

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### River Dart Emergency Salmon Protection Byelaw

Since April 2015, the Environment Agency has received numerous reports of diseased, dead and dying salmon & sea trout in the River Dart. Migratory salmonid populations in the Dart appear to have been particularly badly affected this year compared to other rivers in Devon and Cornwall. Given the current vulnerable state of the Dart salmon stock and the additional impact of disease this year, it is considered essential to protect the remaining salmon so that as many as possible survive to spawn. We have therefore introduced an 'Emergency Byelaw' to protect these fish.

#### What this means for anglers

The byelaw came into force on 22 July 2015.

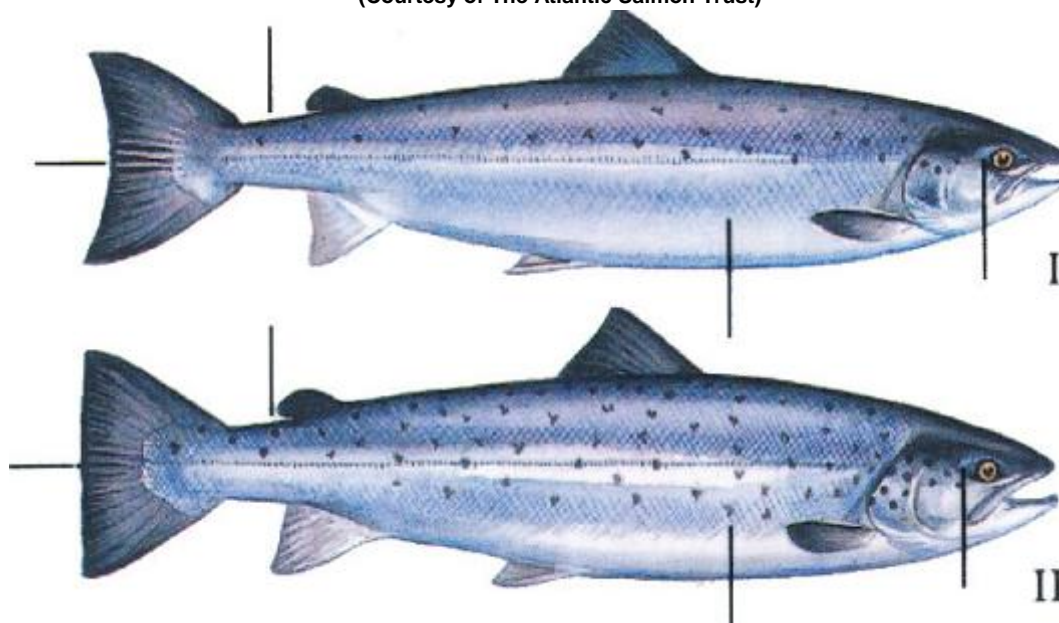
The main provisions for anglers are;

1. **No retention of salmon** taken by any instrument (rod and line or net) within the River Dart catchment or its estuary, with immediate release at the point of capture.
2. All rod and line fishing in the River Dart catchment to be undertaken by **artificial fly only**.

We believe these measures will provide the protection salmon stocks need to give the fishery the best chance of recovery. **These provisions will remain in place until 1 June 2016 and will be subject to review at this time.** A copy of the byelaw is available from the Environment Agency on request.

#### Guide to identifying salmon

(Courtesy of The Atlantic Salmon Trust)



Salmon (I) can be distinguished from large sea trout (II) by a more streamlined shape, concave tail, slimmer tail wrist, upper jaw reaching no further than rear of the eye, few if any black spots below lateral line.



#### Check, Clean, Dry

All anglers should follow the Check, Clean, Dry biosecurity procedures to help prevent the spread of diseases and non native species. Visit <http://www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry> for more details.

Please continue to report sightings of diseased fish on our incident hotline number **0800 80 70 60**  
For all other enquiries contact our National Customer Contact Centre on **03708 506 506**