

Clare Pillman
Chief Executive
Natural Resources Wales

11 December 2020

Dear Clare

Salmon and migratory trout net fishing licence duties 2021, 2022 and 2023

It has been brought to the Committee's attention that Natural Resources Wales (NRW) has given notice of its intention to amend salmon and migratory trout net fishing licence duties for the period 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2023. NRW has produced an options review alongside the notice, setting out six potential options for new duties.

The Committee is aware that the period for objecting to the proposed duties ended on 2nd December 2020. The Committee has agreed that I should write to you to raise several matters to inform your consideration of the proposals.

We have received correspondence from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales, which says that they have significant concerns about the proposals to "dramatically increase the fees for those fishing by coracle and seine nets". We note that the NRW report says that the preferred option (Option 6) "might result in reductions in some traditional fisheries (e.g. Teifi coracle fishery would see an increase in duty to bring it into line with similar fishery on Tywi)".

We are concerned that these proposals may result in a negative impact on an important part of Welsh culture and heritage. We believe that your decision on the proposals must be consistent with the Wellbeing Goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. In this case, the goal is to protect an important part of Welsh culture and heritage. We agree with NRW's assessment that the proposed approach may reduce



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numbers of traditional fishers and we believe this may, consequently, undermine the wellbeing goal.

I would be grateful if you could consider these matters when reaching your decision.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Hedges". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mike Hedges MS

Chair of Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

