



Iascach Intíre Éireann  
Inland Fisheries Ireland

# **BOARD OF INLAND FISHERIES IRELAND**

## **Meeting Report - 29 August 2025**

**This report provides an outline of agenda items raised at this meeting.**

# SPECIAL BOARD MEETING - 29 August 2025

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## 1. Administration

### 1.1 Agenda Adoption /Conflicts of Interest Declaration/ Adherence to Confidentiality

The agenda was adopted and no conflicts in respect of matters on the agenda were declared by members. The confidential nature of matters to be raised was agreed.

## 2. Matters for Consideration

### 2.1 Blackwater Fish Kill

The Chair thanked members for responding at short notice to the request to attend the special Board meeting on the Blackwater fish kill. He invited the Deputy CEO and Head of Operations to brief members.

The DCEO provided a presentation on the location of the fish kill, the current status of the investigation and the availability of preliminary results of testing. She confirmed that an interagency group had been formed, with IFI acting as lead [the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Marine Institute (MI), Cork County Council and Uisce Eireann (UE)]. The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) have also been invited.

The Deputy CEO's presented: Preliminary Results – Marine Institute; Preliminary Results – EPA; an absence of evidence of habitat degradation; and the sequence of events from the first report.

The Head of Operations updated on fish toxicology testing; and the re-opening of hatcheries and its impact on genetic diversity. The Board agreed that any action proposed must have a scientific basis. The DCEO also highlighted staff involvement, and the scale of media requests.

The Chair informed members of his interaction with the Department of Communications, Energy and the Environment (DCEE)'s Assistant Secretary. The Chair invited feedback from members. Members discussed: a major incident plan and communications protocols within and between government agencies and Departments; stakeholder involvement; the role of citizen science; communication of findings; perception of IFI; transparency; and communication to paths and command structures.

It was agreed to re-convene at the same time, Friday, 5 September.