


Author	Message
<p>springwell 750 Post Club User is Offline</p>  <p>Joined: 04 Aug 2006 Posts: 766 Location: Carmarthenshire</p>	<p>Posted: Mon Nov 19, 2007 10:09 pm Post subject: quote</p> <p><u>A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE A.C.A AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE WYE AND USK FOUNDATION RECEIVED TODAY</u></p> <p>Dear Bill, Tony and Chris</p> <p>Thank you for getting in touch. I can only apologise profusely for the awful weekend you must have had. I will try and explain our reasoning is for getting involved with canoeing and what happened the days you were fishing.</p> <p>Since 1974, there has been an agreement to canoe the upper Wye between the national canoeing bodies and owners. This allowed canoeing out with the salmon fishing season (17th October – 15th March) and during high summer flows. Recently, the Welsh Canoeing Association (WCA) tore up the agreement in favour of a bid to get canoeing 365 days of the year. Passing such a bill has already happened in Scotland and in the pipeline there is a Welsh act that could allow it to be passed on our rivers. You may also have been aware of the strong lobbying by WCA for this to happen.</p> <p>For our part we lobbied to continue with agreed access as the way forward and the Assembly gave us a 100% grant to re establish the canoeing arrangements on the Wye and Usk, against a clear signal that the alternative would likely be open and free access all year. I should stress that no other funding is being used for this purpose.</p> <p>We are still putting up signs that show where access should and should not take place. The problem last weekend was that several parties got in at an unauthorised point and some went round a second time so that both Gromain and Ty Newydd were the victims of even more than usual numbers. Normally they would set out from Builth and get out at Boughrood or Glasbury so that a large part of the day is free of them. Complicating matters even more is the prolonged low flows this autumn have made most other rivers un-navigable and this has meant that the upper Wye has received an increase in numbers as it is the largest of Wales's rivers.</p> <p>There is no excuse for bad manners and we will be redoubling our efforts to get the message across that they should behave in a completely angler friendly way.</p> <p>However, what can we do to redress the miserable time you had? I will ask Seth to get in contact and see if there is any way you could be persuaded to accept another weekend in lieu, or refund etc. There is no canoeing between 15/3 and 17/10 and he will be instructed to offer any</p>

of the fishing I manage for whatever day or species you might choose.

Again with my sincerest apologies

Stephen

Dr Stephen Marsh - Smith

Chairman of Anglers Conservation Association (ACA)

Source:

<http://www.completefisher.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6904&postdays=0&postorder=asc&start=15>