

Make time to go fishing



Fisheries in Yorkshire November 2016

Free fishing for children!

We have announced a shake-up of rod fishing licences in England and Wales, following feedback from anglers. The new rod fishing licence structure and associated duties will be implemented from **1 April, 2017**. The changes include:

- a free rod licence for junior anglers (aged 12-16)
- a rolling rod licence that lasts for 365 days from the day you buy it – rather than only running up until the end of March regardless of when it was bought
- being able to use 3 rods on one licence, rather than needing two licences

There are also some small increases to standard charges, this will be the first time the cost of a rod licence has increased since 2010.

Coarse and Trout

Type of licence	Current price	New price from 1st April 2017
Full (April – March)	£27	£30
Full (concessionary) senior and disabled	£18	£20
Short term 1 day	£3.75	£6
Short term 8 day	£10	£12
Junior (12 – 16yrs)	£5	Free
3 rod licence	NA – new product	£45
3 rod licence (concessionary) senior and disabled	NA – new product	£30

Salmon and Sea Trout

Type of licence	Current price	New price from 1st April 2017
Full	£72	£82
Full (concessionary) senior and disabled	£48	£54
Short term 1 day	£8	£12
Short term 8 day	£23	£27
Junior	£5	Free

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postoffice.co.uk/rod-fishing-licence

Have Your Say

- The Angling Trust North Yorkshire Forum in association with the Environment Agency is to be held on 24 November at the Best Western Crown Hotel, Horsefairm Boroughbridge, YO51 9LB. Tea and coffee will be served at 6.45pm and the meeting begins at 7.15pm. This meeting is open to all anglers and fishery owners and is free to attend. For more details contact [John Cheyne](#).

Working Together

- You can sign-up to the [Angling Alert messaging service](#) to receive email, phone or text message alerts about fish poaching and theft, fisheries crime and fisheries enforcement from the Angling Trust, Environment Agency, Police & Cefas. This is not a reporting tool, but is intended for messages such as appeals for information or crime prevention information. To report a fisheries incident, please continue to use our free 24-hour incident hotline 0800 80 70 60. We are unable to respond to incident reports posted on social media.
- Projects which have successfully bid for Fisheries Improvement Programme second phase funding have been announced. In Yorkshire, Egton Weir Fish Pass Project; Carleton Section Fisheries Improvement Project; Norbriggs Flash River Restoration; High Eske Fish and Eel Protection; Gargrave Village Fisheries Improvement Project; Eastburn Beck/Driffield Trout Stream Improvement Project; Aire and Calder Canal Fishery Future Proofing; and the Aire Head Fisheries Improvement Project have succeeded in securing support. The Fisheries Improvement Programme uses rod licence income to support habitat work that will improve river fisheries.
- Earlier this year the Angling Trust invited applications for a share of the £200,000 Angling Improvement Fund (rod licence income) to help projects improve 'access for all' at fisheries. [The latest round of winning projects](#) has now been announced with many from across Yorkshire being successful, including otter-proof fencing at Harrogate and Claro's Lingerfield Coarse Lake and facility improvements at York City Council's community-managed Chapman's Pond.

Award-Winning Projects

- The Lowthorpe Mill Diversion Scheme won the Best Medium-Sized Conservation Project at the Wild Trout Trust 2016 Conservation Awards. This work was delivered through the Hull Site of Special Scientific Interest Restoration Project. The award is for Non-Governmental Organisations and was collected by our partners in the project the East Yorkshire Rivers Trust. The work was been funded through our Environment Programme and a Landfill Tax Grant from Biffa.

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- Sheffield City Council's Porter Brook Pocket Park won the 'Contribution to the Built Environment' category of the 2016 Living Waterway awards. Rod licence funding helped restore the river through the park which is now home to invertebrates and fish. You can read more about this project and watch a video on the Wild Trout Trust's [Trout in the Town blog](#). The Wild Trout Trust designed and supervised the in-channel works.
- Together with the Farming and Wildlife Partnership and the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, we won the 2016 Gold 'Green Apple' Award for Partnership Working for the Upper Aire Land Management and Habitat Project. The project and its benefits for the fishery are described in detail on the [environmentagency.blog.gov.uk](#) website.

Rivers



We have completed all of our electric fishing monitoring surveys for 2016. Highlights included this 10lb+ brown trout from the River Hull, held here by Christian Wilcock from our Sampling and Collection team.

- The new approved Larinier fish pass on Otley Weir, River Wharfe, was officially opened this autumn, along with a baulk pass on the northern side of the channel. Both passes were installed as a condition of the hydropower scheme at the site.



- The Middle Swale Tributaries Project is looking to address habitat issues and Water Framework Directive failures on four Swale tributaries. Work is being coordinated by Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust and funded by our Environment Programme. This year riparian fencing, tree planting and willow spiling will be carried out on selected parts of Skeeby, Holme and Dalton Beck in the vicinity of Gilling West, near Richmond.

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- The Natural Nidd habitat improvement project is now in its second year, and is expanding existing works on the River Crimble to include Park Beck and Thornton Beck as well as the main river. Works include riparian stock-proof fencing and tree and hedge planting to improve habitat and stabilise banks and to reduce sedimentation. We are working alongside Natural England's Catchment Sensitive Farming project and the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust, and consulting with local interest groups and angling clubs including Knaresborough Anglers and Knaresborough Piscatorials.

Enforcement

- Three men were found guilty of the planned poaching of migratory fish, at Scarborough Magistrates Court on 21 October. The men were apprehended having caught two sea trout out of season using a gill net at Saltwick Bay, at the mouth of the River Esk. The men had set a further net and left it, and this was found and confiscated by our fisheries enforcement officers. Three guilty pleas were entered, each received a fine of between £120 and £150 with costs of £250.



- Yorkshire Water has been fined £350,000 with £30,000 costs for polluting a watercourse with raw sewage. The water company was sentenced at Bradford Crown Court on 17 August after pleading guilty to illegally discharging into Rud beck, Harrogate. The discharge was the result of a blockage in a sewer overflow, causing significant pollution affecting over five kilometres of Rud beck and the river Crimble.
- In July, August and September, our fisheries enforcement officers questioned 2,301 anglers with 157 being reported for fisheries offences. Over the same period, 75 reports were phoned through to the 0800 80 70 60 hotline which related to possible fisheries offences.

Please contact us for more information on any subject covered in this newsletter. Phone us on 03708 506 506 (Mon to Fri 8am to 8pm) or email enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk. Please report incidents to our 24 hour Incident Hotline 0800 80 70 60.

You can follow fisheries officer [Pete Turner](#) and our geomorphologist [Claire Barrett-Mold](#) on Twitter.

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