

Bill Goggins

From: Slaney River Trust SRT <slaneyrivertrust@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday 20 November 2021 16:12
To: IFD Public Consultations
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: River Slaney: Opening date for Salmon Fishing

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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 Tue, Oct 26, 2021 at 12:31 PM Richard Lovegrove <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Minister Ryan

My name is [REDACTED], I live in south county Dublin and I have fished for salmon on the River Slaney for about 40 years. When I first started fishing the opening date was in February and the River Slaney was known as one of the best early rivers in the country. I fully understand the problems which have beset the stocks of salmon in this country since that time and the need for conservation. I also understand that deferring the opening date was a well intentioned measure intended to assist with conservation. However, I strongly believe that it is misguided.

Unfortunately, the many poachers in the country do not understand the need for conservation and the authorities do not have the funding nor the manpower to prevent the wholesale poaching which has plagued our rivers during the closed season in recent years. "Catch and Release" has proved itself over the years as an effective conservation measure and the presence, on the bank, of legitimate anglers, practicing "catch and release" is a practical and effective way of deterring poachers and preserving the stock. The presence of legitimate anglers is in itself a deterrent but they also can summon the authorities and target their response which is an efficient use of that resource.

Accordingly, I would urge you to bring forward the opening day on the Slaney to, say, the 1st March and in this way provide protection to the Spring run of salmon which has traditionally been such a feature of this river.

Regards,
[REDACTED]

