

# New Research on Fishing

## *The Social and Community Benefits of Angling*

### Quotes from Stakeholders

#### **Sir Clive Booth, Chair of the Big Lottery Fund:**

'It is estimated that 3.9 million people fish in the UK. However, not much is known about angling within policy or the wider public as a result of a lack of research. Our Research programme is all about looking at tackling exclusion and building local communities, and providing an evidence base of the potential and actual social benefits of angling is a very creative way of doing this.'

#### **Richard Wightman, Angling Participation Manager at the Environment Agency:**

'We are very pleased that Substance has won funding for this research. We have many areas of common interest and the proposed work will help fill some key knowledge gaps around the specific social contribution angling makes. This will help the Environment Agency, and angling in general, to make a more informed case for angling. That is good for increasing opportunity and participation but most importantly it is good for all the extra people who will get the simple benefits of going fishing.'

#### **Anne Moyle, Chief Executive of Get Hooked on Fishing:**

'I am delighted by this news, we have been working with Substance for a few years and their partnership and this funding will help us to build and sustain our schemes in the future. We have lots of anecdotal evidence about angling turning around the lives of young people. This work will help to show that it really works, providing vital evidence on how we engage and what we actually deliver.'

#### **Cathel Mcleod of the Assynt Angling Group:**

'We're delighted to hear about this research, and we look forward to finding out more. It will help us develop angling and things like angling tourism in the area.'