



**Association of  
Salmon Fishery Boards**



## **News Release**

**For immediate release**

### **ASFB and RAFTS launch new websites**

The Association of Salmon Fishery Boards (ASFB) and Rivers and Fisheries Trusts of Scotland (RAFTS) have today launched new, updated websites: [www.asfb.org.uk](http://www.asfb.org.uk) and [www.rafts.org.uk](http://www.rafts.org.uk). Together, these websites will form a valuable resource for those involved at the front line of freshwater fisheries management in Scotland.

In keeping with the close working relationship between the two organisations, the two sites are carefully integrated, with news and events from across the network coordinated between the sites. This information will also be regularly circulated across the network and beyond via a joint electronic newsletter.

Dr Alan Wells, Policy and Planning Director of ASFB said, "These updated websites are the first step in our strategy to highlight the excellent work that Scotland's District Salmon Fishery Boards and Rivers and Fisheries Trusts are doing to protect and enhance our important freshwater fisheries and the habitats on which they depend."

Callum Sinclair, Director of RAFTS said, "There is a great deal of good work taking place across Scotland in support of our freshwater fish, fisheries and habitats to protect and improve them now and for the future. We want these new websites to be places where anyone interested can hear of some of this work and of the range of challenges and issues being faced and other developments important to ASFB, RAFTS and their members. It is important to us that as wide a range of partners, interested bodies and individuals know what is actually taking place in the complicated world of fisheries management."

**ENDS**

**Issued on behalf of ASFB and RAFTS by Andrew Graham-Stewart (telephone 01863 766767 or 07812 981531). For further information please contact: Dr Alan Wells, Policy and Planning Director for ASFB, on 0131 272 2797 or 07557 133455.**

#### **Editors' Notes**

1. The Association of Salmon Fishery Boards is the representative body for Scotland's 41 District Salmon Fishery Boards (DSFBs) including the River Tweed Commission (RTC), who have a statutory responsibility to protect and improve salmon and sea trout fisheries. Conservation of fish stocks, and the habitats on which they depend, is essential and many DSFB's operate riparian habitat enhancement schemes and have voluntarily adopted 'catch and release' practices, which in some cases are made mandatory by the introduction of Salmon Conservation Regulations. ASFB create policies that seek where possible to protect wider biodiversity and our environment as well as enhancing the economic benefits for our rural economy that result from angling.

2. Formed in 2005, Rivers and Fisheries Trusts of Scotland (RAFTS) is an independent freshwater conservation charity representing Scotland's national network of 25 rivers and fisheries Trusts and Foundations. Our members work across over 90% of Scotland's freshwaters to protect and develop our native fish stocks and populations by undertaking a range of activities including freshwater, river habitat restoration, fish and fisheries monitoring, research and education programmes. RAFTS is the membership organisation of the fisheries and rivers trusts operating in Scotland and is, itself, a charity and company limited by guarantee.