

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig a Gogledd Cymru, a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd



Cefin Campbell MS

Cefin.Campbell@Senedd.Cymru

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

20th September 2023

Dear Cefin,

Please find below the answer to your Written Question.

Cefin Campbell (Mid and West Wales): WQ88937 (e) Tabled on 06/09/2023 What assessment has the Welsh Government undertaken of sea trout populations in Mid and West Wales rivers over the past decade?

Lesley Griffiths: Natural Resources Wales are responsible for the management of freshwater and migratory fisheries in Wales, NRW undertake annual assessments of sea trout stocks in Wales. These assessments are circulated to members of the Wales Fisheries Forum and Local Fisheries Groups and are available on request.

Recent assessments have shown worrying decline in sea trout populations across Wales, with all but two of our 33 main sea trout rivers either 'at risk' or 'probably at risk'.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and responding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Along with salmon, sea trout face a range of threats both within river systems, and out at sea such as pollution, including from agricultural sources, fisheries mortality, predation and, of course, the climate emergency.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lesley Griffiths".

**Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
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Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd**