

June 2021

New Rules to Protect Salmon in the River Lune Fisheries from 16 June 2021

Salmon numbers have been declining in the River Lune fisheries over the last ten years. The Lune salmon stock is at risk of failing its management objective, which is to exceed the conservation limit in 4 years out of 5.

We proposed new fisheries regulations for the River Lune Net Fishery and River Lune Rod Fishery last year. We also held a public consultation on the new regulations between July and September 2020. Following our consultation, we submitted proposals to Defra for a new net limitation order and new byelaws for the Lune fisheries in January this year.

Defra has now considered our proposals, along with all the objections and representations made during the consultation, and has approved the new regulations. This has resulted in a new net limitation order and rod fishing byelaws for the Lune fisheries.



Summary of the New Regulations

The new net limitation order will:

- Maintain the number of net fishing licences available within the "Heave" / "Haaf" net fishery at 12, in line with the previous net limitation order.
- Maintain the number of net fishing licences in the "Drift", "Hang" or "Whammel" net fishery at 7, in line with the previous net limitation order. However these will not be made available at this time as the fishery is currently closed under the National Salmon Byelaws (2018).

The new rod fishery byelaws for the River Lune will require:

- The mandatory catch and release of all salmon.

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The new regulations will be effective from 16 June 2021 and will be in place for a period of up to 10 years.

Salmon Stock Assessment

Salmon numbers have declined in the Lune fisheries. We need to closely monitor their numbers so that we can decide if future additional action is needed to further protect the species.

We will be carrying out annual stock assessments as part of this. We will also carry out a more detailed review of stock performance and associated fisheries regulations in 2026.

Contact

If you have any questions about the new regulations, please email inforequests.cmbinc@environment-agency.gov.uk