

NEWS – BEGINNING OF 2025

A very **Happy New Year** to you all. May it have better weather than some anglers encountered in 2024 (e.g. The Welsh Dee six times higher level than optimum for wading!). In similar vein, I hope no one had too much damage from the various storms. In the storm which hit our coast last week (visible from the house) – we saw waves breaking over the Coastguard look out station – probably 60-70 feet high!



FISH MIGRATION.ORG

The organization sent out two messages recently. The first is self-explanatory:- *We would like to inform you that the recording of our Culvert webinar is now available on the DRE YouTube channel. We welcome you to watch it in case you missed the live webinar, or rewatch it if you please. Feel also free to circulate it within your networks.* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mhhg9OeP87s>

This was a very good webinar – look out for the LEGO style culvert builds!

Following this came a second message telling all “It is with a heavy heart that we have chosen to close the World Fish Migration Foundation by the 31st of December 2024”.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT TRAINING



Institute of Fisheries Management

Institute of Fisheries Management Training

The Institute has two main Fisheries Management courses, The IFM Certificate and The IFM Diploma. Both these courses are based on correspondence learning and are modular based. They are designed to be completed part time, although both do require significant commitment to complete.

IFM Certificate in Fisheries Management –

The Certificate is a one-year course set at 'A' level standard. The units available on this course are;

- Water Quality
- Freshwater Biology
- Angling and Recreation
- Fisheries Law
- Fish Culture and Husbandry
- Fisheries Management and Improvement
- Fisheries Enforcement
- Fish Health and Welfare

To complete the full course students are required to complete and pass 6 out of the 8 units in a one year training period. This course is full distance learning with each module supported by course material and a specific tutor, with time limited open book exams set in January and June. There is also a voluntary field weekend every year, based in the midlands, to support student learning and engagement. New for 2025 will be a series of **evening webinars**, via Zoom. These sessions will concentrate on specific topics and be followed by interactive Q&A session.

For the IFM Certificate there is also a trial course of two modules available.

IFM Diploma in Fisheries Management

The IFM Diploma is a two-year course set at undergraduate degree level.

The modules available for this course are:

- Water Quality
- Freshwater biology
- Fisheries management
- Fishery law
- Environmental management
- Fish husbandry
- Fish disease
- Recreation and amenity
- River Restoration

To complete the full course students are required to complete and pass 8 units in two years of training. This course is full distance learning with each module supported by course material and a specific tutor. Each unit is examined using time limited open book exams and Tutor Marked Assignments.

Each year there is an obligatory weekend field course covering practical aspects of the modules covered in that year. The IFM also offers a mentor service, with a member of the institute designated to you.

Further details and the fees for both courses are on our website <https://ifm.org.uk/ifm-training/> . You pay for each year when you join, so all for the Certificate and each year for the Diploma.

As well as these two main courses IFM Training also offers a range of short courses on electrofishing, fish identification, water quality, biosecurity, fisheries monitoring, etc. We do offer a wide range of these courses but we can also develop bespoke courses to fit anyone's need in the world of fisheries so it is always worth asking directly, we are sure we can help.

Any Questions please email ian.wellby@ifm.org.uk

THE HINCKLEY POINT C NUCLEAR REACTOR



This affects us all! To follow search Google for:

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) ICO Decision 5th
September 2024.**

You will find a 45 paragraph decision from the Information Commissioner. Having read para 14, as I might have done in Court, I wrote to the Commissioner re precedent for all water authorities? He replied:

“ We would confirm that we do not at this time consider that the Hinckley Point EIR decision sets a definitive precedent for water companies in regards to FOIA requests.

It would only be the Cabinet Office that could make the decision on if an organisation would in effect be added to the FOIA list.”

My confusion comes from wondering why pressure has not been put on the Cabinet Office already?

Fish Legal – over to you?

Contact your MPs?

When you see the rise in your water bills for 2025 (circa 27% in Wales!) you might like to reflect on this!

Well, the last word, at present, comes from French/Chinese company at Hinckley Point – they have lodged an appeal to the court!

FISH FARMING NEWS

If you, like me worry about fish farming escapees and the possibility of damage to our “native” stock, get out your Google hat, once more, please?

Google **“Salon Evolution Norway – Water tanks”**.

Interesting reading and, hopefully one which might shine new light on the contentious matter of fish farming. It should reduce overheads i.e. no boats, etc.

It was attempted, in an empty oil storage tank at the Whiddy Island Oil terminal, West Cork, Ireland but failed.



AND FINALLY

You may have seen that there have been big changes with the well-known and respected, Foxons fishing business in St Asaph.

I am sure we all wish them well.

That said, for those of you who manage to break your rods (!) I have been in touch with Renee Foxon and Renee has confirmed that she will be continuing with her own repair business, her contact details being the same.

She has given me a mobile number which is: - 07398 555897.

Please remember to pick up **all the pieces and let Renee have them!**

