



## **Some Reasons Anglers Shared for Why They Release Atlantic Salmon Grilse**

It is crazy to kill.

To set an example to other user groups

It is all part of the bigger picture. Catch and release of both salmon and grilse will go a long ways towards having future salmon populations.

It simply is the right thing to do.

It instills an overall conservation mind set in people you fish with and sets an example for other anglers and other user groups.

Grilse may act like a buffer for the species if something bad happens to the big fish in a certain year.

Retaining a grilse = the end of fishing for the day. I'm not wasting a perfectly good day of fishing to keep a fish.

What sense does it make to kill them? There is no good reason to kill an Atlantic salmon of any size.

Some grilse will become the next generation of salmon broodstock in our rivers.

Atlantic salmon are among the most beautiful creatures in the whole world and it feels great to reward the special ones that take a fly by releasing them. Killing one does not feel so good.

To keep the salmon population forever growing and returning; you can't take and never put back and expect it to last.

I release all wild fish. To me it is part of the price to pay for the privilege of fishing for wild fish. Grilse are predominantly male, 70 - 80%, I believe, depending on the river system. I believe this is nature's way of ensuring there will always be enough males to mate with all available hen fish. While a larger number of females return as large salmon to produce a maximum yield of eggs, grilse ensure that are enough males to mate with all of them.

They play a key role in maintaining healthy stocks while still providing an angler with great joy.

For the hope that someday our rivers will be filled with healthy wild Atlantic salmon.

The Atlantic salmon is too precious a fish to catch only once. It is paramount that we do all in our power to insure our children and grandchildren are provided with the opportunity to share in the wonderful experience of Atlantic salmon fly fishing.

They make up the majority of spawners in most of the rivers I fish.

My daughter is three and I have another child on the way. It is a dream of mine to be able to enjoy salmon fishing with my kids and grandkids into my golden years.

We can't ask others to give up their rights to kill fish if we continue to kill.

Atlantic salmon – whether grilse or adults – are all too rare, both in the provinces and in the rest of the western Atlantic. We need to do everything possible to help them come back.

Anglers cast their flies out into the river anticipating a strike. The adrenaline rush is the strike and the sound of your reel singing in the wind, while the salmon leaps out of the water. Why kill something that gave you so much joy. This same fish just may be the salmon that gives another angler this same rush, and that angler just may be your child or grandchild.

They grow larger and return to challenge anglers. I caught a tagged salmon that measured 31 inches. It had been tagged the previous year at 23 inches.