



Tay Foundation

Spring Salmon Restoration Appeal

**£150,000
needs to be
raised over the
next 3 years to
fund the
project and to
keep this
facility open**

**Funds are
sought from
different
sources but
donations will
be essential**



SPRING SALMON RESTORATION APPEAL

The Tay Foundation has launched a major appeal to raise £150,000 to support its vital work on the reconditioning of salmon kelts with the aim of restoring spring salmon numbers in the Tay and its tributaries. The plan is to do this over the next 3 years, having saved Marine Scotland's kelt reconditioning unit and hatchery at Almondbank from closure.

This facility, which has produced over 10 million spring salmon eggs for stocking into Tay tributaries in recent years, is hugely valuable. Such is its importance that the scientists who ran it were presented with the Tay Salmon Conservation Award in 2010.

A lease of the facility has been obtained. This will secure its future and allow the restocking capacity to be further increased. But this will only be possible if sufficient funds are raised. These are being sought from different sources but donations are essential.

WHAT IS KELT RECONDITIONING?

After spawning, salmon are known as "kelts." Most die shortly after. Kelt reconditioning is a process by which wild salmon kelts are taken into captivity and saved so they can produce eggs again the next year.

This process allows many more eggs to be produced from individual salmon over a lifetime. It is a powerful technique for obtaining large numbers of eggs from depleted populations of salmon which need restoration. Being derived from adult fish which have successfully completed a full life cycle in the wild, the eggs have successful genes which is not necessarily the case with other types of captive breeding.

That this process has been developed by Marine Scotland scientists at Almondbank has been of great value to the Tay. This technique has already proven successful in stocking the upper reaches of the rivers Dochart and Lochay.

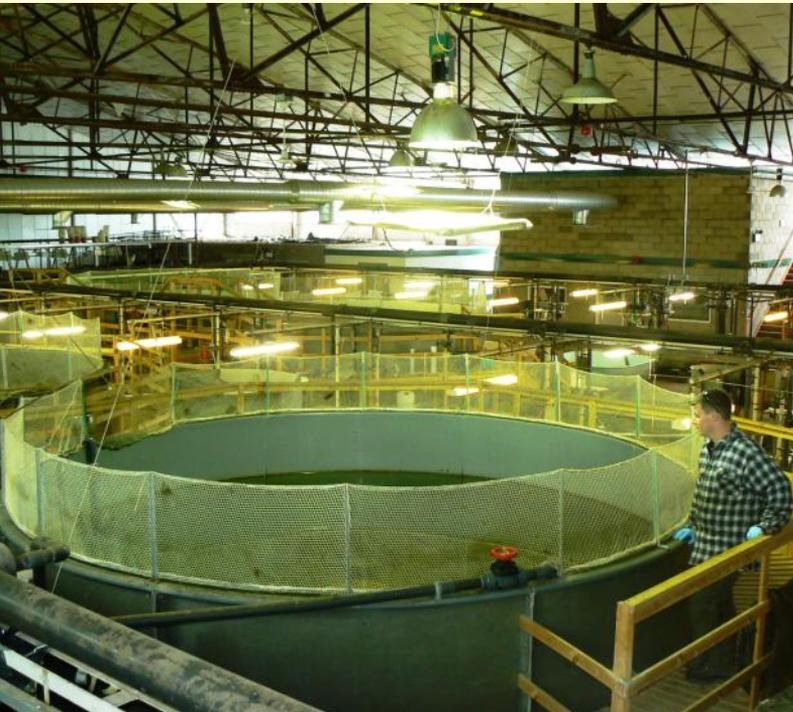
WHY IS THIS PROJECT SO IMPORTANT?

This facility will become of critical importance over the next few years as it provides the opportunity, among other things, to restore a major spring salmon population in the River Garry, one of the Tay's tributaries.

For over 50 years the upper River Garry has had almost no water in it because of abstraction. However, EU legislation means that flow will have to be restored to this river by 2015 and Scottish & Southern Energy have recently submitted proposals for doing so.

Eggs from appropriate spring salmon broodstock will be used to speed up the return of salmon to this river. Without kelt reconditioning it would not be possible to do this without seriously depleting valuable established populations in other tributaries of the Tay.

By re-establishing the Garry salmon population alone we expect up to 2000 more salmon to be generated every year for the entire Tay river system.



This project is hugely important to the whole Tay system and will greatly speed up the restoration of spring salmon in the River Garry once flow is restored



THE TAY FOUNDATION

The Tay Foundation is the charitable trust for the River Tay and all its tributaries which aims to restore and maintain fish populations by means of practical, responsible and sustainable approaches to land, water and fishery management.

In its early days the Tay Foundation raised funds to buy out the nets in the Tay estuary but in recent years it has funded a variety of valuable projects to improve the management and habitat of all fish species (for more details see www.tayfoundation.org).

As part of its charitable remit, the Tay Foundation seeks to advance education, training and study and to provide a communications resource.

The Tay Foundation relies to a large extent on contributions and donations received and all offers of support of this and other projects being undertaken by the Foundation are gratefully received as are offers of sponsorship of whole or part projects being undertaken by the Foundation.

Over the next few years, the Tay Foundation is seeking support for the SPRING SALMON RESTORATION APPEAL. We hope very much that you will wish to support this key project and a donation form and Gift Aid Declaration are enclosed for return to the Tay Foundation.

Tay Foundation Action Partner

You can also support our work on this and other projects both now and in the longer term by becoming a Tay Foundation Action Partner or Patron.

For more information please contact

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***You can help
support this
project by
becoming a
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Action Partner
or Patron***