



Tay Catchment Salmon Alliance

TCSA Newsletter No 8



Lubreoch Dam and Power Station, Glen Lyon

Photo courtesy of SSE Renewables

TDSFB UPDATE

The following letter was sent to proprietors to update them on the latest moves.

13th February 2026

Dear Proprietor,

Further to our previous communication, we wish to provide you with an update on the latest Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board meeting held on Wednesday, 11th February. As previously advised, the remaining Board Members will be working together to support our staff, ensure continuity, and address the current issues. As part of this process, Messrs John Nevin and Grant Kellie have agreed to join the Board, and Lorraine Henderson has agreed to serve as the Convener to continue the progress.

As we will not be appointing a Vice Convenor, Board Members have assumed roles to support the Board in specific areas of business, such as Communications, HR, and Finance. We will also be conducting a full review of our governance, including updating our Health & Safety, Communication, and IT Policies, which are considerably out of date. We have been engaging with FMS, who have offered support with this process, which we have gratefully accepted.

As our Director, Sean Robertson, will be leaving on Friday, 20th February, we have secured the services of a Temporary Admin Officer who started this week and will hopefully provide a level of continuity in supporting the Board. As you are aware, our Admin Assistant resigned, citing specific issues and Board Members as the reason for her departure from the organisation. We will be investigating this complaint, taking any necessary action, and implementing new processes as required to ensure this is not repeated in the future. To this end, we will also undertake an Exit Interview with the outgoing Director to identify any issues he encountered. Once both matters have been resolved, we will update you fully.

You may or may not have read our latest FaceBook post regarding the issue of Rainbow Trout that have appeared in Loch Tay. We have raised a complaint with the Marine Directorate and made Nature Scot aware. When we receive a response, we will relay this to you directly.

I hope this reassures you that the Board are responding to your concerns. We appreciate your understanding and continued support during this period of transition. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely,

Lorraine Henderson

Convenor

How refreshing it is to see proper communication - looks like a Board that will be "open and transparent". We wish the new Convenor all the very best in her new role.

REDFORD TROPHY - 40th ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FIRST PRESENTATION

The 2026 Redford Trophy for the first and heaviest fish caught on the Tay has been awarded to our very own Cohn O'Dea with a 15lb salmon caught on 22 January! Well done Cohn!

The presentation was made by Rob Jamieson of James Crockart and Sons, Blairgowrie, George McInnes and Arnot McWhinnie, the original architects of the Trophy in 1986.

The Redford Trophy was named after the late Ian Redford, a popular “mine host” on the Newtyle beats at Birnam who tragically died far too young in 1985. As a memorial to him, George McInnes and Arnot McWhinnie and Douglas Todd decided to put up a trophy so he would be remembered every year. The trophy was duly bought with subscriptions from Ian's many friends and engraved. In 1986 it was presented to the first-ever winner and since then has become a major event in the life of the river.

Presentation of the trophy is now managed by Arnot, George and Rob. It was originally awarded to the angler who caught, and released, the heaviest fish on opening day, January 15, in any season. However, the decline in salmon and uncertainty of a fish being caught on opening day, meant that the management team decided to expand the timeframe to the first day of catches

There was a short ceremony and lunch at the Taymount Hut yesterday. The ceremony was watched by Cohn's wife, Gail, David Park, Stuart Voce, Jock Tait, Bill and Sandra Robbins, Davie Barwick and Lorraine Henderson.



The first fish of 2026 - not just on theTay, but in Scotland and UK and Ireland!



The Redford Trophy being presented to Cohn by Rob Jamieson



Cohn, Gail and Arnot - Gail has also won the Redford Trophy some years ago - a talented couple!



Rob, George, Cohn, Gail and Arnot



The two amigos holding the Redford Trophy. David missed winning by a few minutes and/or a few pounds! Next year David! At the centre is Lorraine Henderson, the newly appointed Convenor of the Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board — making history as the first woman to hold the role.”

More news soon!

The Tay Catchment Salmon Alliance is a Scottish Charity No: SC029645, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)