

Lesley Griffiths Cabinet Secretary for Environment  
Wales Government  
By email

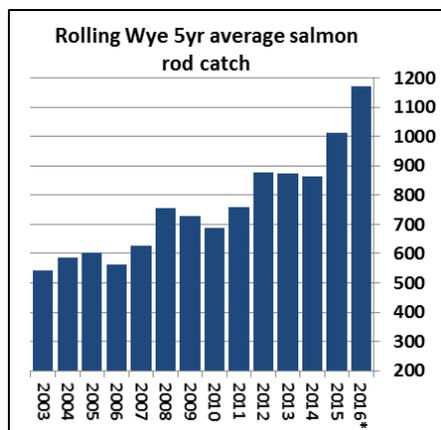
25<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Dear Cabinet Secretary

### **River Gwilli: yet another Category 1 Pollution**

We wrote only last December regarding a massive pollution on the Teifi and learn that another west Wales river has suffered its second pollution in very recent times. Clearly the natural resources of clean water and healthy fisheries are well down the governments list of priorities. We do not have a powerful political lobby such as the farming industry has to fight our case. Wales' migratory fisheries is being destroyed. Whatever excuses are put forward for their current parlous state, intermittent poisoning by both spot and diffuse pollution is a sure way to halt any prospect of recovery.

One of our rivers trusts, the Wye and Usk Foundation has spent the last five years providing farm by farm plans for reduction of pollution in that catchment and combined with other works, the rivers



fisheries are recovering and making a substantial contribution to the rural economy. It is very disappointing to learn that Welsh Government has declined to invest similarly in the rest of Wales SAC Rivers, following our meetings with them and JNCC

With Brexit only a matter of weeks away, it may be that our last sanction of a formal complaint to the EC is taken from us but we have ample evidence of site deterioration, poor enforcement of regulations, inadequate measures and underfunding.....and we

have a few weeks to make such a complaint, or is there any hope of change of direction on water poisoning by your government.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Marsh-Smith OBE Chief Executive Afonydd Cymru, the Rivers trusts of Wales

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Reported agricultural incidents to Water in Wales (please reproduce in colour)

