

LANFIM9

Support electrofishing activities within a fishery



Overview

This standard is about working as part of an electrofishing team. It covers the use of nets to safely and effectively remove fish from water, reporting on the condition of fish and establishing fish in holding units to recover. It also includes the safe handling and release of fish following the fishing activity using routine or non-routine tasks.

The standard requires the use of hand or banner nets to catch stunned fish and the ability to identify when there is a need to stop or modify fishing because of large numbers of fish, fish transfers and changes in water conditions.

This standard requires that you carry out work safely in line with legal health and safety requirements and that you work to maintain bio-security and minimise environmental disturbance at all times.

The legislation controlling the application of this standard will vary depending on the location of the fishery within England, Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 prepare holding unit(s) to receive, and maintain the condition of fish
- P2 support the establishment of fishing areas to avoid fish escapes occurring
- P3 operate nets to support anode, quickly removing fish from water
- P4 handle fish in a manner which minimises stress
- P5 establish immobilised fish in holding units
- P6 identify and communicate the need to stop or modify fishing activity
- P7 process fish efficiently according to needs of survey
- P8 observe recovery of fish and report on signs of stress or disorder
- P9 maintain effective communications with team throughout fishing activity
- P10 release recovered fish effectively

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the health and safety requirements associated with electrofishing
- K2 why it is important to quickly remove fish from the electric field
- K3 how to recognise stress in your stunned fish
- K4 how to recognise signs of recovery
- K5 why visibility is important to the electrofishing process
- K6 the expected reaction of fish to anodes
- K7 how to effectively catch immobilised fish
- K8 factors which can limit how fish are caught
- K9 how to recognise fish ready for release
- K10 how to release fish
- K11 how electrofishing is used to support the management of fisheries

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Glossary

The definitions below should help you understand the standard:

Water conditions

Visibility, water flow, depth, etc.

Holding units

Equipment used to hold live fish e.g. buckets, dustbins, tanks, etc.

Conductivity

The ability of water to conduct electricity

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