

# A last stronghold for wild Atlantic salmon?

The wonderful Atlantic salmon is an icon for Wester Ross.

For thousands of years, adult salmon have returned from arctic seas to untamed rivers near here to complete their life-cycle.

Salmon grow quickly at sea by feeding on small fishes and krill.

Most salmon return to freshwater after one winter at sea; others swim as far as Greenland before returning to their home river after two or three years at sea.

Once there were so many salmon that they were often seen jumping as they gathered in summer awaiting rainfall.

## Otter

Often seen along the shore; also in rivers and lochs.

## Sea trout

Sea-going brown trout, remain in coastal waters after migrating to sea. Parasitic sea lice have been a problem.



## White-tailed eagle

Feeds on fishes, seabirds and mammals; often taking carrion.

## Salmon



Salmon spawn in November. Female salmon bury their eggs among stones.



Tiny salmon fry emerge from amongst stones in the streambed in April and feed on aquatic insect larvae.



After two or three years in freshwater, the little salmon become silver and go to sea, migrating in April and May.

Contacts and supporters:

