 22984 | 5831 | 28815 | 2122 |
| | South Esk | 59 | 218 | 277 | 112 | 389 | 231 | 250 | 791 | 1042 | 241 | 1283 | 229 |
| | North Esk and Bervie | 213 | 350 | 563 | 354 | 917 | 149 | 843 | 1343 | 2185 | 688 | 2873 | 149 |
| | Dee (Aberdeenshire) | 1143 | 2826 | 3969 | 1820 | 5789 | 1291 | 4753 | 12266 | 17020 | 3716 | 20736 | 1371 |
| | Don | 64 | 495 | 559 | 452 | 1011 | 207 | 246 | 1994 | 2240 | 996 | 3236 | 147 |
| | Ythan | | 134 | 134 | 72 | 206 | 154 | | 450 | 450 | 173 | 624 | 141 |
| | Ugie | | 10 | 10 | 8 | 18 | 67 | | 47 | 47 | 17 | 64 | 85 |
| Moray Firth | | 514 | 6946 | 7460 | 7165 | 14625 | 1725 | 2204 | 29685 | 31889 | 14307 | 46196 | 2021 |
| | Deveron | 15 | 1188 | 1203 | 848 | 2051 | 324 | 57 | 4599 | 4656 | 1717 | 6373 | 440 |
| | Spey | 392 | 3711 | 4103 | 2980 | 7083 | 1159 | 1635 | 16769 | 18404 | 5847 | 24250 | 1377 |
| | Lossie | | 43 | 43 | 82 | 125 | 60 | | 133 | 133 | 149 | 281 | 45 |
| | Findhorn | 45 | 953 | 998 | 950 | 1948 | 61 | 219 | 3959 | 4179 | 1612 | 5791 | 50 |
| | Nairn | 3 | 96 | 99 | 376 | 475 | 30 | 11 | 397 | 408 | 692 | 1100 | 34 |
| | Ness | 33 | 430 | 463 | 406 | 869 | 3 | 159 | 1835 | 1994 | 965 | 2959 | 4 |
| | Beaully | 1 | 280 | 281 | 663 | 944 | 62 | 4 | 951 | 955 | 1443 | 2398 | 51 |
| | Conon and Alness | 25 | 245 | 270 | 860 | 1130 | 26 | 118 | 1043 | 1162 | 1883 | 3044 | 20 |
| North | | 277 | 2873 | 3150 | 5064 | 8214 | 1169 | 1137 | 12187 | 13324 | 10459 | 23783 | 724 |
| | Kyle of Sutherland | 109 | 998 | 1107 | 1752 | 2859 | 304 | 419 | 4194 | 4613 | 3548 | 8161 | 170 |
| | Fleet and Brora | 51 | 167 | 218 | 208 | 426 | 33 | 201 | 650 | 852 | 400 | 1252 | 23 |
| | Helmsdale | 44 | 397 | 441 | 861 | 1302 | 5 | 188 | 1895 | 2083 | 1895 | 3978 | 3 |
| | Berriedale to Wick | 2 | 15 | 17 | 80 | 97 | 5 | 7 | 56 | 64 | 163 | 227 | 2 |
| | Thurso and Fors | 25 | 533 | 558 | 479 | 1037 | 1 | 126 | 2156 | 2281 | 973 | 3254 | 1 |
| | Halladale and Strathly | | 146 | 146 | 468 | 614 | | | 694 | 694 | 990 | 1684 | |
| | Naver and Kinloch | 46 | 531 | 577 | 939 | 1516 | 16 | 196 | 2214 | 2410 | 1930 | 4340 | 12 |
| | Hope and Grudie | | 86 | 86 | 277 | 363 | 805 | | 328 | 328 | 560 | 888 | 514 |
| North West | | 3 | 775 | 778 | 1462 | 2240 | 841 | 13 | 2819 | 2832 | 3122 | 5954 | 545 |
| | Inchard to Kirkaig | 2 | 124 | 126 | 312 | 438 | 154 | 10 | 533 | 543 | 672 | 1215 | 88 |
| | Kennart to Gruinard | | 180 | 180 | 558 | 738 | 68 | | 654 | 654 | 1189 | 1844 | 41 |
| | Ewe | | 57 | 57 | 106 | 163 | 170 | | 244 | 244 | 244 | 488 | 90 |
| | Badachro to Applecross | | 41 | 41 | 33 | 74 | 13 | | 102 | 102 | 97 | 199 | 10 |
| | Kishorn and Carron | | 89 | 89 | 165 | 254 | 93 | | 343 | 343 | 306 | 650 | 63 |
| | Loch Long and Croe | | 46 | 46 | 75 | 121 | | | 197 | 197 | 179 | 376 | |
| | Glenelg to Kilchoan | | 24 | 24 | 40 | 64 | 61 | | 81 | 81 | 91 | 172 | 41 |
| | Morar to Shiel | | 58 | 58 | 70 | 128 | 112 | | 211 | 211 | 153 | 364 | 84 |
| | Skye and Small Isles | 1 | 156 | 157 | 103 | 260 | 170 | 2 | 454 | 457 | 191 | 648 | 128 |
| West Coast | | 2 | 552 | 554 | 1651 | 2205 | 343 | 14 | 2574 | 2588 | 4251 | 6839 | 302 |
| | Sunart and Aline | | 6 | 6 | 41 | 47 | 124 | | 30 | 30 | 79 | 109 | 174 |
| | Sanda to Creran | 2 | 225 | 227 | 1140 | 1367 | 41 | 14 | 1229 | 1243 | 3095 | 4338 | 23 |
| | Awe and Nell | | 243 | 243 | 414 | 657 | 5 | | 1068 | 1068 | 975 | 2044 | 4 |
| | Add and Ormsary | | 3 | 3 | | 3 | 3 | | 10 | 10 | | 10 | 3 |
| | Island of Mull | | 33 | 33 | 13 | 46 | 63 | | 125 | 125 | 26 | 151 | 45 |
| | Islay and Jura | | 42 | 42 | 43 | 85 | 107 | | 112 | 112 | 76 | 188 | 54 |
| Clyde Coast | | 5 | 960 | 965 | 870 | 1835 | 1085 | 18 | 3377 | 3395 | 2146 | 5541 | 843 |
| | Carradale and Iorsa | | 19 | 19 | 13 | 32 | 32 | | 59 | 59 | 33 | 92 | 29 |
| | Fyne | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Ruel and Drummachloy | | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 28 | | 7 | 7 | 9 | 16 | 18 |
| | Eachaig | | 18 | 18 | 22 | 40 | 165 | | 67 | 67 | 47 | 113 | 124 |
| | Clyde | 2 | 310 | 312 | 122 | 434 | 720 | 8 | 958 | 966 | 291 | 1257 | 540 |
| | Irvine | | 32 | 32 | 39 | 71 | 9 | | 152 | 152 | 99 | 251 | 10 |
| | Ayr | 1 | 72 | 73 | 52 | 125 | 13 | 3 | 248 | 251 | 124 | 376 | 16 |
| | Doon | 1 | 151 | 152 | 318 | 470 | 6 | 3 | 547 | 550 | 814 | 1364 | 6 |
| | Girvan | 1 | 72 | 73 | 113 | 186 | 51 | 4 | 254 | 258 | 259 | 516 | 43 |
| | Stinchar | | 284 | 284 | 188 | 472 | 61 | | 1084 | 1084 | 472 | 1556 | 57 |
| Solway | | 12 | 1435 | 1447 | 732 | 2179 | 845 | 45 | 5292 | 5338 | 1912 | 7250 | 907 |
| | Luce | | 25 | 25 | 1 | 26 | 31 | | 84 | 84 | 3 | 86 | 18 |
| | Bladenoch | 4 | 47 | 51 | 31 | 82 | 1 | 18 | 168 | 187 | 71 | 257 | 2 |
| | Cree and Fleet | 3 | 89 | 92 | 94 | 186 | 87 | 14 | 346 | 359 | 212 | 571 | 51 |
| | Dee (Kirkcudbright) | | 36 | 36 | 14 | 50 | 147 | | 131 | 131 | 37 | 168 | 239 |
| | Urr | 2 | 117 | 119 | 53 | 172 | 10 | 6 | 415 | 421 | 121 | 542 | 8 |
| | Nith | 3 | 901 | 904 | 227 | 1131 | 386 | 8 | 3262 | 3269 | 533 | 3803 | 410 |
| | Annan | | 220 | 220 | 312 | 532 | 183 | | 887 | 887 | 935 | 1822 | 180 |
| Orkney | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shetland | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Outer Hebrides | | 4 | 223 | 227 | 1186 | 1413 | 1320 | 11 | 593 | 604 | 2349 | 2954 | 859 |
| | Isle of Lewis | 1 | 51 | 52 | 1104 | 1156 | 648 | 5 | 223 | 227 | 2181 | 2408 | 368 |
| | Harris | 3 | 172 | 175 | 29 | 204 | 316 | 6 | 371 | 377 | 56 | 433 | 177 |
| | The Uists | | | | 53 | 53 | 356 | | | | 113 | 113 | 315 |
| All Scotland | | 3362 | 27523 | 30885 | 24587 | 55472 | 11158 | 13946 | 111702 | 125648 | 52461 | 178109 | 10766 |

Table 4:
Number and weight (rounded to the nearest kg) of farmed salmon and grilse caught by salmon fishery region and by method during 2007.

| Region | Method | Number | | | | | Weight (kg) | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-----------------|-------------|-----|--------|--------|-----------------|
| | | Salmon | | Annual | Grilse | Salmon + Grilse | Salmon | | Annual | Grilse | Salmon + Grilse |
| Jan-Apr | May-Dec | Jan-Apr | May-Dec | | | | | | | | |
| East | Rod and Line | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | | | | | | | | | | |
| North East | Rod and Line | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | 7 | 7 | | 7 | | 35 | 35 | | 35 |
| | All Methods | | 7 | 7 | | 7 | | 35 | 35 | | 35 |
| Moray Firth | Rod and Line | | 13 | 13 | 1 | 14 | | 59 | 59 | 3 | 63 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | | 13 | 13 | 1 | 14 | | 59 | 59 | 3 | 63 |
| North | Rod and Line | | 17 | 17 | 1 | 18 | | 86 | 86 | 1 | 87 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | 77 | 77 | 3 | 80 | | 412 | 412 | 8 | 420 |
| | All Methods | | 94 | 94 | 4 | 98 | | 497 | 497 | 9 | 507 |
| North West | Rod and Line | | 11 | 11 | 29 | 40 | | 33 | 33 | 60 | 93 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | 32 | 32 | | | | 87 | 87 |
| | Fixed Engine | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 4 | 4 | | 4 |
| | All Methods | | 12 | 12 | 61 | 73 | | 37 | 37 | 147 | 184 |
| West Coast | Rod and Line | | 12 | 12 | 62 | 74 | | 60 | 60 | 242 | 302 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | 11 | | 11 | 7 | 18 | 72 | | 72 | 17 | 89 |
| | All Methods | 11 | 12 | 23 | 69 | 92 | 72 | 60 | 132 | 259 | 391 |
| Clyde Coast | Rod and Line | 9 | 22 | 31 | 1 | 32 | 41 | 64 | 104 | 3 | 107 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | 9 | 22 | 31 | 1 | 32 | 41 | 64 | 104 | 3 | 107 |
| Solway | Rod and Line | | | | 9 | 9 | | | | 12 | 12 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | 2 | 2 | | | | 6 | 6 |
| | All Methods | | | | 11 | 11 | | | | 18 | 18 |
| Orkney | Rod and Line | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shetland | Rod and Line | | 4 | 4 | 4 | 8 | | 25 | 25 | 13 | 38 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | | 4 | 4 | 4 | 8 | | 25 | 25 | 13 | 38 |
| Outer Hebrides | Rod and Line | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 3 | 3 | | 3 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fixed Engine | | | | | | | | | | |
| | All Methods | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 3 | 3 | | 3 |
| All Scotland | Rod and Line | 9 | 80 | 89 | 107 | 196 | 41 | 329 | 370 | 334 | 704 |
| | Net and Coble | | | | 32 | 32 | | | | 87 | 87 |
| | Fixed Engine | 11 | 85 | 96 | 12 | 108 | 72 | 451 | 523 | 31 | 553 |
| | All Methods | 20 | 165 | 185 | 151 | 336 | 113 | 780 | 893 | 451 | 1344 |

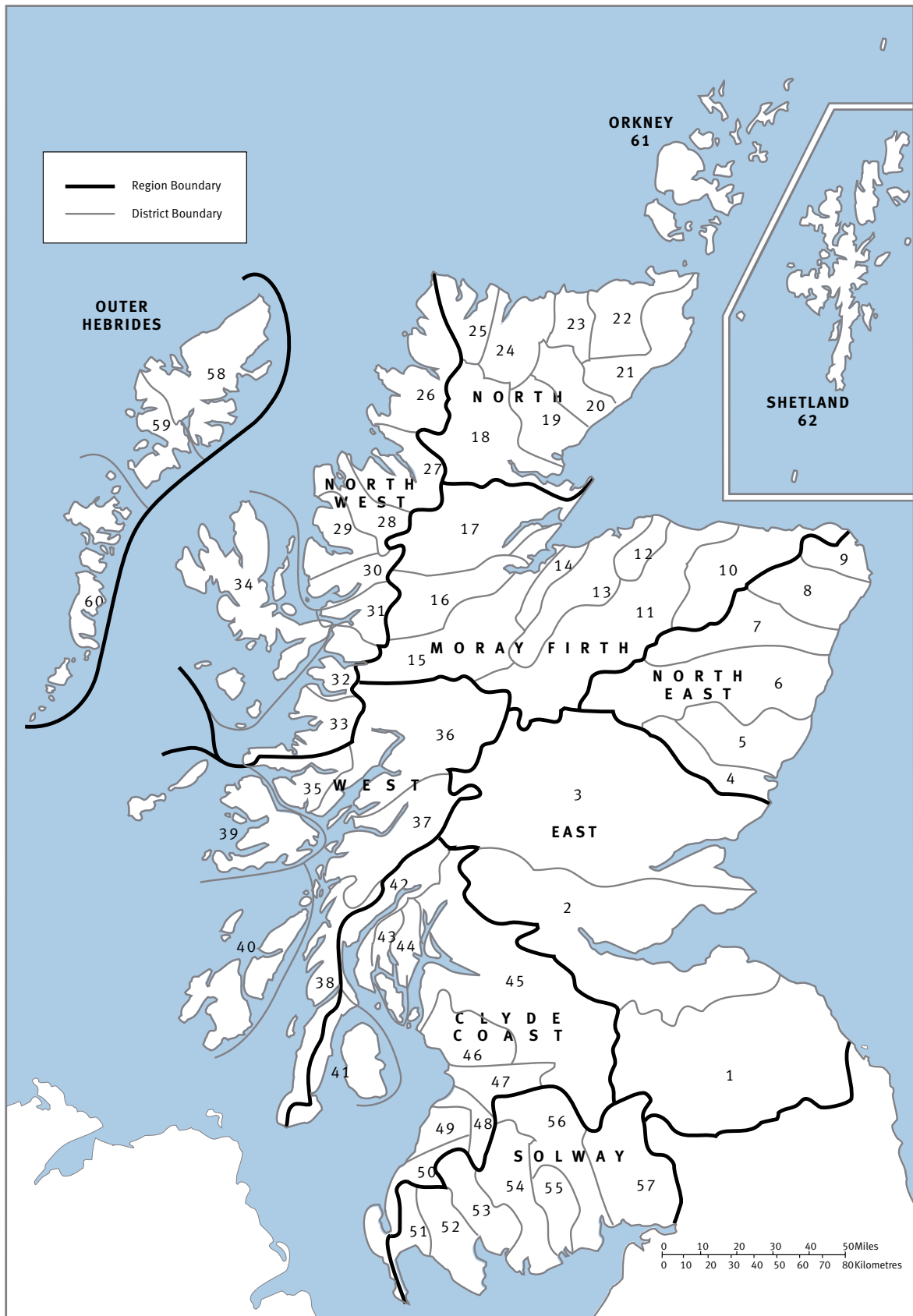
Table 5:
Number and weight (rounded to the nearest kg) of farmed salmon and grilse caught by salmon fishery region and district during 2007.

| Region | District | Number | | | | | Weight (kg) | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|-------------|
| | | Salmon Jan-Apr | Salmon May-Dec | Annual | Grilse | Salmon + Grilse | Salmon Jan-Apr | Salmon May-Dec | Annual | Grilse | Salmon + Grilse | |
| East | Tweed | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Forth | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Tay | | | | | | | | | | | |
| North East | | | 7 | 7 | | 7 | | 35 | 35 | | 35 | |
| | South Esk | | 7 | 7 | | 7 | | 35 | 35 | | 35 | |
| | North Esk and Bervie | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Dee (Aberdeenshire) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Don | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Ythan | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Ugie | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moray Firth | | | 13 | 13 | 1 | 14 | | 59 | 59 | 3 | 63 | |
| | Deveron | | 2 | 2 | | 2 | | 8 | 8 | | 8 | |
| | Spey | | 11 | 11 | 1 | 12 | | 51 | 51 | 3 | 54 | |
| | Lossie | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Findhorn | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Nairn | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Ness | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Beauly | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Conon and Alness | | | | | | | | | | | |
| North | | | 94 | 94 | 4 | 98 | | 497 | 497 | 9 | 507 | |
| | Kyle of Sutherland | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fleet and Brora | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Helmsdale | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Berriedale to Wick | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Thurso and Fors | | 3 | 3 | | 3 | | 16 | 16 | | 16 | |
| | Halladale and Strathy | | 75 | 75 | 3 | 78 | | 401 | 401 | 8 | 409 | |
| | Naver and Kinloch | | 16 | 16 | | 16 | | 81 | 81 | | 81 | |
| | Hope and Grudie | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| North West | | | 12 | 12 | 61 | 73 | | 37 | 37 | 147 | 184 | |
| | Inchard to Kirkaig | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Kennart to Gruinard | | 3 | 3 | | 3 | | 9 | 9 | | 9 | |
| | Ewe | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | | 7 | 7 | 4 | 11 | |
| | Badachro to Applecross | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 3 | 3 | |
| | Kishorn and Carron | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 5 | 5 | | 5 | |
| | Loch Long and Croe | | 1 | 1 | 52 | 53 | | 4 | 4 | 136 | 140 | |
| | Glenelg to Kilchoan | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | 2 | | 2 | |
| | Morar to Shiel | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | 2 | | 2 | |
| | Skye and Small Isles | | 3 | 3 | 6 | 9 | | 8 | 8 | 5 | 13 | |
| West Coast | | | 11 | 12 | 23 | 69 | 92 | 72 | 60 | 132 | 259 | 391 |
| | Sunart and Aline | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Sanda to Creran | | 11 | 12 | 23 | 62 | 85 | 72 | 60 | 132 | 245 | 377 |
| | Awe and Nell | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Add and Ormsary | | | | 4 | 4 | | | | 6 | 6 | |
| | Island of Mull | | | | 3 | 3 | | | | 8 | 8 | |
| | Islay and Jura | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clyde Coast | | | 9 | 22 | 31 | 1 | 32 | 41 | 64 | 104 | 3 | 107 |
| | Carradale and Iorsa | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fyne | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Ruel and Drummachloy | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Eachaig | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Clyde | | 9 | 6 | 15 | | 15 | 41 | 27 | 68 | | 68 |
| | Irvine | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Ayr | | | 16 | 16 | 1 | 17 | | 36 | 36 | 3 | 39 |
| | Doon | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Girvan | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Stinchar | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Solway | | | | | | 11 | 11 | | | | 18 | 18 |
| | Luce | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Bladenoch | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Cree and Fleet | | | | 2 | 2 | | | | 6 | 6 | |
| | Dee (Kirkcudbright) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Urr | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Nith | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Annan | | | | 9 | 9 | | | | 12 | 12 | |
| Orkney | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shetland | | | 4 | 4 | 4 | 8 | | 25 | 25 | 13 | 38 | |
| Outer Hebrides | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 3 | 3 | | 3 | |
| | Isle of Lewis | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 3 | 3 | | 3 | |
| | Harris | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | The Uists | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Scotland | | | 20 | 165 | 185 | 151 | 336 | 113 | 780 | 893 | 451 | 1344 |

Table 6 :
Number of questionnaires sent to proprietors and occupiers of salmon fisheries in 2007 and the number of returns received.

| Statistical District | No. of Forms Sent | Returns Received |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Tweed | 156 | 151 |
| Forth | 112 | 106 |
| Tay | 244 | 224 |
| South Esk | 39 | 37 |
| North Esk and Bervie | 50 | 47 |
| Dee (Aberdeen) | 72 | 69 |
| Don | 71 | 67 |
| Ythan | 24 | 23 |
| Ugie | 14 | 14 |
| Deveron | 57 | 56 |
| Spey | 71 | 67 |
| Lossie | 5 | 4 |
| Findhorn | 28 | 28 |
| Nairn | 33 | 32 |
| Ness | 43 | 42 |
| Beauly | 18 | 18 |
| Conon and Alness | 45 | 40 |
| Kyle of Sutherland | 37 | 37 |
| Fleet and Brora | 5 | 5 |
| Helmsdale | 1 | 1 |
| Berriedale to Wick | 10 | 9 |
| Thurso and Forss | 13 | 12 |
| Halladale and Strathy | 4 | 4 |
| Naver and Kinloch | 11 | 11 |
| Hope and Grudie | 10 | 10 |
| Inchard to Kirkaig | 24 | 22 |
| Kennart to Gruinard | 17 | 17 |
| Ewe | 8 | 8 |
| Badachro to Applecross | 7 | 7 |
| Kishorn and Carron | 10 | 10 |
| Loch Long and Croe | 10 | 10 |
| Gleneig to Kilchoan | 8 | 7 |
| Morar to Shiel | 31 | 30 |
| Skye and Small Isles | 29 | 29 |
| Sunart and Aline | 9 | 9 |
| Sanda to Creran | 37 | 36 |
| Awe and Nell | 51 | 48 |
| Add and Ormsary | 32 | 31 |
| Island of Mull | 37 | 35 |
| Islay and Jura | 11 | 11 |
| Carradale and Iorsa | 18 | 16 |
| Fyne | 25 | 25 |
| Ruel and Drummachloy | 16 | 15 |
| Eachaig | 19 | 17 |
| Clyde | 25 | 24 |
| Irvine | 11 | 11 |
| Ayr | 41 | 39 |
| Doon | 31 | 27 |
| Girvan | 28 | 27 |
| Stinchar | 29 | 29 |
| Luce | 5 | 5 |
| Bladenoch | 19 | 19 |
| Cree and Fleet | 43 | 40 |
| Dee (Kirkcudbright) | 31 | 28 |
| Urr | 27 | 27 |
| Nith | 38 | 37 |
| Annan | 39 | 36 |
| Isle of Lewis | 15 | 15 |
| Harris | 12 | 11 |
| The Uists | 5 | 5 |
| Orkney | 1 | 1 |
| Shetland | 3 | 3 |
| Totals | 1975 | 1881 |

SALMON FISHERIES – STATISTICAL REGIONS AND DISTRICTS



NAMES OF THE SALMON FISHERY STATISTICAL DISTRICTS

Except in the case of the island groups, the names are taken from the names of the constituent administrative districts as given in Schedule A to the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act 1868. Where more than one such district is included in a single statistical district this is indicated by the word 'and' implying two districts or 'to' which implies more than two districts and includes all the coast between the two districts named.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Tweed | 32. Glenelg to Kilchoan |
| 2. Forth | 33. Morar to Shiel |
| 3. Tay | 34. Skye and Small Isles |
| 4. South Esk | 35. Sunart and Aline |
| 5. North Esk and Bervie | 36. Sanda to Creran |
| 6. Dee (Aberdeen) | 37. Awe and Nell |
| 7. Don | 38. Add and Ormsary |
| 8. Ythan | 39. Island of Mull |
| 9. Ugie | 40. Islay and Jura |
| 10. Deveron | 41. Carradale and Iorsa |
| 11. Spey | 42. Fyne |
| 12. Lossie | 43. Ruel and Drummachloy |
| 13. Findhorn | 44. Eachaig |
| 14. Nairn | 45. Clyde |
| 15. Ness | 46. Irvine |
| 16. Beaully | 47. Ayr |
| 17. Conon and Alness | 48. Doon |
| 18. Kyle of Sutherland | 49. Girvan |
| 19. Fleet and Brora | 50. Stinchar |
| 20. Helmsdale | 51. Luce |
| 21. Berriedale to Wick | 52. Bladenoch |
| 22. Thurso and Forss | 53. Cree and Fleet |
| 23. Halladale and Strathy | 54. Dee (Kirkcudbright) |
| 24. Naver and Kinloch | 55. Urr |
| 25. Hope and Grudie | 56. Nith |
| 26. Inchard to Kirkaig | 57. Annan |
| 27. Kennart to Gruinard | 58. Isle of Lewis |
| 28. Ewe | 59. Harris |
| 29. Badachro to Applecross | 60. The Uists |
| 30. Kishorn and Carron | 61. Orkney |
| 31. Loch Long and Croe | 62. Shetland |