

Geoffrey H T Fitzjohn

From: Geoffrey H T Fitzjohn < >  
Sent: 06 November 2016 19:09  
To: POLICYREVIEW  
Subject: Public consultation – Pike Management in Brown Trout Fisheries

Dear Sirs

"Public consultation – Pike Management in Brown Trout Fisheries"

I fish for trout on Loughs Corrib, Derg and Ree primarily and have done so for over 40 years. I am firmly of the view that Pike numbers should be managed, where they threaten wild brown trout stocks and/or in order to enhance brown trout stocks.

Over the years, it has not been unusual to catch trout in Lough Derg in particular with marks, almost certainly caused by Pike. I can also recall years ago when Pike were removed in large numbers by anglers fishing specifically for Pike.

However I would understand that most Pike fishers now return their catch.

I think that there are plenty of fisheries, in fact far too many, which are now exclusively Pike and Coarse fisheries, without having Corrib, Derg, Ree and other potentially superb wild brown trout fisheries succumb to being Pike only fisheries.

Ireland could have a world class wild brown trout fishery (I have fished in the UK, Australia and New Zealand for brown trout) and the management of Pike populations is a fundamental requirement in order to achieve.

The control of Pike populations should continue, whether by net or indeed by encouraging anglers to catch, retain and eat.

Furthermore Pike must be controlled/eradicated where they threaten sea trout and salmon stocks.

I am rather surprised at the need for this consultation unless unbeknown to me, IFI are being criticized for undertaking Pike control on wild brown trout fisheries. Clearly any such criticism is unwarranted.

Yours sincerely

Geoffrey

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