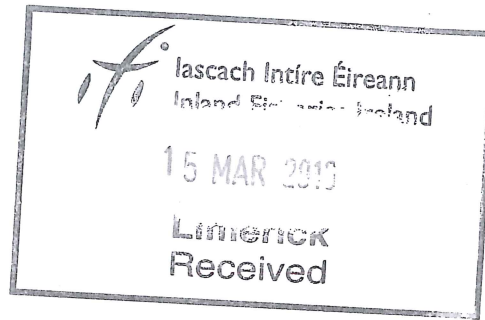


Amanda Mooney,
Inland Fisheries Ireland,
Ashbourne Business Park,
Dock Road,
Limerick.



Amanda,

As an angler who fishes for trout, pike, coarse and sea fish on a regular basis I would like to strongly object to Inland Fisheries Ireland proposal to close Lough Sheelin to all angling from the 13th of October to the last day of February on the following year. There is no evidence either scientific or otherwise that would support such a move.

Among the majority of anglers who purchase a Midland Fisheries Permit, which I'm one of there is no support for such a move and this request to close the lake in the winter is only been put forward by a minority of dry fly trout anglers who would like to see Lough Sheelin exclusively reserved for trout fly angling only.

Putting aside all the emotive arguments and looking at it objectively,

- 1 There is no scientific evidence to support such a move.
- 2 There is no anecdotal evidence to support the closing of the lake.
- 3 There is no support among the wider angling community for such a move.
- 4 The benefits for having the lake open all year round are greater,
 - More revenue to Fisheries from permits sold to pike anglers.
 - More revenue to small shops in area though the purchase of food.
 - More revenue to service stations though the purchase of fuel.
 - More revenue to B+B's and hotels though bed nights.

As outlined above I would be strongly opposed to a move to close Lough Sheelin to all angling during the winter and would ask Inland Fisheries Ireland not to progress this proposed by-law.

Name:

Suzanne O'Connor

Address:

Date: 10/3/16