

Bill Goggins

From: Slaney River Trust SRT <slaneyrivertrust@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday 20 November 2021 17:07
To: IFD Public Consultations
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Opening Date for the River Slaney in 2022

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Below please see submission in relation to the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme Regulations 2021, to provide for the management of the wild salmon and sea trout fishery by Inland Fisheries Ireland from 1st January 2022.

This submission relates to THE RIVER SLANEY and in particular to the opening date for salmon anglers. In the absence of a date published within the draft we have been left with no choice but to make the assumption that opening and closing dates will be in line with 2021.

On Thu, Nov 4, 2021 at 2:06 PM [REDACTED] wrote:
3rd November 2021

To: Minister Eamon Ryan
Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications

Dear Minister Ryan

My name is [REDACTED] and I am writing to you first and foremost as a keen angler who has fished for salmon on the river Slaney for many years. I am also involved in angling retail, where many of my customers are Slaney anglers. Like most of these, I have become increasingly concerned about the late opening of the river in recent years. It is my strong view that the Byelaws should be amended for the River Slaney, to change the opening date to 1st March in 2022.

My view is based on the following

Poaching continues to be a huge problem on the Slaney, particularly as the value of scarce fresh wild Atlantic salmon increases. The presence of anglers on the riverbank during the peak run of salmon in March will deter poachers who would otherwise act with impunity and continue to kill large numbers of Salmon.

Legitimate anglers like myself are happy to practice catch and release, many doing so by choice. This method of angling is widely accepted to be an excellent and sustainable conservation measure. It has been shown to result in an extremely low mortality rate for fresh run salmon, particularly in cold water conditions as is the case in March.

Opening the river for Spring Salmon fishing in March, one of the best times of the year, will strengthen the community of legitimate anglers, thereby giving new life to the river and its surrounds. It will encourage new anglers to get involved, thereby supporting the

conservation effort. And all to the detriment of the poacher whose only interest is to kill fish for personal profit.

I would therefore encourage you to open the River Slaney for salmon and seatrout angling (on a catch and release basis) on 1st March 2022.

Yours sincerely



