

## Tweed WheelyBoat

Tweedability are specially designed boats that enable less-able anglers to fish the River Tweed. The boats were designed by a collaborative group of the Wheelyboat Trust, the Tweed Foundation and the R.T.C.

The boats are specifically suited for use on fast-flowing rivers such as the Tweed. The user does not have to leave their wheelchair and accesses the boat by a ramp from the bank with a hydraulic lift inside the boat lowering them to the correct height for fishing. The boats can be powered by an outboard motor or rowed and are very manoeuvrable despite the additional ballast weight which provides extra stability.

There are two Tweedability boats which are available to any disabled or less-abled angler who would like to use them. They have been well trialled and work extremely well but as they have to be moved around the River access arrangements have to be made prior to their use.

### Terms of Reference

1. The booking diary for the Tweed Wheelyboat will be managed by the RTC Office.
2. While enquiries will be taken from and help given to anglers, bookings will only be taken from the beat or agent of the beat as it is the beat that will have responsibility for the boat and its use.
3. Where an agent makes a booking with the RTC, the RTC will assume that the agent has made all necessary arrangements with the beat manager.
4. Bookings will be taken on a first come basis and must be received at least one week before the intended date of use.
5. The RTC will confirm each booking by telephone or email. This will act as a formal confirmation of the booking.
6. To use the Wheelyboat, each beat must satisfy the following conditions:
  - i. There is suitable access to launch the boat either at the beat or by arrangement with a neighbouring beat.
  - ii. There is suitable access to the river for a wheelchair either by hard path or by other means e.g. tank matting.
  - iii. The boatman has undergone suitable training in the use of a wheelyboat.

7. For each booking, the RTC will undertake the delivery of the wheelyboat to the beat manager or boatman by arrangement who will be required to sign an agreement taking responsibility for the boat for the period of the booking. An additional agreement, which must be signed by the angler, will also be supplied to the beat manager or boatman.
8. No charge will be made for the use of the wheelyboat. The beat and or users are invited to make a donation to the Tweed Foundation, preferable using a gift aid form which will be provided with the booking form. The donation will be used to recoup the costs of running the boats and to support our wider education programme.
9. The beat may ask the angler to pay a fee for the service of a boatman. The Tweed Foundation may on occasion support the angler by paying the boatman's fees. This will be means tested.
10. It is a condition of the loan of the wheelyboat that beats report how many fish they have caught from it.