

“Getting Hooked”

A beginners guide to fishing



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

My Fishing Journey

This Book Belongs to



Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

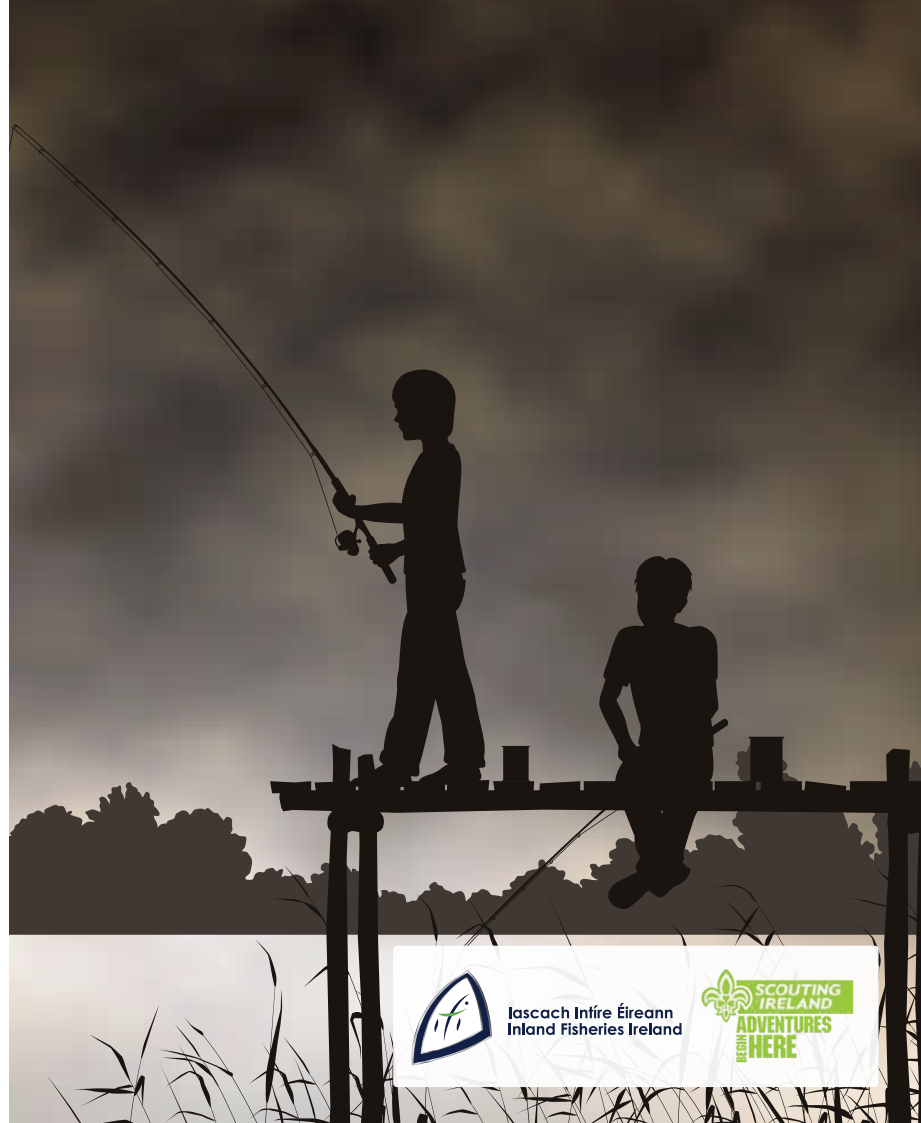


Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) in

conjunction with Scouting Ireland is delighted to bring you this easy to follow "Introduction to Angling Handbook"

The handbook aims to give you enough information so that you will be able to get out on your nearest waterway and try your hand at catching some fish.

So whether you just want to catch a few small roach on the local pond or want to take on the wild blue waters of the Atlantic and have a go at fishing for sharks, read on to find out lots about our fish species, the type of gear you will need and much more.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Getting Started in Fishing

It doesn't matter where you live in Ireland, you will find a variety of great fishing spots to choose from, including canals, rivers, ponds, lakes, estuaries, beaches, piers, harbours and sea shores. This booklet will give you a brief introduction to the basics of fishing and is a first step in gaining the skills and knowledge you will need to enjoy this wonderful hobby.

There are many species of fish in our Irish waters, these can be divided into freshwater and saltwater fish. Knowing where to find them, their habits and the best bait to use, are all skills you will start to learn as you read this handbook.

Once you have decided where you are going fishing you will need to know a bit about the

fish you want to catch so you can pack the right equipment for your fishing trip.

Of course you will need a fishing rod, reel and some fishing tackle, along with unhooking equipment and warm waterproof clothing. A small seat is also useful, as it can take time and patience to catch a fish.

To ensure we have lots of fish to catch in the future our aim is to catch, photograph and release (CPR). This means catch a fish, record your catch with your camera, and then release the fish.

A fishing trip will take you to many wild and wonderful environments. You will see and observe all sorts of wild animals, birds, insects, and wildflowers. Everything in nature is depend-

ant on each other to survive. Fish rely on insects and water borne food to survive. They like sheltered places along the river bank, or seeking food among the seaweed and rocky outcrops on the ocean floor.

One of the best ways to get started fishing is by going with a friend or family member who can lend some equipment and help you get to grips with the basics of fishing. There are also a lot of online videos and tutorials nowadays to help improve your skills.

Fishing has many benefits both for your fitness and mental health. It is a great journey of discovery - so enjoy the adventure.



Inleasach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Fish Facts

Some interesting facts about fish

Fish have the senses of sight, taste, smell, hearing, and touch, they also have a special sense organ called the lateral line which helps them detect movement and vibrations in the water.

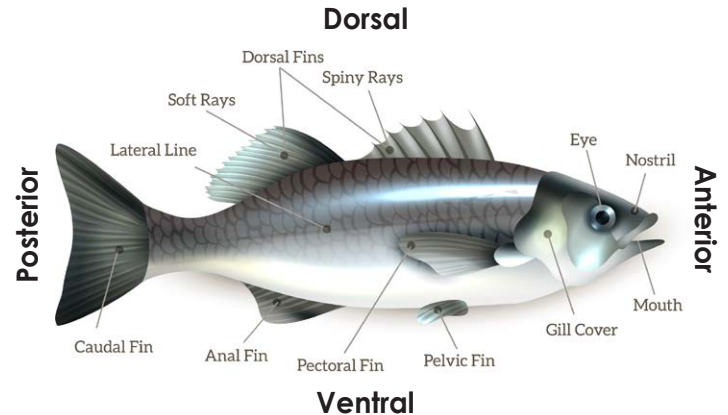
They are cold-blooded, meaning their body temperature is about the same as the water around them.

Not all fish have scales, some fish are covered with a thick skin and mucus like an eel, the mucus prevents diseases from entering the fish.

Scales are protective plates that cover the skin. When a scale is lost, its "pocket" can become infected before the skin heals over and a new scale develops.

The muscles and fins of fish are designed to propel them through the water in search of food and to help them escape any predators such as birds, otters, pike and perch to name just a few.

Fish breathe mainly through gills that take oxygen from the water and send it into the bloodstream. Some fish species may lay millions of eggs, while other species lay only a few hundred. Often other fish eat fish eggs so only a small percentage make it through to adulthood, making CPR all the more important.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Freshwater Fish Species



Brown Trout



Bream



Char



Perch



Eel



Pike



Dace



Roach



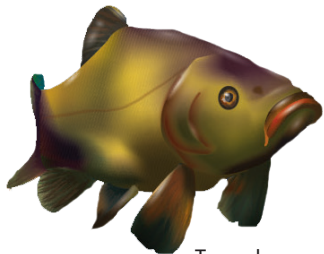
Sea Trout



Salmon



Carp



Tench



Stoneloach



Minnow



Gudgeon



Stickleback



River Lamprey



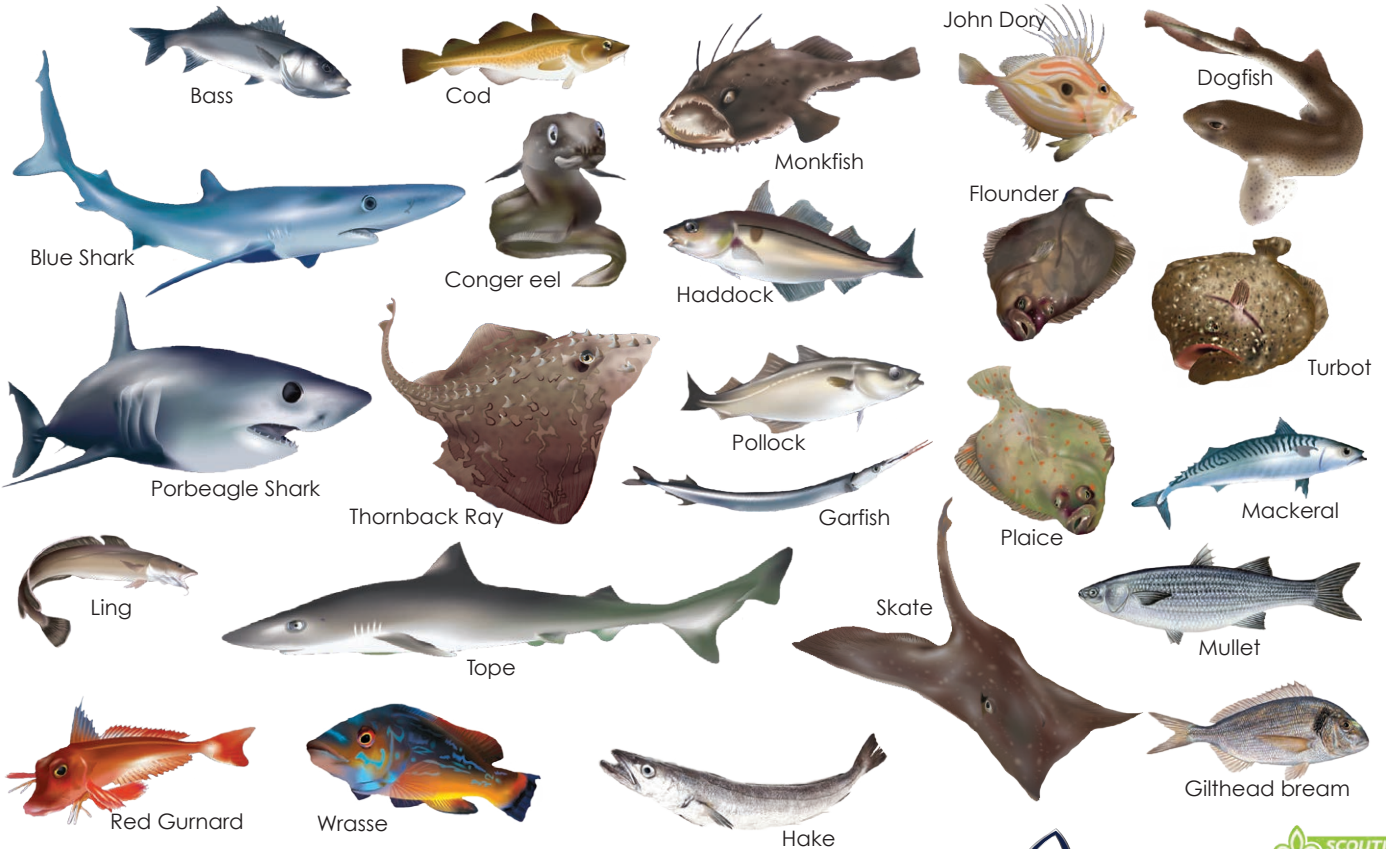
Rudd



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Saltwater Fish Species



Inscach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Food Webs

Every organism on the planet needs energy to survive. A food web (see diagram on the next page) shows the interconnection between different organisms in an environment. Using arrows, it illustrates where each organism gets its energy (food) from.

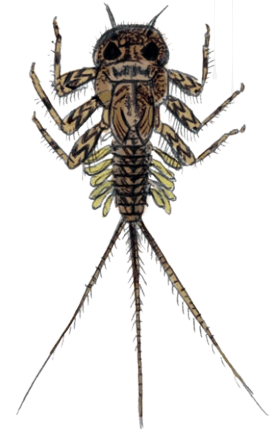
In a freshwater environment, this first happens at the microscopic level. Plants release nutrients into the water which feed the smallest animals, called plankton. These plankton are eaten by worms, larva molluscs and aquatic insects, which are in turn eaten by small fish.

Dragonflies and damselflies will feed on smaller insects that hatch from water. These water hatching insects such as mayflies are an important part of a fishes diet. Larger fish will then eat smaller fish, molluscs flies and worms.

Birds such as kingfishers as well as land based animals such as foxes and otters are attracted to the waterway to hunt fish, frogs, snails and insects to feed themselves and their young.

Food webs such as these are common in many habitats and are maintained by a careful balance of nature. If any part of the web or chain is broken then this special place is in danger. Pollution, for example or over-fishing can kill off the various forms of life within the water source and affect the balance. Larger fish, for example, can also dominate a food web or chain and clear a water source of smaller fish. Likewise a number of herons or cormorants nesting near a pond can have a big affect on fish stock within the pond.

Understanding the food web or chain of a water source can help to determine the type of bait to use when fishing. By observing a watercourse you can quickly spot the flies, and smaller water-borne insects that are attractive to fish.



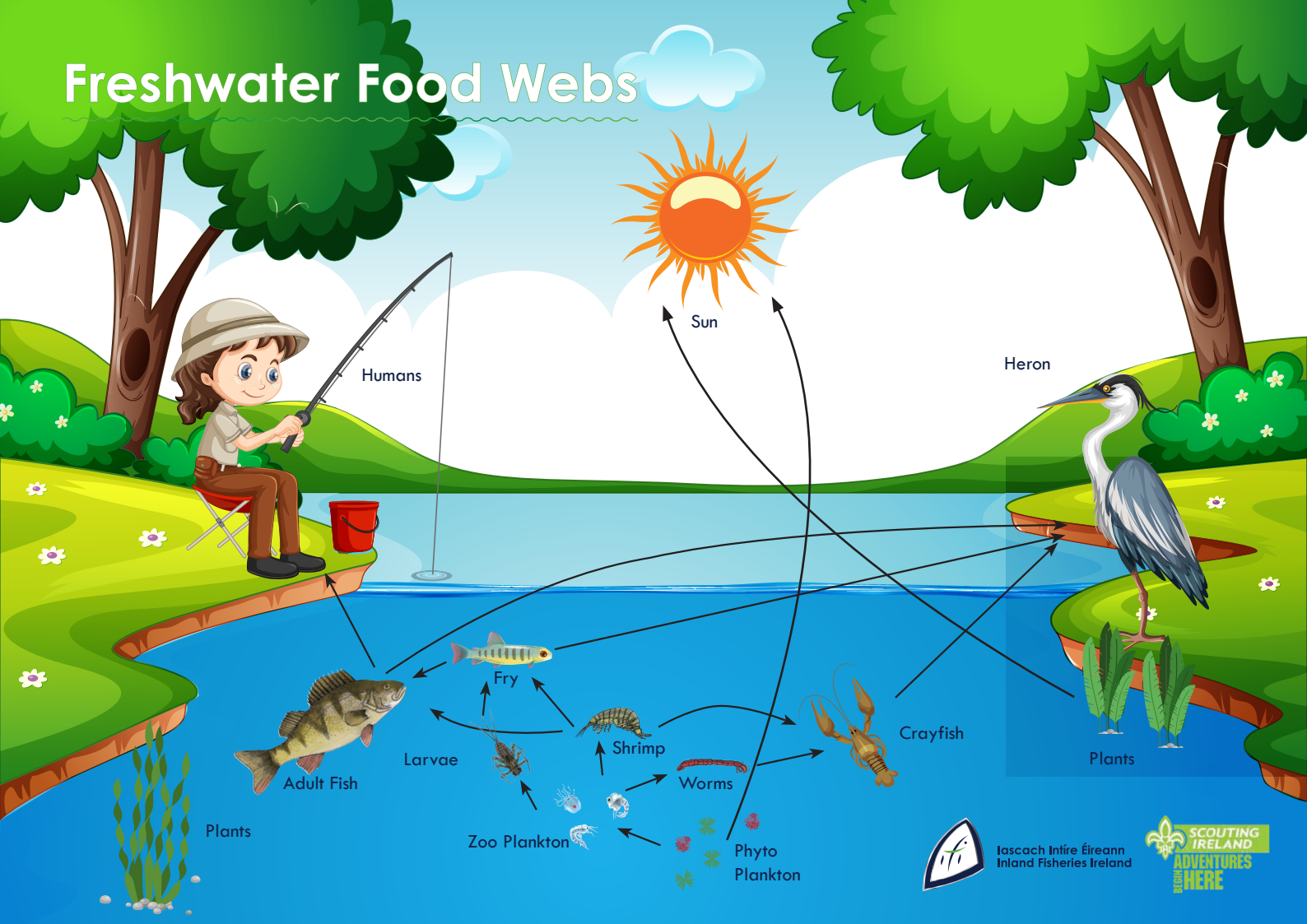
Mayfly Ecdyonurus sp



Inscach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Freshwater Food Webs



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Fish Habitats

Each fishing habitat is different, and by knowing how fish live in these habitats, it will be easier to direct your bait to these areas and catch a fish.

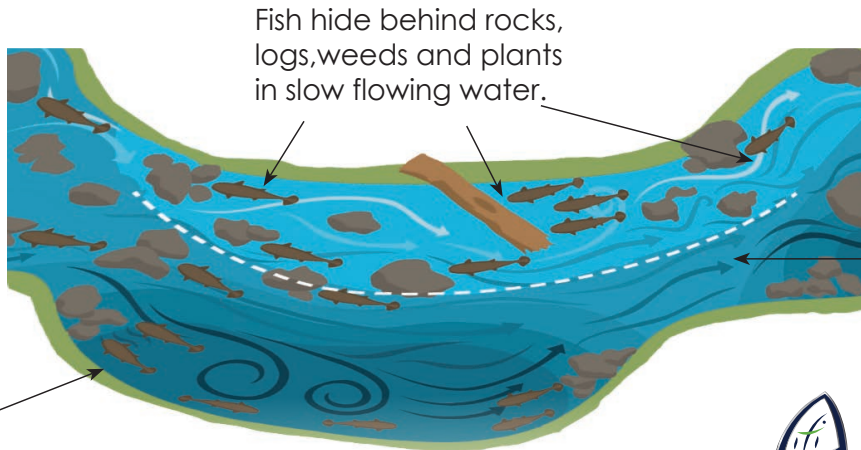
Fish like cover of all kinds, and places where food is easy to get. Fallen branches, weed cover, lily pad plants, deep pools and shaded areas are all places that fish are likely to be.

Bigger predator fish will cruise around a wide area, whereas smaller fish will gather around underwater plants and rocks out of view of the predator.

Fishing is as much about observation and knowledge of an area, as it is about casting a line into the water. Can you see fish popping up to catch flies on the surface? Can you see small fish near the bank? Are there trees hanging over the water providing shade?

Take a while before you cast your line to 'take it all in' get to know and become an expert about your fishing location.

Finding fish



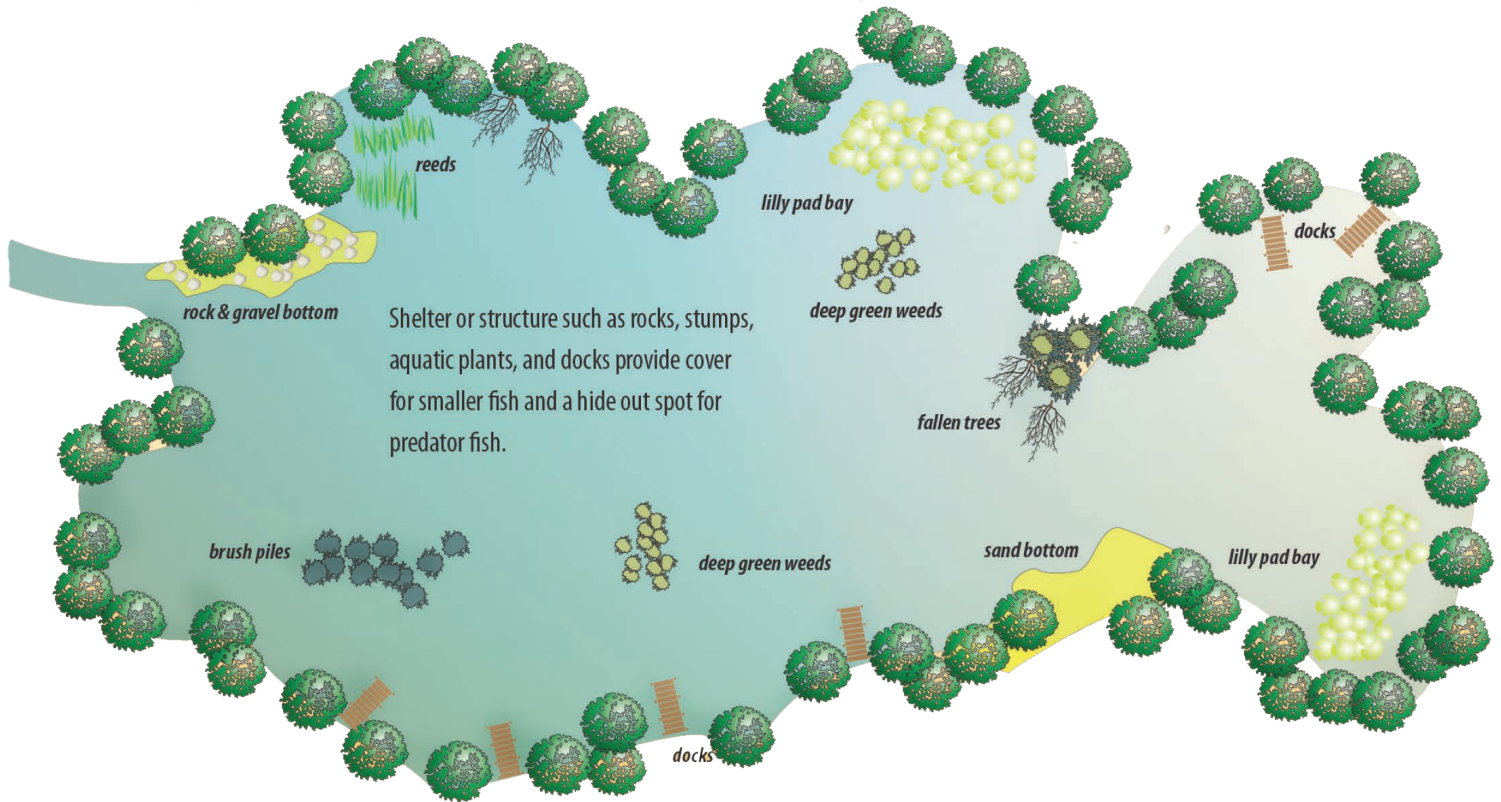
Some fish seek deeper water.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Fish Habitats



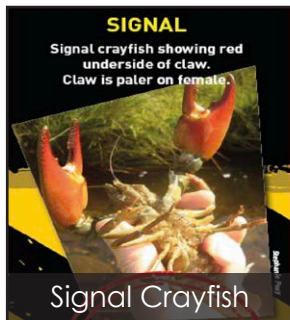
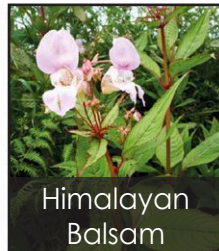
Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Invasive Species

Stopping the spread of non native species also called invasive species is a responsibility for us all. Transferring water, plants, and dirt from one location to another can have devastating effects on fish species and microscopic life in a watercourse disrupting food webs, and introducing new diseases.

Invasive plants like Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam and invasive animals such as Zebra mussel, and Asian clam are a key concern, as seeds, leaves, eggs, and larvae can easily be carried on fishing equipment and may survive for days out of water. The way to help prevent the spread of invasive species is to follow the simple guidelines on the next page.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Invasive Species

Invasive plants and animals harm the environment, reduce the quality of fishing and spread disease. Please help to stop them by following the Check, Clean, Dry code.

CHECK

Check your equipment and clothing for living plants and animals. Pay particular attention to areas that are damp or hard to inspect.

CLEAN

Clean and wash all clothing, footwear and equipment, especially nets, thoroughly. Use hot water where possible. If you do come across any plants and animals, leave them at the water body where you found them.

DRY

Dry all equipment and clothing – some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

Just a few of the invasive species that are a problem in our waterways



Zebra Mussel



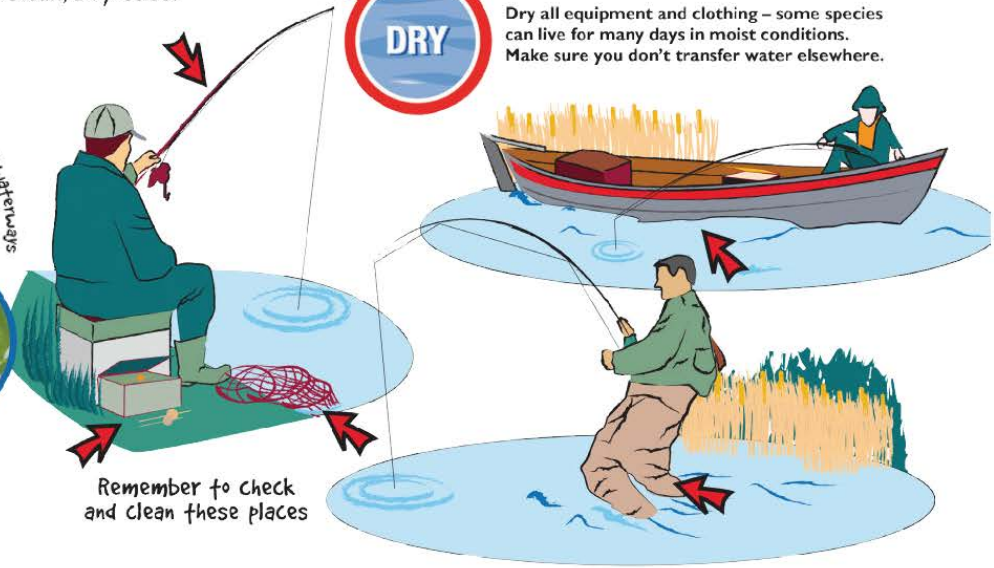
Killer Shrimp



Floating Pennywort



Fish diseases



Remember to check and clean these places

It's everyone's responsibility, don't leave it to your fishing buddy.

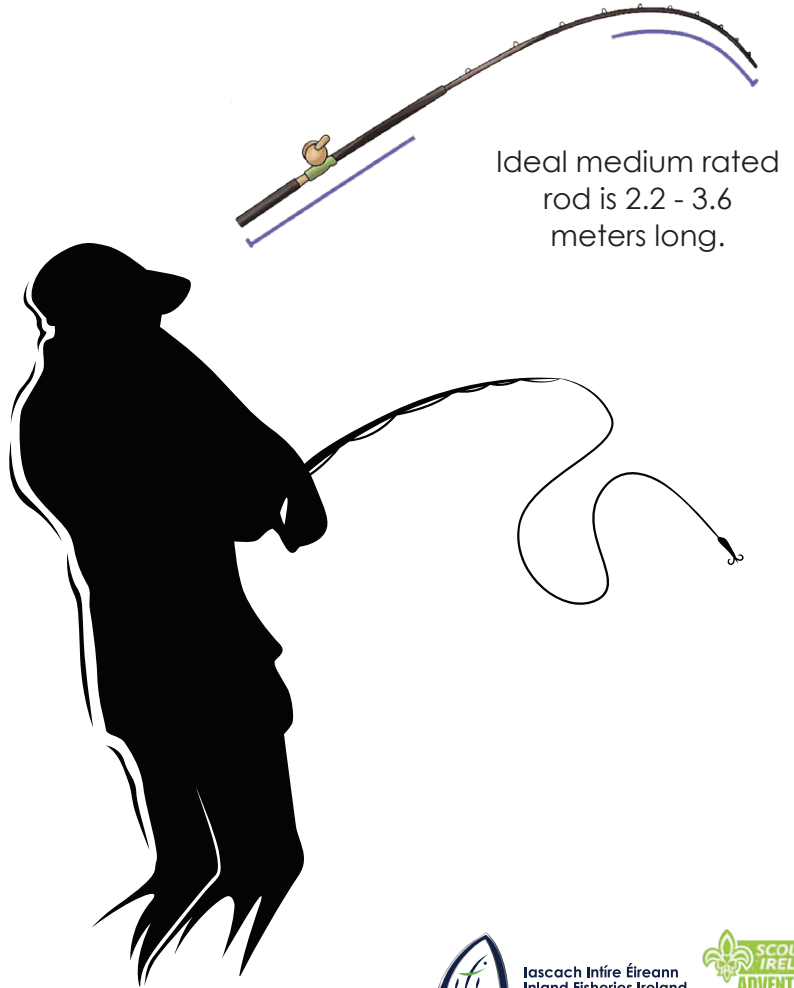
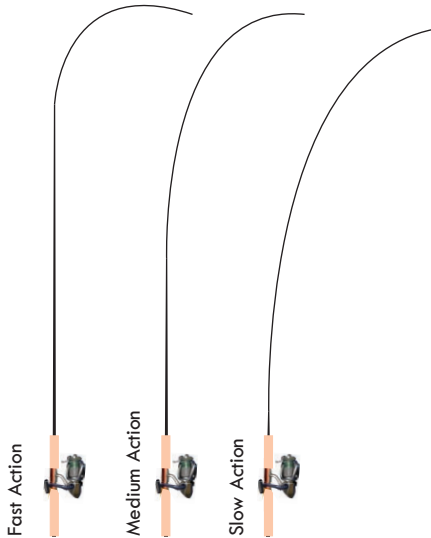


Inlascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Fishing Rods

Rods are constructed so that they can bend. The way that a rod bends is called the 'action' of the rod. Fast action rods bend more towards the tip while slow action rods bend the whole way through the rod. Medium action rods bend more towards the middle and are usually the best sort of rods for beginners.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Fishing Rods

Fishing rods can be bought in all shapes and sizes and before you choose a fishing rod you will need to ask yourself a few questions.

- **What type of fishing will I be doing?**
- **What type of fish will I be fishing for?**
- **Where will I be fishing?**
- **Your budget?**

If you are new to fishing, then we suggest you talk to a friend who is already fishing or a local angling shop or fishing club who will provide detailed advice and suggestions.



In general terms, most people start fishing using a spinning rod. A mid budget rod will allow you to catch most of the common varieties of fish both in freshwater and sea shore conditions. You will need bigger rods to catch the bigger species and have the ability to cast your bait further.

Most people start fishing by buying a beginners pack of equipment from a good fishing tackle shop. This will include a rod and reel and some basic tackle. The staff in these shops have a lot of knowledge and will steer you in the right direction. As you become more experienced you can advance onto more expensive rods and reels.



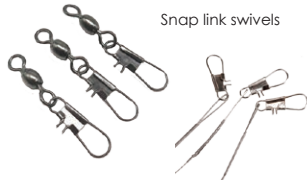
Inscach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Fishing Gear



Tackle Box



Snap link swivels



Swivels



Shot



Fishing hooks



Shot



Weights



Fishing lures



Floats



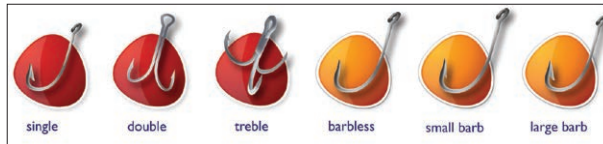
Hook Disgorger



Fishing line



Small long nose pliers



single

double

treble

barbless

small barb

large barb



Fishing clasp knife or scissors



Inland Fisheries Ireland



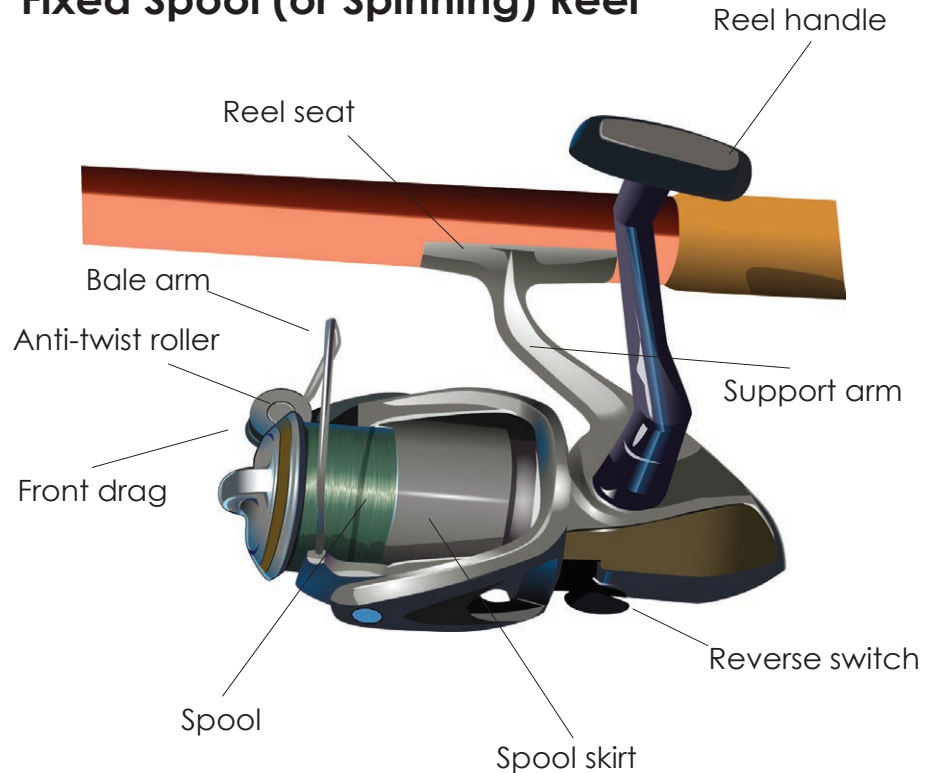
Reels & Casting

There are different types of fishing reel (e.g. Fly reel, Multiplier reel or Fixed Spool reel) depending on the type of fishing you are doing. The Fixed Spool reel, also known as a spinning reel, is the most common type of reel.

Always be aware of your surroundings when casting. Pick a fishing spot with no overhead power lines, and look out for bank side vegetation that might tangle your line. Also be aware of weed or snags in the water which might snag your line.



Fixed Spool (or Spinning) Reel



Inisíochán Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Casting: Fixed Spool Reel



Step 1

Reel in your line so that at least 30cm (12 inches) of the line hangs from the rod tip to the bait and weights. To cast - hold the rod as shown. Turn the reel so that the line is positioned next to your fingers.



Step 2

Place your fore finger under the line and draw up the line and hold the line next to the rod.



Step 3

Open the bale arm on the reel with your other hand and draw the rod back over your shoulder to a 10 o'clock position and as you cast forward, release your finger at the 2 o'clock position so the line can run free from the reel.



Step 4

When your line has settled, clip the bale arm back into position and take up the slack on your reel by turning the handle.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Fishing Knots

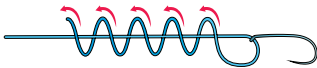
One of the most important things you need to know when starting out in fishing is how to tie knots. There are lots of different types of knots and some of the main ones are listed below. It's best to practice them on a piece of string before trying to tie them with fishing line.

CLINCH KNOT

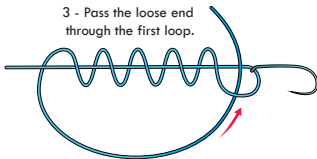
1 - Pass the loose end through the hook eye.



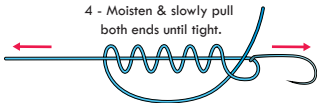
2 - Wrap the loose end around the line 5 times.



3 - Pass the loose end through the first loop.



4 - Moisten & slowly pull both ends until tight.

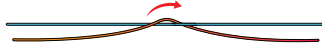


5 - Finished Knot

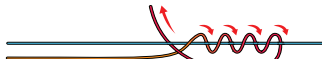


BLOOD KNOT

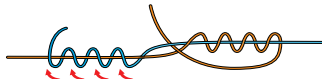
1 - Overlap the 2 sections of line and begin to wind one around the other.



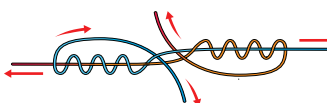
2 - Continue wrapping for 4 turns, then double back the loose end and tuck it back between the 2 lines where the twist begins.



3 - Take the remaining loose end and repeat the twisting procedure on the opposite side.



4 - Take the loose end and pass it through the centre loop. Moisten the knot, tighten the loose ends and then slowly pull on the main lines to cinch the knot.



5 - Finished Knot



SURGEONS LOOP

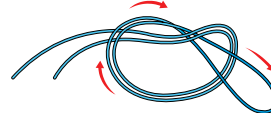
1 - Double the end of the line.



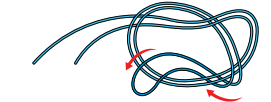
2 - Tie a loose overhand knot.



3 - Pass the end of the loop through the knot.



4 - Pass end of loop through the knot again.

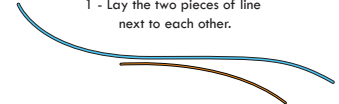


5 - Hold the standing line and tag end, moisten and slowly pull the loop to tighten the knot.

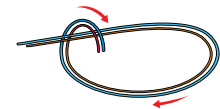


FOUR TURN WATER KNOT

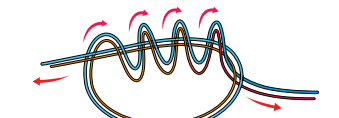
1 - Lay the two pieces of line next to each other.



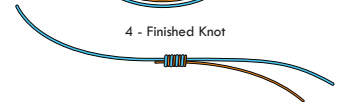
2 - Tie an over hand knot with both pieces held together.



3 - Repeat the over hand knot 3 more times and holding the 2 sets of tag ends, moisten & slowly pull tight.



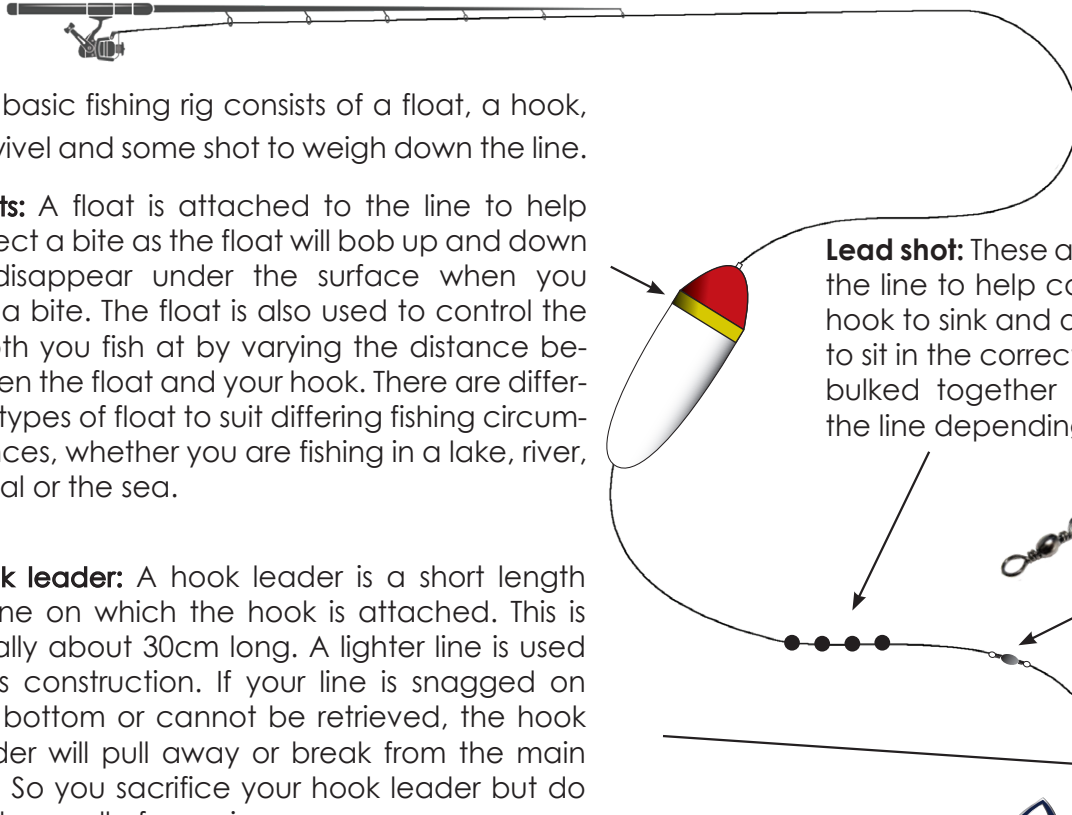
4 - Finished Knot



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Basic Rig Setup



The basic fishing rig consists of a float, a hook, a swivel and some shot to weigh down the line.

Floats: A float is attached to the line to help detect a bite as the float will bob up and down or disappear under the surface when you get a bite. The float is also used to control the depth you fish at by varying the distance between the float and your hook. There are different types of float to suit differing fishing circumstances, whether you are fishing in a lake, river, canal or the sea.

Hook leader: A hook leader is a short length of line on which the hook is attached. This is usually about 30cm long. A lighter line is used in its construction. If your line is snagged on the bottom or cannot be retrieved, the hook leader will pull away or break from the main line. So you sacrifice your hook leader but do not lose all of your rig.



Different types of float

Lead shot: These are small weights put on the line to help casting, help the baited hook to sink and also to enable the float to sit in the correct position. They can be bulked together or spaced out along the line depending on local conditions.

Swivel: A swivel is a small connector that when placed on a line, allows the line to turn and twist, preventing it from kinking.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

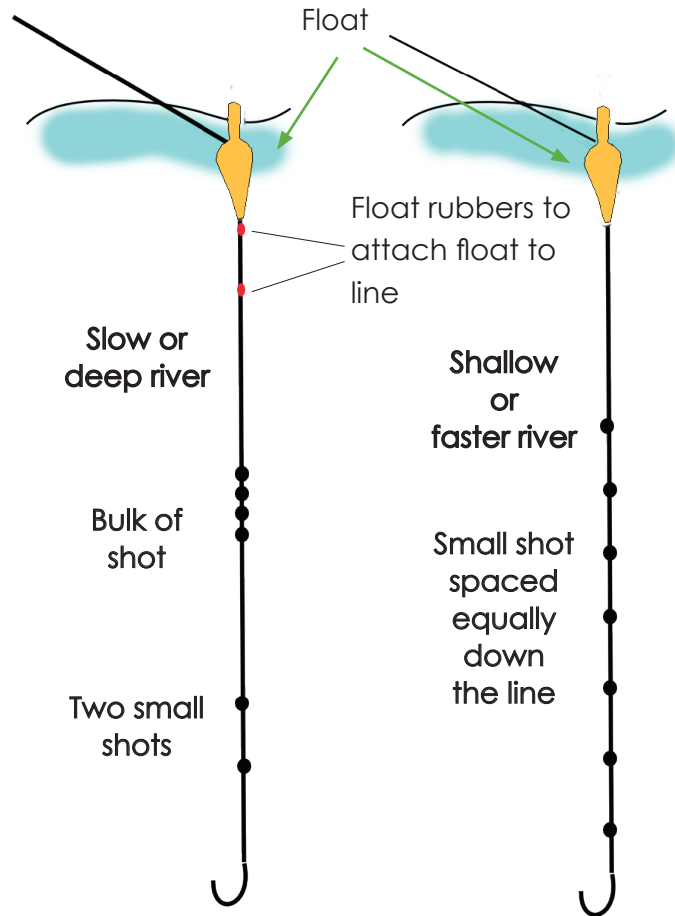


River Float Rigs

Fishing Rigs

A fishing rig is the way that the small pieces of fishing tackle (hooks, shot, floats, swivels etc.) are arranged on the end of line. There are different ways to combine your tackle and this will affect the way that you fish your bait.

Fish live and feed at different depths of water and so you need to figure out where the fish you want to catch are likely to be feeding. Most fish feed near the bottom so this is a good place to start. If you want to fish higher up in the water, you can slide the float up or down the line to suit the level that you want to fish at.



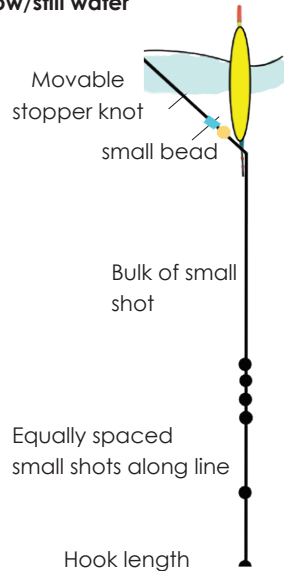
Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



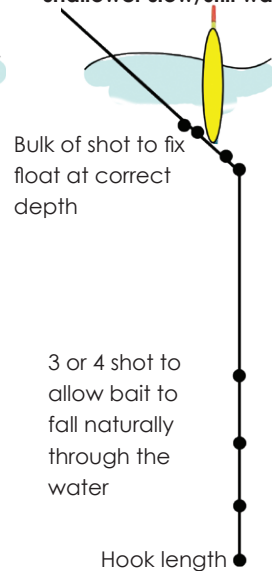
Lake & Canal Fishing Rigs

Each fishing location is different and you will need to be able to adapt your basic rigs to each location. We have illustrated some basic rig setups below. Notice the alignment of shot on the line in each case. Pre-made rigs can be bought from good tackle shops but it's always more fun making your own and improving your fishing skills.

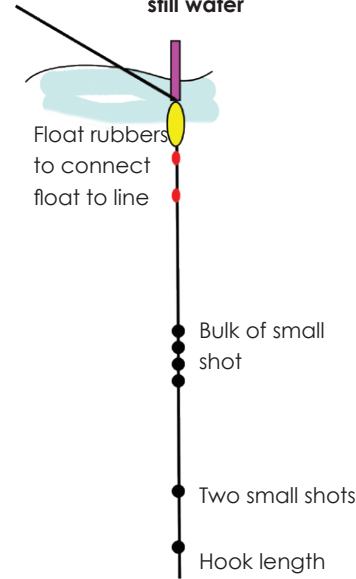
Sliding float rig for deep slow/still water



Fixed waggler rig for shallower slow/still water



Pole float rig for both shallow and deep slow/still water



Freshwater Ledger Rigs

Using a ledger rig is one of the methods we use when we are looking to catch bottom feeding fish. They differ from other rigs in that they have a single heavier weight rather than a series of smaller shot and this weight can slide along the line.

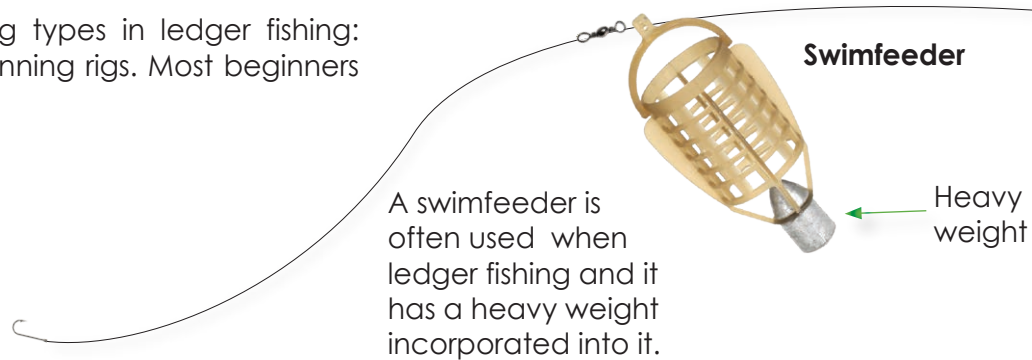
The two main advantages of using a ledger rig are 1) you can cast them much further than most float rigs, allowing you to fish at distance and 2) they allow you to present the bait right on the bottom and in a static position (the wind and/or current will not be able to move the bait due to the large weight).

There are two main rig types in ledger fishing: fixed/semi fixed and running rigs. Most beginners

start out using the running rig. If the ledger weight freely runs on the line this is called a running rig.

When a fish takes the bait and moves off with it, the line will pull through the ledger weight causing an indication at the rod tip.

One common way to fish for coarse fish (Bream, Roach, Perch, Tench etc.) is to use a swimfeeder. A swimfeeder is a weighted cage that you can fill with small particles of bait or groundbait and this will help attract fish to your hookbait.

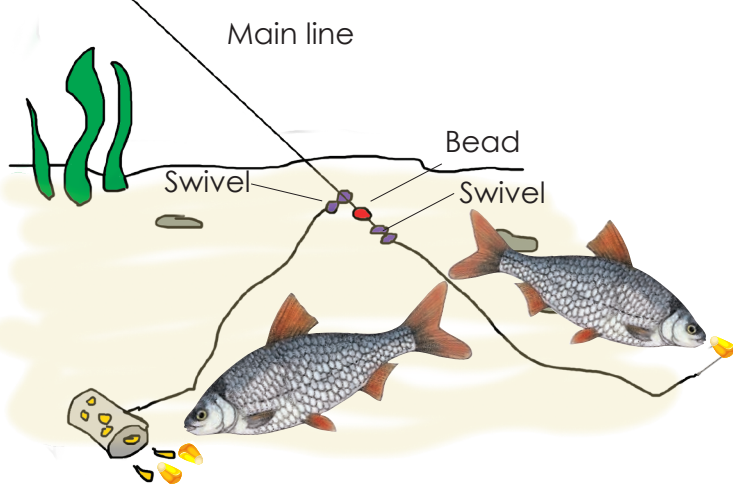


Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



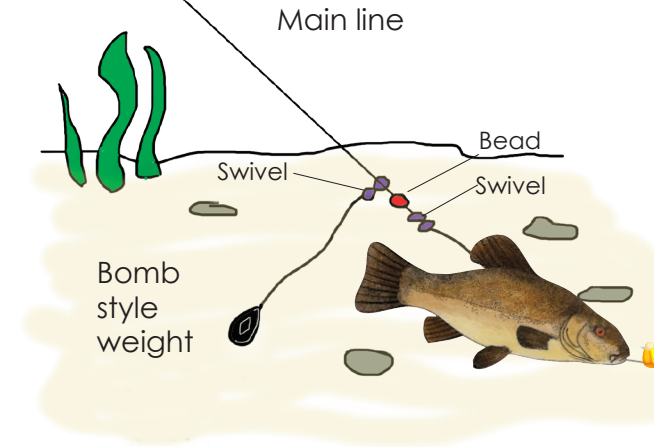
Ledger Fishing Rigs

Swimfeeder Rig



Swimfeeder filled with ground bait and loose particles

Ledger Rig

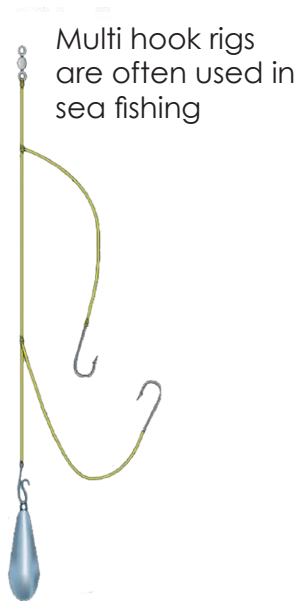
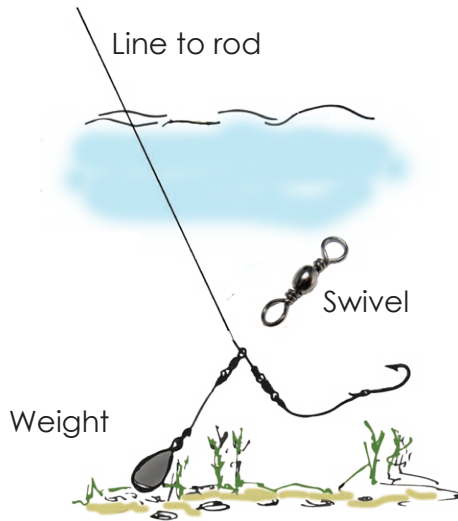


Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

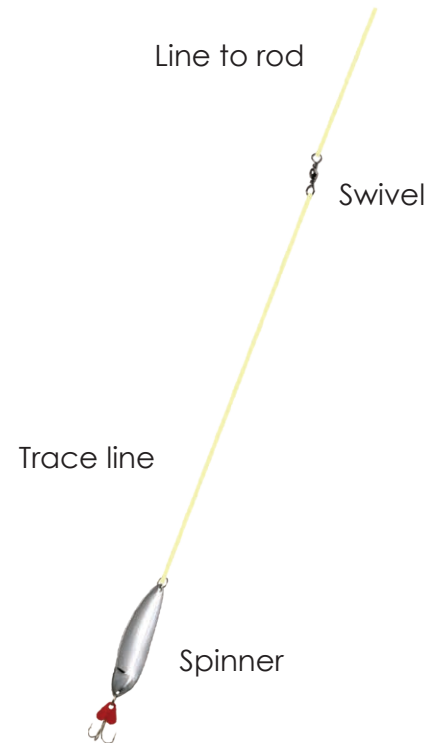


Sea Fishing Rigs

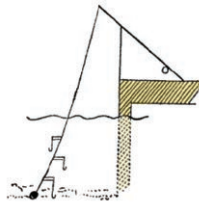
Ledger Rigs



Spinning Rig



When sea fishing, a bite is normally detected by a pull on the rod tip rather than by the bob of a float due to wave conditions and distance from casting point.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



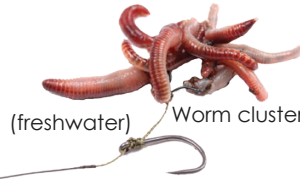
Fishing Bait



Maggots (freshwater)



Sweet Corn (freshwater)



(freshwater) Worm cluster



Worm (freshwater)



(freshwater & sea)

Spinners



Crab (sea)

Crab meat needs to be bound to hooks with elastic thread. (Sea)



Groundbait balls are created by mixing groundbait with water and adding in some sweetcorn, dead maggots, chopped up worms, casters and some hemp seeds (freshwater)



Mackerel strips (sea)



Ragworm (sea)



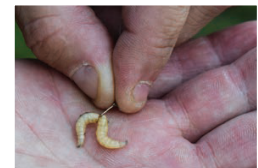
Lugworm (sea)



Squid (sea)



Sand eels (sea)



Baiting a hook with maggot for a waggler rig (Freshwater)



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Landing a fish



When the fish takes your bait and you have it on the line - play the fish and bring it in slowly.



Have a friend give you a hand to net the fish as it comes near the bank.

Take a picture of your catch.

The landing and returning process needs to be completed as quickly as possible so as not to damage or place the fish under unnecessary stress.



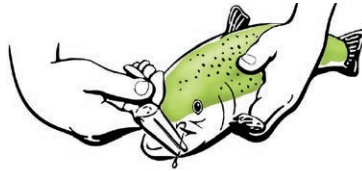
Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Returning a Fish

Step 1

Hold the fish firmly on an unhooking mat or soft ground and remove the hook carefully from the fish.



Step 2

Hold the fish securely, but gently, and place it back in the water. Let the fish come around and start to kick then let it swim away.



Catch, Photo, Release (CPR)

Fish can only survive out of water for a short time. When fish are being returned to the water they need to be placed in the water carefully to allow water to flow through their gills, resume breathing and recover from their ordeal before they are released.

In moving water, gently hold the fish facing the current to allow water to flow through its gills. Release the fish when they are able to swim away.



If a fish is slow to respond in still water, gently hold the fish with two hands, and move the fish in a figure of eight motion to help the fish move water through its gills. Only release the fish when it is capable of swimming strongly away.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



What to wear: Layers

Keeping dry and warm when out fishing is important as it is hard to enjoy yourself if you are cold or wet. To stay warm, you can either have one big heavy coat or a number of different layers of clothing. The layering method is the best as it maximizes the heat retaining properties of your body by maintaining and controlling your body temperature.

There are 4 different layers to consider, and these can be combined to suit differing weather conditions. Each layer has an important role to play, as they provide and retain heat by trapping a layer of air that insulates you, but also allows excess body heat and perspiration to escape.



The extremities of the body, the head, hands and feet also need protection. A large proportion of your body heat is lost through the head.



Waterproof



Warm



Wind Proof



Light to carry



What to wear: Layers



The first layer, which is next to your skin, should consist of a thermal vest with long sleeves in winter, or a plain cotton T-shirt in summer. This layer should be close fitting but not too tight. The idea of this layer is to absorb perspiration and allow it to pass to the outer layer.



The second layer could be a wool shirt or a polo neck shirt or pullover. It should be loose fitting and provide protection for both the neck and the wrists. Sleeves should be capable of being rolled up so that in warm weather the body temperature can be controlled with ease. In warm weather this layer could be replaced by the outside layer.

The third layer needs to be 'woolly' such as a woolen pullover or a fleece jacket. The main features are heat control, so a zip front is ideal for this purpose. The idea of this layer is to trap large pockets of warm air and insulate your body from the cold.



The outer layer should be a jacket that will protect you from the wind and rain ideally made of breathable fabric.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Water Safety

Personal flotation device



You should always wear a personal flotation device when fishing.

Every young person should know how to swim. If you can't swim it is a good idea to get some lessons. Accidents will happen without warning and can occur at any time, so be prepared.

There is always the possibility of slipping, reaching too far,

or being pulled into the water by a wave, large fish, or just losing your balance.



If you fall into the water it is very important that you get dry and warm to prevent shock and hypothermia.

Stay calm and don't panic

If you do fall into the water - first and foremost remain calm and don't panic. Allow yourself to float in the water.

Shout for help. Look around you - if you can reach the bank, swim for shore. Once out of the water, remove wet clothes, dry yourself off, put on new clothes and get warm.



- 1 THINK** Do NOT put YOURSELF in **DANGER** 
- 2 SHOUT** for HELP! Call **999**  The Fire and Rescue Service
- 3 REACH** with a stick or a pole 
- 4 THROW** a rope or... something that will **FLOAT** 



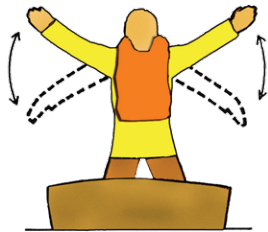
Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Water Safety: Boats



Step into a boat with care. Do not undo any mooring ropes until you are inside the boat.



If you get into difficulties be aware of how you can summon help. Shouting and waving arms at people on the bank is a good basic action.



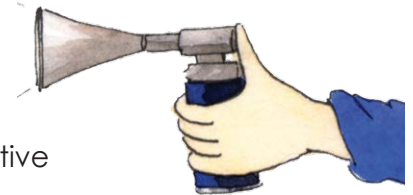
Do not rely on mobile phone as an emergency measure. There maybe no signal in your location, or it may not work if it gets wet. So always keep it in a waterproof bag.



If someone falls overboard retrieve them from the water via the stern (back) of the boat and not by the side. Use an oar or rope to reach out to assist

them. Do not go out in a boat alone and always be safety aware and prepared.

Ensure the boat is sound and everyone on board has life jackets. Take care when moving around a boat, think about it first, then move to where you need to go. Be constantly aware of your surroundings, tides, current and drift of the waters.



Have an alternative signal method available in the boat.



Inscach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Basic First Aid

When fishing along a river or canal bank you will be away from immediate help, so it is a good idea to have a small first aid kit with you and know how to deal with basic first aid incidents that may occur. Catching a hook in your finger, cutting yourself or getting caught on thorns are some of the possible incidents that can occur while fishing.

Being able to administer first aid and treat a victim for shock and hypothermia is also valuable.

Check
Is the person **unresponsive** and **not breathing**?



Call
Get someone to call **999** or **112**, or call them yourself.



Compress
Start compressions.
Push **hard** and **fast** in the centre of the chest.
Don't stop until help arrives.



Weil's Disease

As anglers, we need to be aware of Weil's disease which is spread through the urine of infected animals, or through water or soil contaminated by infected urine. The infection enters through broken, grazed or cut skin and sometimes through the lining of the mouth, nose and eyes.

Cover all cuts, scratches and abrasions with a waterproof dressing. Dry your hands if wet and use hand sanitizer regularly. Avoid touching your mouth and nose when hands are wet.

Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection passed to humans by a bite from an infected tick. Always cover exposed skin particularly at your ankles and feet. At the end of your day out fishing always check yourself for ticks.



Inscach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Basic First Aid

How to remove a hook from a finger

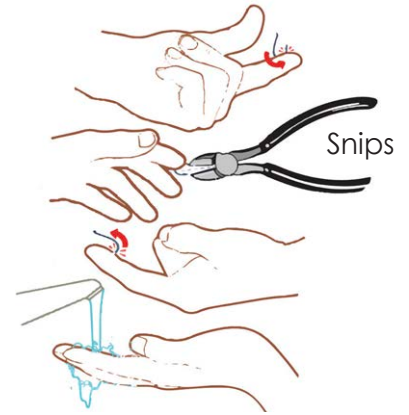
Removal of a hook is a painful experience so prepare the patient and be careful as you treat the wound.

If the hook is stuck in the skin it may have to be pushed through soft tissue to reveal the barb on the hook.

Next using a wire snips you remove the point of the hook including the barb.

Once completed the hook is then reversed through the skin to remove it.

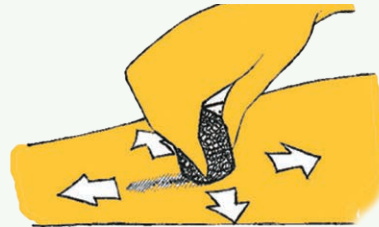
Wash the wound and apply anti-septic cream or TCP to the wound. Dry carefully and apply a bandage.



Cleaning a wound

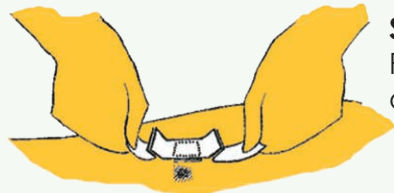
Step 1

Clean your hands.



Step 2

Clean the wound using a mild mixture of TCP and water pulling away from the wound and not across it.



Step 3

Place a bandage over the wound.



Inscach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Leave no trace: Waste

Leave No Trace principals state that we should pass through an area and leave no trace of our presence. While fishing you may decide to camp overnight. Always think about where you camp, light fires, cook and dispose of waste. All shelters (tents, fishing shelters, bivouacs) should be placed in locations that minimise damage to the surface of the ground. To reduce your impact while outdoors follow the 7 principles of Leave No Trace:

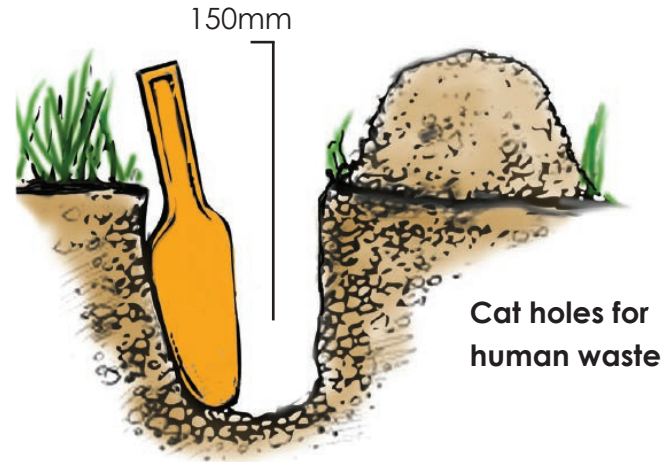
7 PRINCIPLES

- 1 Plan Ahead and Prepare
- 2 Be Considerate of Others
- 3 Respect Farm Animals and Wildlife
- 4 Travel and Camp on Durable Ground
- 5 Leave What You Find
- 6 Dispose of Waste Properly
- 7 Minimise the Effects of Fire

Waste, whether from food or humans, needs to be disposed of properly. 'Carry in - Carry out' is the simple principle for food and other products.

However for human waste a small cat hole is best practice. Carry a small trowel in your kit for this purpose along with some toilet paper and hand sanitizer.

Cat holes should be dug at least 80 paces from waterways and trails and to a depth of 150 mm. When used, fill in and 'repair' the hole so no evidence appears of your action.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Leave no trace: Fires



Ideally cooking should be done on stoves. If a small fire is used, then a mound fire is the best method as it does not destroy the earth beneath it.

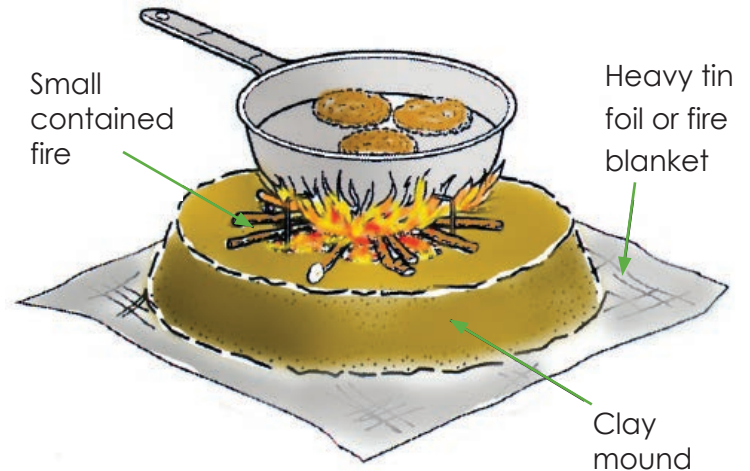
Ideally, when traveling on the trail you will bring a trowel, some heavy duty tinfoil or flame proof cloth and a few small plastic bags with you in your kit.

A mound fire is easy to construct: first choose a location that has a durable surface and is free of vegetation. The sandy or pebble banks often found beside a river are ideal.

Collect the soil or sand for the mound in the plastic bags and build a mound at least 150mm high this thick layer of clay will insulate and protect the ground from the fire.

The tin foil or cloth gives extra protection both from direct heat and from sparks and stray embers that might fall to the ground.

When you no longer need the fire, the soil and embers can be returned to the source and spread around so that no trace exists of your presence.



Inisíochán Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Fishing Ethics

A Responsible Angler is someone that:

- Respects other angler's rights.
- Buys a fishing licence/permit where appropriate.
- Is aware of and adheres to fishing and boating regulations.
- Respects the rights of property owners.
- Catches, photographs and releases (CPR).
- Releases fish quickly and unharmed.
- Never litters or pollutes and observes 'Leave no Trace' principles.
- Shares their knowledge with others.
- Learns about the different species of fish in their area.
- Gives back by getting involved in conservation programmes or activities.




Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Resources

We hope you know have a basic understanding of how to get started in fishing. To help you on your fishing journey we have put together some resources below that will give you a bit more information about fishing in Ireland. Just use the links or scan the QR codes below using a smartphone or tablet.



 Fishing Info


<https://l.ead.me/bcCCkk>



 Regulations


<https://l.ead.me/bcCCgl>



 Tackle Shops

<https://l.ead.me/bcCChm>



 Leave No Trace

<https://l.ead.me/bcCCiv>



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Notes

A series of 12 horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



This booklet has been developed by Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) in partnership with Scouting Ireland and the support of the Dormant Account Fund.

It has been designed to assist in the introduction and development of fishing as a hobby for young people and the wider public through the Go Fishing Programme.

We wish to acknowledge the initial concept and work undertaken by Colm Kavanagh - Scouting Ireland and Oisín Cahill (formerly IFI) in the production of this resource.

We also acknowledge the expertise from IFI's Education and Outreach Co-ordinators Aideen Kane, Andy Burnett, Imelda Scallan, Rachel O Malley, Rory Keatinge and Sarah Healy.

Created with
the support of



ciste na
gcuntas díomhaoin
the dormant
accounts fund



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Go Fishing Programme

www.fishinginireland.info