

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



## Salmon Homecoming for the River Clyde

**Experts from the world of fishery management will gather in Glasgow next week to review the status and future of the iconic Atlantic salmon in the River Clyde.**

On World Fish Migration Day, 21st May 2016, the Clyde River Foundation is holding a conference titled '*Clyde Salmon Homecoming – the Status and Future of Salmon in the River Clyde*' at the University of Glasgow.

The event will also mark 30 years since a conference was held to discuss the return of Atlantic salmon to the River Clyde after an absence of more than a century. The distribution of salmon across the Clyde system has increased since 1986 and is monitored by the Clyde River Foundation. The construction of fish passes on Ferniegair and Millheugh weirs on the Avon Water in South Lanarkshire will increase significantly the amount of river and habitat available to Clyde salmon in 2016. This year will also see changes in the management of wild salmon in Scotland and the Wild Fisheries Reform, which has important implications for conservation of the species.

Dr Willie Yeomans, Catchment Manager, Clyde River Foundation said “The Clyde, a river where salmon were once extinct due to pollution and man-made structural changes, now boasts a recovering population. The return of the iconic Atlantic salmon to the River Clyde is one of the biggest good-news stories in freshwater biology. This is one of the most urban Atlantic salmon fisheries in the world and since 1986 considerable progress has been made in our understanding of the biology and ecology of the species. We have been monitoring the recovery of the population within the Clyde and, while we still have much to do, we hope that this conference will focus attention on where we are and what we need to do to ensure the continued success of this protected species in our river.”

Fiona Simpson, Asset Manager at the Scotland Portfolio, The Crown Estate, said: “The work done on the Clyde over the past 30 years to re-establish salmon in the river has been admirable and it’s an undertaking which we’ve been proud to support. The upcoming conference is a great opportunity to discuss current issues and ensure we continue to move forward, meaning salmon stocks can be maintained & enhanced on the Clyde for years to come.”

Speakers include fish biologists Professor Colin Bean (Scottish Natural Heritage), Dr Phil McGinnity (University College Cork) and Professor Neil Metcalfe (University of Glasgow) and representatives of the Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Partnership and River Clyde Fisheries Management Trust.

The conference is supported by The Crown Estate and local angling clubs including the Strathgryfe Angling Association, Mid Clyde Angling Association and the United Clyde Angling Protective Association Ltd.

*Clyde Salmon Homecoming Conference is on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2016 at the University of Glasgow. Register for a free ticket at <https://clydesalmonhomecoming.eventbrite.co.uk>.*

**ENDS**

## **CONTACT**

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## **EVENT DETAILS**

Organiser: Clyde River Foundation

Date: Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Location: University of Glasgow

Register: <https://clydesalmonhomecoming.eventbrite.co.uk>

## **ABOUT THE CLYDE RIVER FOUNDATION**

The Clyde River Foundation is a registered charity which researches the ecology of the Clyde and its tributaries, and promotes environmental education throughout the catchment (primarily through [Clyde in the Classroom](#)). These initiatives promote sustainable management of the Clyde's aquatic resources and their associated habitats for the benefit of all.

The Clyde River Foundation's aim is to improve understanding of all aspects of river management, and in particular to provide a permanent, professional fisheries science presence in the catchment. The Foundation employs five full-time scientists and is based in the Institute of Biodiversity Animal Health and Comparative Medicine at the University of Glasgow (see [www.clyderiverfoundation.org](http://www.clyderiverfoundation.org)).