

End of Season Report 2013

2013 will probably go down as one of the most challenging seasons for some time which had everything from long cold spells and strong winds from a north or north easterly direction along with dry and bright conditions. Most anglers can accept the seasons that come and go and the challenges that come with fishing for wild brown trout and sea trout here on South Uist.

The brown trout season started with very cold winds in April / May which turned out to be the coldest temperatures for many years. As this cold spell lasted for so long early in the season it may well have had its effects for the rest of the season. However as we ran into June conditions did improve but in general the weather remained changeable and never settled for any length of time which ultimately has had its effects on catches.

As we moved into July the season continued to be dry and bright. We also had a shortage of water in the migratory systems (which is not unusual for this time of year) coupled with lower tides during July making it difficult for migratory stocks to enter the systems and this in turn may have accounted for the low numbers of Sea trout at this point. As we moved well into September sea trout began to show much more in numbers although much later this year, still a welcomed sight, as always weather again played its part in catches, as it remained changeable through September and into October.

Total catches for brown trout 2013 which was down on 2012, was 1,430 with an Average weight 1lb 5ozs and the seasons best fish was 5lbs 8ozs from West Olay. Other lochs with best fish were, Upper Kildonan 2lbs, East Bee 2lb 8ozs, Roag 3lb 8ozs, Mid Ollay 2lbs 8ozs, Hallan 2lbs 8ozs, Stilligarry 4lbs, Grogarry 4lbs 8ozs, Lower Bornish 3lb 8ozs, and Upper Bornish 3lbs, Despite the obvious reasons why trout numbers were down never the less some very good fish were caught in the varied trying conditions on many days this season.

Total catches for sea trout 2013 which ended up similar to 2012 was 410 with average weight of 1lb 12ozs and the seasons best fish was 10lbs from Loch Fada, other lochs with best fish were Bharp 3lbs, Mill 4lb 8ozs, Lower Kildonan 5lbs, Roag 8lbs, Castle 5lb 8ozs, and East Bee 5lb 5ozs. Best loch with numbers caught was 158 from Loch Fada. Total finnock recorded was 64 which are sea trout under a pound.

The grilse and salmon run was less than in 2012 but again numbers have been at these levels in the past, 2013 was 46 with an average of 5lbs, best fish was 12lbs from Castle loch, Best loch with numbers caught was 18 from Lower Kildonan.

Despite a difficult season, here is a sample of some notable catches throughout the season of which there were many, some notable stats also included.

Fishing stats, Brown Trout 2013

Season Total

Total fish between 1lb 8ozs and 3lb 8ozs.....129

Total fish between 4lbs 5lbs+..... 13

Heaviest Brown trout 2@ 5lb 4ozs from West Ollay on the 14/5/13 and on the 10/6/13.

NAME	LOCH	DATE	BAG	BEST FISH
Gauld	Lower Bornish	10/05/13	10 for 19lbs	4lbs
Mr Peden/Hunter	Hallan	07/05/13	15 for 11lb 8ozs	1lb 8ozs
Simmons	Stilligarry	21/05/13	7 for 11lb 8 ozs	4lbs
Mr Curran	Altabrug	31/05/13	21 for 24lbs	1lb 8ozs
McNab	West Ollay	03/06/13	5 for 8lb 8ozs	3lb 12ozs
Dunbar	Upper Bornish	06/06/13	8 for 12lbs	3lbs
McNab	East Bee	05/06/13	12 for 11lbs	2lbs
Moncur/Buchan	West Ollay	10/06/13	4 for 11lb 12ozs	5lb 4ozs
Mr Samson	Mid Ollay	28/06/13	11 for 9lb 11ozs	1lb 12ozs
Mr Coote	Upper Kildonan	25/07/13	20 for 15lbs	12ozs
Mr MacKay	Grogarry	09/07/13	6 for 17lb 8ozs	3lb 8ozs
Mr MacLeod	Upper Kildonan	29/07/13	11 for 12lb 8ozs	2lbs
Glover	Stilligarry	10/08/13	9 for 13lb 8ozs	2lb 8ozs
Mr MacKay	Grogarry	10/09/13	3 for 11lbs 8ozs	4lb 8ozs

Sea trout 2013

Total fish between 1lb and under 2lbs.....350

Total fish over 2lbs to 5lbs..... 49

Total fish over 5lbs.....16, best was 10lbs from Fada

Notable catches through the season,

NAME	LOCH	DATE	BAG	BEST FISH
Colin Reich	Fada	26/08/13	8 for 12lbs	1lb 8ozs
Mr Brian lalor	Fada	02/09/13	2 for 13lbs	10lbs
McCafferty	Lower Kildonan	05/09/13	8 sea trout	3lbs
Mr MacKay	Fada	09/09/13	8 for 12lbs 8ozs	1lb 8oz
Mr MacKay	Roag	11/09/13	4 for 9lb 8ozs	4lb 8 ozs
Mr Kaufmann/Groene	Roag	19/09/13	5 for 11lbs 8ozs	7lbs
Mr Towns	Fada	21/09/13	6 for 19lbs	4lbs 4ozs
Mr Wilson	Castle	25/09/13	2 for 8lb 8ozs	4lb 8ozs

Mr Kennedy	Fada	28/09/13	7 for 17lbs	7lb 4ozs
Mr MacLeod	Fada	03/10/13	5 for 14lbs	6lbs
Mr Greenway	Fada	08/10/13	2 for 10lb 12ozs	5lb 8ozs
Mr Davidson	Fada	15/10/13	7 for 15lbs	4lbs
Mr McCuish	Castle	24/10/13	2 for 10lb 4ozs	5lb 8ozs
Mr Huggard	Roag	26/10/13	2 for 7lbs	6lbs
Mr Huggard	Roag	28/10/13	6 for 9lbs	2lb 4ozs
Mr Heaton/Malson	Roag	25/10/13	3 for 8lbs 8ozs	4lb 9ozs

Salmon 2013

Mostly single fish on days 46 for the season few notable catches,

NAME	LOCH	DATE	BAG	BEST FISH
Mr Ponsonby	Schoolhouse	22/07/13	2 for 9lbs 4 ozs	5lb 4ozs
Mr Sturt	Lower Kildonan	27/07/13	3 for 15lbs	5lbs
Mr Jowett	Bharp	03/09/13	2 for 9lbs 8ozs	5lb 8ozs
Mr Steven & Paul Jowett	Fada	02/09/13	2 for 13lbs	6lb 8ozs