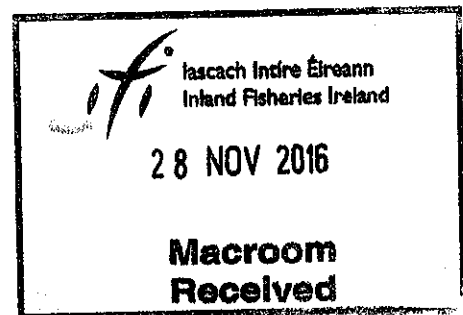


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24/11/2016.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wish to make a submission to your up coming review on your Bass Pike and Trout policies.

My name is Michael Faherty a native of Oughterard Co. Galway and I run the Oughterard Hostel & Angling Centre, I am a qualified Game Angling Instructor, my Family have lived in Oughterard since 1899 and have been through the generations involved in Trout Fishing and have made part of there living from Trout Fishing, I have fished professionally all my Life and have also held an Eel fishing licence until the Ban on Eel fishing was introduced, at the moment I make my living running the Hostel and I have two purpose built ponds for Rainbow and Brown Trout on which I teach Fly Fishing and they are open to the public for use for fishing and in particular for Children's Groups and Birthday parties.

In my experience as a Boatman and instructor for the last forty years, 95% of the business has come from Trout Anglers and this is no surprise as Corrib has always been managed as Trout Fishery, as Pike were an introduced species to the Corrib; and had overrun the Lake in the early part of the last Century, at which time control measures were introduce to reduce their number to a allow Trout number to increase, I believe that a very good job has been done by IFI in this regard.

Pike were introduced above the Oughterard waterfall in recent years and have devastated the Brownie stock and Salmon run on this system and I believe the same thing will happen on the Corrib even though it will take a longer time. The Old people here called the Pike 'Gall Iasc' or foreign fish and this to me is proof enough that Pike; like a lot of other non native Fish have been introduced to Corrib and need to be controlled.

On a personal level the Corrib and its Trout has been the life blood of the people in this area for hundreds of years and has enriched our lives, that's why people who love Trout; have not had to emigrate in hard times and have succeeded to rear families through Trout sales and Tourism.

I Believe.

That IFI have done a good job in maintaining Pike levels at a sustainable level and should maintain their present policy in relation to Pike control.

That the bag limit of Four Trout is good to maintain the stock, and that Tourist Anglers who spend money in the area have some fish to take Home.

That the Bag limit on Pike should be removed from the Managed Trout Fisheries.

That the closed season on the designated Trout Lakes should apply to all species.

That overall that the Brown Trout Policy is excellent and should be maintained.

I have no problem with Pike Angling and have often fished for them for sport, but I believe that there are adequate Pike fisheries in Ireland and that it is a matter of National importance that the designated Trout fisheries be maintained for Tourism and future generations.

Yours sincerely.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Faherty".

Michael Faherty Owner.

If you have any queries on above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Faherty".

Michael Faherty  
Oughterard Holiday Hostel  
Station Road  
Oughterard  
Co Galway