

Cavan Anglers' Club are the oldest club on the river. Founded in 1932, they maintain a section of water stretching from Ballyhaise village upstream to Ballynallan Bridge. Some of the key angling stretches are described below:

Access 1 Ballyhaise – All the river area in and around Ballyhaise village is easily accessible and there are parking facilities at Ballyhaise amenity centre right on the banks of the river. Good fishing is also to be had at the weir downstream from Ballyhaise Bridge. The Weir is overlooked by a beautiful old historic building which now serves as Ballyhaise Agricultural College. The whole stretch at Ballyhaise offers a continuous drop resulting in fast flowing water ideally suited to wet fly fishing.

Access 2 Bellancargy Bridge - Both sides of the bridge offer good sport with the area downstream of the bridge having the longest stretches. There are a number of stiles and a foot bridge erected by the club to facilitate walking from field to field.

Access 3 Ballynallan Bridge – Downstream from this bridge is a great wide stretch of fast flowing water where both wading and casting are easy. The club have installed boulders throughout this section which help provide cover for the fish. The club, in conjunction with IFI, have also installed stiles and bridges allowing you to easily follow the river downstream through the adjacent fields.

#### **BUNNOE & DISTRICT ANGLERS**

Bunnoe & District Anglers maintain a stretch of water that runs upstream from Ballynallan Bridge as far as Porters Bridge. The Club also manages two tributaries, the Dromore and Bunnoe rivers.

Access 4: It is possible to fish the river from Ballynallan Bridge to where the Bunnoe River joins the Annalee. This is considered to be one of the best stretches on the river, especially for the evening rise and it is possible to wade almost the entire run of water.

Access 5: Porters Bridge – Downstream from Porters Bridge are a number of good stretches of fast flowing water interspersed with slower deeper sections more suited for dry fly fishing. Upstream is private water.

The Dromore River rises in Co. Monaghan and flows into the Annalee near the village of Tullyvin. A very picturesque little river, it holds a good stock of wild brown trout and fishes best early in the season.

Access 6: Take the first left turn after leaving the village of Tullyvin on route to Cootehill. This will take you to Killyreeny Bridge where there are a number of access areas downstream from the bridge.

Further upstream at Ashfield there is access to the river from the metal bridge.

#### **Bunnoe River**

The Bunnoe River rises in Co. Monaghan and joins the Annalee upstream of Ballynallan Bridge. There is a good stock of wild brown trout and the river is best fished early in the season when water levels are high.

Access 7: Bunnoe Village behind the GAA pitch.

Access 8: Cappanagh Mills.

Access 9: On the Scotstown Road at Drumurchar.

## LARAGH ANGLERS

Fishing on the Laragh River is managed by Laragh Angling Club. The river flows through Clifferna in Co. Cavan and joins the Annalee at Rathkenny. The river holds large stock of small wild brown trout and is best fished early in the season when water levels are high.

Access 10: Laragh House - Both sides of the bridge at the Laragh House pub hold good stocks of wild brown trout.

Access 11: Shan's Bridge - take the Cootehill Road from Laragh House this will bring you to Shan's Bridge and both sides of the bridge has good fly water and can be fished up and downstream for some considerable distance.



**Annalee Nymph** Hook: B170 10-14

Thread: Black Rib over silver tinsel.

**Body: Sooty Olive Dubbing.** 

Wingcase: White floss thorax, black dubbing.

Head: Black thread varnish.

#### RIVER ANNALEE & TRIBUTARIES

The River Annalee rises at Lough Sillan near Shercock, Co. Cavan and follows a westerly course for over 60km to where it joins the Erne system at Lough Oughter near Butlersbridge. The river gets its name from the Irish 'Abhainn na hEoghanach', which originates from the name of the historical province to the north of the river known as 'An Eoghanach'.

The river itself splits into two broad habitat types. The first comprises sections with a good gradient, a well defined pool and riffle regime and the substrate dominated by gravel/cobble/boulder habitat. In short exellect general habitat for trout.

The remaining (larger) percentage of the river is dominated by slow deep sections more suitable for adult trout and coarse fish.

The Annalee system has a good stock of wild brown trout. They are generally small fish of 8 to 16 ounces but fish of 2 to 3 lbs are not uncommon. When the Ulster river championship was held on the river in 2012, 450 fish of more than 20cm in length were measured on the day and when the All Ireland River Championship was fished in the same year over 250 fish of 20cm were measured. This emphasises the wonderful angling opportunities that the Annalee has to offer.





The river has a good hatch of olives and sedges. Blue Winged Olives are a feature during July and August and Midges and Smuts also form part of the trout's diet. A great plus for the river is its fantastic Mayfly hatch which attracts anglers to the river in great numbers.

In places it can sometimes be a challenging river to fish. Wading is essential for best results as a lot of the bank has an abundance of blackthorn and other tree cover. A feature that most anglers appreciate is that the river is for the most part fairly shallow and the fact that the angler can wade a lot of the water makes for a more enjoyable angling experience.

The river has a large catchment area and is joined downstream of Cootehill by a number of tributaries which are well worth

fishing in their own right. The Laragh River joins the Annalee at Rathkenny and has good fly life with the best of the fishing occurring in spring. The Bunnoe River joins the Annalee near Lisboduff and is fished upstream as far as Drumurchar. The Dromore River rises near Ballybay and is largely regarded as a coarse and pike water but it has some good trout fishing for large trout in the last few kilometres before it's confluence with the Annalee near Tullyvin.

Peter O'Reilly the well know author and fishing instructor was born and reared on the banks of the Annalee and maintains that it was this river that first nurtured his love of fishing. He remains to this day a member of Cavan Anglers and a regular visitor to the







Foxtail Fiery Brown



Grey Olive Emerger

## ANGLING REGULATIONS

## **OPEN SEASON:**

March 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>

SPECIES AVAILABLE: Brown Trout.

**METHODS:** Check with local clubs for rules on specific angling methods and bag limits.

PERMISSION TO FISH: All anglers are welcome to fish the Annalee system.

Permits are available, the proceeds of which will be used for the development and improvement of the fishery. Details of where permits can be obtained are below:

## Cavan Anglers

Donohoe's Bar, Ballyhaise Village.

## **Bunnoe & District Anglers**

Seamus Hughes, Lisboduff, Bannoe, Tel: +353 (0)47 55067

## Laragh Anglers

Brady's Bar, The Cross, Stradone Village. Larry Tierney, Tel: +353 (0) 86 8127919 PJ Smith, Tel: +353 (0)86 8222214

## COUNTRY CODE

Anglers should ensure that gates are closed and that fences are not broken or damaged. Care should be taken with crops and livestock. Litter must not be discarded and no fires are allowed. Vehicles should be parked in designated areas and in such a manner that they do not cause obstruction.

## BIOSECURITY

Aquatic Invasive Species and fish pathogens are readily transferred from one watercourse to another on angling

tackle, boats and protective clothing. These can be very damaging to resident fish stocks, the aquatic habitat and the general environment. We would ask that all anglers inspect and clean their gear prior to fishing on the Annalee if that gear has previously been used on another fishery.

Full information on prevention of invasive species is available on our website at: http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Research/invasive-species.html

Or via Invasive Species Ireland at http://invasivespeciesireland.com/cops/water-users/anglers/

# ERRORS OR INACCURACIES

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this guide is accurate, no responsibility will be accepted by Inland Fisheries Ireland for any errors or inaccuracies therein.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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