



Member focus

Gaining experience with Galloway Fisheries Trust

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Fisheries Intern, Galloway Fisheries Trust

I am an MSc graduate in aquatic ecology with a great interest in fisheries. Prior to making my way to Scotland I had a number of opportunities to develop skills and knowledge of the aquatic world. These included the opportunity to work with members of the Wild Trout Trust during my MSc, where I began to develop my interest in fisheries management and conservation.

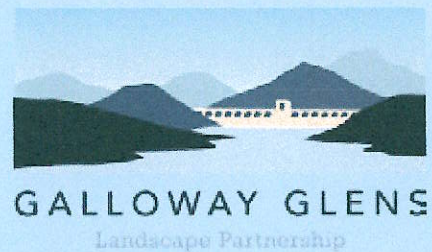
I then became an intern at the Zoological Society of London, working within the estuaries and wetlands team in a role with a particular focus on European eel monitoring. When I discovered there was an opportunity to work with Galloway Fisheries Trust (GFT) it looked like the perfect next step for me. And it was, over the last six months I have had the amazing opportunity to work as part of the team at GFT on an internship supported by the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership and the Holywood Trust.

When not out in the field I have been delivering some of my own projects, including an assessment of GFT's electrofishing and water quality data on the High Cree to

evaluate changes in the health of the brown trout population. In addition, I have developed a learning resource on the lifecycle and conservation of the European eel, a species of particular interest to me. This has given me the opportunity to further my experience in scientific communication and also get creative when producing a stop motion animation video to make the story of the eel exciting and accessible for children.

My time at GFT has been a fantastic opportunity for me to expand my skill set and jump into the world of fisheries biology. As part of my internship I also had the opportunity to attend training courses and gained my First Aid

at Work qualification as well as my drone operator licence. I have no doubt that these experiences and qualifications will enhance my employability greatly and support my future career in fisheries management and conservation.



Left - Targetted salmon stocking; Right - Fish surveys. ©GFT