

Bill Goggins

From: Slaney River Trust SRT <slaneyrivertrust@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday 20 November 2021 16:07
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 Sun, Oct 24, 2021 at 3:02 PM [REDACTED] <[REDACTED].com> wrote:

Dear Minister Ryan,

I am a lifelong angler, currently affiliated with the Slaney Anglers Trust but with angling interests in both western and eastern fishery jurisdictions.

I am writing to encourage a minor but potentially a very impactful change to the bylaws controlling the Slaney. Currently the opening date for the river is April 1st where traditionally it was March 1st. The impact of the later date is that there are no legitimate anglers (fishing on a catch and release basis) on the river during March and as a result poaching activity is unchallenged. Legitimate anglers act as a real deterrent to poachers and March is when spring salmon are most active and attract the significant attention of poachers. Fundamentally by opening in March, there will be increased interest along the river, and legitimate anglers will make life far more difficult for those poachers who continue to show total disregard for the law by killing significant numbers of fish.

There is no doubt that fish stocks on the Slaney have improved in recent years and the IFI and their scientists deserve huge credit for this. I am very supportive of the current catch and release and fly only policies on the Slaney but feel that opening the river a month earlier to legitimate anglers will reduce poaching activity and further enhance the restoration of such an important fishery.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

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