

National Assembly for Wales
Environment and Sustainability Committee
NRW 2015 – 44
Natural Resources Wales – Annual Scrutiny 2015
Response from Andrew Thomas

Having fished and enjoyed the West Wales countryside for the last 46 years I've witnessed a gradual decline of migratory fish over the last thirty years with the last five years seeing a massive decline. Obviously there are lots of factors contributing to the decline that are out of the hands of NRW, but where they can help, they're simply not fit for purpose, some examples are the increased poaching on rivers like the Teifi where not enough resources are put in place to catch the offenders. Walk the many tributaries of the Teifi valley many are polluted, the Ceri a prime example, this small stream would produce many Brown Trout and Sewin in a few hours fishing when I was a lad, those days are long gone, that's all you get now is the smell of slurry!

How in this day and age are anglers and netsmen allowed to catch so many fish, Sewin catches are at a historic low and Salmon on the point of collapse and knowing this an angler can kill five Salmon a week and four Sewin a day and netsmen unlimited!!

Come on NRW it's now 2015, what are we leaving for our children and grandchildren?

Andrew Thomas.