

Richard Johnston

From: Richie Johnston <>  
Sent: 29 November 2016 21:12  
To: POLICYREVIEW  
Subject: Public consultation - Pike Management in Brown Trout Fisheries.

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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;

As someone who enjoys Ireland's magical loughs for both trout and pike I would love to see the above changes implemented. I know how important our wild trout are and would never like to see the fishing for them deteriorate but I feel strongly that culling pike in the loughs does not benefit the trout fishing.

Also on a tourism angle I regularly take groups west for Trout and Pike trips. We would definatly have more winter and springtime business if the netting stopped.

I am a big supporter of IFI in lots of ways and know many staff well and know how good and

hard they work. Even lots of them are against the culling.

Some people think that all the pike anglers are anti trout, but this is not the case. Many of the

IPS supporters are also trout and salmon anglers.

Many thanks.

Richard Johnston

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Yours sincerely  
Richard Johnston.