

WATER FOR GROWTH

The Water for Growth partnership has been working to increase the number of migratory fish such as salmon and sea trout in the iconic Cornish rivers, the Camel and Fowey. The number of salmon returning to our Cornish rivers has declined significantly over recent decades.

We are working to reverse this trend by creating a long-term improvement in spawning access, habitats, and angling activity while building a sustainable framework to maintain these improvements for the future.

This project, led by Westcountry Rivers Trust, in partnership with the Environment Agency, Natural England and South West Water, has:

- Improved fish passage, helping adult fish return from the sea to the rivers to breed
- Improved the habitat and food sources for fish living in rivers
- Improved the opportunities for anyone to go angling for salmon and trout across Cornwall

The Camel and Fowey are two of the most important salmon and trout rivers originating on Bodmin moor. All habitat and fish passage improvements have been delivered in these river catchments. The project throws a much wider net regarding angling and covers all of Cornwall in its support of fishing beats. It provides a service to anglers via the the Fish Pass app. For more information about this project, scan the QR code below.



This project received funding from the England European Regional Development Fund as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014-2020. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (and in London the intermediate body Greater London Authority) is the Managing Authority for European Regional Development Fund. Established by the European Union, the European Regional Development Fund helps local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support innovation, businesses, create jobs and local community regenerations.

For more information visit: <https://www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding>



EUROPEAN UNION
European Structural and Investment Fund

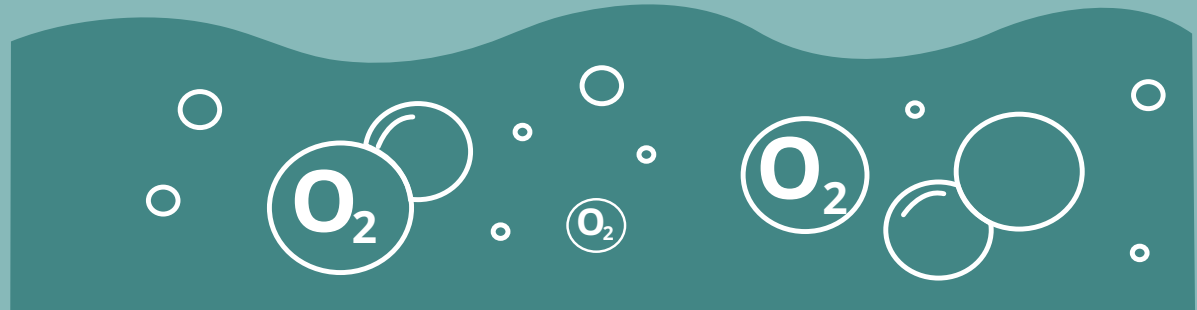


HM Government

River Camel *Dowr Kammel*

Camel comes from the river's Cornish name Dowr Kammel, which means **crooked river**. Initially it flows south, skirting the uplands of Bodmin moor, then crooks back north to meet the sea at Wadebridge.

Salmon spend most of their adult life in the sea, **returning to the tops of the rivers when they are ready to breed**. They make these epic journeys upstream to lay their delicate eggs in gravel nests called redds in the riverbed.



They can only breed in **clean, oxygen rich water at the top of the river**. Their population depends on their ability to make their way back upstream to these habitats.

Every barrier is different, and will need an individual plan for how we can help fish get past it. These are the 4 main options:

- Removal** completely remove the barrier
- Partial removal** remove part of the barrier allowing fish to pass this section
- Bypass channel** a separate channel is created around the barrier for fish to use
- Easement or fish pass** the barrier remains but it is modified to enable fish to swim over it



Before - Camelford weir:
A damaged weir face (bottom right) and a poorly functioning technical fish pass on the left.

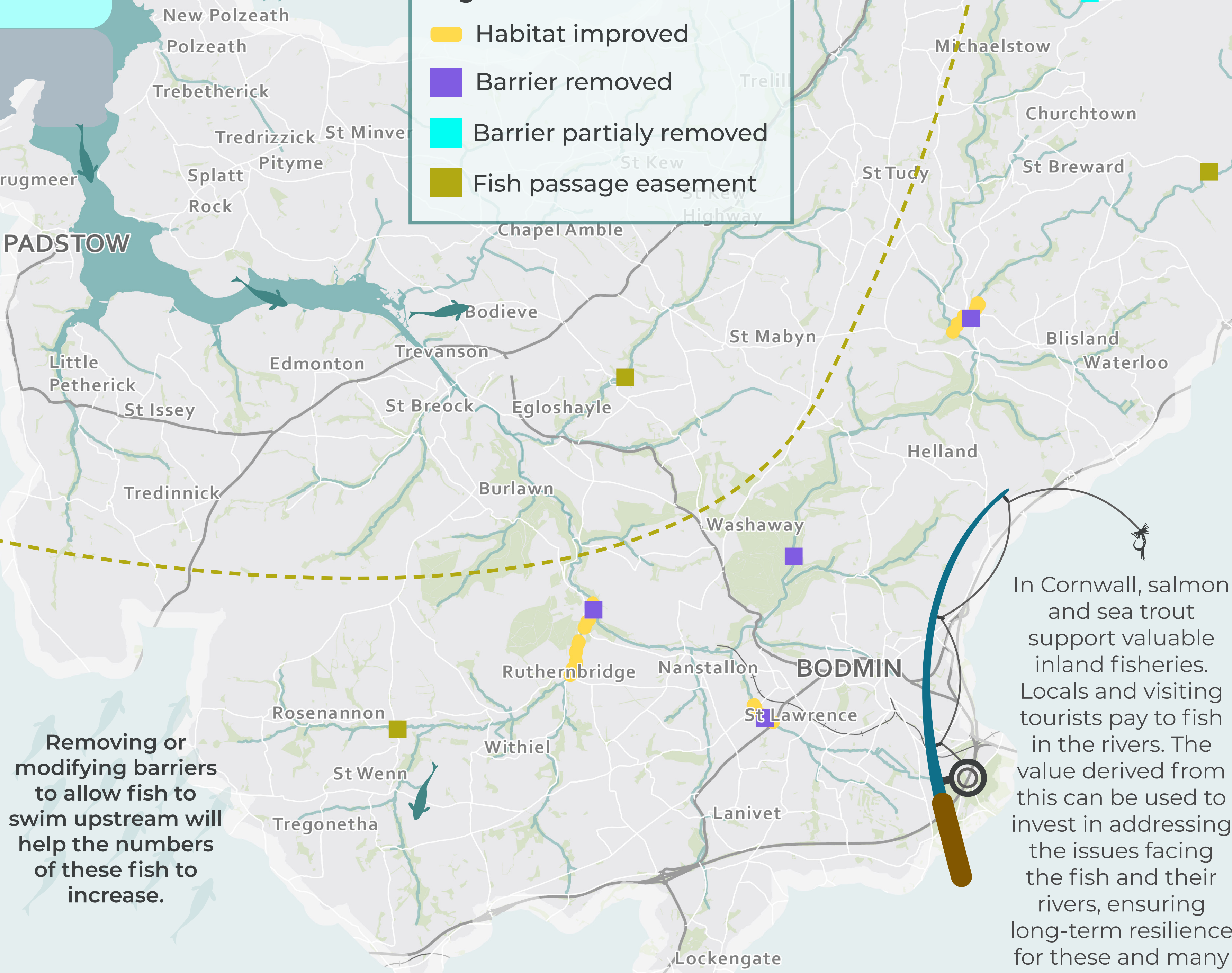


After - Camelford weir:
Baffled weir face and flow control structure at redundant fish pass entrance (left) with bristled eel pass on the right hand side.

But there are many factors making this journey increasingly **difficult** such as weirs which form barriers preventing the fish from swimming up and downstream.

Legend

- Habitat improved
- Barrier removed
- Barrier partially removed
- Fish passage easement

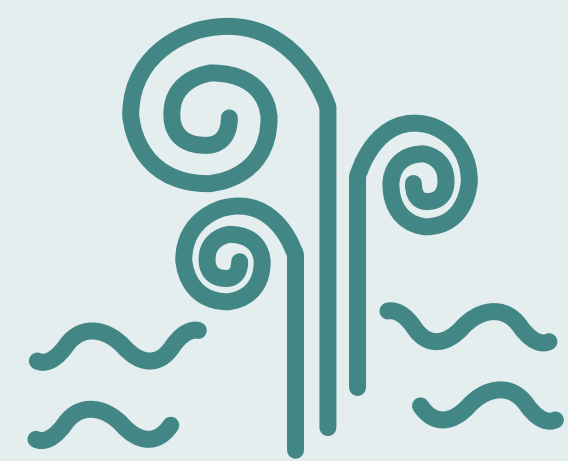


Removing or modifying barriers to allow fish to swim upstream will help the numbers of these fish to increase.

Other threats

Climate change

also makes a salmon's journey harder by altering the amount and temperature of water in the river.



It also effectes the temperature and currents in the sea. This can reduce the availability of food for salmon living in the sea.



Hotter, drier summers



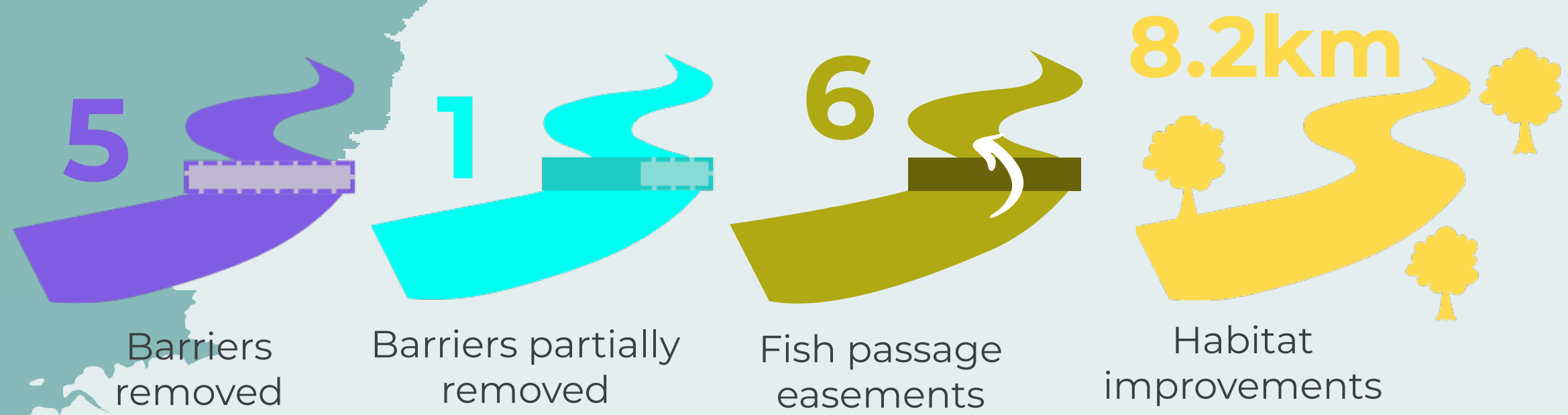
Warmer, wetter winters



More weather extremes

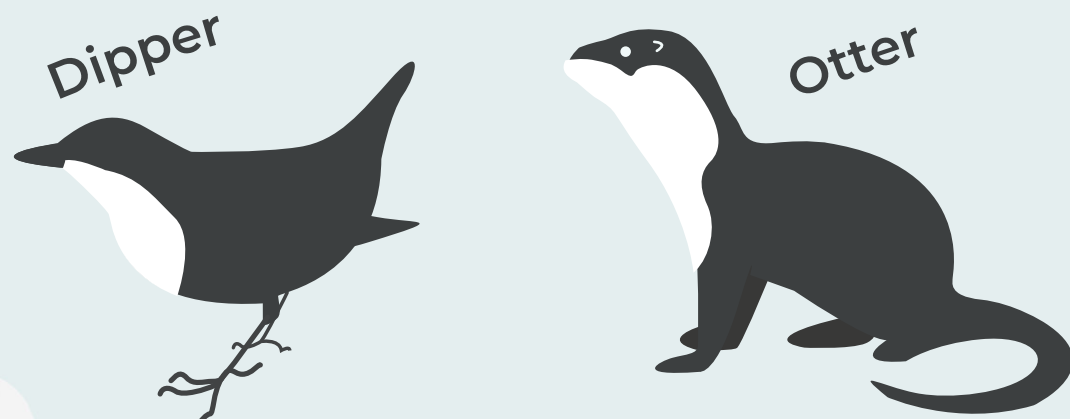
Over fishing

The number of salmon returning to our rivers is also declining due to overfishing of its food sources in the North Atlantic off the coasts of Norway, Iceland and Greenland.

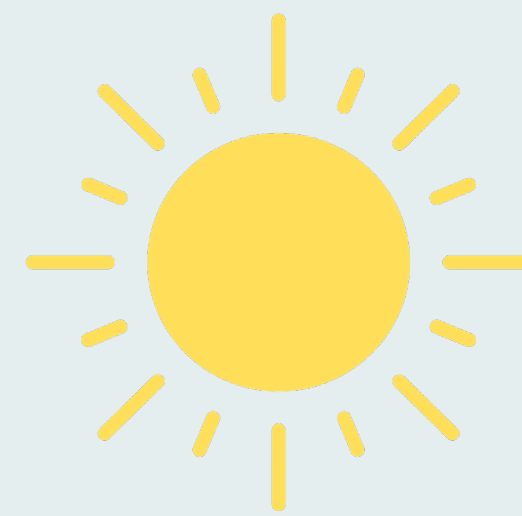


Why are salmon important?

A healthy salmon population is a good indication of the overall condition of a river. If it meets salmon's high standards, likley it will also be good enough for other important species like otters, birds and many plants.



Newly hatched salmon are called fry. These tiny fish don't move far from where they hatched. If there isn't enough food for them they won't survive.



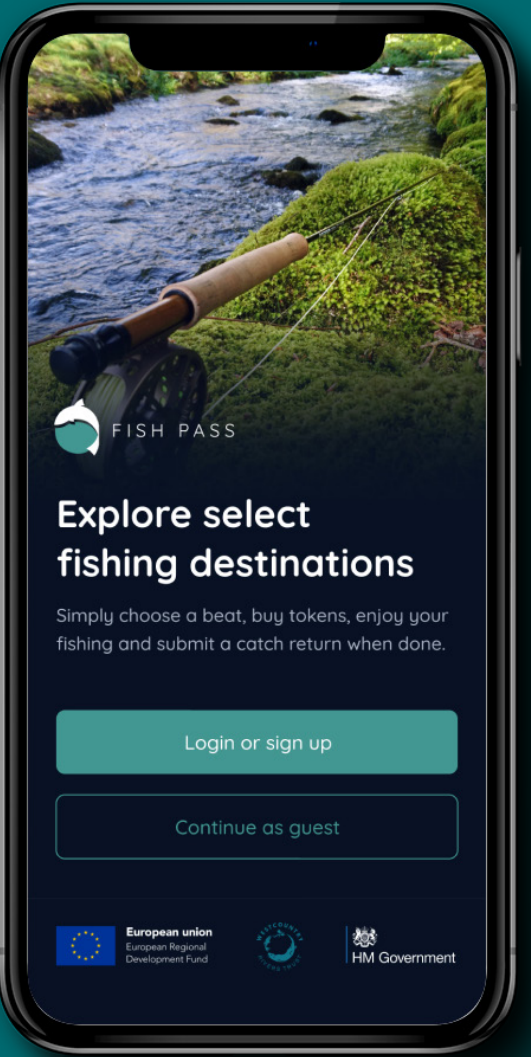
Salmon fry eat plankton and small aquatic plants. Sunlight is essential to ensure there is enough food in the river for young salmon. If there is not enough light reaching the riverbed there will not be enough food.



Enjoy spectacular fishing in unrivalled surroundings across Devon and Cornwall

Simply choose a beat, buy tokens, enjoy your fishing and submit a catch return when you're finished. An easy way to access spectacular fishing.*

Scan the QR code to download the app.



*Anglers will need their rod licence number to use the app



1

FIND a beat you wish to fish

2

SCAN code at start of the beat

3

FISH enjoy your day's fishing