



Canal & River Trust
keeping people, nature & history connected



Associated British Ports

South Wales

NOTICE TO MARINERS

NO 18 OF 2013

River Usk Salmon Monitoring

From August 2012, a programme of investigations has commenced on the rivers Wye and Usk. This work is being undertaken on behalf of Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water and the Canal and River Trust (formerly British Waterways) as part of the Rivers Wye and Usk Abstraction Management Group, a collaborative stakeholder group led by the two bodies named above and containing a number of interested parties on both rivers including the Environment Agency Wales, the Countryside Council for Wales, the Wye and Usk Foundation, Severn Trent Water and Natural England.

The aims of the Group are to undertake ecological monitoring of both rivers, with the primary aim of furthering our understanding of the ecology and habitat and the interaction of river flow to them. This will provide a scientific evidence base through which a greater understanding of abstraction impacts on the riverine SAC features can be understood. The Group will be working together to review potential future management regimes for the rivers.

The University of Hull International Fisheries Institute (HIFI) is working as a sub-contractor to Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water as part of this programme of work. Their work is the study of upstream migrating salmon. It involves tagging wild fish in the lower river, and using receivers installed in the margins of the river at a number of locations. Permission to tag the salmon and to install the receivers has been obtained from the relevant authorities. The receivers are secured to posts underwater out of public view. Please do not remove them from the river if they are found. Each receiver will be visited regularly by HIFI staff to download data and check they are working effectively. Visits to the rivers will also be made to carry out tests on the performance of the equipment (using tags not in fish).

Cascade Consulting have been appointed by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water and Canal and Rivers Trust to provide overall project management to the investigations.

If you have any concerns or if you would like further information on the monitoring studies, please do not hesitate to contact:

Jonathan Bolland at the University of Hull International Fisheries Institute on 07815 064735 or J.Bolland@hull.ac.uk

Gail Davies at Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water on 07917 048060 or gail.davies@dwrcymru.com

John Sanders at Cascade Consulting 07813 853204 or John.sanders@cascadeconsulting.co.uk

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24th May 2013

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Owners, Agents and Charters should ensure that the contents of this notice are made known to the masters or persons in charge of their vessel or craft