

Bill Goggins

From: Slaney River Trust SRT <slaneyrivertrust@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday 20 November 2021 15:55
To: IFD Public Consultations
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: FW: 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 Fri, Oct 22, 2021 at 10:22 AM [REDACTED] > wrote:

Dear Minister Ryan,

I am writing today to propose opening the river Slaney for catch and release fishing on the 1st March 2022.

This earlier opening would facilitate the protection of the river by anglers during this period when poachers are out in force. The Slaney has a unique early spring run of salmon and I myself have personal experience of moving local poachers from the river who are seeking to unlawfully harvest these fish despite the river being designated for "catch and release". In reality, the presence of genuine catch and release anglers saves the lives of salmon. Illegal fishermen and poachers intending to kill salmon will have no issue doing so even if the river is closed and with the Slaney closed between March and April they will have a free run at it during these prime months.

Catch and release fly fishing is an excellent and sustainable conservation measure with an extremely low mortality rate for fresh run salmon, improved even further by cold water which it will be the case in March. The benefit of allowing our presence on the river for the preservation of these fish is clear to see for anyone that knows the river system well and will far outweigh the benefit derived from closing the river for the month of March.

Many thanks for your time in reading my email.

Kind regards,