

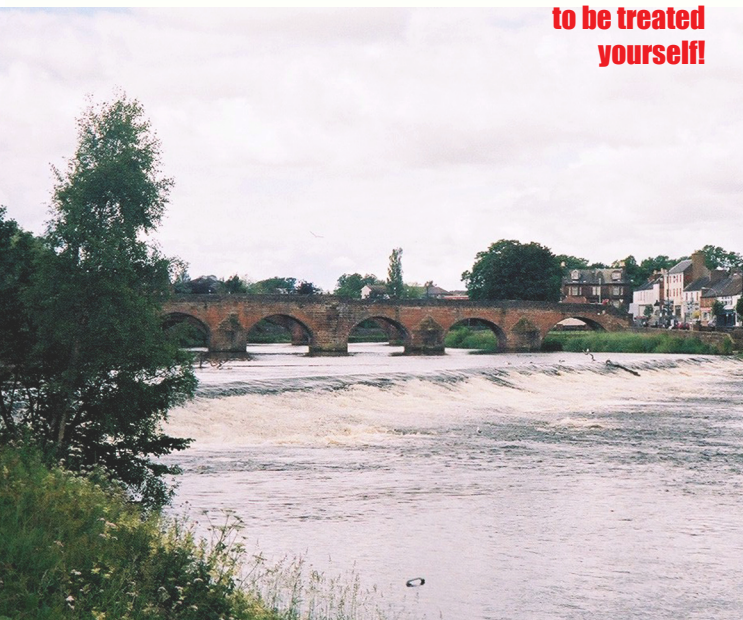
General Conduct

It is important that all anglers know how to behave on the river and surroundings and that all participants are conscious not only of their own needs, but also the safety, welfare and enjoyment of others.

With this in mind, they should

- Always fish in a sporting manner.
- Give consideration to anglers on the opposite bank.
- Fish down through pools in rotation, taking at least one full step between casts.
- Avoid unnecessary wading or any avoidable disturbance to the water.
- Always respect the environment, wildlife, other anglers and members of the public.
- Not park vehicles so that they obstruct gateways or cause a hazard on the roadway.
- Remove waste nylon and personal litter from the river banks and parking places.
- Follow the Country Code. Always respect farm animals and crops.
- Not light fires or allow dogs to roam free
- Always be conscious of and alert to hazards and look after their own safety and the safety of other anglers.

**Remember to treat others
as you would wish
to be treated
yourself!**



Re-Stocking Programme

The Nith District Salmon Board operates a stocking programme, which introduces approximately 750,000 migratory fish fry into the river and its feeder streams annually.

Habitat Enhancement Project

The District Salmon Fishery Board also operates a Habitat Enhancement Project which aims to create good conditions for successful natural reproduction and growth of fish stock. This includes combating bank erosion, developing cover and improving natural feeding.

The work is overseen by the District Salmon Board Director and his staff.

The Project is financed from a number of sources. Anglers are encouraged to support the venture through donations which can be sent to :-

**The District Salmon Fishery Board
c/o Walker & Sharpe Solicitors
37 George St.
Dumfries
DG1 1EB**

For more information on each of the above visit the **Fishery Board Website . . . www.nithfisheryboard.org**

The Nith Fishings Improvement Association

The Nith Fishings Improvement Association (NFIA) was formed in 1934 to foster the development of the Nith and its tributaries for angling for Salmon, Sea Trout and Trout.

The Association's efforts over the years have helped establish the river as one of the few in Scotland which has consistently improved in habitat and the quality of its fishings over the last 50 years.

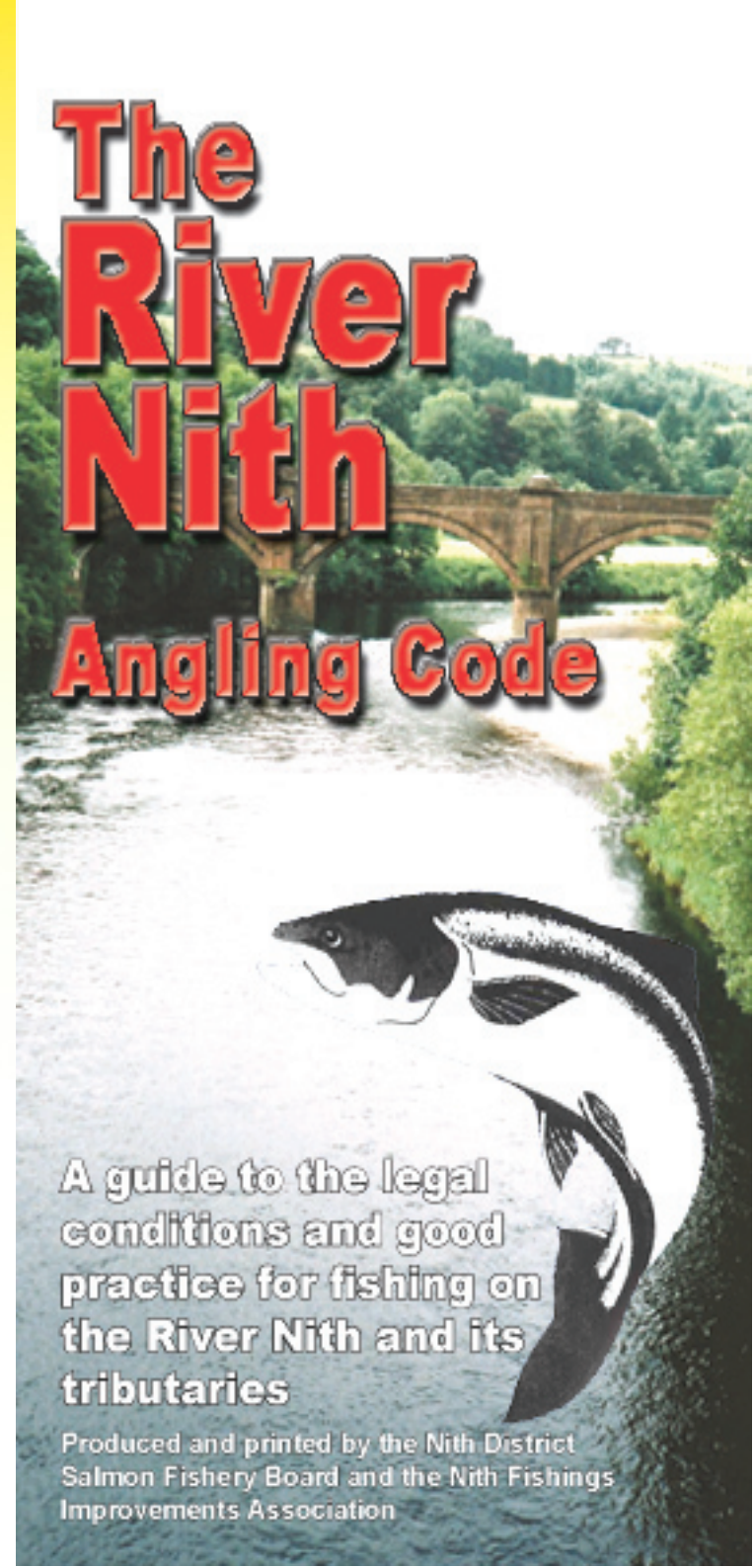
NFIA Membership

Membership includes Angling Associations, riparian owners and individual anglers.

Annual Fee £5.00 - is open to individuals with an interest in Angling. Applications for membership or further information may be obtained from local Fishing Tackle shops in Nithsdale or by visiting the Nith Fishings Website . . .

www.rivernithfishings.co.uk

The River Nith Angling Code



A guide to the legal conditions and good practice for fishing on the River Nith and its tributaries

Produced and printed by the Nith District Salmon Fishery Board and the Nith Fishings Improvements Association

The River Nith ANGLING CODE

for Salmon, Sea Trout & Trout Anglers

A guide to legal restrictions and good practice for fishing on the River Nith and its tributaries

All Salmon, Sea Trout & Trout anglers should know and understand both the written and 'unwritten' rules which govern our sport. In this way, we will set a good example to others and exercise care for the wild fish stocks, wildlife, the environment and other anglers.

The Code has been produced by the District Salmon Fishery Board and the NFIA to give guidance to all proprietors and anglers who visit the river. It aims to develop good practice and good sportsmanship on the river. It should also encourage behaviour which will not bring the sport into disrepute.

The LEGAL Requirements

The following regulations or conditions are contained within various Statutes or Acts. Breach of any of these could lead to Criminal proceedings.

1. The Nith Fishing season starts on 25th February and closes on 30th November.
2. No Salmon or Sea Trout fishing is allowed on Sundays



It is illegal to :-

- Deliberately attempt to foul hook fish or to take a fish which has been foul hooked i.e. those not hooked in the mouth
- Kill kelts, smolts or parr.
- Take unclean or unseasonable fish.
- Use natural shrimps or prawns on any part of the river above Kingholm Gates at the bottom end of the Dumfries Town Fishings)
- Fish for Salmon or Sea Trout without written permission (or permit) from the beat's owner or their representative.
- Fish with any form of salmon roe.
- Fish with a "fixed line."
- Use gaffs, tailers or knotted mesh nets
- Sell salmon or sea trout which have been caught with rod & line.

Good Practice Our Recommendations

The District Salmon Fishery Board and the NFIA recognise that the various Associations and Beat Owners on the river will wish to exercise their own rules and that many of these will necessarily vary.

We strongly recommend the following rules and conditions to anglers and to owners or Associations for inclusion in the beat's own Rules.

General Rules

1. Respect boundaries between adjoining beats.
2. Anglers must show permits, tackle and catch to Bailiffs, Police Officers or other anglers if requested.
3. Anglers under 12 years of age should be accompanied by an adult when fishing

Methods & Equipment

1. Do not use sweep nets, ground bait or rod rests.
2. Do not fish from trees, bridges etc. or use assistance from anyone in such a position.

Keep a Watch Out . . .

We encourage anglers to have an active regard to their own safety and security on the river. To protect yourself and the fishings . . .

- Don't leaving fishing tackle exposed in your car
- Keep an eye out for suspicious characters
- Report strange goings-on immediately to the River Enforcement Staff (07785743663) or Police (08456 005 701)

3. When bait fishing or spinning, the bait/spinner must be kept moving through the water at all times.
4. The maximum permitted line breaking strain for all types of fishing should be 20lbs.
5. The maximum permitted hook size for bait fishing will be No 4.

Fly Fishing

1. Fly hooks or tubes should be properly dressed - with a coloured body and a reasonable quantity of hair/fur/feather in proportion to the hook size.
2. Anglers should not use weights or lead-core lines of any kind when fishing with the fly.
3. No retrieve, other than slow hand-lining should be made until the cast has been fished out.

Catches

1. Foulhooked fish i.e. those not hooked in the mouth, must be returned to the water.
2. Ripe or darkly coloured fish should be returned to the water. If in doubt, RETURN it!
3. Fish being returned to the water should not be handled by the tail and should be released as quickly as possible. Remove the hook with forceps and return the fish facing upstream and gently support it until it swims away.
4. Fish being retained should be killed as quickly as possible using a priest or appropriate instrument.
5. Catches should be limited to no more than 2 Salmon or 2 Sea Trout in any day.
6. Sea Trout over 3lbs should be returned to the water.
7. All fish under 9"/23cms must be returned to the water.

