

ISSUES TO CONSIDER

The following list of issues the Group might like to consider, with evidence wherever possible, is indicative only – Group members will have specific views about this.

- Definition of what ‘mixed stock fisheries’ means to this Group – bearing in mind that scientifically, almost all exploitation of salmon might be described as ‘mixed stock’
- Specific clarification on definition of types of salmon exploitation that will fall within the remit of the Group, whether by rod catch or by various types of netting
- Clarification about species remit for Group discussions: Atlantic salmon only, or Atlantic salmon and sea trout
- Setting out the factual landscape from statistical data (FRS):
 - Where and to what degree of catch does netting take place – different methods
 - Where and to what degree of catch does rod angling take place – catch, or catch-and-release
- Trends, locally and nationally, on:
 - Smolt production in rivers – is it within conservation limit levels, or not
 - Marine mortality
 - Salmon returning to Scottish waters (pre-fishery abundance PFA)
 - Different types of exploitation on PFA
 - Degree to which rivers might be affected by coastal interception of returning salmon, in terms of risking smolt production capacity for the future
 - Degree to which rivers that might be affected by other forms of exploitation of returning salmon, in terms of risking smolt production capacity for the future
- Management options
 - Conservation measures by regulations made under Section 38 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003
 - Non-statutory voluntary agreements
 - Any other alternatives that might be considered and discussed
- Economic and social contribution to Scotland:
 - First sale values
 - Other economic indicators (including any social-economic indicators)
 - Result of applying theoretical intervention options, taking into account possible exploitation rates in netting (of whatever type) or angling

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- Other financial issues
- Species conservation issues:
 - In terms of European or national legislation or regulation
 - In terms of legally binding or non-binding international agreements
 - In terms of exact language and legal interpretation of any agreements or legislative/regulatory instruments
 - In any other relevant terms
- Seasonality – which temporal components of salmon stocks are most at risk, and to what degree does this interact with a discussion about ‘mixed stock fisheries’
- Illegal fishing – degree to which different aspects of legal fishing can put pressure on or otherwise affect illegal activities
- Scientific information – degree to which different aspects of exploitation can contribute to the advancement of scientific knowledge about migratory salmonids
- Degree to which the Group’s work contributes to Scottish Ministers’ 5 ‘Strategic Objectives’:
 - *Wealthier and Fairer*: Enable businesses and people to increase their wealth and more people to share fairly in that wealth.
 - *Healthier*: Help people to sustain and improve their health, especially in disadvantaged communities, ensuring better, local and faster access to health care.
 - *Safer and Stronger*: Help local communities to flourish, becoming stronger, safer place to live, offering improved opportunities and a better quality of life.
 - *Smarter*: Expand opportunities for Scots to succeed from nurture through to life long learning ensuring higher and more widely shared achievements.
 - *Greener*: Improve Scotland's natural and built environment and the sustainable use and enjoyment of it.
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- Implications of the Marine Bill, and the proposals for a Scottish Marine Management Organisations (‘Marine Scotland’)
 - With proposals to introduce legislation that allows for the designation of ‘marine protected areas’, over and above existing Habitats and Birds regulations