



Pembrokeshire Rivers Trust

Fishing Byelaws and Seasons

The South West Wales Sea Fisheries Committee is responsible for regulating fishing for sea fish species around our shores, and anglers must observe the sea fisheries byelaws. The Environment Agency is responsible for maintaining, improving and developing inland fisheries in England and Wales. To fish in Pembrokeshire's lakes, ponds or rivers you must hold a valid national rod licence and adhere to the byelaws for the particular fishery and fish species concerned. Here is an introduction for newcomers to the sport of fishing:

Fisheries statutory byelaws

For conservation reasons there are close seasons, size limits and method restrictions on inland fisheries, and so you will need to study the byelaws before fishing. National and local byelaws are published on the Environment Agency's website at:

www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/wales/450320/450324/?version=1&lang=_e

Size limits and other sea fisheries byelaws can be found on the South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee website at: www.swsfc.org.uk

Parts of certain river estuaries have been declared as 'Bass Nursery Areas' and fishing for sea fish from a boat in those areas is prohibited during specified times of the year. (Maps of the bass nursery areas are shown on the South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee website at: www.swsfc.org.uk .) Around the Pembrokeshire coast the following bass nursery areas are closed between 1st May and 31st October:

- Burry Inlet, including the Tâf Estuary, in an area enclosed by a line drawn 119° true from Ginst Point to Pen Tywyn Point.
- Milford Haven, an area enclosed by a line drawn from the shore along the eastern side of the Texaco Terminal approach jetty to the southern-most part of the T-jetty thence eastwards along the southern edge of the jetty to the extremity at No. 3 berth (51° 41.87'N, 05° 01.39'W) and then 098° true through the Pennar Beacon to the Llanreath foreshore (51° 41.55'N, 04° 57.58'W).

Note: Byelaws are subject to review and they may change; always check before fishing.

Fishing seasons in Pembrokeshire

The following season dates (inclusive) apply to local rivers at the start of the 2006 fishing season.

Salmon and sea trout

- Fly, spin and permitted baits: 1 April to 7 October.
- Fly & spin only: 8 October to 17 October.
- Any salmon caught before 16th June must be released and returned to the river with the minimum of delay.
- There is a statutory daily bag limit of two salmon and four sea trout. (Fisheries may impose lower limits.)
- There is a weekly bag limit of five salmon. (Fisheries may impose lower limits.)



Pembrokeshire Rivers Trust

Please help to conserve our wild fish stocks by returning all or at least most of the salmon, trout and sea trout that you catch in the rivers of Pembrokeshire. A guide to best practice in 'catch-and-release' can be found on the Pembrokeshire Rivers Trust website at: www.pembsrt.org/pembsangling/c&r1.htm

Brown trout

All fisheries are open from 1 April to 30 September except the following:

- River Teifi above Lampeter Bridge: 3 March to 30 September
- River Teifi below Llechryd Bridge: 31 May to 30 September
- Eastern Cleddau below Canaston Bridge: 31 May to 30 September
- Western Cleddau below Boathouse at Crowhill, Haverfordwest: 31 May to 30 September
- River Tâf below confluence with Afon Hydfron: 31 May to 30 September

Coarse fish

There is no statutory close season for coarse fishing in Pembrokeshire with the exception of Bosherton Lily Ponds, which are closed to fishing by statute from 16 March to 15 June. Other coarse fishery owners may choose to close at certain times of the year. Some coarse fisheries in locations liable to freezing close during the midwinter months, for example, and so it is advisable to check before you travel to a fishery.

Your role in disease control

If you fish overseas please be aware of the risk of bringing back diseases and parasites that could be transferred to other fisheries. Of particular concern is the parasite *Gyrodactylus salaris*, which is present in many European rivers and has the potential to devastate Atlantic salmon stocks. It takes only one infected fish to start an epidemic. You can minimise this risk by drying and disinfecting waders and landing nets immediately upon your return from abroad. For more details see: www.defra.gov.uk

Reporting threats of damage to fisheries

If you see signs of disease, pollution, poaching or other risks to the water environment and fisheries, don't delay. Call the Environment Agency's Emergency Hotline 0800 80 70 60.

Important reminder

Byelaws are subject to periodic review and they may have changed since this booklet was prepared. Similarly, fishery owners may find it necessary to impose new restrictions from time to time in order to manage fish stocks or to protect fishery habitats. Always check the current rules and regulations before you begin fishing.