

Simon Langan

From: Simon Langan <>  
Sent: 24 November 2016 22:55  
To: POLICYREVIEW  
Subject: 'Public Consultation – Pike Management in Brown Trout Fisheries'

This email is to express my concern on the future of pike in the so called brown trout fisheries of Ireland.

From a young age I was introduced to fishing in the Galway area and quickly realised that The Pike was the culprit when a lot of trout anglers that I met returned from their outing and didn't catch to their liking.

I once asked an angler who was in the local club, "with all the fish that were killed in the competition the previous week might have been the cause of the lack of good fishing this week" he replied "Shut up smart arse", I was about fifteen at the time and not has much has changed in recent years as the same mentality and narrow minded individuals are the ones who today voice the concerns of the trout anglers and whom agree with the same competitions being held every season and have no concerns with the constant removal of fish for consumption (catch limit) added to this the increase in illegal fishing/netting topped off with pollution, invasive weed, poor spawning stream conditions, flooding, forestry issues and the constant Gill netting and electro fishing which causes stress/damage/death of all species of fish. Not to mention the family trout club competitions that are sanctioned and not monitored by IFI, where pike, perch and trout are killed for a day out showing all youngsters (and I was one of them) that killing is acceptable. Where so many available options for a catch and release for all type of species which is widely practised but is frowned upon here as it represents change. Yet the pike is still the reason in most people's minds for poor catch results on these lakes.

It really is laughable and slightly worrying.

I hope the voice of the angling community can see that the real threat to the future of the great western lakes is everything but the pike and stop the persecution of this wonderful species. One final note is that after viewing the recent footage of the people that anglers are supposed to trust carrying out Gill netting and pike control carrying on like they were is utterly baffling how they still have a job is seriously concerning.

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It was disgusting and if the same civil servants were working as the local dog wardens and drowning puppies and captured on camera they would nearly be jailed for cruelty and as a passionate pike angler I seen nothing different in the footage from Kenny Sloan.

Pike management, Gill netting and electro fishing needs to stop immediately. Period.

Simon Langan.

Sent from my iPad