



**The**  
**Avon Roach Project**  
**[www.avonroachproject.co.uk](http://www.avonroachproject.co.uk)**

The Avon Roach Project was, I guess, never going to be just about growing and releasing tens of thousands of roach and hoping this would solve the problem. We were always going to have to address some of the contributory factors responsible for their decline, and so we are doing just that. We are about to embark on, and co-fund, a series of habitat restoration projects in the Avon Valley, creating fry and juvenile sanctuary areas which will benefit not only our roach but all species of fish.

As well as this we have worked our rocks off in partnership with the great dynamic team at the Angling Trust trying to do something about possibly the biggest threat to not only our roach but the very balance and biodiversity of our entire ecosystem from the unimaginable damage being done each winter by the unsustainable level of predation by cormorants.

So through our petition, handed to the Minister, Richard Benyon, in February 2012, and in partnership with the Angling Trust we are calling for the legal right to protect our fish by having them placed on the 'General Licence.' And not only our roach but those in rivers up and down the country, along with all other fish species, will stand a far greater chance of returning to a self-sustaining level if we achieve this and gain the right to protect them.

We are delighted to have been a part of what has already been achieved and are very keen to keep the momentum going and see the measures put in place that we have all been campaigning for, and that almost every angler in the country would welcome, which will dramatically increase the long term chances of success of not only our project, but the many others countrywide.

We are at a point now where we need one last push and show of support from you guys, as this could be the only opportunity we'll get to make the change our struggling fish populations so desperately need; so please don't leave it to someone else. Please don't let this chance go by. Please do your bit and help us by mustering support and writing to your MP.

Trevor Harrop & Budgie Price