Minutes of the Board Meeting of The Ythan District Salmon Fishery Board held on 31st March 2025 at Schivas Steading, Newton, Methlick at 3pm

1. Present:

Paul Adderton	- ADDA Machar Pool
John Pirie	- Ardlogie
Charles Wolrige Gordon	- Esslemont – Chairman
Charles Buchan	- Auchmacoy
Eric Ritchie	- Tenant angler
Andy Crawford	- Angler

2. In Attendance:

Mark Andrew	- Former Clerk to the Board
Jim Kerr	- Don District Salmon Fishery Board Superintendent
Edward Arthur	 Clerk to the Board (for this meeting only)

3. Apologies for absence:

Anouk Kloppert	- River Ythan Trust
Dominic Fairlie	- M. Bruce & Partners – Logie Buchan

4. Matters arising from the Public Meeting

The discussions from the earlier (Public) meeting were endorsed by the Board

Mark Andrew reported that INNS control would be undertaken through the SISI project, run by the Deveron Board, in 2025.

5. Composition of The Board

The composition of the Board was confirmed and everyone attending the meeting (save Jim Kerr and Mark Andrew) were Board members. A list of Board members is attached.

6. Accounts

The draft accounts for the year ending 25th July 2024 had been circulated and were available on the website. Mark Andrew explained that costs had reduced as the role of Clerk had been incomplete during the year and there had been some income from FMS for the Scotland wide map based Fishery Management Plan that he had assisted with (and been paid by). The SLA had increased by RPI from March 2024 based on the uplift in January 2024 which had been higher than previous years.

7. Setting the rates for 2025

Mark Andrew reported that Board costs had not increased as much for the year as RPI for January 2025 was only marginally higher than 2024. As costs had been saved in 2024 he recommended the rate should remain unchanged from 2024 at £1.53 in the £. This was approved by all.

8. **AOCB**

Mark Andrew advised that a request should be made to the Assessor to undertake the re-valuation of the River Ythan Fishings for the forthcoming re-assessment of the Valuation Roll. He said that he would make the request if that was what members wished. It was agreed that this should happen as without entry in the Valuation Roll the Board would have no right to charge and could not operate.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, Schivas Estates for providing the venue and both Mark Andrew and Edward Arthur for their work on behalf of the Board. He hoped everyone would attend the next meeting, which would probably be in late January or early February 2026 if not earlier.