

September 19th

RIVER NADDER INVERTABRATE SURVEY

David Holroyd – Membership Secretary Teffont Fishing Club and River Monitoring Coordinator for Salisbury and District Angling Club. A lifetime fly fisherman and flytyer who has flyfished competitively for many years and travelled many parts of the British Isles and abroad for the pleasure of catching fish in wild places.

Moved to Tisbury three years ago upon retiring as Head of Estates for the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew.

Current river quality and wildlife is deteriorating at an accelerating rate. This is particularly important in Wiltshire and Hampshire where 95% of the planet's 'Chalk stream habitat' is located. Because of the threat of continued deterioration and its unique nature and biodiversity, the whole of the River Avon and its tributaries are designated a SSSI and subject to the status of being a 'Special Area for Conservation'.

The water quality is checked through monthly invertebrate monitoring which is undertaken through the country by volunteer anglers and clubs. This provides an early warning of pollution and provides a long-term data base on the health of the invertebrates in the rivers. The data is held by nationally by the Riverfly Partnership (<https://www.riverflies.org>) and the Salmon and Trout Conservation. The area administered by the Wiltshire Fisheries Association probably has by far the most extensive collection of river monitoring data in the country.

The river Nadder is currently in good health and being monitored throughout its length. This is especially important as the Nadder is also a key spawning habitat for the Avon Salmon, which is particularly endangered.

SIGHTINGS

Fish

Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*)
Salmon parr (*Salmo salar*)
Grayling (*Thymallus thymallus*)
Bullheads (*Cottus gobio*)
Three Spined Stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*)
Brook lamprey (*Lampeta planeri*)
Chub (*Squalius cephalus*)
Dace (*Leuciscus leuciscus*)
Minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*)

Invertebrates

Cased Caddis – (*Trichoptera*) not specifically identified

Uncased Caddis (*Trichoptera*)) not specifically identified

Mayfly (*Ephemera Danica*)

Blue Winged Olives nymphs (*Serratlla ignita*)

Large Dark Olives nymphs (*Baetis rhodani*)

Autumn Dunn nymphs (*Ecdyonurus dispar*)

Freshwater shrimp (*Gammarous pulex*)

Stoneflies (*Plecoptera*) not specifical identified

Various water beetles and water snails not specifically identified.