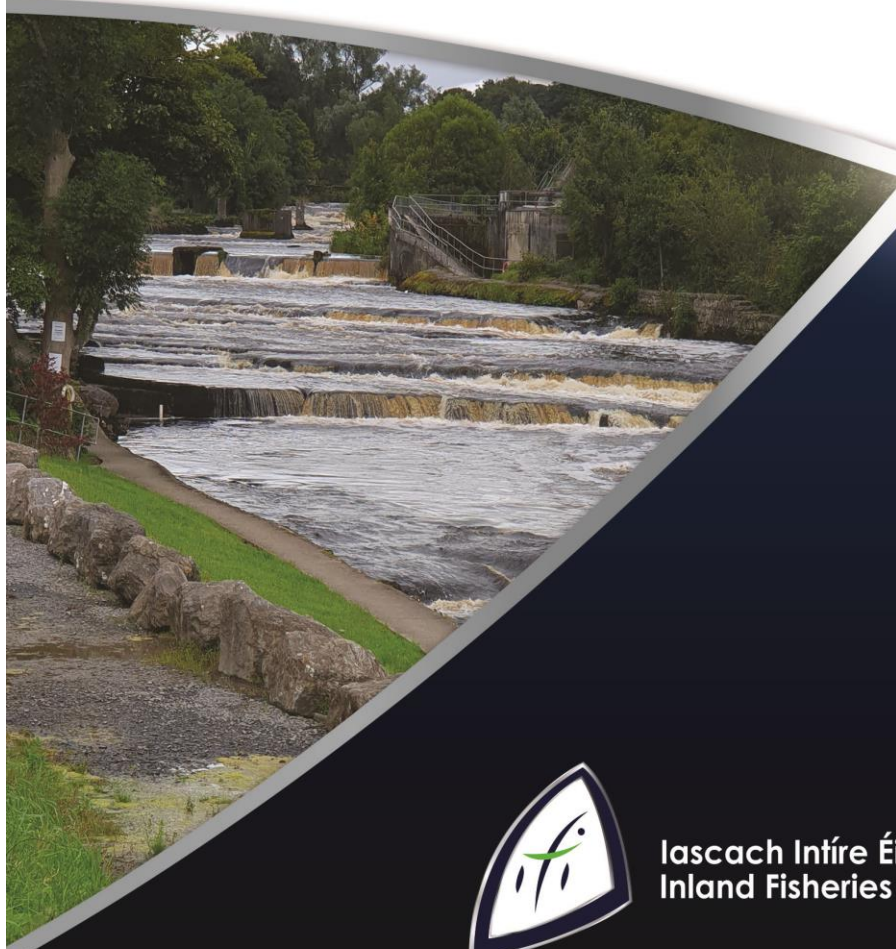


Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report

2023

IFI/2024/1-4692



Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

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CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

I am very pleased to present the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report for 2023. I would like to extend my gratitude to the team at Inland Fisheries Ireland, the angling community, and all other stakeholders for their unwavering dedication to the success of the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme. The more data we gather, the more informed our decisions will be when conserving, protecting and managing our Wild Atlantic Salmon and Sea Trout populations.

The health of our freshwater ecosystems is currently in decline with many fish species under severe pressure due to a combination of human-influenced factors including climate change. Adult Atlantic Salmon runs have dramatically decreased from about 2 million salmon returning to Irish rivers yearly in the 1970s, to about 250,000 currently. Declining water quality, the loss of habitats and biodiversity are impacting on our Wild Atlantic Salmon and Sea Trout populations and so are of particular concern to IFI. In addition to angling measures such as catch and release, Inland Fisheries Ireland will continue working with all stakeholders to protect and conserve our fish with measures like barrier mitigation, water quality monitoring and fisheries patrols all underpinned by robust research. These and many other actions are essential to ensure the sustainability of our fish populations.

Looking at statistics from the 2023 Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Report, it is encouraging to see the ongoing increase in the number of anglers practising 'catch and release' - anglers released 56% of their Wild Salmon catches last year, compared with 54% in 2022. However, if you look at our neighbours in Scotland - their 'catch and release' rates are much higher at over 90%.

16,743 salmon rod licences were sold to anglers in 2023, a decrease of 3.3% over 2022 (17,318). Most of these licence sales (66.5%) were to residents within the Republic of Ireland, 11% to Northern Ireland and a further 6.5% to UK residents. Anglers returned 8,284 logbooks in 2023, with a national return rate of 49.5% down from 54.6% on 2022 logbook returns.

The 2023 Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics also show that the total number of salmon caught by all methods (commercial and angling including catch and release) was 21,045 salmon and 1,599 sea trout. This represents a decrease of 21% on the total salmon catch recorded in 2022 (26,715) and a decrease of 23% of total sea trout catch recorded in 2022 (2,082).

17.2% of the 2023 total salmon catch was taken on the River Moy, 14.4% on the River Blackwater (Lismore), 8.2% on the River Laune, 5.8% on the Lower Lee and 4.1% on the Corrib. These 5 rivers account for 49.8% of the entire salmon catch in 2023.

The 2023 angling catch was 17,009 salmon (22,661 in 2022) and 1,545 sea trout (2,018 in 2022). Of the 17,009 salmon caught by anglers, 7,562 were harvested and 9,447 subsequently released. As I mentioned previously, anglers released 56% of salmon caught by rod and line (54% in 2022).

16,743 anglers purchased a salmon angling licence in 2023 of which only 3,050 anglers (18.2%) caught salmon (3,783 in 2022). Of this figure, 2,295 anglers (13.7%) harvested salmon (3,019 in 2022) and 1,472 anglers (8.8%) caught and released salmon (1,732 in 2022).

The commercial catch was 4,036 salmon (4,054 in 2022) and 54 sea trout (over 40 cm) (63 in 2022) which represents 62% of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 6,574 (6,535 in 2022) fish allocated to the commercial fishing sector.

The greatest landings of commercial salmon/sea trout catches in 2023 were in Counties Cork and Kerry on the River Blackwater (Lismore) with 1,132 salmon & Sea Trout (27.7% of the commercial catch), River Laune (Kerry) with 876 salmon/sea trout (21.4% of the commercial catch), in Castlemaine Fishery with 647 salmon/sea trout (15.8% of commercial catch) and the River Lee with 533 salmon/sea trout (13% of the commercial catch).

Commercial fishermen caught 19% of the salmon catch in 2023, compared to 15% in 2022 and recreational anglers caught 81% in 2023 compared to 85% in 2022.

I would like to thank the Inland Fisheries Ireland team and all stakeholders who participated in the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme in 2023 to ensure its continued success

Tom Collins
Chairman
Inland Fisheries Ireland

INLAND FISHERIES IRELAND

About Inland Fisheries Ireland

Inland Fisheries Ireland is the statutory agency responsible for inland fisheries in Ireland and operates under the aegis of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

The principal functions of Inland Fisheries Ireland are to:

- promote, support, facilitate and advise the Minister on the conservation, protection, management, marketing, development and improvement of inland fisheries, including sea angling,
- to develop and advise the Minister on policy and national strategies relating to inland fisheries including sea angling, and
- to ensure implementation and delivery of policy and strategies developed and agreed with the Minister.

The six river basins have responsibility for conservation, protection, development, management and promotion of inland fisheries in their river basins. They have a duty to co-ordinate and co-operate in the delivery of a national fisheries service, observing principles of sustainability, biodiversity and the conservation of all species in inland water ecosystems.

Each river basin is divided up into one or more fishery districts, of which there are 17 in total. Commercial salmon fishermen are licensed to fish a particular fishery district. Angling licenses are valid to fish all river basins or a particular fishery district in where rivers are open for fishing, depending on the type of license purchased.

Vision

To place the Inland Fisheries resource in the best sustainable position possible for the benefit of future generations.

Mission

To protect, manage and conserve Ireland's Inland Fisheries and sea angling resources and to maximise their sustainability and natural biodiversity.

Values

- We work collaboratively with professionalism.
- We are open, transparent, and accountable.
- We act with respect and integrity.
- We are committed to stewardship and sustainability.

The 'High Level Objectives' are as follows;

- To sustainably develop and improve fish habitats,
- To protect, maintain and enhance Ireland's wild fish populations,
- To actively engage with stakeholders in the continued stewardship,
- To play a leadership role in achieving our climate action and biodiversity goals,
- To value our people and support their development and performance,
- To foster a culture of value for money and evaluation of performance in a measurable, transparent, and accountable manner,
- Harness the power of innovation to continue to deliver a modern fisheries service.

INTRODUCTION

The Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme commenced for both commercial and recreational salmon fishing licence holders on 1st January 2001, having been provided for in the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1999 (No. 35 of 1999). This was followed by the introduction of Total Allowable Catches (TAC) for the commercial salmon fishing sector and bag limits for recreational anglers in 2002. The Report of the Standing Scientific Committee of the National Salmon Commission was presented to the Minister for the 2006 season outlining the scientific catch advice for the forthcoming season and the requirements to meet international obligations. Since 2007, following consultation with Inland Fisheries Ireland and the Standing Scientific Committee which has been replaced since 2018 season with the Technical Expert Group on Salmon (TEGOS), the Minister sets the total allowable harvest on an annual basis for each of the rivers which exceed the Conservation Limit, including those rivers open to 'catch and release' angling. From 2010 onwards the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme for both commercial and recreational salmon fishing licence holders is provided for in Section 69 of the Inland Fisheries Act, 2010 (no. 10 of 2010)

The principal aims of the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme are to provide a means of collecting accurate nominal catch statistics and estimates of salmon and sea trout stock exploitation, to develop best management strategies and to ensure these species are exploited in a manner consistent with their long-term sustainability on a national, river basin, fishery district and river basis.

Under the regulations all fishermen must affix a coded tag to each salmon (or sea trout over 40 cm) they catch and retain. A logbook entry must then be made giving details of each fish caught. All logbooks and unused tags must be returned to River Basin Districts within a period of 7 days after the last day of the relevant fishing season, or after the licence has been in force, as set out in the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme Regulations (The relevant Statutory Instrument (S.I.) in place for the 2023 angling and commercial fishing season was S.I. No. 585 of 2018 amended by S.I. no. 685 of 2022. 2023 saw the continuation of a system of brown gill tags for angling to be used in association with blue gill tags for the tagging of wild salmon and sea trout in certain listed rivers which had a low surplus for harvesting.

The data contained in this report is taken from salmon licence and logbook data supplied by commercial and recreational fishermen. This data is entered by Inland Fisheries Staff into a national database and following this the validation, collation and analysis of the data is performed before the final statistics report is produced.

For 2023, there was an annual bag limit of 10 fish per angler of salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm). Subject to the annual bag limits an angler could take: 1 salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per day until May 11th, with a maximum of three fish in total for this period; 3 salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per day from 12th May until the end of August; 1 salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per day from the 1st September to the end of the season on rivers open with harvest surplus. After the daily bag limit was taken, anglers were permitted to fish catch and release, using single barbless hooks with a ban on the use of worms.

On certain 'closed' and 'catch and release' rivers there were additional measures in place to afford additional protection to salmon stocks by prohibiting the use of any fish hooks, other than single barbless hooks as well as a prohibition on the use of worms as bait in angling for all species of fish.

Chapter 1

Summary Commercial & Angling Catch Statistics 2001-2023



Table 1 - Total Salmon Harvest 2001 – 2023

Year	Drift Net	Draft Net	Other Engine	Salmon Angling Harvest	Total Salmon Harvest by all methods	% change on previous year	Total Allowable Catch (TAC)**	Weight in tonnes (based on 2.7Kg avg weight per fish)
2001	197,172	30,861	5,368	26,074	259,475			700,583Kg
2002	179,177	23,032	4,690	29,408	236,307	– 8.9%		638,029Kg
2003	141,222	21,100	4,552	20,888	187,762	– 20.5%		506,957Kg
2004	120,303	19,443	3,860	26,202	169,808	– 9.6%		458,482Kg
2005	101,231	16,735	3,214	22,361	143,541	– 15.5%		387,561Kg
2006	70,105	13,398	2,673	22,485	108,661	– 24.3%		293,385Kg
End to mix stock salmon fishing at sea and a move to single stock management of salmon*								
2007	N/A	8,843	N/A	19,430	28,273	– 73.98%	68,744	76,337Kg
2008	N/A	8,903	N/A	22,215	31,118	10.06%	86,217	84,019Kg
2009	N/A	6,178	579	17,521	24,278	-21.98%	78,792	65,551Kg
2010	N/A	12,261	1,898	22,336	36,495	50.32%	85,251	98,537Kg
2011	N/A	9,200	2,773	20,306	32,279	-11.55%	91,453	87,153Kg
2012	N/A	8,044	2,275	22,287	32,606	1%	89,933	88,036Kg
2013	N/A	9,603	4,522	18,178	32,303	-0.93%	83,819	87,218Kg
2014	N/A	7,237	2,333	11,313	20,883	-35.35%	79,502	56,384Kg
2015	N/A	6,981	710	15,724	23,415	12.12%	66,920	63,221Kg
2016	N/A	6,553	364	14,587	21,504	-8.16%	58,599	58,061Kg
2017	N/A	6,162	521	15,159	21,842	+1.55%	53,754	58,973Kg
2018	N/A	4,859	696	11,413	16,968	-22.31%	57,284	45,813Kg
2019	N/A	4,728	995	10,481	16,204	-4.50%	51,916	43,751Kg
2020	N/A	5,415	764	10,562	16,741	+3.31%	47,046	45,200Kg
2021	N/A	5,412	1,068	11,900	18,380	+9.79%	46,324	49,626Kg
2022	N/A	3,196	858	10,348	14,402	-21.65%	41,066	38,885Kg
2023	N/A	3,055	981	7,562	11,598	-19.47%	45,482	31,314Kg

Table 1 shows the summary statistics for salmon harvest for all engines including rod and line for 2001 – 2023. Angling figures shown represent the raised salmon harvest (Angling salmon caught and released not included). Also presented is the percentage change on previous years and the total weights in Kgs. Due to rounding differences in raising the angling catch, some totals may vary slightly. For 2007, the total harvest of salmon by all engines was 28,273. By 2023, this had fallen to 11,598. This represents a decrease of c. 59% between 2007 and 2023.

* In 2006 Irish authorities commit to aligning with the scientific advice and an end to mixed stock salmon fishing at sea. From 2007 onwards, the scientific advice is provided in the context of single stock management of salmon where harvest of salmon is only allowed in rivers where there is a surplus above the conservation limit.

* * The Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is the sum of the TAC's for each river as set out in the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme Regulations.

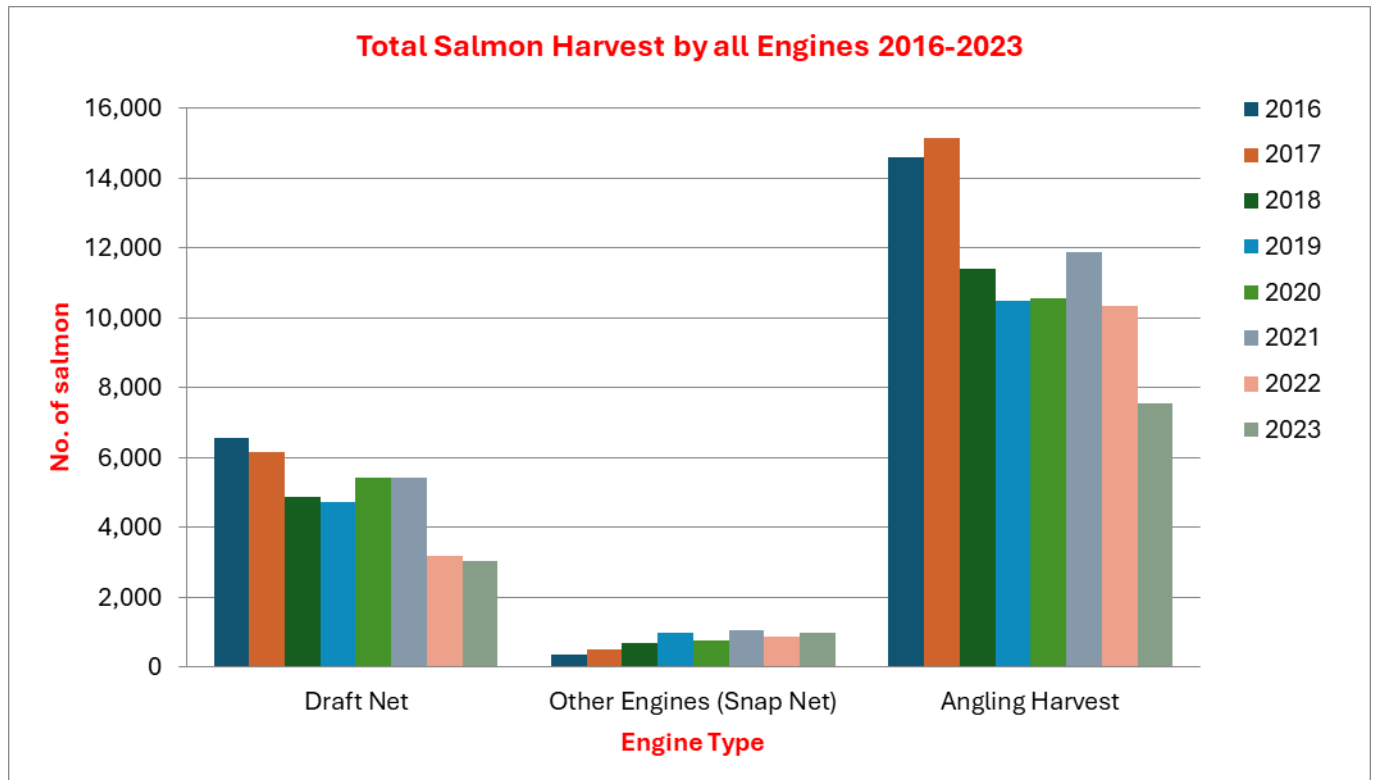


Fig. 1 - Total salmon harvest by all engines 2016-2023

For 2023, anglers caught 81% of salmon (including caught and released), commercial fishermen accounted for 19% (Table 10). 17.2% of the 2023 total salmon catch (commercial and angling (including those caught and released)) was taken on the River Moy, 14.4% on the River Blackwater (Munster), 8.2% on the River Laune, 5.8% on the Lower Lee and 4.1% on the Corrib. These 5 rivers account for 49.7% of the entire salmon catch in 2023.

Table 2 - Total Sea Trout (over 40 cm) Catch 2001 – 2023

Year	Drift Net	Draft Net	Other Engine	Sea Trout Angling Harvest	Total Sea Trout Harvest	% change on previous year
2001	1,787	2,192	246	1,066	5,291	
2002	874	1,083	126	1,464	3,547	– 33%
2003	712	1,024	203	997	2,936	– 17%
2004	640	929	78	519	2,166	– 26%
2005	279	535	50	770	1,634	– 25%
2006	116	311	47	543	1,017	– 38%
End to mix stock fishing at sea and a move to single stock management						
2007	N/A	34	N/A	331	365	– 64%
2008	N/A	59	N/A	448	507	+ 38.90%
2009	N/A	35	10	455	500	-1.4%
2010	N/A	61	6	387	454	-9.2%
2011	N/A	48	13	362	423	-6.83%
2012	N/A	28	6	382	416	-1.65%
2013	N/A	42	23	290	355	-14.66%
2014	N/A	30	11	306	347	-2.25%
2015	N/A	41	6	390	437	+25.9%
2016	N/A	63	0	264	327	-25.2%
2017	N/A	22	2	198	222	-32.11%
2018	N/A	59	5	184	248	+11.71%
2019	N/A	34	11	186	231	-6.67%
2020	N/A	38	15	130	183	-20.78%
2021	N/A	49	8	162	219	+19.78%
2022	N/A	61	2	208	271	+23.75%
2023	N/A	53	1	245	299	+10.42%

Table 2 shows the summary statistics for sea trout harvest (over 40cm) for all engines including rod and line for 2001 – 2023. Angling figures shown represent the raised sea trout harvest. (Angling sea trout caught and released not included). Also presented is the percentage change on previous years. The total sea trout harvest for all sectors in 2007 was 365 sea trout (over 40 cm). By 2023, this had fallen to 299 sea trout. This represents a decrease of 18% between 2007 and 2023.

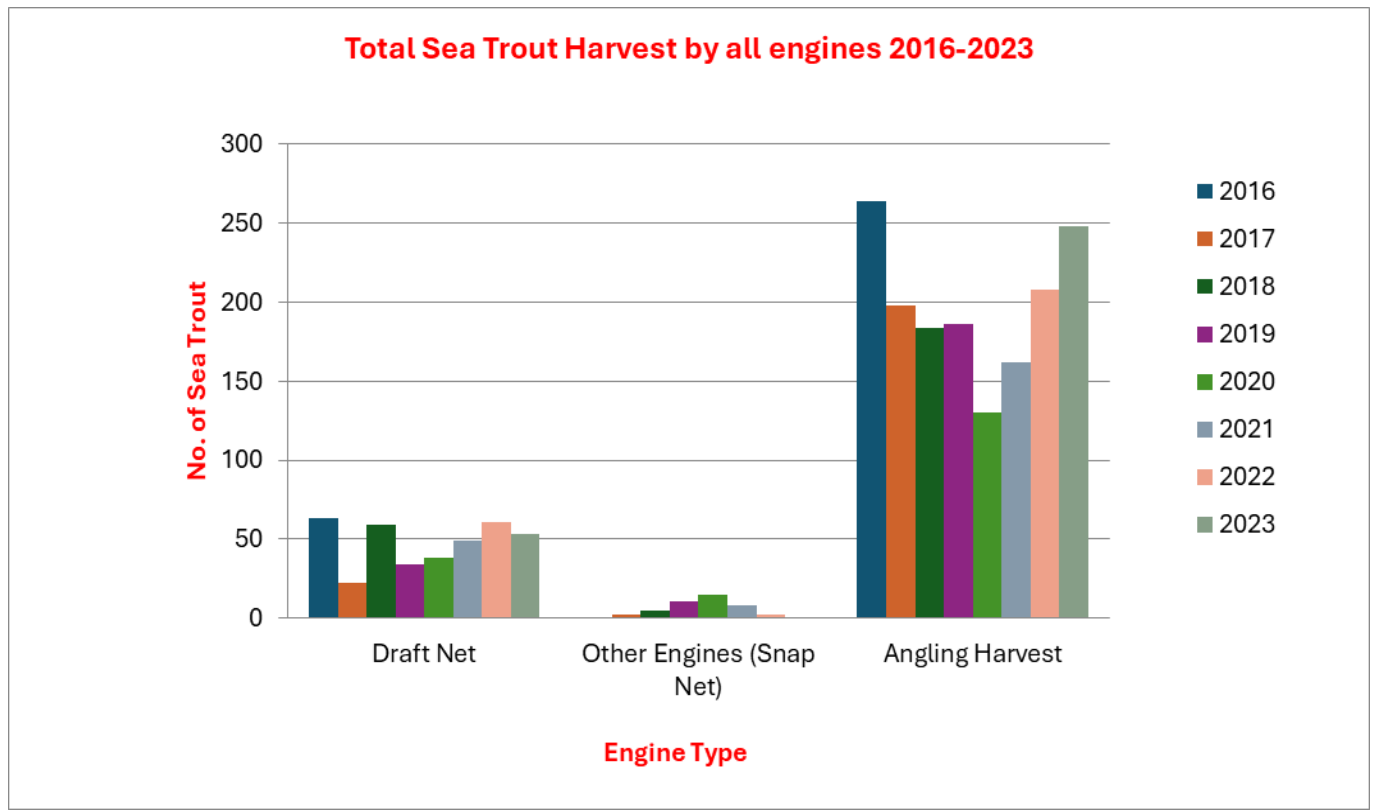


Fig. 2 - Total sea trout (over 40cm) harvest by all engines 2016-2023.

For 2023, anglers caught 97% of total sea trout catch (including caught and released), commercial fishermen accounted for 3% (Table 11). 8.8% of the 2023 total sea trout catch was taken on the River Moy (Ballina) and 8% on Slaney (Wexford).

Chapter 2

Summary Commercial Catch Statistics 2001-2023



Table 3 - Commercial Salmon and Sea Trout (over 40 cm) Catch 2001 – 2023

Year	TAC	Total Reported Harvest	% of TAC
2001	-	237,626	
2002	219,649	208,982	95.14%
2003	182,000	168,819	92.76%
2004	161,951	145,253	89.69%
2005	139,900	122,044	87.24%
2006	91,367	86,650	94.84%
End to mix stock salmon fishing at sea and a move to single stock management of salmon			
2007	17,305	8,877	51.30%
2008	17,314	8,962	51.76%
2009	18,211	6,802	37.35%
2010	18,530	14,226	76.77%
2011	17,399	12,034	69.16%
2012	18,376	10,353	56.34%
2013	18,276	14,190	77.64%
2014	14,834	9,611	64.79%
2015	12,348	7,738	62.67%
2016	11,131	6,980	62.71%
2017	9,256	6,707	72.5%
2018	8,887	5,619	63.2%
2019	7,897	5,768	73%
2020	8,526	6,232	73%
2021	7,037	6,537	93%
2022	6,535	4,117	63%
2023	6,574	4,090	62%

Table 3 shows the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of salmon and sea trout (over 40 cm) provided for in the commercial sector in 2023 was 6,574. The total commercial combined salmon and sea trout harvest of 4,090 represents 62% of TAC (Table 14).

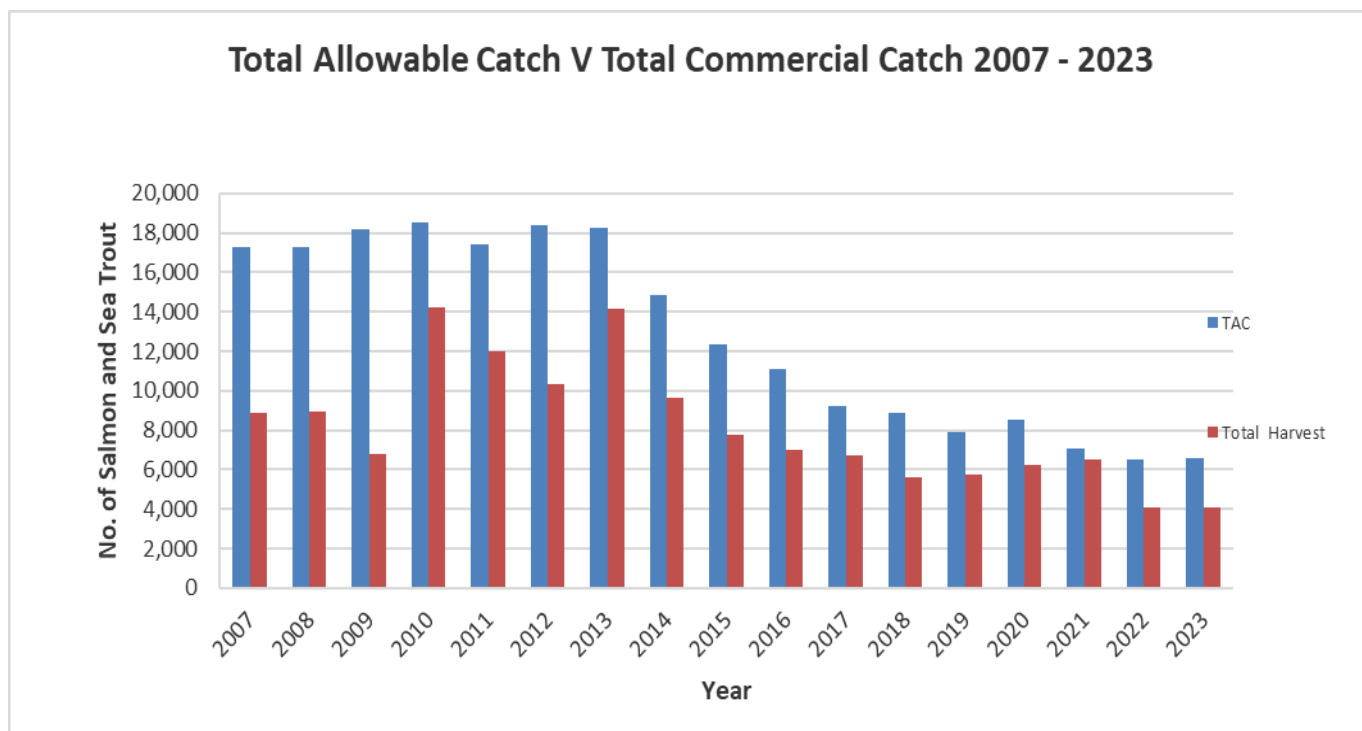


Fig. 3 - Total Allowable Catch (TAC) V Total Commercial Catch 2007 – 2023.

In 2023, the TAC was allocated on an individual river basis and no distinction was made between commercial and angling fisheries. The district fisheries committee in each River Basin allocated the identified surplus for each river between the commercial and angling fishery as appropriate. The figure of 6,574 above for 2023 is the TAC for commercial fishery only and is the sum of the individual river quotas allocated by each district fishery committee. Some fisheries had no commercial element in which case the full TAC was allocated to angling.

Commercial Salmon Catch 2023

In the 2023 commercial salmon harvest, 75.7% of salmon were taken by draft nets and 24.3% by snap nets (Table 12). The total commercial salmon harvest in 2023 was 4,036.

The biggest landings of salmon in 2023 for the commercial sector are presented in the following table (Table 4):

Table 4 – Top 4 Commercial Fisheries in 2023

Fishery District	River Name	No. of Salmon Harvested	% of National Commercial Harvest
Lismore	Blackwater Munster	1,131	28%
Kerry	Laune	866	21.5%
Kerry	Castlemaine	642	16%
Cork	Lower Lee	533	13%

Table 4 shows a summary of the top 4 fisheries where salmon were caught and harvest by commercial fishermen in 2023 (refer to Table 12 for a full breakdown).

Commercial Salmon Catch Disposals 2023

The table below shows the 2023 commercial salmon catch disposals:

Table 5 - Commercial Salmon Catch Disposals

Commercial Salmon Catch Disposals 2023	
Disposal Type	Commercial Nets (% total sales)
Licensed Salmon Dealers	63%
Private Sales	20%
Domestic Consumption	12%
Restaurant	4%
Guesthouse/B&B	1%

Table 5 shows the summary of commercial salmon catch disposals 2023. A more detailed analysis can be obtained from Table 16.

Commercial Sea Trout (over 40 cm) Catch 2023

In the 2023 commercial sea trout harvest, 98% of sea trout were taken by draft nets and 2% by snap nets. The total commercial sea trout (over 40 cm) harvest in 2023 was 54. Sea trout catches were highest on the River Owenmore (Kerry) at 67% of the national catch (Table 13).

The proportion of sea trout harvest in the national commercial catch of salmon and sea trout in 2023 was 1.3% compared with 2% in 2001 (Table 14).

Chapter 3

Summary Angling Catch Statistics 2001-2023



Angling Salmon Catch 2001 – 2023

Table 6.0 – Salmon Angling Catch 2001 – 2023

Year	Salmon Angling Harvest	Salmon Angling Caught & Released	% Catch and Release rate	Total Salmon Angling Catch	% change on previous year
2001	26,074	N/a		26,074	
2002	29,408	N/a		29,408	+ 12.8%
2003	20,888	N/a		20,888	– 29.0%
2004	26,202	2,540		28,742	+ 37.6%
2005	22,361	3,032		25,393	– 11.65%
2006	22,485	6,177		28,662	+ 12.87%
End to mix stock salmon fishing at sea and a move to single stock management of salmon					
2007	19,430	15,113	44%	34,543	–20.52%
2008	22,215	13,563	38%	35,778	+3.58%
2009	17,521	11,422	39%	28,943	-19.1%
2010	22,336	15,142	40%	37,478	+29.5%
2011	20,306	12,688	38%	32,994	-11.96%
2012	22,287	11,891	35%	34,178	+3.59%
2013	18,178	10,682	37%	28,860	-15.56%
2014	11,313	6,537	37%	17,851	-38.14%
2015	15,724	9,383	37%	25,107	+40.65%
2016	14,587	10,252	41%	24,838	-1.07%
2017	15,159	12,562	45%	27,722	+11.6%
2018	11,413	8,647	43%	20,060	-27.64%
2019	10,481	9,123	47%	19,604	-2.27%
2020	10,562	11,088	51%	21,650	+10.44%
2021	11,900	12,768	52%	24,668	+13.94%
2022	10,348	12,313	54%	22,661	-8.14%
2023	7,562	9,447	56%	17,009	-24.94%

Table 6 shows the summary statistics for catch by rod and line for 2001 – 2023. Also presented is the percentage change on previous years. The total salmon catch by rod and line in 2023 was 17,009 (see Table 21 for a more detailed analysis). This represents a decrease of 24.94% on the 2022 salmon angling catch of 22,661 salmon.

From 2007 onwards, the scientific advice for salmon is provided in the context of single stock management of salmon where harvest of salmon is only allowed in rivers where there is a surplus above the conservation limit. In 2023, rivers not meeting the conservation limit (CL) were open to catch and release only angling where the CL met or exceeded 50%. Rivers below this 50% threshold or with an average rod catch of less than 10 salmon were closed to angling for salmon (any size) and sea trout (over 40cm) unless catchment wide electro-fishing results (15 or greater) merited the opening of the river on a catch and release only basis.

Table 6.1 – 2 SW / MSW (Spring) Salmon Angling Catch 2007 – 2023

Year	2 SW/MSW (Spring) Salmon Angling Harvest	2 SW/MSW (Spring) Salmon Angling Caught & Released	Total 2 SW/MSW (Spring) Salmon Angling Catch	% change on previous year
2007	1,900	1,498	3,398	N/A
2008	2,443	1,492	3,935	+16%
2009	3,065	1,610	4,675	+19%
2010	2,260	1,255	3,515	-25%
2011	3,232	1,657	4,889	+39%
2012	2,736	1,463	4,199	-14%
2013	2,970	1,861	4,831	+15%
2014	2,633	1,430	4,063	-16%
2015	2,699	1,573	4,272	+5%
2016	2,393	1,391	3,784	-11%
2017	2,196	1,586	3,782	0%
2018	2,382	1,463	3,845	+1.64%
2019	1,857	1,320	3,177	-17.37%
2020	637	723	1,361	-57.16
2021	1,410	1,965	3,375	+148%
2022	1,892	2,320	4,212	+24.8%
2023	1,317	1,314	2,631	-37.53%

Table 6.2 – 1SW (Grilse) Salmon Angling Catch 2007 – 2023

Year	1 SW (Grilse) Salmon Angling Harvest	1 SW (Grilse) Salmon Angling Caught & Released	Total 1SW (Grilse) Salmon Angling Catch	% change on previous year
2007	17,530	13,615	31,145	N/A
2008	19,772	12,071	31,843	+2%
2009	14,456	9,812	24,268	-24%
2010	20,076	13,890	33,966	+40%
2011	17,074	11,031	28,105	-17%
2012	19,551	10,429	29,980	+7%
2013	15,208	8,821	24,029	-20%
2014	8,680	5,107	13,787	-43%
2015	13,025	7,810	20,835	51%
2016	12,194	8,861	21,055	+1%
2017	12,963	10,977	23,940	+14%
2018	9,031	7,184	16,215	-32%
2019	8,624	7,803	16,427	+1.31%
2020	9,925	10,365	20,290	+23.5%
2021	10,491	10,803	21,293	+4.94%
2022	8,456	9,993	18,449	-13.36%
2023	6,245	8,134	14,378	-22.06%

Angling Sea Trout (over 40cm) Catch 2001 – 2023

Table 7 – Sea Trout Angling Catch 2001 – 2023

Year	Sea Trout Harvest	Sea Trout Caught & Released	Total Sea Trout Angling Catch	% change on previous year
2001	1,066	N/A	1,066	
2002	1,464	N/A	1,464	+ 37.3%
2003	997	N/A	997	– 31. 9%
2004	519	N/A	519	– 47.9%
2005	770	N/A	770	+ 48.4%
2006	543	N/A	543	– 29.5%
End to mix stock fishing at sea and a move to single stock management				
2007	331	N/A	331	– 39.0%
2008	448	1329	1,777	+ 436.9
2009	455	2,100	2,555	+ 43.78%
2010	387	1,812	2,198	-13.97%
2011	362	2,376	2,738	+24.57%
2012	382	2,406	2,788	+1.83%
2013	290	1,441	1,732	-37.88%
2014	306	1,206	1,512	-12.7%
2015	390	1,403	1,793	+18.6%
2016	264	1,064	1,328	-25.93%
2017	198	1,616	1,814	+36.6%
2018	184	903	1,087	-40%
2019	186	1,142	1,328	+22.17%
2020	130	1,211	1,341	+1%
2022	162	1,376	1,538	+14.7%
2022	208	1,810	2,018	+31.2%
2023	245	1,300	1,545	-23.43%

Table 7 shows the summary statistics for sea trout catch by rod and line for 2001 – 2023. Also presented is the percentage change on previous years. The total sea trout catch in 2023 was 1,545 (see Table 24 for a more detailed analysis). This represents a decrease of 23.43% on the 2022 sea trout angling catch of 2,018.

Angling Licence Sales and Logbook Returns 2001 – 2023

16,743 salmon rod licences were sold in 2023, a decrease of 3.32% on 2022 licence sales (17,318) (Tables 17-20). Anglers returned 8,284 logbooks in 2023, with a national return rate of 49.5%, down from 54.6% on 2022 logbook returns (Table 17).

Table 8 – Salmon and Sea Trout Angling Licence Sales 2001 – 2023

Year	Licence Sales	Logbook Returns	% Return
2001	32,814	14,238	43%
2002	35,024	18,116	52%
2003	31,809	18,088	57%
2004	30,807	17,955	58%
2005	28,738	17,682	62%
2006	27,341	18,554	68%
Move to single stock management of salmon			
2007	19,986	12,962	65%
2008	20,061	13,917	69%
2009	18,314	12,890	70 %
2010	17,983	12,813	71%
2011	19,899	14,414	72%
2012	19,588	14,597	75%
2013	19,109	14,035	73.5%
2014	18,085	12,880	71%
2015	18,460	13,010	70.5%
2016	18,303	12,562	68.6%
2017	18,212	9,923	54.5%
2018	16,755	9,557	57%
2019	17,281	9,979	57.7%
2020	14,138	7,969	56.4%
2021	15,547	8,462	54.43%
2022	17,318	9,450	54.6%
2023	16,743	8,284	49.5%

Table 8 shows the summary statistics for the total number of rod licence sales from 2001 – 2023 and the number and percentage of logbook returns by salmon anglers.

Salmon Angling Catch 2023

Over one fifth of all salmon angling catch nationally (21%) were caught by rod and line on the River Moy System, which had an angling catch of 3,618 salmon (Table 21). Salmon were caught on 87 fisheries in 2023. The top four salmon producing fisheries made up 42.7% (7,263) of the national salmon catch by rod and line in 2023 (Rivers Moy, Blackwater (Munster), Corrib and Laune).

Sea Trout (over 40cm) Angling Catch 2023

9.1% of all sea trout nationally were caught by rod and line on the Moy (Table 24) with an angling catch of 141 sea trout. Sea Trout were caught on 82 fisheries in 2023. The top three sea trout producing water systems made up 24.3% (375) of the national sea trout catch by rod and line in 2023 (Moy (Ballina), Slaney (Wexford) and Waterville/Cummeragh/Currane (Kerry)).

Catch per Angler

An analysis of the distribution of salmon catch indicates that 2,295 anglers harvested salmon in 2023 (Table 54), a decrease of 24% on 2022 (3019). 1,472 anglers caught and released salmon in 2023 (Table 53) a decrease of 15% on 2022 (1,732). These figures are based only on those anglers who returned logbooks.

Of the 2,295 anglers who harvested salmon, 81.2% (1,863 anglers) harvested no more than 3 salmon, a further 12.5% (288 anglers) harvested between 4-6 salmon and 6.3% (144 anglers) harvest between 7 and 10 salmon.

Catch and Release Estimates

Based on logbook returns, catch and release estimates were compiled for 2023. A total of 9,447 salmon were caught and released across all fishery districts and 7,562 salmon were harvest by anglers. The total catch of both harvested and caught and released salmon by rod and line was 17,009 giving a national catch and release rate of 56% (Table 21).

10% of all salmon caught and released, were released on the Blackwater (Munster (Table 21) which had a catch and release of 946 salmon. The Moy accounted for 9.96% of all salmon caught and released (941 salmon) and the Lower Lee accounted for 6.77% of all salmon caught and released (639 salmon). The top three rivers where salmon were caught and released made up over a quarter (26.73%) of the national catch and release by rod and line in 2023 (Rivers Blackwater (Munster), Moy and Lower Lee).

Angling Catch of Spring Salmon

An assessment on the number of salmon caught between 1st January 2023 and 31st May 2023 was made to estimate the number of spring (or multi-sea winter) salmon being taken by rod and line (Table 22). The catch indicates that a total of 2,631 spring salmon (2 Sea-Winter and Multi-Sea Winter Salmon) were caught in 2023 (4,212 in 2022), of which 1,314 were released and 1,317 harvested. The figure of 2,631 spring salmon catch represents 15.47% of the total salmon angling catch (17,009). A total of 575 spring fish were caught on the River Moy (Ballina), 262 spring fish on the River Laune and 260 spring fish for the River Blackwater (Lismore) in 2023.

Angler Nationality

Anglers from 41 different countries held salmon and sea trout angling licences in 2023. 66.5% of anglers were from Ireland, 11% from Northern Ireland, 6.5% from Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales), 4% from United States, 3.6% from France, and 2.1% from Germany (Tables 19-20).

Table 9 – Summary Angler Nationality 2015 – 2023

No.	Nationality	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	% change on previous year
1	Ireland	11,447	11,310	11,221	10,167	10,563	11,781	12,733	11,514	11,137	-3.27%
2	Great Britain	1,705	1,698	1,663	1,601	1,725	371	571	1,139	1,084	-4.83%
3	Northern Ireland	2,213	2,038	1,924	1,824	1,865	1,720	1,577	1,900	1,844	-2.95%
4	France	931	889	954	809	843	71	250	676	606	-10.36%
5	Germany	589	572	578	560	517	77	126	394	361	-8.38%
6	USA	508	564	765	673	737	13	52	650	677	4.15%

Table 9 shows a comparison of the top 6 angler nationalities who bought salmon angling licences from 2015 to 2023.

Angling Catch by Month and Capture Method

Following are the reported Salmon Angling Catch by Month and by Capture Method for all Salmon Angling Rivers in 2023 (includes salmon caught and released).

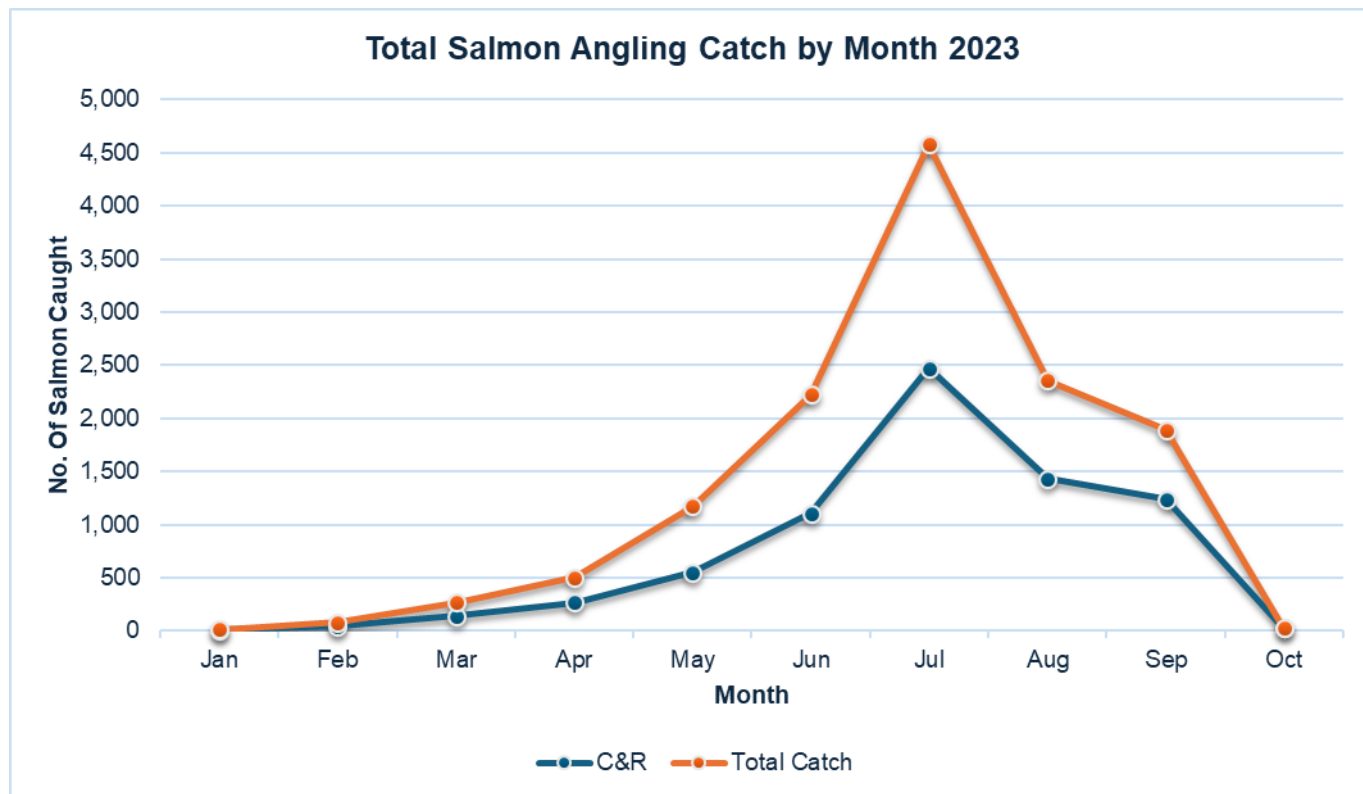


Fig. 4 - Reported salmon angling catch by month for all rivers in 2023

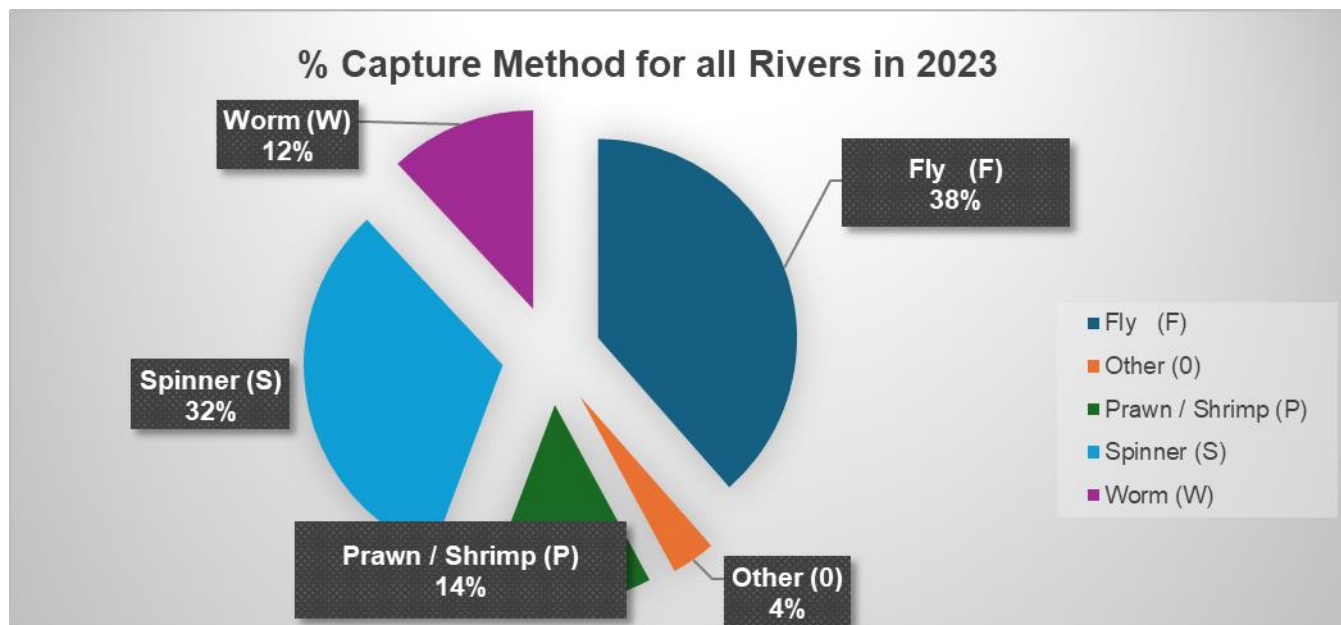


Fig. 5 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method for all rivers in 2023

The salmon angling catch by month and capture method for individual salmon producing river systems in 2023 are presented in Fig.9–33.

Chapter 4

Commercial & Angling Catch Tables 2023



Table 10 - Commercial and Angling Salmon Catch 2023 determined from Logbook Returns

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Commercial Catch	Raised Salmon C&R by Rod & Line	Raised Salmon Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Raised Salmon Catch by Rod & Line	Total Harvest by all methods	Total Salmon Catch by all methods	Total Allowable Harvest 2023
Cloonaghmore (Palmerstown)	104	Ballina		4		4		4	
Moy	110	Ballina		941	2,677	3,618	2,677	3,618	12,159
Easkey	114	Ballina		107	103	210	103	210	188
Owenwee (Belclare)	126	Ballinakill		12		12		12	
Bunowen	127	Ballinakill		47	13	60	13	60	215
Carrownisky	128	Ballinakill		13	4	17	4	17	52
Bundorragha (Delphi)	130	Ballinakill		32	90	121	90	121	207
Erriff	131	Ballinakill		144	66	210	66	210	461
Culfin	132	Ballinakill			4	4	4	4	270
Dawros	133	Ballinakill		40	16	56	16	56	742
Owenglin (Clifden)	135	Ballinakill	9	27	1	28	10	37	93
Ballinaboy	302	Ballinakill		5		5		5	
Common Estuary	Killary	Ballinakill	237				237	237	568
Glen	52	Ballyshannon		93		93		93	
Bungosteen	54	Ballyshannon		12		12		12	
Oily	55	Ballyshannon		1		1		1	
Eany	57	Ballyshannon		73		73		73	
Eske	58	Ballyshannon		41		41		41	
Owenwee (Yellow)	61	Ballyshannon		26	5	32	5	32	95
Duff	120	Ballyshannon		62		62		62	
Drowes	121	Ballyshannon		251	267	518	267	518	2,286
Glenamoy	100	Bangor		61		61		61	
Owenmore	105	Bangor	162	238	17	255	179	417	434
Owenduff	106	Bangor	109	120	84	204	193	313	560
Newport (L.Beltra)	108	Bangor	7	40	19	58	26	65	272
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor		43	56	98	56	98	485
Tullaghan Bay (Common Estuary Owenmore - ferry)	271	Bangor	57	25	3	28	60	85	445
Ballynahinch	136	Connemara		20	1	21	1	21	64
Cashla/Costello	138	Connemara		10	2	12	2	12	159
Glashaboy	193	Cork		9		9		9	
Glengarriff	219	Cork		1	6	7	6	7	182
Coomhola	225	Cork		24	37	60	37	60	112
Owvane	226	Cork		31	15	46	15	46	208
Mealagh	227	Cork		9	14	24	14	24	164

table 10 cont'd

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Commer cial Catch	Raised Salmon C&R by Rod & Line	Raised Salmon Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Raised Salmon Catch by Rod & Line	Total Harvest by all methods	Total Salmon Catch by all methods	Total Allowable Harvest 2023
Lower Lee	228	Cork	533	639	53	692	586	1,225	759
Bandon	229	Cork		278	240	518	240	518	842
Owenboy	230	Cork		6		6		6	
Argideen	232	Cork		31		31		31	
Ilen	233	Cork		70	125	195	125	195	595
Boyne	159	Drogheda		237		237		237	
Unknown	255	Dublin		6		6		6	
Fane	94	Dundalk		112	6	117	6	117	102
Glyde	95	Dundalk		46		46		46	
Dee	96	Dundalk		29		29		29	
Owenriff	140	Galway		4	2	6	2	6	
Corrib	143	Galway		120	751	871	751	871	3,331
Annagh (Kinvarra)	146	Galway		1		1		1	
Unknown	262	Galway		5	2	7	2	7	
Maine	197	Kerry		31	116	147	116	147	424
Owenmore	203	Kerry	128	11	5	15	133	143	210
Laune	207	Kerry	866	247	619	866	1,485	1,732	4,473
Caragh	208	Kerry		82	85	167	85	167	1,043
Ferta	210	Kerry		41	20	61	20	61	63
Inny (Knockmoyle)	212	Kerry		97		97		97	
Waterville\Cummeragh\ Currane	213	Kerry		134	131	265	131	265	320
Sneem	214	Kerry		22	40	63	40	63	664
Blackwater	215	Kerry		121		121		121	
Roughty	217	Kerry	25	85	191	276	216	301	306
Sheen	218	Kerry		54	54	109	54	109	421
Croanshagh	222	Kerry		7	8	15	8	15	147
Castlemaine Harbour	Harbour	Kerry	642				642	642	4,697
Ray	3	Letterkenny		27		27		27	
Loughinn	7	Letterkenny		1	1	3	1	3	
Crana	9	Letterkenny		30	22	52	22	52	221
Gweedore (Crolly)	22	Letterkenny		14	11	25	11	25	313
Clady	23	Letterkenny		18	11	29	11	29	80
Tullaghobegly	24	Letterkenny		12	7	19	7	19	74
Lackagh	27	Letterkenny		32		32		32	
Leannan	31	Letterkenny		67		67		67	
Gweebarra	48	Letterkenny	15	73	48	121	63	136	157
Owenea/Owentocker	50	Letterkenny	115	256	58	314	173	429	283
Ballyness Bay	240	Letterkenny			1	1	1	1	
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny		1	1	3	1	3	

table 10 cont'd

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Commercial Catch	Raised Salmon C&R by Rod & Line	Raised Salmon Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Raised Salmon Catch by Rod & Line	Total Harvest by all methods	Total Salmon Catch by all methods	Total Allowable Harvest 2023
Mulkear	153	Limerick		209		209		209	
Doonbeg	154	Limerick		22		22		22	
Lower Shannon	155	Limerick		329		329		329	
Feale	194	Limerick		527		527		527	
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	1,131	946	962	1,908	2,093	3,039	4,448
Bride	191	Lismore		57		57		57	
Ballysadare	116	Sligo		237	414	650	414	650	894
Garvogue	117	Sligo		133		133		133	
Drumcliff (inc Glencar Lake)	119	Sligo		61	73	134	73	134	185
Suir	182	Waterford		607		607		607	
Barrow	183	Waterford		54		54		54	
Nore	184	Waterford		580		580		580	
Avoca	171	Wexford		4		4		4	
Slaney	175	Wexford		71		71		71	
Sow	178	Wexford		1		1		1	
Unknown	999	NWRBD		3	3	3	3	3	
Totals			4,036	9,447	7,562	17,009	11,598	21,045	45,473
			19%	56%	44%	81%			

Table 10 shows summary statistics for salmon catch for all engines including rod and line for 2023. Rod and line figures shown represent salmon catch including caught and released. (There may be marginal differences in totals due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor).

Table 11 - Commercial and Angling Sea Trout Catch 2023 determined from Logbook Returns

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Commercial Sea Trout Catch	Sea Trout Catch & Release by Rod & Line	Sea Trout Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Sea Trout Catch by Rod & Line	Total Sea Trout Catch by all Methods
Cloonalagan	103	Ballina			4	4	4
Moy	110	Ballina		37	104	141	141
Easkey	114	Ballina		6	3	9	9
Unknown	265	Ballina		9	3	11	11
Bunowen (Clew bay)	127	Ballinakill		15		15	15
Carrownisky	128	Ballinakill		5		5	5
Bundorragha (Delphi)	130	Ballinakill		9		9	9
Erriff	131	Ballinakill		2		2	2
Dawros	133	Ballinakill		2		2	2
Ballinaboy	302	Ballinakill		5		5	5
Glen	52	Ballyshannon		22		22	22
Eany	57	Ballyshannon		7		7	7
Eske*	58	Ballyshannon		25	1	26	26
Owenwee (Yellow)	61	Ballyshannon		3		3	3
Drowes	121	Ballyshannon		1		1	1
Erne*	123	Ballyshannon		52	1	54	54
Unknown	268	Ballyshannon		1	7	8	8
Glenamoy	100	Bangor		3		3	3
Owenmore	105	Bangor		24	7	31	31
Owenduff	106	Bangor		57	4	61	61
Newport (L. Beltra)	108	Bangor		41		41	41
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor		21	1	23	23
Owenmore (Ferry)	271	Bangor		10		10	10
Bunnahowna	307	Bangor		9		9	9
Ballynahinch (Inagh)	136	Connemara		28		28	28
Owengowla	137	Connemara		2		2	2
Cashla	138	Connemara		26		26	26
Screebe	239	Connemara		1		1	1
Glashaboy	193	Cork		4		4	4
Glengarriff	219	Cork			1	1	1
Bandon	229	Cork		7	8	15	15
Argideen	232	Cork		20		20	20
Ilen	233	Cork		4	1	5	5
Boyne	159	Drogheda		11		11	11
Dargle*	169	Dublin		2		2	2
Vartry*	170	Dublin		18		18	18

table 11 cont'd

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Commercial Sea Trout Catch	Sea Trout Catch & Release by Rod & Line	Sea Trout Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Sea Trout Catch by Rod & Line	Total Sea Trout Catch by all Methods
Castletown*	92	Dundalk		17		17	17
Fane	94	Dundalk		4		4	4
Dee	96	Dundalk		2		2	2
Maine	197	Kerry		27	4	31	31
Scorid	201	Kerry		1		1	1
Owenmore	203	Kerry	36	19	1	20	56
Stream	206	Kerry		1		1	1
Laune	207	Kerry	10	15	11	26	36
Caragh	208	Kerry		6		6	6
Ferta	210	Kerry		4		4	4
Inny (Knockmoyle)	212	Kerry		5		5	5
Waterville\Cummeragh \Currane	213	Kerry		106		106	106
Sneem	214	Kerry		8	4	12	12
Blackwater	215	Kerry		2		2	2
Roughy	217	Kerry		2	1	4	4
Sheen	218	Kerry		4		4	4
Croanshagh	222	Kerry		5		5	5
Castlemaine Harbour	Harbour	Kerry	5				5
Ray	3	Letterkenny		3	1	4	4
Donagh*	6	Letterkenny		5	1	7	7
Crana	9	Letterkenny		7	1	8	8
Culdaff	12	Letterkenny		0	1	1	1
Clady	23	Letterkenny		1		1	1
Lackagh*	27	Letterkenny		42		42	42
Leannan	31	Letterkenny		18		18	18
Gweebarra	48	Letterkenny		15		15	15
Owenea	50	Letterkenny	2	8		8	10
Dungloe Lake	238	Letterkenny		3		3	3
Ballyness Bay	240	Letterkenny		5	4	10	10
Horn Head	244	Letterkenny		1	1	3	3
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny		4	3	7	7
Inagh*	149	Limerick		1		1	1
Doonbeg	154	Limerick		4		4	4
Lower Shannon	155	Limerick		2		2	2
Feale	194	Limerick		40		40	40

table 11 cont'd

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Commercial Sea Trout Catch	Sea Trout Catch & Release by Rod & Line	Sea Trout Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Sea Trout Catch by Rod & Line	Total Sea Trout Catch by all Methods
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	1	14	6	20	21
Bride	191	Lismore		11		11	11
Ballysadare	116	Sligo		1	30	31	31
Garvogue	117	Sligo		4		4	4
Drumcliff (inc Glencare Lake)	119	Sligo		67	14	81	81
Rosses Point*	250	Sligo		51	3	54	54
Unknown*	267	Sligo		4	4	9	9
Carney*	315	Sligo		0	3	3	3
Barrow	183	Waterford		4		4	4
Nore	184	Waterford		3		3	3
Mahon*	185	Waterford		3		3	3
Avoca*	171	Wexford		27		27	27
Slaney	175	Wexford		128		128	128
Owenavorrhagh*	177	Wexford		68		68	68
Sow	178	Wexford		23		23	23
Unknown	999	SERBD		6		6	6
Unknown	999	NWRBD		7	4	11	11
Totals			54	1,300	245	1,545	1,599

*Sea trout under 40cm

3%

97%

Table 11 shows the summary statistics for sea trout catch for all engines including rod and line for 2023. Rod and line figures shown represent sea trout catch including caught and released. (There may be marginal differences in totals due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor)

Chapter 5

Commercial Catch Tables 2023



Table 12 - Commercial Salmon Harvest 2023 determined from Logbook Returns

Fishery District	Engine Type	River Name	Total Salmon Harvest	Fishery District Salmon Catch	% Catch by River
Lismore	Snap Net	Blackwater (Munster)	981	1,131	24.3%
Lismore	Draft Net	Blackwater (Munster)	150		3.7%
Cork	Draft Net	Lee (Cork)	533	533	13.2%
Kerry	Draft Net	Castlemaine	642	1,661	15.9%
Kerry	Draft Net	Laune	866		21.5%
Kerry	Draft Net	Roughty	25		0.6%
Kerry	Draft Net	Owenmore (Kerry)	128		3.2%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Killary (Common Estuary Erriff and Bundorragha) N1	237	246	5.9%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Clifden	9		0.2%
Bangor	Draft Net	Common Estuary Owenmore (ferry)	37	335	0.9%
Bangor	Draft Net	Owenduff	109		2.7%
Bangor	Draft Net	Glenamoy	0		0.0%
Bangor	Draft Net	Newport (Bangor)	7		0.2%
Bangor	Draft Net	Tullaghan Bay	20		0.5%
Bangor	Draft Net	Owenmore (Mayo)	162		4.0%
Letterkenny	Draft Net	Gweebarra	15	130	0.4%
Letterkenny	Special Local Draft	Owenea	115		2.8%
Total			4,036	4,036	100%

Note 1 - Killary Harbour is made up of the Erriff and Bundorragha (Delphi).

Table 12 shows the commercial salmon harvest 2023 determined from logbook returns and presented by river and commercial harvest (draft & snap nets), including the % harvest by river.

Table 13 - Commercial Sea Trout (over 40cm) Harvest 2023 determined from Logbook Returns

Fishery District	Engine Type	River Name	Total Salmon Harvest	Fishery District Salmon Catch	% Catch by River
Lismore	Snap Net	Blackwater (Munster)	1	1	1.85%
Lismore	Draft Net	Blackwater (Munster)	0		0.0%
Cork	Draft Net	Lee (Cork)	0	0	0.0%
Kerry	Draft Net	Castlemaine	5	51	9.26%
Kerry	Draft Net	Laune	10		18.52%
Kerry	Draft Net	Roughty	0		0.00%
Kerry	Draft Net	Owenmore (Kerry)	36		66.67%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Killary (Common Estuary Erriff and Bundorragha) N1	0	0	0.0%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Ballinakill Bay (Dawros R.)	0		0.0%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Culfin	0		0.0%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Clifden	0		0.0%
Bangor	Draft Net	Common Estuary Owenmore (ferry)	0	0	0.0%
Bangor	Draft Net	Owenduff	0		0.0%
Bangor	Draft Net	Glenamoy	0		0.0%
Bangor	Draft Net	Newport R. (Bangor)	0		0.0%
Bangor	Draft Net	Owenmore (Mayo)	0		0.0%
Letterkenny	Draft Net	Gweebarra	0	2	0.0%
Letterkenny	Draft Net	Owenea	0		0.0%
Letterkenny	Special Local Draft	Owenea	2		3.7%
Totals			54	54	100%

Note 1 - Killary Harbour is made up of the Erriff and Bundorragha (Delphi).

Table 13 shows the commercial sea trout (over 40cm) harvest 2023 determined from logbook returns and presented by river and commercial harvest (draft & snap nets), including the % harvest by river.

Table 14 - Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of Salmon and Sea Trout provided for in the Commercial Sector in 2023

Fishery District	Engine Type	River Name	Total Salmon Harvest	Total Sea Trout Harvest	Total Salmon & Sea Trout Catch	Comm TAC	% of TAC Caught
Lismore	Snap Net	Blackwater (Munster)	981	1	982	1,225	80.2%
Lismore	Draft Net	Blackwater (Munster)	150	0	150		12.2%
Cork	Draft Net	Lee (Cork)	533	0	533	544	98.0%
Kerry	Draft Net	Castlemaine	642	5	647	719	90.0%
Kerry	Draft Net	Laune	866	10	876	2,322	37.7%
Kerry	Draft Net	Roughty	25	0	25	140	17.9%
Kerry	Draft Net	Owenmore (Kerry)	128	36	164	164	100.0%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Killary (Common Estuary Erriff and Bundorragha) N1	237	0	237	284	83.5%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Ballinakill Bay (Dawros R.)	0	0	0	371	0.0%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Culfin	0	0	0	120	0.0%
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Clifden	9	0	9	46	19.6%
Bangor	Draft Net	Common Estuary Owenmore (ferry)	37	0	37	96	38.5%
Bangor	Draft Net	Owenduff	109	0	109	130	83.8%
Bangor	Draft Net	Glenamoy	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Bangor	Draft Net	Newport (Bangor)	7	0	7	55	12.7%
Bangor	Draft Net	Tullaghan Bay	20	0	20		0.0%
Bangor	Draft Net	Owenmore (Mayo)	162	0	162	178	91.0%
Letterkenny	Draft Net	Gweebarra	15	0	15	52	28.8%
Letterkenny	Special Local Draft	Owenea	115	2	117	128	91.4%
Totals			4,036	54	4,090	6,574	62.2%

Note 1 - Killary Harbour is made up of the Erriff and Bundorragha (Delphi).

Table 14 shows the Total allowable catch (TAC) of salmon (all sizes) and sea trout (over 40cm) provided for in the commercial sector in 2023, presented with the reported harvest determined from commercial logbooks (rod caught fish not included). The percentage of TAC achieved per river is also presented.

Table 15 – Commercial Salmon Harvest by Month 2023 determined from Logbook Returns

Fishery District	Engine Type	River Name	Total Salmon Catch	May	June	July
Lismore	Snap Net	Blackwater (Munster)	981	157	317	507
Lismore	Draft Net	Blackwater (Munster)	150	9	29	112
Cork	Draft Net	Lee (Cork)	533	37	125	371
Kerry	Draft Net	Castlemaine	642	26	176	440
Kerry	Draft Net	Laune	866	135	404	327
Kerry	Draft Net	Roughty	25		13	12
Kerry	Draft Net	Owenmore (Kerry)	128	6	47	75
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Killary (note1)	237	33	100	104
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Ballinakill Bay (Dawros R.)	0			
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Culfin	0			
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Clifden	9			9
Bangor	Draft Net	Owenmore (Ferry Estuary)	37	8	18	11
Bangor	Draft Net	Owenduff	109	23	38	48
Bangor	Draft Net	Glenamoy	0			
Bangor	Draft Net	Newport (Bangor)	7		6	1
Bangor	Draft Net	Tullaghan Bay	20	4	7	9
Bangor	Draft Net	Owenmore (Mayo)	162	18	54	90
Letterkenny	Draft Net	Gweebarra	15		10	5
Letterkenny	Special Local Draft	Owenea	115			115
Totals			4,036	456	1,344	2,236

Note 1 - Killary Harbour is made up of the Erriff and Bundorragha.

Table 15 shows the commercial salmon harvest 2023 determined from logbook returns and presented by river and by month.

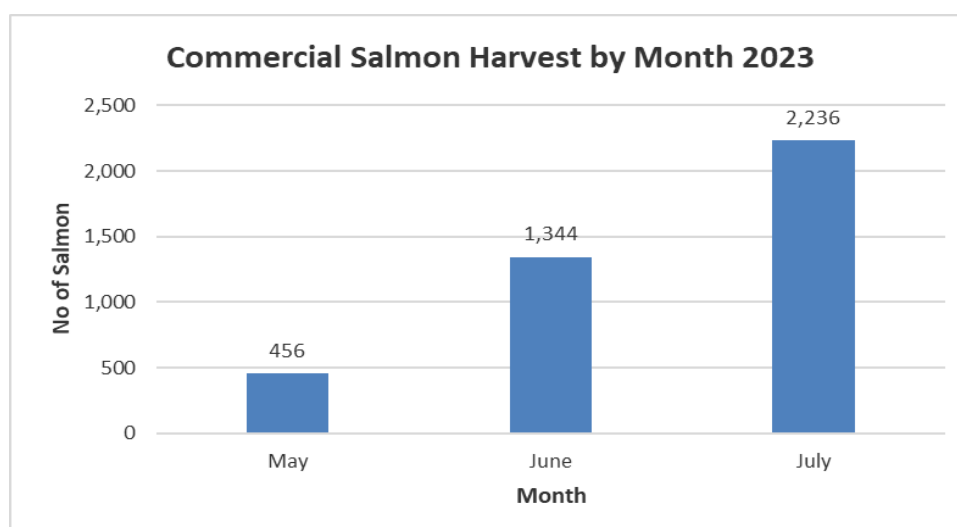


Fig. 6 - Analysis of monthly commercial salmon catch for 2023.

Table 16.1 - Analysis of Distribution of Sales and Disposals of Salmon Harvest for Commercial Fishermen on a District Basis for 2023.

Fishery District	Total Caught	Domestic Consumption	Licensed Salmon Dealer	Private Sale	Restaurant	Other
Ballinakill	246	19	185	33	9	
Bangor	335	54	17	246		18
Cork	533	35	382	77	39	
Kerry	1,661	116	1,183	332	1	29
Letterkenny	130	74		46		10
Lismore	1,131	180	774	63	114	
Total Sales by Category	4,036	478	2,541	797	163	57
% Totals	100%	11.8%	63.0%	19.87%	4.0%	1.4%

Table 16.1 shows an analysis of the distribution of sales and disposals for salmon harvest by commercial fishermen (draft and snap net) by fishery district in 2023

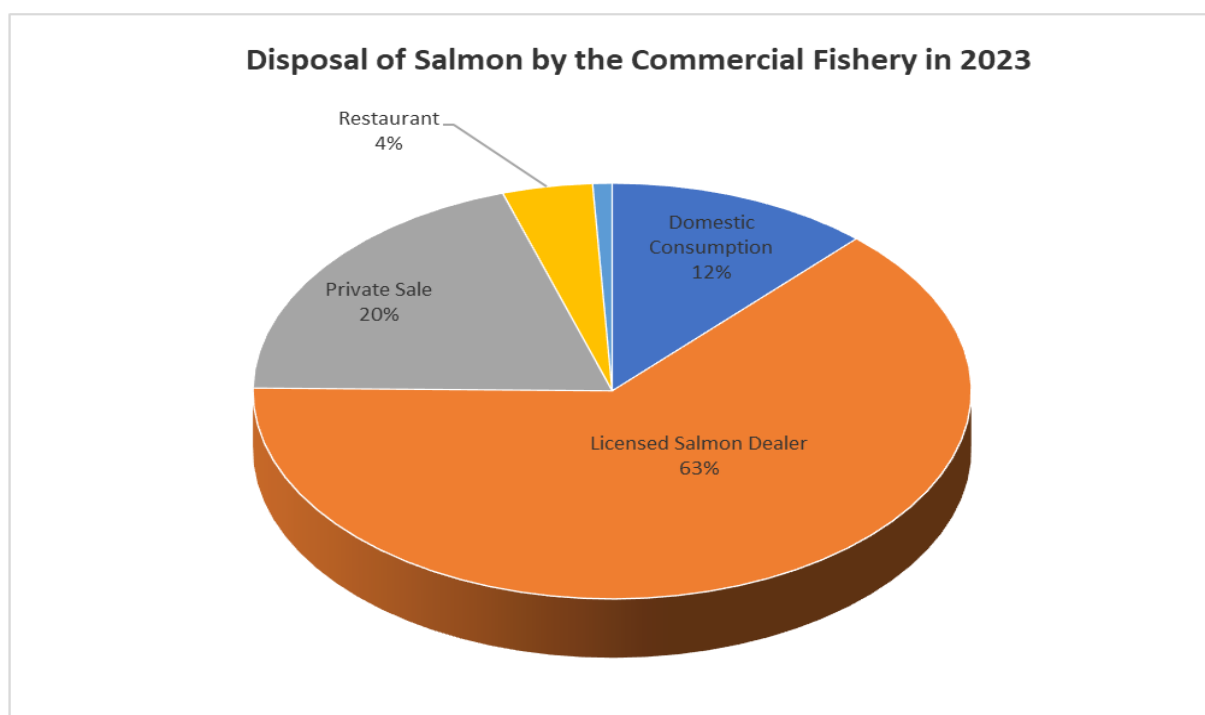


Fig. 7 - Analysis of the distribution of sales of salmon harvest by commercial fishermen in 2023.

Table 16.2 - Analysis of Commercial Salmon Harvest by Commercial Nets on a District basis for 2023

Fishery District	0	1-10	11-20	21-50	51-100	101-250	251-500	Total licence holders
Lismore Draft						1		1
Lismore Snap			2	1	4	4		11
Cork				16				16
Kerry	0	1	1	5	9	2	2	21
Ballinakill		4	1	1	2			8
Bangor		6	12	3				21
Letterkenny		2		4				6
Total licence holders per category	1	13	16	30*	15	7	2	84
% licence holders per category	1.2%	15.5%	19.0%	35.7%	17.9%	8.3%	2.4%	100%
Catch per Band	0	106	273	991	992	1,026	648	4,036
% Catch per Band	0.0%	2.6%	6.8%	24.6%	24.6%	25.4%	16.1%	100%

Table 16.2 shows an analysis of the commercial salmon harvest per band by draft & snap net fishing licence on a district basis in 2023. *E.g. 30 commercial fishermen caught between 21-50 salmon in 2023. These 30 commercial licence holders caught 991 salmon in total between them in 2023. The average catch was 48 salmon per licence holder in 2023.

Chapter 6

Angling Catch Tables 2023

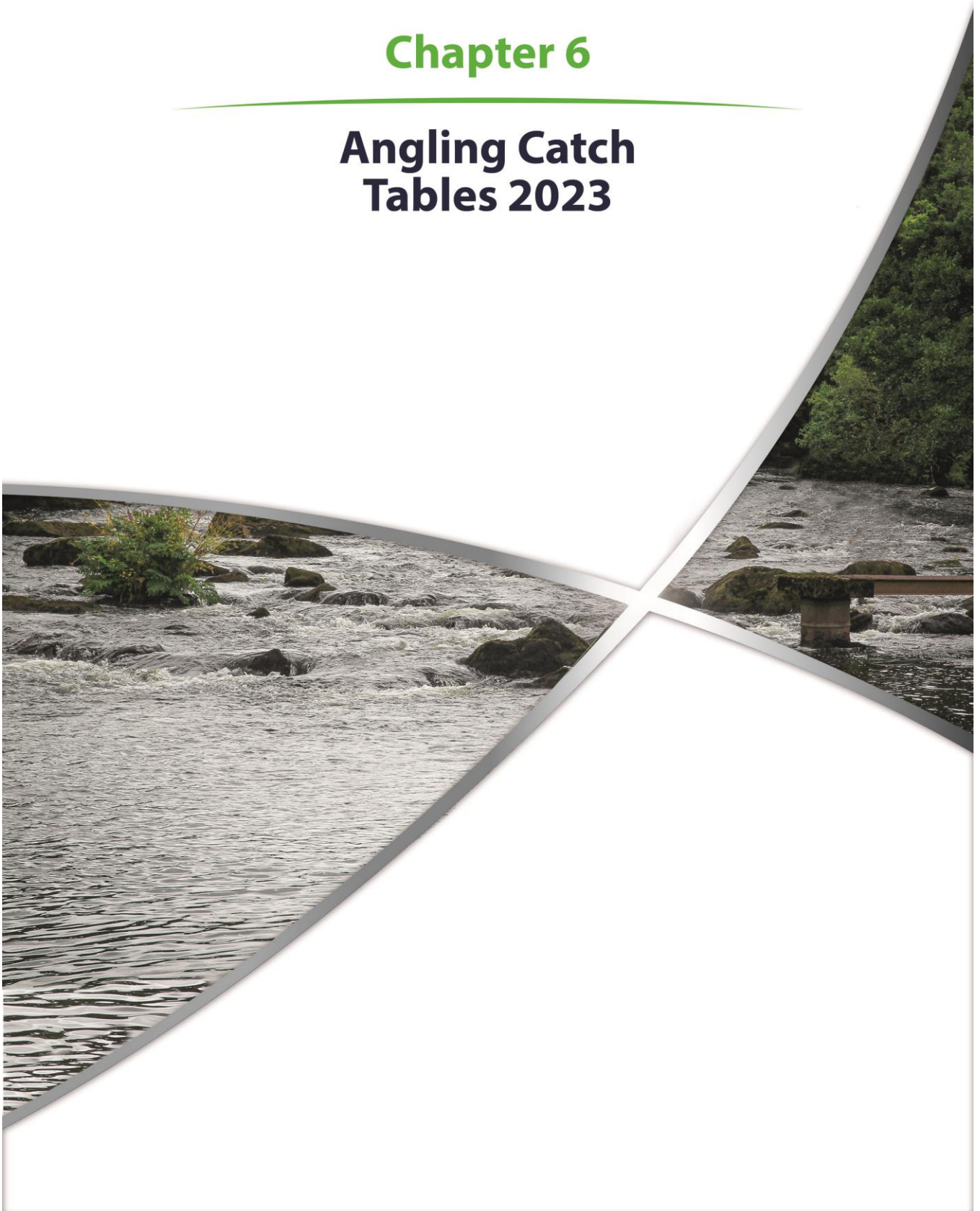


Table 17 – Angling Licence Sales and Logbook Returns by River Basin 2023

River Basin	Angling Licence Sales 2023	Angling Logbook Returns 2023	% Returns 2023	Raising Factor
ERBD	1,258	333	26%	1.833333
SERBD	1225	629	51%	1.284261
SWRBD	3,811	2,374	62%	1.181592
ShRBD	1,120	628	56%	1.235032
WRBD-G	2,403	1,368	57%	1.226974
WRBD-B	4,256	1,758	41%	1.426280
NWRBD	2,670	1,194	45%	1.370854
Totals	16,743	8,284	49.48%	1.306338

Table 17 shows the total number of rod licence sales in 2023 and the number and percentage of logbook returns to each river basin. The wild salmon and sea trout angling catch statistics are generated based on the logbook returns obtained from salmon and sea trout anglers.

Table 18 – Angling Licence Sales by Licence Type and River Basin 2023

River Basin	Total Licence Sales	Salmon A (Annual)	Salmon B (District)	Salmon P (Juvenile)	Salmon R (21 Day)	Salmon S (1 Day)	Salmon W (Area EXT)	Special Local X
Eastern	1,258	711	174	101	210	62		
South Eastern	1,225	596	417	112	73	27		
South Western	3,811	1,230	1,312	382	428	459		
Shannon	1,120	546	245	74	192	63		
Western - G	2,403	547	505	184	423	740	4	
Western - B	4,256	972	1,454	491	1,045	239	55	
North Western	2,670	509	721	187	314	150	338	451
Totals	16,743	5,111	4,828	1,531	2,685	1,740	397	451

Table 18 shows a breakdown of quantity and type of rod licence sales in 2023 by River Basin and Licence type.

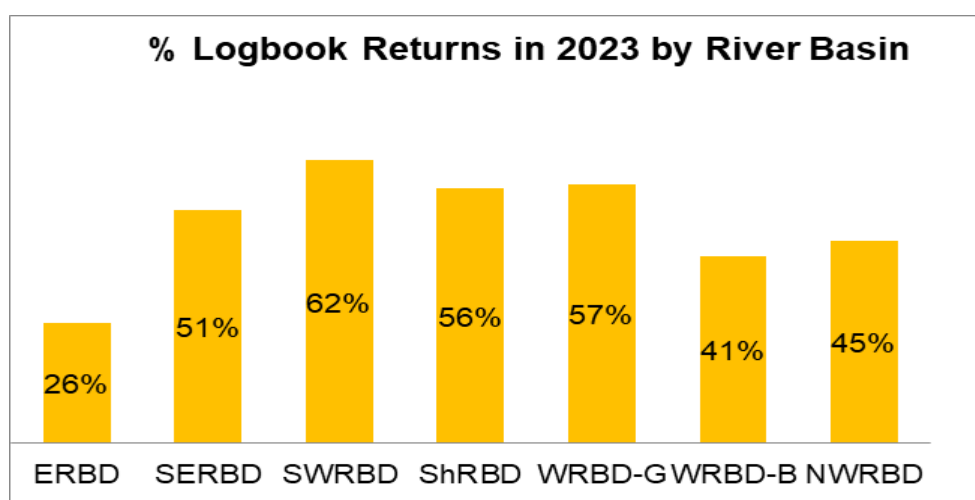


Fig. 8 - Analysis of the breakdown of angler logbook returns by River Basin for 2023.

Table 19 - Angler Nationality 2023 by River Basin

Nationality	Totals	ERBD	SERBD	SWRBD	ShRBD	WRBD-G	WRBD-B	NWRBD
Afghanistan	1					1		
Australia	17			5	2	9	1	
Austria	50		2	7		13	21	7
Belgium	17	1				10	3	3
Bermuda	1					1		
Canada	72		1	7		52	8	4
Colombia	5					5		
Croatia	1							1
Czech Republic	7			2		1		4
Denmark	13			3		5	5	
England	286			7	14	23	209	33
Finland	7			2		5		
France	606	93	23	73	2	62	276	77
Germany	361	4		47	34	46	197	33
Iceland	2			1				1
Iran	1						1	
Ireland	11,137	1,092	1,127	2,963	691	1,268	2,750	1,246
Isle Of Man	4				1		3	
Italy	28		1	6		9	10	2
Jersey	3						3	
Luxembourg	16			2		7	7	
Malta	6			3		3		
Monaco	1					1		
Netherlands	42		3	11		6	13	9
New Zealand	1							1
Northern	1,844			44	210	110	465	1,015
Norway	3			1			1	1
Poland	1					1		
Portugal	3					2	1	
Qatar	1						1	
Romania	2				1		1	
Scotland	46		1	7	3	2	20	13
Singapore	2			1			1	
South Africa	6			2		4		
Spain	73	10	2	12		11	11	27
Swaziland	1						1	
Sweden	10		1	4	1	4		
Switzerland	116		1	14		29	36	36
United Arab	13	1		8		4		
United Kingdom	708	5	9	210	158	157	77	92
United States	677	47	15	154	2	395	53	11
Unknown	508	5	39	211		144	59	50
Wales	44			4	1	13	22	4
Totals	16,743	1,258	1,225	3,811	1,120	2,403	4,256	2,670

Table 19 shows the total number of rod licence sales for 2023 by Angler Nationality and by River Basin (taken from the address supplied at the time of licence purchase).

Table 20 - Angler Nationality 2023 by Licence Type

Nationality	Totals	Salmon A (Annual)	Salmon B (District)	Salmon P (Juvenile)	Salmon R (21 Day)	Salmon S (1 Day)	Salmon W (Area Ext)	Salmon X (Special Local)
Afghanistan	1	1						
Australia	17		1		6	10		
Austria	50		2	1	47			
Belgium	17				11	5		1
Bermuda	1					1		
Canada	72	1		3	8	60		
Colombia	5					5		
Croatia	1							1
Czech Republic	7				5	2		
Denmark	13				13			
England	286	19	20	4	216	22		5
Finland	7				4	3		
France	606	20	56	20	438	60		12
Germany	361	23	27	10	281	16		4
Iceland	2	1	1					
Iran	1		1					
Ireland	11,137	4,419	4,075	1,261	608	488	59	227
Isle Of Man	4	2	1		1			
Italy	28		2	1	19	6		
Jersey	3			1		2		
Luxembourg	16	2			11	3		
Malta	6		1		1	4		
Monaco	1	1						
Netherlands	42		7	2	25	8		
New Zealand	1	1						
Northern Ireland	1,844	455	467	83	224	156	287	172
Norway	3	1				1	1	
Poland	1				1			
Portugal	3	2			1			
Qatar	1				1			
Romania	2		1		1			
Scotland	46	4	6	1	34	1		
Singapore	2				2			
South Africa	6				2	4		
Spain	73	3	4	2	57	3		4
Swaziland	1					1		
Sweden	10				8	2		
Switzerland	116	6	7		80	19		4
United Arab	13			5	2	6		
United Kingdom	708	82	65	23	368	111	50	9
United States	677	5	5	44	112	511		
Unknown	508	60	75	67	70	224	0	12
Wales	44	3	4	3	28	6		
Totals	16,743	5,111	4,828	1,531	2,685	1,740	397	451

Table 20 shows the total number of rod licence sales for 2023 by angler nationality and by licence type.

Table 21 - Number of Salmon Caught by Rod and Line in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Salmon C&R by Rod & Line	Salmon Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Salmon Catch by Rod & Line
Cloonaghmore	104	Ballina	4		4
Moy	110	Ballina	941	2,677	3,618
Easkey	114	Ballina	107	103	210
Owenwee (Belclare)	126	Ballinakill	12		12
Bunowen	127	Ballinakill	47	13	60
Carrownisky	128	Ballinakill	13	4	17
Bundorragha (Delphi)	130	Ballinakill	32	90	121
Erriff	131	Ballinakill	144	66	210
Culfin	132	Ballinakill		4	4
Dawros	133	Ballinakill	40	16	56
Owenglin (Clifden)	135	Ballinakill	27	1	28
Ballinaboy	302	Ballinakill	5		5
Glen	52	Ballyshannon	93		93
Bungosteen	54	Ballyshannon	12		12
Oily	55	Ballyshannon	1		1
Eany	57	Ballyshannon	73		73
Eske	58	Ballyshannon	41		41
Owenwee (Yellow)	61	Ballyshannon	26	5	32
Duff	120	Ballyshannon	62		62
Drowes	121	Ballyshannon	251	267	518
Glenamoy	100	Bangor	61		61
Owenmore	105	Bangor	238	17	255
Owenduff	106	Bangor	120	84	204
Newport (L.Beltra)	108	Bangor	40	19	58
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor	43	56	98
Tullaghan Bay (Common Estuary Owenmore - ferry)	271	Bangor	25	3	28
Ballynahinch	136	Connemara	20	1	21
Cashla/Costello	138	Connemara	10	2	12
Glashaboy	193	Cork	9		9
Glengarriff	219	Cork	1	6	7
Coomhola	225	Cork	24	37	60
Owvane	226	Cork	31	15	46
Mealagh	227	Cork	9	14	24
Lower Lee	228	Cork	639	53	692
Bandon	229	Cork	278	240	518
Owenboy	230	Cork	6		6
Argideen	232	Cork	31		31
Ilen	233	Cork	70	125	195
Boyne	159	Drogheda	237		237
Unknown	255	Dublin	6		6
Fane	94	Dundalk	112	6	117
Glyde	95	Dundalk	46		46
Dee	96	Dundalk	29		29
Owenriff	140	Galway	4	2	6
Corrib	143	Galway	120	751	871

table 21 cont'd

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Salmon C&R by Rod & Line	Salmon Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Salmon Catch by Rod & Line
Annagh (Kinvarra)	146	Galway	1		1
Unknown	262	Galway	5	2	7
Maine	197	Kerry	31	116	147
Owenmore	203	Kerry	11	5	15
Laune	207	Kerry	247	619	866
Caragh	208	Kerry	82	85	167
Ferta	210	Kerry	41	20	61
Inny (Knockmoyle)	212	Kerry	97		97
Waterville\Cummeragh\Currane	213	Kerry	134	131	265
Sneem	214	Kerry	22	40	63
Blackwater	215	Kerry	121		121
Roughty	217	Kerry	85	191	276
Sheen	218	Kerry	54	54	109
Croanshagh	222	Kerry	7	8	15
Ray	3	Letterkenny	27		27
Loughinn	7	Letterkenny	1	1	3
Crana	9	Letterkenny	30	22	52
Gweedore (Crolly)	22	Letterkenny	14	11	25
Clady	23	Letterkenny	18	11	29
Tullaghobegly	24	Letterkenny	12	7	19
Lackagh	27	Letterkenny	32		32
Leannan	31	Letterkenny	67		67
Gweebarra	48	Letterkenny	73	48	121
Owenea/Owentocker	50	Letterkenny	256	58	314
Ballyness Bay	240	Letterkenny		1	1
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny	1	1	3
Mulkear	153	Limerick	209		209
Doonbeg	154	Limerick	22		22
Lower Shannon	155	Limerick	329		329
Feale	194	Limerick	527		527
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	946	962	1,908
Bride	191	Lismore	57		57
Ballysadare	116	Sligo	237	414	650
Garvogue	117	Sligo	133		133
Drumcliff (inc Glencar Lake)	119	Sligo	61	73	134
Suir	182	Waterford	607		607
Barrow	183	Waterford	54		54
Nore	184	Waterford	580		580
Avoca	171	Wexford	4		4
Slaney	175	Wexford	71		71
Sow	178	Wexford	1		1
Unknown	999	NWRBD		3	3
		Totals	9,447	7,562	17,009
			56%	44%	100%

Table 21 shows the salmon harvest, caught and released and the total salmon catch as indicated in the logbooks nationally by rod and line for 2023. (There may be marginal differences in totals due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor).

Table 22 - Angling Catch of 2 Sea-Winter & Multi-Sea Winter (Spring) Salmon in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Salmon C&R by Rod & Line	Salmon Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Salmon Catch by Rod & Line
Moy	110	Ballina	140	435	575
Easkey	114	Ballina	3	3	6
Bundorragha (Delphi)	130	Ballinakill	6	25	31
Erriff	131	Ballinakill	1	2	4
Dawros	133	Ballinakill		2	2
Glen	52	Ballyshannon	3		3
Eske	58	Ballyshannon	1		1
Drowes	121	Ballyshannon	77	85	162
Owenmore	105	Bangor	10	1	11
Owenduff	106	Bangor	11	39	50
Newport (L.Beltra)	108	Bangor	20	17	37
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor	20	44	64
Ballynahinch	136	Connemara	2		2
Lower Lee	228	Cork	112	2	115
Bandon	229	Cork	26	44	70
Argideen	232	Cork	8		8
Ilen	233	Cork	7	18	25
Boyne	159	Drogheda	35		35
Unknown	255	Dublin	6		6
Glyde	95	Dundalk	2		2
Dee	96	Dundalk	4		4
Corrib	143	Galway	16	75	91
Maine	197	Kerry	1	2	4
Owenmore	203	Kerry	1		1
Laune	207	Kerry	61	201	262
Caragh	208	Kerry	14	43	57
Waterville\Cummeragh\Currane	213	Kerry	53	56	109
Blackwater	215	Kerry	4		4
Roughty	217	Kerry	8	6	14
Crana	9	Letterkenny	1	1	3
Clady	23	Letterkenny		1	1
Leannan	31	Letterkenny	21		21
Gweebarra	48	Letterkenny	3		3
Owenea	50	Letterkenny		1	1
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny	1		1
Mulkear	153	Limerick	6		6
Lower Shannon	155	Limerick	74		74
Feale	194	Limerick	114		114
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	106	154	260
Bride	191	Lismore	11		11
Ballysadare	116	Sligo	21	47	68
Garvogue	117	Sligo	29		29
Drumcliff (inc Glencar Lake)	119	Sligo	4	13	17

table 22 cont'd

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Salmon C&R by Rod & Line	Salmon Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Salmon Catch by Rod & Line
Suir	182	Waterford	103		103
Barrow	183	Waterford	23		23
Nore	184	Waterford	96		96
Slaney	175	Wexford	46		46
Sow	178	Wexford	1		1
Totals			1,314	1,317	2,631
			50%	50%	100%

Table 22 shows the Spring Salmon (1st Jan – 31st May) harvest, caught and released and total catch as indicated in the logbooks nationally by rod and line for 2023.

(There may be marginal differences in totals due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor).

Table 23 - Angling Catch of 1 Sea Winter (Grilse) Salmon in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Salmon C&R by Rod & Line	Salmon Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Salmon Catch by Rod & Line
Cloonaghmore (Palmerstown)	104	Ballina	4		4
Moy	110	Ballina	802	2,242	3,044
Easkey	114	Ballina	104	100	204
Owenwee (Belclare)	126	Ballinakill	12		12
Bunowen	127	Ballinakill	47	13	60
Carrownisky	128	Ballinakill	13	4	17
Bundorragha (Delphi)	130	Ballinakill	26	65	91
Erriff	131	Ballinakill	142	64	206
Culfin	132	Ballinakill		4	4
Dawros	133	Ballinakill	40	13	54
Owenglin (Clifden)	135	Ballinakill	27	1	28
Ballinaboy	302	Ballinakill	5		5
Glen	52	Ballyshannon	90		90
Bungosteen	54	Ballyshannon	12		12
Oily	55	Ballyshannon	1		1
Eany	57	Ballyshannon	73		73
Eske	58	Ballyshannon	40		40
Owenwee (Yellow)	61	Ballyshannon	26	5	32
Duff	120	Ballyshannon	62		62
Drowes	121	Ballyshannon	174	182	356
Glenamoy	100	Bangor	61		61
Owenmore	105	Bangor	228	16	244
Owenduff	106	Bangor	108	46	154
Newport (L.Beltra)	108	Bangor	20	1	21
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor	23	11	34
Tullaghan Bay (Common Estuary Owenmore - ferry)	271	Bangor	25	3	28
Ballynahinch	136	Connemara	17	1	18
Cashla/Costello	138	Connemara	10	2	12
Glashaboy	193	Cork	9		9
Glengarriff	219	Cork	1	6	7
Coomhola	225	Cork	24	37	60
Owvane	226	Cork	31	15	46
Mealagh	227	Cork	9	14	24
Lower Lee	228	Cork	527	51	578
Bandon	229	Cork	252	196	448
Owenboy	230	Cork	6		6
Argideen	232	Cork	22		22
Ilen	233	Cork	63	108	170
Boyne	159	Drogheda	202		202
Lower Liffey	168	Dublin	0	0	0
Fane	94	Dundalk	112	6	117
Glyde	95	Dundalk	44		44
Dee	96	Dundalk	26		26

table 23 cont'd

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Salmon C&R by Rod & Line	Salmon Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Salmon Catch by Rod & Line
Owenriff	140	Galway	4	2	6
Corrib	143	Galway	104	676	780
Annagh (Kinvarra)	146	Galway	1		1
Unknown	262	Galway	5	2	7
Maine	197	Kerry	30	113	143
Owenmore	203	Kerry	9	5	14
Laune	207	Kerry	186	418	604
Caragh	208	Kerry	67	43	110
Ferta	210	Kerry	41	20	61
Inny (Knockmoyle)	212	Kerry	97		97
Waterville\Cummeragh\Currane	213	Kerry	80	76	156
Sneem	214	Kerry	22	40	63
Blackwater	215	Kerry	117		117
Roughy	217	Kerry	77	186	262
Sheen	218	Kerry	54	54	109
Croanshagh	222	Kerry	7	8	15
Ray	3	Letterkenny	27		27
Loughinn	7	Letterkenny	1	1	3
Crana	9	Letterkenny	29	21	49
Gweedore (Crolly)	22	Letterkenny	14	11	25
Clady	23	Letterkenny	18	10	27
Tullaghobegly	24	Letterkenny	12	7	19
Lackagh	27	Letterkenny	32		32
Leannan	31	Letterkenny	47		47
Gweebarra	48	Letterkenny	70	48	118
Owenea	50	Letterkenny	256	56	313
Ballyness Bay	240	Letterkenny		1	1
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny		1	1
Mulkear	153	Limerick	203		203
Doonbeg	154	Limerick	22		22
Lower Shannon	155	Limerick	254		254
Feale	194	Limerick	414		414
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	840	808	1,648
Bride	191	Lismore	46		46
Ballysadare	116	Sligo	215	367	582
Garvogue	117	Sligo	104		104
Drumcliff (inc Glencar Lake)	119	Sligo	57	60	117
Suir	182	Waterford	505		505
Barrow	183	Waterford	31		31
Nore	184	Waterford	484		484
Avoca	171	Wexford	4		4
Slaney	175	Wexford	24		24
Unknown	999	NWRBD		3	3
Totals			8,134	6,245	14,378

Table 23 shows the 1 Sea Winter Salmon (Grilse - 1st June – 30th Sept) harvest, caught and released and total catch as indicated in the logbooks nationally by rod and line for 2023.

(There may be marginal differences in totals due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor).

Table 24 - Number of Sea Trout Caught by Rod and Line in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Sea Trout Catch & Release by Rod & Line	Sea Trout Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Sea Trout Catch by Rod & Line
Cloonalagan	103	Ballina		4	4
Moy	110	Ballina	37	104	141
Easkey	114	Ballina	6	3	9
Unknown	265	Ballina	9	3	11
Bunowen (Clew bay)	127	Ballinakill	15		15
Carrownisky	128	Ballinakill	5		5
Bundorragha (Delphi)	130	Ballinakill	9		9
Erriff	131	Ballinakill	2		2
Dawros	133	Ballinakill	2		2
Ballinaboy	302	Ballinakill	5		5
Glen	52	Ballyshannon	22		22
Eany	57	Ballyshannon	7		7
Eske*	58	Ballyshannon	25	1	26
Owenwee (Yellow)	61	Ballyshannon	3		3
Drowes	121	Ballyshannon	1		1
Erne*	123	Ballyshannon	52	1	54
Unknown	268	Ballyshannon	1	7	8
Glenamoy	100	Bangor	3		3
Owenmore	105	Bangor	24	7	31
Owenduff	106	Bangor	57	4	61
Newport (L. Beltra)	108	Bangor	41		41
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor	21	1	23
Owenmore (Ferry)	271	Bangor	10		10
Bunnahowna	307	Bangor	9		9
Ballynahinch (Inagh)	136	Connemara	28		28
Owengowla	137	Connemara	2		2
Cashla	138	Connemara	26		26
Screebe	239	Connemara	1		1
Glashaboy	193	Cork	4		4
Glengarriff	219	Cork		1	1
Bandon	229	Cork	7	8	15
Argideen	232	Cork	20		20
Ilen	233	Cork	4	1	5
Boyne	159	Drogheda	11		11
Dargle*	169	Dublin	2		2
Vartry*	170	Dublin	18		18
Castletown*	92	Dundalk	17		17
Fane	94	Dundalk	4		4
Dee	96	Dundalk	2		2
Maine	197	Kerry	27	4	31
Scorid	201	Kerry	1		1
Owenmore	203	Kerry	19	1	20
Stream	206	Kerry	1		1
Laune	207	Kerry	15	11	26
Caragh	208	Kerry	6		6
Ferta	210	Kerry	4		4
Inny (Knockmoyle)	212	Kerry	5		5

table 24 cont'd

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Sea Trout Catch & Release by Rod & Line	Sea Trout Harvest by Rod & Line	Total Sea Trout Catch by Rod & Line
Waterville\Cummeragh\Cur	213	Kerry	106		106
Sneem	214	Kerry	8	4	12
Blackwater	215	Kerry	2		2
Roughy	217	Kerry	2	1	4
Sheen	218	Kerry	4		4
Croanshagh	222	Kerry	5		5
Ray	3	Letterkenny	3	1	4
Donagh*	6	Letterkenny	5	1	7
Crana	9	Letterkenny	7	1	8
Culdaff	12	Letterkenny		1	1
Clady	23	Letterkenny	1		1
Lackagh*	27	Letterkenny	42		42
Leannan	31	Letterkenny	18		18
Gweebarra	48	Letterkenny	15		15
Owenea	50	Letterkenny	8		8
Dungloe Lake	238	Letterkenny	3		3
Ballyness Bay	240	Letterkenny	5	4	10
Horn Head	244	Letterkenny	1	1	3
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny	4	3	7
Inagh*	149	Limerick	1		1
Doonbeg	154	Limerick	4		4
Lower Shannon	155	Limerick	2		2
Feale	194	Limerick	40		40
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	14	6	20
Bride	191	Lismore	11		11
Ballysadare	116	Sligo	1	30	31
Garvogue	117	Sligo	4		4
Drumcliff (inc Glencare	119	Sligo	67	14	81
Rosses Point*	250	Sligo	51	3	54
Unknown*	267	Sligo	4	4	9
Unknown*	315	Sligo		3	3
Barrow	183	Waterford	4		4
Nore	184	Waterford	3		3
Mahon*	185	Waterford	3		3
Avoca*	171	Wexford	27		27
Slaney	175	Wexford	128		128
Owenavorrach*	177	Wexford	68		68
Sow	178	Wexford	23		23
Unknown	999	SERBD	6		6
Unknown	999	NWRBD	7	4	11
		Totals	1,300	245	1,545

* Sea Trout under 40cm

Table 24 shows the sea trout harvest, caught and released and total catch as indicated in the logbooks nationally by rod and line for 2023. (There may be marginal differences in totals due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor).

ANGLING CATCH BY RIVER SYSTEM – EASTERN RIVER BASIN

Table 25 – Salmon Harvest in the Eastern River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Harvest	Raised Salmon Harvest
Fane	94	Dundalk	3	6
N/A	N/A	Drogheda	0	0
N/A	N/A	Dublin	0	0
Total			3	6

Table 26 – Sea Trout Harvest in the Eastern River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Harvest	Raised Sea Trout Harvest
N/A	N/A	Dundalk	0	0
N/A	N/A	Drogheda	0	0
N/A	N/A	Dublin	0	0
Total			0	0

Table 27 – Salmon Caught and Released in the Eastern River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Caught & Released	Raised Salmon Caught and Released
Fane	94	Dundalk	61	112
Glyde	95	Dundalk	25	46
Dee	96	Dundalk	16	29
Boyne	159	Drogheda	129	237
Unknown	255	Dublin	3	6
Total			234	429

Table 28 – Sea Trout Caught and Released in the Eastern River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Caught & Released	Raised Sea Trout Caught & Released
Castletown*	92	Dundalk	9	17
Fane	94	Dundalk	2	4
Dee	96	Dundalk	1	2
Boyne	159	Drogheda	6	11
Dargle*	169	Dublin	1	2
Vartry*	170	Dublin	10	18
*Sea trout (under 40cm)		Total	29	53

Tables 25-28 show the reported number of salmon and sea trout harvested as well as those caught and released by rod and line in the Eastern River Basin in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. The tables also show the adjusted/raised catch to take into account those fish captured for which no logbook was returned. (There may be marginal differences in totals for the raised catch due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor). River names and codes are defined by the Ordnance Survey of Ireland, Rivers and their Catchment Basins, 1958.

ANGLING CATCH BY RIVER SYSTEM – SOUTH EASTERN RIVER BASIN

Table 29 – Salmon Harvest in the South Eastern River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Harvest	Raised Salmon Harvest
N/A	N/A	Wexford	0	0
N/A	N/A	Waterford	0	0
		Total	0	0

Table 30 – Sea Trout Harvest in the South Eastern River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Harvest	Raised Sea Trout Harvest
N/A	N/A	Wexford	0	0
N/A	N/A	Waterford	0	0
		Total	0	0

Table 31 – Salmon Caught and Released in the South Eastern River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Caught & Released	Raised Salmon Caught and Released
Avoca	171	Wexford	3	4
Slaney	175	Wexford	55	71
Sow	178	Wexford	1	1
Suir	182	Waterford	473	607
Barrow	183	Waterford	42	54
Nore	184	Waterford	452	580
		Total	1,026	1,318

Table 32 – Sea Trout Caught and Released in the South Eastern River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Caught & Released	Raised Sea Trout Caught & Released
Avoca*	171	Wexford	21	27
Slaney	175	Wexford	100	128
Owenavorrhagh*	177	Wexford	53	68
Sow	178	Wexford	18	23
Suir	182	Waterford	3	4
Nore	184	Waterford	2	3
Mahon*	185	Waterford	2	3
Unknown	999	SERBD	5	6
* Sea Trout (under 40cm)		Total	204	262

Tables 29-32 show the reported number of salmon and sea trout harvested as well as those caught and released by rod and line in the South Eastern River Basin in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. The tables also show the adjusted/raised catch to take into account those fish captured for which no logbook was returned. (There may be marginal differences in totals for the raised catch due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor). River names and codes are defined by the Ordnance Survey of Ireland, Rivers and their Catchment Basins, 1958.

ANGLING CATCH BY RIVER SYSTEM – SOUTH WESTERN RIVER BASIN

Table 33 – Salmon Harvest in the South Western River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Harvest	Raised Salmon Harvest
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	814	962
Glengarriff	219	Cork	5	6
Coomhola	225	Cork	31	37
Owvane	226	Cork	13	15
Mealagh	227	Cork	12	14
Lower Lee	228	Cork	45	53
Bandon	229	Cork	203	240
Ilen	233	Cork	106	125
Maine	197	Kerry	98	116
Owenmore	203	Kerry	4	5
Laune	207	Kerry	524	619
Caragh	208	Kerry	72	85
Ferta	210	Kerry	17	20
Waterville\Cummeragh\Currane	213	Kerry	111	131
Sneem	214	Kerry	34	40
Roughy	217	Kerry	162	191
Sheen	218	Kerry	46	54
Croanshagh	222	Kerry	7	8
		Total	2,304	2,722

Table 34 – Sea Trout Harvest in the South Western River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Harvest	Raised Sea Trout Harvest
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	5	6
Glengarriff	219	Cork	1	1
Bandon	229	Cork	7	8
Ilen	233	Cork	1	1
Maine	197	Kerry	3	4
Owenmore	203	Kerry	1	1
Laune	207	Kerry	9	11
Sneem	214	Kerry	3	4
Roughy	217	Kerry	1	1
		Total	31	37

Table 35 – Salmon Caught and Released in the South Western River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Caught & Released	Raised Salmon Caught & Released
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	801	946
Bride	191	Lismore	48	57
Glashaboy	193	Cork	8	9
Glengarriff	219	Cork	1	1
Coomhola	225	Cork	20	24
Owvane	226	Cork	26	31
Mealagh	227	Cork	8	9
Lower Lee	228	Cork	541	639
Bandon	229	Cork	235	278
Owenboy	230	Cork	5	6
Argideen	232	Cork	26	31
Ilen	233	Cork	59	70
Maine	197	Kerry	26	31
Owenmore	203	Kerry	9	11
Laune	207	Kerry	209	247
Caragh	208	Kerry	69	82
Ferta	210	Kerry	35	41
Inny (Knockmoyle)	212	Kerry	82	97
Waterville\Cummeragh\Currane	213	Kerry	113	134
Sneem	214	Kerry	19	22
Blackwater	215	Kerry	102	121
Roughty	217	Kerry	72	85
Sheen	218	Kerry	46	54
Croanshagh	222	Kerry	6	7
		Total	2,566	3,032

Table 36 – Sea Trout Caught and Released in the South Western River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Caught & Released	Raised Sea Trout Caught & Released
Blackwater (Munster)	190	Lismore	12	14
Bride	191	Lismore	9	11
Glashaboy	193	Cork	3	4
Bandon	229	Cork	6	7
Argideen	232	Cork	17	20
Ilen	233	Cork	3	4
Maine	197	Kerry	23	27
Scorid	201	Kerry	1	1
Owenmore	203	Kerry	16	19
Stream	206	Kerry	1	1
Laune	207	Kerry	13	15
Caragh	208	Kerry	5	6
Ferta	210	Kerry	3	4
Inny (Knockmoyle)	212	Kerry	4	5
Waterville\Cummeragh\Currane	213	Kerry	90	106
Sneem	214	Kerry	7	8
Blackwater	215	Kerry	2	2
Roughy	217	Kerry	2	2
Sheen	218	Kerry	3	4
Croanshagh	222	Kerry	4	5
		Total	224	265

Tables 33-36 show the reported number of salmon and sea trout (over 40cm) harvested as well as those caught and released by rod and line in the South Western River Basin in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. The tables also show the adjusted/raised catch to take into account those fish captured for which no logbook was returned. (There may be marginal differences in totals for the raised catch due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor). River names and codes are defined by the Ordnance Survey of Ireland, Rivers and their Catchment Basins, 1958.

ANGLING CATCH BY RIVER SYSTEM – SHANNON RIVER BASIN

Table 37 – Salmon Harvest in the Shannon River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Harvest	Raised Salmon Harvest
N/A	N/A	Limerick	0	0
		Total	0	0

Table 38 – Sea Trout Harvest in the Shannon River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Harvest	Raised Sea Trout Harvest
N/A	N/A	Limerick	0	0
		Total	0	0

Table 39 – Salmon Caught and Released in the Shannon River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Caught & Released	Raised Salmon Caught & Released
Mulkear	153	Limerick	169	209
Doonbeg	154	Limerick	18	22
Lower Shannon	155	Limerick	266	329
Feale	194	Limerick	427	527
		Total	880	1,087

Table 40 – Sea Trout Caught and Released in the Shannon River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Caught & Released	Raised Sea Trout Caught & Released
Inagh*	149	Limerick	1	1
Doonbeg	154	Limerick	3	4
Lower Shannon	155	Limerick	2	2
Feale	194	Limerick	32	40
		Total	38	47

*Sea trout (under 40cm)

Tables 37-40 show the reported number of salmon and sea trout (over 40cm) harvested as well as those caught and released by rod and line in the Shannon River Basin in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. The tables also show the adjusted/raised catch to take into account those fish captured for which no logbook was returned. (There may be marginal differences in totals for the raised catch due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor). River names and codes are defined by the Ordnance Survey of Ireland, Rivers and their Catchment Basins, 1958.

ANGLING CATCH BY RIVER SYSTEM – WESTERN RIVER BASIN - GALWAY

Table 41 – Salmon Harvest in the Western River Basin - Galway in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Harvest	Raised Salmon Harvest
Bunowen	127	Ballinakill	11	13
Carrownisky	128	Ballinakill	3	4
Bundorragha (Delphi)	130	Ballinakill	73	90
Erriff	131	Ballinakill	54	66
Culfin	132	Ballinakill	3	4
Dawros	133	Ballinakill	13	16
Owenglin (Clifden)	135	Ballinakill	1	1
Ballynahinch	136	Connemara	1	1
Cashla/Costello	138	Connemara	2	2
Owenriff	140	Galway	2	2
Corrib	143	Galway	612	751
Unknown	262	Galway	2	2
		Total	777	953

Table 42 – Salmon Caught and Released in the Western River Basin - Galway in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Caught & Released	Raised Salmon Caught & Released
Owenwee	126	Ballinakill	10	12
Bunowen	127	Ballinakill	38	47
Carrownisky	128	Ballinakill	11	13
Bundorragha (Delphi)	130	Ballinakill	26	32
Erriff	131	Ballinakill	117	144
Dawros	133	Ballinakill	33	40
Owenglin (Clifden)	135	Ballinakill	22	27
Ballinaboy	302	Ballinakill	4	5
Ballynahinch	136	Connemara	16	20
Cashla/Costello	138	Connemara	8	10
Owenriff	140	Galway	3	4
Corrib	143	Galway	98	120
Annagh (Kinvarra)	146	Galway	1	1
Unknown	262	Galway	4	5
		Total	391	480

Table 43 – Sea Trout Caught and Released in the Western River Basin - Galway in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Caught & Released	Raised Sea Trout Caught & Released
Bunowen	127	Ballinakill	12	15
Carrowniskey	128	Ballinakill	4	5
Bundorragha (Delphi)	130	Ballinakill	7	9
Erriff	131	Ballinakill	2	2
Dawros	133	Ballinakill	2	2
Ballinaboy	302	Ballinakill	4	5
Ballynahinch	136	Connemara	23	28
Owengowla	137	Connemara	2	2
Cashla/Costello	138	Connemara	21	26
Screebe	239	Connemara	1	1
Total			78	96

Table 44 – Sea Trout Harvest in the Western River Basin - Galway in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Harvest	Raised Sea Trout Harvest
N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0
Total			0	0

Tables 41-44 show the reported number of salmon and sea trout (over 40cm) harvested as well as those caught and released by rod and line in the Western River Basin - Galway in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. The tables also show the adjusted/raised catch to take into account those fish captured for which no logbook was returned. (There may be marginal differences in totals for the raised catch due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor). River names and codes are defined by the Ordnance Survey of Ireland, Rivers and their Catchment Basins, 1958.

ANGLING CATCH BY RIVER SYSTEM – WESTERN RIVER BASIN - BALLINA

Table 45 – Salmon Harvest in the Western River Basin - Ballina in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Harvest	Raised Salmon Harvest
Owenmore	105	Bangor	12	17
Owenduff	106	Bangor	59	84
Newport (L. Beltra)	108	Bangor	13	19
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor	39	56
Owenmore (Ferry)	271	Bangor	2	3
Moy	110	Ballina	1,877	2,677
Easkey	114	Ballina	72	103
Ballysadare	116	Sligo	290	414
Drumcliff (inc Glencar Lake)	119	Sligo	51	73
1 Ranched Fish		Total	2,415	3,444

Table 46 – Sea Trout Harvest in the Western River Basin - Ballina in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Harvest	Raised Sea Trout Harvest
Owenmore	105	Bangor	5	7
Owenduff	106	Bangor	3	4
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor	1	1
Cloonalaghan	103	Ballina	3	4
Moy	110	Ballina	73	104
Easkey	114	Ballina	2	3
Unknown	265	Ballina	2	3
Ballysadare	116	Sligo	21	30
Drumcliff (inc Glencar Lake)	119	Sligo	10	14
Rosses Point	250	Sligo	2	3
Unknown	267	Sligo	3	4
Carney	315	Sligo	2	3
		Total	127	181

Table 47 – Salmon Caught and Released in the Western River Basin - Ballina in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Caught & Released	Raised Salmon Caught & Released
Glenamoy	100	Bangor	43	61
Owenmore	105	Bangor	167	238
Owenduff	106	Bangor	84	120
Newport (L. Beltra)	108	Bangor	28	40
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor	30	43
Owenmore (Ferry)	271	Bangor	18	25
Cloonaghmore (Palmerstown)	104	Ballina	3	4
Moy	110	Ballina	660	941
Easkey	114	Ballina	75	107
Ballysadare	116	Sligo	166	237
Garvogue	117	Sligo	93	133
Drumcliff (inc Glencar Lake)	119	Sligo	43	61
Total			1,410	2,011

Table 48 – Sea Trout Caught and Released in the Western River Basin - Ballina in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Caught & Released	Raised Sea Trout Caught & Released
Glenamoy*	100	Bangor	2	3
Owenmore	105	Bangor	17	24
Owenduff	106	Bangor	40	57
Newport (L. Beltra)	108	Bangor	29	41
Carrowmore Lake	109	Bangor	15	21
Owenmore (Ferry)	271	Bangor	7	10
Bunnahowna	307	Bangor	6	9
Moy	110	Ballina	26	37
Easkey	114	Ballina	4	6
Unknown	265	Ballina	6	9
Ballysadare	116	Sligo	1	1
Garvogue	117	Sligo	3	4
Drumcliff (inc Glencar Lake)	119	Sligo	47	67
Rosses Point	250	Sligo	36	51
Unknown	267	Sligo	3	4
Total			242	345

*Sea trout (under 40cm)

Tables 45-48 show the reported number of salmon and sea trout (over 40cm) harvested as well as those caught and released by rod and line in the Western River Basin - Ballina in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. The tables also show the adjusted/raised catch to take into account those fish captured for which no logbook was returned. (There may be marginal differences in totals for the raised catch due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor).

ANGLING CATCH BY RIVER SYSTEM – NORTH WESTERN RIVER BASIN

Table 49 – Salmon Harvest in the North Western River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Harvest	Raised Salmon Harvest
Owenwee (Yellow)	61	Ballyshannon	4	5
Drowes	121	Ballyshannon	195	267
Loughinn	7	Letterkenny	1	1
Crana	9	Letterkenny	16	22
Gweedore (Crolly)	22	Letterkenny	8	11
Clady	23	Letterkenny	8	11
Tullaghobegley	24	Letterkenny	5	7
Gweebarra	48	Letterkenny	35	48
Owenea	50	Letterkenny	42	58
Ballyness Bay	240	Letterkenny	1	1
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny	1	1
Unknown	999	NWRBD	2	3
Total			318	436

Table 50 – Sea Trout Harvest in the North Western River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Harvest	Raised Sea Trout Harvest
Eske*	58	Ballyshannon	1	1
Erne Estuary*	123	Ballyshannon	1	1
Unknown	268	Ballyshannon	5	7
Ray*	3	Letterkenny	1	1
Donagh*	6	Letterkenny	1	1
Crana	9	Letterkenny	1	1
Culdaff	12	Letterkenny	1	1
Ballyness Bay	240	Letterkenny	3	4
Horn Head	244	Letterkenny	1	1
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny	2	3
Unknown	999	NWRBD	3	4
Total			20	27

*Sea trout (under 40cm)

Table 51 – Salmon Caught and Released in the North Western River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Salmon Caught & Released	Raised Salmon Caught & Released
Glen	52	Ballyshannon	68	93
Bungosteen	54	Ballyshannon	9	12
Oily	55	Ballyshannon	1	1
Eany*	57	Ballyshannon	53	73
Eske	58	Ballyshannon	30	41
Owenwee (Yellow)	61	Ballyshannon	19	26
Duff	120	Ballyshannon	45	62
Drowes	121	Ballyshannon	183	251
Ray	3	Letterkenny	20	27
Loughinn	7	Letterkenny	1	1
Crana	9	Letterkenny	22	30
Gweedore (Crolly)	22	Letterkenny	10	14
Clady	23	Letterkenny	13	18
Tullaghobegly	24	Letterkenny	9	12
Lackagh	27	Letterkenny	23	32
Leannan	31	Letterkenny	49	67
Gweebarra	48	Letterkenny	53	73
Owenea	50	Letterkenny	187	256
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny	1	1
*Sea trout (under 40cm)		Total	796	1,091

Table 52 - Sea Trout Caught and Released in the North Western River Basin in 2023

River Name	River System No;	Fishery District	Reported Sea Trout Caught and Released	Raised Sea Trout Caught & Released
Glen	52	Ballyshannon	16	22
Eany	57	Ballyshannon	5	7
Eske*	58	Ballyshannon	18	25
Owenwee (Yellow)	61	Ballyshannon	2	3
Drowes	121	Ballyshannon	1	1
Erne Estuary*	123	Ballyshannon	38	52
Unknown	268	Ballyshannon	1	1
Ray	3	Letterkenny	2	3
Donagh*	6	Letterkenny	4	5
Crana	9	Letterkenny	5	7
Clady	23	Letterkenny	1	1
Lackagh	27	Letterkenny	31	42
Leannan	31	Letterkenny	13	18
Gweebarra	48	Letterkenny	11	15
Owenea	50	Letterkenny	6	8
Dungloe Lake	238	Letterkenny	2	3
Ballyness Bay	240	Letterkenny	4	5
Horn Head	244	Letterkenny	1	1
Isle of Doagh	245	Letterkenny	3	4
Unknown	999	NWRBD	4	5
*Sea trout (under 40cm)		Total	168	230

Tables 49-52 show the reported number of salmon and sea trout (over 40cm) harvested as well as those caught and released by rod and line in the North Western River Basin in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. The tables also show the adjusted/raised catch to take into account those fish captured for which no logbook was returned. (There may be marginal differences in totals for the raised catch due to rounding differences caused by the raising factor). River names and codes are defined by the Ordnance Survey of Ireland, Rivers and their Catchment Basins, 1958.

Table 53 – Analysis of Salmon Caught and Released per Angler in 2023

No. of Salmon Released	No. of Anglers who 'Caught & Released' Salmon	Total Reported Salmon Released
1	410	410
2	255	510
3	174	522
4	128	512
5	99	495
6	56	336
7	60	420
8	34	272
9	40	360
10	33	330
11	30	330
12	23	276
13	21	273
14	9	126
15	10	150
16	11	176
17	19	323
18	11	198
19	10	190
20	9	180
21	2	42
22	4	88
23	4	92
24	3	72
25	1	25
29	1	29
30	2	60
33	3	99
34	1	34
35	1	35
36	1	36
37	2	74
38	1	38
42	1	42
45	1	45
47	1	47
56	1	56
Total Anglers who Caught & Released Salmon	1,472*	7,303

Table 53 shows an analysis of the number of anglers whom each caught and released between 1 and 56 salmon in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. *E.g 410 anglers each 'caught and released' 1 salmon only. 1,472 anglers who fished caught and released a total of 7,303 salmon. This figure was raised to 9,447 salmon (table 21) to account for those fish 'caught and released' where no logbook was returned.

In 2023, 1,472 anglers 'caught and released' salmon. Of this figure, 57% (839 anglers) caught and released no more than 3 salmon, a further 19% (283 anglers) caught and released between 4-6 salmon, 11.3% (167 anglers) caught and released between 7 and 10 salmon and 12.4% (183 anglers) caught and released more than 10 salmon. Subsequently only 8.8% (1,472 anglers) of total licence holders (16,743 anglers) caught and released salmon.

Table 54 – Analysis of Salmon Harvest per Angler in 2023

No. of Salmon Harvested	No. of Anglers who Harvested Salmon	Total Reported Salmon Harvest
1	956*	956
2	436	872
3	471	1,413
4	127	508
5	85	425
6	76	456
7	60	420
8	26	208
9	21	189
10	37	370
Total Anglers who Harvested Salmon	2,295*	5,817

Table 54 shows an analysis of the number of anglers whom each harvested between 1 and 10 salmon in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. *E.g 956 anglers who fished, each harvested 1 salmon and 2,295 anglers who fished, harvested a total of 5,817 salmon. This figure of 5,817 was raised to 7,562 salmon harvest (table 21) to account for those fish captured in which no logbook was returned.

In 2023, 2,295 anglers harvested salmon. Of this figure, 81% of anglers (1,863) harvested no more than 3 salmon, a further 12.5% (288) of anglers harvested between 4-6 salmon, 6.3% (144) of angler's harvest between 7 and 10 salmon. 1.6% (37 anglers) harvested the maximum permitted of 10 salmon. Subsequently only 13.7% (2,295 anglers) of licence holders (16,743 anglers) harvested salmon.

Table 55 – Analysis of Total Salmon Caught per Angler in 2023

No. of Salmon Caught per Angler	No. of Anglers who Caught Salmon	Total Reported Salmon caught
1	976	976
2	516	1,032
3	464	1,392
4	225	900
5	170	850
6	127	762
7	103	721
8	74	592
9	51	459
10	64	640
11	36	396
12	30	360
13	32	416
14	26	364
15	19	285
16	16	256
17	21	357
18	19	342
19	18	342
20	20	400
21	6	126
22	4	88
23	4	92
24	4	96
25	3	75
26	1	26
27	2	54
28	1	28
29	1	29
30	2	60
32	1	32
34	2	68
35	1	35
36	2	72
37	1	37
38	3	114
42	2	84
47	1	47
53	1	53
62	1	62
Total Anglers who Caught Salmon	3,050	13,120

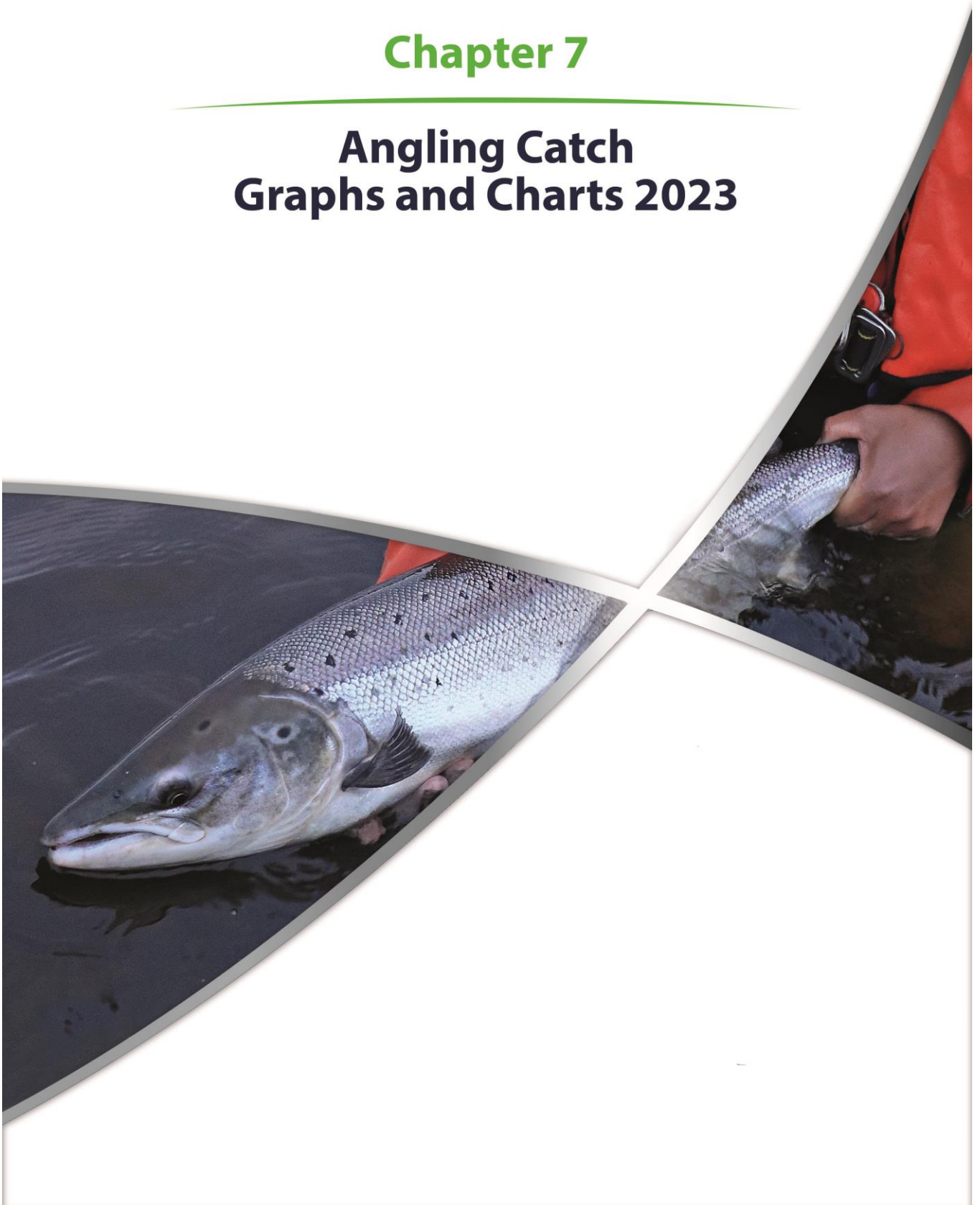
Table 55 shows an analysis of the number of anglers who caught between 1 and 62 salmon in 2023 as determined from angling logbook returns. *E.g. 976 anglers each 'caught 1 salmon only. 3,050 anglers who fished caught a total of 13,120 salmon. This figure was raised to 17,009 salmon (table 21) to account for those fish 'caught' where no logbook was returned.

In 2023, 3,050 anglers caught salmon. Of this figure, 64% (1,956 anglers) caught no more than 3 salmon, a further 17% (522 anglers) caught between 4-6 salmon, 9.5% (292 anglers) caught between 7 and 10 salmon and 9% (280 anglers) caught more than 10 salmon.

Subsequently only 18.2% (3,050 anglers) of total licence holders (16,743 anglers) caught salmon.

Chapter 7

Angling Catch Graphs and Charts 2023



Reported Salmon Angling Catch by Month and by Capture Method for the top Salmon Angling Rivers in 2023 (total salmon catch by rod and line including salmon caught and released).

Fig. 9 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Moy (Ballina) in 2023.

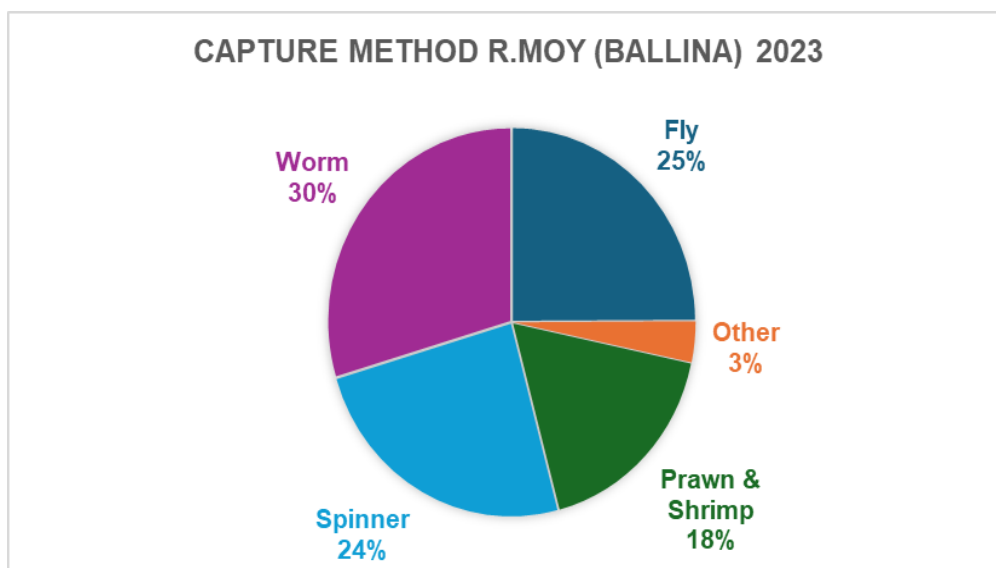
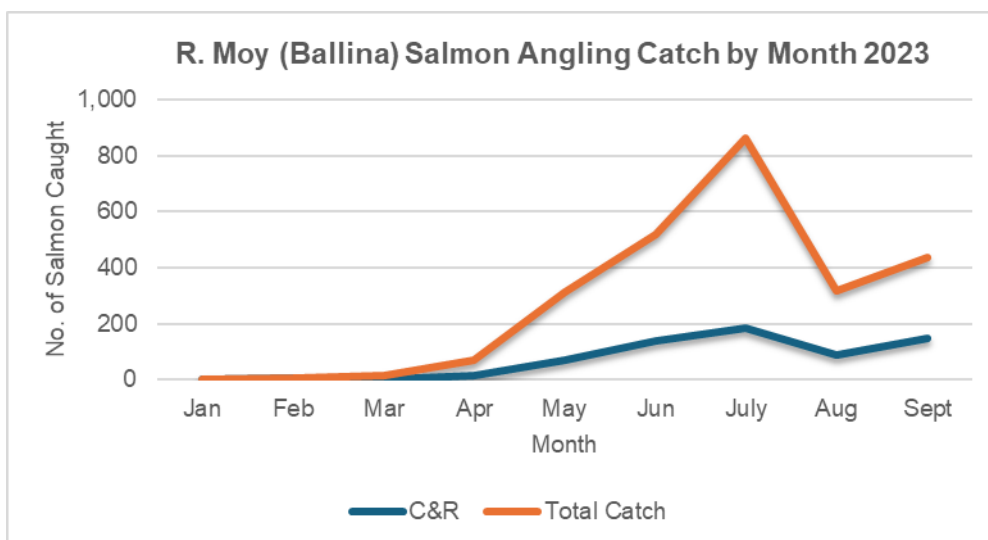


Fig. 10 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Blackwater Munster (Lismore) in 2023.

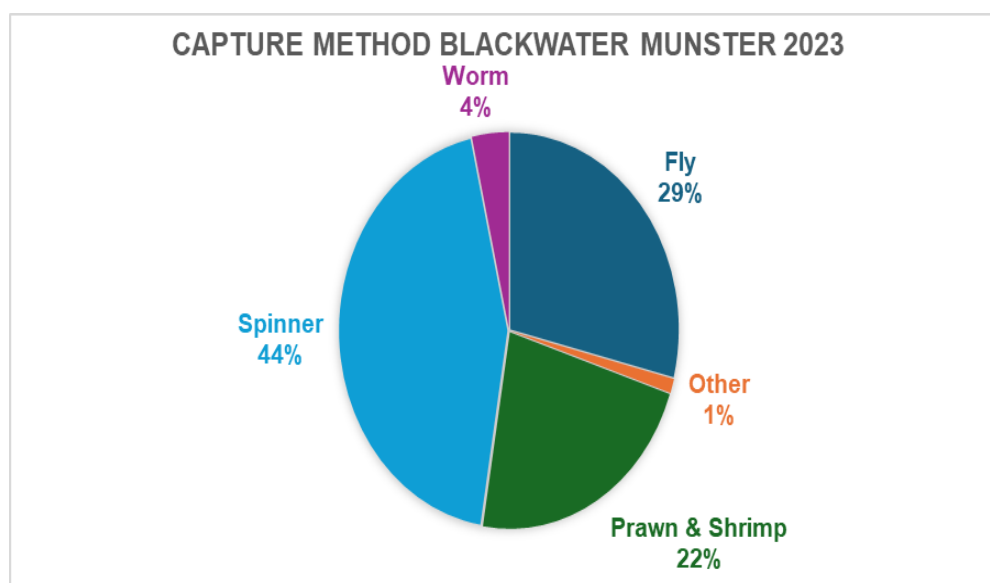
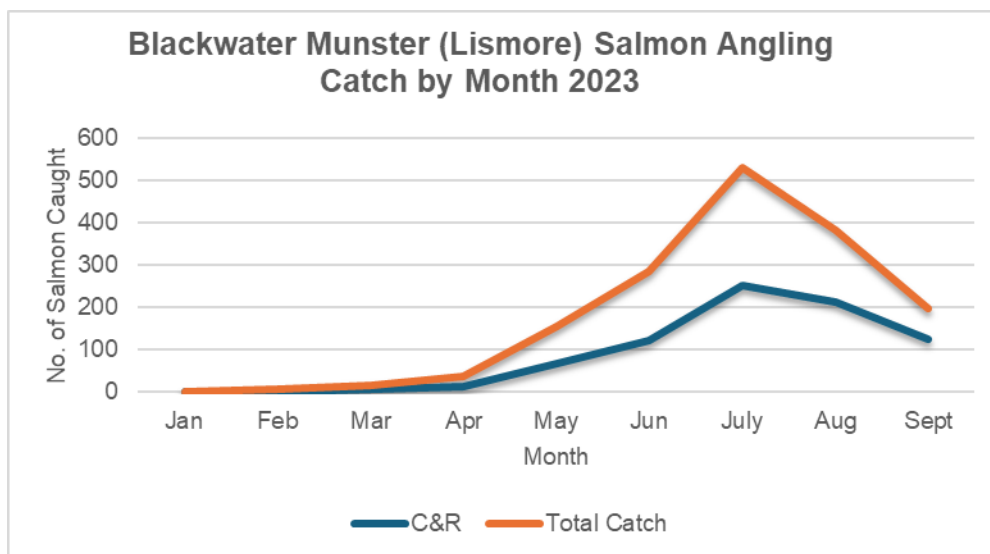


Fig. 11 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Laune (Kerry)
in 2023.

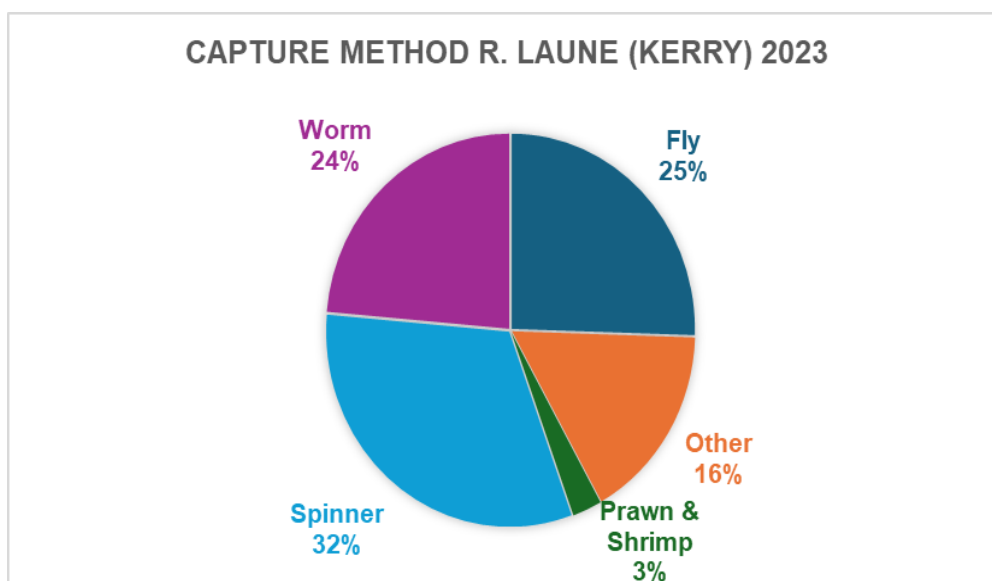
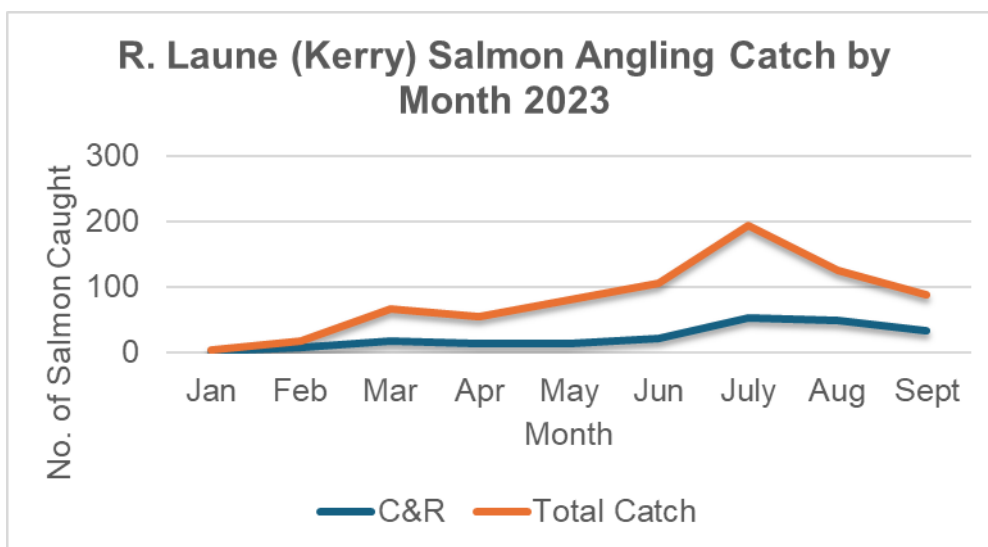


Fig. 12 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the Corrib (Galway) in 2023.

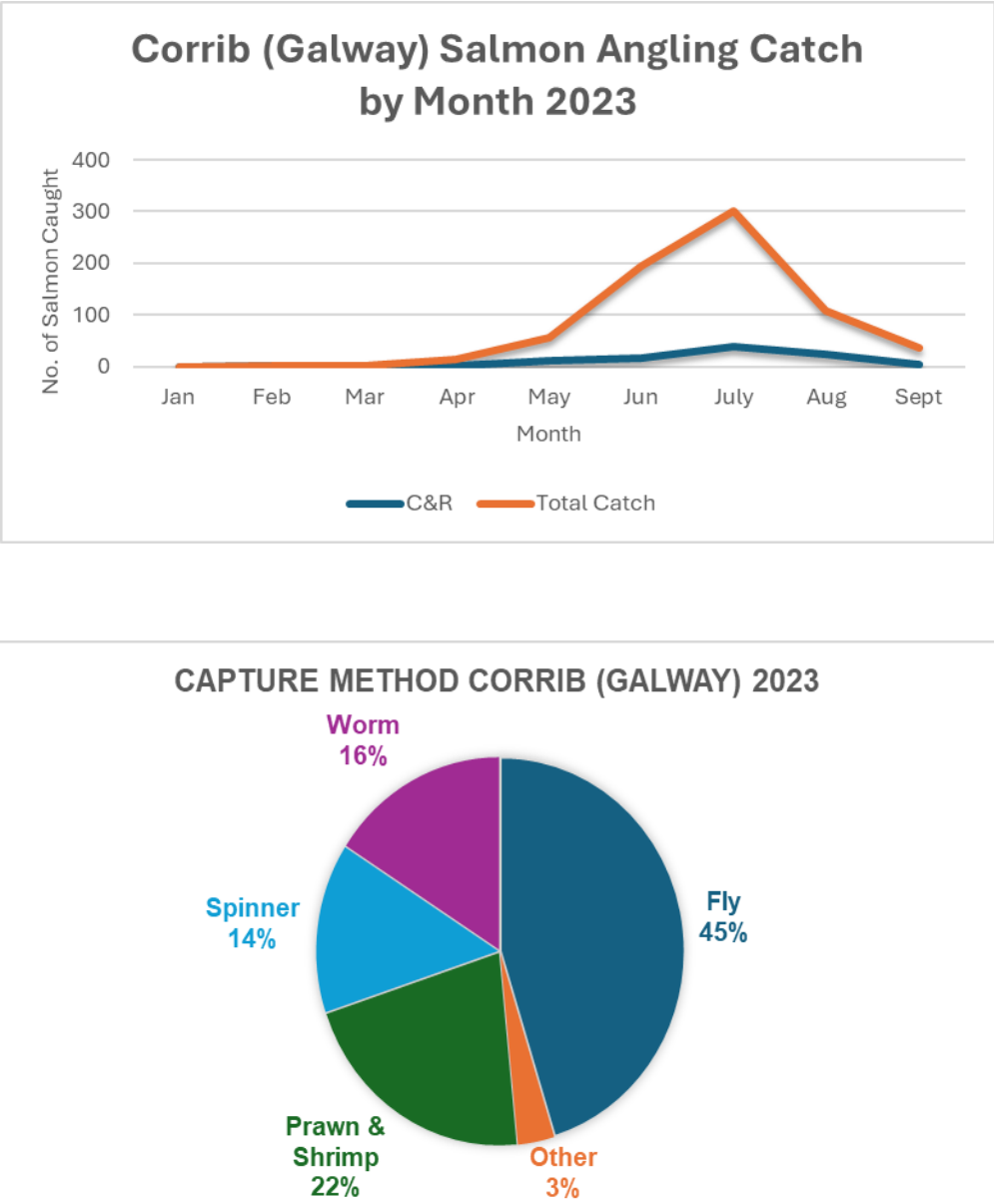


Fig. 13 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Lee (Cork) in 2023

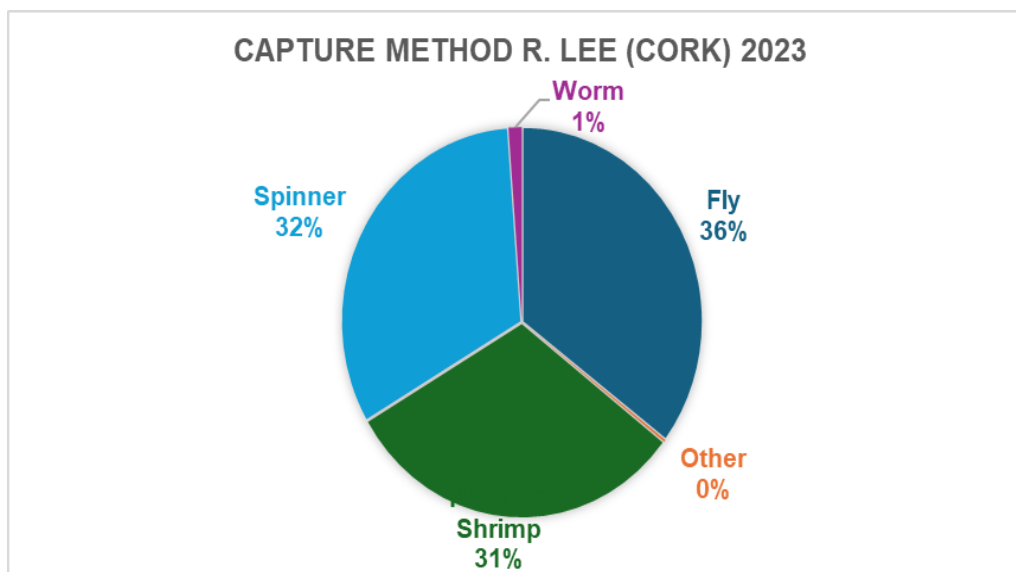
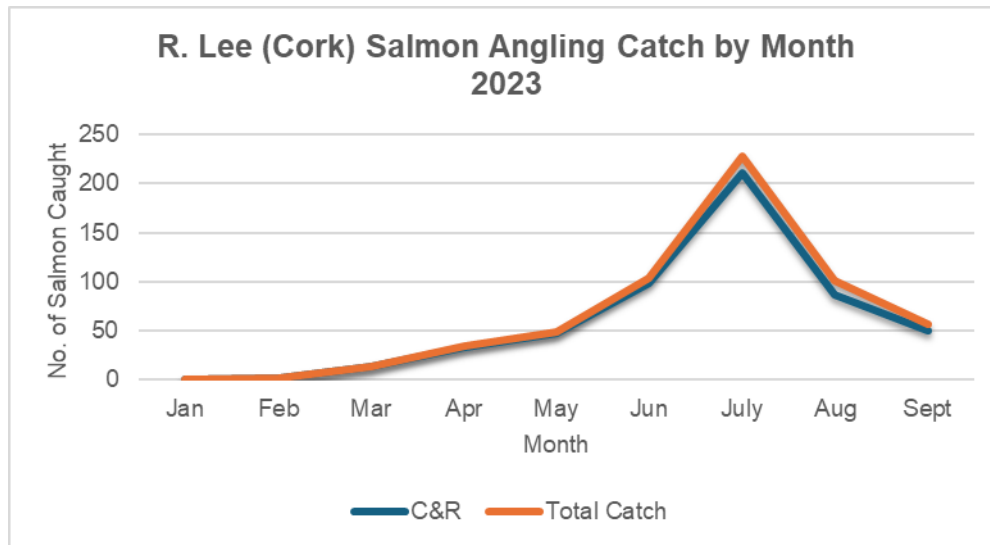


Fig. 14 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the Ballysadare River (Sligo) in 2023.

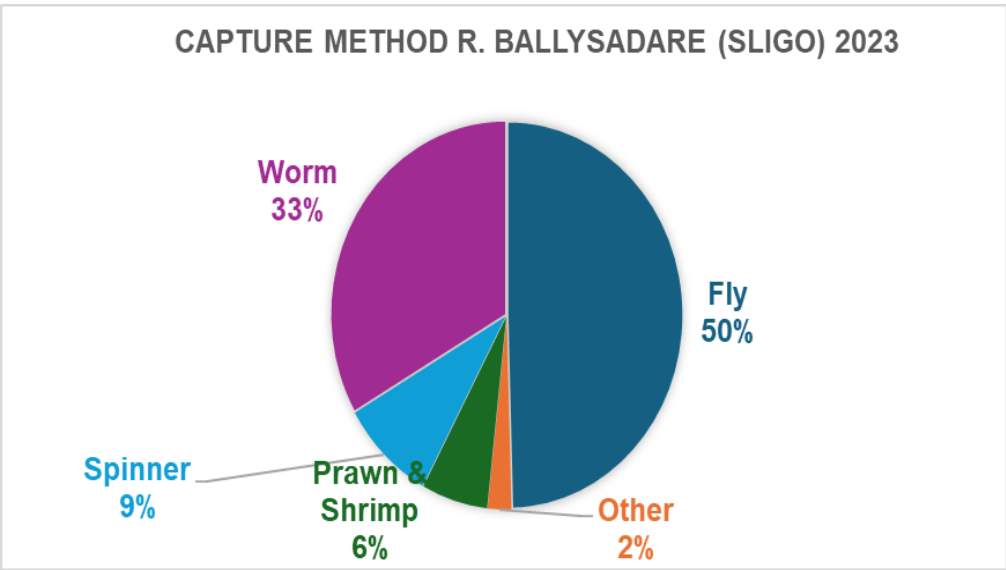
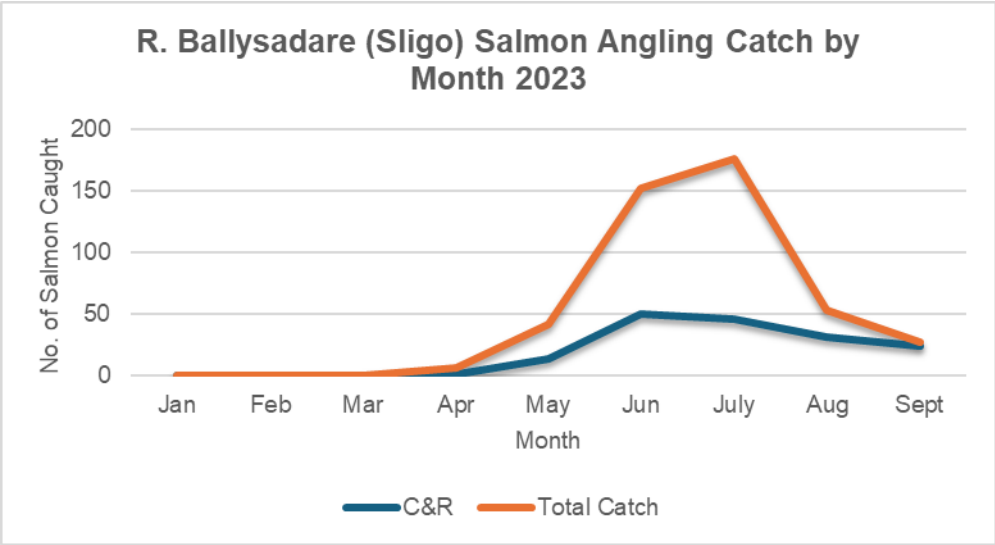


Fig. 15 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Suir (Waterford) in 2023.

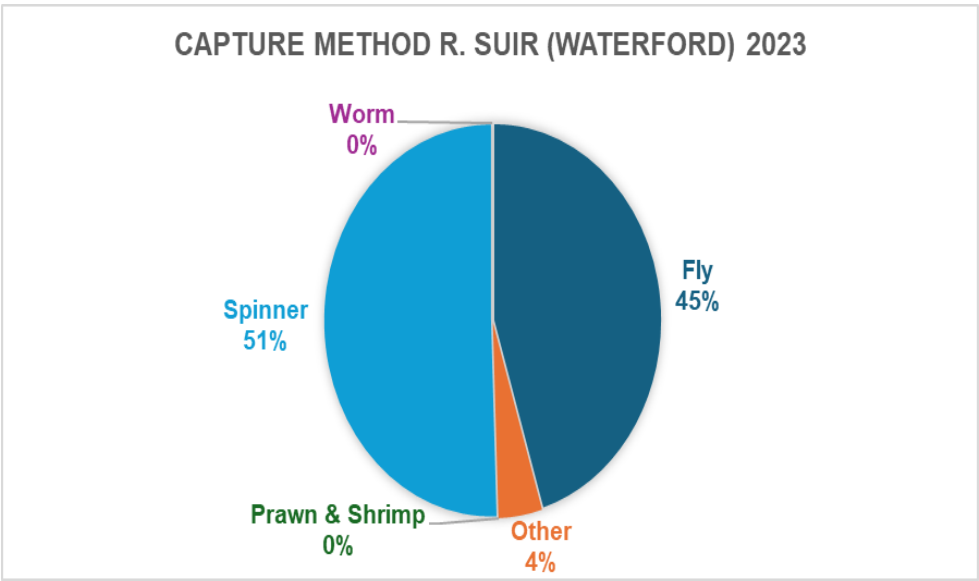
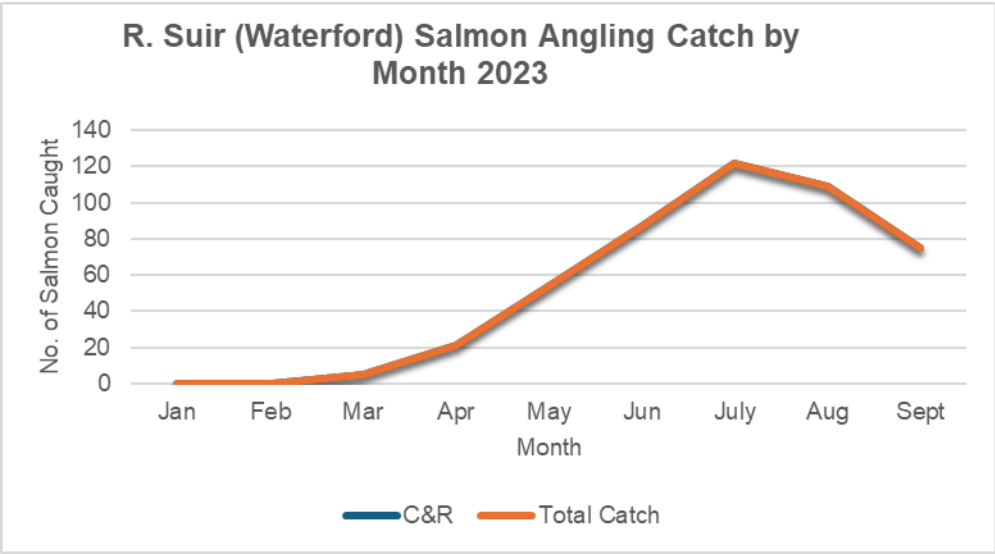


Fig. 16 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Nore (Waterford) in 2023.

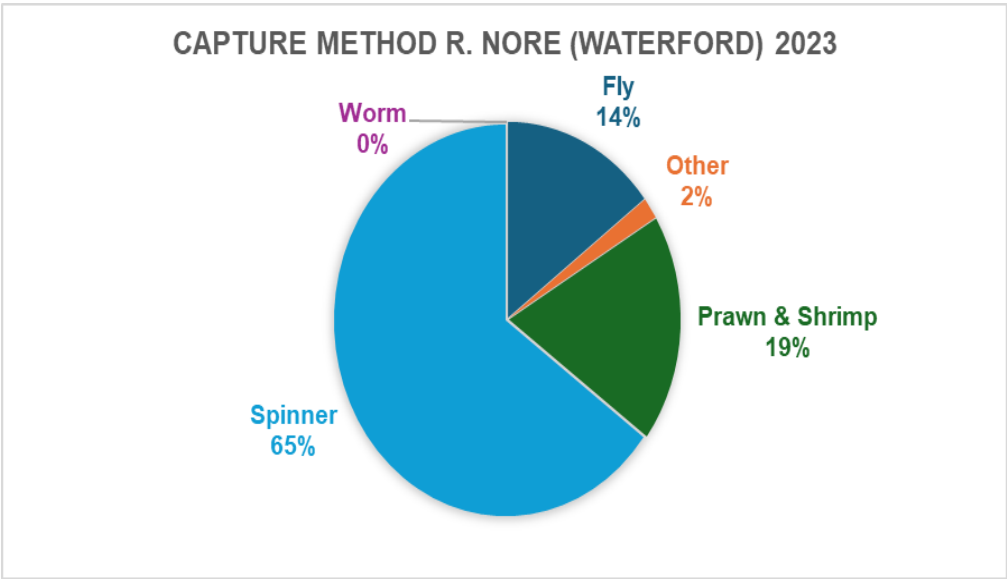
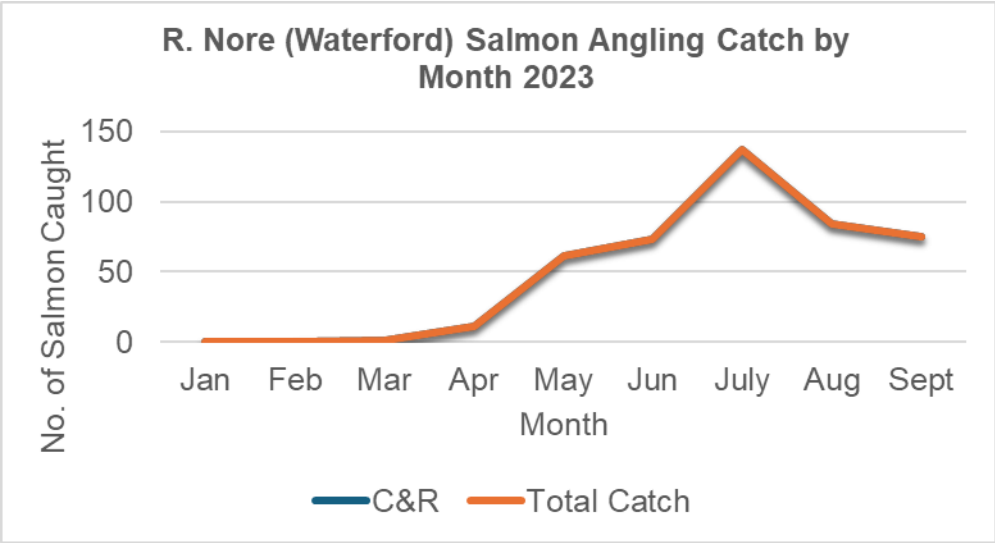


Fig. 17 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Bandon (Cork) in 2023.

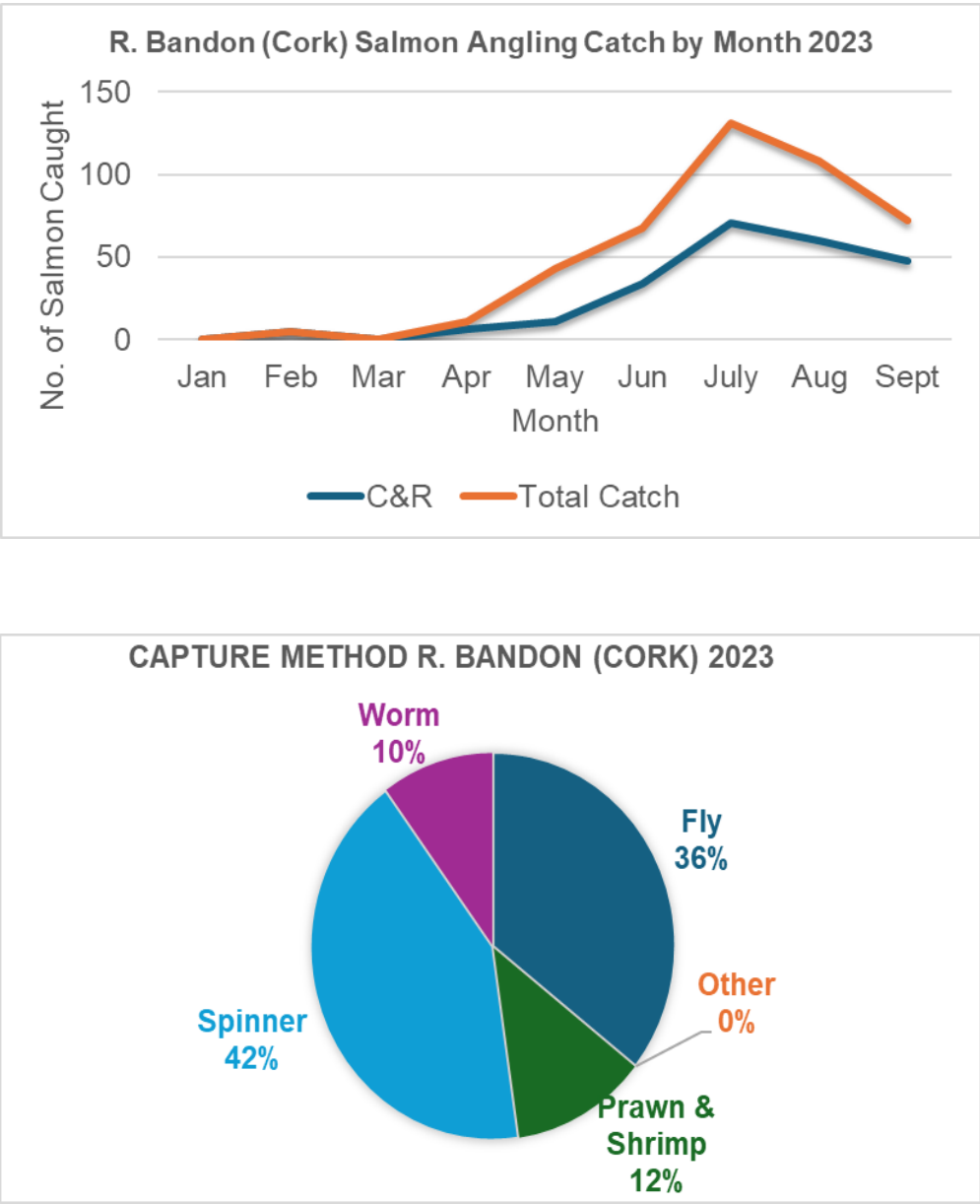


Fig. 18 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Feale (Limerick) in 2023.

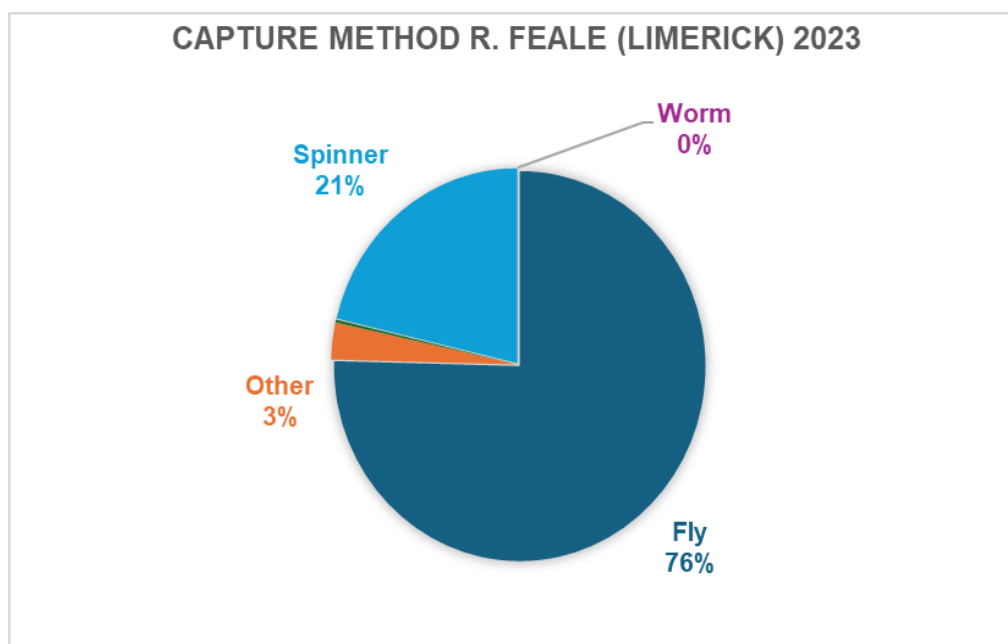
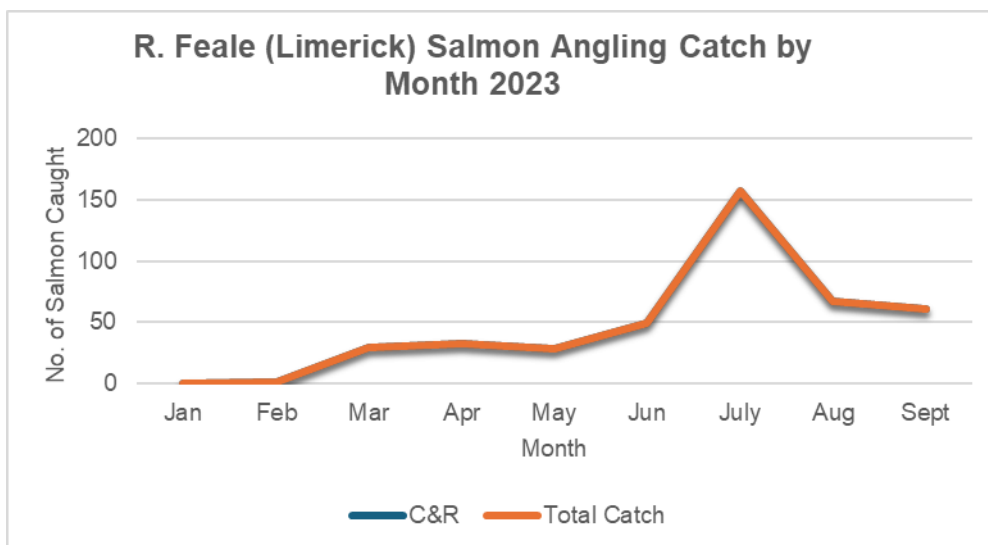


Fig. 19 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Drowes (Ballyshannon) in 2023.

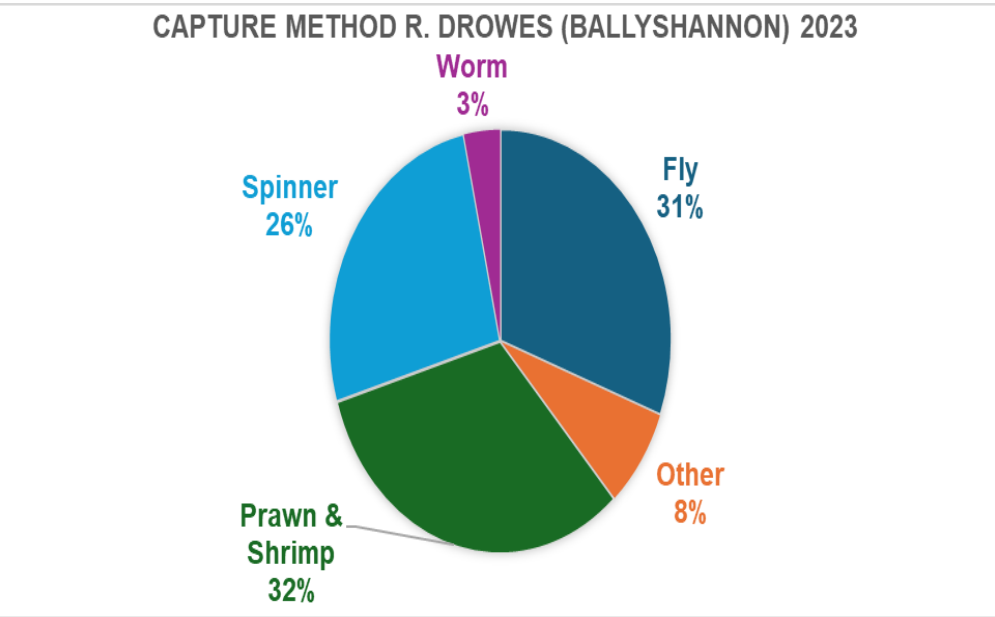
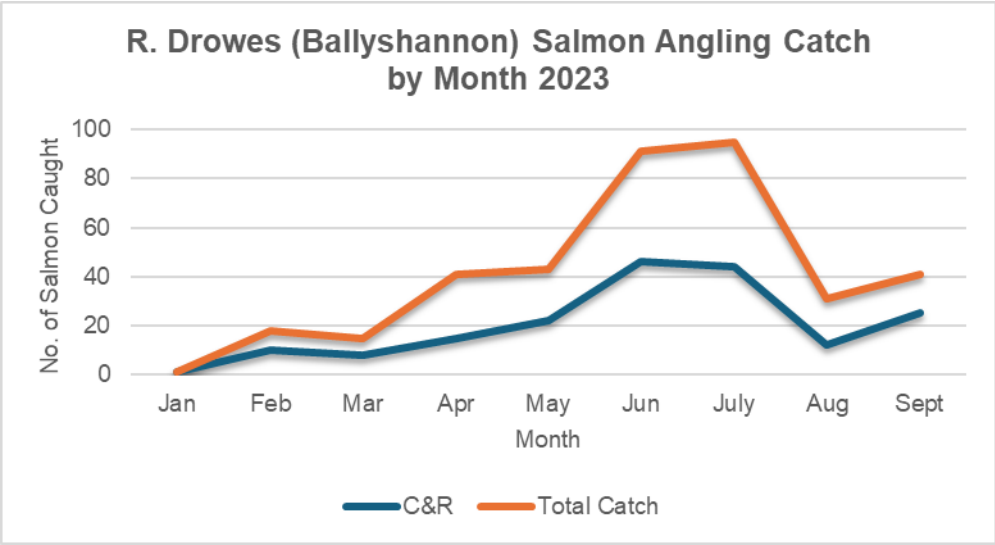


Fig. 20 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the Lower Shannon (Limerick) in 2023.

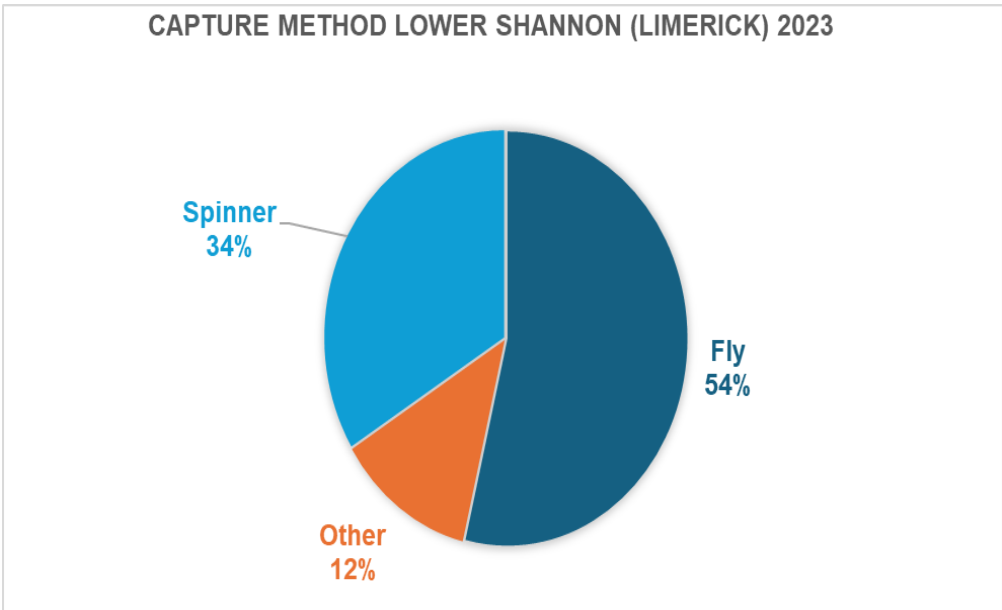
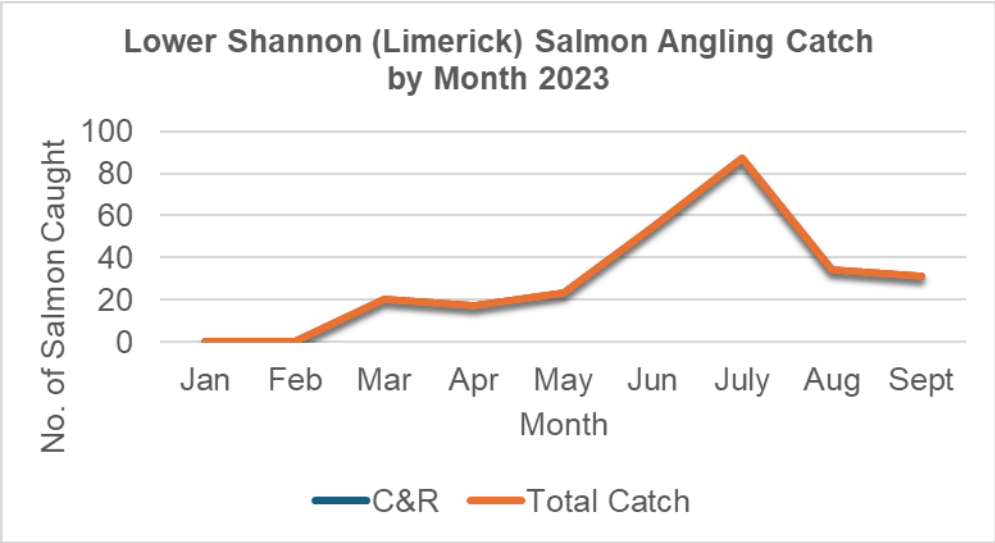


Fig. 21 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Roughy (Kerry) in 2023.

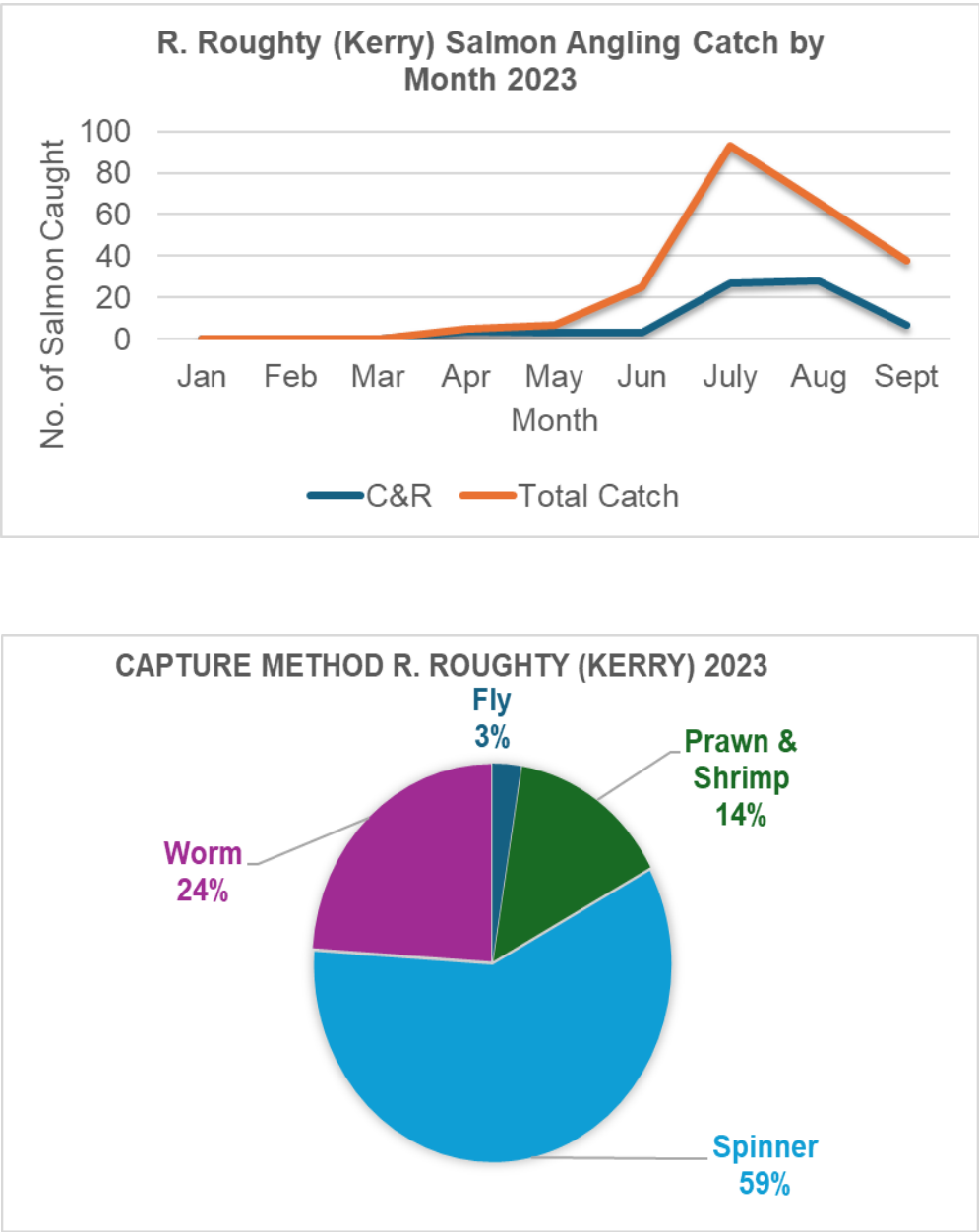


Fig. 22 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Owenea (Letterkenny) in 2023.

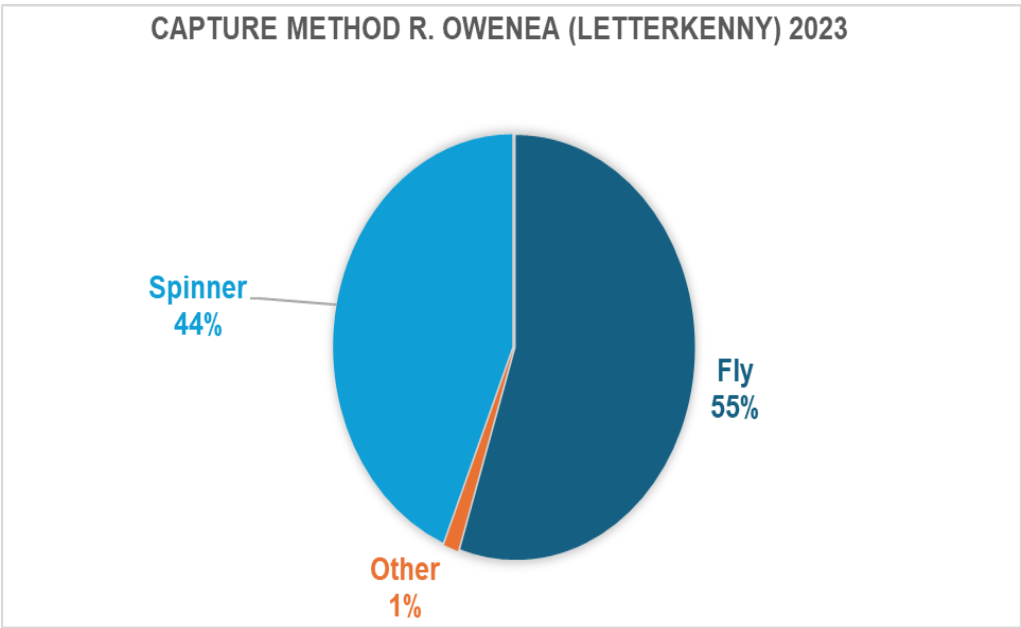
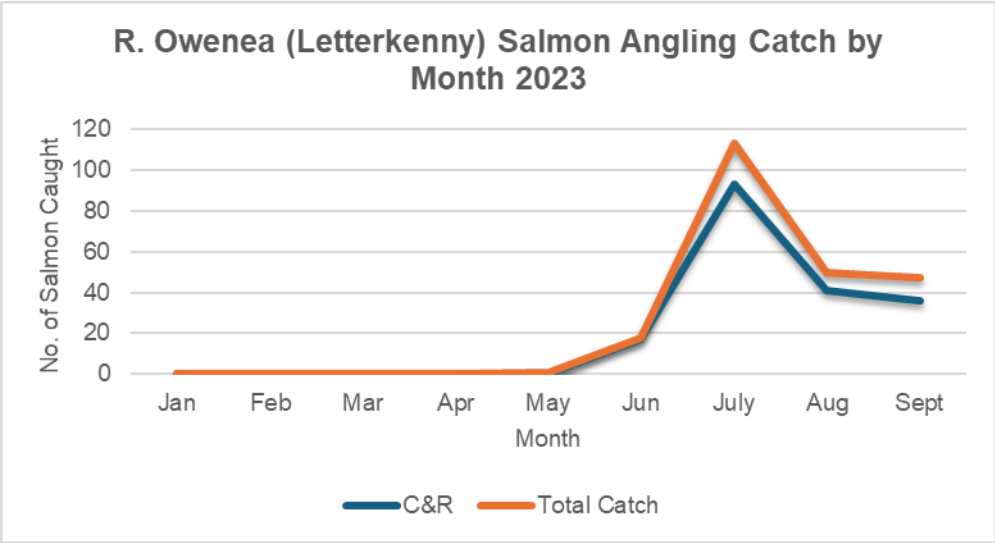


Fig. 23 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the Waterville/Cummeragh/Currane (Kerry) in 2023.

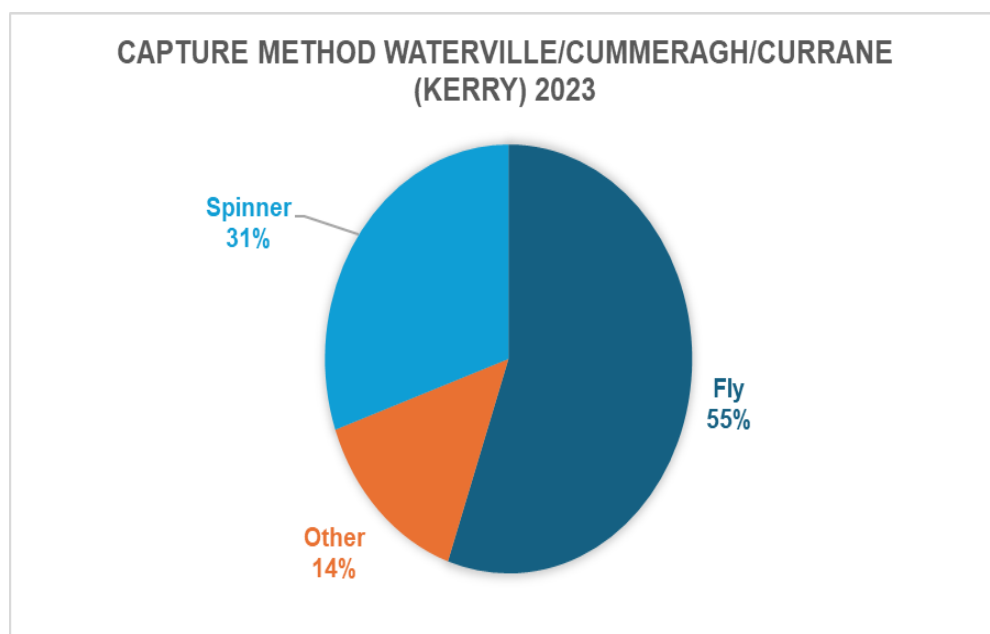
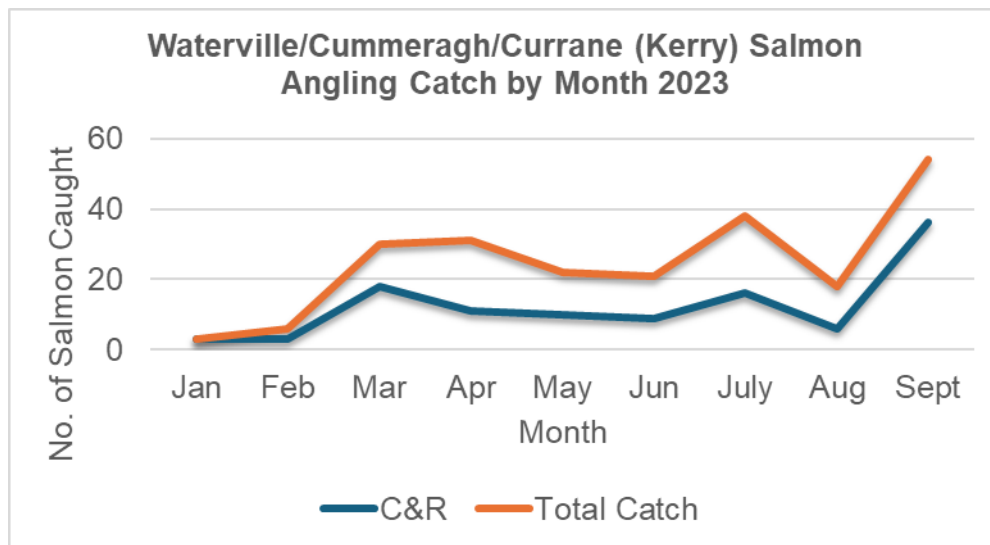


Fig. 24 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Owenmore (Bangor) in 2023.

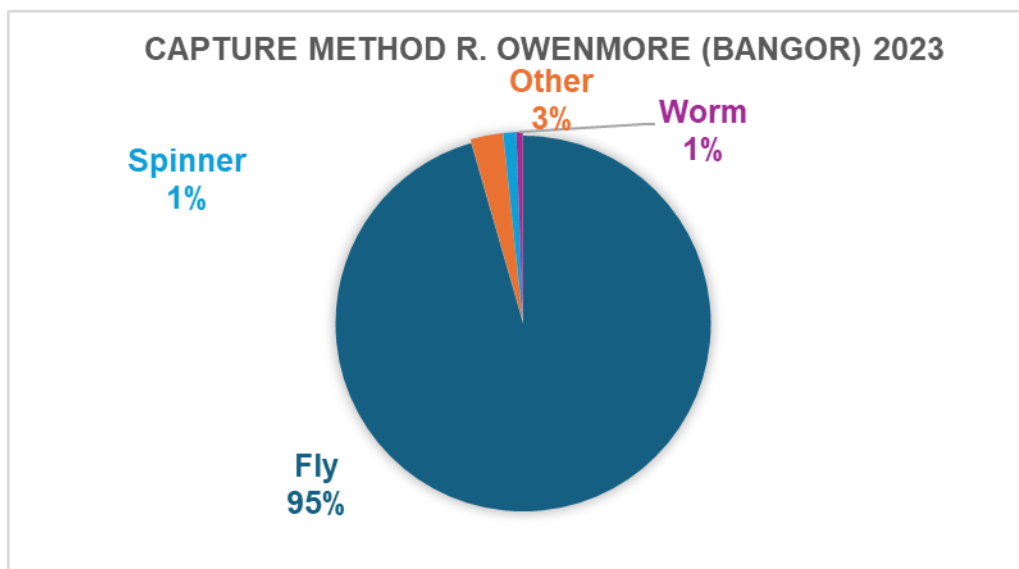
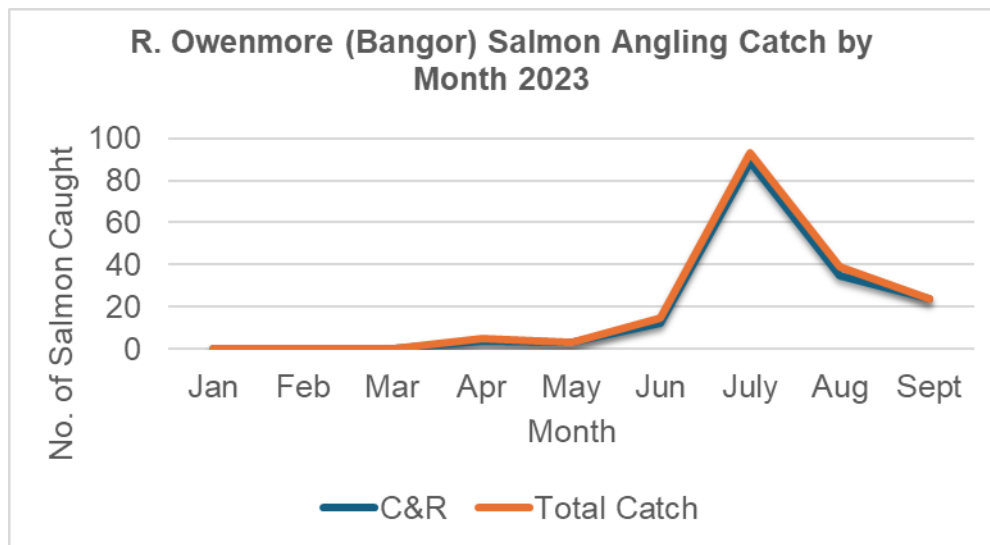


Fig. 25 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on River Erriff (Ballinakill) in 2023.

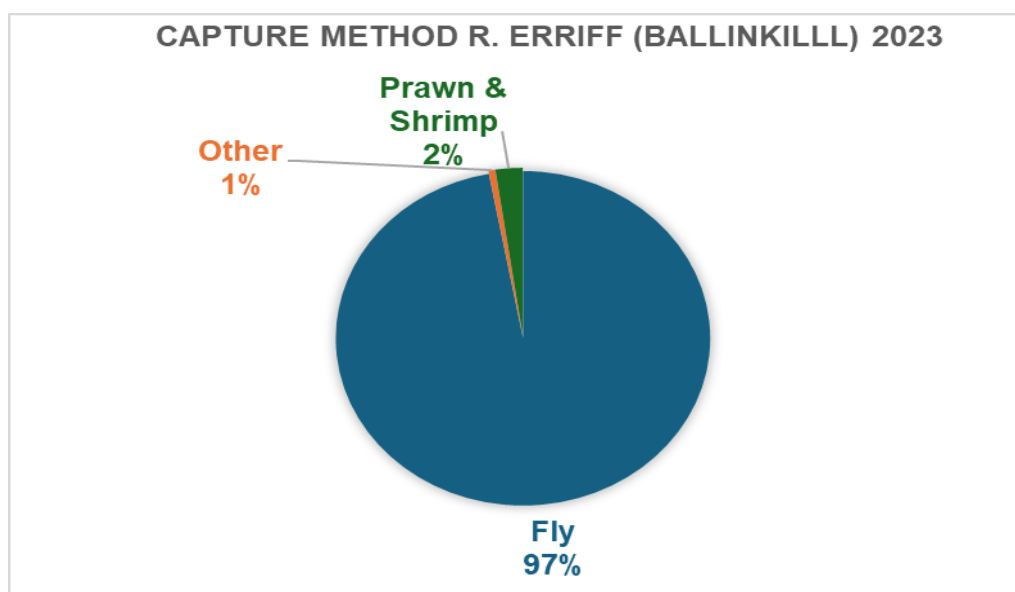
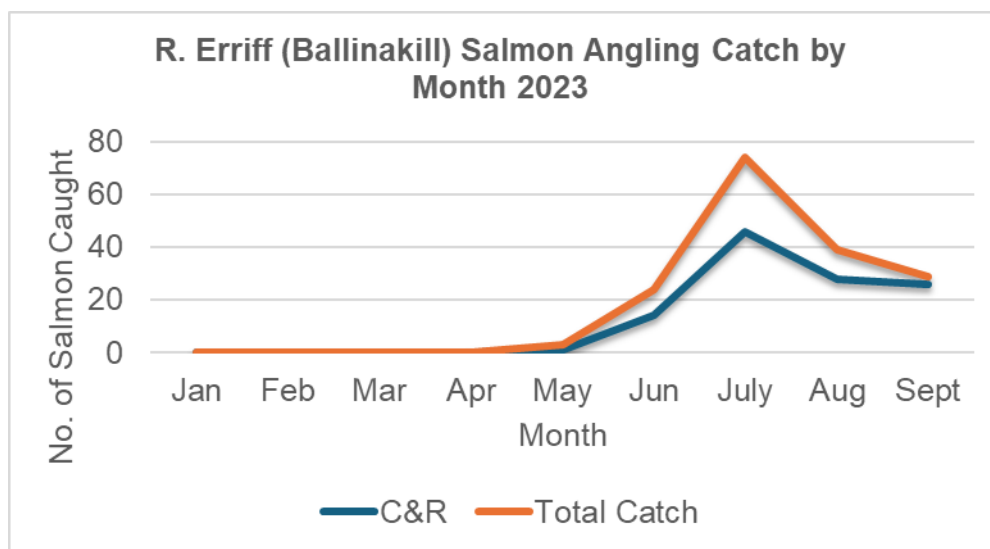


Fig. 26 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Mulkear (Limerick) in 2023

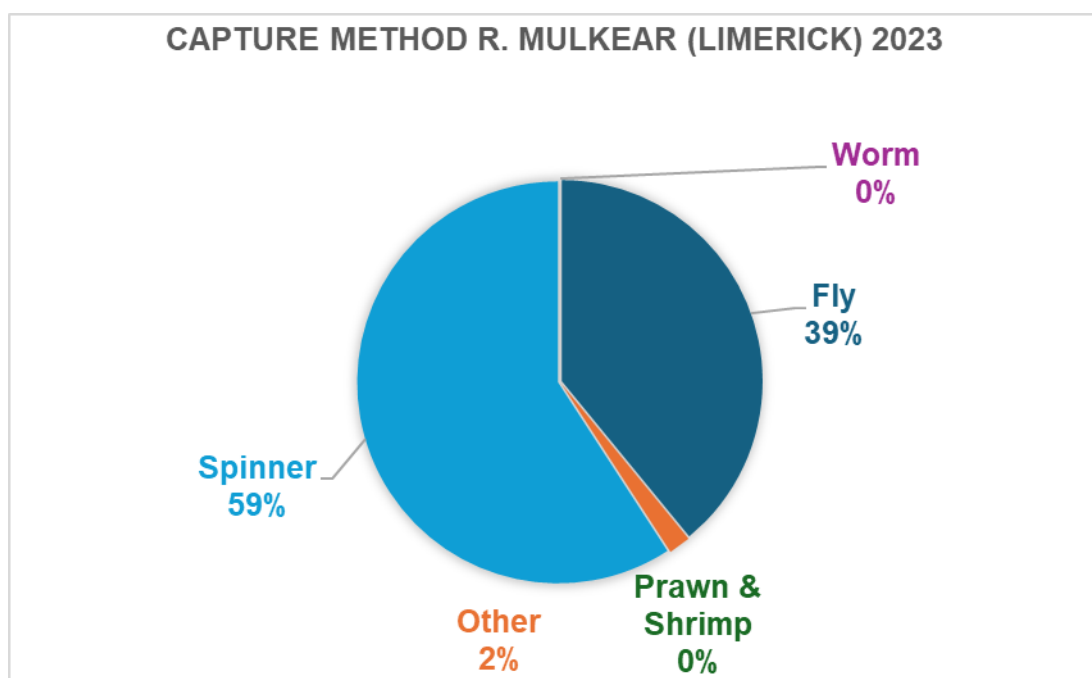
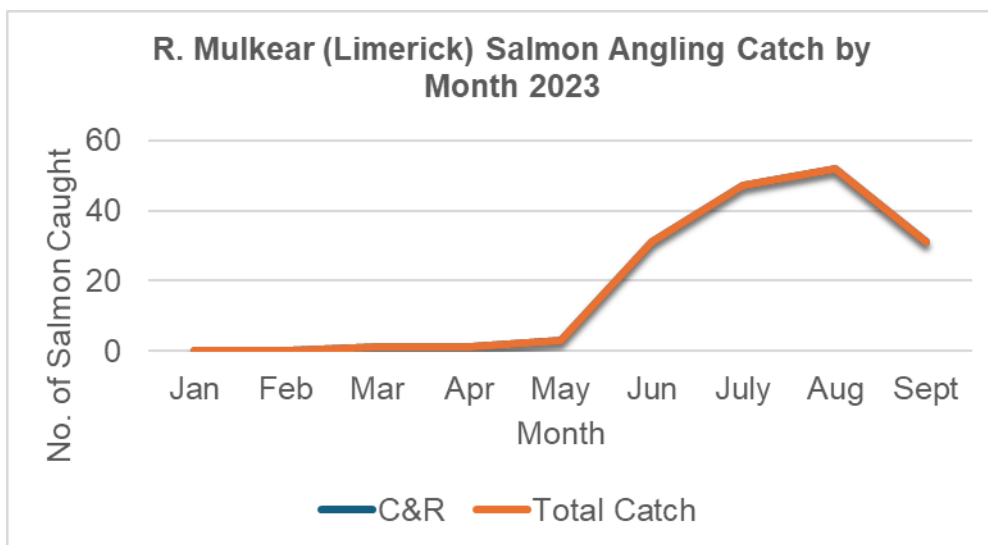


Fig. 27 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Ilen (Cork) in 2023.

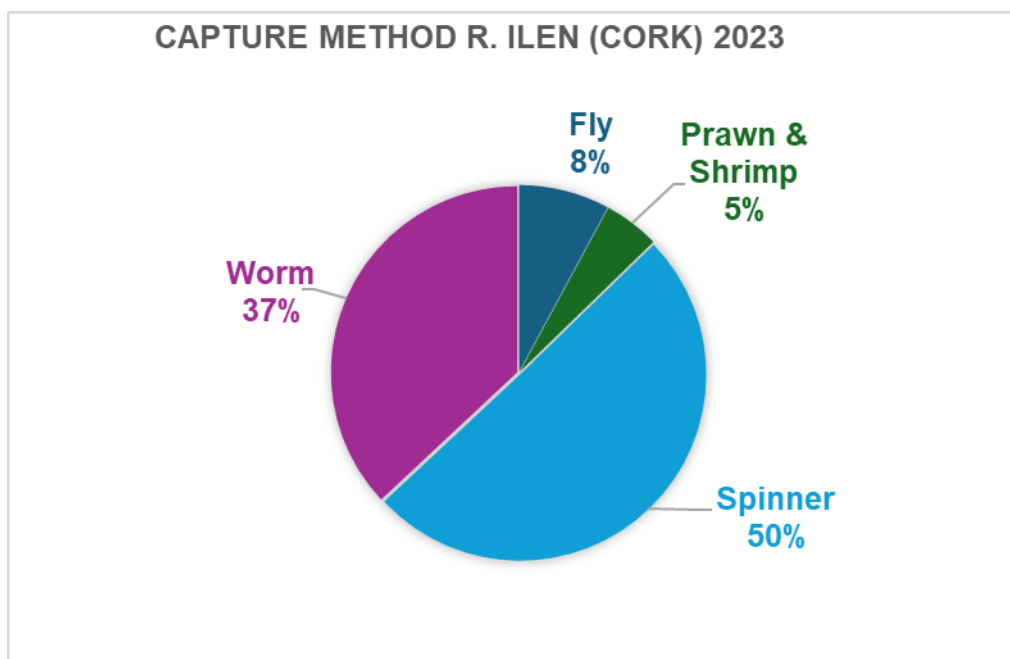
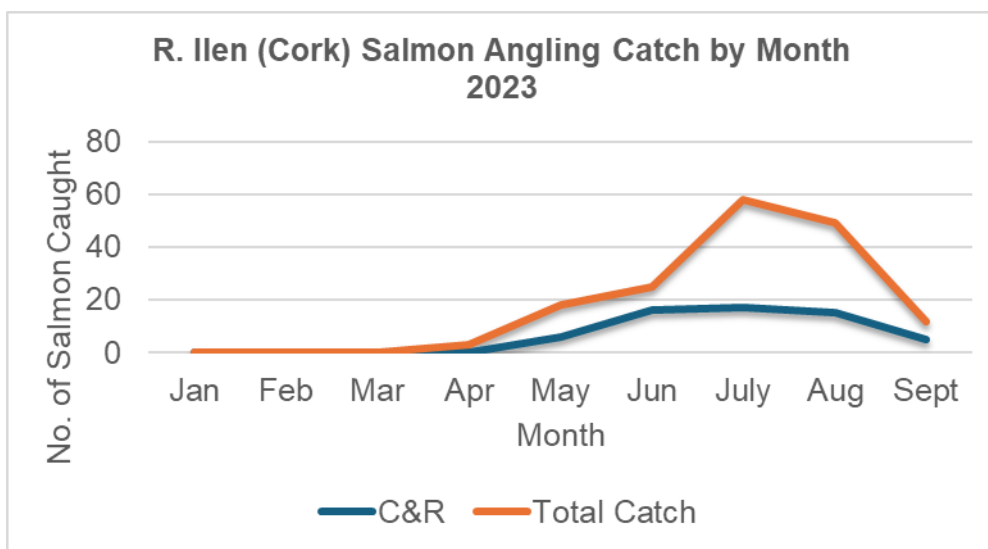


Fig. 28 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Easkey (Ballina) in 2023.

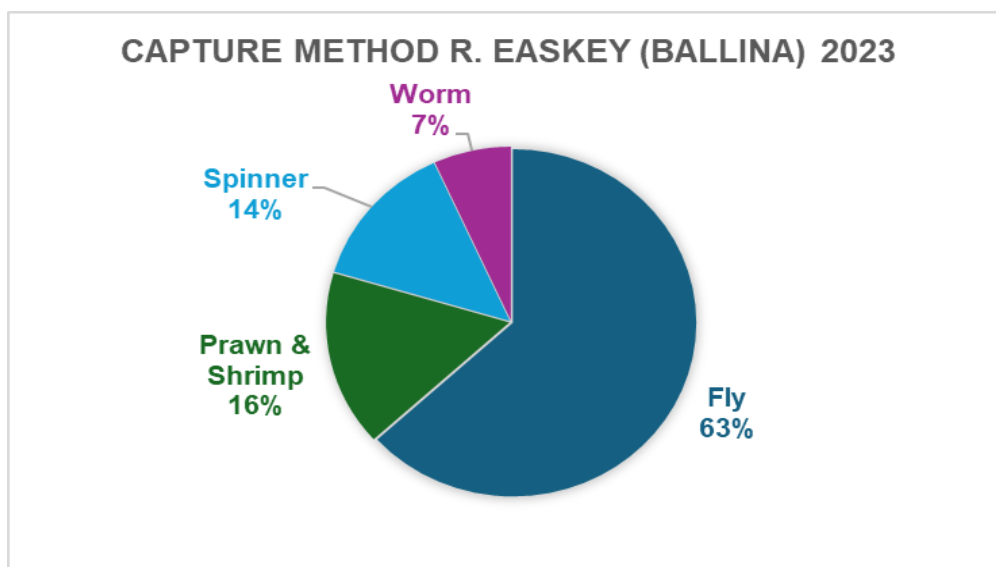
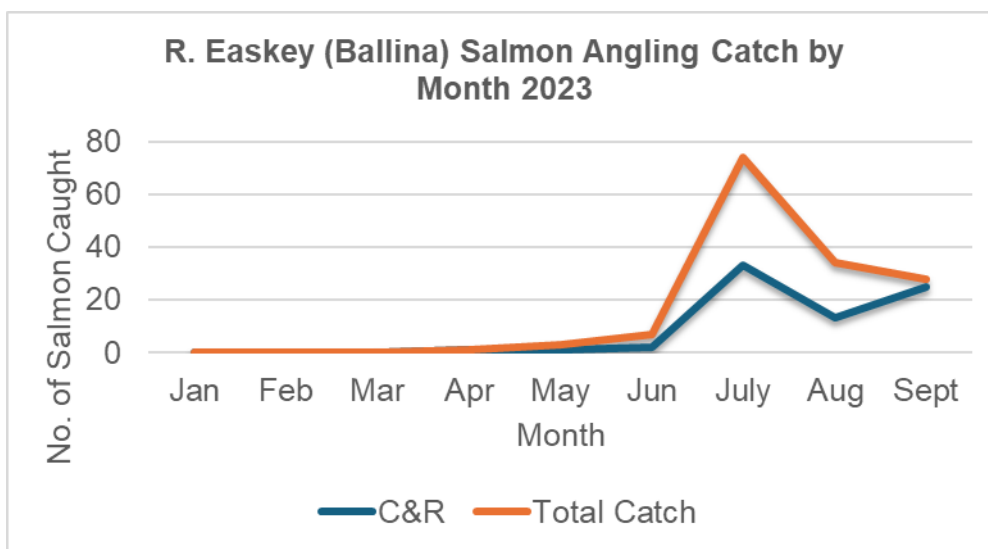


Fig. 29 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the Owenduff (Bangor) in 2023.

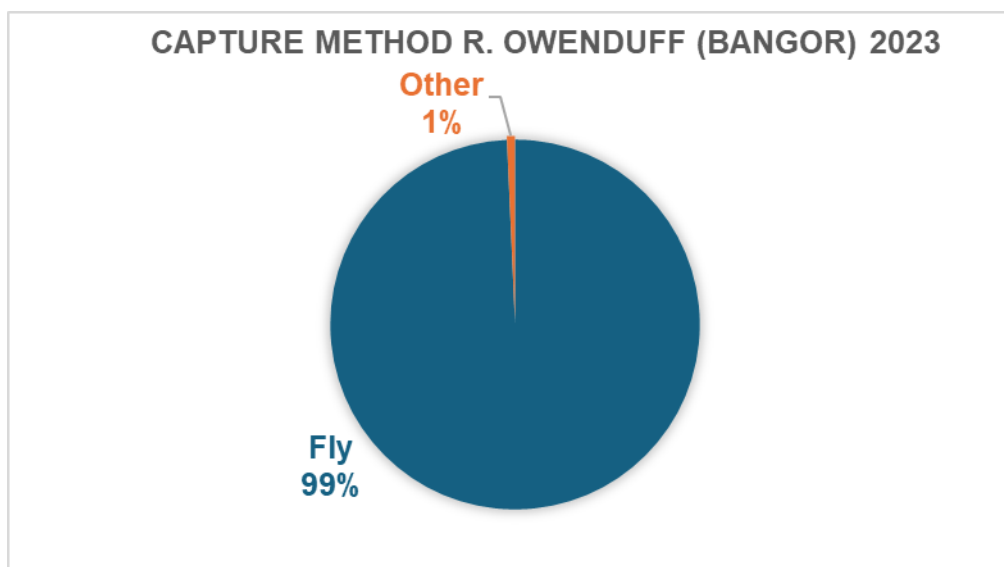
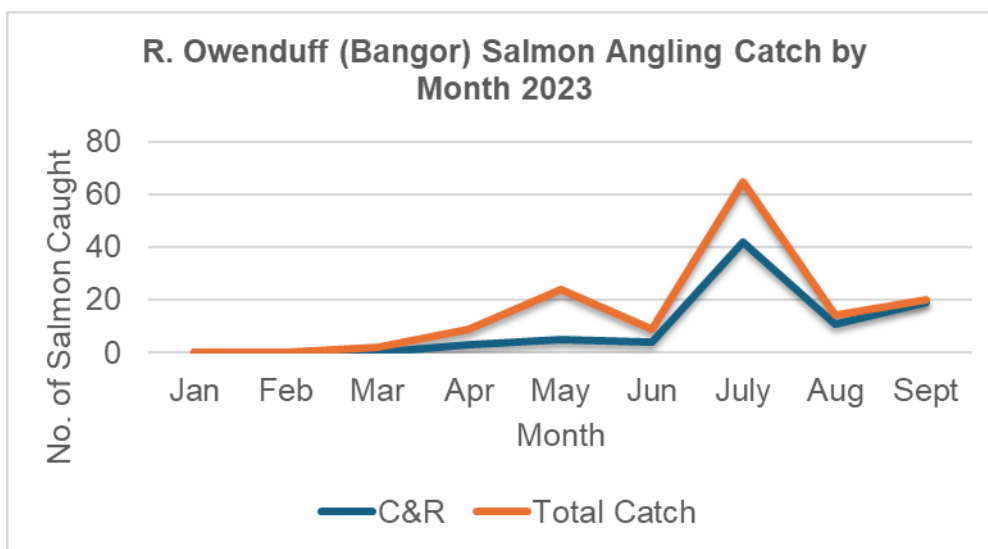


Fig. 30 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on River Caragh (Kerry)
in 2023.

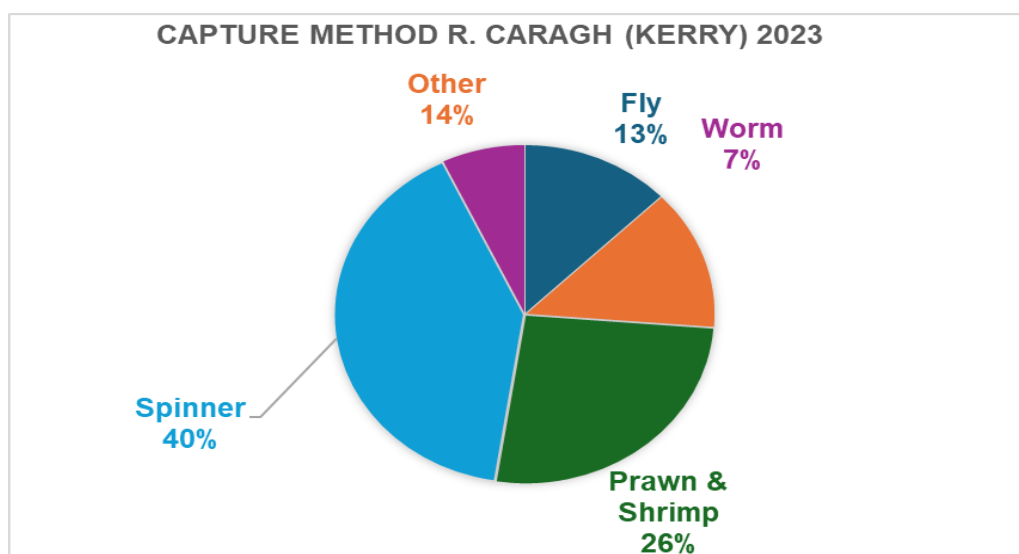
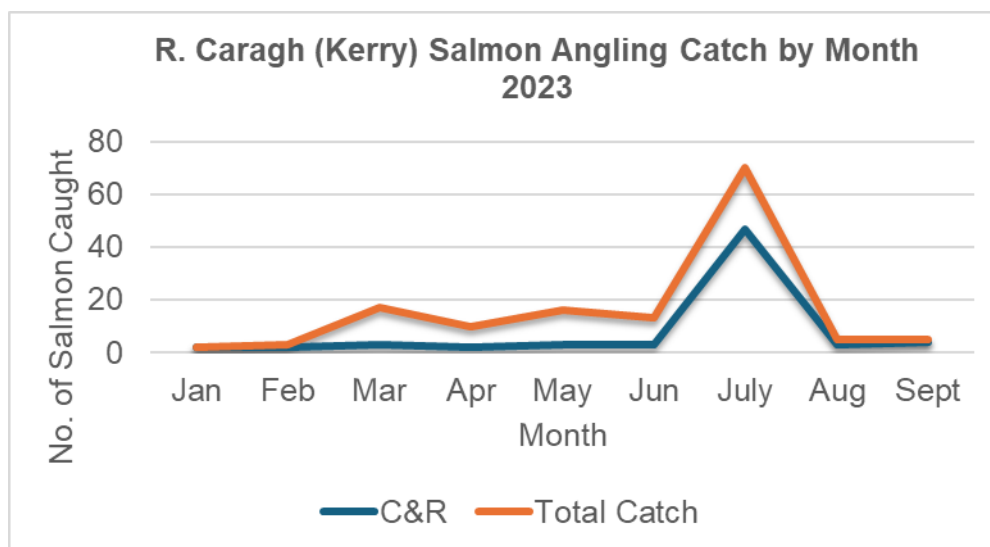


Fig. 31 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Boyne (Drogheda) in 2023.

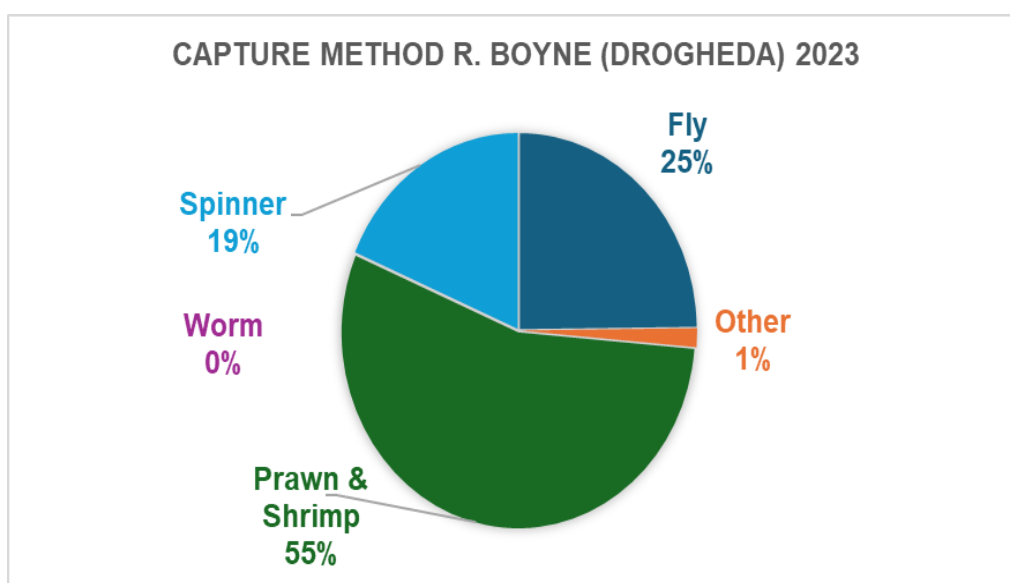
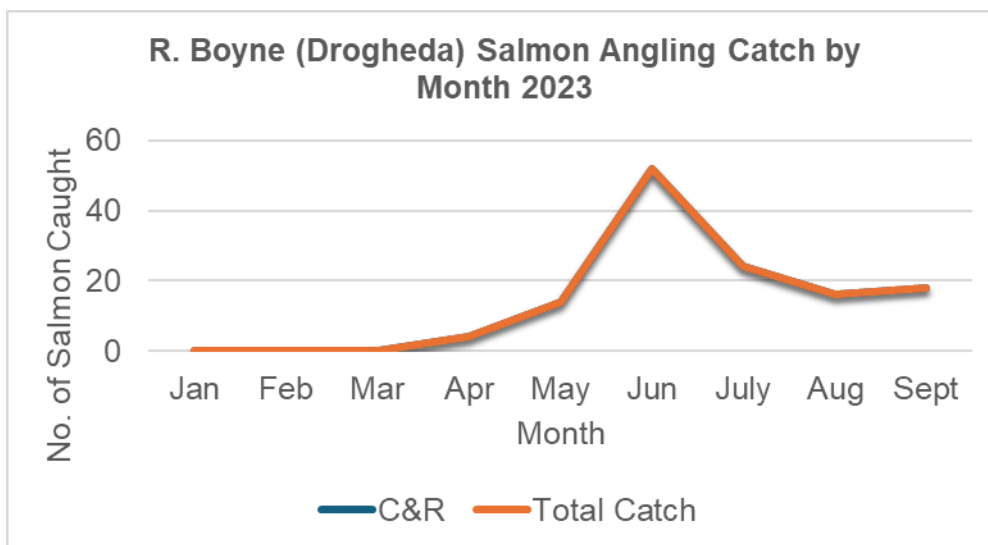


Fig. 32 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Maine (Kerry) in 2023.

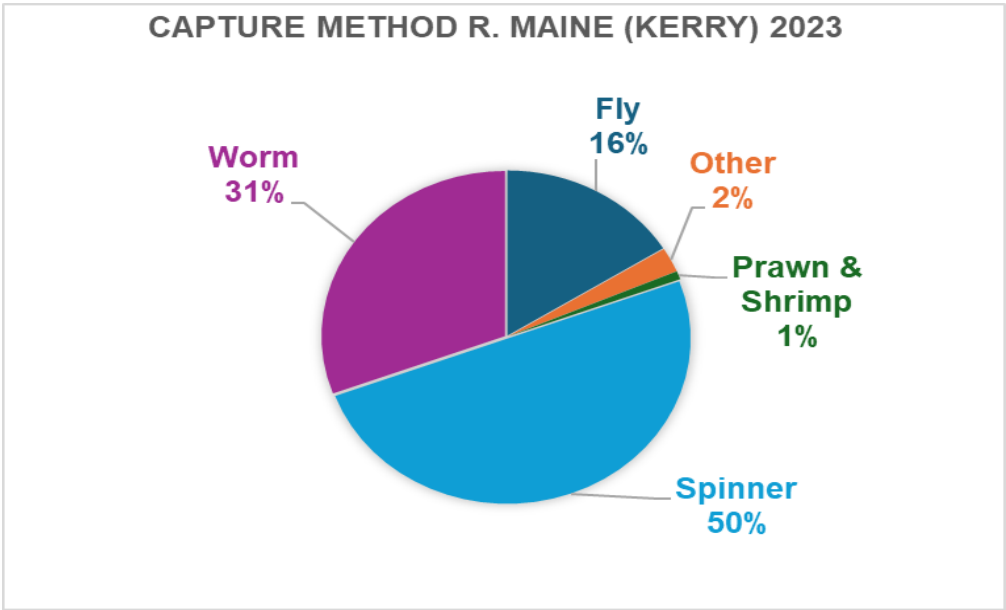
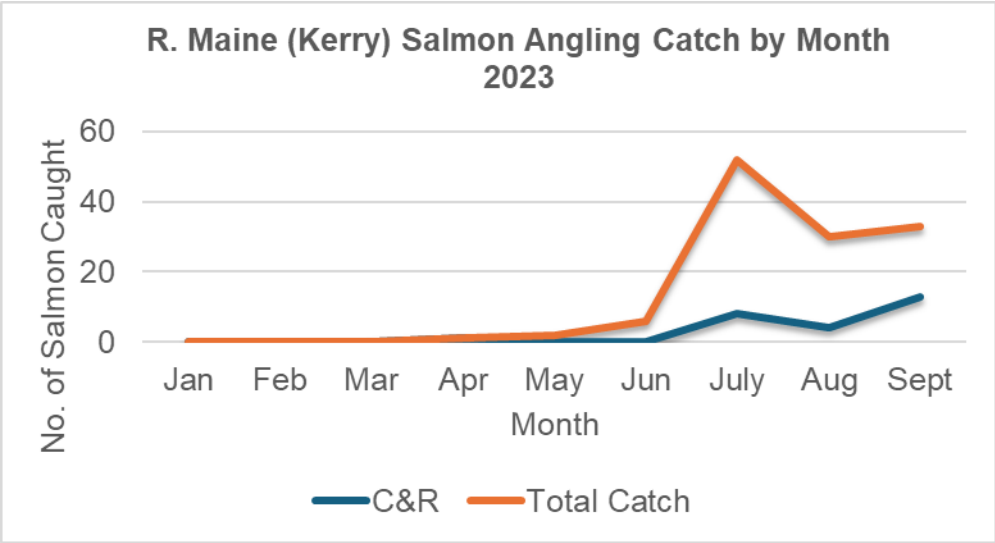
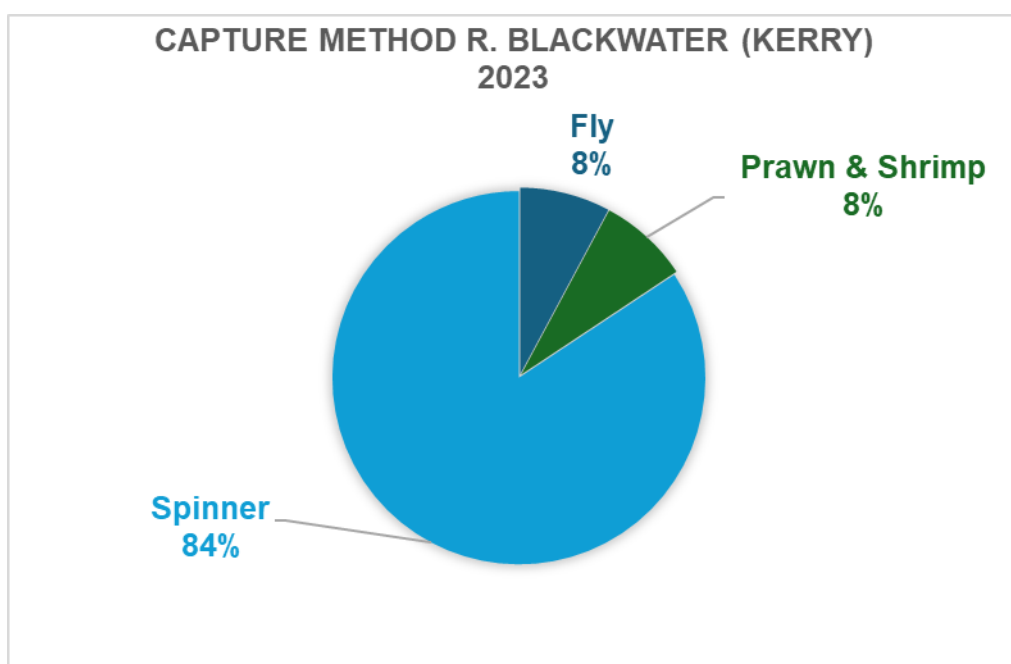
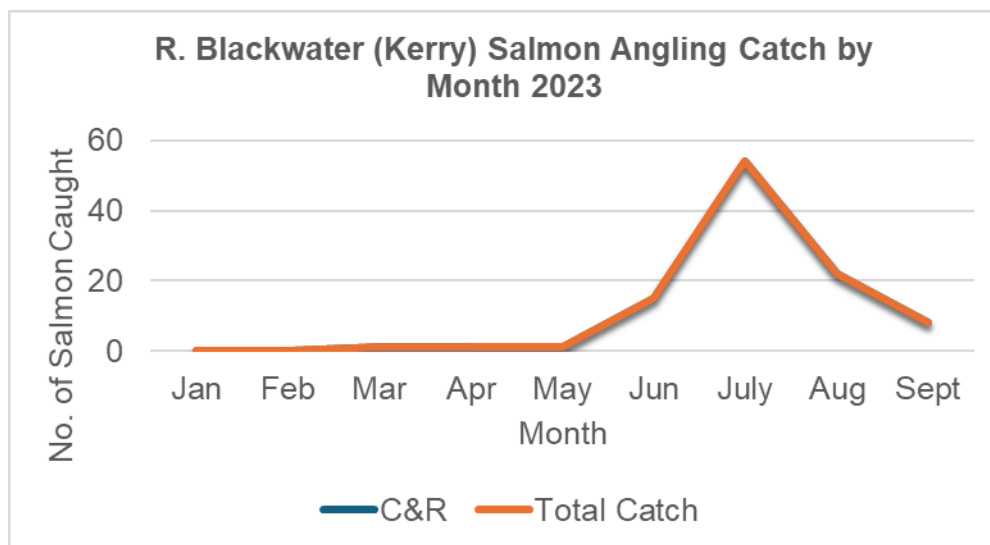


Fig. 33 - Reported salmon angling catch by capture method and by month on the River Blackwater (Kerry) in 2023.



**Appendix I –
‘Open’, ‘Catch and Release’ and ‘Closed’
Salmon/Sea Trout Rivers in 2023**

Table 1 - Open Fisheries with Optional Harvest Surplus - 2023

No. 4 or Lismore District	No. 10(1) or Ballinakill District
Blackwater,	Bundorragha (Delphi) (brown tag required – code H4),
Glenshelane,	Erriff,
Finisk,	Culfin,
No. 5 or Cork District	No. 10(2) or Banger District
Bandon,	Owenglin (Clifden) (brown tag required – code D3),
Lower Lee (brown tag required – code N4),	Bunowen,
Ille,	Carrownisky (brown tag required - code K3),
Mealagh,	Carrowmore Lake (brown tag required – code O4),
Owvane,	Owenduff,
Coomhola,	Newport River (including Lough Beltra and Crumpaun R.) (brown tag required to 11 th May only - code N3),
Glengarriff,	Owenmore R. (brown tag required - code A4),
No. 7 or Kerry District	No. 11 or Ballina District
Roughy,	Moy,
Sheen,	Easkey,
Laune,	
Cottoners,	No. 12 or Sligo District
Waterville/Cummeragh/Currane	Ballysadare,
Sneem,	Drumcliff R. and Glencar Lake,
Caragh,	No. 13 or Ballyshannon District
Owenmore R.,	Drowes,
Maine,	Owenwee (Yellow),
Croanshagh,	No. 14 or Letterkenny District
Ferta,	Gweebarra (Open from 12 th May),
No. 9(1) or Galway District	Clady (brown tag required - code S4),
Corrib,	Gweedore (Crolly),
No. 9(2) or Connemara District	Tullaghobegley,
Cashla,	Crana (brown tag required – code Q4),
Ballynahinch (Owenmore), (brown tag required – code P3),	Owentocker (brown tag required – code G4),
	Owenea (brown tag required – code G4),
	No. 17(2) or Dundalk District
	Fane (brown tag required - code F4),

Table 2 - Open Fisheries - Catch and Release Only - 2023

No. 1 or Dublin District	No. 9(2) or Connemara District
Lower Liffey (downstream of Leixlip Dam), ® ®+	Screebe, ®
No. 2 or Wexford District	No. 10(1) or Ballinakill District
Slaney, (Catch and Release 17 th March - 31 st Aug, Otherwise Closed), ®	Owenwee (Belclare), ®
	No. 10(2) or Bangor District
No. 3 or Waterford District	Glenamoy, ®
Barrow,	No. 11 or Ballina District
Suir,	Cloonaghmore (Palmerstown), ®
Pollmounty,	No. 12 or Sligo District
Nore,	Garavogue River (including L. Gill and R. Bonet) ®-,
No. 4 or Lismore District	No. 13 or Ballyshannon District
Bride, ®	Eany, ®
No. 5 or Cork District	Glen, ®
Argideen, ®	Oily, ®
Owenacurra, ®	Bungosteen, ®
No. 7 or Kerry District	Duff, ®
Blackwater, ®	No. 14 or Letterkenny District
Owenascaul, ®	Leannan, ®
Cloonee, ®	Ray, ®
Milltown, ®	Lackagh, (Catch and Release from 12 th May). ®
Inny, ®	Gweebarra, (Catch and Release to 11 th May), ®
No. 8 or Limerick District	No. 17(1) or Drogheda District
Mulkear, ®	Boyne, ®-
Feale, (including Rivers Galey & Brick), ®	No. 17(2) or Dundalk District
Doonbeg, ®	Glyde, ®
Lower Shannon,	Dee, ®-

Table 3 - Closed Fisheries - 2023	
No. 1 or Dublin District	No. 9(1) or Galway District
Dargle, ®	Clarinbridge, ®
Vartry, ®	Knock, ®
Upper Liffey (upstream of Leixlip Dam), ®-	Aille, ®
No. 2 or Wexford District	Owenboliska, Spiddal, ®
Avoca, ®	Kilcolgan,
Owenavorrigh, ®	No. 9(2) or Connemara District
Slaney, (Closed to 16 th March, Closed from 1 st Sept), ®	L. na Furnace, ®
No. 3 or Waterford District	No. 10(2) or Bangor District
Owenduff, ®	Owengarve, ®
Mahon, ®	Muingnabo, ®
Tay, ®	Shramore, ®
Colligan, ®	No. 11 or Ballina District
Corrock, ®	Brusna, ®
No. 4 or Lismore District	Leaffony, ®
Lickey, ®	Ballinglen, ®
Tourig, ®	No. 12 or Sligo District
Womanagh, ®	Grange, ®
No. 5 or Cork District	No. 13 or Ballyshannon District
Upper Lee,	Abbey, ®
Adrigole, ®	Ballintra (Murvagh), ®-
No. 7 or Kerry District	Laghy (Stream), ®
Owenshagh, ®	Erne,
Finnihy, ®	Eske, ®
Feohanagh, ®	No. 14 or Letterkenny District
Owenreagh, ®	Bracky, ®
Emlaghmore, ®	Isle (Burn), ®
Carhan, ®	Mill, ®
Emlagh, ®	Clonmany, ®
Lee (Kerry), ®	Straid, ®
Behy, ®	Owenamarve, ®
Kealinda, ®	Swilly, ®
Lough Fadda, ®	Donagh, ®
No. 8 or Limerick District	Culoort, ®
Deel, ®	Glenna, ®
Aughyvackeen, ®	Glenagannon, ®
Annageeragh, ®	Lackagh, (Closed to 11 th May), ®
Inagh, ®	No. 17(2) or Dundalk District
Fergus,	Flurry, ®
Maigue, ®	Castletown, ®
Upper Shannon (upstream of Parteen Weir),	
Owenagarney,	
Skivileen, ®	

Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme

The Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme regulates salmon and sea trout fishing in Ireland and is administered by Inland Fisheries Ireland. Please note that the regulations and bye-laws are subject to change. Contact your local Inland Fisheries Ireland office for information on individual rivers.

All salmon rod licence holders must affix a gill tag to all retained salmon (any size), or sea trout (over 40cm) once the fish has been killed.

1. BAG LIMITS

There is a National angling bag limit of 10 salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per person on rivers where you may catch and retain salmon (Table 1). The bag limits are subject to any quota allocated to a river and its tributaries. A person shall not retain a wild salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) from a river other than a river mentioned in Table 1.

Subject to the maximum annual bag limit of ten fish an angler may take:

- ☞ **Daily Bag Limit - 1st January to 11th May** - A total of one salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per day (three fish in total may be retained for this period).
- ☞ **Daily Bag Limit - 12th May to 31st August** - Three salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per day (except where a salmon rod (one-day) ordinary licence is held, 1 fish).
- ☞ **Daily Bag Limit - 1st September to the close of the season** - One salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per day.
- ☞ There is a daily bag limit of three sea trout (under 40cm) per angler per day.
- ☞ Please note that it is an offence to kill any sea trout in the following waters:
 - Galway, Connemara or Ballinakill Fisheries Districts including at sea from Hags Head in County Clare to Clew Bay (and in any waters flowing into Clew Bay) in the Bangor Fishery District south of a line drawn due east and west through Achill Head,
 - Kerry District, in that part of the sea east of a line between Bolus Head and Lombs Head and all the waters discharging into it (i.e. Waterville area).

After the daily bag limit has been taken, anglers are permitted to fish catch and release, using single or double barbless hooks and anglers may not use worms. This also applies to anglers who have utilized their allocation of blue tags (or brown tags where they apply) or who are not in possession of an unused blue or brown tag for the river concerned. The killing and possession of foul hooked fish is prohibited.

On rivers where catch and release is permitted (Table 2):

- ☞ anglers may not use worms.
- ☞ anglers must use single or double barbless hooks.
- ☞ the fish must be handled carefully and should not be removed from the water prior to release.

On all other rivers (Table 3) angling for salmon (any size) and sea trout (over 40cm) is prohibited.

- ☞ The Regulations on the River Avoca prohibit the taking of any sea trout (under 40cm) as well as prohibiting the use of worms as bait and any fish hooks other than single barbless hooks in angling for sea trout (under 40cm) (bye-law no. 890, 2011).
- ☞ The Regulations on the River Slaney prohibit the use of (a) any lure other than artificial fly using single or double barbless hooks in that part of the River Slaney upstream from the Railway Bridge Enniscorthy, or (b) worms as bait or any fish hooks, other than single barbless hooks, in that part of the River Slaney downstream from the Railway Bridge Enniscorthy to the mouth of the River Slaney (bye-law no. 1,000, 2022).
- ☞ The Regulations on the River Suir prohibit the use of worms, prawn, shrimp or any other crustacean or artificial forms thereof as bait and any fish hooks other than single or double barbless hooks (bye-law no. 999, 2022).

2. OBTAINING A LICENCE

Anglers can obtain their licence from Inland Fisheries Ireland, online at www.fishinginireland.ie or from any rod licence distributor. On payment of the rod licence fee, the angler will be given:

- ☞ The relevant rod licence, associated logbook and a plastic wallet for the licence/logbook.
- ☞ 3 gill tags where a salmon rod (annual) ordinary, juvenile, district or 21-day ordinary licence is issued up until 11th May and a further 7 gill tags (issued in lots of 3 or 4) from the period 12th May to 30th Sept up to a maximum of 10 gill tags in total provided they demonstrate that they have completed their logbook appropriately.
- ☞ 1 gill tag where a salmon rod (one day) ordinary licence is issued up until the close of the season.
- ☞ A business reply envelope for return of the logbook and unused tags to the relevant Inland Fisheries Ireland office.

3. THE TAG

The tag to be used by anglers is a blue plastic self-locking device (an additional brown tag is also required for certain rivers (refer to Table 1 – Open Fisheries with Optional Harvest Surplus - 2023) to ensure angling quotas are not exceeded. Contact the relevant IFI office for details on how to obtain brown tags). Each blue tag is embossed with a code identifying where the tag was issued, the year in which the tag can be used, a security code and a tag serial number.

Anglers should carefully note the following concerning the use of these tags:

- ☞ Each rod licence holder will be issued tags for his/her use only. Tags are not transferable between licence holders.
- ☞ One tag shall be attached to each salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) caught and retained.
- ☞ Tags must be attached immediately on landing the fish. These tags shall not be re-used.
- ☞ Tags shall be attached through the gill opening and mouth of the fish and securely double locked around the gill cover.
- ☞ Additional tags shall be issued on presentation of logbook information showing that the licence holder has used the gill tags issued to him or her, subject to bag limits.
- ☞ Lost and accidentally destroyed tags may be replaced upon presentation of a signed declaration completed by the angler and signed by an Authorised Officer of Inland Fisheries Ireland.
- ☞ Gill tags shall only be removed from the fish at the time of processing in accordance with the Tagging Scheme Regulations. For the purposes of this scheme processing includes smoking, marinating or cooking the fish, gutting and freezing the fish or cutting any steaks, cutlets or portions of the fish.

4. THE LOGBOOK

On receipt of tags the angler will also receive a logbook. Details of the gill tags issued to an angler will be entered into the angler's logbook by the issuing agent. Each angler shall:

- ☞ Have the logbook in his/her possession while fishing for salmon or sea trout.
- ☞ Record all details of their catch in their logbook immediately after tagging the fish.
- ☞ Make a catch record even if the fish is released.
- ☞ Record details of any lost or damaged tags.
- ☞ Declare lost or damaged logbooks to Inland Fisheries Ireland.



Salmon and Sea Trout Angling Regulations 2023



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

This leaflet includes information on the status of rivers (open, closed and catch and release), bag limits, obtaining a licence, correct use of logbooks and gill tags.

5. RETURNING LOGBOOKS AND UNUSED TAGS

In accordance with the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Regulations anglers are required by law to return their completed logbook (even if there is no catch recorded) and all unused tags to the issuing office of Inland Fisheries Ireland by the 19th October 2023. A business reply envelope is provided for this purpose. Anglers are required to obtain proof of postage and to retain such proof for 12 months.

6. PROHIBITION ON THE SALE OF ROD CAUGHT SALMON OR SEA TROUT

Anglers are prohibited from selling salmon (any size) or sea trout (any size) caught by rod and line.

These guidelines have been prepared for information purposes only and do not purport to be a legal interpretation. The holder of a rod licence should familiarise himself or herself with section 69 of the Inland Fisheries Act, 2010 (No. 10 of 2010), the current Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme Regulations and the Salmon and Sea Trout Conservation Bye-laws.

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Appendix II - Legislation

Legislation – 2023

Inland Fisheries Act, 2010 (no. 10 of 2010).

Salmon and Sea Trout caught by Rod and Line (Prohibition on Sale) Order, 2001 – S.I. No. 53 of 2001

Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme Regulations 2018 – S.I. No. 585 of 2018.

Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 2022 – S.I. No. 685 of 2022.

Bag Limits 2023

Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Bag Limits) Bye-law No. 997, 2022.

Catch & Release Rivers 2023

Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Catch and Release) Bye-law No. 998, 2022.

Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (River Slaney) Bye-law No. 1000, 2022.

Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (River Suir) Bye-law No. 999, 2022.

Closed Rivers 2023

Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Closed Rivers) Bye-law No. 333, 2022.

Other Bye-laws 2023

Angling Bye-law No. 996, 2022.

Conservation of Sea Trout Bye-law No. 1001, 2022.

Commercial Fishing 2023

Control of Fishing for Salmon Order 2021 - S.I. No. 102 of 2021

Control of Fishing for Salmon (Amendment) Order 2023 - S.I. No. 98 of 2023

Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Draft Nets and Snap Nets) Bye law No. 1002, 2023

Appendix III - References

Inland Fisheries Ireland (2011) Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report 2010.
<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

Inland Fisheries Ireland (2012) Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report 2011.
<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

Inland Fisheries Ireland (2013) Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report 2012.
<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

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<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

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<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

Inland Fisheries Ireland (2020) Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report 2019.
<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

Inland Fisheries Ireland (2021) Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report 2020.
<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

Inland Fisheries Ireland (2022) Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report 2021.
<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

Inland Fisheries Ireland (2023) Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report 2022.
<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

Inland Fisheries Ireland (2024) Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report 2023.
<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

Small, I. (1991) Exploring data provided by angling for salmonids in the British Isles. In: Catch Effort Sampling Strategies - their application in Freshwater Fisheries Management. I.G. Cowx (Ed.), Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd.

Technical Expert Group on Salmon - The Status of Irish Salmon Stocks in 2022 with Precautionary Catch Advice for 2023. <https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/publications>

Appendix IV –

Glossary of Terms used in Report

“River Basins” and “Fishery Districts”

There are 7 River Basins and 17 fishery districts. The River Basins are made up of fishery districts as follows;

River Basin District (RBD)	Fishery District
Eastern River Basin District (ERBD)	Dundalk
	Drogheda
	Dublin
South Eastern River Basin District (SERBD)	Wexford
	Waterford
South Western River Basin District (SWRBD)	Lismore
	Cork
	Kerry
Shannon River Basin District (ShRBD)	Limerick
Western River Basin District – Galway (WRBD)	Galway
	Connemara
	Ballinakill
Western River Basin District – Ballina (WRFB)	Bangor
	Ballinakill
	Sligo
North Western River Basin District (NWRFB)	Ballyshannon
	Letterkenny

Logbook means a salmon and sea trout commercial fishing logbook or a salmon and sea trout angler’s logbook. The logbook will be issued along with a salmon and sea trout commercial and/or angler’s licence. The logbook must be completed by the licence holder. The licence holder must populate the logbook with his/her fishing effort for salmon and sea trout including days fished where there was no catch.

Logbook Returns

Completed Logbooks are returned to the river basin district which issued the licence not later than 7th August for commercial fishing logbooks and no later than 19th October for angler’s logbooks of the year to which they relate.

Harvest

This is the number of salmon and/or sea trout “caught and retained”, “caught and tagged”, “caught and killed”. All commercially caught salmon and/or sea trout are harvested. All rod caught salmon harvested must be tagged.

Caught and Released (C&R)

This is the number of salmon and/or sea trout caught by rod and line in specified waters, handled carefully and immediately returned alive to those waters.

Reported Catch

This is the actual salmon or sea trout catch taken directly from angler’s logbook. Commercial catch represents the reported catch only as 100% of logbooks are returned by commercial fishermen.

Adjusted/Raised Catch

The assessment of wild salmon and sea trout angling catches includes an adjustment to the reported angling catch to take into account the numbers of fish caught by anglers who have not returned their logbook. Raised catch for individual rivers are rounded up or down to the nearest whole number therefore the sum catch of all rivers will appear to be out by +or- 0.1%.

Small

The method for adjusting/raising the reported angling catch follows investigations published by Small (1991). Commercial catch is not adjusted as 100% of logbooks are returned by commercial fishermen

Raising Factor

The Wild Salmon and Sea Trout statistics are generated based on the logbook returns obtained from recreational salmon and sea trout anglers. The reported catches taken from logbooks are raised to provide an adjusted/raised catch to take account of those anglers who did not return logbooks. This reported catch is multiplied by a raising factor which is obtained based on a formula $((0.3/X) + 0.7)$ called Small 1991. X represents the total licence sales divided by the total logbooks returned by anglers.

Spring Salmon - Salmon which are caught between 1st January and 31st May.

Returning from the sea after spending two or more years, 2 sea-winter or multi-sea winter salmon. These older fish are larger and usually return in the springtime and are often referred to as spring salmon.

Grilse - Salmon which are caught between 1st June and 30th September, returning having spent one year at sea (1 sea-winter salmon).

Draft Net

Draft Net includes a single wall of netting attached to a floating head rope and a weighted ground rope, designed so that a bag is formed into which the catch is drafted or hauled, for the purpose of taking or fishing for, or attempting to take or fish for, salmon or sea trout.

Drift Net

Drift Net includes a single sheet of netting attached to a floating head rope and a weighted ground rope, designed to drift freely at the surface of waters for the purpose of taking or fishing for, or attempting to take or to fish for, salmon or sea trout, to which net or ropes no weights or anchoring devices are attached which in any way hinder or prevent the free movement of the net in those waters.

Other Fishing Engine

Other fishing engine – means any fishing engine not being a drift net, a draft net, a snap net or rod and line, capable of being used for the purpose of taking or fishing for, or attempting to take or to fish for, salmon or sea trout.

Total Allowable Catch (TAC)

The maximum number of gill tags that may be issued, in respect of wild salmon and sea trout which may be lawfully taken, by the holders of fishing licences, in a river or a fishery district.

Salmon and Sea Trout Anglers Licence

A licence - Annual licence, entitles you to fish in all 17 fishery districts (excluding the Foyle area) in which rivers are open for fishing for the duration of the season.

B licence – A district licence entitles you to fish in one specified fishery district only (excluding the Foyle area) in which rivers are open for fishing for the duration of the season.

P licence – A juvenile licence entitles you to fish in all 17 districts (excluding the Foyle area) in which rivers are open for fishing for the duration of the season.

R licence – A twenty-one-day licence, entitles you to fish in all 17 fishery districts (excluding the Foyle area) in which rivers are open for fishing.

S licence – A one day licence entitles you to fish in all 17 fishery districts (excluding the Foyle area) in which rivers are open for fishing.

W licence – Foyle Area extension licence

X licence - A special local licence for selected waters -

(Additional permit may be required in association with a state licence for certain lakes/ivers)

River System Number

River names and code numbers are as per the Ordnance Survey of Ireland, Rivers and their Catchment Basins, 1958.

Chapter 7 Photo courtesy of Christin Breuker ©

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