



TFFC (Middelpunt) Fishery Report for the 2016/2017 Season

Summary

Although climatic conditions from November 2016 onwards were better than the previous year with higher rainfall and cooler temperatures the catch returns showed no improvement over the 2015/16 season which was then our poorest year in the last 22. Without a doubt predation by white breasted cormorants and the otter population which has shown a marked increase over recent years played a major role in this poor performance.

2308 rainbows were stocked of which 435 were killed and 847 released during the June 2016 to May 2017 period which was marginally down on the previous season. 90 good sized browns were stocked and to date only 3 have been killed with 20 released.

72 young grass carp were stocked in dams 1, 3 and 5 in March 2017. The previous stocking with young grass carp was when 40 were placed in Dam 2 in October 2015. We have about 70 young grass carp in our cages which will be stocked in 2018 with a further 100 on order. In the meantime, the aquatic weed has been well controlled by using a cable and tractor.

There was little change in occupancy except for a significant increase in the last 3 months of the season.

1. **Rainbows stocked vs. captured: 1994 - 2017**

Season	No. stocked	No. killed	No. C&R*	% killed	% killed+C&R.
1994/5	3206	1923	454	60,0	74,1
1995/6	2684	1730	373	64,5	78,3
1996/7	2523	1864	518	74,1	94,4
1997/8	2599	1784	454	64,3	93,8
1998/9	2518	1188	708	47,2	75,3
1999/00	3352	1394	715	41,6	62,9
2000/01	3035	1778	1360	58,6	103,4
2001/02	2746	1714	1477	62,4	116,2
2002/3	2455	1454	850	59,2	93,8
2003/4	2349	888	576	37,8	62,3
2004/5	2400	1236	1063	51,5	95,8
2005/6	2480	1019	1142	41,1	87,1
2006/7	1495	715	860	47,8	105,4
2007/8	1861	861	1159	46,3	108,5
2008/9	1498	767	992	51,2	117,4
2009/10	1926	705	1014	36,6	89,3
2010/11	1844	802	1209	43,5	109,1
2011/12	2066	709	1374	34,3	100,8
2012/13	2064	677	1362	32,8	98,8
2013/14	2000	657	1282	32,9	97,0
2014/15	2200	780	1375	35,5	98,0
2015/16	2520	496	893	19,7	55,1
2016/17	2308	435	847	18,8	55,5

*C&R = Catch & Release

2. All trout (rainbows + browns) stocked vs recapture rates: 1994 – 2017

Season	No stocked	No. killed	No. returned	No. killed + C&R
1994/5	3206	1923	454	2377
1995/6	2684	1730	373	2103
1996/7	2523	1864	518	2382
1997/8	2599	1784	454	2238
1998/9	2590	1188	708	1896
1999/00	3403	1417	766	2183
2000/01	3235	1807	1454	3261
2001/2	2891	1766	1622	3388
2002/3	2625	1516	940	2456
2003/4	2349	901	594	1495
2004/5	2521	1260	1131	2391
2005/6	2455	1050	1231	2281
2006/7	1645	732	941	1673
2007/8	2064	879	1178	2057
2008/9	1713	789	1072	1861
2009/10	2080	726	1047	1773
2010/11	1928	810	1248	2058
2011/12	2122	716	1414	2130
2012/13	2104	685	1378	2063
2013/14	2000	657	1286	1933
2014/15	2200	780	1375	2155
2015/16	2520	496	893	1389
2016/17	2308	435	847	1299

C&R= Catch & Release

3. Avg. length, CF & mass plus total mass killed (Rainbows): 1996 – 2017.

Season	Avg. length	Avg. CF	Avg. mass killed	Total mass killed
1996/7	41,5 cm	122	852g	1638 kg
1997/8	41,1 cm	117	824g	1426 kg
1998/9	41,5 cm	119	815g	968 kg
1999/00	39,7 cm	118	735g	1024 kg
2000/01	41,1 cm	122	841g	1495 kg
2001/2	41,8 cm	123	901g	1544 kg
2002/3	41,0 cm	120	837g	1216 kg
2003/4	40,2 cm	124	806g	706 kg
2004/5	40,5 cm	129	852g	1053 kg
2005/6	40,9 cm	126	860g	876 kg
2006/7	42,0 cm	126	936g	669 kg
2007/8	41,1 cm	119	818g	704 kg
2008/9	41,1 cm	121	836g	641 kg
2009/10	40,9 cm	123	842g	594 kg
2010/11	43,0 cm	119	955g	766 kg
2011/12	41,0 cm	127	879g	623 kg
2012/13	40,0 cm	130	832g	563 kg
2013/14	41,4 cm	126	899g	591 kg
2014/15	41,5 cm	126	898g	700 kg
2015/16	42,0cm	122	896g	444 kg
2016/17	40,6cm	122	850g	370 kg

5 Five largest fish in 2016/17

Mass	Angler	Month	Dam	Species	CF	Length
1.91 kg	Human, H	June	5	Rainbow	144	51 cm
1.90 kg	Kenyon, J	May	4	Rainbow	121	54 cm
1,80 kg	Human, H	June	5	Rainbow	144	50 cm
1,77 kg	Anon	Nov	4	Rainbow	106	55 cm
1,65 kg	Anon	July	5	Rainbow	140	49 cm

6. Breakdown of 2016/17 results by dam: No. Stocked vs. Killed & C & R*

Dam	Stocked	No. Killed	Killed as % Stocked	No. C&R	C&R as % Stocked	C&R + Kill as % Stocked.
1	86	3	3.5	47	54.7	58.1
2	192	42	21.9	111	57.8	79.7
3	600	92	15.3	187	31.2	46.5
4	209	35	16.7	50	23.9	40.7
5	527	114	21.6	196	37.2	58.8
6	146	11	7.5	28	19.2	26.7
7	548	138	25.2	228	41.6	66.8
Totals	2308	435	18.8	847	36.7	55.5

*C&R= Catch & Release. Note that Dam 1 has become a catch and release dam.

7 Number of members compared with number visits

Year	1998/9	1999/00	2000/1	2001/2	2002 /3	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11
No. Members	90	91	91	95	95	95	100	100	100	110	110	110	110
No. Visits	500	542	617	623	603	439	479	476	388	453	432	394	446
Year	2011/2	2012/3	2013/4	2014/1 5	2015/6	2016/17							
No. Members	110	110	110	110	108	109							
No. Visits	424	405	435	416	340	347							

In order to keep fees at a reasonable level the membership was increased up to 2007/8 but after a peak during 2000 to 2003 fishing pressure has remained fairly level during the last 7 seasons and then dropped again in 2015/16. The number of visits in the 2006/7 season was also well down because the clubhouse was closed for renovations during the winter of 2006.

A 'visit' is based on a form which is completed by each angler recording fish caught and this represents approximately 1,5 days angling effort. In theory nil returns should also be recorded but this is not always done.

Peter Arderne, July 2017

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