

Sampling Fish for the Water Framework Directive, Rivers 2014
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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC) came into force in 2000 and was subsequently transposed into Irish law in 2003 (S.I. No. 722 of 2003), with the principal aim of preserving those water bodies where the ecological status is currently 'High' or 'Good', and restoring those water bodies that are currently impaired, to achieve at least 'Good' ecological status in all water bodies by 2015 or by designated extended deadlines. A key step in this process is that each Member State must assess the current ecological status of surface water bodies (rivers, lakes and transitional waters) by monitoring a range of physical, chemical and biological quality elements including phytoplankton, macrophytes, phytobenthos, benthic invertebrates and fish.

Inland Fisheries Ireland has been assigned the responsibility by the EPA of delivering the fish monitoring requirements of the WFD in Ireland. Over 300 water bodies, encompassing rivers, lakes and transitional waters are required to be surveyed in a three year rolling programme.

IFI have been undertaking fish stock surveys in rivers for the WFD since 2008. All river surveys are conducted using electric-fishing. This report summarises the main findings of the 2014 surveillance monitoring programme for rivers and highlights the current status of each water body in accordance with the fish populations present.

A total of 70 river sites were surveyed during 2014 using boat-based electric-fishing gear for the non-wadeable sites and bank based (hand-set) electric-fishing gear for the wadeable sites. A total of 14 fish species (sea trout are included as a separate 'variety' of trout) and one type of hybrid (roach x bream) were recorded. Brown trout was the most common fish species recorded, being present in 95.7% of sites surveyed, followed by salmon (77.1%), European eel (55.7%), stone loach (50.0%), minnow, and three-spined stickleback (38.6%), lamprey sp. (34.3%), roach (22.9%), perch (18.6%), pike (14.3%), gudgeon (12.9%), sea trout (11.3%), flounder (10.0%), dace (5.7%) and roach x bream hybrids (1.4%). Brown trout and salmon population densities were greater in wadeable streams, sampled using bank-based electric-fishing gear, when compared to the deeper rivers surveyed using boat-based gear. This is mainly due to the preference for large numbers of juvenile salmonids to inhabit shallow riffle areas.

The ecological status classification tool for fish in Irish rivers 'FSC2 Ireland' (SNIFFER, 2011) along with expert opinion, was used to classify all river sites surveyed during 2014; three sites were classed as High, 38 as Good, 25 as Moderate and two as Poor. Two sites were not classified.





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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Fish stock surveys were undertaken at 70 river sites in 29 catchments throughout Ireland during the summer of 2014 as part of the programme of sampling fish for the Water Framework Directive (WFD). These surveys are required by both national and European law, with Annex V of the WFD stipulating that rivers are included within the monitoring programme and that the composition, abundance and age structure of fish fauna are examined (Council of the European Communities, 2000).

Although fish stock surveys have been carried out in Ireland in the past, no project to date has been as extensive as the current on-going monitoring programme. Continued surveying of these and additional river sites will provide a useful baseline and time-series dataset for WFD and fisheries management purposes. This in turn will provide information for River Basin District (RBD) managers to compile and implement programmes of measures to improve degraded water bodies. 2014 is the seventh year of the fish in river sampling programme, with many of the sites surveyed this year being repeat surveys of those carried out in other years. As a result, much of the

data from 2014 can be compared with that from at least one previous sampling occasion, to determine whether the status of our rivers is improving or deteriorating.

This report summarises the results of the 2014 fish stock surveys carried out within each River Basin District (RBD), as part of the Water Framework Directive surveillance monitoring programme.

#### 2. STUDY AREA

Thirty-six sites were wadeable and surveyed using bank-based electric fishing equipment; the remaining 34 non-wadeable sites were surveyed using boat based equipment. Sites ranged in surface area from 114m² at the Tubbercurry River site just upstream of the River Moy confluence to 19,445m² for the River Nore at Brownsbarn.

Summary details for each site's location and physical characteristics are given in Tables 2.1 and 2.2, and the distribution map of sites throughout Ireland is shown in Figure 2.1.



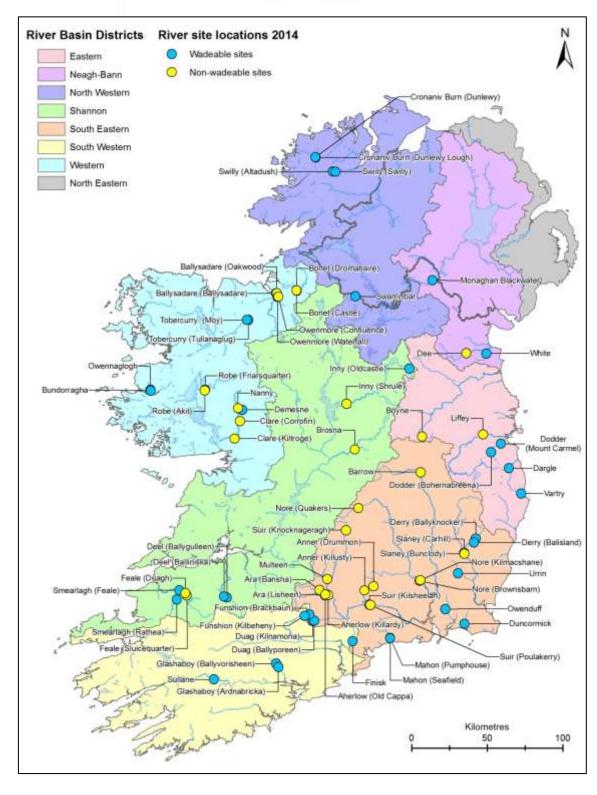


Fig. 2.1. Location map of river sites surveyed throughout the country for WFD fish surveillance monitoring, 2014



#### 3. METHODS

Electric-fishing is the method of choice for the surveillance monitoring of fish in rivers and to obtain a representative sample of the fish assemblage for each survey site. This technique complies with European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) guidelines for fish stock assessment in wadeable rivers (CEN, 2003). At each site, the sample stretch was isolated where possible using stop nets, with one to three fishings carried out using bank-based or boat-based electric fishing units. Each site ideally contained all habitat types, including riffle, glide and pool. A suite of physical and chemical parameters were also recorded.

Fish from each pass were sorted and processed separately. During processing, the species of each fish was identified, with its length and weight measured. Sub-samples were sometimes taken when large numbers of fish were present. For the purpose of species identification, juvenile river lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis), brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) and sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) were recorded as 'Lamprey sp.'. Sea trout and brown trout were listed separately. For ageing analyses, scales were taken from fish greater than 8.0cm for salmonids and most nonnative fish species. After processing, fish were held in large bins of oxygenated water until they were fully recovered, before returning them to the water.

For various reasons, including river width and flow rate, stop nets could not be deployed at every site, thus making three fishing passes impractical. Therefore, in order to draw comparisons between sites, fish densities were calculated using data from the first fishing pass only. The number captured in the first pass was divided by the total area surveyed to give a minimum density for each species.

A subsample of the dominant fish species was aged (five fish from each 1cm size class). Fish scales were aged using a microfiche reader. Growth was determined by back-calculating lengths at the end of each winter (e.g. L1 is the mean length at the end of the first winter and L2 is the mean length at the end of the second winter, etc.).



Plate 2.1. Electric-fishing using bank-based equipment on the the River Duag at Ballyporeen



Plate 2.1. Electric-fishing using boat-based equipment on the the Aherlow River at Old Cappa Br.



Plate 2.3. Processing samples on the River Suir at Kilsheelan Br.



# 4. RESULTS

# 4.1 River surveys

### 4.1.1 Eastern River Basin District - wadeable sites

Six river sites were surveyed in four river catchments within the Eastern River Basin District (ERBD). The ERBD covers a land area of around 6,300km<sup>2</sup> and sea area of approximately 350km<sup>2</sup>.

It is situated mainly over the north-eastern part of Leinster, with a coastline of about 130km, stretching from south Co. Cavan in the north to Co. Wexford in the south. Catchments with sites surveyed on them included the Boyne, Dargle, Liffey and Vartry. Four sites were wadeable and two were non-wadeable (Fig. 4.1).

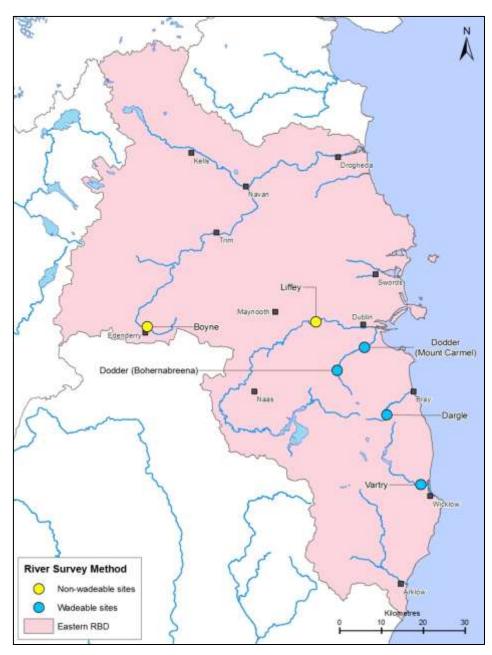


Fig. 4.1. Map of the ERBD showing all sites surveyed in 2014



#### Dargle River (Bahana\_A)

This site was located on the upstream side of a bridge, approximately 1.5km below Powerscourt Waterfall, near Enniskerry Co. Wicklow (Plate 4.1). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 37m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble.



Plate 4.1. The Dargle River at Bahana Br., Co. Wicklow

Brown trout was the only species recorded (Table 4.1 and Fig. 4.2), although salmon were previously recorded during the 2012 survey. A change in age structure of brown trout was observed at the site between the two survey occasions (Table 4.1 and Fig. 4.2).

Table 4.1. Density of fish (no./m<sup>2</sup>), Dargle River (Bahana\_A) (fish density has been calculated as minimum estimates based on one fishing)

	Total minimum density		
Species	2012	2014	
Brown trout	0.119	0.210	
0+ brown trout	0.087	0.051	
1+ & older brown trout	0.032	0.159	
Salmon	0.003	-	
0+ salmon	-	-	
1+ & older salmon	0.003	-	
All Fish	0.122	0.210	

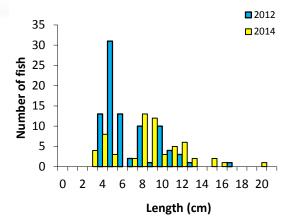


Fig. 4.2. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Dargle River (Bahana\_A), August 2012 (n=89) and July 2014 (n=62)

#### River Dodder

Two sites were electric fished on the River Dodder, one at Mount Carmel Hospital and another at Bohernabreena.

# Dodder, River (d/s Piperstown Stream, Bohernabreena\_A)



Plate 4.2. The River Dodder at Bohernabreena, South Co. Dublin

The Bohernabreena survey site was located along the Dublin Mountains Way, approximately 2.5km south of Oldbawn, Co. Dublin (Plate 4.2). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one three bank-based electric fishing units on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 43m length of channel. Riffle dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble and boulder.

Brown trout was the most common species encountered in 2014 (Table 4.2 and Fig. 4.3). Fry (0+) were present again in 2014 after an absence



in 2013 but were still much fewer than in the first survey in 2011.

Table 4.2. Density of fish (no./m²), River Dodder (d/s Piperstown Stream, Bohernabreena A)

(4,000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000			
	Total minimum density		
Species	2011	2013	2014
Brown trout	0.234	0.086	0.067
0+ brown trout	0.095	-	0.022
1+ & older brown trout	0.139	0.086	0.044
European eel	0.004	-	0.003
Stone loach	0.004	0.003	0.003
All Fish	0.241	0.089	0.073

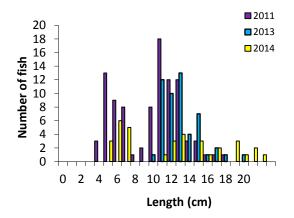


Fig. 4.3. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Dodder (d/s Piperstown stream, Bohernabreena\_A), July 2011 (n=95), July 2013 (n=52) and July 2014 (n=35).

### Dodder, River (Mount Carmel Hospital\_A)

The Mount Carmel survey site was located just downstream of a foot bridge on the river near Mount Carmel Hospital in Rathfarnham (Plate 4.3). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric-fishing units on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 37m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble.



Plate 4.3. The River Dodder at Mount Carmel, South Co. Dublin

Brown trout was the most commonly encountered species in 2014 (Table 4.3 and Fig. 4.4), followed closely by minnow. Three-spined stickleback, stone loach and minnow were all recorded again in 2014 after an absence in 2013.

Table 4.3. Density of fish (no./m²), River Dodder (Mount Carmel Hospital\_A)

	Total minimum density		
Species	2011	2013	2014
Brown trout	0.111	0.221	0.126
0+ brown trout	0.091	0.150	0.089
1+ & older brown trout	0.020	0.071	0.036
European eel	0.002	0.009	0.003
Minnow	0.002	-	0.120
Stone loach	0.034	-	0.042
Three-spined stickleback	0.069	-	0.003
All Fish	0.219	0.230	0.293

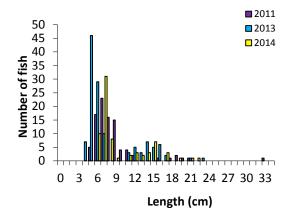


Fig. 4.4. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Dodder (Mount Carmel Hospital\_A), September 2011 (n=93), July 2013 (n=125) and July 2014 (n=73)



#### Vartry River (Newrath Br.\_A)

This survey site was located downstream of Newrath Br., halfway between Ashford and Rathnew, Co. Wicklow (Plate 4.4). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 42m length of channel. Riffle and pool dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.4. The Vartry River at Newrath Br., Co. Wicklow

Salmon was the most commonly encountered species in 2014, followed by brown trout and European eel (Table 4.1 and Figs. 4.5 and 4.6). All species present in 2013 were recorded again in 2014, except for three-spined stickleback.

Table 4.4. Density of fish (no./m²), Vartry River (Newrath Br.\_A)

,	Total minimum density		
Species	2013	2014	
Brown trout	0.098	0.052	
0+ brown trout	0.072	0.022	
1+ & older brown trout	0.026	0.031	
European eel	0.014	0.043	
Flounder	0.029	0.003	
Lamprey sp.	0.003	0.015	
Minnow	0.012	0.009	
Salmon	0.058	0.148	
0+ salmon	0.052	0.136	
1+ & older salmon	0.006	0.012	
Sea trout	0.014	0.015	
3-spined stickleback	0.006	-	
All Fish	0.233	0.287	

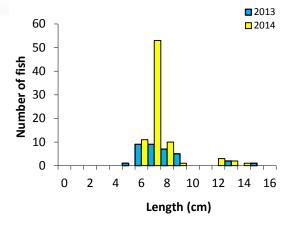


Fig. 4.5. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Vartry River (Newrath Br.\_A), September 2013 (n=34) and August 2014 (n=81)

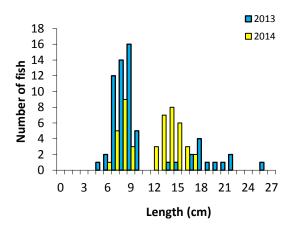


Fig. 4.6. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Vartry River (Newrath Br.\_A), September 2013 (n=64) and August 2014 (n=47)



# 4.1.2 Eastern River Basin District - non-wadeable sites

### Boyne, River (Boyne Br.\_A)

This survey site was located close to the river's source, approximately 1.5km north of Edenderry (Plate 4.5). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one boat-based electric fishing unit on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 134m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mud and silt.



Plate 4.5. The River Boyne at Boyne Br., on the Kildare/Offaly border

Brown trout was the most commonly encountered species (Table 4.5 and Fig. 4.7). Only three fish species were recorded during the 2010 and 2014 survey, down from a total of six in 2009.

Table 4.5. Density of fish (no./m²), River Boyne (Boyne Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density		
Species	2009	2010	2014
Brown trout	0.073	0.050	0.089
0+ brown trout	-	0.001	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.073	0.049	0.089
European eel	0.002	-	-
Lamprey sp.	0.007	-	-
Minnow	0.005	0.002	-
Stone loach	0.003	-	0.002
3-spined stickleback	0.005	0.004	0.004
All Fish	0.096	0.057	0.095

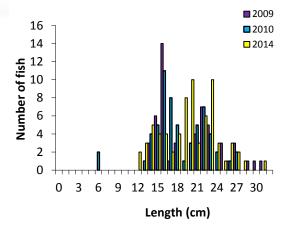


Fig. 4.7. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Boyne (Boyne Br.\_A), August 2009 (n=53), July 2010 (n=61) and July 2014 (n=72)

# River Liffey (Lucan Br.\_A)

This survey site was located downstream of the bridge in Lucan (Plate 4.6). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units (two boats fishing parallel to each bank separately) on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 249m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble.



Plate 4.6. The *River Liffey* at Lucan, South Co.

Dublin

Salmon was the most commonly encountered species and showed a similar age structure between the two surveys (Table 4.6 and Fig. 4.8). Brown trout were recorded across a wide range of sizes, while gudgeon, absent in 2009, were recorded in 2014 (Fig. 4.9 and Table 4.6).



Table 4.6. Density of fish (no./m²), River Liffey (Lucan Br.\_A)

•	Total minimum density		
Species	2009	2014	
Brown trout	0.008	0.003	
0+ brown trout	0.001	0.0004	
1+ & older brown trout	0.007	0.003	
European eel	0.002	0.002	
Gudgeon	-	0.0002	
Lamprey sp.	0.0004	0.0004	
Minnow	0.012	0.019	
Roach	0.0004	0.0004	
Salmon	0.031	0.030	
0+ salmon	0.010	0.005	
1+ & older salmon	0.021	0.024	
Stone loach	0.001	0.001	
All Fish	0.054	0.056	

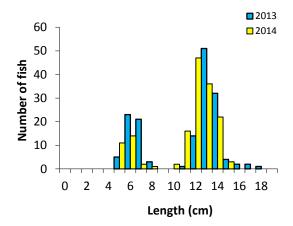


Fig. 4.8. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River liffey (Lucan\_A), August 2009 (n=159) and July 2014 (n=154).

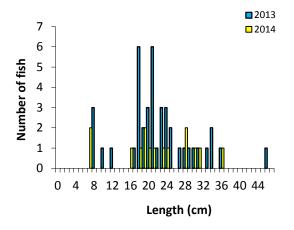


Fig. 4.9. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River liffey (Lucan\_A), August 2009 (n=42) and July 2014 (n=15)



# 4.1.3 Neagh-Bann International River Basin District - wadeable sites

Three river sites were surveyed within two river catchments within the Neagh-Bann International River Basin District (NBIRBD). The NBIRBD is one of three international river basin districts on the island of Ireland. Most of its area, some 6,000km<sup>2</sup>,

is situated within Northern Ireland while the remainder (2,000km²) is situated within the Republic of Ireland. The NBIRBD has the smallest stretch of coastline among all eight RBDs throughout Ireland (north and south). Catchments with surveys on them included, the Monaghan Blackwater and Dee. Two of these sites were wadeable and one was non-wadeable (Fig. 4.10).

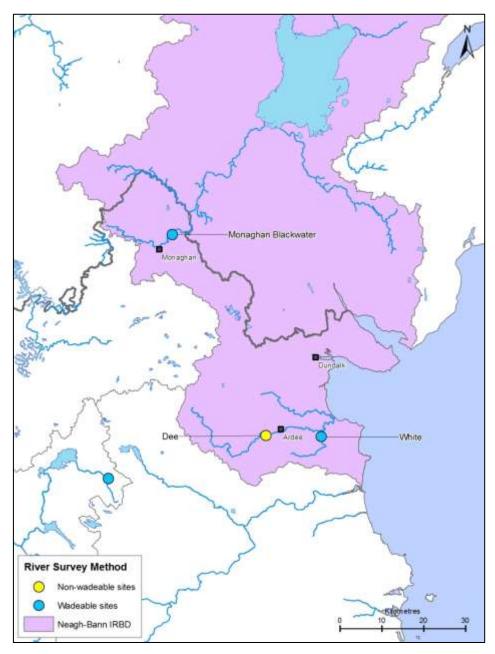


Fig. 4.10. Map of the NBIRBD showing all sites surveyed in 2014



#### River Blackwater (Monaghan)(Corvally\_A)

This survey site was located at Corvally, approximately 3km northeast of Monaghan Town (Plate 4.7). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 40m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble, bedrock and gravel.



Plate 4.7. The River Blackwater at Corvally, Co. Monaghan

Brown trout was the most commonly encountered species (Table 4.7 and Fig. 4.11), followed by salmon.

Table 4.7. Density of fish (no./m²), River Blackwater (Monaghan)(Corvally\_A)

-	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.061
0+ brown trout	0.022
1+ & older brown trout	0.039
Gudgeon	0.005
Salmon	0.007
0+ salmon	0.005
1+ & older salmon	0.002
Stone loach	0.005
3-spined stickleback	0.002
All Fish	0.080

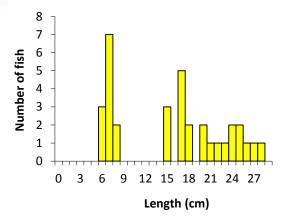


Fig. 4.11. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Blackwater (Monaghan), July 2014 (n=34)

### White River (Louth) (Coneyburrow Br.\_B)

This survey site was located upstream of Coneyburrow Br., 1km north of Dunleer, Co. Louth (Plate 4.8). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of gravel, cobble and sand.



Plate 4.8. The White River at Coneyburrow Br., Co. Louth

Minnow was the most commonly encountered species (Table 4.8), followed by three-spined stickleback. Brown trout and salmon were present in relatively low densities (Table 4.8; Figs. 4.12 and 4.13).



Table 4.8. Density of fish (no./m²), White River (Louth) (Coneyburrow Br. B)

(Loutil) (Colleybullow DiD)			
	Total minimum density		
Species	2012	2013	2014
Brown trout	0.123	0.007	0.011
0+ bown trout	0.087	0.003	0.006
1+ & older brown trout	0.036	0.007	0.006
European eel	0.003	0.007	-
Lamprey sp.	0.008	-	0.011
Minnow	0.081	0.214	0.386
Salmon	0.025	0.014	0.003
0+ salmon	0.022	0.010	0.003
1+ & older salmon	0.003	0.003	-
Stone loach	0.006	0.160	0.059
3-spined stickleback	0.008	1.760	0.112
All Fish	0.254	2.161	0.581

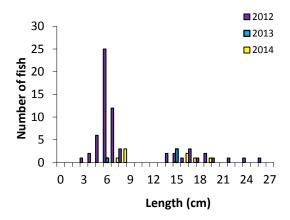


Fig. 4.12. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the White River (Coneyburrow Br.\_B), July 2012 (n=64), August 2013 (n=4) and August 2014 (n=8)

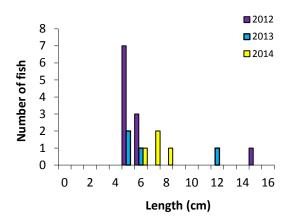


Fig. 4.13. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the White River (Coneyburrow Br.\_B), July 2012 (n=7), August 2013 (n=4) and August 2014 (n=7)



# 4.1.4 Neagh-Bann International River Basin District - non-wadeable Sites

#### Dee, River (Burley Br.\_A)

This survey site was located downstream of Burley Bridge between Mandistown and Ballygowan, Co. Meath (Plate 4.9). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one boat-based electric fishing unit on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 150m length of channel. The habitat was made up of glide, over a substrate of mostly cobble.



Plate 4.9. The River Dee at Burley Br., Louth/Meath Border

Minnow was the most abundant species captured in 2014, followed by brown trout and roach (Table 4.9). Four fish species recorded in 2009 were absent from the 2014 survey, including three-spined stickleback, stone loach, gudgeon and European eel. Furthermore, only one salmon fry was captured in 2014.

Table 4.9. Density of fish (no./m²), River Dee (Burley Br.\_A)

•	Total minimum density		
Species	2009	2014	
Brown trout	0.011	0.015	
0+ brown trout	-	-	
1+ & older brown trout	0.011	0.015	
European eel	0.001	-	
Gudgeon	0.002	-	
Minnow	0.002	0.018	
Roach	0.010	0.009	
Salmon	0.004	0.001	
0+ salmon	0.001	0.001	
1+ & older salmon	0.003	-	
Stone loach	0.003	-	
3-spined stickleback	0.016	-	
All Fish	0.050	0.043	

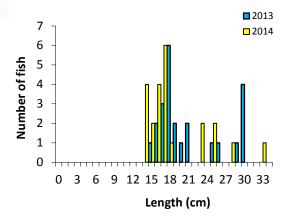


Fig. 4.14. Length frequency distribution of brown troutin the River Dee (Burley Br.\_A), August 2009 (n=24) and July 2014 (n=23)

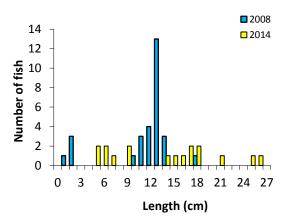


Fig. 4.15. Length frequency distribution of roach in the River Dee (Burley Br.\_A), August 2009 (n=29) and July 2014 (n=17)



# 4.1.5. North Western River Basin District - wadeable sites

Five river sites were surveyed in three river catchments within the North Western International River Basin District (NWIRBD). The NWIRBD is another cross-border RBD, shared with Northern Ireland. It encompasses all of Co. Donegal and parts of many other counties along

the border. It has a land surface area of approximately 12,300km² and a marine area (most of which belongs to Co. Donegal) of approximately 2,500km². Catchments where surveys were undertaken included the Clady, Erne and Swilly. All of these sites were wadeable (Fig. 4.16).



Fig. 4.16. Map of the NWIRBD showing all sites surveyed in 2014



#### Cronaniv Burn

Two sites were electric fished on the Cronaniv Burn, both upstream of Dunlewy Lough.

#### Cronaniv Burn (Br. u/s Dunlewy Lough\_A)

The Dunlewy Lough survey site was located just upstream of the confluence with a sister stream, approximately 0.5km upstream of Dunlewy Lough (Plate 4.10). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Riffle dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble, boulder and gravel.



Plate 4.10. The Cronaniv Burn upstream of Dunlewy Lough, Co. Donegal

Salmon and brown trout were the only two species encountered on all three survey occasions, with salmon consistently being the most abundant species recorded (Table 4.10).

Table 4.10. Density of fish (no./m²), Cronaniv Burn (Br. u/s Dunlewy Lough\_A)

	Total minimum density		
Species	2008	2011	2014
Brown trout	0.026	0.032	0.038
0+ brown trout	0.015	0.008	0.014
1+ & older brown trout	0.011	0.024	0.024
Salmon	0.113	0.171	0.091
0+ salmon	0.023	0.067	0.057
1+ & older salmon	0.090	0.103	0.033
All Fish	0.140	0.202	0.129

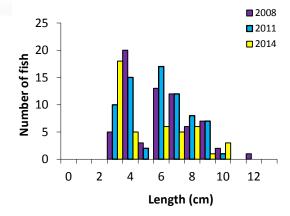


Fig. 4.17. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Cronaniv Burn (Br. u/s Dunlewy Lough\_A), September 2009 (n=69), August 2011 (n=72) and July 2014 (n=44)

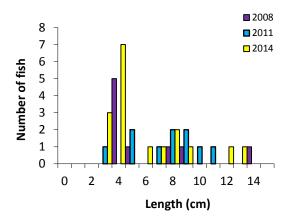


Fig. 4.18. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Cronaniv Burn (Br. u/s Dunlewy Lough\_A), September 2009 (n=9), August 2011 (n=10) and July 2014 (n=17)

#### Cronaniv Burn (0.2km u/s Dunlewy Lough\_A)

The survey site was located approximately 300m downstream of the first site, just upstream of a bridge near Dunlewy Lough (Plate 4.11). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 42m length of channel. Riffle dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble and boulder.





Plate 4.11. The Cronaniv Burn at Dunlewy, Co.
Donegal

Salmon and brown trout were the only two species encountered at this site, with salmon the more abundant of the two species (Table 4.11).

Table 4.11. Density of fish (no./m²), Cronaniv Burn (0.2km u/s dunlewy Lough\_A)

	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.022
0+ brown trout	0.017
1+ & older brown trout	0.006
Salmon	0.168
0+ salmon	0.124
1+ & older salmon	0.045
All Fish	0.191

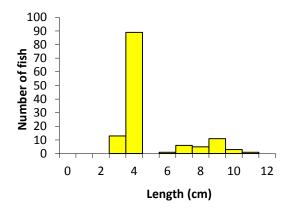


Fig. 4.19. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Cronaniv Burn (Dunlewy\_A), July 2014 (n=129)

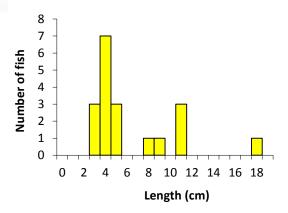


Fig. 4.20. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Cronaniv Burn (Dunlewy\_A), July 2014 (n=19)

### Swanlinbar River (Swanlinbar Br. (Carpark)\_A)

This survey site was located downstream of the N87 bridge on the Drumcona side of Swanlinbar town, just upstream of the River Blackwater confluence (Plate 4.12). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 46m length of channel. There was a good mix of habitat, composed of glide, pool and riffle, over a substrate of mainly cobble.



Plate 4.12. The Swanlinbar River at Swanlinbar, Co. Cavan

Brown trout was the most common species encountered at this site on both occasions (Table 4.12). A greater spread of brown trout sizes were recorded in 2014 (Fig. 4.21), while there was a shift from in salmon age class dominance between years; fry were dominant in 2011 while only parr were captured in 2014 (Fig. 4.22).



Table 4.12. Density of fish (no./m²), Swanlinbar River (Swanlinbar Br. (Carpark)\_A)

·	Total minin	num density
Species	2011	2014
Brown trout	0.145	0.104
0+ brown trout	0.041	0.013
1+ & older brown trout	0.104	0.092
European eel	0.005	0.010
Gudgeon	0.003	-
Lamprey sp.	-	0.003
Salmon	0.013	0.020
0+ salmon	0.010	-
1+ & older salmon	0.003	0.020
All Fish	0.165	0.137

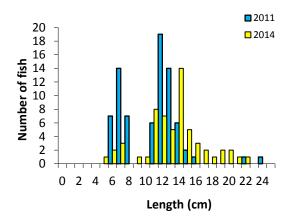


Fig. 4.21. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Swanlinbar River (Carpark\_A), August 2011 (n=78) and July 2014 (n=59)

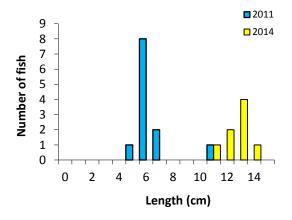


Fig. 4.22. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Swanlinbar River (Carpark\_A), August 2011 (n=12) and July 2014 (n=8)

#### River Swilly

Two sites were electric fished on the River Swilly, one at Altadush and another at Swilly Br.

#### River Swilly (Altadush\_A)

The Altadush site was located near Altadush close to the river's source, approximately 15km west of Letterkenny, Co. Donegal (Plate 4.13). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 46m length of channel. Riffle dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of cobble, boulder and gravel.



Plate 4.13. The River Swilly at altadush, Co. Donegal

Brown trout was the only species caught at this site (Table 4.13), with 1+ & older abundance far outnumbering fry (0+) (Fig. 4.23).

Table 4.13. Density of fish (no./m²), River Swilly (Altadush A)

	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.089
0+ brown trout	0.009
1+ & older brown trout	0.080
All Fish	0.089



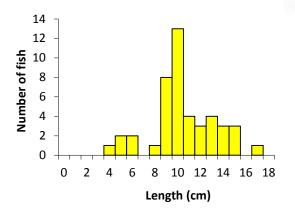


Fig. 4.23. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Swilly (Altadush\_A), July 2014 (n=45)

## River Swilly (Swilly Br. (near Breenagh)\_A)

The Swilly Br. site was located approximately 1.5km further downstream of the Altadush site near Breenagh (Plate 4.14). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate dominated by cobble.



Plate 4.14. The River Swilly near Breenagh, Co.

Donegal

Brown trout was the most common species recorded, followed by salmon (Table 4.14). Brown trout fry numbers were relatively high in 2014 compared to previous survey occasions (Fig. 4.24), while the salmon density and size range were more comparable with those recorded in 2008 (Fig. 4.25).

Table 4.14. Density of fish (no./m²), River Swilly (Swilly Br. (near Breenagh)\_A)

	Total minimum density		
Species	2008	2011	2014
Brown trout	0.059	0.129	0.219
0+ brown trout	0.028	0.073	0.177
1+ & older brown trout	0.031	0.056	0.042
European eel	0.006	0.006	0.004
Lamprey sp.	0.016	0.009	-
Salmon	0.087	0.050	0.096
0+ salmon	0.053	0.026	0.019
1+ & older salmon	0.034	0.023	0.077
All Fish	0.168	0.194	0.319

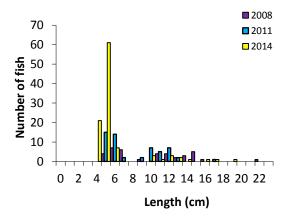


Fig. 4.24. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Swilly (Swilly Br. (near Breenagh\_A), September 2008 (n=38), August 2011 (n=55) and July 2014 (n=102)

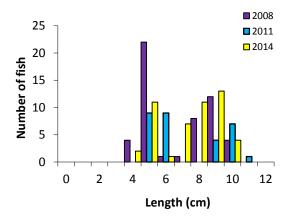


Fig. 4.25. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River Swilly (Swilly Br. (near Breenagh)\_A), September 2008 (n=52), August 2011 (n=30) and July 2014 (n=49)



# **4.1.6. South Eastern River Basin District - wadeable sites**

Twenty-five river sites were surveyed in seven river catchments within the South Eastern River Basin District (SERBD). The SERBD is the second largest RBD in Ireland, covering a land area of

approximately 13,000km<sup>2</sup>. It also encompasses a further 1,000km<sup>2</sup> of marine waters off the coast of Counties Wexford and Waterford. Catchments where surveys were undertaken included, the Barrow, Duncormick, Mahon, Nore, Owenduff, Slaney and Suir. Nine of these sites were wadeable and 19 were non-wadeable (Fig. 4.26).



Fig. 4.26. Map of the SERBD showing all sites surveyed in 2014



#### **Derry River**

Two sites were electric fished on the Derry River one at Balisland Bridge and another at Ballyknocker.

## Derry River (Balisland Br.\_A)

The Balisland Bridge site was located downstream of Balisland Br., 3km south of Shillelagh, Co. Wicklow (Plate 4.15). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 43m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.15. The Derry River at Balisland Br., Co. Wicklow

Minnow was the most common species, followed by salmon and brown trout (Table 4.15). The number of salmon fry (0+) was far greater than 1+ & older cohorts (Fig. 4.28), with an opposite trend apparent for brown trout (Fig. 4.27).

Table 4.15. Density of fish (no./m²), Derry River (Balisland Br. A)

(Ballistatia BrA)		
	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.028	
0+ brown trout	0.006	
1+ & older brown trout	0.021	
Lamprey sp.	0.011	
Minnow	0.224	
Salmon	0.083	
0+ salmon	0.083	
1+ & older salmon	0.002	
Stone loach	0.009	
3-spined stickleback	0.013	
All Fish	0.366	

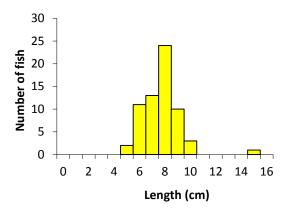


Fig. 4.27. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Derry River (Balisland Br.\_A), August 2014 (n=64)

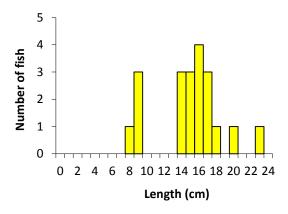


Fig. 4.28. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Derry River (Balisland Br.\_A), August 2014 (n=20)

# Derry River (Ballyknocker\_A)

The Ballyknocker site was located downstream of a bridge on a private road, approximately 3km upstream of the Balisland Br. site (Plate 4.15). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 40m length of channel. Glide and riffle dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of cobble, gravel and sand.





Plate 4.15. The Derry River at Ballyknocker, Co. Wicklow

Salmon was the most abundant species, followed by brown trout (Table 4.15). The number of fry (0+) outnumbered the amount of 1+ & older cohorts for both salmon (Fig. 4.29) and brown trout (Fig. 4.30).

Table 4.16. Density of fish (no./m²), Derry River (Ballyknocker\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.092	
0+ brown trout	0.060	
1+ & older brown trout	0.032	
European eel	0.002	
Lamprey sp.	0.002	
Minnow	0.010	
Salmon	0.239	
0+ salmon	0.231	
1+ & older salmon	0.008	
Sea trout	0.002	
Stone loach	0.020	
3-spined stickleback	0.002	
All Fish	0.369	

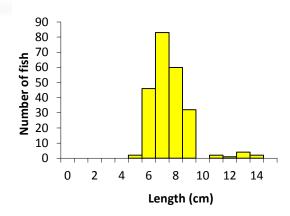


Fig. 4.29. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Derry River (Ballyknocker\_A), August 2014 (n=232)

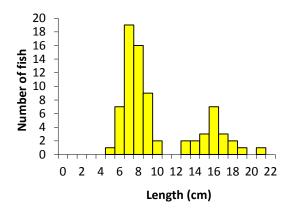


Fig. 4.30. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Derry River (Ballyknocker\_A), August 2014 (n=75)

# River Duag

Two sites were electric fished on the Duag River, one at Ballyporeen and another at Kilnamona.

### River Duag (Br. u/s Ballyporeen\_B)

The Ballyporeen survey site was located downstream of a bridge located approximately 1.5 km west of Ballyporeen in Co. Tipperary (Plate 4.17). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one bank-based electric fishing unit on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly gravel and cobble.





Plate 4.17. The River Duag at Ballyporeen, Tipperary

Brown trout was the most commonly encountered species at this site (Table 4.17). Brown trout and salmon fry densities were more comparable between 2008 and 2014, than with 2011, where their abundance was much greater (Table 4.17; Figs. 4.31 and 3.32). Juvenile lamprey abundance was low in 2014 when compared with the two previous surveys (Table 4.17 and Fig. 4.33).

Table 4.17. Density of fish (no./m²), River Duag, (Br. u/s Ballyporeen\_B)

	Total minimum density		lensity
Species	2008	2011	2014
Brown trout	0.130	0.524	0.207
0+ brown trout	0.102	0.487	0.167
1+ & older bown trout	0.028	0.037	0.040
European eel	0.023	-	-
Lamprey sp.	0.034	0.037	0.007
Salmon	0.068	0.042	0.027
0+ salmon	0.011	0.042	0.013
1+ & older salmon	0.056	-	0.013
Stone loach	-	0.011	0.027
3-spined stickleback	0.006	0.005	0.007
All Fish	0.260	0.619	0.273

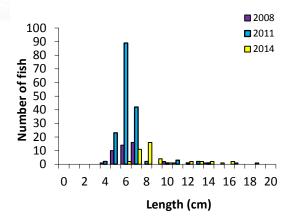


Fig. 4.31. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Duag River (Br. u/s Ballyporeen\_B),
July 2008 (n=47), July 2011 (n=166) and
September 2014 (n=43)

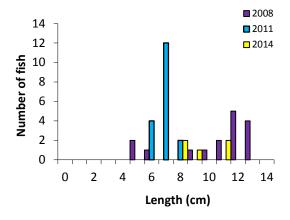


Fig. 4.32. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Duag River (Br. u/s Ballyporeen\_B), July 2008 (n=16), July 2011 (n=18) and September 2014 (n=5)

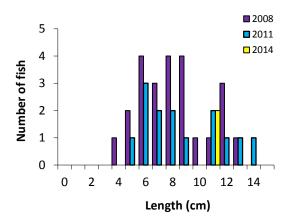


Fig. 4.33. Length frequency distribution of Lamprey sp. in the Duag River (Br. u/s Ballyporeen\_B), July 2008 (n=24), July 2011 (n=14) and September 2014 (n=2)



#### Duag, River (Kilnamona\_A)

The Kilnamona survey site was located downstream of a bridge, 700m upstream from the Ballyporeen site (Plate 4.18). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2014, along a 42m length of channel. Riffle dominated a mixed habitat, with an assorted substrate of cobble, gravel, sand and boulder.



Plate 4.18. The River Duag at Kilnamona, Co. Tipperary

Brown trout was the most abundant species encountered at this site (Table 4.18), while fry (0+) dominated the catch (Fig. 4.34).

Table 4.18. Duag, River (Kilnamona\_A)

	- · · · · - · - · · - · ·
	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.123
0+ brown trout	0.113
1+ & older brown trout	0.010
Lamprey sp.	0.015
Salmon	0.005
0+ salmon	0.005
1+ & older salmon	-
Stone loach	0.020
3-spined stickleback	0.029
All Fish	0.191

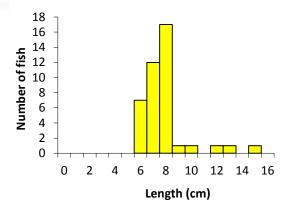


Fig. 4.34. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Duag River (Kilnamona\_A),

September 2014 (n=41)

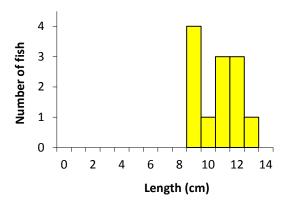


Fig. 4.35. Length frequency distribution of lamprey sp. in the Duag River (Kilnamona\_A), September 2014 (n=12)

# Duncormick River (W) Br. nr Duncormick Rly St\_B)

This survey site was located just downstream of a railway bridge near Duncormick village (Plate 4.19). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of sand, gravel, cobble, mud and silt.





Plate 4.19. The Duncormick River near Duncormick, Co. Cork

Brown trout was by far the most abundant species recorded, with European eel also present in relatively good numbers (Table 4.19). Brown trout abundance increased from 2008 to 2014 and this can mainly be attributed to an increase in 1+ & older fish (Fig. 4.36). In contrast, European eel density decreased each year, with the abundance of smaller individuals much lower in 2014 and 2011, than that recorded in 2008 (Fig. 4.37).

Table 4.19. Density of fish (no./m²), Duncormick River ((W) Br. nr Duncormick Rly St B)

1te: ((tt) 5:1 iii 5 aiites iiiiek iiiy 5t_5)			
	Total minimum density		
Species	2008	2011	2014
Brown trout	0.162	0.244	0.336
0+ brown trout	0.106	0.022	0.025
1+ & older brown trout	0.055	0.222	0.311
European eel	0.047	0.033	0.030
Flounder	0.004	-	-
Salmon	0.034	-	-
0+ salmon	0.026	-	-
1+ & older salmon	0.009	-	-
Sea trout	-		0.005
Stone loach	0.009	0.011	0.005
3-spined stickleback	0.026	0.006	0.030
All Fish	0.281	0.294	0.377

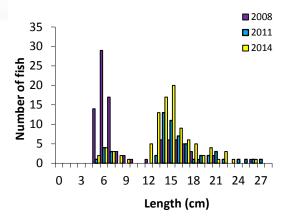


Fig. 4.36. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Duncormick River ((W) Br. nr Duncormick Rly St\_B), July 2008 (n=97), July 2011 (n=59) and August 2014 (n=99)

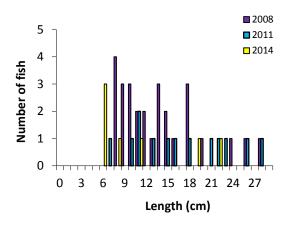


Fig. 4.37. Length frequency distribution of European eel in the Duncormick River ((W) Br. nr Duncormick Rly St\_B), July 2008 (n=28), July 2011 (n=13) and August 2014 (n=7)

#### Mahon, River

Two sites were electric fished on the River Mahon, one near Seafield House and another at the Bunmahon Pumphouse Weir.

### Mahon, River (Pumphouse Weir\_A)

The Pumphouse Weir survey site was located downstream of the weir at the waterworks, approximately three kilometres north-east of Bunmahon (Plate 4.20). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2014, along a 36m length of channel. Glide and pool



dominated the habitat, over a substrate dominated by cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.20. The Mahon River at the pumphouse weir, Bunmahon, Co. Cork

Flounder was the most abundant species captured at this site, a species often encountered in streams close to the sea (Table. 4.20). Salmon fry (0+) were much more abundant than parr (1+ & older) (Fig. 4.38), while the brown trout numbers were more evenly mixed between both 0+ and 1+ & older (Fig. 4.40).

The eel population was mixed across size classes, and juveniles up to 10cm in length made up the majority of those recorded (Fig. 4.39).

Table 4.20. Density of fish (no./m²), Mahon, River (Pumphouse Weir\_A)

	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.024
0+ Brown trout	0.012
1++ Brown trout	0.012
European eel	0.030
Flounder	0.163
Lamprey sp.	0.012
Salmon	0.068
0+ Salmon	0.059
1++ Salmon	0.009
3-spined stickleback	0.077
All Fish	0.374

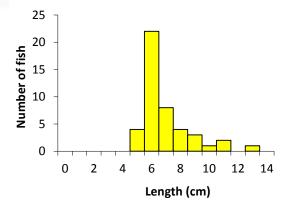


Fig. 4.38. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Mahon River (Pumphouse Weir\_A),
September 2014 (n=45)

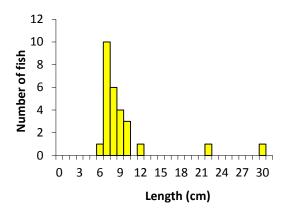


Fig. 4.39. Length frequency distribution of European eel in the Mahon River (Pumphouse Weir\_A), September 2014 (n=27)

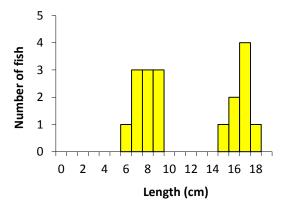


Fig. 4.40. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Mahon River (Pumphouse Weir\_A),
September 2014 (n=18)



#### Mahon, River (ENE of Seafield House\_A)

The Seafield House survey site was located further downstream of the Pumphouse Weir site (Plate 4.21). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Glide dominated a mixed habitat, with a substrate composed of mainly cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.21. The Mahon River near Seafield House, Bunmahon, Co. Cork

Flounder was by far the most abundant species caught, followed closely by three-spined stickleback (Table 4.21). Salmon parr (1+ & older) were captured in low numbers when compared to fry (0+) at this site (Fig.4.41). European eel were also present in good numbers, with the majority of those recorded measuring 10cm or less (Fig. 4.42).

Table 4.21. Density of fish (no./m²), River Mahon, (ENE of Seafield House\_A)

	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.005
0+ brown trout	0.003
1+ & older brown trout	0.002
European eel	0.044
Flounder	0.066
Lamprey sp.	0.014
Salmon	0.021
0+ salmon	0.021
1+ & older salmon	0.002
Sea trout	-
3-spined stickleback	0.063
All Fish	0.213

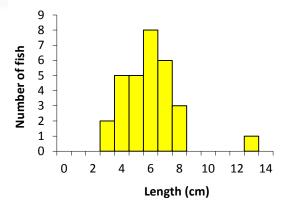


Fig. 4.41. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Mahon River (ENE of Seafield House\_A),

September 2014 (n=35)

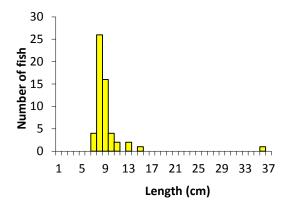


Fig. 4.42. Length frequency distribution of European eel in the Mahon River (ENE of Seafield House\_A), September 2014 (n=56)



### Owenduff River (Rathnageeragh\_A)

This survey site was located downstream of Rathnageragh bridge, approximately 10km northwest of Wellingtonbridge, Co. Wexford (Plate 4.22). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2014, along a 40m length of channel. The habitat was evenly spread out between riffle, glide and pool, over a substrate dominated by cobble.



Plate 4.22. The Owenduff River at Rathnageeragh, Co. Wexford

Brown trout and salmon were the two most abundant species encountered (Table 4.22). Both species had a range of sizes recorded, with fry (0+) and 1+ & older present (Figs. 4.43 and 4.44). European eel was also recorded up to over 40cm in length (Fig. 4.44).

Table 4.22. Density of fish (no./m<sup>2</sup>), Owenduff River (Rathnageeragh A)

inver (natimageeragii_A)		
	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.155	
0+ brown trout	0.056	
1+ & older brown trout	0.099	
European eel	0.026	
Lamprey sp.	0.004	
Salmon	0.095	
0+ salmon	0.039	
1+ & older salmon	0.056	
Stone loach	0.056	
3-spined stickleback	0.004	
All Fish	0.337	

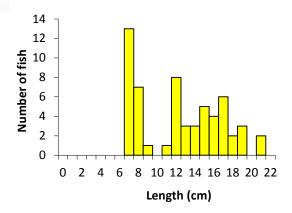


Fig. 4.43. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Owenduff River (Rathnageeragh\_A),
September 2014 (n=58)

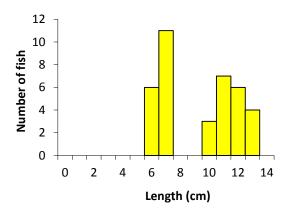


Fig. 4.44. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Owenduff River (Rathnageeragh\_A, September 2014 (n=37)

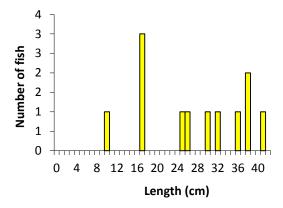


Fig. 4.45. Length frequency distribution of European eel in the Owenduff River (Rathnageeragh\_A), September 2014 (n=12)



#### **Urrin River**

This survey site was located downstream of Bucks Bridge, approximately 3km southeast of Kiltealy, Co. Wexford (Plate 4.23). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August 2014, along a 45m length of channel. The habitat was mixed, with glide the most abundant type, over a substrate of mainly cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.23. The Urrin River at Buck's Br., Co. Wexford

Only native fish species were recorded at this site during both surveys (Table 4.23). Brown trout 1+ and older density was higher in 2008, with 0+ density greater in 2014 (Fig. 4.46). Salmon fry (0+) abundance was markedly higher in 2014 than 2008 (Fig. 4.47).

Table 4.23. Density of fish (no./m²), Urrin River (Buck's Br.\_B)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2008	2014
Brown trout	0.156	0.193
0+ brown trout	0.052	0.109
1+ & older brown trout	0.104	0.084
European eel	0.004	0.009
Salmon	0.019	0.140
0+ salmon	0.004	0.103
1+ & older salmon	0.015	0.037
All Fish	0.178	0.343

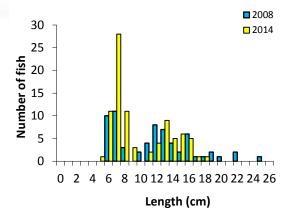


Fig. 4.46. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Urrin River (Buck's Br.\_B), August 2014 (n=65) and October 2008 (n=87)

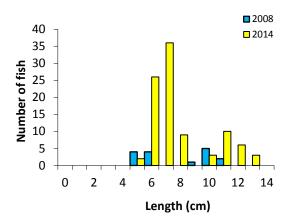


Fig. 4.47. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Urrin River (Buck's Br.\_B), August 2014 (n=16) and October 2008 (n=95)



#### 4.1.7. South Eastern River Basin District - nonwadeable sites

#### **Aherlow River**

Two sites were electric fished on the Aherlow, one at Killardry Br. and another at Old Cappa Br.

#### Aherlow River (Killardy Br.\_A)

The Killardry Bridge survey site was located upstream of Killardry Bridge, approximately 1.5km downstream of the river's confluence with the River Ara (Plate 4.24).



Plate 4.24. The Aherlow River at Killardry Br., Co. Tipperary

One electric-fishing pass was conducted using two boat-based electric fishing units on the 1<sup>sh</sup> of July 2014, along a 245m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of cobble, gravel and sand.

Brown trout and salmon were the most abundant species encountered (Table 4.24). The abundance of brown trout was much lower than in the previous survey in 2010 (Fig. 4.48). A similar trend was observed for salmon, with densities much lower for 2014 (Fig. 4.49).

Table 4.24. Density of fish (no./m²), Aherlow River (Killardy Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2010	2014
Brown trout	0.025	0.006
0+ brown trout	0.001	0.000
1+ & older brown trout	0.024	0.006
Perch	-	0.001
Roach	0.001	0.003
Salmon	0.025	0.005
0+ salmon	0.009	0.0003
1+ & older salmon	0.017	0.005
Stone loach	0.001	0.001
3-spined stickleback	0.0003	-
All Fish	0.052	0.016

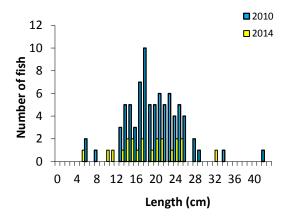


Fig. 4.48. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Aherlow River (Killardry Br.\_A), July 2014 (n=81) and July 2010 (n=22)

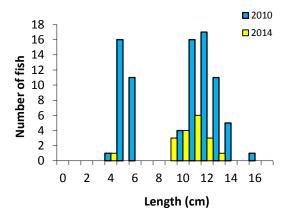


Fig. 4.49. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Aherlow River (Killardry Br.\_A), July 2014 (n=82) and July 2010 (n=18)



### Aherlow River (Old Cappa Br.\_A)

The Old Cappa Bridge survey site was located upstream of the Old Cappa Bridge, approximately 1km upstream of the river's confluence with the River Ara (Plate 4.25). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one boat-based electric fishing unit on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2014, along a 168m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.25. The Aherlow River at Old Cappa Br., Co. Tipperary

Only brown trout and salmon were recorded at this site (Table 4.25). No brown trout fry (0+) were recorded at this site (Fig. 4.50), while in the case of salmon, the majority or those recorded were parr (1+ & older) (Fig. 4.51).

Table 4.25. Density of fish (no./m<sup>2</sup>), Aherlow River (Old Cappa Br. A)

(0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00		
	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.004	
0+ brown trout	-	
1+ & older brown trout	0.004	
Salmon	0.004	
0+ salmon	0.0004	
1+ & older salmon	0.003	
All Fish	0.008	

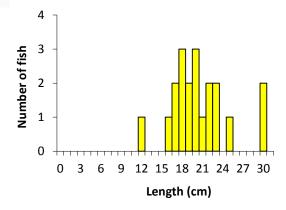


Fig. 4.50. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Aherlow River (Old Cappa Br.\_A), July 2014 (n=20)

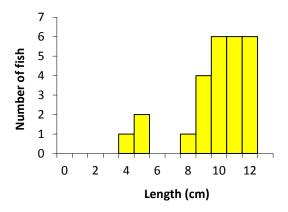


Fig. 4.51. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Aherlow River (Old Cappa Br.\_A), July 2014 (n=26)

#### Anner River

Two sites were electric fished on the Anner River, one at Drummon Br. and another at Killusty.

### Anner River (Drummon Br.\_A)

The Drummon Bridge site was located downstream of Drummon Bridge, about 11km east of Fethard, Co. Tipperary (Plate 4.26). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two boat-based electric fishing units on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2014, along a 197m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble and gravel.





Plate 4.26. The Anner River at Drummon Br., Tipperary

Brown trout and salmon were the two most dominant species recorded at this site (Table 4.26). Brown trout abundance was lower across all size classes in 2014 than 2008 (Table 4.25 and Fig. 4.52), while salmon fry abundance was also lower in 2014 (Fig. 4.53). Three-spined stickleback were also present in 2014, but not recorded in 2008.

Table 4.26. Density of fish (no./m²), Anner River (Drummon Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2008	2014
Brown trout	0.049	0.037
0+ brown trout	0.006	0.002
1+ & older brown trout	0.044	0.035
European eel	0.001	0.002
Lamprey sp.	0.001	0.001
Salmon	0.026	0.033
0+ salmon	0.014	0.027
1+ & older salmon	0.012	0.005
Stone loach	0.002	0.004
3-spined stickleback	ı	0.001
All Fish	0.078	0.077

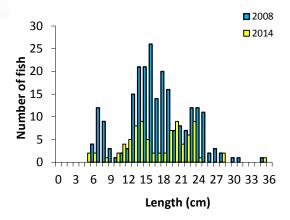


Fig. 4.52. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Anner River (Drummon Br.\_A),
September 2008 (n=234) and July 2014 (n=83)

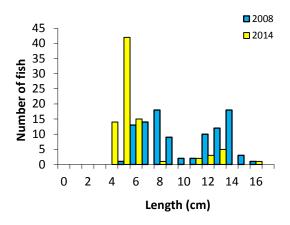


Fig. 4.53. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Anner River (Drummon Br.\_A), September 2008 (n=103) and July 2014 (n=83)

### Anner River (Killusty\_A)

The Killusty Br. site was located at a ford on the western side of Slievenamon, about 5km southeast of Fethard, Co. Tipperary. Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one boat-based electric fishing unit on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2014, along a 105m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of cobble, gravel and sand.

Brown trout and salmon were the most commonly encountered species (Table 4.26). A relatively wide range of brown trout lengths were recorded (Fig. 4.54) but only a single individual fry (0+) was recorded. Both salmon fry (0+) and parr (1+ & older) were present (Table 4.27 and Figs 4.54 and 4.55).



Table 4.27. Density of fish (no./m²), Anner River (Killusty\_A)

	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.038
0+ brown trout	0.001
1+ & older brown trout	0.037
European eel	0.001
Salmon	0.005
0+ salmon	0.001
1+ & older salmon	0.004
Stone loach	0.004
All Fish	0.047

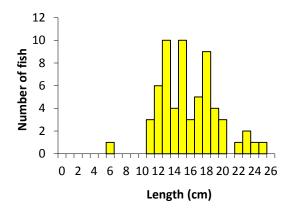


Fig. 4.54. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Anner River (Killusty\_A), July 2014 (n=63)

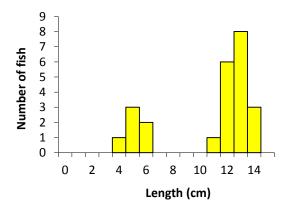


Fig. 4.55. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Anner River (Killusty\_A), July 2014 (n=24)

# Ara River

Two sites were electric fished on the Ara River, one at Bansha and another at Lisheen.

## Ara River (Bansha\_A)

The Bansha site was located downstream of the bridge in Bansha, approximately 6km southeast of Tipperary Town (Plate 4.27). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one boat-based electric fishing unit on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2014, along a 105m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.27. The Ara River at Bansha, Co. Tipperary

Brown trout was the most abundant fish species recorded, with 0+ and 1+ & older present (Table 4.28 and Fig. 4.56). Salmon were only present in low numbers and all of those recorded were parr (Table 4.28).

Table 4.28. Density of fish (no./m<sup>2</sup>), Ara River (Bansha A)

(= = = -,			
	Total minimum density		
Species	2014		
Brown trout	0.025		
0+ brown trout	0.001		
1+ & older brown trout	0.025		
European eel	0.001		
Salmon	0.001		
0+ salmon	-		
1+ & older salmon	0.001		
Stone loach	0.001		
All Fish	0.027		



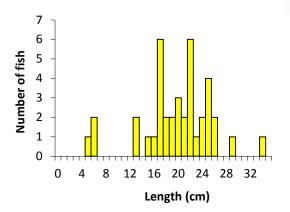


Fig. 4.56. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Ara River (Bansha\_A), July 2014 (n=39)

# Ara River (Lisheen\_A)

The Lisheen site was located at approximately 1km upstream of the confluence with the Aherlow River, approximately 8km northwest of Caher, Co. Tipperary (Plate 4.28). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one boat-based electric fishing unit on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2014, along a 126m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly gravel and cobble.



Plate 4.28. The Ara River at Lisheen, Co. Tipperary

Brown trout was the most abuntant species at this site (Table 4.29). No brown trout fry (0+) were recorded (Fig. 4.57). Both salmon fry (0+) and parr (1+ & older) were encountered but fry were present in low numbers (Table 4.29 and Figs. 4.57 and 4.58).

Table 4.29. Density of fish (no./m²), Ara River (Lisheen\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.032	
0+ brown trout	-	
1+ & older brown trout	0.032	
European eel	0.002	
Perch	0.002	
Salmon	0.023	
0+ salmon	0.005	
1+ & older salmon	0.023	
Stone loach	0.002	
All Fish	0.058	

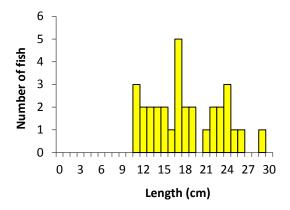


Fig. 4.57. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Ara River (Lisheen\_A), July 2014 (n=32)

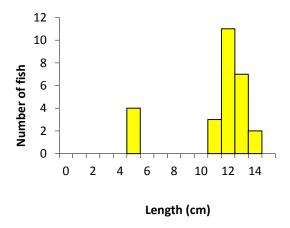


Fig. 4.58. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Ara River (Lisheen\_A), July 2014 (n=27)



# Barrow, River (Pass Br.\_B)

This survey site was located between Pass Bridge and the Grand Canal Bridge, just outside Monasterevin, Co. Kildare (Plate 4.29). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units (two boats electric fished parallel to each bank separately) on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2014, along a 363m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of gravel, cobble and sand.



Plate 4.29. The River Barrow at Pass Br., Co. Kildare

This was a species rich site, with dace the most frequently encountered species (Table 4.30 and Fig. 4.59). Roach density was lower in 2014 than 2012, with a marked decrease in fry (Table 4.30). Brown trout and salmon showed similar trends, with 0+ dominating in 2012 and 1+ & older dominating in 2014 (Figs. 4.62 to 4.63).

Table 4.30. Density of fish (no./m²), Barrow, River (Pass Br.\_B)

	Total minimum density		
Species	2012	2014	
Brown trout	0.002	0.002	
0+ brown trout	-	-	
1+ & older brown trout	0.002	0.002	
Dace	0.010	0.014	
European eel	0.001	0.0003	
Gudgeon	0.013	0.004	
Lamprey sp.	0.0003	-	
Minnow	0.037	0.007	
Perch	0.003	0.004	
Pike	0.0002	0.002	
Roach	0.016	0.009	
Roach x bream hybrid	0.0003	0.0001	
Salmon	0.003	0.004	
0+ salmon	-	-	
1+ & older salmon	0.003	0.004	
Stone loach	0.003	0.001	
3-spined stickleback	0.0005	-	
All Fish	0.088	0.046	

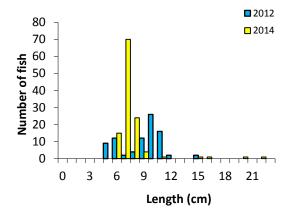


Fig. 4.59. Length frequency distribution of dace in the River Barrow (Pass Br.\_B), May 2012 (n=85) and June 2014 (n=118)



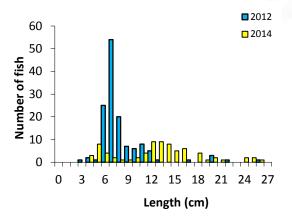


Fig. 4.60. Length frequency distribution of roach in the River Barrow (Pass Br.\_B), May 2012 (n=136) and June 2014 (n=75)

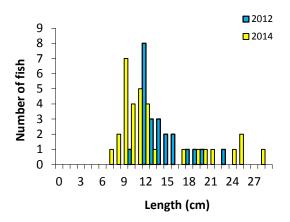


Fig. 4.61. Length frequency distribution of perch in the River Barrow (Pass Br.\_B), May 2012 (n=23) and June 2014 (n=32)

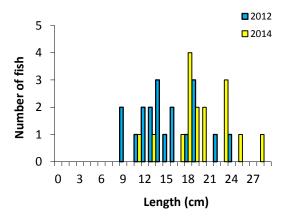


Fig. 4.62. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Barrow (Pass Br.\_B), May 2012 (n=19) and June 2014 (n=16)

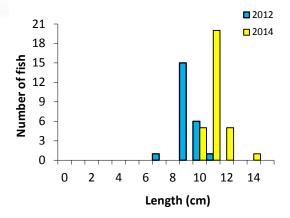


Fig. 4.63. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River Barrow (Pass Br.\_B), May 2012 (n=23) and June 2014 (n=31)

# Multeen River (Ballygriffin Br.\_A)

This survey site was located downstream of Ballygriffin Bridge, approximately 2km north of Golden, Co. Tipperary (Plate 4.30). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two boat-based electric fishing units on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 173m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of gravel, cobble and sand.



Plate 4.30. The Multeen River at Ballygriffin Br., Co. Tipperary

Brown trout and salmon were the most abundant species recorded at this site (Table 4.31). Brown trout density was higher in 2014, with far greater densities of 1+ & older fish caught (Fig. 4.64). Salmon abundance also increased in 2014, with fry (0+) abundance increasing from that recorded in 2008 (Fig. 4.65).



Table 4.31. Density of fish (no./m²), Multeen River (Ballygriffin Br. A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2008	2014
Brown trout	0.014	0.029
0+ brown trout	0.0005	0.0005
1+ & older brown trout	0.014	0.029
European eel	-	0.002
Lamprey sp.	0.0005	0.002
Salmon	0.021	0.026
0+ salmon	0.005	0.012
1+ & older salmon	0.016	0.014
Stone loach	0.0005	0.004
All Fish	0.037	0.062

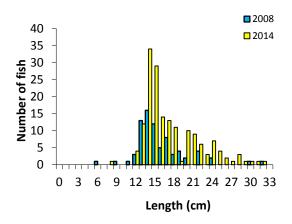


Fig. 4.64. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Multeen River (Ballygriffin Br.\_B), September 2008 (n=77) and September 2014 (n=168)

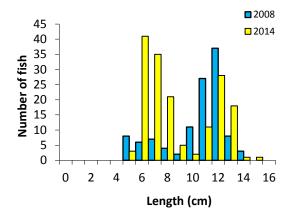


Fig. 4.65. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Multeen River (Ballygriffin Br.\_B),
September 2008 (n=113) and September 2014
(n=166)

#### River Nore

Three sites were electric fished on the River Nore: Brownsbarn, Kilmacshane and Quakers Br.

# Nore, River (Brownsbarn Br.\_A)

Brownsbarn Bridge is located upstream of Brownsbarn Br., north-west of Inistioge in Co. Kilkenny (Plate 4.31). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units, with two boats fishing parallel to each bank separately, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 562m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble.



Plate 4.31. The River Nore at Brownsbarn Br., Co. Kilkenny

Dace was the most abundant fish species, with an increase in density recorded in 2014 (Table 4.32 and Fig. 4.66). No brown trout fry (0+) were caught either year, but brown trout (1+ & older) distribution was quite similar despite a small increase in 2014 (Fig. 4.67). Salmon density was lower in 2014 than 2010, with parr (1& & older) replacing fry (0+) as the dominant cohort (Table 4.32 and Fig. 4.68).



Table 4.32. Density of fish (no./m²), River Nore, (Brownsbarn Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density		
Species	2010	2014	
Brown trout	0.001	0.003	
0+ brown trout	-	-	
1+ & older brown trout	0.001	0.003	
Dace	0.001	0.006	
European eel	0.002	0.0004	
Flounder	0.004	0.002	
Lamprey sp.	-	0.0001	
Minnow	0.0005	0.001	
Salmon	0.002	0.002	
0+ salmon	-	0.0001	
1+ & older salmon	0.002	0.002	
Sea trout	-	0.0001	
Stone loach	0.00004	0.0001	
All Fish	0.011	0.015	

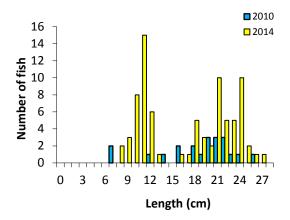


Fig. 4.66. Length frequency distribution of dace in the River Nore (Brownsbarn Br.\_A), June 2010 (n=21) and August 2014 (n=81)

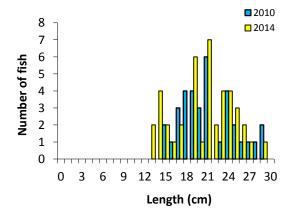


Fig. 4.67. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Nore (Brownsbarn Br.\_A), June 2010 (n=35) and August 2014 (n=42)

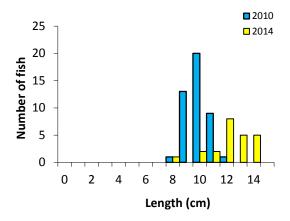


Fig. 4.68. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River Nore (Brownsbarn Br.\_A), June 2010 (n=44) and August 2014 (n=23)

### Nore, River (Kilmacshane\_A)

The Kilmacshane site was located approximately 350m downstream of the Brownsbarn Bridge site (Plate 4.32). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units (two boats electric fished each bank separately) on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 328m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, with the substrate composed mainly of cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.32. The River Nore at Kilmacshane, Co. Kilkenny

Dace was also the most abundant species recorded at this site (Table 4.33). Brown trout and salmon (Fig. 4.71) were also recorded but fry (0+) were



absent for both species (Table 4.33 and Figs. 4.70 and 4.71).

Table 4.33. Density of fish (no./m²), River Nore,
(Kilmacshane A)

(Kilinacsnane_A)		
	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.003	
0+ brown trout	-	
1+ & older brown trout	0.003	
Dace	0.006	
European eel	0.0001	
Flounder	0.0001	
Minnow	0.001	
Roach	0.0001	
Salmon	0.001	
0+ salmon	-	
1+ & older salmon	0.001	
Sea trout	0.0004	
All Fish	0.012	

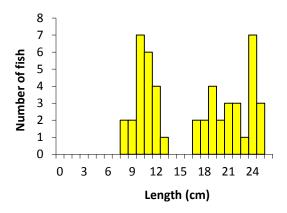


Fig. 4.69. Length frequency distribution of dace in the River Nore (Kilmacshane\_A), August 2014 (n=49)

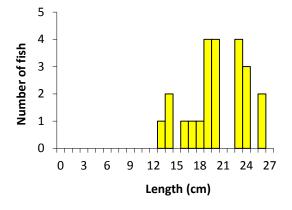


Fig. 4.70. Length frequency distribution of brown

trout in the River Nore (Kilmacshane\_A), August 2014 (n=23)

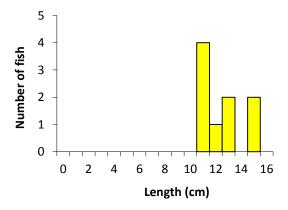


Fig. 4.71. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River Nore (Kilmacshane\_A), August 2014 (n=9)

# Nore, River (Quakers Br.\_A)

The Quakers Bridge site was located just downstream of Quakers Br., on the border between Counties Tipperary and Laois, approximately 8km south-east of Roscrea (Plate 4.33). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one boat-based electric fishing unit on the 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 232m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate comprised mostly of mud and silt.



Plate 4.33. The River Nore at Quakers Br., Laois/Tipperary border

Brown trout was the most abundant species recorded at this site (Table 4.34), and showed a marked increase in density since the previous two surveys. A range of age classes were caught, but no fry (0+) (Fig. 4.72). Despite the good brown trout numbers, European eel, salmon and a



number of other species, previously recorded, were not captured during the survey.

Table 4.34. Density of fish (no./m²), River Nore,
(Ouakers Br., A)

Total minimum density			lonsity .
Species	2008 2010 2014		
Brown trout	0.013	0.007	0.035
0+ brown trout	0.000	-	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.013	0.007	0.035
European eel	0.001	0.0005	-
Gudgeon	0.001	0.0005	-
Lamprey sp.	0.001	-	0.001
Minnow	0.003	0.003	-
Perch	-	-	0.001
Pike	0.006	0.005	0.001
Salmon	0.001	-	-
0+ salmon	0.001	-	-
1+ & older salmon	-	-	-
Stone loach	0.001	0.0005	-
3-spined stickleback	0.002	0.0005	0.002
All Fish	0.027	0.017	0.036

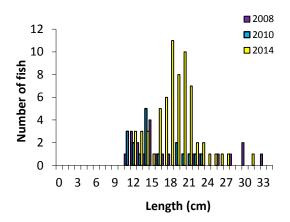


Fig. 4.72. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Nore (Quakers Br.\_A), August 2008 (n=21), July 2010 (n=18) and August 2014 (n=66)

# **River Slaney**

Two sites were electric fished on the River Slaney, one at Bunclody and another at Carhill.

#### Slaney, River (Bunclody\_A)

The Bunclody site was located just upstream of Slaney Br. in Bunclody, on the Carlow/Wexford border (Plate 4.34).



Plate 4.34. The River Slaney at Bunclody, Carlow/Wexford border

One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units (two boats electric fished parallel to each bank separately) on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 234m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of cobble, gravel, sand and boulder.

This was a species rich site, with salmon the most abundant species recorded (Table 4.35). The majority of these were parr (1+ & older) (Fig. 4.73). Similarly, the brown community was also composed entirely of 1+ & older (Fig. 4.74). A number of other species were also recorded, including roach and sea trout.

Table 4.35. Density of fish (no./m²), River Slaney, (Bunclody\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.002	
0+ brown trout	-	
1+ & older brown trout	0.002	
European eel	0.001	
Gudgeon	0.0004	
Minnow	0.001	
Roach	0.0004	
Salmon	0.009	
0+ salmon	0.0002	
1+ & older salmon	0.008	
Sea trout	0.0004	
Stone loach	0.0004	
3-spined stickleback	0.0002	
All Fish	0.014	



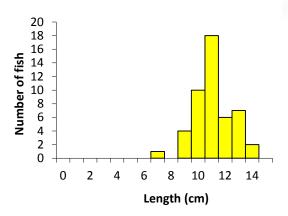


Fig. 4.73. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River Slaney (Bunclody\_A), August 2014 (n=48)

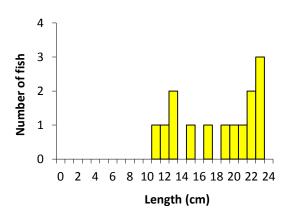


Fig. 4.74. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Slaney (Bunclody\_A), August 2014 (n=14)

# Slaney, River (Carhill\_A)

The Carhill site was located approximately 550m upstream of the Bunclody site (Plate 4.35). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units (two boats electric fished parallel to each bank separately) on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 234m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of cobble, boulder, gravel and sand.



Plate 4.35. The River Slaney at Carhill, Carlow/Wexford border

Minnow was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site (Table 4.36). Overall species densities were relatively low. Sea trout were also recorded at this site.

Table 4.36. Density of fish (no./m²), River Slaney, (Carhill\_A)

·	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.001
0+ brown trout	0.001
1+ & older brown trout	0.001
Gudgeon	0.002
Minnow	0.005
Salmon	0.001
0+ salmon	0.0003
1+ & older salmon	0.001
Sea trout	0.0003
Stone loach	0.0003
All Fish	0.010

## River Suir

Three sites were electric fished on the River Suir main channel, Kilsheelan Br., Knocknageragh Br. and Poulakerry.

# Suir, River (Kilsheelan Br.\_A)

The Kilsheelan Br. survey site was located upstream of Kilsheelan Br., approximately 4.5km east of Clonmel on the Tipperary, Waterford border (Plate 4.36). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units (two boats electric fished parallel to each bank separately) on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 323m length of channel. Glide dominated the



habitat, over a substrate mainly composed of cobble.



Plate 4.36. The River Suir at Kilsheelan, Tipperary/Waterford border

Salmon was the most abundant species recorded at this site, with both fry and parr recorded (Table 4.37). An increase in parr was observed in 2014 when compared with the previous survey of 2010 (Fig. 4.75). Brown trout abundance was also higher in 2014 with a wide range of size classes recorded (Table 4.37 and Fig. 4.76).

Table 4.37. Density of fish (no./m²), River Suir, (Kilsheelan Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2010	2014
Brown trout	0.001	0.009
0+ brown trout	0.000	0.002
1+ & older brown trout	0.001	0.007
Dace	0.00003	-
European eel	0.003	0.0004
Flounder	0.0004	0.001
Lamprey sp.	0.0001	0.0003
Minnow	0.00003	0.005
Salmon	0.003	0.013
0+ salmon	-	0.007
1+ & older salmon	0.003	0.006
Stone loach	0.001	0.005
3-spined stickleback	0.00003	-
All Fish	0.007	0.035

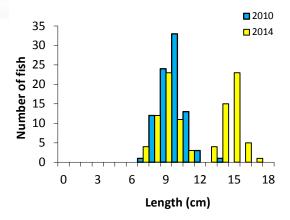


Fig. 4.75. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River Suir (Kilsheelin Br.\_A), June 2010 (n=87) and August 2014 (n=101)

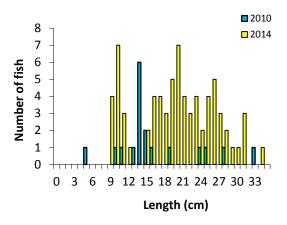


Fig. 4.76. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Suir (Kilsheelin Br.\_A), June 2010 (n=18) and August 2014 (n=73)

### Suir, River (Knocknageragh Br.\_A)

The Knocknageragh Br. survey site was located approximately 14km from the source of the River Suir, downstream of Knocknageragh Br., just outside Templemore (Plate 4.37). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one boatbased electric fishing unit on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 100m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble, sand, mud and silt.





Plate 4.37. The River Suir at Knocknageragh, Co. Tipperary

Brown trout was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site; however, their density was lower in 2014 when compared with the previous surveys (Table 4.38). Only 1+ and older specimens were recorded. Salmon were absent from this site during 2014, having been recorded on two previous occasions.

Table 4.38. Density of fish (no./m²), River Suir, (Knocknageragh Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density		
Species	2008	2010	2014
Brown trout	0.153	0.127	0.051
0+ brown trout	-	-	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.153	0.127	0.051
European eel	-	0.002	-
Gudgeon	0.024	-	-
Lamprey sp.	-	0.002	0.002
Pike	-	0.002	-
Roach	0.002	-	-
Salmon	0.002	0.003	-
0+ salmon	-	-	-
1+ & older salmon	0.002	0.003	-
Stone loach	0.007	0.005	0.008
3-spined stickleback	-	0.002	
All Fish	0.187	0.141	0.061

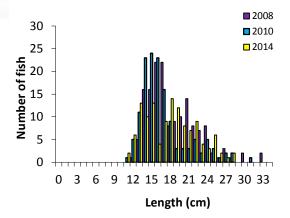


Fig. 4.77. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Suir (Knocknageragh Br.\_A), August 2008 (n=157), August 2010 (n=142) and August 2014 (n=125)

# Suir, River (Poulakerry\_A)

The Poulakerry survey site was located approximately 450m downstream from the Kilsheelan Bridge site. One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units (two boats electric fished parallel to each bank separately) on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, along a 214m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble and gravel.

Stoneloach and three-spined stickleback were the two most commonly encountered species at this site (Table 4.39). Brown trout and salmon fry and parr were recorded. Dace were also recorded (Fig. 4.80).

Table 4.39. Density of fish (no./m²), River Suir, (Poulakerry\_A)

Total minimum density		
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.003	
0+ brown trout	0.001	
1+ & older brown trout	0.001	
Dace	0.002	
European eel	0.0004	
Flounder	0.001	
Lamprey sp.	0.0004	
Minnow	0.011	
Salmon	0.002	
0+ salmon	0.001	
1+ & older salmon	0.001	
Stone loach	0.007	
3-spined stickleback	0.007	
All Fish	0.027	



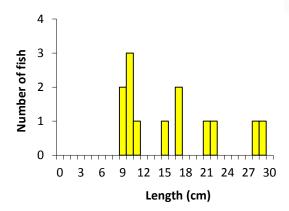


Fig. 4.78. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Suir (Poulakerry\_A), August 2014 (n=13)

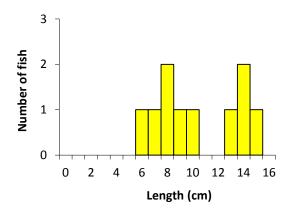


Fig. 4.79. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River Suir (Poulakerry\_A), August 2014 (n=10)

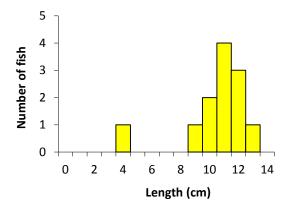


Fig. 4.80. Length frequency distribution of dace in the River Suir (Poulakerry\_A), August 2014 (n=12)



# **4.1.8.** Shannon International River Basin District - wadeable sites

Nine river sites were surveyed in four river catchments within the Shannon International River Basin District (ShIRBD) during 2014. The ShIRBD is home to Ireland's longest river and is Ireland's

largest RBD, covering an area of approximately 18,000 km² stretching over a distance from Co. Fermanagh in Northern Ireland, as far south as the Dingle peninsula in County Kerry. Catchments with surveys on them included, the Feale, Inny, Deel and Brosna. Five of these sites were wadeable and four were non-wadeable (Fig. 4.81).

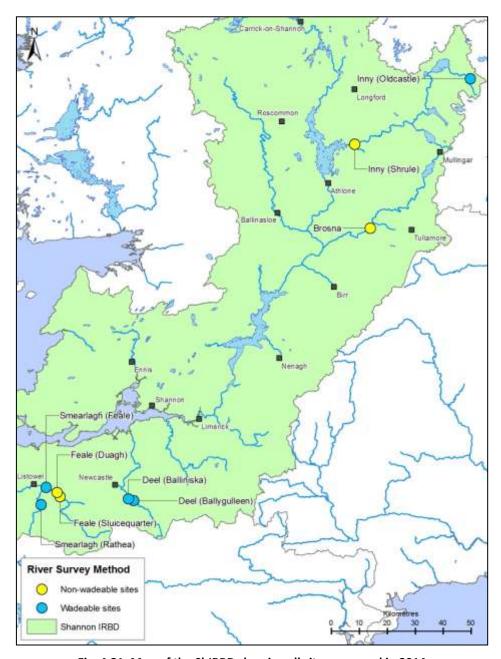


Fig. 4.81. Map of the ShIRBD showing all sites surveyed in 2014



#### The River Deel (Newcastlewest)

Two sites were electric fished on the River Deel (Newcastlewest), one at Balliniska and another at Ballygulleen.

# River Deel (Br. near Balliniska\_A)

The Balliniska survey site was located downstream of Bunoke Br. near Ballinska, approximately 6.5km southeast of Newcastlewest, Co. Limerick (Plate 4.3). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mostly cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.38. The River Deel at Balliniska, Co. Limerick

Minnow was the most abundant species recorded at this site (Table 4.40). Brown trout fry were not recorded, while salmon fry (0+) were present (Table 4.40 and Figs. 4.82 and 4.83).

Table 4.40. Density of fish (no./m²), River Deel (Br. near Balliniska\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2011	2014
Brown trout	0.026	0.025
0+ brown trout	-	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.026	0.025
Minnow	1.722	0.492
Salmon	0.005	0.008
0+ salmon	0.005	0.008
1+ & older salmon	-	-
Stone loach	0.060	0.061
Three-spined stickleback	0.021	0.028
All Fish	1.834	0.614

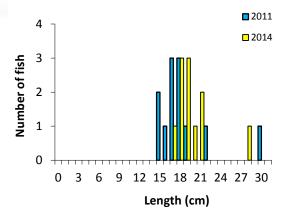


Fig. 4.82. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Deel River (Balliniska\_A), July 2008 (n=256), August 2011 (n=12) and July 2014 (n=11)

# River Deel (Ballygulleen\_A)

The Ballygulleen survey site was located a further 2.5km upstream from the Balliniska site (Plate 4.38). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Glide and riffle dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.39. The River Deel at Ballyguleen, Cork/Limerick border

Minnow was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site. Salmon fry (0+) were also recorded but the density was relatively low (Table 4.41).



Table 4.41. Density of fish (no./m²), River Deel (Ballygulleen\_A)

<u> </u>		
	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Minnow	0.877	
Salmon	0.008	
0+ salmon	0.008	
1+ & older salmon	-	
Stone loach	0.066	
3-spined stickleback	0.058	
All Fish	1.010	

# The River Inny

Two wadeable sites were electric fished on the River Inny, one at Oldcastle and another at Shrule Br.

#### River Inny (Br. 1 km S of Oldcastle\_A)

The Oldcastle survey site was located close to its source, on the downstream side of Tubride Bridge, just south of Oldcastle, Co. Meath (Plate 4.40). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one bank-based electric fishing unit on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 40m length of channel. Glide and riffle dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate largely composed of cobble, gravel and boulder.



Plate 4.40. The Inny River at Oldcastle, Co. Meath

Brown trout density fluctuated over the three sampling occasions; the 0+ age class was dominant in 2008 and 2011, while 1+ & older fish dominated in 2014 (Table 4.83 and Fig. 4.83). Juvenile lamprey and three-spined stickleback were also present at the site (Table 4.83).

Table 4.42. Density of fish (no./m²), River Inny (Br. 1 km S of Oldcastle\_A)

	Total minimum density			
Species	2008 2011 2014			
Brown trout	0.492	0.346	0.468	
0+ brown trout	0.331	0.208	0.190	
1+ & older brown trout	0.161	0.138	0.278	
Lamprey sp.	-	0.023	-	
3-spined stickleback	0.018	0.154	0.008	
All Fish	0.510	0.523	0.476	

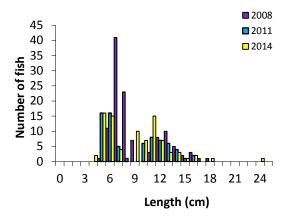


Fig. 4.83. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Inny River (Br. 1km S of Oldcastle\_A), September 2008 (n=116), August 2011 (n=72) and September 2014 (n=87)

# The Smearlagh River

Two sites were electric fished on the Smearlagh, one at a Ford upstream of the Feale River confluence and another at Rathea.

# Smearlagh River (Ford u/s Feale R confl (LHS)\_A)

The Ford survey site was located within 300m of the River Feale confluence, less than 3km southeast of Listowel, Co. Kerry (Plate 4.41). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2014, along a 40m length of channel. Riffle was the most abundant habitat type at this mixed site, over a substrate largely composed of cobble and boulder.





Plate 4.41. The Smearlagh River upstream of the River Feale Confluence, Co. Kerry

Salmon was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site, followed closely by minnow (Table 4.43). Salmon abundance was higher in 2014 than in 2008. Brown trout fry (0+), previously absent in 2008, were recorded in 2014, while the length of brown trout was generally smaller than that recorded in 2008 (Fig. 4.85).

Table 4.43. Density of fish (no./m²), Smearlagh River (Ford u/s Feale R confl (LHS)\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2008	2014
Brown trout	0.011	0.014
0+ brown trout	-	0.002
1+ & older brown trout	0.011	0.014
European eel	0.001	0.040
Lamprey sp.	0.0003	0.002
Minnow	0.003	0.232
Salmon	0.011	0.255
0+ salmon	0.001	0.131
1+ & older salmon	0.010	0.124
Sea trout	0.003	0.005
3-spined stickleback	-	0.009
All Fish	0.029	0.555

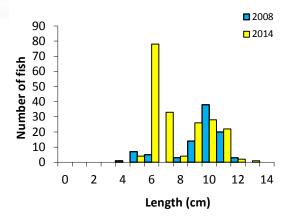


Fig. 4.84. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Smearlagh River (Feale Confl.\_A), July 2008 (n=10) and September 2014 (n=16)

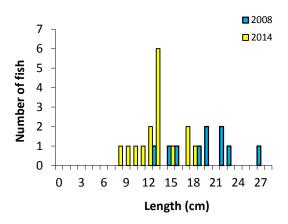


Fig. 4.85. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Smearlagh River (Feale Confl.\_A), July 2008 (n=10) and September 2014 (n=16)

### Smearlagh River (Rathea\_A)

The Rathea survey site was located downstream of a bridge near Rathea, approximately 10km upstream of the Ford survey site (Plate 4.42). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2014, along a 40m length of channel. Riffle dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble and boulder.





Plate 4.42. The Smearlagh at Rathea, Co. Kerry

Salmon was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site, with good densities of both fry and parr recorded (Table 4.44). O+ salmon was the dominant age class for that species while in contrast brown trout parr were more abundant.

Table 4.44. Density of fish (no./m²), Smearlagh River (Rathea\_A)

,	Total minimum density		
Species	2014		
Brown trout	0.029		
0+ brown trout	0.005		
1+ & older brown trout	0.024		
European eel	0.015		
Salmon	0.449		
0+ salmon	0.302		
1+ & older salmon	0.146		
All Fish	0.493		

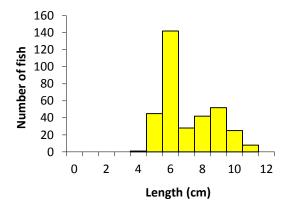


Fig. 4.86. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Smearlagh River (Rathea\_A), September 2014 (sub-sample, n=343)

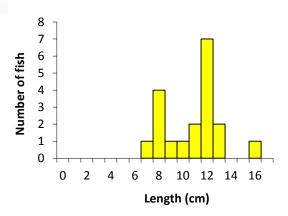


Fig. 4.87. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Smearlagh River (Rathea\_A),

September 2014 (n=19)



# 4.1.9. Shannon International River Basin District - non-wadeable sites

#### The River Brosna

This survey site was located immediately upstream of a road bridge, approximately 500m northwest of Pollagh village, Co. Offaly (Plate 4.43). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2014, along a 460m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of sand, mud and silt.



Plate 4.43. The River Brosna at Pollagh, Co. Offaly

Roach was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site in 2014 and showed a marked increase from the density recorded in 2008 (Table 4.45). This increase was due to an increase in fry (0+) density (Fig. 4.88).

Table 4.45. Density of fish (no./m²), River Brosna (0.5km NW of Pollagh\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2008	2014
Brown trout	-	0.0001
0+ brown trout	-	-
1+ & older brown trout	-	0.0001
European eel	0.0001	-
Gudgeon	0.0001	0.001
Lamprey sp.	-	0.0002
Minnow	0.0002	0.0004
Perch	0.002	0.002
Pike	0.0004	0.0001
Roach	0.007	0.028
Stone loach	-	0.0002
3-spined stickleback	-	0.0005
All Fish	0.010	0.033

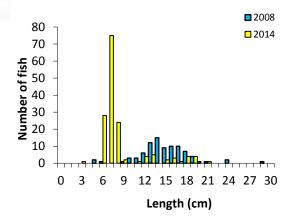


Fig. 4.88. Length frequency distribution of roach in the Brosna River (Pollagh\_A), July 2008 (n=88) and September 2014 (sub-sample, n=155)

#### The River Feale

Two sites were electric fished on the River Feale, one at Duagh House and another at Sluicequarter.

### Feale, River (Br. ENE of Duagh Ho\_A)

The Duagh House survey site was located downstream of Duagh Br., just west of the Village of Duagh, near Listowel, Co. Kerry (Plate 4.44). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units (two boats electric fished parallel to each bank separately) on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 256m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble.



Plate 4.44. The River Feale near Duagh House, Co. Kerry

Salmon was the most abundant species recorded at this site, with relatively good densities of both fry and parr; both were higher than densities recorded in 2008 (Table 4.46 and Fig. 4.89). Brown



trout abundance was also higher in 2014, with again, only parr present (Fig. 4.90). Sea trout were absent on this occasion.

Table 4.46. Density of fish (no./m²), River Feale
River (Br. ENE of Duagh Ho A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2008	2014
Brown trout	0.001	0.003
0+ brown trout	-	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.001	0.003
European eel	0.001	0.001
Lamprey sp.	0.0002	0.0002
Minnow	0.002	0.012
Salmon	0.009	0.043
0+ salmon	0.001	0.018
1+ & older salmon	0.008	0.025
Sea trout	0.0001	-
All Fish	0.013	0.059

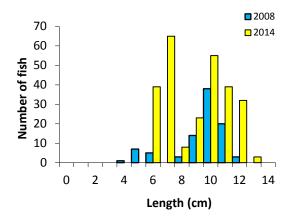


Fig. 4.89. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Feale River (Br. ENE of Duagh Ho.\_A), July 2008 (n=10) and September 2014 (n=21)

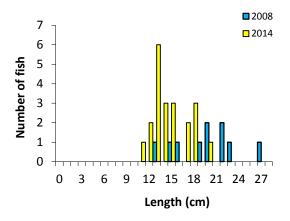


Fig. 4.90. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Feale River (Br. ENE of Duagh Ho.\_A), July 2008 (n=91) and September 2014 (n=264)

# Feale, River (Sluicequarter\_A)

The Sluicequarter survey site was located approximately 2km further upstream of the Duagh House site (Plate 4.45). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using two boat-based electric fishing units on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 126m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble and boulder.



Plate 4.45. The River Feale at Sluicequarter, Co. Kerry

Salmon was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site and the vast majority of these were parr (Table 4.47 and Fig. 4.91). This was a relatively good site for European eel, with a wide range of sizes captured (Fig. 4.92).

Table 4.47. Density of fish (no./m²), River Feale, (Sluicequarter\_A)

	· - /
	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.004
0+ brown trout	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.004
European eel	0.011
Minnow	0.020
Salmon	0.048
0+ salmon	0.002
1+ & older salmon	0.045
All Fish	0.082



#### 35 30 **Number of fish** 25 20 15 10 5 0 0 2 6 8 10 12 14 Length (cm)

Fig. 4.91. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Feale River (Br. ENE of Sluicequarter\_A),

September 2014 (n=107)

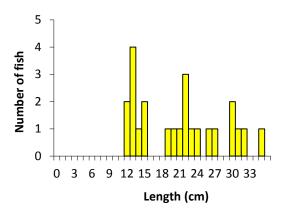


Fig. 4.92. Length frequency distribution of European eel in the Feale River (Br. ENE of Sluicequarter\_A), September 2014 (n=24)

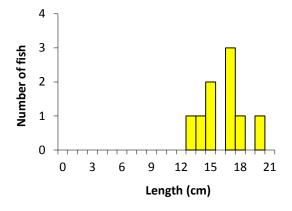


Fig. 4.93. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Feale River (Br. ENE of Sluicequarter\_A), September 2014 (n=9)

# River Inny (Shrule Br.\_A)

The Shrule Bridge survey site was located downstream of Shrule Br., about 3km upstream of Ballymahon, Co. Longford (Plate 4.46). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using four boat-based electric fishing units (two boats electric fishied parallel to each bank separately) on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 380m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a mixed substrate of sand, cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.46. The Inny River at Shrule Br., Co. Longford

Minnow and perch were the two most abundant species encountered (Table 4.48). Perch density was higher in 2014 than in 2008, with a wide range of length classes present (Fig. 4.94). Brown trout were also recorded across a wide range of length classes but their density was lower in 2014 (Fig. 4.95). Roach x bream hybrids and chub were absent from the latest survey.

Table 4.48. Density of fish (no./m²), River Inny (Shrule Br. A)

(Single Dil_A)		
	Total minimum density	
Species	2008	2014
Brown trout	0.014	0.006
0+ brown trout	0.009	0.001
1+ & older brown trout	0.006	0.005
Chub	0.0001	-
European eel	0.001	-
Gudgeon	0.007	0.003
Minnow	0.011	0.007
Perch	0.002	0.007
Pike	0.001	0.001
Roach	0.004	0.004
Roach x bream hybrid	0.0001	-
Salmon	-	0.001
0+ salmon	-	-
1+ & older salmon	-	0.001
Stone loach	0.001	0.0004
All Fish	0.041	0.029



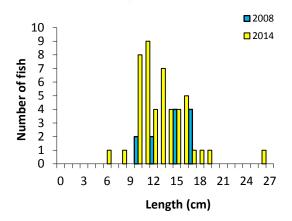


Fig. 4.94. Length frequency distribution of perch in the Inny River (Shrule Br.\_A), July (2008) (n=12) and September 2014 (n=47)

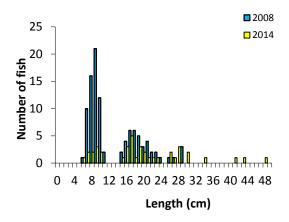


Fig. 4.95. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Inny River (Shrule Br.\_A), July (2008) (n=102) and September 2014 (n=40)

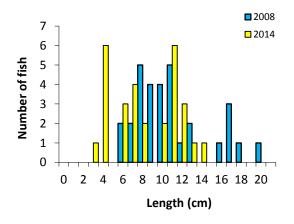


Fig. 4.96. Length frequency distribution of roach in the Inny River (Shrule Br.\_A), July (2008) (n=31) and September 2014 (n=29)



# 4.1.10. South Western River Basin District - wadeable sites

Six river sites were surveyed in three river catchments within the South Western River Basin District (SWRBD) during 2014. The SERBD is the second largest RBD in Ireland, covering a land area

of approximately 13,000km<sup>2</sup>. It also encompasses a further 1,000km<sup>2</sup> of marine waters off the coast of Counties Wexford and Waterford. Catchments with surveys on them included, the Glashaboy, Lee and Munster Blackwater. All of these sites were wadeable.

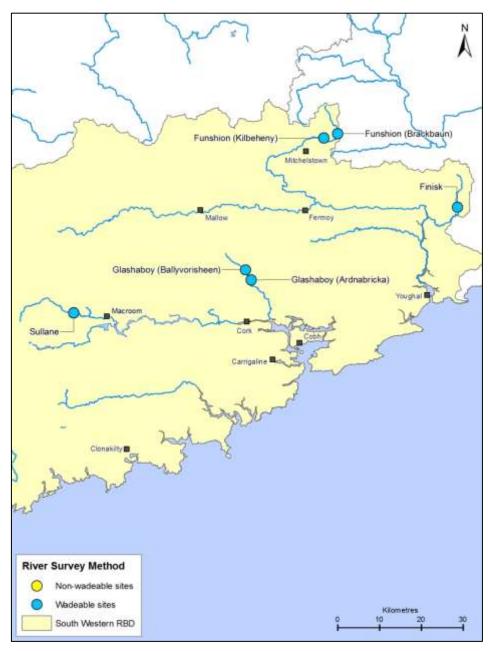


Fig. 4.97. Map of the SWRBD showing all sites surveyed in 2014



## Finisk River (Modelligo Br.\_A)

This survey site was located downstream of Modelligo Bridge, approximately 6km east of Cappoquin, Co. Waterford (Plate 4.47). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Riffle and glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.47. The Finisk River at Modelligo Br., Co. Waterford

Salmon was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site, although their density was lower than 2010 (Table 4.49 and Fig. 4.98). Brown trout abundance was relatively low, with a comparable spread of size classes between both years (Fig. 4.99). Stone loach and three-spined stickleback were recorded in 2014, having been absent from the 2010 survey.

Table 4.49. Density of fish (no./m²), Finisk River (Modelligo Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2010	2014
Brown trout	0.013	0.011
0+ brown trout	0.004	0.002
1+ & older brown trout	0.009	0.009
European eel	0.004	0.011
Lamprey sp.	0.002	-
Salmon	0.619	0.200
0+ salmon	0.439	0.173
1+ & older salmon	0.180	0.027
Stone loach	-	0.011
Three-spined stickleback	-	0.005
All Fish	0.637	0.239

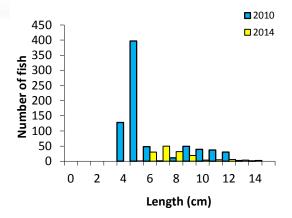


Fig. 4.98. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Finisk River (Modelligo Br.\_A), July (2010) (n=743) and September 2014 (n=154)

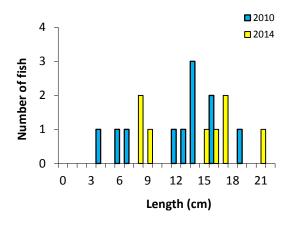


Fig. 4.99. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Finisk River (Modelligo Br.\_A), July (2010) (n=11) and September 2014 (n=8)

# The River Funshion

Two sites were electric fished on the River Funshion, one at Brackbaun Br. and another River Funshion at Kilbeheny Br.

## River Funshion (Brackbaun Br.\_A)

The Brackbaun Bridge survey site was located just upstream of Brackbaun Bridge, approximately 10km northeast of Mitchelstown, Co. Cork (Plate 4.48). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Riffle dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly gravel.





Plate 4.48. The River Funshion at Brackbaun Br., Limerick/Tipperary border

Brown trout was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site, while salmon were also relatively abundant (Table 4.50). Brown trout fry (0+) density was noticeably higher in 2014 than in 2009 (Fig. 4.100). The observed increase in salmon density between both years was due to a higher parr (1+ & older) density (Table 4.50 and Fig. 4.101).

Table 4.50. Density of fish (no./m²), River Funshion, (Brackbaun Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2009	2014
Brown trout	0.111	0.132
0+ brown trout	0.069	0.124
1+ & older brown trout	0.042	0.008
European eel	-	0.003
Salmon	0.079	0.100
0+ salmon	0.020	0.019
1+ & older salmon	0.059	0.081
All Fish	0.190	0.234

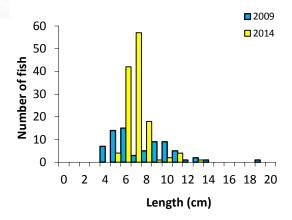


Fig. 4.100. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Funshion (Brackbaun Br.\_A), July (2009) (n=72) and September 2014 (n=129)

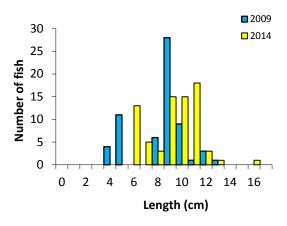


Fig. 4.101. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River Funshion (Brackbaun Br.\_A), July (2009) (n=63) and September 2014 (n=74)

# River Funshion (Kilbeheny\_A)

The Kilbeheny survey site was located just downstream of the confluence with the Behanagh River, approximately 5km downstream of the Brackbaun Br. site (Plate 4.49). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bankbased electric fishing units on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Riffle dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly gravel.





Plate 4.49. The River Funshion at Kilbeheny, Cork/Limerick border

Salmon and brown trout were both abundant at this site (Table 4.51). The majority of salmon recorded were fry (0+) (Fig. 4.102). A wide range of brown trout length classes were recorded, with fry (0+) making up the most abundant age cohort (Fig. 4.103).

Table 4.51. Density of fish (no./m<sup>2</sup>), River Funshion. (Kilbehenv A)

· anomony (randomenty_ray		
	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.108	
0+ brown trout	0.042	
1+ & older brown	0.066	
trout		
European eel	0.003	
Salmon	0.236	
0+ salmon	0.167	
1+ & older salmon	0.069	
All Fish	0.347	

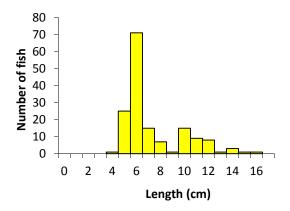


Fig. 4.102. Length frequency distribution of

# salmon in the River Funshion (Kilbeheny\_A), September 2014 (n=158)

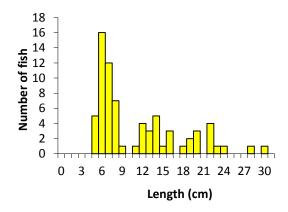


Fig. 4.103. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Funshion (Kilbeheny\_A), September 2014 (n=72)

### The Glashaboy River

Two sites were electric fished on the Glashaboy River, one at Ballyvorisheen Br. and another at Ardnabricka.

# Glashaboy River (Ardnabricka\_A)

The Ardnabricka survey site was located just east of Carrignavar village at Ardnabricka Br., approximately 3km south of the Ballyvorisheen site (Plate 4.50). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Riffle and glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble, gravel, mud and silt.



Plate 4.50. The Glashaboy River at Ardnabricka, Co. Cork



Brown trout was the most abundant fish species recorded, with relatively good densities of both 0+ and 1+ & older present (Table 4.52 and Fig. 4.104). Lamprey was also abundant at this site (Fig. 4.105).

Table 4.52. Density of fish (no./m<sup>2</sup>), Glashaboy
River (Ardnabricka A)

Kivei (Aluliabilicka_A)			
	Total minimum density		
Species	2014		
Brown trout	0.384		
0+ Brown trout	0.116		
1++ Brown trout	0.269		
European eel	0.019		
Lamprey sp.	0.060		
Salmon	0.023		
0+ Salmon	-		
1++ Salmon	0.023		
Stone loach	0.009		
All Fish	0.477		

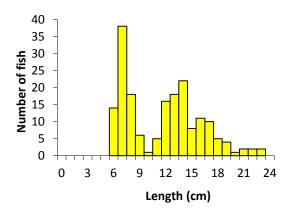


Fig. 4.104. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Glashaboy River (Ardnabricka\_A), September 2014 (n=183)

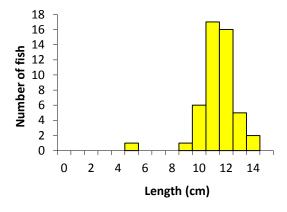


Fig. 4.105. Length frequency distribution of lamprey in the Glashaboy River (Ardnabricka\_A), September 2014 (n=48)

## Glashaboy River (Ballyvorisheen Br.\_B)

The Ballyvorisheen Bridge survey site was located just downstream of Ballyvorisheen Bridge, 2km north of Carrignavar village (Plate 4.51). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Riffle and glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of gravel, sand and cobble.



Plate 4.51. The Glashaboy River at Ballyvorisheen Br., Co. Cork

Brown trout was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site (Table 4.53 and Fig. 4.106). Although their density was higher than 2011, it was still lower than that originally recorded in 2008 (Table 4.53).

Table 4.53. Density of fish (no./m²), Glashaboy River (Ballyvorisheen Br.\_B)

	Total minimum density		
Species	2008	2011	2014
Brown trout	0.563	0.186	0.276
0+ brown trout	0.222	0.084	0.167
1+ & older brown trout	0.341	0.102	0.109
European eel	0.010	0.006	0.006
Salmon	0.025	0.138	0.006
0+ salmon	-	0.132	0.006
1+ & older salmon	0.025	0.006	-
Stone loach	0.015	0.012	0.006
All Fish	0.612	0.342	0.282



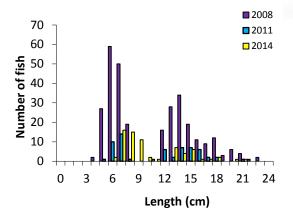


Fig. 4.106. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Glashaboy River (Ballyvorisheen Br.\_B), July 2008 (n=303), July 2011 (n=59) and September 2014 (n=70)

### Sullane River (Sullane Br.\_A)

This survey site was located upstream of Sullane Br., approximately 10km west of Macroom, Co. Cork (Plate 4.52). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using three bank-based electric fishing units on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Riffle and glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.52. The Sullane River at Sullane Br., Co. Cork

Brown trout was the most abundant species recorded at this site with salmon the second most frequently encountered (Table 4.54). A wide range of length classes were recorded for brown trout, which included both 0+ and 1+ & older (Fig. 4.107). Fry and parr were also recorded for salmon, although fry were dominant (Table 4.54 and Fig. 4.108).

Table 4.54. Density of fish (no./m²), Sullane River (Sullane Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.243	
0+ brown trout	0.148	
1+ & older brown trout	0.096	
Minnow	0.007	
Salmon	0.039	
0+ salmon	0.035	
1+ & older salmon	0.004	
Stone loach	0.004	
3-spined stickleback	0.004	
All Fish	0.298	

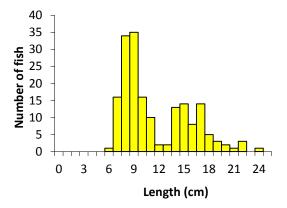


Fig. 4.107. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Sullane River (Sullane Br.\_A),
September 2014 (n=180)

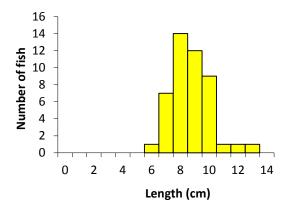


Fig. 4.108. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Sullane River (Sullane Br.\_A),
September 2014 (n=46)



# **4.1.11.** Western River Basin District - wadeable sites

Sixteen river sites were surveyed in six river catchments within the Western River Basin District (WRBD) during 2014. The WRBD stretches along 2,700km of coastline from County Sligo in the north to Co. Clare in the south. Although it shares

borders with two international river basin districts (NWIRBD and SHIRBD), the WRBD is situated entirely within the Republic of Ireland. Catchments with sites surveyed included, the Ballysadare, Bundorragha, Corrib, Garvogue, Moy and Nanny. Five of these sites were wadeable and 11 were non-wadeable.

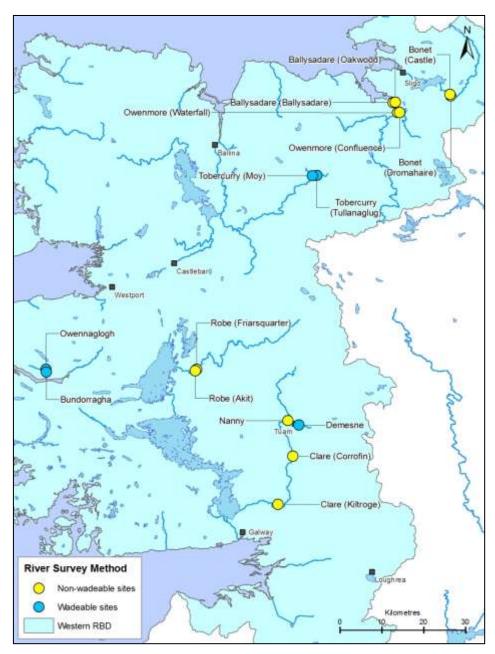


Fig. 4.109. Map of the WRBD showing all sites surveyed in 2014



## Bundorragha River (Rock Pool\_A)

This survey site was located at the rock pool, less than 1km south of Fin Lough, near the Delphi Fishery, Co. Mayo (Plate 4.53). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2014, along a 38m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble and boulder.



Plate 4.53. The Bundorragha River at the Rock Pool, near Delphi, Co. Mayo

Salmon was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site, with the majority of these fry (Table 4.55 and Fig. 4.110). Brown trout were also present, both 0+ and 1+ & older (Table 4.55 and Fig. 4.111).

Table 4.55. Density of fish (no./m²), Bundorragha River (Rock Pool\_A)

KIVET (NOCK 1 OOI_A)		
_	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.017	
0+ brown trout	0.006	
1+ & older brown trout	0.011	
European eel	0.011	
Salmon	0.088	
0+ salmon	0.069	
1+ & older salmon	0.019	
All Fish	0.116	

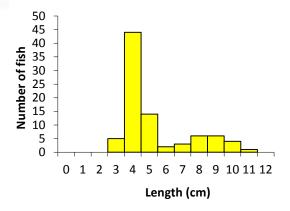


Fig. 4.110. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Bundorragha River (Rockpool\_A),
July 2014 (n=85)

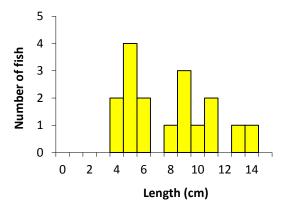


Fig. 4.111. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Bundorragha River (Rockpool\_A), July 2014 (n=17)

# Owennaglogh River (Tawnynoran\_A)

This survey site was located upstream of the confluence with the Bundorragha River near the Delphi Fishery, Co. Mayo (Plate 4.55). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using two bank-based electric fishing units on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2014, along a 40m length of channel. Glide was the most abundant habitat, over a substrate dominated by cobble.





Plate 4.55. The Owenaglogh River, upstream of the Bundorragha confluence, Co. Mayo

Salmon was the most abundant species recorded at this site, with fry making up the majority of those caught (Table 4.56 and Fig. 4.112). Brown trout were evenly spread across a wide range of size classes, representing both fry and parr (Table 4.56 and Fig. 4.113).

Table 4.56. Density of fish (no./m²), Owennaglogh
River (Tawnynoran A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.054	
0+ brown trout	0.013	
1+ & older brown trout	0.041	
European eel	0.003	
Salmon	0.226	
0+ salmon	0.163	
1+ & older salmon	0.064	
All Fish	0.284	

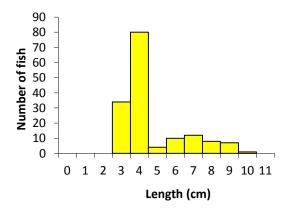


Fig. 4.112. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Owenaglogh River (Tanynoran\_A),

July 2014 (n=156)

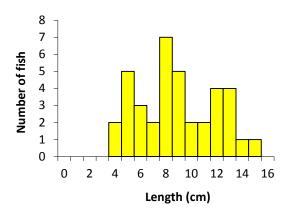


Fig. 4.113. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Owenaglogh River (Tanynoran\_A), July 2014 (n=38)

### Nanny River

Two sites were surveyed in the Nanny River catchment, one was wadeable (Demesne River) and is described below and the second was unwadeable and is described later in the section.

# Demesne River (Curraghcreen\_A)

The Demesne River survey site was located along a quiet track in Curraghcreen, on the western side of Tuam (Plate 4.54). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one bank-based electric fishing unit on the 28<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 40m length of channel. Glide was the most abundant habitat, over a substrate of mainly gravel and cobble.



Plate 4.54. The Demesne River at Curraghcreen, Tuam, Co. Galway

Brown trout, three-spined stickleback and lamprey were the only species recorded at this site and were all captured in comparable, but low densities



(Table 4.56). Both brown trout 0+ and 1+ & older were present (Fig. 4.112).

Table 4.57. Density of fish (no./m<sup>2</sup>), Demesne River. (Curraghcreen A)

River, (curragnereen_A)		
	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.038	
0+ brown trout	0.029	
1+ & older brown trout	0.008	
Lamprey sp.	0.033	
3-spined stickleback	0.038	
All Fish	0.109	

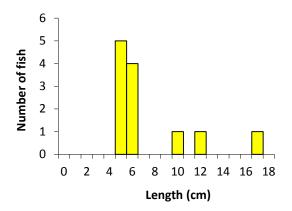


Fig. 4.114. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Demesne River (Curraghcreen\_A), July 2014 (n=12)

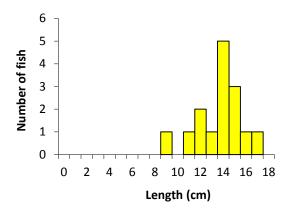


Fig. 4.115. Length frequency distribution of lamprey in the Demesne River (Curraghcreen\_A),
July 2014 (n=15)

#### The Tobercurry River

Two sites were electric fished on the Tobercurry River, one just upstream of the River Moy confluence and another further upstream at Tullinaglug.

### Tobercurry River (Br. just u/s Moy River C)

The site was located upstream of a small bridge, approximately 100m from the River Moy confluence (Plate 4.56). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one bank-based electric fishing unit on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July 2014, along a 45m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate mainly composed of cobble.



Plate 4.56. The Tobercurry River, just upstream of the River Moy confluence, Co. Sligo

Salmon was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site with both fry and parr well represented (Table 4.58 and Fig. 4.116). Brown trout, minnow, stoneloach and three-spined stickleback were also recorded at the site (Table 4.58).

Table 4.58. Density of fish (no./m²), Tobercurry
River (Br. just u/s Moy River\_C)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2011	2014
Brown trout	0.008	0.018
0+ brown trout	0.008	-
1+ & older brown trout	-	0.018
Minnow	0.299	0.412
Salmon	0.573	0.421
0+ salmon	0.323	0.184
1+ & older salmon	0.250	0.237
Stone loach	0.016	-
3-spined stickleback	0.016	0.009
All Fish	0.912	0.860



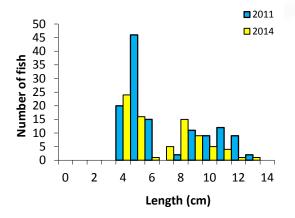


Fig. 4.116. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Tobercurry River (Moy Confl.\_C), August 2011 (n=126) and July 2014 (n=81)

# Tobercurry River (Tullanaglug\_A)

The Tullanaglug survey site was located 1.5 km upstream from the other River Moy confluence site (Plate 4.57). Three electric-fishing passes were conducted using one bank-based electric fishing unit on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July 2014, along a 40m length of channel. The habitat was well mixed, with glide the most abundant type, over a substrate of mainly cobble and gravel.



Plate 4.57. The Tobercurry River at Tullanaglug, Co. Sligo

Salmon, brown trout and three-spined stickleback were the only fish species recorded at this site although salmon made up the vast majority of the catch (Table 4.59). Most of the salmon caught were fry (0+) (Fig. 4.117).

Table 4.59. Density of fish (no./m²), Tobercurry River (Tullanaglug\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2014	
Brown trout	0.007	
0+ brown trout	-	
1+ & older brown trout	0.007	
Salmon	0.171	
0+ salmon	0.112	
1+ & older salmon	0.060	
3-spined stickleback	0.030	
All Fish	0.201	

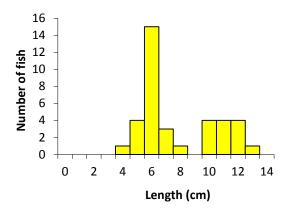


Fig. 4.117. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Tobercurry River (Tullanaglug\_A), July 2014 (n=37)



# 4.1.12. Western River Basin District - nonwadeable sites

## The Ballysadare River

Two sites were electric fished on the Ballysadare River one at Ballysadare Br. and another at Oakwood.

# Ballysadare River (Ballysadare Br.\_A)

The Ballysadare survey site was located just upstream of the main bridge in Ballysadare (Plate 4.58). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using three boat-based electric fishing units on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2014, along a 320m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble, gravel, mud and silt.



Plate 4.58. The Ballysadare River at Ballysadare Br., Co. Sligo

The density of fish captured at this site was relatively low, with roach the most frequently encountered species (Table 4.60 and Fig. 4.118).

Table 4.60. Density of fish (no./m²), Ballysadare River (Ballysadare Br.\_A)

miter (Bunysadare Bri_ri)		
	Total minimum density	
Species	2010	2014
Brown trout	0.002	0.0003
0+ brown trout	-	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.002	0.0003
European eel	0.003	0.001
Lamprey sp.	0.0001	-
Minnow	0.001	-
Perch	0.009	0.0003
Pike	0.0004	0.0004
Roach	0.001	0.003
Salmon	0.018	0.001
0+ salmon	0.001	-
1+ & older salmon	0.017	0.001
3-spined stickleback	0.0004	-
All Fish	0.034	0.006

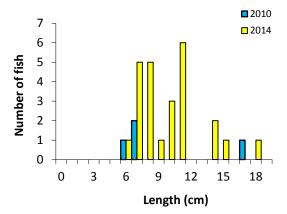


Fig. 4.118. Length frequency distribution of roach in the Ballysadare River (Ballysadare Br.\_A), June 2010 (n=4) and July 2014 (n=25)

### Ballysadare River (Oakwood\_A)

The Oakwood survey site was located upstream of the N4 bridge on the eastern side of Ballysadare, approximately 200m upstream of the Ballysadare site (Plate 4.59). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using three boat-based electric fishing units on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2014, along a 208m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, over a substrate of cobble, gravel, mud and silt.



Plate 4.59. The Ballysadare River at Oakwood, Ballysadare, Co. Sligo

No fish were recorded during this survey, however adult salmon were observed. This was a relatively deep site with steep muddy banks, providing poor habitat for juvenile fish.



#### **Bonet River**

Two sites were electric fished on the Bonet River, one at Dromahaire Br. and another near Dromahaire Castle.

# Bonet River (1.8 km d/s Dromahaire Br.\_A)

The Dromahaire survey site was located downstream of a bridge on the southern side of Dromahaire, Co. Leitrim (Plate 4.60). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using three boat-based electric fishing units on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2014, along a 302m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, over a substrate of sand, mud and silt.



Plate 4.60. The Bonet River near Dromahaire, Co. Leitrim

The density of fish recorded at this site was also relatively low (Table 4.61). Eel, gudgeon, lamprey, minnow and perch were recorded at the site (Table 4.61). Despite being recorded in 2010, no brown trout or salmon were caught during the 2014 survey.

Table 4.61. Density of fish (no./m²), Bonet River (1.8 km d/s Dromahaire Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2010	2014
Brown trout	0.0002	-
0+ brown trout	-	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.0002	-
European eel	0.0002	0.0003
Gudgeon	0.041	0.0002
Lamprey sp.	0.008	0.0005
Minnow	0.113	0.0005
Perch	0.001	0.0006
Salmon	0.0002	-
0+ salmon	-	-
1+ & older salmon	0.0002	-
Stone loach	0.001	-
3-spined stickleback	0.020	-
All Fish	0.184	0.002

# Bonet River (Castle\_A)

The Castle site was located at the bridge in Dromahaire, approximately 100m downstream of the Dromahaire survey site. One electric-fishing pass was conducted using three boat-based electric fishing units on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2014, along a 143m length of channel. Glide and pool dominated the habitat, over a substrate of sand, mud, silt and bedrock.

Only three fish species were recorded at this site. Brown trout was the most abundant, followed by salmon and gudgeon (Table 4.62).

Table 4.62. Density of fish (no./m²), Bonet River (Castle\_A)

Total minimum density
2014
0.009
-
0.009
0.0003
0.003
-
0.003
0.013

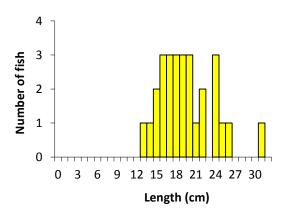


Fig. 4.119. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Bonet River (Castle\_A), July 2014 (n=28)



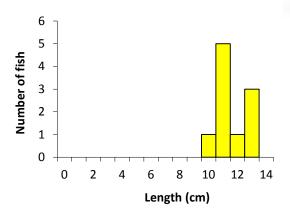


Fig. 4.120. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Bonet River (Castle\_A), July 2014 (n=10)

### The River Clare

Two sites were electric fished on the Clare River, one at Corrofin and another at Kiltroge Castle Br.

# River Clare (Corrofin Br.\_A)

The Corrofin site was located just over 1km north of Corrofin, Co. Galway (Plate 4.61). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using three boat-based electric fishing units on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 322m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate mainly composed of sand.



Plate 4.61. The River Clare near Corrofin, Co. Galway

Roach was the most abundant fish species recorded at the site (Table 4.63). The length frequency distribution showed a shift in length class between both years, from mainly smaller sizes in 2010 to larger sizes in 2014 (Fig. 4.121). Perch were also captured at this site, with a wide range of sizes recorded (Fig. 4.122).

Table 4.63. Density of fish (no./m²), River Clare, (Corrofin Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density	
Species	2010	2014
Brown trout	0.0007	0.0003
0+ brown trout	0.0003	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.0003	0.0003
9-spined stickleback	0.0003	-
Perch	0.002	0.001
Pike	0.003	0.001
Roach	0.006	0.005
Salmon	0.007	0.0003
0+ salmon	0.001	-
1+ & older salmon	0.006	0.0003
Stone loach	0.002	0.0002
3-spined stickleback	0.006	-
All Fish	0.026	0.008

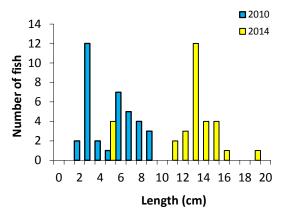


Fig. 4.121. Length frequency distribution of roach in the River Clare (Corrofin Br.\_A), August 2010 (n=36) and July 2014 (n=31)

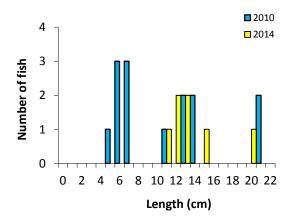


Fig. 4.122. Length frequency distribution of perch in the River Clare (Corrofin Br.\_A), August 2010 (n=14) and July 2014 (n=7)



### River Clare (Kiltroge Castle Br.\_A)

The Kiltroge Castle Bridge site was located downstream of the bridge beside the castle ruins, 2km east of Claregalway (Plate 4.62). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using two boat-based electric fishing units on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 241m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of gravel, cobble and sand.



Plate 4.62. The River Clare at Kiltroge Castle, Co. Galway

Roach was the most abundant fish species caught at this site in 2014 (Table 4.64). The density of roach was also higher in 2014 than 2010 with slightly older cohorts responsible for the increase (Fig. 4.123). Salmon fry (0+) and parr (1+ & older) abundance was lower in 2014 than 2010 (Fig. 4.124). Brown trout density was also lower in 2014, although the spread of sizes remained somewhat similar to the previous survey (Fig. 4.125).

Table 4.64. Density of fish (no./m²), River Clare, (Kiltroge Castle Br.\_A)

	Total minimum density					
Species	2010	2014				
Brown trout	0.007	0.003				
0+ brown trout	0.003	0.001				
1+ & older brown trout	0.004	0.003				
European eel	0.0003	0.0003				
Lamprey sp.	0.0003	-				
Perch	0.012	0.001				
Pike	0.001	0.0003				
Roach	0.013	0.017				
Salmon	0.030	0.004				
0+ salmon	0.012	-				
1+ & older salmon	0.019	0.004				
3-spined stickleback	0.007	-				
All Fish	0.071	0.026				

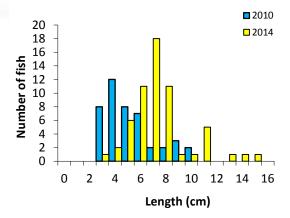


Fig. 4.123. Length frequency distribution of roach in the River Clare (Kiltroge Castle Br.\_A), August 2010 (n=44) and July 2014 (n=59)

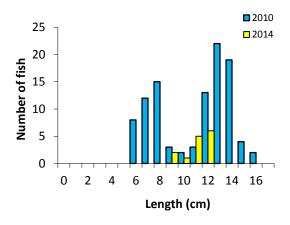


Fig. 4.124. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the River Clare (Kiltroge Castle Br.\_A), August 2010 (n=103) and July 2014 (n=14)

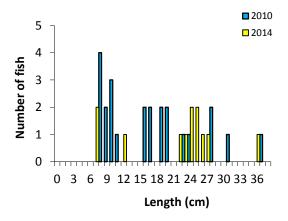


Fig. 4.125. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the River Clare (Kiltroge Castle Br.\_A), August 2010 (n=24) and July 2014 (n=12)



### River Nanny (u/s Weir Br.\_A)

This site was located upstream of Weir Bridge, just upstream from the River Clare confluence (Plate 4.63). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using one boat-based electric fishing unit on the 28<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 115m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mud and silt.



Plate 4.63. The River Nanny just upstream of the River Clare confluence, Co. Galway

The density of fish was low at this site (Table 4.65).

Table 4.65. Density of fish (no./m²), Nanny (Tuam), River (u/s Weir Br.\_A)

	<u>, , ,                                </u>	_ /			
	Total minimum density				
Species	2009	2014			
Brown trout	0.066	0.003			
0+ brown trout	0.001	-			
1+ & older brown trout	0.065	0.003			
Perch	0.004	-			
Pike	0.003	-			
Roach	-	0.001			
Salmon	0.001	-			
0+ salmon	-	-			
1+ & older salmon	0.001	-			
Stone loach	0.001	-			
All Fish	0.076	0.004			

#### Owenmore River

Two sites were electric fished on the Owenmore River, one near the Unshin River Confluence and another at the waterfall in Collooney.

# Owenmore River (Sligo) (300 m u/s Unshin River confl\_A)

The Owenmore, Unshin River Confluence survey site was located approximately 0.5km upstream of the confluence with the Unshin River, just outside Collooney (Plate 4.64). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using three boat-based electric fishing units on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 144m length of channel. Glide was the most abundant habitat, over a substrate mixed between cobble, boulder and gravel.



Plate 4.64. The Owenmore River just downstream of the Unshin River Confluence, Co. Sligo

Salmon was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site (Table 4.66 and Fig. 4.126). Roach were not captured in 2010 but were recorded in abundance in 2014, across a range of sizes (Fig. 4.127).

Table 4.66. Density of fish (no./m<sup>2</sup>), Owenmore River (Sligo) (300 m u/s Unshin River confl A)

Miver (Singo) (Soo in a/3 Onshin Miver coni_A/						
	Total minimum density					
Species	2010	2014				
Brown trout	0.007	0.002				
0+ brown trout	-	-				
1+ & older brown trout	0.007	0.002				
European eel	0.004	-				
Lamprey sp.	0.001	-				
Minnow	0.003	0.0003				
Perch	0.001	0.0003				
Pike	-	0.0003				
Roach	-	0.005				
Salmon	0.104	0.030				
0+ salmon	0.046	0.014				
1+ & older salmon	0.058	0.016				
All Fish	0.119	0.038				



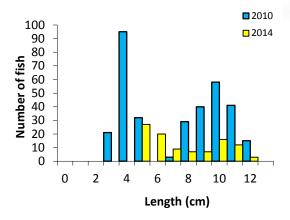


Fig. 4.126. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Owenmore River (300 m u/s Unshin River confl\_A), June 2010 (n=334) and July 2014 (n=101)

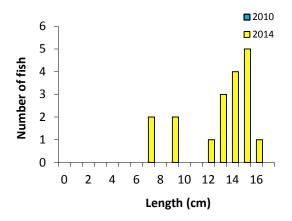


Fig. 4.127. Length frequency distribution of roach in the Owenmore River (300 m u/s Unshin River confl\_A), June 2010 (no roach) and July 2014 (n=18)

### Owenmore River (Sligo) (Waterfall\_A)

The Owenmore (Waterfall) survey site was located approximately 400m further upstream from the Unshin River Confluence site, just below the waterfall in Collooney (Plate 4.65). One electric-fishing pass were conducted using three boatbased electric fishing units on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 179m length of channel. Riffle and glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mostly boulder and cobble.



Plate 4.65. The Owenmore River just downstream of the waterfall in Collooney, Co. Sligo

Salmon was the most abundant fish species recorded at this site, with the majority of these, parr (1+ & older) (Table 4.67 and Fig. 4.128). A range of brown trout sizes were also recorded (Fig. 4.129).

Table 4.67. Density of fish (no./m²), Owenmore River (Sligo) (Waterfall A)

111101 (01180)	(
	Total minimum density
Species	2014
Brown trout	0.005
0+ brown trout	-
1+ & older brown trout	0.005
European eel	0.0005
Perch	0.001
Pike	0.0002
Roach	0.0005
Salmon	0.022
0+ salmon	0.001
1+ & older salmon	0.021
All Fish	0.028



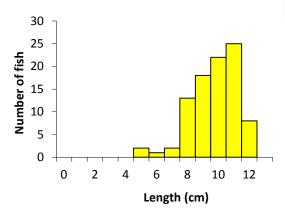


Fig. 4.128. Length frequency distribution of salmon in the Owenmore River (Waterfall\_A),

July 2014 (n=91)

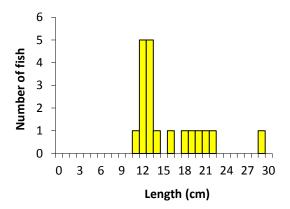


Fig. 4.129. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Owenmore River (Waterfall\_A), July 2014 (n=19)

### The Robe River

Two sites were electric fished on the Robe River, one at Akit Br. and another at Friarsquarter.

#### Robe River (Akit Br.\_A)

The Akit Bridge survey site was located upstream of Akit Bridge, on the north end of Ballinrobe (Plate 4.66). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using two boat-based electric fishing units on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 447m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of mainly mud and silt.



Plate 4.66. The Robe River at Akit Br., Co. Mayo

Minnow was the most abundant species recorded at this site (Table 4.68). Brown trout were caught in low numbers, and both 0+ and 1+ & older were represented (Fig. 4.130).

Table 4.68. Density of fish (no./m²), Robe River (Akit Br. A)

•						
	Total minimum density					
Species	2010	2014				
Brown trout	0.001	0.001				
0+ brown trout	-	0.001				
1+ & older brown trout	0.001	0.001				
European eel	0.0001	0.0001				
Minnow	0.008	0.017				
Perch	0.0003	0.001				
Pike	-	0.0004				
Roach	-	0.0003				
Stone loach	-	0.0003				
3-spined stickleback	-	0.0001				
All Fish	0.009	0.020				

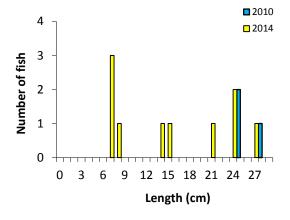


Fig. 4.130. Length frequency distribution of brown trout in the Robe River (Akit Br.\_A), July 2010 (n=4) and July 2014 (n=10)



### Robe River (Friarsquarter\_A)

This site was located a little further upstream from the Akit Bridge site (Plate 4.67). One electric-fishing pass was conducted using two boat-based electric fishing units on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, along a 140m length of channel. Glide dominated the habitat, over a substrate of gravel, sand, mud and silt.



Plate 4.67. The Robe River at Friarsquarter, Co. Mayo

Only three fish species were recorded at this site, with minnow the most abundant (Fig. 4.69). No brown trout fry (0+) were encountered.

Table 4.69. Density of fish (no./m²), Robe River (Friarsquarter\_A)

Total minimum density
2014
0.003
-
0.003
0.011
0.002
0.015



### 4.2 Community Structure

A total of 14 fish species (sea trout are included as a separate 'variety' of brown trout) and one hybrid were recorded within the 70 sites surveyed during 2014 (Fig. 4.131). Brown trout was the most common fish species recorded, occurring in 67 sites, followed by salmon (54), European eel (39),

stone loach (35), minnow (27), three-spined stickleback (27), lamprey (24), roach (16), perch (13), pike (10), gudgeon (9), sea trout (8), flounder (7) and dace (4). Roach x bream hybrids were only recorded at one site.

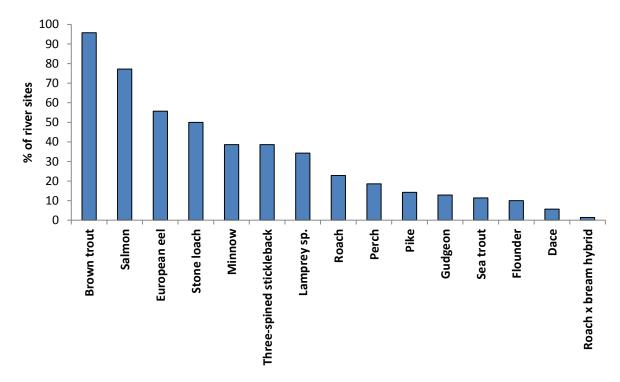


Fig. 4.131. Percentage of sites where each fish species was recorded across Ireland for WFD SM monitoring 2014



#### 4.3 Age and growth

Brown trout were recorded at 67 sites. 1+ and older brown trout were present at all these sites, but 0+ (fry) were only present at 44 sites. Ages ranged from 0+ to 5+, with fish aged 0+ and 1+ comprising the most abundant age classes. Older brown trout cohorts were encountered much less frequently, with 4+ and 5+ individuals recorded in only fourteen and two sites respectively. The largest brown trout recorded in 2014 was caught in the Inny River at Shrule Br., which measured 48.4cm in length, weighed 1.35kg and was 4+. The mean back-calculated length-at-age data for brown trout, where individuals aged 1+ and older were recorded are shown in Appendix 4 and Fig 4.132. Slower growth was observed in some of the more upland and acidic sites, such as the Cronaniv Burn, Bundorragha and Dargle Rivers (Fig. 4.132). The fastest growth rate at L1 was observed on the Mahon River (Pumphouse Weir\_A) at L2 was on the the Deel River (Br. near Balliniska A), at L3 was on the River Clare (Kiltroge Castle Br.\_A) and L4 was on the River Inny at Shrule Br.\_A). There were insufficient L5 brown trout captured to compare them reliably.

Salmon were recorded in 54 sites and 48 of these had parr (1+ & older) present. Salmon ages ranged from 0+ to 3+, with those within the 0+ and 1+ the most common age classes present. Eleven sites recorded salmon aged 2+, while 3+ were only present at one site. Adult salmon were intentionally avoided during these surveys to avoid damaging them, but were observed at a number of The mean back-calculated length-at-age data for salmon, where individuals aged 1+ and older were recorded are shown in Figure 4.133 and Appendix 5. Length at age data is not shown for the Owenmore River (300 m u/s Unshin confl A) as no salmon scales were collected. The fastest growth rate at L1 was observed on the River Clare (Corrofin Br.\_A) and L2 was on the Finisk River (Modelligo Br. A).

Eight age classes were recorded for dace (0+ to 7+). The 1+ cohort was the most abundant age class present, followed by 4+. The mean back-calculated length-at-age data for dace, where individuals aged 1+ and older were recorded are shown in Figure 4.134 and Appendix 6. The River Barrow (Pass Br.\_B) had the highest length at age mean values, indicating a faster growth rate than any of the other sites where dace were caught.

Six age classes of pike were recorded (0+ to 5+). The River Barrow recorded the widest range of age classes, with a total of five present and was the only site where individuals aged 5+ were

encountered. The mean back-calculated length-atage data for pike, where individuals aged 1+ and older were recorded are shown in Figure 4.135 and Appendix 7. Length at age data for the River Barrow also indicates faster growth rates for pike than at any of the other sites where they were recorded.

Eleven age classes were recorded for roach (0+ to 11+). The River Barrow (Pass Br.\_B) recorded the widest range of age classes for any site during 2014. The mean back-calculated length-at-age data for roach, where individuals aged 1+ and older were recorded, are shown in Figure 4.136 and Appendix 8. The River Barrow displayed a relatively fast rate of growth. The Robe River (Friarsquarter\_A), however, had the fastest rate of growth rate, indicated by greater length-at-age data. The Aherlow River (Killardry Br.\_A) contained the oldest individuals that were recorded (10+).

Four age classes were recorded for sea trout (1.2+, 2.0+, 2.1+ and 2.1.1+). Sea trout were recorded in relatively low numbers in four age categories 1.2+ (two sea winter maiden with one previous year in freshwater), 2.0+ (finnock), 2.1+ (two sea winter maiden with 2 previous years in freshwater) and 2.1.1+ (2 year old smolt). The mean back-calculated length-at-age data for sea trout are shown in Appendix 9. The River Slaney (Carhill\_A) and River Nore (Brownsbarn Br.\_A) both showed relatively fast rates of growth.



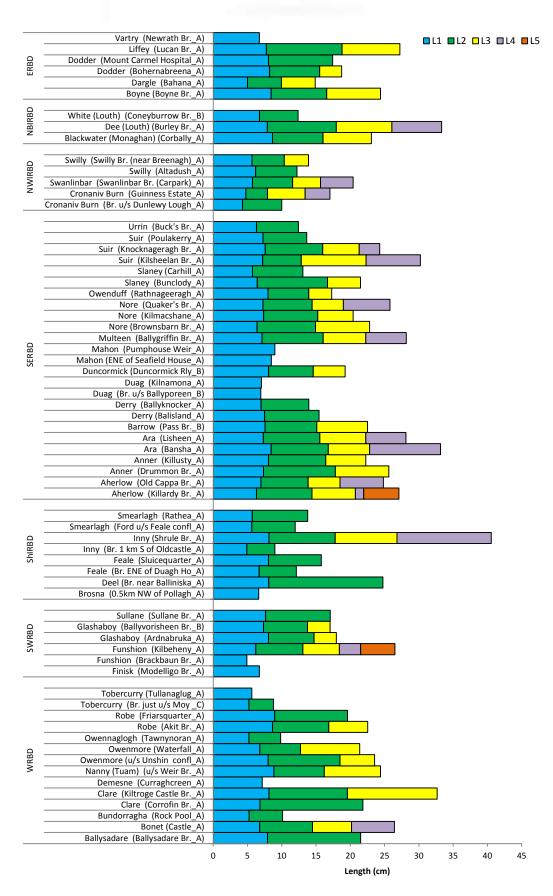


Fig. 4.132. Mean length at age values (L1, L2, L3 etc.) for brown trout across all sites surveyed in 2014



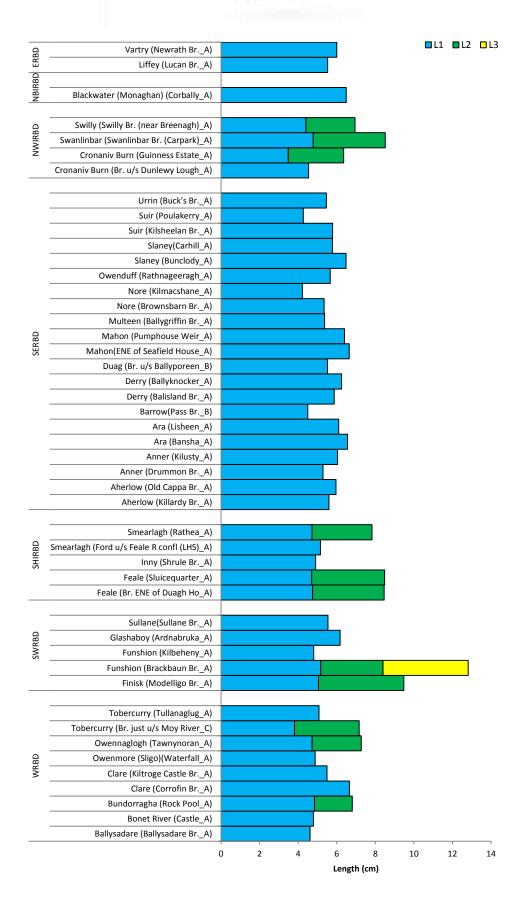
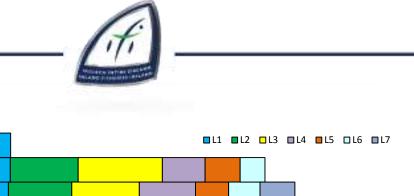


Fig. 4.133. Mean length at age values (L1, L2, L3 etc.) for salmon across all sites surveyed in 2014



20

25

30

Fig. 4.134. Mean length at age values (L1, L2, L3 etc.) for dace across all sites surveyed in 2014

15

Length (cm)

10

Suir (Poulakerry\_A)

Nore (Kilmacshane\_A)

Barrow (Pass Br.\_B)

0

5

Nore (Brownsbarn Br.\_A)

SERBD

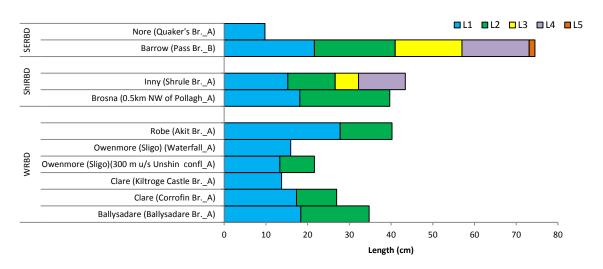


Fig. 4.135. Mean length at age values (L1, L2, L3 etc.) for pike across all sites surveyed in 2014

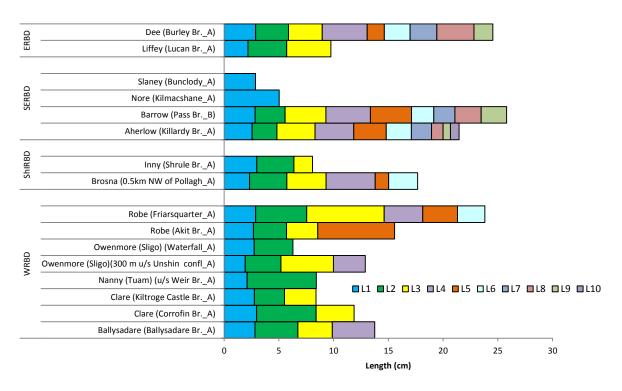


Fig. 4.136. Mean length at age values (L1, L2, L3 etc.) for roach across all sites surveyed in 2014



River sites where 1+ and older brown trout were present were divided into three categories based on their alkalinity; these were low = <35 mgCaCO $_3$  l $^{-1}$ , moderate = 35 - 100 mgCaCO $_3$  l $^{-1}$ , and high > 100 mgCaCO $_3$  l $^{-1}$ . The mean back-calculated lengths for each alkalinity type are shown in Figure 4.138. Eighteen river sites were characterised as low alkalinity, 12 as moderate alkalinity and 37 as high alkalinity. The mean length at age data for each alkalinity category is shown in Fig. 4.137. Statistical analysis revealed that there was a significant difference across alkalinity groups for L1 (Kruskal-Wallis, H=9.168, df=2, p<0.05), with a

significant difference between the Low and High categories (Mann-Whitney Pairwise, P<0.01). For L2, there was also a difference across the alkalinity groups (ANOVA, F=87.2, df=2, p<0.001, with a significant difference between the Low and High categories (Tukey's Pairwise, p<0.001). For L3 there was also a difference across the alkalinity groups (Kruskal-Wallis, H=20.04, p<0.001). Mann-Whitney Pairwise tests revealed the differences to be between the Low and High (p<0.001) and Moderate and High groups (p<0.001). For L4, there was no significant difference found across the three alkalinity groups.

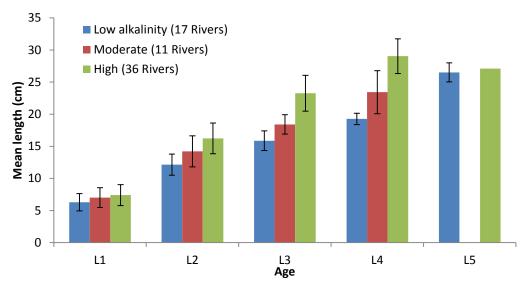


Fig. 4.137. Mean (±S.D.) back calculated lengths at age for brown trout in rivers within each alkalinity class

The brown trout at each river site were assigned growth categories based on a new classification scheme developed using length at age data (L1, L2, L3 and L4) (Matson and Kelly, in prep). Length at age data for each site was compared with Table 4.70 below to acertain which growth category it fit into most appropriately. Some sites couldn't be determined due to insufficient data. Where there

was overlap between two categories, a mixed category was used (Table 4.71).

Four sites were categorised as very slow, two sites as very slow/slow, one site as slow, two sites as slow/moderate, 49 sites as moderate and four sites as moderate/fast. Four sites had insufficient data to determine a growth category reliably.

Table 4.70. Length at age I	imits for each growth (	(Matson and Ke	lly, in prep)
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<b>Growth Category</b>	L1	L2	L3	L4
Very Slow	<5	<10	<14.5	<20
Slow	5 to 5.5	10 to 12	14.5 to 18	20 to 24
Moderate	5.5 to 9	12 to 18.5	18 to 24.5	24 to 32
Fast	9 to 10	18.5 to 21.5	24.5 to 29.5	32 to 36.5
Very Fast	>10	>21.5	>29.5	>36.5

Table 4.71. Categories of brown trout growth in the WFD river sites surveyed in 2014



River	Growth category	River	Growth category
Ballysadare (Ballysadare BrA)	N/A	Duncormick ((W) Br. nr Duncormick Rly St_B)	Moderate
Clare (Corrofin BrA)	N/A	Feale (Br. ENE of Duagh Ho_A)	Moderate
Robe (Friarsquarter_A)	N/A	Feale (Sluicequarter_A)	Moderate
Tobercurry (Br. just u/s Moy _C)	N/A	Finisk (Modelligo BrA)	Moderate
Tobercurry (Tullanaglug_A)	N/A	Funshion (Kilbeheny_A)	Moderate
Cronaniv Burn (Br. u/s Dunlewy Lough_A)	Very Slow	Glashaboy (Ardnabricka_A)	Moderate
Cronaniv Burn (Dunlewy_A)	Very Slow	Glashaboy (Ballyvorisheen BrB)	Moderate
Funshion (Brackbaun BrA)	Very Slow	Mahon (ENE of Seafield House_A)	Moderate
Inny (Br. 1 km S of Oldcastle_A)	Very Slow	Mahon (Pumphouse Weir_A)	Moderate
Dargle (Bahana_A)	Very Slow/Slow	Multeen (Ballygriffin BrA)	Moderate
Owennaglogh (Tawnynoran_A)	Very Slow/Slow	Nanny (Tuam) (u/s Weir BrA)	Moderate
Bundorragha (Rock Pool_A)	Slow	Nore (Brownsbarn BrA)	Moderate
Swanlinbar (Swanlinbar Br. (Carpark)_A)	Slow/Moderate	Nore (Kilmacshane_A)	Moderate
Swilly (Swilly Br. (near Breenagh)_A)	Slow/Moderate	Nore (Quakers BrA)	Moderate
Aherlow (Killardy BrA)	Moderate	Owenduff (Rathnageeragh_A)	Moderate
Aherlow (Old Cappa BrA)	Moderate	Owenmore (Sligo) (Waterfall_A)	Moderate
Anner (Drummon BrA)	Moderate	Robe (Akit BrA)	Moderate
Anner (Killusty_A)	Moderate	Slaney (Bunclody_A)	Moderate
Ara (Bansha_A)	Moderate	Slaney (Carhill_A)	Moderate
Ara (Lisheen_A)	Moderate	Smearlagh (Ford u/s Feale R confl (LHS)_A)	Moderate
Barrow (Pass BrB)	Moderate	Smearlagh (Rathea_A)	Moderate
Blackwater (Monaghan)(Corvally_A)	Moderate	Suir (Kilsheelan BrA)	Moderate
Bonet (Castle_A)	Moderate	Suir (Knocknageragh BrA)	Moderate
Boyne (Boyne BrA)	Moderate	Suir (Poulakerry_A)	Moderate
Brosna (0.5km NW of Pollagh_A)	Moderate	Sullane (Sullane BrA)	Moderate
Dee (Louth)(Burley BrA)	Moderate	Swilly (Altadush_A)	Moderate
Deel (Newcastlewest)(Br. near Balliniska_A)	Moderate	Urrin (Buck's BrB)	Moderate
Demesne (Curraghcreen_A)	Moderate	Vartry (Newrath BrA)	Moderate
Derry (Balisland_A)	Moderate	White (Louth) (Coneyburrow BrB)	Moderate
Derry (Ballyknocker_A)	Moderate	Clare (Kiltroge Castle BrA)	Moderate/Fast
Dodder (Bohernabreena_A)	Moderate	Inny (Shrule BrA)	Moderate/Fast
Dodder (Mount Carmel Hospital_A)	Moderate	Liffey (Lucan BrA)	Moderate/Fast
Duag (Br. u/s Ballyporeen_B)	Moderate	Owenmore (Sligo)( Unshin confl_A)	Moderate/Fast
Duag (Kilnamona A)	Moderate		

### 4.4 Ecological status

An essential step in the WFD process is the classification of the ecological status of lakes, rivers and transitional waters, which in turn will assist in identifying objectives that must be set in the individual River Basin District Management Following an approach similar to that developed by the Environment Agency in England and Wales, the Fisheries Classification Scheme 2 (FCS2-Ireland) has been developed for the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, along with a separate version for Scotland, to comply with the requirements of the WFD. Agencies throughout each of the three regions contributed data to be used in the model, which was developed under the management of the Scotland & Northern Ireland Forum for Environmental Research (SNIFFER). This method is a geostatistical model based on Bayesian probabilities, that makes probabilistic comparisons of observed fish counts with expected (predicted) fish counts under reference (un-impacted) conditions. This classification system (SNIFFER, 2011) generates Ecological Quality Ratings (EQRs) between 1 and 0 for each site, corresponding to the five different ecological status classes of High, Good, Moderate, Poor and Bad. Confidence levels are then assigned to each class and represented as probabilities. The confidence level for a site is expressed as the probability of that site being assigned to each different status class, with the highest class probability being the overall classification. The tool has been intercalibrated in a cross-Europe exercise (EC, 2013).

Using this tool and expert opinion, each site surveyed in 2014 was assigned a draft fish classification status (Table 4.72. & Fig. 4.138). Where applicable, the status is also given for previous surveys.



The ecological status of three sites were classed as High, 38 as Good, 25 as Moderate and two as Poor. Two sites were not classified. When comparing the status this year with that from previous years, there was an improvement in ecological status at the River Nore (Quakers Br.\_A) and the River Vartry (Newrath Br.\_A); however, there was a deterioration in ecological status at four sites: the Aherlow River (Killardy Br.\_A), the River Feale (Br. ENE of Duagh Ho\_A, the Owenmore River (300 m u/s Unshin River confl\_A) and the River Suir (Knocknageragh Br.\_A). All other sites that were previously surveyed remained unchanged.



Table 4.72. Ecological status for 2014 WFD surveillance monitoring sites, including previous status where applicable

RBD	River (Site)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
	Boyne (Boyne BrA)		G	M				М
	Dargle (Bahana_A)					G		G
ERBD	Dodder (Bohernabreena_A)				G		M	M
E	Dodder (Mount Carmel Hospital_A)				M		M	M
	Liffey (Lucan BrA)		G					G
	Vartry (Newrath BrA)	G					G	Н
۵	Blackwater (Monaghan)(Corvally_A)							M
NBIRBD	Dee (Burley BrA)		M					M
	White (Coneyburrow BrB)					M	Р	Р
	Cronaniv Burn (Br. u/s Dunlewy Lough_A)	Н			Н			Н
Ö	Cronaniv Burn (Dunlewy_A)							G
NWIRBD	Swanlinbar (Swanlinbar Br. (Carpark)_A)				G			G
Ź	Swilly (Altadush_A)							G
	Swilly (Swilly Br. (near Breenagh)_A)	G			G			G
	Aherlow (Killardy BrA)			G				M
	Aherlow (Old Cappa BrA)							M
	Anner (Drummon BrA)	G						G
	Anner (Killusty_A)							G
	Ara (Bansha_A)							G
	Ara (Lisheen_A)							G
	Barrow (Pass BrB)					G		G
	Derry (Balisland BrA)							M
	Derry (Ballyknocker_A)							Н
0	Duag (Br. u/s Ballyporeen_B)	G			M			M
SERBD	Duag (Kilnamona_A)							M
S	Duncormick (Duncormick Rly St_B)	M			M			M
	Mahon (ENE of Seafield House_A)	G						G
	Mahon (Pumphouse Weir_A)							G
	Multeen (Ballygriffin BrA)					G		G
	Nore (Brownsbarn BrA)					G		G
	Nore (Kilmacshane_A)							G
	Nore (Quakers BrA)	M		M				G
	Owenduff (Rathnageeragh_A)							G
	Slaney (Bunclody_A)							М
	Slaney (Carhill_A)							M



Table 4.72 continued. Ecological status for 2014 WFD surveillance monitoring sites, including previous status where applicable

RBD	River (Site)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
	Suir (Kilsheelan BrA)			G				G
SERBD	Suir (Knocknageragh BrA)	M		G				M
SER	Suir (Poulakerry_A)							G
	Urrin (Buck's BrA)	G						G
	Brosna (0.5km NW of Pollagh_A)	M						M
	Deel (Ballygulleen_A)							Р
	Deel (Br. near Balliniska_A)	M			M			M
۵	Feale (Br. ENE of Duagh Ho_A)	Н						G
ShIRBD	Feale (Sluicequarter_A)							G
S	Inny (Br. 1 km S of Oldcastle_A)	G		G				G
	Inny (Shrule BrA)	M						М
	Smearlagh (Ford u/s Feale R confl (LHS)_A)	G						G
	Smearlagh (Rathea_A)							G
	Finisk (Modelligo BrA)			G				G
	Funshion (Brackbaun BrA)		G					G
BD	Funshion (Kilbeheny_A)							G
SWRBD	Glashaboy (Ardnabricka_A)							G
	Glashaboy (Ballyvorisheen BrB)	G			G			G
	Sullane (Sullane BrA)							G
	Ballysadare (Ballysadare BrA)			G				N/A
	Ballysadare (Oakwood_A)							N/A
	Bonet (1.8 km d/s Dromahaire BrA)			М				М
	Bonet (Castle_A)							М
	Bundorragha (Rock Pool_A)							G
	Clare (Corrofin BrA)			M				M
	Clare (Kiltroge Castle BrA)			М				M
BD	Demesne (Curraghcreen_A)							M
WRBD	Nanny (u/s Weir BrA)		M					M
	Owenmore (Sligo) (Unshin River confl_A)			Н				G
	Owenmore (Sligo)(Waterfall_A)							G
	Owennaglogh (Tawnynoran_A)							G
	Robe (Akit BrA)			M				M
	Robe (Friarsquarter_A)							M
	Tobercurry (Br. just u/s Moy River_C)				G			G
	Tobercurry (Tullanaglug_A)							G



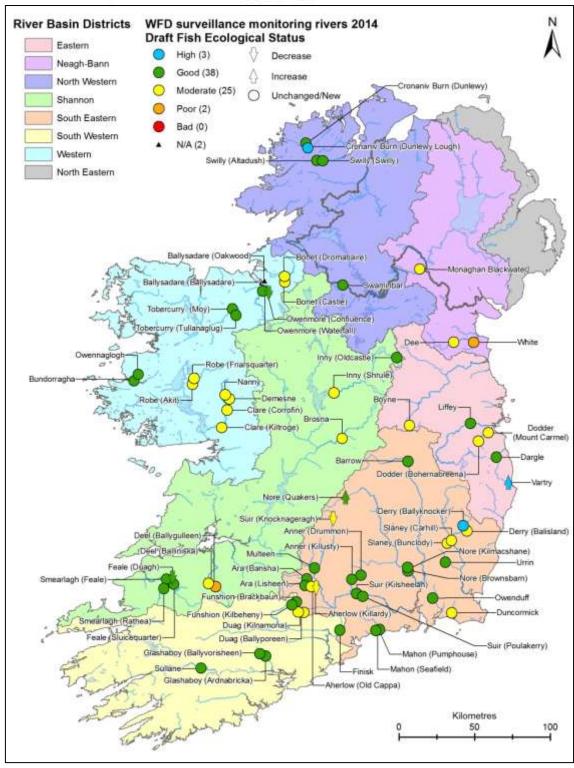


Fig. 4.138. Map of ecological status for 2014 WFD surveillance monitoring sites, with indication of changes in status where applicable.



#### 5. DISCUSSION

A total of 14 fish species (including sea trout) and one hybrid were recorded during the 2014 WFD surveillance monitoring programme across Ireland. Brown trout was the most commonly encountered species, recorded in all but three sites. The River Barrow (Pass Br.\_B) was the most diverse site surveyed, recording a total of 10 species (sea trout are included as a separate 'variety' of trout) and one hybrid. The lowest diversity (only a single species) was recorded in two sites, the Dargle River (Bahana\_A) and Swilly River (Altadush\_A). The greatest abundances of brown trout and salmon were recorded in the Inny River (Br. 1km S of Oldcastle\_A)) and Smearlagh River (Rathea\_A) sites respectively.

The growth of brown trout was done by ranking sites according to length at age data for each length class (L1, L2, L3 etc.). Sites were then split into growth categories. Only sites with sufficient fish caught could be assigned a growth rate category (Matson and Kelly, *In Prep*). The majority of sites were class as having moderate growth. Among those with the slowest rates of growth included streams in upland areas such as the sites on the Cronaniy Burn.

The Fish Classification Scheme 2 (FCS2) tool for assessing the ecological status of rivers has been recently developed for the Republic of Ireland which is compliant with the requirements of the WFD. Using this tool and expert opinion, each site surveyed in 2014 was assigned a draft fish classification status. Three sites were classed as High, 38 as Good and 25 as Moderate and two as Poor.

#### **6. REFERENCES**

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# APPENDIX 1 Site location information for WFD surveillance monitoring, 2014

River name	Site name	Easting	Northing
ERBD (Wadeable sites)			
Dargle River	Bahana_A	320682	213379
Dodder, River	D/s Piperstown Stream, Bohernabreena_A	308860	224074
Dodder, River	Mount Carmel Hospital_A	315381	229554
Vartry River	Newrath BrA	328823	196717
ERBD (Non-wadeable sites)			
Boyne, River	Boyne BrA	263479	234485
Liffey, River	Lucan BrA	303722	235610
NBIRBD (Wadeable sites)			
Blackwater (Monaghan), River	Corvally_A	270106	337628
White River (Louth)	Coneyburrow BrB	305715	289279
NBIRBD (Non-wadeable sites)			
Dee, River	Burley BrA	292527	289494
NWIRBD (Wadeable sites)			
Cronaniv Burn	Br. u/s Dunlewy Lough_A	193078	418692
Cronaniv Burn	Dunlewy_A	192893	418962
Swanlinbar River	Swanlinbar Br. (Carpark)_A	219417	327146
Swilly, River	Altadush_A	204448	409342
Swilly, River	Swilly Br. (near Breenagh)_A	206003	409202
SERBD (Wadeable sites)			
Derry River	Balisland BrA	297751	164307
Derry River	Ballyknocker_A	298845	166811
Duag, River	Br. u/s Ballyporeen_B	192020	112666
Duag, River	Kilnamona_A	191339	112470
Duncormick River	(W) Br. nr Duncormick Rly St_B	291307	110688
Mahon, River	ENE of Seafield House_A	242275	101086
Mahon, River	Pumphouse Weir_A	242268	101190
Owenduff River	Rathnageeragh_A	278599	120402
Urrin River	Buck's BrB	287048	144021
SERBD (Non-wadeable sites)			
Aherlow River	Killardy BrA	201476	129560
Aherlow River	Old Cappa BrA	199357	129337
Anner River	Drummon BrA	231300	135345
Anner River	Killusty_A	225290	132567
Ara River	Bansha_A	195709	133050
Ara River	Lisheen_A	199395	130088
Barrow, River	Pass BrB	262344	210648
Multeen River	Ballygriffin BrA	200708	140186
Nore, River	Brownsbarn BrA	261648	138930
Nore, River	Kilmacshane_A	262107	139320
Nore, River	Quakers BrA	221296	186972



### Site location information for WFD surveillance monitoring, 2014

River name	r name Site name		Northing
Slaney, River	Bunclody_A	291319	156964
Slaney, River	Carhill_A	291184	157667
Suir, River	Kilsheelan BrA	228449	123279
Suir, River	Knocknageragh BrA	213095	172414
Suir, River	Poulakerry_A	229055	123071
SHIRBD (Wadeable sites)			
Deel (Newcastlewest), River	Ballygulleen_A	134400	127979
Deel (Newcastlewest), River	Br. near Balliniska_A	132448	128629
Inny River	Br. 1 km S of Oldcastle_A	254920	279258
Smearlagh River	Ford u/s Feale R confl (LHS)_A	103050	132840
Smearlagh River	Rathea_A	101243	126610
SHIRBD (Non-wadeable sites)			
Brosna, River	0.5km NW of Pollagh_A	219024	225711
Feale, River	Br. ENE of Duagh Ho_A	106925	130920
Feale, River	Sluicequarter_A	107938	129485
Inny River	Shrule BrA	213497	255885
SWRBD (Wadeable sites)			
Finisk River	Modelligo BrA	217573	099243
Funshion, River	Brackbaun BrA	188962	116813
Funshion, River	Kilbeheny_A	185659	115810
Glashaboy River	Ardnabricka_A	168374	081929
Glashaboy River	Ballyvorisheen BrB	166995	084270
Sullane River	Sullane BrA	125926	074028
WRBD (Wadeable sites)			
Bundorragha River	Rock Pool_A	084119	264600
Demesne River	Curraghcreen_A	144382	251918
Owennaglogh	Tawnynoran_A	084004	265225
Tobercurry River	Br. just u/s Moy River_C	147612	311439
Tobercurry River	Tullanaglug_A	148671	311520
WRBD (Non-wadeable sites)			
Ballysadare River	Ballysadare BrA	166910	328970
Ballysadare River	Oakwood_A	167372	329048
Bonet River	1.8 km d/s Dromahaire BrA	180645	330599
Bonet River	Castle_A	180440	330966
Clare, River	Corrofin BrA	142950	244520
Clare, River	Kiltroge Castle BrA	139405	233016
Nanny (Tuam), River	u/s Weir BrA	141744	252970
Owenmore River (Sligo)	300 m u/s Unshin River confl_A	168448	326621
Owenmore River (Sligo)	Waterfall_A	167940	326541
Robe River	Akit BrA	119684	264937
Robe River	Friarsquarter_A	120033	265245



APPENDIX 2
Site coding information for WFD surveillance monitoring, 2014

River	Site name	Catchment	Site code	Waterbody code
ERBD (Wadeable sites)				
Dargle River	Bahana_A	Dargle	10D010005A	EA_10_1148
Dodder, River	Bohernabreena_A	Liffey	09D010100A	EA_09_1656
Dodder, River	Mount Carmel_A	Liffey	09D010680A	EA_09_587
Vartry River	Newrath BrA	Vartry	10V010300A	EA_10_1601
ERBD (Non-wadeable sites)				
Boyne, River	Boyne BrA	Boyne	07B040200A	EA_07_990
Liffey, River	Lucan BrA	Liffey	09L012100A	EA_09_1870_5
NBIRBD (Wadeable sites)				
Blackwater (Monaghan), River	Corvally_A	Blackwater	03B010680A	GBNI1NB030307099
White River (Louth)	Coneyburrow BrB	Dee	06W010500B	NB_06_550
NBIRBD (Non-wadeable sites)				
Dee, River	Burley BrA	Dee	06D010600A	NB_06_50
NWIRBD (Wadeable sites)				
Cronaniv Burn	Dunlewy Lough_A	Clady	38C060100A	NW_38_800
Cronaniv Burn	Dunlewy_A	Clady	38C060120A	NW_38_800
Swanlinbar River	Carpark_A	Erne	36S010290A	NW_36_18
Swilly, River	Altadush_A	Swilly	39S020030A	NW_39_2208
Swilly, River	Swilly BrA	Swilly	39S020050A	NW_39_1508
SERBD (Wadeable sites)				
Derry River	Balisland BrA	Slaney	12D020710A	SE_12_2095
Derry River	Ballyknocker_A	Slaney	12D020570A	SE_12_2095
Duag, River	Br. u/s Ballyporeen_B	Suir	16D030100B	SE_16_639
Duag, River	Kilnamona_A	Suir	16D030080A	SE_16_639
Duncormick River	Railway_B	Duncormick	13D010350B	SE_13_745
Mahon, River	Seafield House_A	Mahon	17M010350A	SE_17_825
Mahon, River	Pumphouse Weir_A	Mahon	17M010340A	SE_17_825
Owenduff River	Rathnageeragh_A	Owenduff	130010060A	SE_13_754
Urrin River	Buck's BrB	Slaney	12U010200B	SE_12_2605
SERBD (Non-wadeable sites)				
Aherlow River	Killardy BrA	Suir	16A010900A	SE_16_540
Aherlow River	Old Cappa BrA	Suir	16A010800A	SE_16_540
Anner River	Drummon BrA	Suir	16A020600A	SE_16_2342
Anner River	Killusty_A	Suir	16A020770A	SE_16_2342
Ara River	Bansha_A	Suir	16A030520A	SE_16_2303
Ara River	Lisheen_A	Suir	16A030720A	SE_16_2303
Barrow, River	Pass BrB	Barrow	14B011000B	SE_14_196_1
Multeen River	Ballygriffin BrA	Suir	16M021100A	SE_16_3825
Nore, River	Brownsbarn BrA	Nore	15N012400A	SE_15_1994_7
Nore, River	Kilmacshane_A	Nore	15N012410A	SE_15_1994_7
Nore, River	Quakers BrA	Nore	15N010300A	SE_15_1018



# APPENDIX 2 continued Site coding information for WFD surveillance monitoring, 2014

River	Site name	Catchment	Site code	Waterbody code
Slaney, River	Bunclody_A	Slaney	12S021800A	SE_12_924_2
Slaney, River	Carhill_A	Slaney	12S021700A	SE_12_924_2
Suir, River	Kilsheelan BrA	Suir	16S022700A	SE_16_4181_5
Suir, River	Knocknageragh BrA	Suir	16S020200A	SE_16_3997
Suir, River	Poulakerry_A	Suir	16S022710A	SE_16_4181_5
SHIRBD (Wadeable sites)				
Deel (Newcastlewest), River	Ballygulleen_A	Shannon Est Sth	24D020340A	SH_24_863
Deel (Newcastlewest), River	Balliniska_A	Shannon Est Sth	24D020400A	SH_24_863
Inny River	Oldcastle_A	Inny	26I010100A	SH_26_2060
Smearlagh River	Feale R. confl_A	Feale	23S020700A	SH_23_373
Smearlagh River	Rathea_A	Feale	23S020500A	SH_23_373
SHIRBD (Non-wadeable sites)				
Brosna, River	Pollagh_A	Shannon Lwr	25B090760A	SH_25_681
Feale, River	Duagh Ho_A	Feale	23F010500A	SH_23_2941
Feale, River	Sluicequarter_A	Feale	23F010450A	SH_23_2941
Inny River	Shrule BrA	Inny	26I011350A	SH_26_883
SWRBD (Wadeable sites)				
Finisk River	Modelligo BrA	Blackwater	18F020300A	SW_18_2774
Funshion, River	Brackbaun BrA	Blackwater	18F050030A	SW_18_11
Funshion, River	Kilbeheny_A	Blackwater	18F050065A	SW_18_11
Glashaboy River	Ardnabricka_A	Glashaboy	19G010270A	SW_19_755
Glashaboy River	Ballyvorisheen BrB	Glashaboy	19G010200B	SW_19_755
Sullane River	Sullane BrA	Lee	19S020300A	SW_19_915
WRBD (Wadeable sites)				
Bundorragha River	Rock Pool_A	Bundorragha	32B010160A	WE_32_1767
Demesne River	Curraghcreen_A	Nanny	30N010080A	WE_30_1128
Owennaglogh	Tawnynoran_A	Bundorragha	32B010130A	WE_32_378
Tobercurry River	Moy River_C	Moy	34T020200C	WE_34_2633
Tobercurry River	Tullanaglug_A	Moy	34T020150A	WE_34_2633
WRBD (Non-wadeable sites)				
Ballysadare River	Ballysadare BrA	Ballysadare	35B050100A	WE_35_2107
Ballysadare River	Oakwood_A	Ballysadare	35B050070A	WE_35_2107
Bonet River	Dromahaire BrA	Garvogue	35B060600A	WE_35_3842
Bonet River	Castle_A	Garvogue	35B060600B	WE_35_3842
Clare, River	Corrofin BrA	Corrib	30C010800A	WE_30_258_3
Clare, River	Kiltroge Castle BrA	Corrib	30C011150A	WE_30_258_5
Nanny (Tuam), River	Weir BrA	Corrib	30N010300A	WE_30_1128
Owenmore River (Sligo)	Unshin R. confl_A	Ballysadare	350060900A	WE_35_2107
Owenmore River (Sligo)	Waterfall_A	Ballysadare	350060830A	WE_35_2107
Robe River	Akit BrA	Corrib	30R010600A	WE_30_3370_3
Robe River	Friarsquarter_A	Corrib	30R010590A	WE_30_3370_3



APPENDIX 3

Details of river sites surveyed for WFD surveillance monitoring, 2014

River	Site name	Catchment area (km²)	Width (m)	Surface area (m²)	Mean depth (m)	Max depth (m)
ERBD (Wadeable sites)						
Dargle River	Bahana_A	12.92	7.98	295	0.12	0.32
Dodder, River	Bohernabreena_A	31.82	7.32	315	0.19	0.59
Dodder, River	Mount Carmel_A	93.22	9.68	358	0.19	0.45
Vartry River	Newrath BrA	102.98	7.72	324	0.22	0.48
ERBD (Non-wadeable sites)						
Boyne, River	Boyne BrA	60.31	3.85	516	0.49	0.79
Liffey, River	Lucan BrA	1102.06	20.80	5179	0.65	1.50
NBIRBD (Wadeable sites)						
Blackwater (Monaghan), River	Corvally_A	143.28	10.33	413	0.37	0.90
White River (Louth)	Coneyburrow BrB	55.13	7.95	358	0.34	0.58
NBIRBD (Non-wadeable sites)						
Dee, River	Burley BrA	175.52	7.00	1050	0.95	1.40
NWIRBD (Wadeable sites)						
Cronaniv Burn	Dunlewy Lough_A	6.88	4.66	210	0.19	0.36
Cronaniv Burn	Dunlewy_A	15.08	8.48	356	0.20	0.48
Swanlinbar River	Carpark_A	21.55	8.55	393	0.23	0.59
Swilly, River	Altadush_A	11.83	4.88	224	0.19	0.55
Swilly, River	Swilly BrA	18.93	5.78	260	0.15	0.34
SERBD (Wadeable sites)						
Derry River	Balisland BrA	136.25	10.92	469	0.21	0.36
Derry River	Ballyknocker_A	124.98	12.45	498	0.25	0.59
Duag, River	Br. u/s Ballyporeen_B	16.44	3.33	150	0.18	0.29
Duag, River	Kilnamona_A	13.72	4.86	204	0.12	0.36
Duncormick River	Railway_B	36.40	4.43	199	0.24	0.56
Mahon, River	Seafield House_A	90.79	12.72	572	0.24	0.76
Mahon, River	Pumphouse Weir_A	90.78	9.37	337	0.28	0.64
Owenduff River	Rathnageeragh_A	51.07	5.79	232	0.31	0.76
Urrin River	Buck's BrB	42.22	7.13	321	0.18	0.53
SERBD (Non-wadeable sites)						
Aherlow River	Killardy BrA	272.55	14.33	3512	0.71	1.20
Aherlow River	Old Cappa BrA	174.09	13.75	2310	0.81	1.46
Anner River	Drummon BrA	81.05	6.50	1281	0.52	1.20
Anner River	Killusty_A	136.23	7.92	831	0.45	0.73
Ara River	Bansha_A	74.63	7.50	788	0.48	0.73
Ara River	Lisheen_A	86.12	4.75	599	0.52	0.80
Barrow, River	Pass BrB	1125.58	32.17	11677	0.53	0.75
Multeen River	Ballygriffin BrA	174.82	12.67	2191	0.28	1.12
Nore, River	Brownsbarn BrA	2419.32	34.60	19445	1.31	2.60
Nore, River	Kilmacshane_A	2420.09	34.63	11357	1.07	2.24
Nore, River	Quakers BrA	84.27	6.50	1508	0.64	1.40



# APPENDIX 3 continued Details of river sites surveyed for WFD surveillance monitoring, 2014

River	Site name	Catchment area (km²)	Width (m)	Surface area (m²)	Mean depth (m)	Max depth (m)
Slaney, River	Bunclody_A	848.10	25.92	6065	0.85	1.49
Slaney, River	Carhill_A	847.38	26.50	3763	0.92	2.00
Suir, River	Kilsheelan BrA	2636.56	48.50	15666	0.82	1.31
Suir, River	Knocknageragh BrA	94.13	6.07	607	0.37	0.63
Suir, River	Poulakerry_A	2637.04	42.20	9031	0.74	1.25
SHIRBD (Wadeable sites)						
Deel (Newcastlewest), River	Ballygulleen_A		8.03	362	0.14	0.32
Deel (Newcastlewest), River	Balliniska_A	152.66	8.03	362	0.29	0.60
Inny River	Oldcastle_A	13.18	3.15	126	0.30	0.58
Smearlagh River	Feale R. confl_A	128.66	10.67	427	0.21	0.86
Smearlagh River	Rathea_A	92.95	10.25	410	0.11	0.28
SHIRBD (Non-wadeable sites)						
Brosna, River	Pollagh_A	845.00	25.83	11883	0.97	1.50
Feale, River	Duagh Ho_A	477.51	24.67	6315	0.32	0.81
Feale, River	Sluicequarter_A	472.07	17.83	2247	0.25	0.54
Inny River	Shrule BrA	1128.26	18.67	7093	0.59	1.10
SWRBD (Wadeable sites)						
Finisk River	Modelligo BrA	65.48	9.87	444	0.12	0.39
Funshion, River	Brackbaun BrA	16.19	8.25	371	0.15	0.27
Funshion, River	Kilbeheny_A	49.22	7.43	335	0.17	0.35
Glashaboy River	Ardnabricka_A	22.16	4.80	216	0.18	0.46
Glashaboy River	Ballyvorisheen BrB	15.43	3.47	156	0.13	0.32
Sullane River	Sullane BrA	109.85	10.23	461	0.29	0.59
WRBD (Wadeable sites)						
Bundorragha River	Rock Pool_A	44.99	12.26	466	0.38	0.63
Demesne River	Curraghcreen_A	4.54	5.98	239	0.23	0.67
Owennaglogh	Tawnynoran_A	11.59	7.84	314	0.16	0.40
Tobercurry River	Moy River_C	24.73	2.53	114	0.12	0.24
Tobercurry River	Tullanaglug_A	21.98	3.36	134	0.13	0.30
WRBD (Non-wadeable sites)						
Ballysadare River	Ballysadare BrA	641.88	24.50	7840	2.25	2.50
Ballysadare River	Oakwood_A	635.45	28.00	5824	2.17	2.50
Bonet River	Dromahaire BrA	292.20	21.30	6433	1.50	2.00
Bonet River	Castle_A	289.95	21.30	3046	1.50	2.00
Clare, River	Corrofin BrA	704.28	19.00	6118	1.27	1.70
Clare, River	Kiltroge Castle BrA	1072.68	14.60	3519	0.75	1.00
Nanny (Tuam), River	Weir BrA	36.74	6.25	719	0.98	1.20
Owenmore River (Sligo)	Unshin R. confl_A	416.25	23.33	3360	0.92	2.00
Owenmore River (Sligo)	Waterfall_A	410.17	23.50	4207	1.24	1.40
Robe River	Akit BrA	253.75	17.00	7599	2.20	2.50
Robe River	Friarsquarter_A	253.72	7.40	1036	1.33	1.50



APPENDIX 4

Summary brown trout growth in rivers (L1=back calculated length at the end of the first winter etc.)

River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	Growth category
Aherlow	Mean	6.32	14.41	20.73	21.96	27.10	Moderate
(Killardy BrA)	S.D.	1.31	2.70	3.38	N/A	N/A	
	n	19	15	5	1	1	
	Min	3.83	9.98	16.26	21.96	27.10	
	Max	9.18	18.80	24.93	21.96	27.10	
Aherlow	Mean	6.96	13.86	18.50	24.82		Moderate
(Old Cappa BrA)	S.D.	1.65	2.24	2.35	3.13		
(	n	17	16	10	2		
	Min	4.24	9.09	15.01	22.61		
	Max	9.97	18.16	22.23	27.03		
Anner	Mean	7.35	17.81	25.61			Moderate
(Drummon BrA)	S.D.	1.79	2.26	1.30			
(	n	42	22	2			
	Min	4.39	13.41	24.70			
	Max	11.04	22.16	26.53			
Anner	Mean	8.06	16.43	22.26			Moderate
(Killusty_A)	S.D.	1.37	2.09	0.66			Wiodelate
(Killusty_A)	n	35	17	2			
	Min	5.58	13.25	21.79			
	Max	10.63	19.95	22.73			
Ara	Mean	8.47	16.80	22.83	33.17		Moderate
(Bansha_A)	S.D.	1.82	3.08	4.60	33.17 N/A		Moderate
(balislia_A)	ე.ტ. n	28	20	4.00 5	1		
	Min	5.52	10.13	18.42	33.17		
	Max	12.36	21.24	30.10	33.17		
Ara	Mean	7.31	15.57	22.26	28.13		Moderate
(Lisheen_A)	S.D.	1.51	2.28	1.50	28.13 N/A		Moderate
(Lisheen_A)	ა. <i>D</i> . n	26	2.26 15	8	1 1		
	Min	4.02	11.95	20.23	28.13		
		9.78			28.13		
Dalling dans	Max		19.17	24.39	20.13		N1/A
Ballysadare	Mean	7.92	21.52				N/A
(Ballysadare BrA)	S.D.	1.76	N/A				
	n Naix	2	1				
	Min	6.68	21.52				
	Max	9.16	21.52				
Barrow	Mean	7.56	15.11	22.51			Moderate
(Pass BrB)	S.D.	2.20	2.42	2.51			
	n	12	9	2			
	Min	3.64	11.27	20.74			
-	Max	10.86	17.81	24.28			
Blackwater (Monaghan)	Mean	8.65	16.02	23.09			Moderate
(Corvally_A)	S.D.	2.15	2.31	1.46			
	n	22	15	6			
	Min	5.24	12.63	21.33			
	Max	12.40	19.60	25.20			



# APPENDIX 4 continued Summary brown trout growth in rivers (L1=back calculated length at the end of the first winter etc.)

River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	Growth category
Bonet	Mean	6.78	14.48	20.17	26.43		Moderate
(Castle_A)	S.D.	1.57	2.02	2.38	3.35		
	n	28	25	13	2		
	Min	4.34	10.05	15.56	24.07		
	Max	10.40	18.21	24.05	28.80		
Boyne	Mean	8.45	16.56	24.41			Moderate
(Boyne BrA)	S.D.	2.12	2.69	3.15			
` , = ,	n	68	43	3			
	Min	4.59	6.67	21.80			
	Max	15.75	22.50	27.91			
Brosna	Mean	6.64					Moderate
(0.5km NW of Pollagh_A)	S.D.	0.0.					
(0.00	n	1					
	Min	6.64					
	Max	6.64					
Bundorragha	Mean	5.23	10.12				Slow
(Rock Pool_A)	S.D.	1.26	1.88				JIOW
(NOCK POOLA)	n	9	2				
	Min	3.63	8.79				
	Max	6.87	11.45				
Clare		6.83	21.84				N/A
	Mean						N/A
(Corrofin BrA)	S.D.	N/A	N/A				
	n Naim	1	1				
	Min	6.83	21.84				
	Max	6.83	21.84				
Clare	Mean	8.14	19.56	32.67			Moderate/Fast
(Kiltroge Castle BrA)	S.D.	1.75	1.99	N/A			
	n	10	9	1			
	Min	5.45	17.02	32.67			
	Max	10.89	22.09	32.67			
Cronaniv Burn	Mean	4.27	10.00				Very Slow
(Br. u/s Dunlewy Lough_A)	S.D.	1.57	0.09				
	n	6	2				
	Min	3.15	9.93				
	Max	7.13	10.06				
Cronaniv Burn	Mean	4.77	7.93	13.42	17.02		Very Slow
(Dunlewy_A)	S.D.	1.58	0.82	N/A	N/A		
	n	6	2	1	1		
	Min	3.27	7.35	13.42	17.02		
	Max	6.72	8.51	13.42	17.02		
Dargle	Mean	5.00	9.96	14.89			Very Slow/Slow
(Bahana_A)	S.D.	1.09	1.86	2.96			, ,
·	n	32	18	3			
	Min	3.29	8.39	13.15			



River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	Growth category
Dee (Louth)	Mean	7.90	17.97	26.07	33.32		Moderate
(Burley BrA)	S.D.	1.10	1.49	N/A	N/A		
	n	18	7	1	1		
	Min	5.95	15.72	26.07	33.32		
	Max	9.56	19.88	26.07	33.32		
Deel (Newcastlewest)	Mean	8.12	24.75				Moderate
(Br. near Balliniska_A)	S.D.	1.06	N/A				
	n	11	1				
	Min	7.15	24.75				
	Max	10.55	24.75				
Demesne	Mean	7.15					Moderate
(Curraghcreen_A)	S.D.	2.05					
	n	3					
	Min	5.76					
	Max	9.50					
Derry	Mean	7.51	15.45				Moderate
(Balisland_A)	S.D.	1.91	4.60				
	n	14	4				
	Min	4.74	10.50				
	Max	11.68	20.03				
Derry	Mean	7.00	13.94				Moderate
(Ballyknocker_A)	S.D.	1.42	3.54				
	n	16	4				
	Min	4.36	10.53				
	Max	9.68	18.89				
Dodder	Mean	8.23	15.54	18.74			Moderate
(D/s Piperstown Stream,	S.D.	1.16	1.95	N/A			
Bohernabreena_A)	n	17	7	1			
	Min	6.19	12.95	18.74			
	Max	10.23	18.41	18.74			
Dodder	Mean	8.06	17.42				Moderate
(Mount Carmel Hospital_A)	S.D.	1.98	2.59				
	n	21	4				
	Min	4.96	14.22				
	Max	14.67	20.52				
Duag	Mean	6.95					Moderate
(Br. u/s Ballyporeen_B)	S.D.	2.31					
_ :	n	7					
	Min	3.60					
	Max	9.33					
Duag	Mean	7.03					Moderate
(Kilnamona_A)	S.D.	0.44					
	n	2					
	Min	6.72					
	Max	7.35					



River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	Growth category
Duncormick	Mean	8.08	14.61	19.25			Moderate
((W) Br. nr Duncormick Rly St_B)	S.D.	1.66	1.80	0.52			
	n	28	8	2			
	Min	5.36	12.58	18.88			
	Max	12.27	18.41	19.61			
Feale	Mean	6.72	12.12				Moderate
(Br. ENE of Duagh Ho_A)	S.D.	1.62	0.22				
	n	16	2				
	Min	4.01	11.97				
	Max	10.10	12.28				
Feale	Mean	8.06	15.77				Moderate
(Sluicequarter_A)	S.D.	1.37	N/A				
	n	9	1				
	Min	6.54	15.77				
	Max	10.81	15.77				
Finisk	Mean	6.74					Moderate
(Modelligo BrA)	S.D.	1.05					
	n	4					
	Min	5.23					
	Max	7.67					
Funshion	Mean	4.90					Very Slow
(Brackbaun BrA)	S.D.	0.92					,
_ ,	n	7					
	Min	3.41					
	Max	6.28					
Funshion	Mean	6.21	13.09	18.41	21.52	26.51	Moderate
(Kilbeheny_A)	S.D.	1.08	1.96	1.21	0.88	1.48	
`	n	27	15	10	5	2	
	Min	4.34	9.40	16.26	20.73	25.47	
	Max	8.61	16.30	20.65	22.67	27.56	
Glashaboy	Mean	8.06	14.72	17.97			Moderate
(Ardnabricka_A)	S.D.	1.81	2.50	2.42			
` _ ′	n	34	16	6			
	Min	4.95	10.34	15.36			
	Max	11.10	19.85	22.00			
Glashaboy	Mean	7.34	13.76	17.05			Moderate
(Ballyvorisheen BrB)	S.D.	2.17	2.71	N/A			
(-a,	n	20	5	1			
	Min	3.71	9.27	17.05			
	Max	10.67	16.45	17.05			
Inny	Mean	4.92	9.01				Very Slow
(Br. 1 km S of Oldcastle_A)	S.D.	0.99	1.42				,
,,,	n	29	6				
	Min	2.98	7.21				



River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	Growth category
Inny	Mean	8.13	17.79	26.82	40.57		Moderate/Fast
(Shrule BrA)	S.D.	1.78	5.54	8.28	4.27		
	n	29	15	7	3		
	Min	4.70	10.22	18.15	37.16		
	Max	11.76	28.69	41.70	45.36		
Liffey	Mean	7.75	18.81	27.23			Moderate/Fast
(Lucan BrA)	S.D.	1.35	3.11	1.37			
	n	13	8	2			
	Min	5.04	14.63	26.27			
	Max	9.68	23.85	28.20			
Mahon	Mean	8.48					Moderate
(ENE of Seafield House_A)	S.D.	N/A					
	n	1					
	Min	8.48					
	Max	8.48					
Mahon	Mean	8.99					Moderate
(Pumphouse Weir_A)	S.D.	2.07					
( · p · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	n	6					
	Min	6.96					
	Max	12.21					
Multeen	Mean	7.13	16.06	22.26	28.17		Moderate
(Ballygriffin BrA)	S.D.	1.43	2.97	2.31	1.87		
(	n	42	28	16	3		
	Min	4.09	9.28	19.11	26.37		
	Max	10.50	20.97	27.06	30.11		
Nanny (Tuam)	Mean	8.85	16.21	24.41			Moderate
(u/s Weir BrA)	S.D.	1.65	0.35	N/A			
(4,0 110 211_14)	n	2	2	1			
	Min	7.68	15.96	24.41			
	Max	10.01	16.46	24.41			
Nore	Mean	6.41	14.92	22.82			Moderate
(Brownsbarn BrA)	S.D.	2.01	3.36	2.49			Woderate
(5.51554 5.1)	n	31	24	9			
	Min	2.81	10.06	20.00			
	Max	9.91	21.94	27.59			
Nore	Mean	7.37	15.25	20.41			Moderate
(Kilmacshane_A)	S.D.	1.92	2.75	0.74			Moderate
(Killiacsilalie_A)	ე.ს. n	22	19	4			
	Min	3.74	10.85	19.93			
	Max	11.70	20.71	21.49			
Noro					25.78		Modorato
Nore	Mean	7.26	14.43	18.99			Moderate
(Quakers BrA)	S.D.	1.98	2.18	2.54	N/A		
	n Min	55 2.67	45 10.08	16 15.05	1		
	Min	3.67	10.08	15.05	25.78		
	Max	11.63	19.77	23.92	25.78		



River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	Growth category
Owenduff	Mean	7.98	13.95	17.29			Moderate
(Rathnageeragh_A)	S.D.	1.60	0.89	0.54			
	n	18	5	2			
	Min	4.40	12.51	16.91			
	Max	10.66	14.95	17.68			
Owenmore (Sligo)	Mean	8.01	18.51	23.54			Moderate/Fast
(300 m u/s Unshin confl_A)	S.D.	1.57	1.27	N/A			
	n	6	6	1			
	Min	6.15	17.35	23.54			
	Max	10.38	20.33	23.54			
Owenmore (Sligo)	Mean	6.81	12.74	21.37			Moderate
(Waterfall_A)	S.D.	1.93	2.28	6.82			
	n	14	7	2			
	Min	3.79	10.41	16.55			
	Max	10.29	17.46	26.19			
Owennaglogh	Mean	5.22	9.84				Very Slow/Slow
(Tawnynoran_A)	S.D.	1.69	1.69				•
	n	21	11				
	Min	2.90	7.89				
	Max	8.78	12.95				
Robe	Mean	8.65	16.86	22.53			Moderate
(Akit BrA)	S.D.	1.73	2.20	1.84			
	n	6	4	2			
	Min	6.33	14.37	21.23			
	Max	10.80	19.56	23.83			
Robe	Mean	8.97	19.60				N/A
(Friarsquarter_A)	S.D.	1.57	1.69				
	n	3	2				
	Min	7.66	18.41				
	Max	10.71	20.80				
Slaney	Mean	6.43	16.67	21.49			Moderate
(Bunclody_A)	S.D.	1.32	2.30	N/A			
. ,= ,	n	10	5	1			
	Min	4.37	13.38	21.49			
	Max	8.67	19.82	21.49			
Slaney	Mean	5.73	13.09				Moderate
(Carhill_A)	S.D.	1.64					
` _ ,	n	2	1				
	Min	4.57	13.09				
	Max	6.89	13.09				
Smearlagh	Mean	5.65	11.97				Moderate
(Ford u/s Feale R confl (LHS)_A)	S.D.	0.81	4.11				
(1 2 2 2 7 2 1 22 2 1 20 11 (21 10 )_N)	n	12	2				
	Min	3.97	9.07				
	Max	6.74	14.88				



River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	Growth category
Smearlagh	Mean	5.72	13.79				Moderate
(Rathea_A)	S.D.	0.89	N/A				
	n	13	1				
	Min	4.00	13.79				
	Max	6.89	13.79				
Suir	Mean	7.22	12.84	22.30	30.22		Moderate
(Kilsheelan BrA)	S.D.	2.08	2.92	2.56	1.56		
	n	54	39	24	4		
	Min	3.11	7.25	17.25	28.39		
	Max	12.12	20.71	26.31	32.18		
Suir	Mean	7.59	15.98	21.30	24.29		Moderate
(Knocknageragh BrA)	S.D.	2.55	3.75	3.22	N/A		
	n	70	49	17	1		
	Min	3.39	8.77	15.35	24.29		
	Max	12.79	23.48	27.09	24.29		
Suir	Mean	7.26	13.64				Moderate
(Poulakerry_A)	S.D.	0.20	0.39				
(. ca.a	n	5	2				
	Min	7.03	13.36				
	Max	7.56	13.91				
Sullane	Mean	7.65	17.08				Moderate
(Sullane BrA)	S.D.	1.98	2.69				Woderate
(Sunaire Sin_r.)	n	34	8				
	Min	3.44	13.31				
	Max	11.47	20.46				
Swanlinbar	Mean	5.72	11.59	15.65	20.42		Slow/Moderate
(Swanlinbar Br. (Carpark)_A)	S.D.	1.08	1.40	1.65	N/A		510W/Woderate
(Swammbar br. (carpark)_A)	n	27	1.40	5	1		
	Min	3.36	8.40	13.83	20.42		
	Max	7.80	14.00	18.31	20.42		
Swilly			12.22	10.31	20.42		Modorata
Swilly (Altadush_A)	Mean S.D.	6.20 1.12	2.43				Moderate
(Altauusii_A)		1.12	3				
	n Min						
		4.25	9.55				
Constitution of the consti	Max	7.95	14.32	42.00			Class /B A and a
Swilly	Mean	5.65	10.37	13.90			Slow/Moderate
(Swilly Br. (near Breenagh)_A)	S.D.	0.86	0.44	0.41			
	n Maior	11	4	2			
	Min	4.29	9.72	13.61			
	Max	7.33	10.71	14.20			
Tobercurry	Mean	5.20	8.78				N/A
(Br. just u/s Moy _C)	S.D.	0.76	N/A				
	n	2	1				
	Min	4.66	8.78				
	Max	5.74	8.78				



River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	Growth category
Tobercurry	Mean	5.64					N/A
(Tullanaglug_A)	S.D.	N/A					
	n	1					
	Min	5.64					
	Max	5.64					
Vartry	Mean	6.74					Moderate
(Newrath BrA)	S.D.	1.41					
	n	18					
	Min	3.47					
	Max	8.62					
White (Louth)	Mean	6.77	12.38				Moderate
(Coneyburrow BrB)	S.D.	1.50	N/A				
	n	4	1				
	Min	4.60	12.38				
	Max	8.03	12.38				
Urrin	Mean	6.31	12.43				Moderate
(Buck's BrB)	S.D.	1.78	1.24				
	n	22	8				
	Min	3.42	10.80				
	Max	9.62	14.26				



**APPENDIX 5** 

River		L1	L2	L3
Aherlow	Mean	5.60		
(Killardy BrA)	S.D.	1.27		
	n	12		
	Min	4.16		
	Max	8.91		
Aherlow	Mean	5.96		
(Old Cappa BrA)	S.D.	0.91		
	n	13		
	Min	4.87		
	Max	7.84		
Anner	Mean	5.28		
(Drummon BrA)	S.D.	0.65		
	n	11		
	Min	4.09		
	Max	6.64		
Anner	Mean	6.04		
(Kilusty_A)	S.D.	1.14		
	n	10		
	Min	4.96		
	Max	8.28		
Ara	Mean	6.56		
(Bansha_A)	S.D.	0.63		
	n	3		
	Min	6.18		
	Max	7.29		
Ara	Mean	6.10		
(Lisheen_A)	S.D.	0.82		
	n	11		
	Min	5.27		
	Max	8.19		
Ballysadare	Mean	4.61		
(Ballysadare BrA)	S.D.	1.29		
	n	7		
	Min	2.56		
	Max	6.36		
Barrow	Mean	4.50		
(Pass BrB)	S.D.	0.97		
. <u>-</u> -	n	8		
	Min	3.46		
	Max	6.02		
Blackwater	Mean	6.49		
(Monaghan) (Corvally_A)	S.D.	0.63		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	n	2		
	Min	6.04		
	Max	6.93		



River		L1	L2	L3
Bonet River	Mean	4.79		
(Castle_A)	S.D.	1.41		
	n	10		
	Min	3.14		
	Max	6.65		
Bundorragha	Mean	4.85	6.80	
(Rock Pool_A)	S.D.	1.70	0.38	
	n	17	2	
	Min	2.83	6.54	
	Max	9.41	7.07	
Clare	Mean	6.66		
(Corrofin BrA)	S.D.	1.29		
	n	2		
	Min	5.75		
	Max	7.57		
Clare	Mean	5.49		
(Kiltroge Castle BrA)	S.D.	0.45		
	n	9		
	Min	4.80		
	Max	6.19		
Cronaniv Burn	Mean	4.54		
(Br. u/s Dunlewy Lough_A)	S.D.	0.83		
	n	8		
	Min	3.52		
	Max	5.93		
Cronaniv Burn	Mean	3.49	6.36	
(Dunlewy_A)	S.D.	0.63	0.44	
	n	10	6	
	Min	2.42	5.81	
	Max	4.60	7.15	
Derry	Mean	5.87		
(Balisland BrA)	S.D.	N/A		
	n	1		
	Min	5.87		
	Max	5.87		
Derry	Mean	6.25		
(Ballyknocker_A)	S.D.	0.81		
	n	8		
	Min	5.16		
	Max	7.24		
Duag	Mean	5.52		
(Br. u/s Ballyporeen_B)	S.D.	0.71		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	n	3		
	Min	4.70		
	Max	5.96		



River		L1	L2	L3
Feale	Mean	4.75	8.45	
(Br. ENE of Duagh Ho_A)	S.D.	1.25	0.89	
	n	22	5	
	Min	3.18	7.35	
	Max	7.89	9.24	
Feale	Mean	4.70	8.48	
(Sluicequarter_A)	S.D.	0.86	0.12	
	n	23	2	
	Min	3.36	8.40	
	Max	6.31	8.57	
Finisk	Mean	5.06	9.48	
(Modelligo BrA)	S.D.	1.34	N/A	
	n	14	1	
	Min	2.71	9.48	
	Max	7.46	9.48	
Funshion	Mean	5.17	8.40	12.81
(Brackbaun BrA)	S.D.	1.08	0.64	N/A
	n	16	3	1
	Min	3.38	7.67	12.81
	Max	6.71	8.87	12.81
Funshion	Mean	4.81		
(Kilbeheny_A)	S.D.	1.00		
	n	17		
	Min	3.22		
	Max	6.59		
Glashaboy	Mean	6.17		
(Ardnabricka_A)	S.D.	1.49		
	n	9		
	Min	4.40		
	Max	9.13		
Inny	Mean	4.91		
(Shrule BrA)	S.D.	1.65		
	n	5		
	Min	2.72		
	Max	6.93		
Liffey	Mean	5.52		
, (Lucan BrA)	S.D.	1.14		
	n	22		
	Min	3.74		
	Max	8.58		
Mahon	Mean	6.65		
(ENE of Seafield House_A)	S.D.	N/A		
. <b>-</b> ·	n	1		
	Min	6.65		
	Max	6.65		



River		L1	L2	L3
Mahon	Mean	6.40		
(Pumphouse Weir_A)	S.D.	0.61		
	n	3		
	Min	5.72		
	Max	6.91		
Multeen	Mean	5.37		
(Ballygriffin BrA)	S.D.	1.46		
	n	14		
	Min	3.51		
	Max	9.34		
Nore	Mean	5.35		
(Brownsbarn BrA)	S.D.	1.51		
	n	13		
	Min	3.35		
	Max	8.73		
Nore	Mean	4.21		
(Kilmacshane_A)	S.D.	1.02		
	n	9		
	Min	2.95		
	Max	5.82		
Owenduff	Mean	5.66		
(Rathnageeragh_A)	S.D.	1.13		
	n	13		
	Min	4.09		
	Max	7.53		
Owenmore (Sligo)	Mean	4.88		
(Waterfall_A)	S.D.	1.08		
	n	17		
	Min	3.04		
	Max	6.69		
Owennaglogh	Mean	4.72	7.27	
(Tawnynoran_A)	S.D.	1.11	0.83	
	n	14	6	
	Min	2.98	6.00	
	Max	6.67	8.33	
Slaney	Mean	6.48		
(Bunclody_A)	S.D.	0.80		
	n	8		
	Min	5.37		
	Max	7.54		
Slaney	Mean	5.77		·
(Carhill_A)	S.D.	0.64		
	n	3		
	Min	5.04		
	Max	6.19		



River		L1	L2	L3
Smearlagh	Mean	5.15		
(Ford u/s Feale R confl (LHS)_A)	S.D.	0.87		
	n	15		
	Min	3.61		
	Max	6.52		
Smearlagh	Mean	4.71	7.83	
(Rathea_A)	S.D.	0.75	0.82	
	n	14	2	
	Min	2.74	7.25	
	Max	5.80	8.41	
Suir	Mean	5.78		
(Kilsheelan BrA)	S.D.	1.64		
	n	15		
	Min	3.89		
	Max	9.16		
Suir	Mean	4.27		
(Poulakerry_A)	S.D.	0.46		
	n	4		
	Min	3.65		
	Max	4.64		
Urrin	Mean	5.46		
(Buck's BrA)	S.D.	1.04		
	n	12		
	Min	4.19		
	Max	7.95		
Sullane	Mean	5.54		
(Sullane BrA)	S.D.	0.04		
	n	2		
	Min	5.51		
	Max	5.57		
Swanlinbar	Mean	4.78	8.51	
(Swanlinbar Br. (Carpark)_A)	S.D.	1.04	1.05	
	n	8	7	
	Min	3.48	6.96	
	Max	6.65	10.32	
Swilly	Mean	4.39	6.94	
(Swilly Br. (near Breenagh)_A)	S.D.	0.98	N/A	
- :	n	9	1	
	Min	3.11	6.94	
	Max	6.54	6.94	
Tobercurry	Mean	3.81	7.16	
(Br. just u/s Moy River_C)	S.D.	0.64	1.11	
	n	17	5	
	Min	2.22	5.85	
	Max	4.94	8.59	



River		L1	L2	L3
Tobercurry	Mean	5.08		
(Tullanaglug_A)	S.D.	0.77		
	n	11		
	Min	3.68		
	Max	6.33		
Vartry	Mean	6.00		
(Newrath BrA)	S.D.	1.00		
	n	6		
	Min	4.20		
	Max	6.86		

APPENDIX 6
Summary of dace growth in rivers (L1=back calculated length at the end of the first winter etc.)

River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	L7
Barrow	Mean	6.16	15.47	17.90	19.76	•	•	
(Pass BrB)	S.D.	1.08	3.37	3.33	N/A			
	n	17	4	2	1			
	Min	4.25	12.21	15.54	19.76			
	Max	7.98	20.09	20.25	19.76			
Nore	Mean	4.33	8.94	13.86	17.96	20.37	22.65	25.20
(Brownsbarn BrA)	S.D.	1.53	1.71	1.65	1.30	1.09	1.08	0.44
	n	48	33	33	27	18	12	3
	Min	1.94	5.83	10.25	15.40	18.45	20.83	24.83
	Max	8.16	11.83	17.25	20.40	22.56	24.06	25.68
Nore	Mean	4.46	9.42	15.54	18.65	21.21	23.01	
(Kilmacshane_A)	S.D.	1.28	2.65	1.32	1.33	0.43	0.83	
	n	25	14	13	5	4	3	
	Min	2.13	5.86	13.31	17.26	20.71	22.09	
	Max	6.72	16.62	17.08	20.83	21.69	23.70	
Suir	Mean	4.50						
(Poulakerry_A)	S.D.	0.77						
	n	11						
	Min	2.80						
	Max	5.37						



APPENDIX 7
Summary of pike growth in rivers (L1=back calculated length at the end of the first winter etc.)

River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5
Ballysadare	Mean	18.35	34.76			
(Ballysadare BrA)	S.D.	7.13	N/A			
	n	3	1			
	Min	11.28	34.76			
	Max	25.54	34.76			
Barrow	Mean	21.61	41.01	57.00	73.12	74.49
(Pass BrB)	S.D.	5.78	12.83	12.18	7.65	N/A
	n	12	4	3	2	1
	Min	12.72	28.76	46.18	67.71	74.49
	Max	31.60	56.44	70.18	78.53	74.49
Brosna	Mean	18.13	39.71			
(0.5km NW of Pollagh_A)	S.D.	N/A	N/A			
	n	1	1			
	Min	18.13	39.71			
	Max	18.13	39.71			
Clare	Mean	17.33	26.96			
(Corrofin BrA)	S.D.	0.76	0.69			
	n	3	2			
	Min	16.54	26.47			
	Max	18.06	27.44			
Clare	Mean	13.77				
(Kiltroge Castle BrA)	S.D.	N/A				
	n	1				
	Min	13.77				
	Max	13.77				
Inny	Mean	15.26	26.60	32.23	43.42	
(Shrule BrA)	S.D.	3.45	4.46	5.77	N/A	
	n	9	9	5	1	
	Min	9.45	20.25	24.98	43.42	
	Max	20.28	33.12	40.28	43.42	
Nore	Mean	9.76				
(Quakers BrA)	S.D.	N/A				
	n	1				
	Min	9.76				
	Max	9.76				
Owenmore (Sligo)	Mean	13.33	21.63			
(300 m u/s Unshin confl_A)	S.D.	N/A	N/A			
	n	1	1			
	Min	13.33	21.63			
	Max	13.33	21.63			
Owenmore (Sligo)	Mean	15.93				
(Waterfall_A)	S.D.	N/A				
<u> </u>	n	1				
	Min	15.93				
	Max	15.93				



River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5
Robe	Mean	27.79	40.22			
(Akit BrA)	S.D.	N/A	N/A			
	n	1	1			
	Min	27.79	40.22			
	Max	27.79	40.22			



APPENDIX 8

Summary of roach growth in rivers (L1=back calculated length at the end of the first winter etc.)

River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	L7	L8	L9	L10
Aherlow	Mean	2.55	4.82	8.31	11.84	14.81	17.11	18.94	20.00	20.68	21.46
(Killardy BrA)	S.D.	0.53	0.84	1.87	2.68	2.77	2.40	2.26	1.42	0.91	0.33
	n	9	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	4	2
	Min	2.06	3.61	6.56	8.33	11.59	13.88	15.96	18.22	19.96	21.23
	Max	3.85	6.20	11.58	15.49	18.26	20.09	22.37	22.17	21.97	21.69
Ballysadare	Mean	2.82	6.74	9.88	13.75						
(Ballysadare BrA)	S.D.	1.02	1.60	1.58	N/A						
	n	17	10	3	1						
	Min	1.40	4.77	8.25	13.75						
	Max	4.54	10.14	11.40	13.75						
Barrow	Mean	2.84	5.57	9.29	13.36	17.12	19.15	21.08	23.48	25.81	
(Pass BrB)	S.D.	0.81	1.25	1.79	1.81	2.38	2.23	2.29	2.48	N/A	
	n	41	34	29	23	11	6	6	4	1	
	Min	1.73	4.03	5.80	10.51	12.55	16.81	17.92	19.83	25.81	
	Max	4.74	8.05	12.74	16.49	20.80	21.73	23.54	25.37	25.81	
Brosna	Mean	2.32	5.73	9.31	13.80	15.03	17.67				
(0.5km NW of	S.D.	0.78	1.58	2.91	1.51	N/A	N/A				
	n	35	24	14	10	1	1				
	Min	1.28	3.75	6.98	10.36	15.03	17.67				
	Max	3.65	9.71	14.80	16.23	15.03	17.67				
Clare	Mean	2.97	8.40	11.87							
(Corrofin BrA)	S.D.	0.55	1.76	1.96							
	n	17	17	5							
	Min	2.00	4.80	10.00							
	Max	4.18	11.16	14.51							
Clare	Mean	2.75	5.51	8.39							
(Kiltroge Castle BrA)	S.D.	0.47	1.44	1.55							
	n	18	13	6							
	Min	1.93	3.77	6.76							
	Max	3.88	9.18	10.52							
Dee	Mean	2.87	5.87	8.96	13.08	14.63	16.99	19.44	22.82	24.54	
(Burley BrA)	S.D.	0.94	1.33	1.28	1.71	1.01	1.13	1.57	0.14	N/A	
	n	16	12	10	10	5	5	3	2	1	
	Min	1.79	3.59	7.66	9.98	13.81	15.78	17.76	22.72	24.54	
	Max	4.81	8.35	11.70	15.32	16.21	18.29	20.88	22.92	24.54	
Inny	Mean	2.98	6.37	8.07							
(Shrule BrA)	S.D.	1.01	1.66	1.51							
	n	26	12	5							
	Min	1.58	3.44	6.61							
	Max	6.27	8.65	10.29							
Liffey	Mean	2.18	5.72	9.76							
(Lucan BrA)	S.D.	0.16	1.30	1.42							
	n	2	2	2							
	Min	2.06	4.79	8.75							
	Max	2.29	6.64	10.76							



# APPENDIX 8 continued Summary of roach growth in rivers (L1=back calculated length at the end of the first winter etc.)

River		L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	L7	L8	L9	L10
Nanny (Tuam)	Mean	2.10	8.41								
(u/s Weir BrA)	S.D.	N/A	N/A								
	n	1	1								
	Min	2.10	8.41								
	Max	2.10	8.41								
Nore	Mean	5.03									
(Kilmacshane_A)	S.D.	N/A									
	n	1									
	Min	5.03									
	Max	5.03									
Owenmore (Sligo)	Mean	1.93	5.19	9.98	12.90						
(300 m u/s	S.D.	0.65	1.52	1.16	1.25						
	n	18	16	13	4						
	Min	1.04	3.64	7.72	11.58						
	Max	3.26	9.53	12.19	14.00						
Owenmore (Sligo)	Mean	2.74	6.29								
(Waterfall_A)	S.D.	1.21	N/A								
	n	2	1								
	Min	1.89	6.29								
	Max	3.60	6.29								
Robe	Mean	2.67	5.70	8.55	8.55	15.57					
(Akit BrA)	S.D.	1.09	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
	n	2	1	1	1	1					
	Min	1.90	5.70	8.55	8.55	15.57					
	Max	3.44	5.70	8.55	8.55	15.57					
Robe	Mean	2.87	7.54	14.62	18.15	21.32	23.82				
(Friarsquarter_A)	S.D.	1.18	1.03	1.10	N/A	N/A	N/A				
	n	2	2	2	1	1	1				
	Min	2.04	6.81	13.84	18.15	21.32	23.82				
	Max	3.71	8.27	15.39	18.15	21.32	23.82				
Slaney	Mean	2.86									
(Bunclody_A)	S.D.	0.18									
	n	2									
	Min	2.73									
	Max	2.99									



APPENDIX 9

Summary sea trout growth in rivers (L1=back calculated length at the end of the first winter etc.)

River		L1	L2	L3	L4
Duncormick	Mean	7.80	17.24		
((W) Br. nr Duncormick Rly St_B)	S.D.	N/A	N/A		
	n	1	1		
	Min	7.80	17.24		
	Max	7.80	17.24		
Nore	Mean	9.69	22.36	30.56	
(Brownsbarn BrA)	S.D.	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	n	1	1	1	
	Min	9.69	22.36	30.56	
	Max	9.69	22.36	30.56	
Nore	Mean	7.53	22.01		
(Kilmacshane_A)	S.D.	2.41	2.80		
	n	3	3		
	Min	4.80	20.38		
	Max	9.37	25.24		
Slaney	Mean	11.82	18.72		
(Carhill_A)	S.D.	N/A	N/A		
	n	1	1		
	Min	11.82	18.72		
	Max	11.82	18.72		
Smearlagh	Mean	8.99	18.82	26.81	37.23
(Ford u/s Feale R confl (LHS)_A)	S.D.	0.74	0.29	1.58	N/A
	n	2	2	2	1
	Min	8.46	18.62	25.69	37.23
	Max	9.51	19.03	27.92	37.23
Vartry	Mean	8.71	17.26	31.56	
(Ashford BrA)	S.D.	1.54	2.58	0.56	
	n	21	21	2	
	Min	6.82	12.77	31.17	
	Max	12.30	22.16	31.96	
Vartry	Mean	7.12	14.87		
(Newrath BrA)	S.D.	1.78	3.43		
	n	6	6		
	Min	5.51	10.29		
	Max	10.37	19.83		
Vartry	Mean	7.53	16.99		
(Nun's Cross BrA)	S.D.	2.18	3.58		
	n	4	4		
	Min	5.23	13.06		
	Max	10.47	21.32		



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