

Butlersbridge Anglers

From: McEntee, Desmond P <Desmond.P.McEntee@Garda.ie>  
Sent: 30 November 2016 16:42  
To: 'POLICYREVIEW@fisheriesireland.ie'  
Cc: 'Annaghgws@eircom.net'  
Subject: FW: "Public consultation – Pike Management in Brown Trout Fisheries"

I sent this earlier (at 13.18) but I made 2 amendments, will you discard earlier email please as these amendments are important

Thanks

Dessie McEntee

To whom It May Concern  
IFI

I am Secretary of Butlersbridge Anglers, Co Cavan a put and take Rainbow Trout Fishery and represent the views of our 100+ members.

Annagh Lake was run by Inland Fisheries Trust from 1960 to 1990 when they abandoned the lake we took over and run the fishery successfully to this date. When we took over the fishery it was overrun with pike and we ran a predator control programme over the closed season having pike fishing competitions, the pike were removed from the lake, kept alive, caged and re-stocked by IFI into other waters. In the day or two that the pike were caged Rainbow Trout were always regorgetated by the captured pike proving the serious damage they do to the trout population. Every year pike became smaller and more difficult to catch thus proving that our predator control programme was a success and a lot of our fish overwintered and survived into the following season.

In County Cavan we also have a fantastic wild brown fishery Lough Sheelin, one of the only surviving wild brown trout fisheries left in the country and Europe. All our club members fish the lake, pay their permit and most of us are also members of LSTPA. Predator Control Programmes have been maintained by IFI for over 60 years which has saved the lake from extinction and turning into a course fishery. Lough Gowna and Lough Ramor were excellent wild brown trout fisheries but are currently

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overrun with pike, the same will happen with Lough Sheelin if turned into a pike fishery. All fishing must stop for the closed season between 12 October and 1st of March. If pike fishing is allowed in the closed season wild brown trout will be captured and even when released will not survive, large treble hooks cause irreparable damage to trout not to mention the damage caused by handling and nets. I know all about catching trout in the winter, if you spin fast and close to the surface you will catch them so we avoid this method but whats stopping pike anglers doing it?. Spinning is prohibited on Annagh lake but how many anglers were caught spinning, said they were fishing for pike but using small "Mepps" baits and everyone knows well they were trying to catch trout.

Lets get real on this issue, there are over 8000 still waters in Ireland, out of that we have 11 Wild Brown Trout Fisheries( Pro Martin O'Grady has all the statistics). These fisheries are absolute Gold Dust for this country, the only other wild brown trout fishery in Europe is Lough Leven in Scotland and this is even debatable. Have Pike Anglers not enough waters to fish on without wild brown trout fisheries being opened to them.

I strongly object to all year round fishing for pike on wild brown trout fisheries and demand that predator control programmes for the control of pike are maintained and increased.

Yours Faithfully

Dessie McEntee

\*\*\*\*\* Faisnéis

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nó aon ghníomh a dhéanamh ar a hiontaoibh, ag daoine nó ag eintitis seachas an faighteoir

beartaithe. Más trí bhotún a fuair tú é seo, cuir scéala chuig an seoltóir le do thoil agus scrios an

t-ábhar d'aon ríomhaire. Is é polasaí An Gharda Síochána seoladh ábhair cholúil a dhícheadú,

agus más dóigh leat gur ábhar colúil atá sa teachtaireacht seo ba cheart duit dul i dteagmháil leis

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