

The Tweed Salmon Carcass Tagging Code 2025

Coming into force - - 1st February 2025

Citation and commencement

1. This Code may be cited as the Tweed Salmon Carcass Tagging code 2025 comes into force on 1st February 2025.

Interpretation

2. In this Code—

“The principal order” means the Scotland Act 1998 (River Tweed) Order 2006.

“salmon” means fish of the species *Salmo salar* (commonly known as Atlantic salmon) or any part of such fish and excludes the migratory fish of the species *Salmo trutta* (commonly known as sea trout) or any part of such fish.

“salmon tag” means a tag which complies with the requirements in articles 5 and 6 and is issued by the River Tweed Commission in accordance with article 8.

Duty to tag carcasses of salmon

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), any person who takes dead salmon from any inland waters of the Tweed District must tag the carcass of the salmon in accordance with article 4.

(2) The duty imposed by paragraph (1) does not apply where the person takes a salmon—

(i) for a purpose mentioned in article 48(1)(a) of the principal Order (exemption from certain offences in respect of acts done for scientific and other purposes) and permission to take the salmon has been obtained in accordance with article 48(1)(b) of the principal Order.

Requirements as to affixing of salmon tags

4.—(1) For the purposes of article 3(1) the tagging of the carcass of a salmon is to be carried out by affixing a salmon tag to the carcass in accordance with this article.

(2) The salmon tag must be affixed by the following method—

- (a) by inserting it through the mouth of the salmon to emerge from the gill opening; and
- (b) by securing and locking the tag around the gill cover.

(3) The salmon tag must be affixed to the carcass of the salmon no later than the time when the salmon is brought to the bank.

Nature and form of salmon tags

5. A salmon tag must—

- (a) have a cable tie and lock; and
- (b) be capable of—
 - (i) fitting through the mouth of the salmon carcass to emerge from the gill opening; and
 - (ii) being secured with the cable tie and lock.

Information to be contained in salmon tags

6. A salmon tag must contain—
- (a) a unique reference number

Circumstances in which salmon tags may be removed

7.—(1) No person may remove a salmon tag from the carcass of a salmon which has been tagged in accordance with articles 3(1) and 4 except in the circumstances specified in paragraph (2).

- (2) The circumstances in which a salmon tag may be removed are where a person—
- (a) prepares the salmon for the purposes of cooking or smoking.
 - (b) cuts any steaks, cutlets or other portions of the salmon immediately prior to his or her own consumption.

Supply and issue of salmon tags

8. (1) Tags will be supplied via contact with an on-duty River Tweed Commission bailiff (Fishery Officer). The bailiff will attend the location to oversee the tagging of the salmon and to capture the required information within article 6 and 9.

(2) No person other than the River Tweed Commission may supply and issue a tag which complies with the requirements in articles 5 and 6 for salmon taken by rod and line.

Records

9.—(1) Any person who, by virtue of article 3(1), is required to tag the carcass of a salmon, must keep a record of—

- (a) the name of the salmon fishery within which the salmon was taken.
- (b) the total number of the carcasses of salmon which have been tagged with a salmon tag.
- (c) the unique reference number of any salmon tags affixed to the carcasses of salmon.
- (d) the size (length-weight) of the salmon taken.
- (e) the type of dressed fly or artificial lure or bait used.
- (f) the hook configuration (single, double, treble, barbed or barbless.)
- (g) such records must be returned to the River Tweed Commission when completing the annual catches record.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Code makes provision for and in connection with tagging the carcasses of salmon within inland waters of the Tweed District.

Article 4 prescribes the method of tagging and the time by which the carcass must be tagged. Articles 5 and 6 prescribe the nature and form of, and the information to be contained in, salmon tags. Tags are supplied by the River Tweed Commission (article 8) and cannot be removed from a salmon carcass except in the circumstances prescribed in article 7(2).

Persons under a duty to tag salmon carcasses must keep a record in accordance with article 9. The record must be retained, and such records must be returned to the River Tweed Commission when completing the annual catches record.