



Fish Species Factsheet

Brown Trout



Brown trout lay eggs in the gravel at the bottom of streams, they hatch into alevins, grow on to be fry and then parr before becoming fully grown adults. Brown trout can live for up to 20 years, they feed on invertebrates and insects both in and on the water. They also eat small fish.



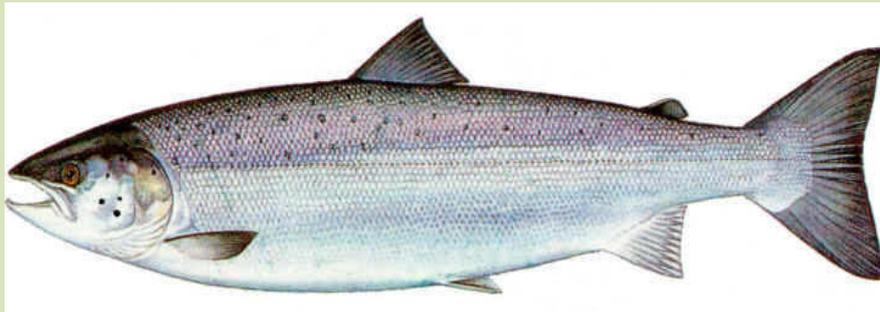
Sea Trout



Sea-trout lay their eggs in the gravel bottom of streams. After the eggs hatch into alevins, grow into fry then parr they become smolts. At between 1 and 3 years old the smolts migrate to the sea where they live and feed before returning between 1 and 4 years later to spawn. A Sea-trout is a Brown trout which has gone to sea.



Atlantic Salmon



Salmon lay their eggs in the gravel bottom of the river. They hatch into alevins, grow into fry and then smolts. Adults migrate to the sea where they spend 1 to 4 years before returning to the river where they came from to breed. Salmon returning after 1 year are called grilse, those spending more time at sea are multi-sea winter fish. At sea they feed on sand eels, krill and herring.



Three-Spined Stickleback



Male sticklebacks build a nest for the females to lay their eggs in. Sticklebacks feed on insect larvae, crustaceans and worms.

European Eel



This eel migrates to the Sargasso Sea to spawn and can live up to 20 years in the river. It eats crustaceans, insects small fish and scavenges dead creatures.



Flounder



The flounder is a flat fish that returns to the sea to spawn. It starts with one eye on either side of its head but between larval and juvenile stages one eye moves so that both eyes are on the same side. Flounders catch crustaceans and small fish by ambushing them whilst lying flat on the river bottom.



Grayling



Grayling lay eggs in the gravel at the bottom of the river, they hatch and enter the river where they grow quickly. Grayling feed on invertebrates both in and on the water, but mostly feed on the riverbed. They particularly enjoy caddis larvae and freshwater shrimps.