

*** Terms of Reference ***

RAFTS / ASFB Joint Working Group – Wild Fisheries Review

Introduction:

The Scottish Wild Fisheries Review was established to develop new ideas on how Scottish fisheries/catchment management might be operated at a local management and Government level. An opportunity exists to assist the Scottish Government with the transition from the current system to any potential new system. The RAFTS/ASFB Joint Work Group has been established to co-ordinate this response and will liaise, under the ToR described below, with Government and its agencies and the existing Board/Trust network, as necessary.

1. **Mandate** - This process and these ToR have been agreed by the RAFTS and ASFB management boards on behalf of their memberships. Any significant written outputs of the group shall only be published with the prior agreement of the RAFTS and ASFB Boards and, where appropriate, with the WFR Group or with relevant Government officials. The group will regularly consult with The WFR Group and Scottish Government to ensure that its activities and outputs are understood by, and are complementary to, the WFR process and the actions that follow.
2. **Remit** - The JWG will develop ideas, as appropriate, on how best to anticipate, influence and respond to Government initiatives to take forward recommendations from the Wild Fisheries Review. The JWG will also consider how best to ensure that any transition period between current, and any potential new arrangements, is efficiently managed.
3. **Membership – The working group shall consist of:**

	Name	Organisation
1	Andrew Wallace	Chair - RAFTS
2	Alasdair Laing	Chair - ASFB
3	Mark Bilsby	River Dee
4	Craig Macintyre	Argyll Board/Trust
5	Jamie Ribbens	Galloway Fisheries Trust
6	Alison Baker	Forth Fisheries Trust
7	Simon McKelvie	Cromarty DSFB/Trust
8	Roger Knight	Spey DSFB/Trust
9	Jim Henderson	Nith DSFB/Trust
	Attending:	
10	Dr Chris Horrill	RAFTS
11	Brian Davidson	ASFB

The group was selected from representatives of both organisations with a view to ensuring a wide cross-section of experience, skills and geographical representation from the variety of fisheries management circumstances found around Scotland.

The group will have the power to co-opt any further members, as required, for specific purposes. In the interests of accountability to both Boards, The JWG shall include any member of the ASFB management committee and of the RAFTS' board.

4. Chairmanship

The Group shall be chaired by the current chairmen of ASFB and RAFTS on an alternating basis or as required.

5. Meetings

Meetings shall be held, as required, at a suitable location. It is anticipated much of the business will be conducted electronically.

6. Communications and Confidentiality

In the interests of transparency, the outputs of the group will be made available to both organisations (minutes/agendas etc). The JWG secretariat will produce a regular written report, to be circulated to both RAFTS and ASFB boards and their members, on an 'as required' but regular basis (probably once a month). In certain circumstances the need for confidentiality may be justified. There will, however, be a presumption against confidentiality and the case for it will require the mutual agreement of both chairmen.

Representatives of the JWG may, from time to time, be available, by invitation, to attend regional or individual board meetings of members to assist with discussion.

7. Duration

It is anticipated that the work of this group will continue throughout the transition period from the old to the new system. It is now not anticipated that legislation will be enacted before the Scottish Parliamentary elections in May 2016. The group will remain extant as long as required.

8. Review Of ToR

The group will review the Terms of Reference and make-up of the group from time to time and with prior consultation with both the RAFTS and ASFB Boards and, where appropriate, with the WFR Group and Government officials.

Signed:

Andrew Wallace – on behalf of the RAFTS Board _____ **Date:** _____

Alasdair Laing – on behalf of the ASFB Board _____ **Date:** _____