

REDD ALERT:

How to Identify Atlantic Salmon Redds

The word "redd" is a Scottish word meaning "to make clean or tidy"- it is a nest that the female Atlantic Salmon will create, by using her tail to create a depression in the gravel for her to lay her eggs. Once the eggs have been laid, she will use her tail to cover the eggs with additional gravel.





The surface area of a redd is approximately 2-5 meters squared and consists of a raised mound or dome of gravel, under which the eggs are located. The gravel will appear clean, or bright, compared to other rocks in the river.

Redds are usually found at the tail of pools on the upstream side of riffles, with relatively high-water velocity, and water depths of 15-70cm. The flow allows for oxygen to reach the eggs, while keeping sand and silt away from the eggs. Look for areas that have lots of gravel, not sand, silt, or bedrock!





If the water level or flow is low, there will be more redds clustered together in the middle sections of the river or tributary. When the water level and flow are normal, the redds will be more evenly distributed throughout the whole river, reaching further upstream.



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