

Bill Goggins

From: Slaney River Trust SRT <slaneyrivertrust@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday 20 November 2021 16:31
To: IFD Public Consultations
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Opening date for the River Slaney 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 4:36 PM [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Minister Ryan,

I would like you to consider opening the River Slaney in 2022 for Fly only and catch and release on 1st of March 2022.

In 2007 the river was closed to fishing as the stocks of Salmon were considered to be to low. This in my opinion was a disaster as it opened the door to blatant poaching which has persisted to this day.

The state water keepers can only do so much and without the fishermen on the banks it has become a free for all. Videos of Salmon being caught and killed are posted on the internet with seemingly no consequences for those involved. It is not fair to expect the State water keepers to deal with these poachers without support. In general the fly fishermen and women on the Slaney are the guardians of the river and people on the banks are a great asset to help stop these illegal fishermen.

Over the years the river opened in February but now has been postponed until April. The late opening of the Slaney is a loss of revenue to IFI and also a loss to the fishery owners who invest in improving the spawning beds and cleaning banks and generally improving conditions for the fish to reproduce.

Fly only and catch and release is proven to be very effective and sustainable with very little damage to the fish.

I am asking for the opening date to be moved to the 1st of March to accommodate everyone. It will be good for the river and the fisherfolk

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]