

Bill Goggins

From: Slaney River Trust SRT <slaneyrivertrust@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday 20 November 2021 16:29
To: IFD Public Consultations
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: River Slaney Opening Date 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 7:02 AM [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Minister Ryan,

I am writing to you with regard to the opening date on the river Slaney being changed to March 1st. I own my own fishery and guiding/casting instruction business on the river Blackwater in Co.Cork. As such I have the future of our wild atlantic salmon populations very much to the forefront of my concerns.

It is my opinion that the opening date for the Slaney should be on the 1st of March because

- 1.The river Slaney is a true spring river with its best runs being traditionally in March. The figures from the fish counter at Clohamon weir from 2020 are probably are more accurate reflection on this due to a number of factors which have been expressed to you already.
2. In order to protect these fish, angling clubs need to be active and out on the river bank. As IFI are extremely stretched on the ground this would help to curb any poaching which has been increasing the past few years. These early spring fish are highly prized and a target for poachers.
3. At this time of year Im sure you are aware that salmon are fresh run and at the peak of their condition, that said catch and release angling has minimal effect on these fish, once handled correctly. Numerous studies have shown the effectiveness of catch and release as a conservation measure.
4. Active clubs will also keep the river banks in good condition to help local flora and fauna.
- 5.Also this generates interest in the sport and brings local communities together.
6. I have been working with Loop tackle for a number of years now and we are very much to the forefront of conservation methods worldwide. We have a number of scientists on board who every year bring ground breaking information to the table. This information has been used hand in hand with anglers on other rivers thus showing their importance to conservation going forward.

I hope this short email shows that anglers are primarily interested in conservation, for the future of their sport and can be of great benefit in assisting government bodies to achieve this.

Kind regards,

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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