

Bill Goggins

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 August 2021 09:43
To: IFD Public Consultations
Subject: Consultation on Draft Designated Salmonid Waters Bye-Law
Attachments: pictures of pike removal (3).jpg; pictures of pike removal (4).jpg; pictures of pike removal (5).jpg; pictures of pike removal (6).jpg

Importance: High

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Dear Minister Ryan

The below is my submission in relation to Consultation on Draft Designated Salmonid Waters Bye-Law 2021.

I would like to indicate that I am Salmon, Trout and Pike angler alike and my submission is founded by the care of all fish in Ireland.

The designated 7 waters are stunning and unique salmonoids fisheries. By all means, they deserve protection. I am **opposing** the Bye-law in the current form, however, as it is not fit for purpose. It is not only scientifically unfounded but in direct opposition to research results founded by IFI and conducted by Debbi Pedreschi. The results of the current bye-laws **harm salmonoids instead of protecting them**, as well as a result in barbaric practices of native pike killing. The culling itself is done in a very unprofessional manner, which screams animals cruelty, and I am certain, you sir would not like to be associated with them. Please see attached for reference.

My submission is to:

1. Continue with the designation of the 7 waters, however, re-define the protection methods to one that works, are aligned with research and do not involve killing native Pike
2. Introduce stricter size and bag limits for salmonoids as the primary method of protection. Consider C&R rules.
3. Realise that big Pike is the best controller of smaller Pike, as well as other species. It will control the pike population far better than any human.
4. Realise that removing big Pike, resulted over the years in an explosion of coarse fish and perch, which both create predation for juvenile salmonoids and create food competition for all year classes of salmonoids. All those non-salmonoids also change the environment and the chemical make of the water in those designated fisheries, which further deteriorates them as salmonoids fisheries. I suggest research is conducted to assess these changes.
5. I request that the barbaric practices of pike culling are stopped. For as long as the decision remains to remove pike from the waters (as incorrect as it is in light of the research and as explained above), the pike should be transferred alive to other non-designated waters and not killed.

Ireland is such a stunning country, you still have the unprecedented opportunity to create it being the very best fishing destination in Europe, which can attract millions of € in the form of angling industry and everything that goes with it. There are jobs to be created and huge amounts of money to be made. The majority of anglers will support you and stand behind you. But you have to do what is right.

Awaiting your response, and trusting the scientific reasoning will be taken into account.

Kind Regards

[Redacted signature]