

Martin Ward

From: Martin Ward < >
Sent: 30 November 2016 20:35
To: POLICYREVIEW
Subject: Public consultation - Pike Management in Brown Trout Fisheries

Dear Sir /Madam,

Please consider my views regarding Pike Management in Brown Trout Fisheries as follows:

- 1) That pike as a naturally occurring species in Ireland for at least 8000yrs, are given their rightful 'native' status;
- 2) That Inland Fisheries Ireland cease all pike control and the support of pike control measures, in all fisheries containing pike and brown trout;
- 3) That Inland Fisheries Ireland stop issuing 'section 59' exemptions for the purpose of taking or killing pike, in all fisheries containing pike and brown trout;
- 4) That rather than depict pike as an ecological negative in fisheries containing brown trout, that Inland Fisheries Ireland review their biased portrayal of pike and present a balanced view of the importance of pike to maintain a healthy ecosystem;
- 5) That funding presently used by Inland Fisheries Ireland to remove pike is instead used to improve the aquatic habitat for all species for the benefit of the fishery as a whole;
- 6) That pike fishing be developed and promoted as year round angling for the benefit of angling tourism, especially during the trout angling closed season, on all Inland Fisheries Ireland managed and publicly owned fisheries;
- 7) That there be no restrictions on the two rod limit and that the use of all current legal pike angling methods should be permitted on waters presently managed as wild brown trout fisheries;

Yours sincerely
Martin Ward

Co Galway

Ps,

The IFI and the cohort of trout anglers in the West of Ireland are really shooting themselves in the foot regarding the loss of angling economic revenue that is lost due to the folly of culling pike in the belief that this is beneficial to the welfare of the survival of the salmonoid on the

Western lakes, I am sure you are aware of the latest research on this subject.

It's about time attitudes changed towards pike and the benefit they can pose for a mixed fishery which in effect all of these lakes are.