

# Girling Angling Society

Website:- [GirlingAS.co.uk](http://GirlingAS.co.uk)

## Fladbury Fishery Decline over Recent Seasons – January 2026

GirlingAS has owned the Fishing rights to Fladbury Left Bank of the Warwickshire Avon since the 1940's & many of our members have been within the Society for well over 40 years. For the last four seasons we have monitored water quality as such there is a wealth of experience & knowledge within the Society. The river & its species changes naturally over the years. Huge shoals of Dace are present in the Summer, years ago it was shoals of Bleak. Barbel breed in the weir pool & in the summer large Roach are present. Over the last few years we have seen a rapid decline in the ecology of the fishery caused by Pollution & Predation.

Water Quality Measurements have shown an alarming level of Phosphate throughout the four-year measurement period peaking at 1.34mg/l in June 2024 & averaging 0.7mg/l, with a minimum value of 0.22mg/l. The Environment Agency quote 0.1mg/l measured at Fladbury, a typical river value. The Society also measures Electrical Conductivity which is a measure of suspended solids with an acceptance value of 1000Us/cm. The Society has regularly recorded well above the acceptance value.

For the last four seasons, due to the high level of phosphate (nutrients) present we have seen an explosion of weed growth & prolonged periods of water clarity. Predation from Cormorants has increased alarmingly & we have problems with Otters. Visible foam smelling of detergent particularly during high water is an increasing occurrence & blackened river weed show the signs of pollution.

Over the last three or four years we have noticed that Fish stocks regularly move downstream in November December leaving only Chub in the stretch with no other species present. This is true for upstream & downstream of Fladbury fishery.

The Society has archived seasonal tables of match results on their website for the last eight seasons. Search; GirlingAS/ Members/ Full/ Archived Tables/ Aggregate. Proving this recent accelerated decline with data is difficult although the late Autumn decline in results due to fish migration is evident.

| Year | November (lb-oz-dm)             | December (lb-oz-dm)             |
|------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2018 | 5-14-0 / 4-15-0 / 4-9-0         | 4-7-0 / 3-15-0 / 3-10-0         |
| 2019 | 12-13-0 / 7-1-0 / 5-6-0         | River in spate                  |
| 2020 | 10-6-0 / 4-10-0 / 4-9-0         | River in spate                  |
| 2021 | River in spate                  | <b>0-13-0 / 0-11-0 / 0-8-0</b>  |
| 2022 | 12-14-0 / 8-1-0 / 4-13-0        | <b>1-15-0 / 1-1-0 / 0-9-0</b>   |
| 2023 | Match transferred from Fladbury | Match transferred from Fladbury |
| 2024 | Match transferred from Fladbury | Match transferred from Fladbury |
| 2025 | Match transferred from Fladbury | Match transferred from Fladbury |

The chart shows excellent historic late Autumn match results 2018 to November 2022 but the last three seasons we have transferred the November & December GirlingAS matches away from Fladbury due to extremely poor pleasure fishing results experienced during late Autumn.

The accelerated demise is obvious, high Phosphate for the entire four years of recordings is indisputable. Increasing predation & accelerated growth of weed & prolonged water clarity are very evident with detergent foam now becoming a regular occurrence.

Where this leads to without a step change is complete decline of the fishery & a total loss of fish stocks including the Barbel in the weir pool. This demise is threatening the longevity of the Society which has enjoyed & nurtured this natural fishery for over 85 years.

If the Society can help further, please note the contact details below.

Kind Regards

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