

**34th Annual Study Course  
University of Nottingham**

**The Institute's Specialist Sections in Action**



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# Summary of proceedings: Areas of current and future involvement eg by Specialist Sections

## RESOURCE

It's a big area! We could include the following, in the order they were mentioned:

CONSERVATION

THE CHALLENGE OF THE WFD FOR FISHERIES

DISEASES AND PARASITES

WATER QUALITY AND ECOLOGY

PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY including  
ENDOCRINE DISRUPTION

# ❑ CULTURE

❑ More tightly defined than Resource. The following were discussed:

## ❑ RESTORATION OF SEVERELY DAMAGED FISHERIES

❑ Intercepting returning adults - techniques

❑ Breeding in captivity and releasing - techniques

## ❑ COMMERCIAL FEEDS

❑ Physiology and nutrition

## ❑ DISEASE IN CULTURED & IMPORTED STOCK

## ❑ REGISTERING AND REVIEWING ACTIVITIES

## ❑ CONSERVING RARE SPECIES OF MARINE FISH ETC

❑ Treating water in culture systems

# ❑ MANAGEMENT

❑ Maybe the largest section of all. We heard about just a fraction of the whole picture:

## ❑ GENETICS

- ❑ The diversity of 'brown trout' species
- ❑ Potential effects / lack of effects of stocking

## ❑ LEGAL INSTRUMENTS

- ❑ England and Wales as a sub-set of legislation in the British Isles, past, present, future

## ❑ HYDROMORPHOLOGY

- ❑ Understanding river channel dynamics
- ❑ Habitat improvements

# ❑ ECOLOGY

❑ Quite an overlap with aspects of previous sessions:

## ❑ THE HYDROLOGICAL RESOURCE

- ❑ Allocating volumes / levels
- ❑ Defining needs - ecological and abstraction
- ❑ Close linkage with WFD / Quantity objectives

## ❑ CONSERVATION

- ❑ Defining fish species in need; trends
- ❑ Legal provisions
- ❑ Protection of sites as well as species
- ❑ Need for consistent monitoring

# ECOLOGY

## Continued:

### PARASITOLOGY

- Understanding occurrence and frequency
- Significance to fisheries
- Physiology; food chains; induced endocrine disruption

### INVASION BY ALIEN (PLANTS)

- Impact on ecosystems
- Conservation issues
- Problems caused by the Biocidal Products Directive
- Risk assessment

# ECOLOGY

## Continued:

### FISHERIES RESTORATION

- Habitat restoration as a sustainable solution
- Holistic approach
- Angling club self-help and seeking help
- Nurturing the next generation of anglers

## COMMERCIAL

### Code of Practice for the Management of Stillwater Coarse Fisheries:

#### FIRST EXAMPLE OF THIS IFM INITIATIVE

- Press coverage

- Practical help for fisheries

- Promotion of the Institute

### Sea Angling

- THE RESOURCE & PRESSURES

- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## ❑ COMMERCIAL

❑ Match Angling: (so really more recreational than commercial, despite the major contribution to local and national economies)

### ❑ HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

- ❑ 19th Century Origins, participants, methods
- ❑ National Federation of Anglers 1903
- ❑ Emerging rules, manuals etc
- ❑ Development of lobbying
- ❑ Codes of Conduct
- ❑ 1953 - Angling Times launched
- ❑ 1970s - seeds of commercial fisheries
- ❑ Decline in river matches; need for management plans

# Matrix of potential activities

RESOURCE	UNDERSTANDING	PROTECTING	EXPLOITING
Fresh Water	Biology	Water quality	Water resources
Estuaries	Ecology	Ecosystems	Recreation
The Sea	Chemistry	Species	Fish
Habitat	Hydrology	Lobbying	Other wildlife
Fish / Fish-Farming	Geology	Advising	Landscape
Invertebrates	Training	Training	Training
Plants			

**BLUE** = Central to IFM    **GREEN** = Of interest    **BLACK** = Someone else's focus



# Next steps for IFM

Establish / Reaffirm our baseline:

## The Aims of the Institute

- Are these still appropriate?

## Next steps for IFM

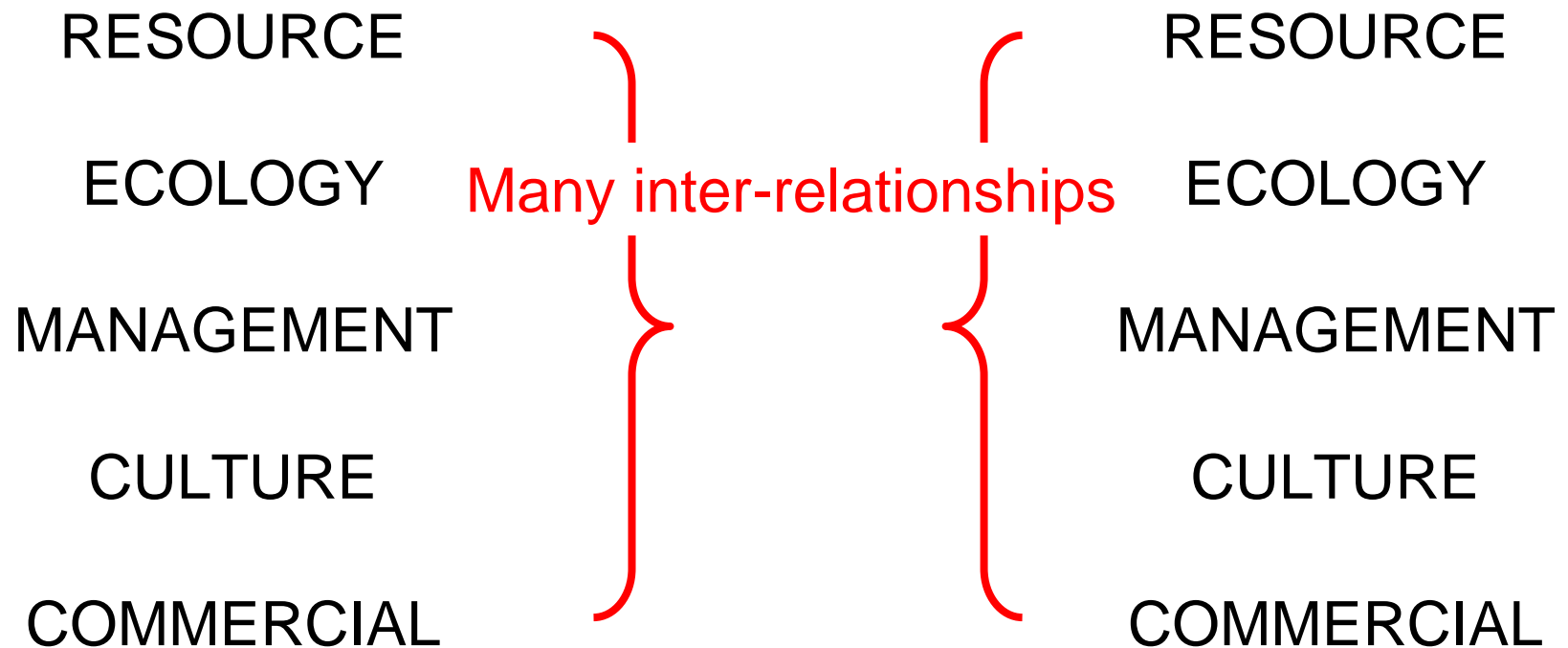
- Consider the potential **structure** and **role** of Specialist Sections:
  - An informal group of like-minded individuals, or
  - A formal Section with its own officers

## Next steps for IFM

- Consider the potential **structure** and **role** of Specialist Sections:
  - To support the aims and objectives of the IFM by forming expertise groups who can eg respond to consultation papers, prepare position papers for Council, prepare advisory leaflets etc for Members, run workshops....

## Next steps for IFM

- What Specialisms need such treatment in IFM?



Are these groupings correct?

## Next steps for IFM

- Define the whole area and place the sub-divisions in one of the (five) Specialist Sections

*For example but only first thoughts:*

### Resource

= water + fish + habitat + plants + invertebrates + conservation + training + the associated sciences

### Commercial / Recreational

= anglers: individuals, clubs, national associations; + training + Codes of Practice + advice on resource etc; fish farming + disease + legislation

## **ACTION**

Reassess Aims & Objectives of the IFM

**Define need for Specialist Sections**

**Establish shape of Sections**

Work out detail:

*Groupings/names; Interest of members to form teams; terms of reference; work plan*

**Launch Specialist Sections**

## **RESPONSIBILITY**

Council – Nov 03

**This ASC**

**This ASC**

Working Group established by Council – Nov 03

**Council – Jan 04**