



Putting **Wild Salmon** First



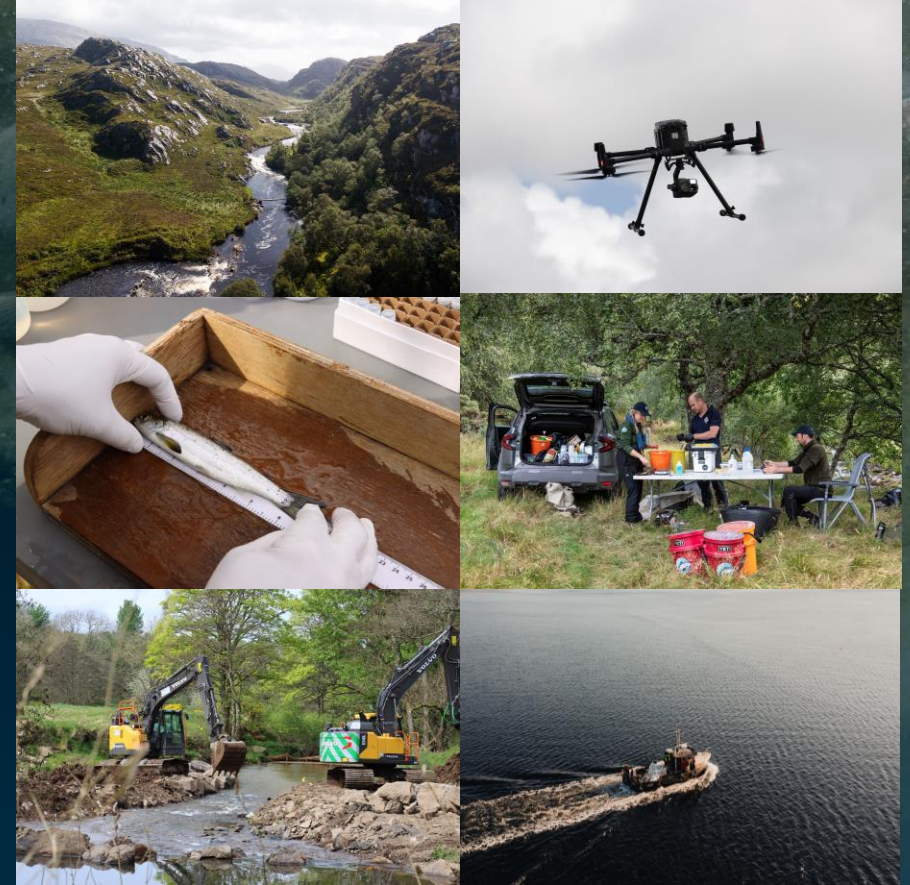
About Us – 1967 to 2026

On a mission to restore wild Atlantic salmon and their environment.

The Atlantic Salmon Trust's mission is to restore wild Atlantic salmon and their environment – a keystone species which has declined by over 70% in the last few decades. It is now categorised as **endangered** on mainland Great Britain and **near threatened** in Ireland.

With a 60-year history and reputation for delivering impactful research and restoration projects, our work is known across the conservation and fisheries world.

Our current focus is about putting **science into action** – energising and enabling a growing network of catchment-scale restoration projects working to restore wild salmon populations, supported by the latest science and technology.



Where We Work

Our impact extends nationally across the UK and internationally across the North Atlantic through partnerships in both the Atlantic and Pacific.



Atlantic Salmon Trust HQ



Large scale, multi-year salmon tracking projects across 22 Scottish rivers and coastal zones



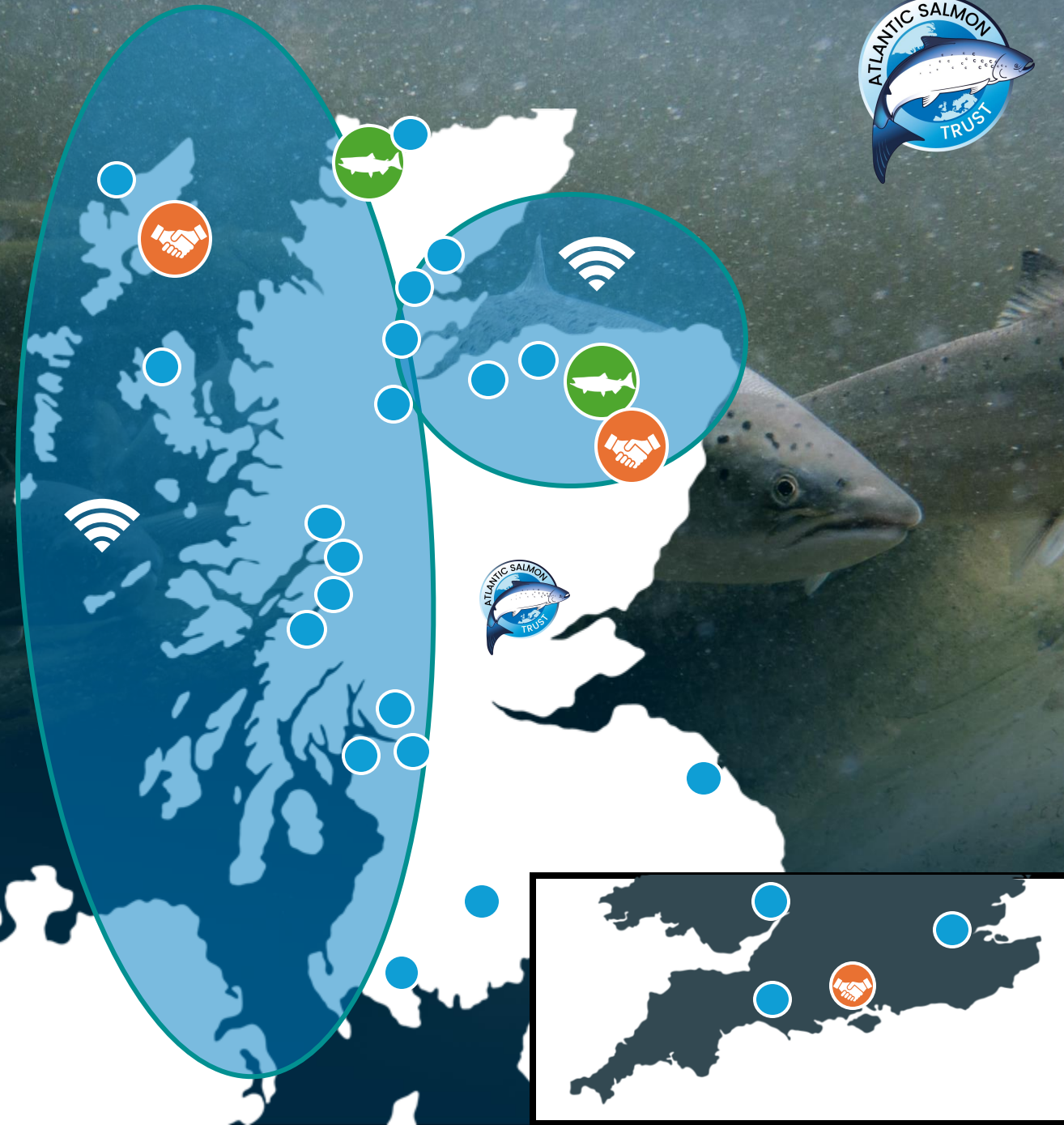
Core Rivers – the most advanced wild salmon catchment monitoring systems in the UK



Watershed Connections network – supporting catchment scale restoration



Rivers on which we work collaboratively with local groups



Our Strategy



Evidence



**Research
Programme**



Solutions



**Core Rivers
Projects**



Partnership



**Watershed
Connections**



5 in 5 Goals

1

Define why salmon are declining and continue to fill knowledge gaps.

2

Identify and prioritise the manageable pressures influencing that decline, and publish up-to-date reports on the efficacy of interventions including predation management and hatcheries.

3

Design and conduct a catchment audit and roll out a suite of restoration solutions on each of the Core Rivers, using salmon restoration as the driver to achieve wider biodiversity and climate goals.

4

Demonstrate that our strategy is working, through proven short-term successes on the Core Rivers. Then create a predictive model to demonstrate the potential long term restoration success.

5

Create catchment partnerships to share successful solutions, supporting others to implement them in their own river catchments.

Our History in Ireland



Principal links with Ireland – originally through the Salmon Research Trust of Ireland - Guinness Trust (1955).



Subsequently - Salmon Research Agency, Marine Institute , Newport, Inland Fisheries Ireland and also the Rivers Trust.



Over the decades funded researchers / research projects / laboratory infrastructure in Ireland.

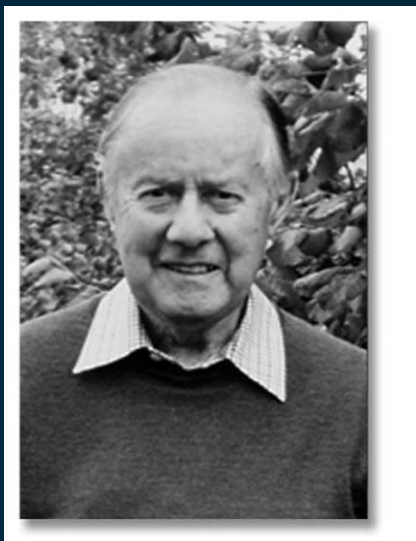
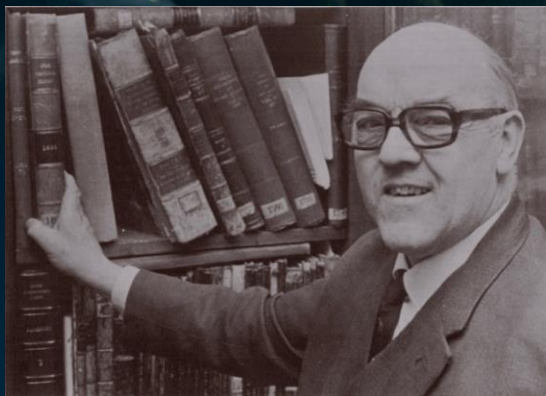


AST & SRTI – Jointly influenced role of ICES in salmon research - formation of the Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon (WGNAS).



Also pressed for the establishment of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization - NASCO (1983)

Main Players and the Newport Laboratory



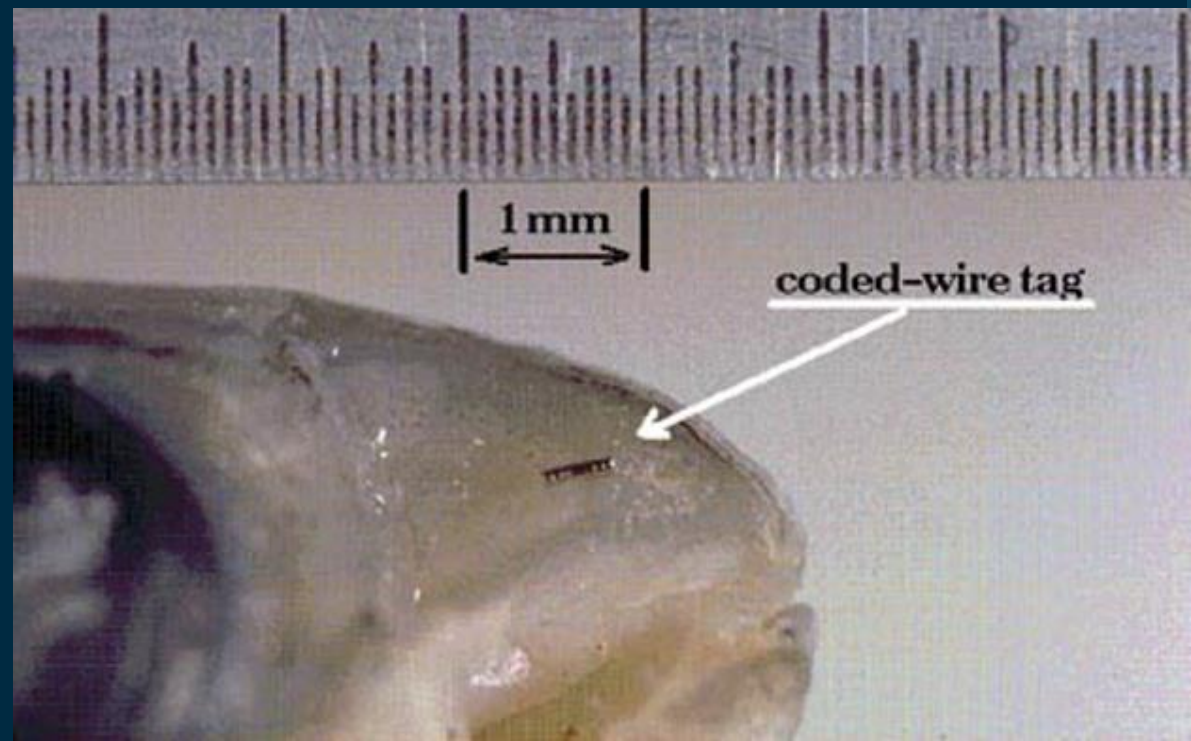
Irish Researchers



Funded several distinguished Irish researchers through the AST's Bennsinger Liddel Memorial Fellowship.



Prof Tom Cross (genetics- Genetic Stock Identification) and John Browne (tracking, magnetic nose tags/ Coded Wire Tags).



Cooperative Research Projects



Received: 2 December 2020 | Revised: 27 May 2021 | Accepted: 3 June 2021

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

FISH and FISHERIES

WILEY

The early marine distribution of Atlantic salmon in the North-east Atlantic: A genetically informed stock-specific synthesis

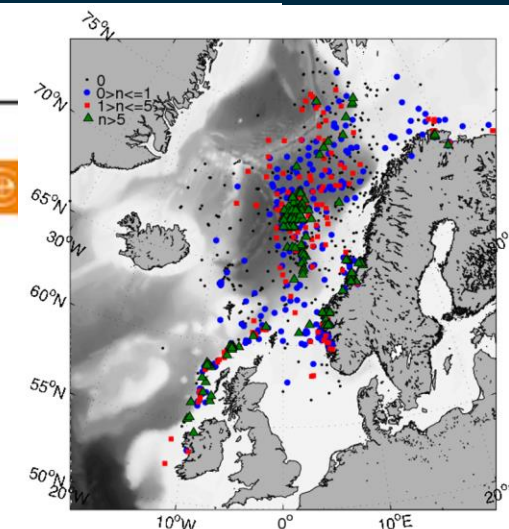
Received: 11 December 2023 | Revised: 23 February 2024 | Accepted: 2 April 2024

DOI: 10.1111/jfb.15760

REGULAR ARTICLE

JOURNAL OF FISH BIOLOGY

Inshore and offshore marine migration pathways of Atlantic salmon post-smolts from multiple rivers in Scotland, England, Northern Ireland, and Ireland



Greenland

Tasiilaq
Kulusuk

Paamiut

Qaqortoq
Nanortalik

Labrador Sea

Iceland

Akureyri
Reykjavik
Vik

Faroe Islands

Norway

Trondheim
Ålesund
Bergen
Oslo
Stavanger

North Sea

United Kingdom

Glasgow
Edinburgh
Isle of Man
Dublin
Manchester
Birmingham
London

Ireland

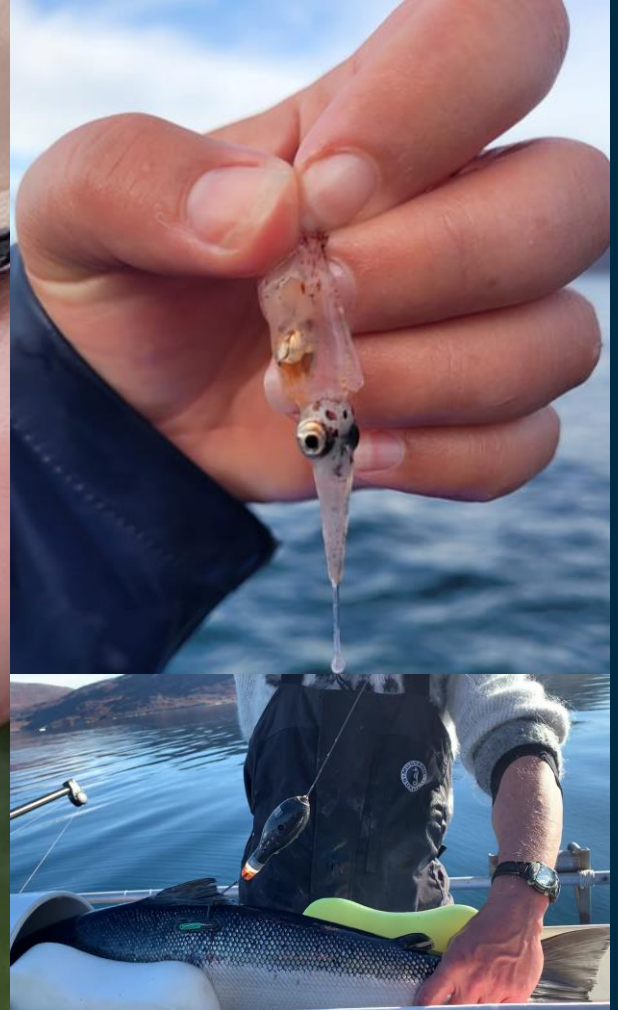
Denmark

Netherlands

Belgium
Luxembourg

Germany

International Cooperation with the Atlantic Salmon Federation



Research that Influences Policy

West Coast Tracking Project smolt information being used in development of SEPA Sea Lice Risk Assessment Framework.



Moray Firth Tracking Project smolt migration routes used to influence location of offshore wind developments.



Core Rivers

How they work



A Two-Part Approach



Catchment
Audit Process



Restoration
Solutions



Project Laxford

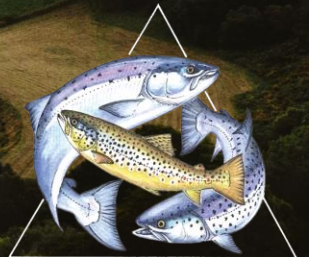
**174km²
catchment**



GROSVENOR

Project Deveron

**1,266km²
catchment**



**DEVERON
BOGIE
& ISLA**

RIVERS CHARITABLE TRUST

Core Rivers Process

From Information to Restoration



Create a baseline – Catchment Audit



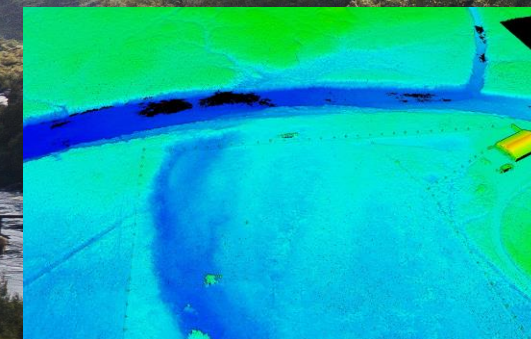
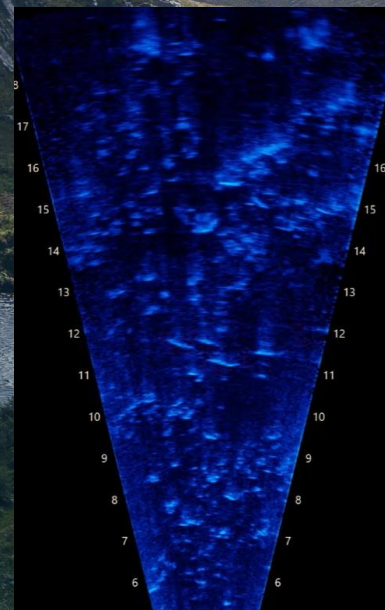
Design catchment restoration plan



Implement restoration plan



Monitoring programme to measure impact and success



Core Rivers

A Deliverable Restoration Plan



Restoration - Project Deveron



Before



During

After

11km

Tributary Reconnected

Unhindered upstream and downstream access
for the first time in 150 years.

Restoration - Project Laxford



22km²

Woodland Regeneration

Being achieved via reduced grazing pressure
and strategic fenced enclosures.

Watershed Connections



Enabling Action through
Catchment Partnerships

Core Rivers and
Watershed Connections
now cover

4,600km²
of salmon catchments
across the UK



**LINKING
THE LOCHS**



Watershed Connections – Key Components



**Project
Design**



**Project
Delivery**



**Governance
& Management**



**Comms &
Funding**

Project White Hart



Developing a

1,800km²

restoration plan for the
Rivers Test, Itchen & Meon



Wild Atlantic Salmon

An Emblem to Inspire
Systemic Change





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