

**RSPCA Trout Standards Technical Advisory Group Meeting
on 1st April 2015**

Meeting Summary Notes

Fasting times gut evacuation study

The RSPCA welfare standards for farmed Rainbow trout currently require a 72 hour fasting period. The group discussed the findings of a study looking at fasting times for gut evacuation, issues with the current 72 hour fasting period, the welfare concerns for fish when fasting and other organisations recommendations for fasting times. The focus of the discussions was on fasting time for harvest fish. This would be taken forwards for further consideration.

Hatchery sourcing

Within two years of joining the scheme producers must either produce eggs and juvenile fish in-house or obtain them from another FF approved supplier. The group gave updates on achieving this.

Stocking densities/crowding times

Stocking densities and crowding times were used as examples to discuss derogations, exceptions and permissions from the standards. If members have any issues with achieving the standards then they should contact FF to discuss this.

General standards queries

Concerns were raised regarding reducing stocking density as a result of fin condition. The group discussed their concerns and fin condition. This would be taken forwards for further consideration.