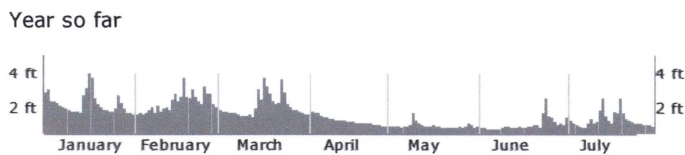
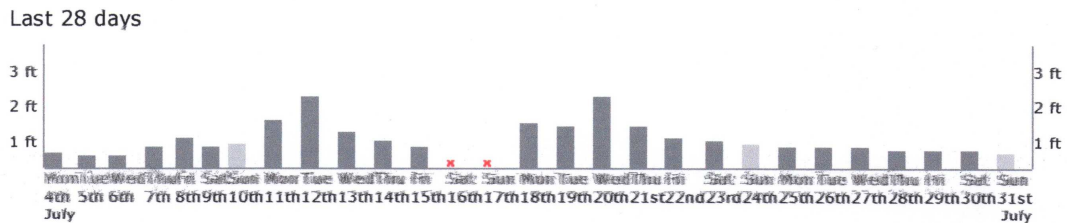


**THE DON DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD  
SUPERINTENDENTS MONTHLY REPORT  
JULY 2011**

**State of River**

For the first 3 weeks of the month, river levels were constantly fluctuating due to spells of heavy rain. There were two significant increases of river flow for the month, on the 12<sup>th</sup> and on the 20<sup>th</sup>, where on both occasions levels reached a height of 2-3 feet, which is a good boost for this time of year. On the last week of the month, river levels started to settle down to a point where on the 31<sup>st</sup>, the river was just above low summer flows.



**Fish in River**

Small runs of salmon and Grilse have been moving into the river during the month. The ADAA have done very well again this month, with 70 fish recorded for July, a good mixture of Salmon, Grilse and Sea Trout, also one lucky angler landed a nice 25lb salmon. Other beats such as Grandhome Estate also managed to land some good sized Grilse salmon and Sea Trout for the month. The town waters of Kintore, Inverurie and Alford have been landing grilse, but not in the same numbers as the lower river. I suspect as August moves on, fresh fish that have entered the system in July will move up to these areas to give good sport. I have been told that on the Ardmurdo beat they have been averaging 3 Grilse a day, which can't be bad. On the Fettenear estate one local angler has been doing quite well with some nice catches of Grilse and salmon. Speaking to the local anglers they have been telling me that there has been more Salmon entering the catchment than Grilse this month, most of these Salmon have been in the 8-15lb class size. The Sea Trout have slowed down slightly during the month, although anglers are still having good sport over the catchment from Kemnay down to the lower Don. As August comes in this has previously been the time for the main run of Grilse to start to

run the system, in the past few years it has been the second and third week of August that they have appeared in good numbers and the steady run has continued through October.

### **Fishery Management Plan**

The Board staff and Trust completed 50 electro fishing sites for the month of July, which was good going considering the wet weather and at times bad river conditions. Electro fishing stock surveys will continue over the river catchment during August.

### **Hatchery**

Since my last report I have managed to get a little more done on the staging for the egg troughs on the ground floor, before I went on annual summer leave. Hopefully by my next monthly report I will be further on, in completing the staging. I will then have to do some modifications to the egg troughs, before I can think about the plumbing side of the project.

# **Jim Kerr**

River Superintendent