

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND COMMUNICATIONS,  
INLAND FISHERIES ACTS 1959 TO 2017  
GALWAY DISTRICT  
CONSERVATION OF TROUT IN THE RIVERS CLARE, ABBERT,  
DALGAN, GRANGE, AND SINKING BYE-LAW NO. 1008, 2024.**

I, Eamon Ryan, Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 57 of the Inland Fisheries Act 2010 (No. 10 of 2010) (as adapted by the Communications, Climate Action and Environment (Alteration of Name of Department and Title of Minister) Order 2020 (S.I. No. 373 of 2020)), hereby make the following bye-law;

1. (1) This Bye-law may be cited as the Galway District – Conservation of Trout in the Rivers Clare, Abbert, Dalgan, Grange and Sinking Bye-law No. 1008, 2024.

(2) This Bye-law comes into operation on the day after the day of its making.

2. In this Bye-law-

“artificial fly” means a fishing hook dressed with fur, feather or other natural or artificial material to resemble either an insect, fish or other prey item that will attract fish;

“bait fishing” means the act of rod fishing from the shore or a boat which is drifting or being rowed or mechanically propelled through water, by leaving static, retrieving, trailing, or towing, on, in, under or through the water, a fishing line with a hook and bait attached;

“dapping” means the act of fishing from a boat, which is drifting on water with a rod (normally a long rod) and hook attached, the hook being either an artificial fly

or having one or several insects attached, and presenting the fly on the surface with the assistance of the wind;

“ferox trout” means trout that are genetically distinct from brown trout and are frequently piscivorous and can grow to significant size;

“fly fishing” means the act of rod fishing from the shore, bank or a boat which is drifting or being rowed or mechanically propelled through water, by retrieving, trailing, or leaving static, on, in, under or through the water, a fishing line with a number of hooks, made up as artificial flies;

“mounted rod” means a fishing rod which has a reel, line and hook or artificial fly or lure or bait attached;

“specified waters” means the waters of any of the rivers in the No. 9 (1) or Galway District mentioned in Schedule 1;

“spinning” means the act of rod fishing from either the shore or a boat, which is drifting, being rowed, or mechanically propelled through water, by trailing or towing, on, in, under or through the water, a fishing line with an artificial lure attached;

“trolling” means to fish from a boat, which is being rowed or mechanically propelled through water, by trailing or towing, on in, under or through the water, a fishing line with a hook, bait, or lure attached;

“trout” means all fish of the brown trout kind and includes ferox trout.

3. Subject to Article 4 and notwithstanding anything contained in the Western Fisheries Region Conservation of Trout Bye-law No. 840, 2008 or any Bye-law prohibiting the taking or having in possession of more than a specified number of trout, a person shall not take or be in possession of, on any one day in the specified

waters of Schedule 1, more than 2 trout of which not more than 1 of those fish is greater than 10 lbs (4.54 kg) in weight.

4. A person shall not take or be in possession of, in the specified waters any trout of less than 13 inches (33 cm) in length measured in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail.
5. Notwithstanding anything contained in any Bye-law, it is prohibited for any person to use in the specified waters of Schedules 1 at any one time—
  - (a) more than 1 rod or more than 4 artificial flies when fly fishing,
  - (b) more than 1 rod when dapping,
  - (c) more than 2 rods or more than 4 artificial flies per rod when trolling, or
  - (d) more than 2 rods when bait fishing or spinning, on or near the specified waters.
6. Notwithstanding Article 5 it is prohibited for more than 1 person to have on board any boat at any one time more than 3 mounted rods when bait fishing, spinning, or trolling in the specified waters.
7. Any trout taken inadvertently in contravention of Article 3 or 4 must be handled carefully and returned without avoidable injury to the specified waters from which they have been taken.

**Schedule 1**

**Rivers in the No. 9 (1) or Galway District.**

Abbert River	Dalgan River	Sinking River
Clare River	Grange River	

GIVEN under my hand,

28 March 2024.

EAMON RYAN

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Minister for the Environment, Climate  
and Communications

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

(This is not part of the Bye-law and does not purport to be a legal interpretation)

This Bye-law provides for the following trout conservation measures in the rivers specified in the bye-law:

- Provides for a daily bag limit of 2 trout in the specified rivers of which not more than 1 trout is greater than 10 lbs (4.54 kgs),
- Prohibits the taking or having in possession of trout less than 13 inches (33 cm),
- Prohibits the use of more than 1 rod or 4 artificial flies when fly fishing,
- Prohibits the use of more than 1 rod when dapping,
- Prohibits the use of more than 2 rods or 4 artificial flies per rod when trolling,
- Prohibits the use of more than 2 rods when bait fishing or spinning,
- Prohibits the having on board a boat more than 3 mounted rods when more than 1 person is bait fishing, spinning, or trolling.

## **FOOTNOTE**

Section 57 (7) of the Inland Fisheries Act, 2010 provides that any person aggrieved by this Bye-law may within 28 days after its publication in the Iris Oifigiúil, appeal against same to the High Court.