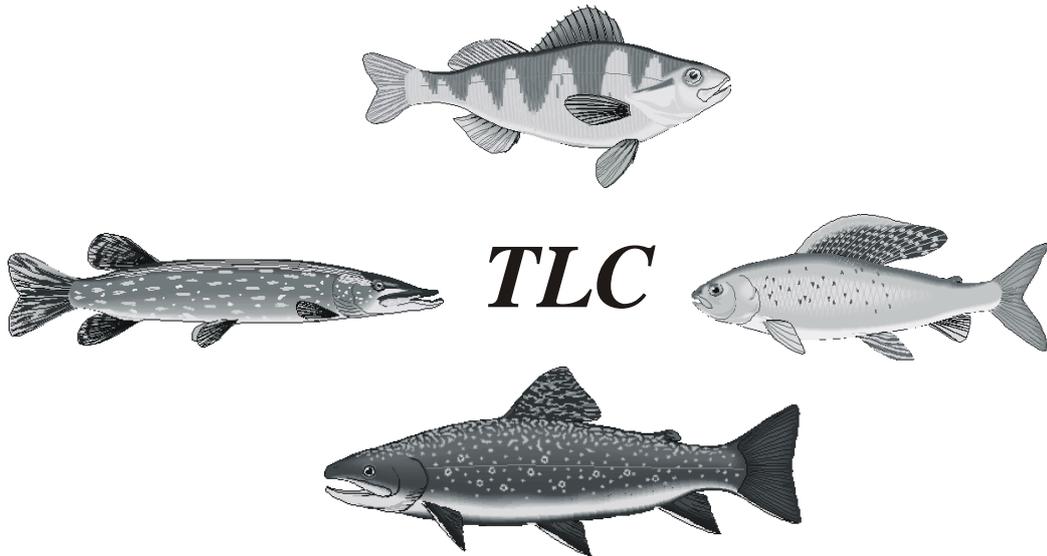


**Tay Liaison Committee
Annual Report 2021.**



**Presented at the Nineteenth
Annual General Meeting
on the 14th September
in The Birnam Institute
at 7.00pm**

List of Office Bearers & Committee

Office Bearers

Chairman	P. Greig	Dunkeld & Birnam Angling Association
Vice Chairman	S. Tapley	Pike Anglers Alliance for Scotland
Secretary		Vacant
Minute Secretary	R. Malkowski	Stanley Angling Club
Treasurer	A.J.M. Stewart	Co-Opted Member
Recorder	A.J.M. Stewart	Co-Opted Member

Committee

Vacant	East Loch Tay Angling Club
Vacant	Taymouth Angling Club
M. Seaton	Aberfeldy Angling Club
R. Malkowski	Stanley Angling Club
D. Brown	Stormont Angling Club
E. Eadie	Perth & District Angling Association
G. McIntosh	Strathmore Angling Improvement Association
P. Greig	Tay River Trust
Vacant	SANA
Vacant	The Grayling Society
Vacant	Glen Lyon Proprietors Group
Vacant	Riparian Owners Representative
Vacant	Loch Tay Users Association

The River Tay Protection Order and the Administration and Management Information of The Tay Liaison Committee, the Members of which are nominated at each AGM are on the Web Site at: www.tayfishing.co.uk

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Chairman's Remarks

Finally, we seem to be coming out of the long tunnel that has been Covid for the last 18 months. Normality? No, but a new normal that we will have to get used to. Hopefully it will settle down to an annual booster and a routine much like we have been used to with the seasonal Flu virus, but it is still early days yet and we still need to keep ourselves safe and get everyone vaccinated who can be. There will still be some out there who believe it is a hoax and the vaccine is killing people, but statistics and facts show that this is working at the moment, so, hopefully by the Autumn/Winter, we will all be a lot safer and free from all these restraints!

It has been a complicated year or so to deal with from the TLC perspective. Fishing bans, travel bans, lockdown, easing then more lockdown. The response by the fishing fraternity has, in the main, been good to the constant changing rules and regulations. There have been a few issues over the differences between the guidelines given by the authorities and the actual rules written in law. It is good to see the clubs, riparian owners and the retail outlets for permits following all of the changes and for the most part they have been correct which is great.

Each time the different governments have amended the Covid "level", it has meant we have all had to sit down and work out exactly what the law says. That was bad enough at a nation level but even more complex when there were regional differences. It has made for some "difficult" exchanges with some anglers when told they could not get a permit to fish whilst many others were free to travel and get permits, but on the whole it worked. In some areas it was and still can be necessary to involve the police and the local authorities and we have been very grateful for the assistance they have been able to give. Much of the problem has been linked to the "wild camping" issues that continue to be a massive problem in one or two areas, but which is now becoming much more widespread into areas that have not seen this on any scale before. In my area I have certainly been busier than ever before in responding to campers and mobile homes involved in a bit of fishing. All too tempting when camped beside a pretty river or loch!

So, continue to follow the news and covid guidelines. Watch out for the critical difference between the guidelines and what is actually law. The police can only act with any certainty on "law". They cannot act unless laws are being contravened whether that be on travel or criminal behaviour. Note they cannot and will not act if called over a matter of campers fishing within the protection order area unless they can establish that there is an up to date written agreement with a named Riparian Owner. The police may act if other offences occur, but don't expect assistance unless there is clear written agreement in place. The TLC advise that all the clubs or agents handling fishing for riparian owners update their arrangements at least every three years and at least touch base with their owners annually to ensure everything is running in order.

There is a necessity that permits are issued, from whatever source, with a map/ diagram making it clear exactly where the angler is permitted to fish. This should include, where available, permissible parking locations. Markers should be present to demarcate the limits to the water covered by the permit.

Chairman's Remarks

Blanket permits that cover multiple locations should be avoided. This can lead to problems of too many anglers trying to fish or park in certain areas. Permits should only be issued for individual riparian owner's water (only covering a larger area if the waters are small and neighbouring each

other, in agreement with the riparian owners). The number of permits issued per water per day should be capped at a maximum number of anglers per day. This number should comply with the PO in allowing access for visiting anglers and not be used to restrict access. This will also permit accurate returns to be kept and help highlight where stocks are low. This is becoming more and more important to be able to monitor falling stocks and possibly discover why and how to remedy issues for the future.

An individual permit for an individual water is important. Recently a middle Tay Salmon beat had around 20 trout anglers with valid permits arriving to fish on the same morning. It turned out to be a club outing by bus and the outlet had not checked that the beat cap on trout permits had been reached at 6!! There have been some very disgruntled and angry exchanges where delineation of waters on the maps has been unclear, or the signage is not obvious to mark boundaries of waters/beats. Much of this could be avoided.

I note today of another large algal bloom on Loch Tay and have heard of several others. The hot dry weather has played a huge part, but we should be looking at many of the other human factors that contribute to the conditions that can trigger the blooms. It is up to us all to start acting collaboratively to reduce the human causative factors that make these blooms more likely and more frequent. The Tay Ghillies Association have begun working on two Tay tributaries to assess the health of our rivers by water testing and invertebrate surveys in an attempt to start reversing the trend to diminishing Salmon returns each year. More work along these lines must be started on every watercourse because it affects all aquatic species and the whole ecosystem. It is hoped that the Tay Rivers Trust will become more active in this field but large changes in the personnel of the fisheries board and the TRT are preventing any progress of anything significant. I have put forward several papers as the TLC representative on the TRT but although seemingly well received, the stance remains a stalemate. Is there any resolve within the angling clubs, the riparian owners and individual anglers to sit down with nature Scotland, WWF and other groups to start putting our ecosystems first? If we don't do something soon, we risk catastrophic declines in our wildlife and ecosystems in terminal collapse. Like the Ghillies, we have to start somewhere! I will put together a letter to you all with some ideas for this but if you have a great idea then let us know.

All The Best
Peter Greig, Chairman

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report covers Three Financial Years, from 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2020. There are going to be changes to the way in which payments are made which will create a system in line with today's financial practices. It is necessary to plan ahead and due to pandemic restrictions, this was an unexpected window to carry out revisions.

The details of the changes, which will come into operation from the 1st of October 2021, will be set out in the new reporting forms which will be sent out to all participating Clubs and Riparian Owners.

The three financial statements, which have been inspected, and subjected to a professional audit by Walton Kilgour Chartered Accountants, are based on the returns for each of the years. The comparable figures are shown on the charts for the named sections of the Protection Order with 2018 first. The Club returns have three figures, which in reading from left to right indicate the contributions for each of the three years for Permit Sales, Club Members, Beat Dues and Contributions on behalf of Riparian Owners, if applicable. Riparian returns show Beat and Permit dues.

The fluctuations in some of the figures reflect on the up take of available permits, while other inordinate increases are due to previous payments not being made in the year requested. In a few instances there are some internal irregularities in some returns, which are continually being addressed.

The required Data Bank due to the General Data Protection Regulations has resulted in capital expenditure on a new Laptop, which is dedicated to all the information which the Protection Order Administration is required to store, with the written permission of the person or club submitting the details.

There is a sum of money, which is held in trust from a Club, for training as there are two further members been submitted for Wardens Cards, as and when we can set up another training session.

Despite the unforeseen difficulties, the finances have been managed with a surplus in each of the three reported years. I have to stress that non-payment of the modest dues continues to be a problem and those at fault are still benefitting from the contributions of the majority.

A.J.M Stewart

Administration Report
Report for Year Ending 30th. September 2018//19/20

Collecting three years finances into one report was a very time-consuming challenge, although with the opportunity presenting itself to do so it has brought to light certain practices which will require to be addressed.

There are outstanding records to meet the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations, which have been in force for almost two years by the time this report will be read. Complexities in providing the necessary details have come to my attention, and where these involve any form of ongoing legal transactions, the present position must be accepted, and the information filed. There are several Owners who employ a form of external management to deal with virtually all matters, and where this is the situation a further tier of records is required and agreed to be on file.

The majority of beats have already complied with supplying the information requested. Where new access arrangements are negotiated, the forms include the GDPR. The letters which have been sent out will include a reminder to those Owners who have still to complete the form.

There has been discussion on the Tay Protection Order and how The Tay Liaison Committee, which was set up in 1986 fits in. The reason for the TLC to be named as it is, was to satisfy the contributions of many of the non-angling organisations who were involved with the application. The word “liaison” did satisfy all involved and the two sections do not exist separately. The then Scottish Office division to which the Protection Order administration was responsible, accepted the deliberations of the application committee. Today all the Protection Orders have a form of administration which are answerable to Marine Scotland as to how each are being managed.

Agreement with whatever administration decisions are made, is required to retain the benefits of being within the Tay Order. Clubs who do not own any Riparian fishing, rely on Owners allowing them the benefit of administering permit sales, for income, provided both abide by the TLC administration.

A.J.M. Stewart

**Statement of the Financial Activities for the
Year Ending 30th. September 2018**

INCOME

Club Members Levy	£ 868.00	
Club Riparian Owners Levy	£ 351.00	
Visitors Permit Levy	£ 2,700.00	
Riparian Owners Levy	£ 690.00	
Training Deposit	£ 400.00	
Donations	£ 35.00	
TOTAL	<u>£ 5,044.00</u>	x £5,044.00

EXPENDITURE : OPERATIONAL

Stationary`	£ 31.32	
Postage	£ 74.17	
Honorarium/Gratuity	£ 740.00	
Report Preparation	£ 161.00	
	<u>£ 1,006.49</u>	x £1,006.49

MEETINGS & VISITS

TLC	£ 195.20	
Riparian Owners	£ 47.00	
Loch Tay Users Association	£ 12.80	
P.O. Legislation	£ 33.40	
Monitoring	£ 302.00	
Complaint Investigation	£ 28.20	
General Data P.R.	£ 60.00	
Other Meetings	£ 77.00	
	<u>£ 755.60</u>	x £ 755.60

EQUIPMENT

Computer Back Up Drives	£ 48.91	
Printer Cartridges and Paper	£ 95.74	
River Warden High Viz Vests	£ 238.99	
Web Site Domain Name	£ 181.86	
	<u>£ 565.52</u>	x £ 565.52

GENERAL

Royal Hotel AGM Coffee	£ 62.50	
Killin Hotel Training Lunch	£ 162.00	
	<u>£ 224.50</u>	x £ 224.50

SUNDRIES

	<u>£ 39.80</u>	x £ 39.80
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TOTAL	<u>£ 2,591.91</u>	x £2,591.91
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<u>Operating Surplus for the Year</u>		<u>£2,452.09</u>
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**Statement of the Financial Activities for the
Year Ending 30th. September 2018**

Opening Balance as per 1st. October 2017	£14,939.47
Unpresented Cheque for Previous Year	<u>£ 301.32</u>
	£14,638.15
Operating Surplus for Year ending 30th September 2018	<u>£ 2,452.09</u>
	£17,090.24
Unpresented Cheque from This Financial Year	<u>£ 312.05</u>
Closing Balance as at 31st. October 2018	<u>£17,402.29</u>
Closing Bank Balance at 30th. September 2018	<u>£17,402.29</u>

Treasurer's Remarks

Income fell by around £1,000, and expenditure rose by a similar amount due to Warden Training and equipment purchase. The overall end of year shows a reduction of approximately £2,000 over the previous year. Permit sales were down in comparison even allowing for back payments in the previous income. The lack of continuity in the modest financial contributions is being addressed in rephrasing the need to maintain the administration and incorporate changing laws both in angling, access, and the coming revisions in Data Protection. It is important to visit as many parts of the Protection Order area as time will allow as to often modern facilities take over from personal meetings. Finances are still healthy, and funds are set aside to support a number of future projects.

A.J.M. Stewart TLC Treasurer.

Financial Inspection Report

The financial papers and files have been checked through and some minor changes in allocation corrected. The use of electronic maintenance to compile the transactions and record details using spread sheets allows for cross checks with the Bank Statements to be simplified.

I understand that direct transfer of income is being considered, provided the system can be adopted throughout the many sources from which finance is generated. The presentation of the papers and the financial electronic bookkeeping, along with the explanations given resulted in an exact tally with the Bank Statements.

Mairi Fiona Stewart (10 Years Treasurer Experience)

**Statement of the Financial Activities for the
Year Ending 30th. September 2019**

INCOME

Club Members Levy	£ 517.00	
Club Riparian Owners Levy	£ 235.00	
Visitors Permit Levy	£ 2,064.00	
Riparian Owners Levy	£ 860.00	
Donations	£ <u>55.00</u>	
TOTAL	£ <u>3,731.00</u>	x £ 3,731.00

EXPENDITURE : OPERATIONAL

Stationary`	£ 16.06	
Postage	£ 94.63	
Honorarium/Gratuity	£ 670.00	
Report Preparation	£ 160.00	
General Data P.R. Preparation	£ 140.00	
Training Deposit Return	£ <u>300.00</u>	
	£ <u>1,380.69</u>	x £1,380.69

MEETINGS & VISITS

TLC	£ 156.80	
Riparian Owners	£ 15.20	
Loch Tay Users Association	£ 13.60	
P.O. Legislation	£ 43.20	
Monitoring	£ 247.60	
Complaint Investigation	£ 16.80	
General Data P.R.	£ 52.80	
Other Meetings	£ <u>15.20</u>	
	£ <u>561.20</u>	_x £ 561.20

EQUIPMENT Etc.

New Laptop Computer	£ 492.98	
Printer Cartridges and Paper	£ <u>64.76</u>	
	£ <u>557.74</u>	_x £ 557.74

SUNDRIES	£ <u>13.79</u>	x £ <u>13.79</u>
TOTAL		<u>£2,513.42</u> x <u>£ 2,513.42</u>

Operating Surplus for the Year **£ 1,217.58**

**Statement of the Financial Activities for the
Year Ending 30th. September 2019**

Opening Balance as per the 1st. October 2018	£17,402.29
Deduct Unpresented Cheque	<u>£ 312.05</u>
	£17,090.24
Operating Surplus for Year ending 30th September 2019	<u>£ 1,217.58</u>
Closing Balance as at 30th. September 2019	<u>£18,307.82</u>
Closing Bank Balance at 30th. September 2019	<u>£ 18,307.82</u>

Treasurer's Remarks

The reduction of income resulted from the Club Members and Visitors returns being lower, but at the same time the Riparian levy increased with some back payments being recouped. Expenditure was marginally down and when the purchase of the new laptop along with complying with GDPR requirements, are taken into account, control was maintained.

There are now some payments being made via Bank Transfers, which is very encouraging with local branches closing.

I intend to consult on further alterations including “on line “operations which will further stream line the system and enable monitoring of income payments. Despite the agreed additional expenditure, the end of year balance although satisfactory, comes up short as a result of a reduction in completed returns.

A.J.M. Stewart TLC Treasurer.

Financial Inspection Report

The detail set out in the spread sheets is considerable with accounting for all expenditure in attending to the administration and maintaining the presence of the TLC at numerous meetings and other activities. While it is necessary and understandable to be held responsible to expending funds, reducing the number of sections would be advisable with the spread sheet being used to support the figures.

All explanations and the manner in which the accounts are presented were satisfactory, with Bank Statements matching the break downs

Mairi Fiona Stewart (10 Years Treasurer Experience)

**Statement of the Financial Activities for the
Year Ending 30th. September 2020**

Club Members Levy	£ 649.00	
Club Riparian Owners Levy	£ 320.00	
Visitors Permit Levy	£ 2,077.00	
Riparian Owners Levy	£ 555.00	
Donations	£ 75.00	
TOTAL	<u>£ 3,676.00</u>	x £ 3,676.00
<u>EXPENDITURE : OPERATIONAL</u>		
Stationary`	£ 52.64	
Postage	£ 114.68	
Honorarium/Gratuity	£ 600.00	
Report Preparation	£ 210.00	
General Data P.R. Preparation	£ 150.00	
TLC Grant	£ 400.00	
	<u>£ 1,527.32</u>	x £1,527.32
<u>MEETINGS & VISITS</u>		
TLC	£ 156.80	
Riparian Owners	£ 124.00	
P.O. Legislation	£ 52.00	
Monitoring	£ 128.80	
Complaint Investigation	£ 30.00	
General Data P.R.	£ 108.40	
Covid-19	£ 323.60	
Other Meetings	£ 45.60	
	<u>£ 969.20</u>	x£ 969.20
<u>EQUIPMENT</u>		
Computer Storage & Programmes	£ 126.28	
Printer Cartridges and Paper	£ 45.40	
River Warden Equipment	£ 85.00	
Web Site & Domain Name	£ 322.40	
	<u>£ 579.08</u>	x£ 579.08
<u>GENERAL</u>		
Royal Hotel AGM Coffee	<u>£ 63.00</u>	x£ 63.00
<u>SUNDRIES</u>	<u>£ 62.79</u>	x£ 62.79
TOTAL	<u>£ 3,201.39</u>	x £ 3,201.39
<u>Operating Surplus for the Year</u>		<u>£ 474.61</u>

**Statement of the Financial Activities for the
Year Ending 30th. September 2020**

Opening Balance as per the 2019 Statement	£ 18,307.82
Operating Surplus for Year ending 30th September 2020	£ 474.61
Balance as at 30th. September 2020	£ 18,782.43

Unpresented Cheque from this Financial Year	£ 213.97
Closing Balance as at 30th September 2020	£ 18,996.40

Closing Bank Balance at 30th. September 2020 **£ 18,996.40**

Treasurer's Remarks

The Covid-19 Pandemic changed everything in 2020, decimating most of the angling and resulting in loss of revenue across the Tay System. Fortunately, the income was almost the same as the previous year, which helped offset the extra costs. The agreed redesign of the P.O. Web Site along with the additional equipment required for securely storing the data and the GDPR information supplied in accordance with the administration was progressed with.

Overall, there was a small balance achieved which maintains the funds on the plus side at a time when uncertainty ruled.

A.J.M. Stewart TLC Treasurer.

Financial Inspection Report

The inspection of the accounts along with the income and expenditure spread sheets was carried out, along with a full check from the 1st of October 2018 to the 30th. Of September 2020 of the running total. This was done since there were three financial years accounts presented in this report. The exercise agreed exactly with the allocation of each year and the Bank Statements. The payment of fees by Bank Transfer is the way forward and this is slowly gathering support.

All questions were answered, and explanations given, and the books are being properly maintained.

I would advise changing to full online Banking to maintain the account and monitor payments.

Mairi Fiona Stewart (10 Years Treasurer Experience)

Brown Trout & Arctic Char Report

Reports over the whole Tay system differ considerable. and the Lock Down laws reduced visitors. Once restrictions began to be eased and local anglers were able to venture out, the number of Arctic Char taken on salmon trolled lures on Loch Tay were vastly up on previous years. Two anglers returned seven on their first day out and eleven on the following day. Hatches on the Hill Lochs brought Trout to the top and although no pound plus fish were reported, the sport was good and barbless hooks made returning easy.

Grayling Report

There have been few reports from Grayling anglers as many of the preferred beats on the lower Tay did not reopen after the shutdown. Perhaps this may turn out to be a kind of blessing since the number of this special fish seems to have diminished in the last few years and the anglers seeking 'The Lady' have also forsaken the river. Perhaps this period of rest will do some good.

Coarse Fish Report

The main Coarse Fishing is on Loch Tay, despite the prime quarry, the sometimes elusive Pike, being fairly widespread in the river and some hill dams. There are regular anglers who visit the Loch and have their own preferred spot. There is also a good head of Perch and Roach, but few anglers specifically target these fish. The catches of Pike have been steady although like all fishing there are off days.

Collective Responsibility

The TLC oversees the River Tay Protection Order on behalf of the Scottish Government via Marine Scotland. The remit of this committee is to oversee, coordinate and monitor access to fishing, methods allowed with Riparian Owners, and ratify any alterations don't make rules likely to discourage anglers or effect any terms agreed in 2007. The members of committee meet or are in regular contact and discuss items, for the better management of the Freshwater Angling in the Tay P.O, take reports from members, and ensure funding is maintained. Permits issued from any club or owner, must carry the contact email by which the TLC can be contacted on any subject. All Public statements in the name of the TLC, are agreed collectively by the committee.

Year 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018 :
1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019 :
1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020

Riparian Owner Beats Tyndrum to Kenmore	VPL	OC
Auchlyne Estate Mrs. E. Patterson		15/15/15
Trout Permits	100/120/102	
The Caravan Club Maragowan Killin		15/15/15
Trout Permits (Free to Members)	10/10 /10	
Innishoarach Estate David Brown		15/15/15/
Trout Permits	10/10 /10	
Shenlarich. P. McDiarmid & Co		15/15/15/
Trout Permits ELTAC	0/0/0	
Keprannich House Dr. & Mrs. N.E. Benson		15/15/0
Trout Permits ELTAC	10/15/0	
Wester Tullich Farm Ardeonaig		15/15/15
Trout Permits ELTAC	0/0/0	
Milton of Ardtalnaig Mervyn K. Browne (Agent)		0/0/0
Trout Permits ELTAC	0/0/0	
Remony Estate Partnership		15/0/15
Trout Permits ELTAC	0 /0/0	
Loch Dochart Estate		0/0/15
Trout Permits	0/0/11	

Freshwater Fishery Wardens

The training session carried out in Killin was very successful with a large attendance of Police Officers. Eight trainees are now Wardens.

The follow up is more names are being asked for another session in 2020 and it is intended to invite Police Liaison Officers and others.

It is the duty of all Clubs and Riparian owners to ensure there is total compliance with the Order by making regular checks on anglers.

There is often some confusion on the duties of the Wardens and why it is essential that they conform to the terms of the Order and the training which is offered by the TLC. As the title infers Freshwater Fishery Wardens deal with anglers who wish to fish for all Freshwater Species, Brown Trout, Arctic Char, Grayling, Pike, Perch and Roach.

The training through which Warrant Cards are applied for is important,

The Warrant Cards issued clearly state the issuing terms, and the cards must only be used in connection with the fishing under the Tay Order.

See www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/11/20316/47364.

Club Committee Members can only enquire if an angler has a permit but don't have the legal authority to ask to inspect any permit or tackle.

Applications for Wardens Warrant Cards.

1. All names and addresses are to be submitted to the TLC, and the secretary will inform the applicant when to attend for training.
2. The TLC Secretary will issue the following: a letter confirming the applicant has attended a training course; a training certificate and the form for sending to the Scottish Criminal Records Office.
3. The completed form, with an original Public Utility Bill, i.e., electricity, gas, telephone etc., and the fee currently £13.60 is sent by the applicant to SCRO.
4. On receiving the return, the applicant will send this with all documents and two passport size photos to:-

**Salmon and Recreational Fisheries, 1B-North Victoria Quay,
Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ**

5. The Wardens Card will be sent direct to the applicant, who will then inform the TLC Secretary of the receipt of the card, so that he can maintain an up to date list of operational wardens.

It is recommended that there is always a witness accompanying a duty Warden to observe what happens and to confirm the action taken. Notebooks, a camera and mobile phone are essential items to be carried.

Funding Contributions Abbreviations

The lettering abbreviations used on the tables is as follows.

D is Donation; **OC** is Owners Contribution, and **PS** Private Stretch.

VPL is Visitor Permit Levy. **ML** is Members Levy. **ROC** Riparian Owners Contribution from Clubs.

SCT, Strathfillan Community Development Trust based in Crianlarich and Tyndrum.

KBAC, Killin Breadalbane Angling Club; **ELTAC**, East Loch Tay Angling Club; **AAC**, Aberfeldy Angling Club; **DBAA**, Dunkeld and Birnam Angling Association; **SDAC** Stanley and District Angling Club; **PDAA**, Perth & District Angling Association; **STA** Stormont AC. **PO** Protection Order. **GDPR** General Data Protection Regulations

The levy to be paid by each Club or Association is £1 per Member, that is the total number of registered members and associates and is the same as the current Visitors permit levy.

This proves all who fish the beats under the River Tay Protection Order contribute towards it's administration.

Riparian Owners who have access agreements with Clubs, in which a proportion of the sales is returned to the Landowner, with an agreed per centage retained by the Club and forwarded on the Owner's behalf in the annual return form as their contribution.

If no agreement is in place with a Club, then a separate request for contributions is made. In this way all contributions from Visitors, Members and Riparian Owners are shown.

The AGM will decide on any alterations to the present funding system, and all decisions made are binding on clubs and owners and can only be altered by prior notice at the AGM.

The Clubs listed are all signatories to the original application for a River Tay Protection Order, which was granted in 1986. The same Clubs and Organisations who renegotiated the reinstatement of the Tay Order in 1998, again signed the application and therefore take full collective responsibility for the administration of The River Tay Order.

The Village of Killin along with Fearnan, Ardeonaig, Ardtalnaig and Kenmore are deemed to be exclusion zones for reasons of privacy. Other structures with private frontages and any dangerous areas, such as Hydro Dams, are also excluded to fishing.

**Year 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018 :
1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019 :
1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020**

<u>Angling Clubs & Associations</u>	<u>ML</u>	<u>VPL</u>	<u>ROC</u>
Strathfillin Community Development Trust	45/26/20		
Trout Permits		271/197/226	
KBAC	230/ 0/ 0		
Riparian Owners Contribution			351/235/320
Trout Permits		342/0/0	
Coarse Permits		371/0/0	
East Loch Tay A.A.	28/28/4		
Trout Permits		122/140/192	
Coarse		70/62/52	
Taymouth Castle A.C	21/26/4		
Trout Permits		159/154/239	
Aberfeldy A.C.	100/84/82		
Trout Permits		226/301/285	
Grayling Permits		5/4/3	
Dunkeld & Birnam A.A.	240/237/235		
Trout Permits		230/187/194	
Grayling Permits		28/20/14	
Stanley & District Angling Club	51/55/50		
Trout Permits		80/98/130	
Grayling Permits		57/62/51	
Stormont Angling Club	0/0/120		
Trout Permits		0/0/0	
Grayling Permits		0/0/0	
Perth & District A.A.	153/145/141		
Trout Permits		57/13/15	
Grayling Permits		0/0/0	

Year 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018 :
1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019 :
1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020

Riparian Owner Beats Tyndrum to Kenmore	VPL	OC
Auchlyne Estate Mrs. E. Patterson		15/15/15
Trout Permits	100/120/102	
The Caravan Club Maragowan Killin		15/15/15
Trout Permits (Free to Members)	10/10 /10	
Innishoarach Estate David Brown		15/15/15/
Trout Permits	10/10 /10	
Shenlarich. P. McDiarmid & Co		15/15/15/
Trout Permits ELTAC	0/0/0	
Keprannich House Dr. & Mrs. N.E. Benson		15/15/0
Trout Permits ELTAC	10/15/0	
Wester Tullich Farm Ardeonaig		15/15/15
Trout Permits ELTAC	0/0/0	
Milton of Ardtalnaig Mervyn K. Browne (Agent)		0/0/0
Trout Permits ELTAC	0/0/0	
Remony Estate Partnership		15/0/15
Trout Permits ELTAC	0 /0/0	
Loch Dochart Estate		0/0/15
Trout Permits	0/0/11	

Year 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018 :
1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019 :
1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020

	VPL	OC
Riparian Owner Beats Glen Lyon to The Tay Junction		
Cashlie Estate L. MacDonald Porter		15/15/15/
Trout Permits	30/20/30/	
Meggernie Estate Mrs B.J. Malim (Managed Estates)		15/15/15/
Trout Permits	48/32/45/	
Lochs Estate Mrs B.J. Malim (Managed Estates)		15/15/15/
Trout Permits	22/28/10/	
Roro Estate Emily Anderson		15/0/15/
Trout Permits	10/0/10/	
Ruskich Robert J. Curtis		15/15/0/
Trout Permit	10/10/0/	
Slatich		0/15/15/
Trout Permits	0/10/10/	
North Chesthill Estate. A.J. Riddell		15/15/15
Trout Permits	10/10/10	
South Chesthill Estate Charlie Ramsay		15/15/15/
Trout Permits	18/7/14/	
GlenLyon Estate. Iain Wotherspoon		15/15/15/
Trout Permits	16/20/30/	
Duneaves Estate Dr. Fraser		15/15/15/
Trout Permits	10/10/10/	
Tirnie I. Duncan Miller		15/15/15/
Trout Permits	0/10/17/	
Comrie Castle A & C. Plumtree		0/0/0/
Trout Permits Karelia House Comrie Bridge	0/0/0	

**Year 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018 :
1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019 :
1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020**

Riparian Owner Beats from Kenmore to Logierait	VPL	OC
Cuilaluinn A.J.H. Ewer		15/15/15
Trout Permits AAC	10/10/10	
Boat of Cluny. J. Campbell		0/0/0
Trout Permits AAC	0/0/0	
Tulliepowrie Grantully Mrs. S. Simon		15/0/0
Trout Permits	10/0/0	
Lower Grantully. Nairn Farms Trust		15/15/15
Trout Permits AAC	0/0/0	
Derculich Estate		15/15/15
Trout Permits AAC	0/0/0	
Ballechin Farm Ian Michie		15/15/0
Trout Permits	10/10/0	
FarleyUpper &Lower		30/30/30
Trout Permits Alastair Gillespie	20/10/20	
Borlick R. Kennedy		15/15/15
Trout Permits	42/51/15	
Eastertyre M.J.M MacPhail		15/0/0
Trout Permits	10/0/0	
Edradynate M.C.C. Campbell		15/15/15
Trout Permits	10/42/10	
Glenquaich Estate		15/15/0
Trout Permits	10/25/0	
Abercairny Estate Ltd.		15/15/15
Trout Permits	10/10/10	
Auchnafree Estate	0/10/0	0/15/0/
Pitnacree	0/10/10	0/15/15

Year 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018 :
1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019 :
1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020

Riparian Owner Beats from Logierait to Perth	VPL	OC
Athol Estates Rotmell Lochs		15/15/15
Trout Permits DBAA	23/ 30/0	
Kinnaird Upper & Lower		60/6060
Trout Permits PDAA	105/93/71	
Dalmarnock Atholl Estate		15/15/15
Trout Permits DBAA	60/64/0	
Hilton Dunkeld House Hotel	New Owner	
Trout Permits		
Newtyle		0/15/0
Trout Permits	0/30/0	
Glendelvine	0/0/0	
Trout Permits DBAA		
Grandpond Ltd		30/0/0
Trout Permits DBAA		
Kercock. Upper & Lower		0/50/0
Trout Permits PDAA	0/00	
Islamouth Mayhew & Parker		15/15/0
Trout Permits SDAA	0/0/0	
Meikleour Estate		15/0/30
Trout Permits	8/0/10	

Year 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018 :

1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019 :

1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020

Riparian Owner Beats from Logierait to Perth	VPL	OC
Stobhall L.B. Catholes L.B		15/15/0
Trout Permits PDAA		
Upper Redgorton	10/10/0	15/15/0
Trout Permits SDAA & PDAA		
Burnmouth M.C. Smith	35/35/0	15/15/15
Trout Permits SDAA		
Cargill	15/15/15	15/15/15
Trout Permits		
Upper Scone	0/0/0	0/0/0
Trout Permits PDAA		
Fishponds/Waulkmill/ Almondmouth.		0/135/0
Mansefield Estates Stormont AC	0//0/0	
Burnbane	0/10/10	0/15/15
Murthly Estate	0/45/0	0/30/0

Amendments to Accessing Fishing

Despite the difficulties in carrying on the administration work during the various stages of restrictions, there has been progress made across the P.O. area, with enquiries from Riparian Owners. Letters had been sent from the T.L.C. Chair to Owners informing them of their responsibilities within the structure of the P.O. Replies have been received and responded, to within a short time frame, while others are still making contact.

During 2020 there have been some questions raised as to the ownership of parts of land on both loch and riverbanks. In addition, it has come to light that some land where fishing takes place is not under any access agreement. On checking through some archives, answers have been found. If the land was small in area, or parking was unsafe, or if the banking be deemed to be unsafe then the Owner was granted an exclusion zone. In first submissions a land management group had parts unused, but included in the initial signed arrangements, which have now changed or been resold.

There are new access forms for three sections previously not included for fishing access, and four are still in negotiation. There are also four beats where changes have been made and new forms are awaited.

Searches have been carried out to clarify ownership and revisions of access completed and signed. It is important to remember that the Proprietors of Riparian Land, which could be fished, make the decisions as to how that will be managed. It is also very important that Angling Clubs, with whom Owners have an arrangement on permit sales, ensure that there are formal agreements to do so. Any land bordering a river or loch which is granted an exclusion, must be clearly omitted from any permit scheme. The same will apply to any land where ownership is in doubt, and signs clearly stating that fishing access is not allowed should be set up.

The River Tay Protection Order terms and administration, give support to Owners and guidance to Clubs, and ensures the benefit of the Criminal Law within the Act. Failure to make suitable access terms and to follow the agreed administration would result in a return to Civil Law to deal with the illegal access. Compliance is required from Riparian Owners and Angling Clubs in all aspects of the Protection Order and agreements must be current.

Recorders Report

The year 2020 will go down in various records and in differing ways, but all will feature the Covid-19 Pandemic. The TLC suffered a lack of response to a number of letters and forms which were designed to bring the outstanding information on access and permission to safely store details for administration purposes. In view of the restrictions imposed with 'Lock down', it was decided not to follow up these oversights at that time. It will be necessary to have the non-responders reply and reminders will be sent out along with various updating information.

The returns which were received indicated instances where the agreed dues, to comply with the administration and to fund projects which the Committee have agreed on, were not fully supported. Riparian Owners, including those Clubs who own riparian land, should realise that to expect the continued benefit of the River Tay Protection Order, they must support in full. Each AGM decides the fees to be requested, these have not increased for many years, and those who support as asked, subsidise the benefits that apply for those who don't. There is no excuse in withholding the agreed dues when this is income for the TLC to fund projects which are to benefit the river for the fish species, the habitat and manage the access for anglers.

Many of the Owners who issue their own permits have the specific beat named and the boundaries clearly indicated. Clubs who either own or rent beats have permits which apply to certain beats and a visitor can purchase different permits for separate days, provided the number of rods available allows for this multi purchase. However, the non-fishing days this year and the problems with varying degrees in the relaxing of rules, have thrown up difficulties.

When a single permit is issued allowing and purchaser to fish anywhere with no exact demarcation lines in a large area covered by the permit, then problems arise. Anglers have been located fishing on beats which are exclusion zones or not covered by the issued permit. Lack of signage and detail causes unclear directions to visitors. This is especially applies, with multiple beats, where it is not specified as to which can be accessed by the permit.

Future projects are being costed which will involve all parts of the Protection Order and involve Clubs and Owners in an attempt to gather information on the overall condition of the main river, lochs and tributaries.

A.J.M. Stewart TLC Recorder

Permit Returns Analysis

The returns received for the year ending 30th September 2019 were down on the previous years for Brown Trout although the Coarse Permits for Loch Tay held up very well and some good sport was enjoyed. The Grayling permits over a three-year average on the prime water below Dunkeld, were down by around 100. It has been said that the weather and an aging group of grayling enthusiasts is the cause. It is impossible to gauge what happens on beats where there are no details but on visiting many beats over the previous years, the serious anglers were not visiting as was obvious with reduction in sales of permits. The other major fact is fewer younger members in all the clubs.

TLC Grants

Grants, for which funds can be made available from to the TLC, are for projects such as habitat improvements or work which can be deemed to enhance or prevent deterioration of any nature to beats or provide improvements to spawning redds and important nursery streams. The list is incomplete so any project will be considered. The projects require to be detailed and costed so that the information is available to the committee in order that a decision can be made which satisfies all concerned. **Riparian Owners, Clubs and Associations are all eligible to apply for a grant.**

It is necessary, within the River Tay Conservation status, to contact SEPA on any project which involves work to river or loch banks or solemn. Local planning application may also be required.

It has become necessary to alter the payment method with a token agreed amount being made at the start of any project, and the balance once it is completed and inspected as complying with the application.

The Aberfeldy Angling Club applied for assistance in clearing debris which had built up against a large tree which had toppled into the river. The danger caused by this obstruction could have resulted in further erosion as well as blocking a very good fishable stretch of the river. A grant of £400 was given, and photographs will be posted on the web site.

Warden Training

The Arranging of a training session for six new Wardens was one of the many casualties of the Covid-19 crises. Thanks to Mick Seaton for all his work in getting a venue at agreeable costs.

There are Six names which have been put forward by Angling Clubs from Aberfeldy to Tyndrum and these once trained and issued with their official 'Instrument of Appointment', will be a welcome addition to the number of River Tay Wardens.

The Wardens who were issued with Cards in 2018 are reminded that these expire in Spring of 2021 and will require to be renewed. Proof is necessary of their activities, in carrying out the duties for which they were appointed and must be forwarded to the TLC Recorder prior to the renewal date.

A formal letter will be sent to the applicants who have conformed with the requirements of the Protection Order. The Angling Club must also maintain the support for the Protection Order and the Administration of the Tay Liaison Committee. The same criteria applies to Riparian Owners who have one of their employees acting as a Warden.

All applicants must also apply for an up to date C.R.O. check and this, along with two Passport Size Photographs and the TLC Letter is to be submitted to Marine Scotland, from where the Official Cards will be issued.

The Web Site

The First layout of the new Protection Order Web Site has been uploaded for comment and suggestions. However, like all non-essential exercises there has been little further work carried out. The Site can be viewed by the Public. There have been constructive comments for additional items and information

There is one essential item which has come to light which is not all Angling Clubs have a publicly accessible page detailing with where permits are sold. This caused real difficulties during the lifting of restrictions.

The 2021 Report will, as notified be available for public viewing.

Complaints Received

There was only one formal complaint to deal with during the year. This was in connection with the non-availability of where to purchase a permit to fish beats around where the River Almond joins the River Tay. The angler was advised to look at the Web Sites for the two angling clubs in that area. The result from this enquiry was to be offered a season or membership ticket by the club dealing with the permits, which for one day was unacceptable. The matter has been recorded and further clarification will be requested from the club on the policy of issuing visitors permits.

Warden's Reports

Wardens Reports were mostly received from emails or phone calls since there were many enquiries on proceeding in very difficult circumstances. The majority of calls from Owners or Members of the Public were passing on information on what was of concern or how to approach persons. If there was no Warden available, then advice was to contact the Police. On the main River the Owners and Ghillies had to deal with illegal camping with most situations resulting in leaving the folk alone but asking them to move on the next day because of alcohol consumption.

Loch shorelines were the main problem areas with camps and rods set up and no permits. Police were in attendance on several occasions and spoke with the Warden make sure when speaking with the people causing the problem that they had identified the infringement correctly.

Abandoning vehicles causing single track roads to be almost impassable, couple this with many instances of fires, damage to trees, litter and other anti-social behaviour were difficult to deal with and where there was no sign of fishing tackle nothing could be done except contact the Police.

Illegal fishing in the glens was coupled with camp site left littered with rubbish and discarded tents became an all too often occurrence. Great care was taken by all who were out answering calls or checking locations.

Monitoring

The pandemic of Covid-19 did not reduce the duty of carrying out random checks to establish if the agreed method of accessing Freshwater Fishing continued to be adhered to. The fact was, that although travel to other parts covered by the River Tay Protection Order was restricted, locally each Club and Riparian Owners, were faced with sometimes difficult problems.

During the full Lock Down period travel restrictions did not stop determined anglers, or those who thought to get away from the virus, by buying a fishing rod and heading off to the countryside. Lochs, in general are easier to access than River Beats and the majority of well publicised problems were along these shores.

Social distancing along with no car sharing cause some difficulties but ways were found round these. Some ingenious persons used a loud hailer to get the message over, and from reports this was very effective particularly in the early morning or after dusk. Others used two-way short band radios to keep in touch and prevent high mobile phone bills. An A4 handheld laminated notice got the message over without getting into too close contact.

Despite being obvious way, the web was not always used to publicise those permits were unavailable. In some instances, there was no accessible online details. Faced with various excuses from these unwelcomed visitors, and in pointing out the rules set down to attempt to control the spread of the virus, some did pack up and leave while others did not, and the Police were called. In a few sales points notices on access or not to fishing were not posted which was important once some restrictions began to ease.

Overall, the countryside was subjected to abandoned camping equipment, fishing equipment, rubbish of all kinds and human waste. Owners, Wardens and club officials had to be very careful on how individuals and groups were approached and spoken to. Freedom to Roam was quoted many times but most using this term had no concept of what the legislation was designed to allow. Perhaps the review of the Act might be of assistance in the future, and local bylaws or similar were invoked in some areas.

Monitoring Observations

There is little to mention, which can be constructive, about what Wardens and Club Committee Members encountered during 2020. The year came down to abusive behaviour, disregard for restrictions, damage to trees etc waste and litter along with abandoned camp sites.

The Press and social media highlighted all of the above and it is worth paying tribute to those who did try and keep some form of order, and the Police for their assistance and advice.

There were instances of camping with no permission and ignoring signs. The Protection Order does not cover pitching a tent without getting the permission of the Landowner, so duty Wardens can only advise. Action can be taken if there is a fishing rod or other equipment which could be used to fish, and if the person does not produce a permit when asked. This was the situation found in many areas.

There were a number of instances where anglers had the wrong permit and eventually notices were posted informing visitors which permit, they should have. On a few occasions anglers were fishing where there was no permission granted, and again these reports are being followed up.

Improvements

The result of the year of the pandemic is some estates and owners are getting fencing improved or replaced. Coupled with this there are new signs being made for beats which will make it very clear which permits are required and a contact to obtain these. Damaged shrubs and trees are being removed and ground ravaged with fires is being cleared, and reseeded.

New Gates with a side gate are making access easy along with clear parking areas. Open sided fishing shelters are being refurbished and the normal work in clearing over hanging branches from paths. Overall, there is more work as a result of illegal access and unfortunately no recompense from the unknown perpetrators.

The Recorder's Concluding Comment

Travelling around the River Tay Protection Order area has been restricted during the largest part of 2020. Gathering the detail for this report has been a mixture of annual returns, emails, phone calls and a few face-to-face chats.

Some reports, which point to irresponsible behaviour are out with the remit of the clauses under which the Protection Order was granted. It may seem to an outsider that Wardens have the authority to move on campers who have no permission from the Riparian Owner to pitch tents. This is not in the remit of their duties and remains under Scottish Law. The Freedom to Roam Act does not include anglers wishing to camp overnight. It was designed to allow casual camping by walkers or off-road cyclists stopping for a single overnight rest. Much of the difficulties during the past year resulted from rule breaking on travel and pitching illegally which resulted in disrespectful behaviour and mess of all kinds.

The possession of any fishing equipment which in itself creates an intention to use, is when Wardens can enquire as to having the required permit. It is often impossible to reason with persons who are in party mode and any details should be noted. The use of body cams or cameras can be pointed out to persons which usually helps calm situations.

There have been a number of items raised over the year when anglers were found to be fishing with an invalid permit. Others were on Private Property and damage to trees and shrubs was widespread. Discussions with Agents and Owners revealed varying levels of concern. All are being followed up.

It has been challenging to reach satisfactory conclusions to ongoing matters since the TLC have been unable to meet, and long telephone conversations even on a conference style call system don't fully explore all avenues.

The 2021 AGM scheduled for February 2021 is very likely to be a virtual Zoom meeting. My thanks to all the regular Committee Members for their support and advice over the last twelve months.

A.J.M Stewart TLC Recorder.

Report Circulation List

The Report along with Approved Committee Minutes are available on the Web Site

Members of the Scottish Parliament	Members of Parliament
Environment & Rural Affairs Department	Scottish Government Ministers
Perth & Kinross ; Dundee City ; Stirling Councils	Riparian Owners
The Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board	The Tay Foundation
The Scottish Anglers National Association	The Atlantic Salmon Trust
The River Tay District Advisory Committee	Scottish & Southern Energy
The Scottish Environment Protection Agency	The Tay Access Group
The Pike Anglers' Alliance for Scotland	The Grayling Society
The Salmon & Trout Association	The Scottish Sports Council
Freshwater Fisheries Laboratory	The Loch Tay Users Association
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park	Police Community Liaison Officers
Members of the Liaison Committee	Press and Angling Publications

