

Bill Goggins

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 August 2021 17:35
To: IFD Public Consultations
Subject: proposed salmonid fishery bye-law.

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I am an Irish "all round" angler and that includes sea, game and coarse. Similar to my angling friends, we mostly practise Catch +Release for all species. . Your consideration of the following points would be appreciated.

1. Personally I am a member of several fishing clubs, 4 of which are trout. I don't ever recall being asked by anyone for my opinion on the culling of coarse fish.? The committees of federations purporting to represent the interests of trout anglers, may favour the proposed culling, but let me assure you that there are many anglers like me ,who totally oppose and abhor this form of action.
2. Surely its an obvious fact that if predators are removed that the prey, =. the coarse fish, will multiply considerably. This is already happening in some bays, on the Corrib as was recently reported by local expert Basil Shields.
3. Perhaps a better strategy, might be to firstly call a halt to the catch and kill trout competitions , which is an ongoing form of culling in itself. A Catch +Release policy should be practised ,encouraged and then enforced if necessary, for all competitions. More focus then could be given to other issues like clean spawning beds, nutrient levels, pollution, algae etc.
4. "pike lives matter too" a great sporting fish ,becoming more and more popular with sport fishers ,to both native and visitors alike. Do you see the immense damage this form of action will do to deter visiting anglers coming here.? Our economy, especially now, needs the diversification of all potential all tourist anglers from all disciplines. That includes coarse and pike anglers. We definitely do not need the bad publicity and press that will follow, if this act is enforced.
5. If it is really, really necessary to remove some coarse fish, from any fishery, and that too is debatable. Find the money, get the funding, restock the many waters, that have been plundered in latter years, transfer them alive. There really is no acceptable excuse in this day and age to carry out this unnecessary ,form of proposed killing. Also ,from the outside it certainly looks like, that this bye-law introduction, is you, simply dancing to the whim of a minority antiquated mindset, based in Galway. Neanderthal is the word that comes to mind.

Yours sincerely, [REDACTED]

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