

Introduction

County Mayo in the West of Ireland is a paradise for anglers. Everything from spring salmon, grilse, sea trout to wild brown trout - this area is a mecca for game angling!

This guide covers the main game angling waters in County Mayo. It contains information on the location of each fishery as well as details in relation to contacts, permitted angling methods, angling seasons etc. For up to date information on angling conditions and water levels, intending anglers should contact Inland Fisheries Ireland or the fishery owner.

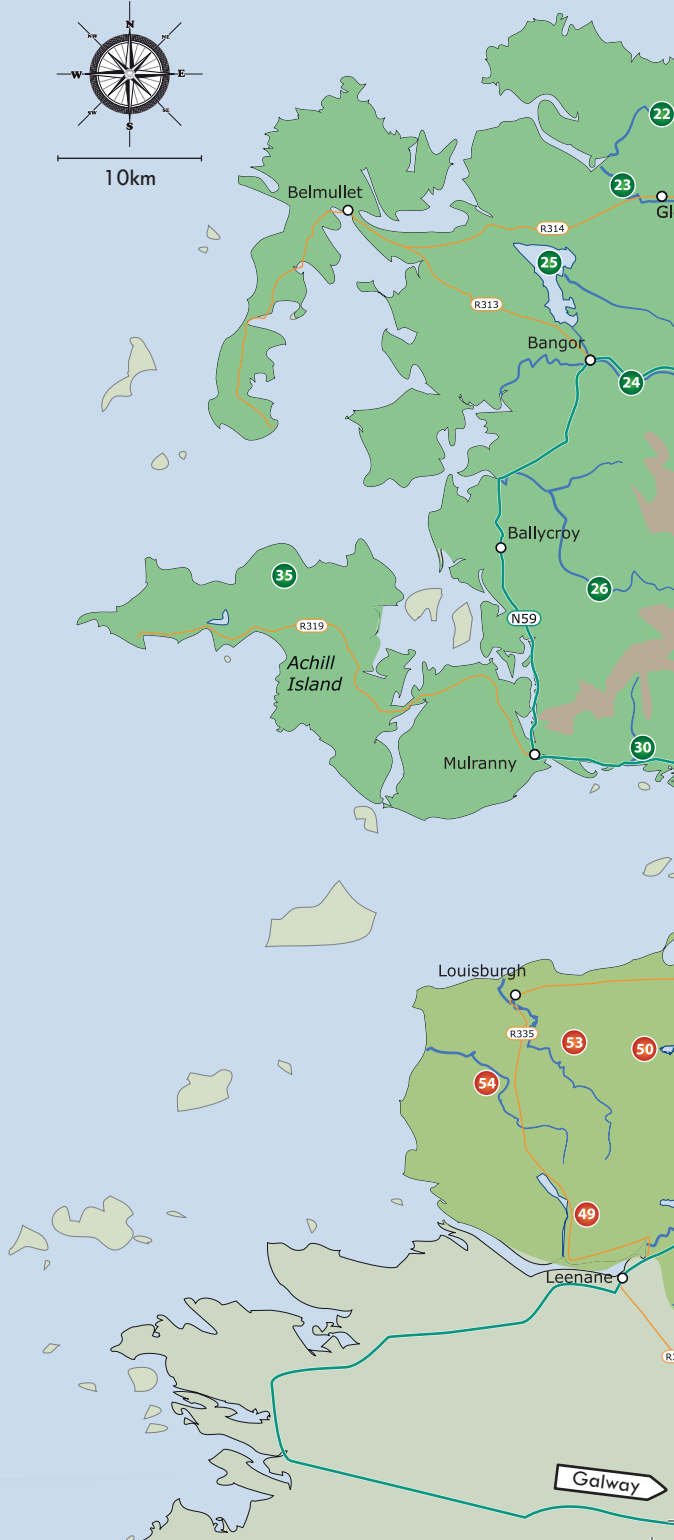
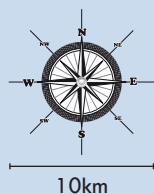
For salmon anglers, the most popular destination is unquestionably the River Moy, Ireland's most productive salmon river which flows through Foxford and Ballina, the Salmon Capital of Ireland, before joining the sea at Killala Bay. In addition to the famous Moy, County Mayo has several other fisheries which provide excellent salmon and sea trout fishing in some of Ireland's most scenic surroundings. Amongst the best known are probably the State-owned Erriff River, the Delphi Fishery and Carrowmore Lake. The Owenmore, Owenduff and Glenamoy Rivers in north Mayo also offer fantastic opportunities for the salmon and sea trout angler amongst spectacular mountain scapes and remote moorlands. Other important fisheries include Lough Beltra, the Newport River and the Burrishoole Fishery.

The vast waters of Lough Mask offer some of the best wild brown trout angling in Ireland, while Loughs Carra, Conn and Cullin also provide quality lough style fishing. Additionally, numerous smaller lakes and rivers are an attraction for the more adventurous angler.



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Regulations

General

Game angling regulations, especially in relation to salmon angling, can change from year to year and it is the responsibility of anglers to familiarise themselves with the laws and regulations governing each fishery before commencing angling. Anglers can get up to date information on fishing regulations by contacting Inland Fisheries Ireland or by visiting www.fishinginireland.info.

Licences and Logbooks

Anglers engaged in fishing for salmon or sea trout must be in possession of a valid state salmon licence and must have it on their person at the time of fishing. Licences can be purchased from most tackle shops or online from Inland Fisheries Ireland at www.fishinginireland.info. An angler's logbook is issued with a licence as well as a number of blue gill tags and an angler must also be in possession of the logbook when fishing. All salmon and sea trout over 40cm which are killed must be tagged immediately. Additional tagging requirements may apply in the case of some fisheries.

Permission/Permits

Where a fishery is privately owned, permission must be sought from the owner before commencing angling; this normally involves the purchase of an angling permit. Whether or not a permit is required, private property should be respected at all times and only recognised access points to a fishery should be used.



Catch & Release Fisheries

As a conservation measure salmon angling may only be carried out on a “Catch and Release” basis, for all, or part of the angling season, on certain specified fisheries. Where a “Catch and Release” regulation applies, worm fishing is prohibited and only single barbless hooks may be used. This regulation also applies to anglers that have caught their daily/yearly bag limit of salmon and wish to continue fishing. In all such cases, fish should be played firmly and brought to the net as quickly as possible in order to avoid over tiring the fish; the fish should then be handled in a gentle manner and promptly returned to the water unharmed. Fish should be unhooked in the water where possible; if removed from the water, hands and unhooking mat should be wetted first. The use of a forceps will greatly assist in removing a hook and a landing net with a knotless mesh should be used.

Closed Fisheries

Some rivers or lakes may be completely closed for salmon angling and for sea trout over 40cm in order to protect salmon stocks that have fallen below their conservation limit. For an up to date list of open and closed fisheries, please contact Inland Fisheries Ireland.

Bag Limits

At the time of publication of this guide, a seasonal bag limit of 10 salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) applies for angling with daily bag limits also in force. Additionally, there is a bag limit of three sea trout per day. As salmon and sea trout regulations may change from year to year, anglers are advised to familiarise themselves with the current angling regulations before they commence fishing. Up to date salmon and sea trout regulations are available on www.fishinginireland.info. Where a brown trout bag limit applies, details are provided in relation to each fishery concerned.



Conservation

All anglers are asked to consider “Catch and Release” even where this is not required by law. By carefully returning fish to the water, you will help ensure the future of Ireland’s fish stocks. For proper “Catch and Release” technique, see the “Catch and Release” paragraph or consult the “Catch and Release” leaflet which is available from Inland Fisheries Ireland.

Invasive Species Prevention

Invasive species pose a huge threat to the fisheries of Ireland and to the environment. Anglers are urged to take measures to prevent the spread of unwanted plants and animals. The use of live fish as bait is strictly prohibited by law. Always thoroughly clean your boat, trailer, engine, angling equipment and waders when leaving a waterway. Further information is available from Inland Fisheries Ireland.

Environment

Please protect the environment by taking your litter home.

Safety

The law requires that persons venturing out on to lakes and coastal waters, in a boat less than 7m in length, wear a properly fitting, and approved, personal flotation device or a lifejacket. Anglers should also consider wearing a personal flotation device when fishing on large rivers, rivers in flood and in estuaries; it could save your life! The use of a wading staff is recommended when wading in larger or swollen rivers.

Weather Forecasts

Weather forecasts are broadcast daily on RTÉ Radio, television and at www.rte.ie. Check programme guides in the daily newspapers for times. Forecasts are also available on Aertel. Telephone weather forecasts are available from Irish Meteorological Service - Met Éireann at www.mef.ie. Wind speeds for the whole day should be carefully checked before venturing out on lakes as weather conditions can vary throughout the day.

Access and Country Code

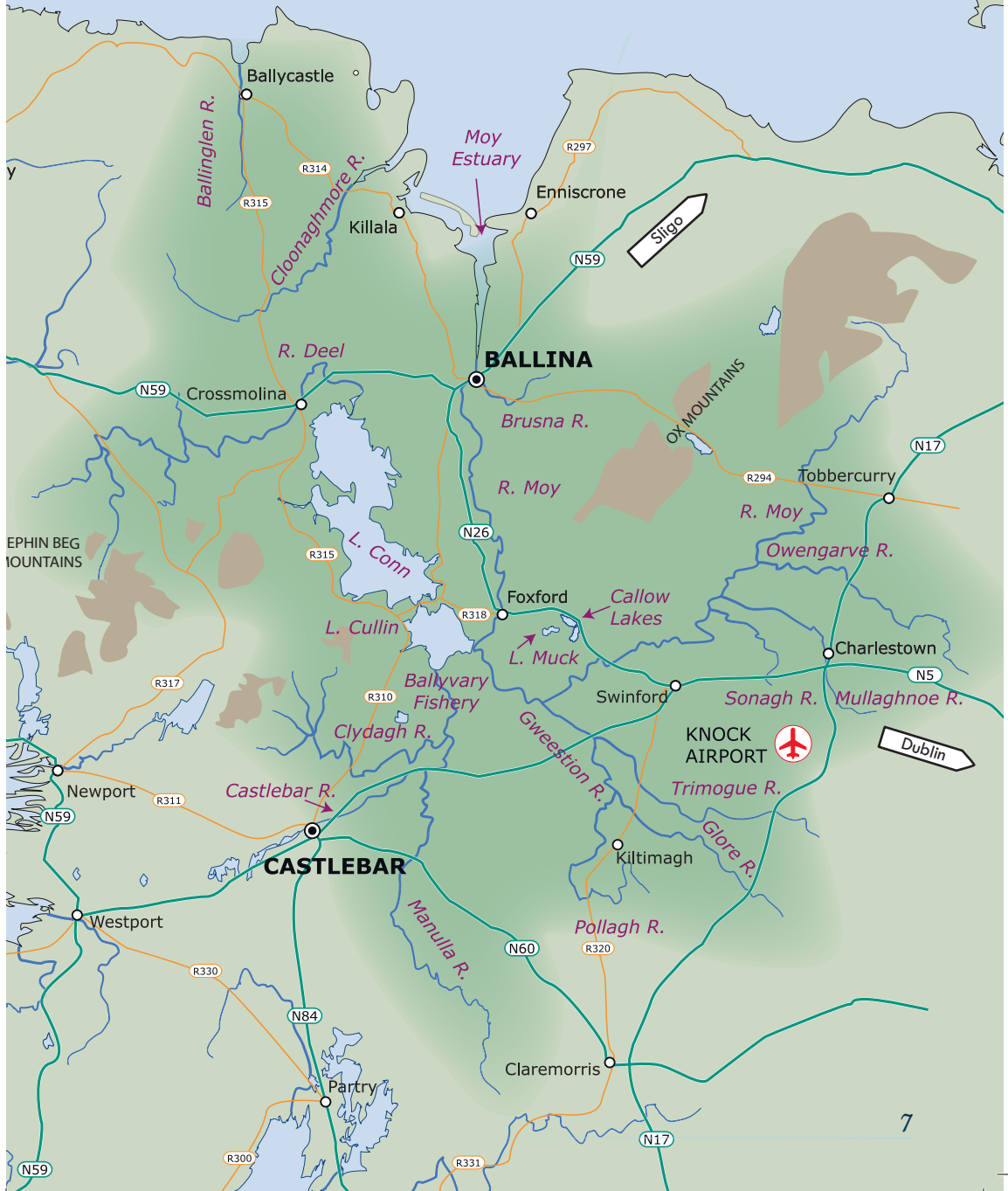
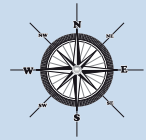
Irish waters are usually reached by passing through farmland and anglers are generally allowed this access by courtesy of local farmers. If in doubt please ask farmers/land owners for permission to enter on to their land to fish the water. Please respect their property, light no fires, leave no litter and close all gates. Cars should be parked in designated parking areas where available and should be parked so that they do not cause obstruction.

Errors or Inaccuracies

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

Map 1

10km



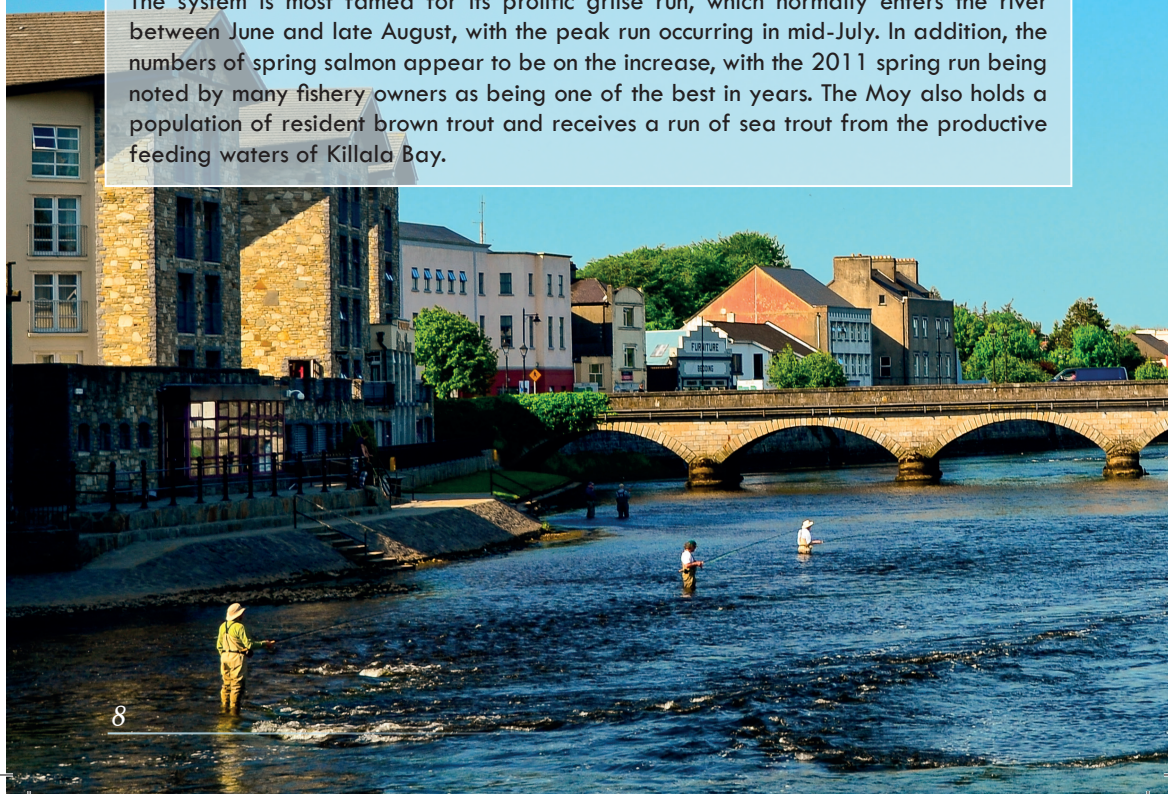
1 River Moy

Species & Season	Salmon:	1 st February - 30 th September (from the Ridge Pool upstream) 17 th April - 30 th September (downstream of the Ridge Pool)
	Sea Trout:	1 st February - 10 th October
	Brown Trout:	15 th February - 10 th October
	Methods & Regulations	
Methods & Regulations		All legal methods allowed, however, some fisheries will have specific restrictions.
Permission		Permit required to fish the managed fisheries. Contact IFI - Ballina for further details.

Fishery Description

The River Moy system is undoubtedly Ireland's most productive salmon fishery, with a five year average reported rod catch of 8,967 salmon for the years 2007-2012. The system drains a catchment of 2080km², with a main channel length of 99.75 km. The catchment extends from the Ox Mountains in the east, to Castlebar in the south and contains the drainage basins of Loughs Conn and Cullin which encompass much of the Nephin Beg mountain range in North Mayo. Notable tributaries of the Moy catchment include the Rivers Deel, Manulla, Clydagh, Gweestion, Glore and Pollagh. The main channel can be up to 40m wide in places and enters Killala Bay through the Moy Estuary north of Ballina.

The system is most famed for its prolific grilse run, which normally enters the river between June and late August, with the peak run occurring in mid-July. In addition, the numbers of spring salmon appear to be on the increase, with the 2011 spring run being noted by many fishery owners as being one of the best in years. The Moy also holds a population of resident brown trout and receives a run of sea trout from the productive feeding waters of Killala Bay.



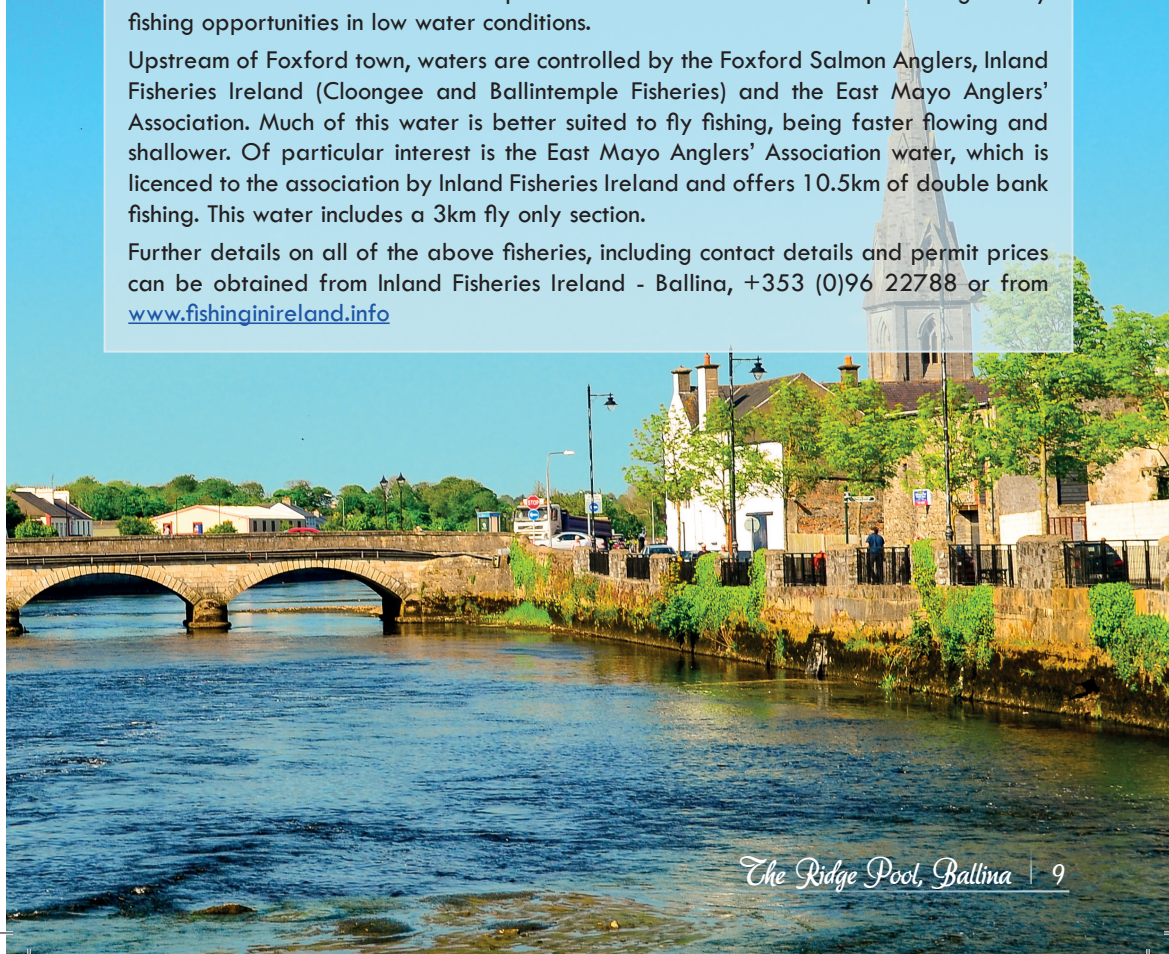
The river is unique in that angling access is controlled by the state and a number of private owners, angling clubs and associations. Anglers can fish the Moy by either joining a club or association, or by purchasing a daily or weekly permit. All angling methods are allowed though angling regulations vary between fisheries. Daily prices range from €15 to €225, with many fisheries offering additional services including ghillies and boats.

The premier angling beats of the River Moy are those controlled by the Moy Fishery, mainly the world famous Ridge Pool, Cathedral Beat, Spring Wells, the Ash Tree Pool and the Fresh Water Beat, all located within Ballina Town. These beats offer great fly fishing in the heart of Ballina and anglers are advised to book in advance. Further details are available from the Moy Fishery office Tel: +353 (0)96 21332, Email: moyfishery@fisheriesireland.ie or from www.fishinginireland.info.

The mid-stretches of the River Moy located between Ballina and Foxford include the following fisheries: Ballina Salmon Anglers' Association water, Mount Falcon Fishery, Knockmore Angling Club water, Attymass Angling Club water, Coolcronan Fishery, Byrne's Fishery, Armstrong's Fishery, Gannon's Fishery, Rinanne Fishery, the Foxford Fishery and Bakers Fishery (the Foxford Rocks). Here the river is most suitable for bait fishing and spinning as the river tends to be deep and slow flowing. However, there are some beats in this section for example the Foxford Rocks which also provide good fly fishing opportunities in low water conditions.

Upstream of Foxford town, waters are controlled by the Foxford Salmon Anglers, Inland Fisheries Ireland (Cloongee and Ballintemple Fisheries) and the East Mayo Anglers' Association. Much of this water is better suited to fly fishing, being faster flowing and shallower. Of particular interest is the East Mayo Anglers' Association water, which is licenced to the association by Inland Fisheries Ireland and offers 10.5km of double bank fishing. This water includes a 3km fly only section.

Further details on all of the above fisheries, including contact details and permit prices can be obtained from Inland Fisheries Ireland - Ballina, +353 (0)96 22788 or from www.fishinginireland.info



2 Moy Estuary

Species & Season	Sea Trout: 17 th April - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size limit for sea trout is 10 inches (25.4cm). Daily bag limit of 3 sea trout per angler. Sea trout over 40cm must be tagged.
Permission	Permit not required however anglers should be in possession of a valid state rod licence when angling for sea trout.

Fishery Description

The Moy Estuary comprises an area of 1200ha of tidal waters with channels, sand bars and islands. It is a rich sea trout feeding ground with sand eel, herring fry, sprat and crustaceans. Angling takes place from particular areas of the shore, most notable are the back of Enniscrone Beach, the north eastern shore of Bartra Island, The Walls, the Castle area and Rosserk Bay. Perhaps the most successful and enjoyable method, is to fish as part of a group

from one of the charter boats available in the area. There are distinct drifts and tidal conditions which produce the best results and experienced skippers have an intimate knowledge of these. Spinning or ledgering with sand eel or fresh mackerel strip are a favourite method. In recent years many anglers have fished with flies and streamers with considerable success, with trout of 0.2kg - 1kg now regularly caught. For further details on angling guides operating on the Estuary, please contact IFI-Ballina.



Fishing the Estuary



3 River Deel

Species & Season	Salmon:	1 st February - 30 th September
	Sea Trout:	1 st February - 10 th October
	Brown Trout:	15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed, (subject to ongoing review).	
Permission	Anglers should seek permission from riparian land owners before fishing.	

Fishery Description

The River Deel rises high in the Nephin Beg mountains and flows for 45km through moorland and pastures, through the town of Crossmolina, before entering the northern end of Lough Conn. It is the largest of the Moy tributaries and offers a wide variety of angling experiences ranging from dry fly fishing for trout to salmon fishing in the lower reaches. Areas to note include those between Richmond Bridge to Carrowgarve Bridge, and upstream of Commich Bridge. Permission should be sought from riparian landowners before angling.

4 Brusna/Bunree River

Species & Season	Sea Trout:	1 st February - 10 th October
	Salmon:	Currently closed for salmon angling
	Brown Trout:	15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	Single barbless hooks only, no worm fishing and all sea trout over 40cm must be released.	
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.	

Fishery Description

This small river enters the Moy at 'The Point', downstream of Ballina Town. It holds a resident stock of small brown trout and receives a sea trout and small grilse run in late summer. The river is currently closed for salmon angling.



5 Manulla River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

This is a clear, rich limestone river which can offer some great trout fishing, especially between the confluence with the Castlebar River upstream to Moyhenna Bridge. In the lower section, trout to 1.5kg have been taken on the fly. Hatches include dark olives, duns, black gnats and sedges. The river also has a hatch of mayfly and can even produce some good spent gnat fishing (late May and June).

6 Clydagh River

Species & Season	Salmon: 1 st February - 30 th September Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

This river holds numerous small trout, but can produce spring salmon, normally to the spinner or bait in the lower section. This section is quite deep and slow; however, the banks are relatively clear, allowing good access for the angler. The mid section of the river is overgrown with bushes, with the upper section being of little interest to anglers.

7 Ballyvary Fishery

Species & Season	Salmon: 1 st February - 30 th September Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	IFI permit required.

Fishery Description

This fishery extends from the confluence of the Castlebar and Manulla Rivers to Lough Cullin, and from Carrowkeel Bridge to Lough Cullin. This managed fishery can produce some large trout, and is also noted for yielding the occasional spring salmon (as well as the occasional pike). A permit is required to fish here for any species, these are available from Tiernan Brothers Tackle Shop, Foxford, Island Sports, Castlebar and Dey's Supermarket, Ballyvary.

8 Castlebar River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

This rich limestone river suffered somewhat from pollution in the past but has seen great improvement of late. It flows from the town of Castlebar in a north easterly direction before joining the Manulla River, where the Ballyvary Fishery begins. It can offer some great trout fishing, particularly in the Turlough area, with hatches of olives, sedges and some mayfly.

9 Gweestion River

Species & Season	Salmon: 1 st February - 30 th September Sea Trout: 1 st February - 10 th October Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

The Gweestion is a major tributary of the upper Moy, located between Bohola and Swinford, with the Pollagh and Glore being tributaries of the Gweestion. This limestone river has a great stock of brown trout, ranging from 0.25kg- 0.7kg, although much larger trout are often caught. This system can also hold grilse from mid-summer onwards. It gets a hatch of large dark olives and duns in the early season, with the black gnat and hawthorn fly prolific also. It also has a good mayfly hatch, followed by sedge and blue winged olives. The banks are overgrown in places, but there are plenty of nice pools and riffles providing good variety for the angler.

10 Pollagh River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

This tributary of the Gweestion is approximately 16km long and contains some nice pool and riffle sequences. It holds very good numbers of trout, averaging 0.3kg, though some can reach up to 1kg. Areas of note are those around Rathslevin Bridge, Ballinamore Bridge and the town of Kiltimagh. The river has similar fly hatches to the Gweestion.

11 Glore River

Species & Season	Salmon: 1 st February - 30 th September
	Sea Trout: 1 st February - 10 th October
	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

The Glore is a relatively fast flowing, clear river, with occasional pools. Stocks of trout are relatively low in comparison to the Gweestion further downstream, with the average size 0.25kg and the occasional fish reaching 1kg. It has similar fly hatches to the Gweestion.



12 Owengarve River (Co. Sligo)

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

The best area to fish on the Owengarve is downstream of the village of Curry before it enters the Moy at Cooleen Ford. It holds a good stock of free rising brown trout and can fish particularly well on late spring and summer evenings using small dry flies.

13 Mullaghanoe River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

The river rises near Knock, flows towards Charlestown before entering the Moy upstream of Bellanacurra Bridge. This is a relatively small river, yet holds a good stock of brown trout up to 0.5kg.



14 Sonnagh River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

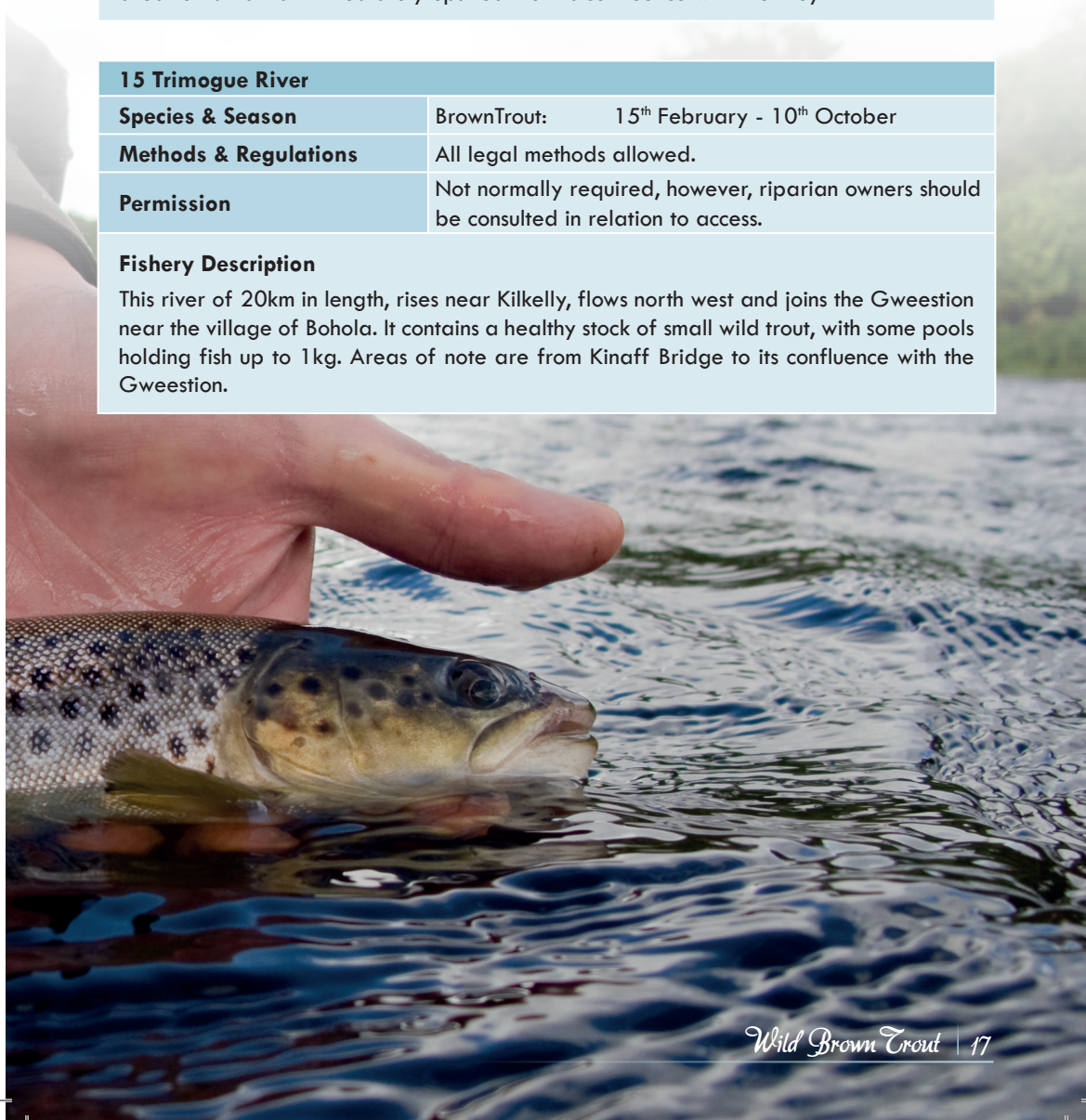
This small limestone river rises near Charlestown and enters the River Moy downstream of Bellanacurra Bridge. It holds trout up to 0.7kg; however, it is rarely fished. The best area to fish is that immediately upstream of its confluence with the Moy.

15 Trimogue River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.

Fishery Description

This river of 20km in length, rises near Kilkelly, flows north west and joins the Gweestion near the village of Bohola. It contains a healthy stock of small wild trout, with some pools holding fish up to 1kg. Areas of note are from Kinaff Bridge to its confluence with the Gweestion.



16 Lough Conn	
Species & Season	Salmon: 1 st February - 30 th September
	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Bye law prohibits angling in the Pontoon Bridge area between 1 st February and 31 st May. Minimum size limit for trout is 12 inches (30.48cm).
Permission	Not required although a valid State rod licence is required to fish for salmon.

Fishery Description

Lough Conn, one of the Great Western Lakes, is a large water body located to the south west of Ballina, and part of the River Moy drainage basin. The lough is approximately 9175 hectares, is 14.5km long north to south, and its width ranges from 3km to 6.5 km. It holds a large stock of wild brown trout, with many salmon also present as they migrate through the system. Traditional lough style wet fly fishing is the preferred tactic of the majority of anglers throughout the season; however, the lough also fishes well with dry flies, especially during the extended mayfly season (hatches can extend into mid-August).



Early season flies of note are the Fiery Brown, Peter Ross, Bibio, various Olive patterns, Duckfly and Claret or Golden Dabblers. From May through to mid-August, various mayfly patterns (including the Yellow Fan-winged Mayfly); Spent Gnat, Bibio, Watson's Fancy, Bumbles and Dabblers can be very effective. The latter part of the season can be highly productive on Conn given the right weather conditions, and flies for this time of year include sedge patterns (the Murrough and Green Peter can fish very well), Sooty Olive, Black Pennell, Connemara Black, Invicta and various Dabblers.

Lough Conn is well facilitated to cater for anglers, with many public access areas for launching boats, boat hire and ghillies available. Many anglers' shelters have been erected around the shores of the lough, with most major rock outcrops and shallows marked for safety. It is not uncommon for anglers to hook and land salmon when pursuing trout, both on wet and dry flies. However, many anglers specifically target salmon by trolling lures or spoons. Anglers should be aware that all salmon caught must be tagged and recorded in the anglers' log book, and if an angler is not in possession of a State Salmon Angling Licence, the salmon must be released immediately.

A waterproof map of the lough, giving detailed information on angling, anglers' shelters, boat launching locations etc. is available from Inland Fisheries Ireland - Ballina office, or online at www.fishinginireland.info.



17 Lough Cullin

Species & Season	Salmon: 1 st February - 30 th September
	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Bye law prohibits angling in the Pontoon Bridge area and the Railway Bridge area on the eastern shore between 1 st February and 31 st May. Minimum size limit for trout is 12 inches (30.48cm).
Permission	Not required although a valid State rod licence is required to fish for salmon.

Fishery Description

Lough Cullin is a relatively shallow lake, of approximately 1310 hectares and forms part of the Moy drainage basin. Its major inflow is that received from Lough Conn, and it discharges into the River Moy through the 'Lake River' on its eastern shore. There are public boat launch areas, located on the northern shores of the lough, off the R310 Castlebar Road and the R318 Foxford Road. Many of the rock outcrops and shallows are marked; however, care should be exercised in high water conditions when unmarked rocks may be covered.



Lough Cullin Mayfly

The lough holds a good stock of wild brown trout, and like L. Conn, can also yield numerous salmon. Best fishing times are from April to mid-June, when duckfly, olive and mayfly hatches bring the trout to feed on the surface. Both wet and dry mayfly patterns can prove very productive from mid-May onwards.

This lake is also well facilitated for anglers, with boat hire, ghillies and guides available locally. A waterproof map of the lough, giving detailed information on angling, boat launching locations etc. is available from Inland Fisheries Ireland - Ballina office, or online at www.fishinginireland.info.



18 Callow Lakes

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not required.

Fishery Description



The Callow Lakes

The Callow Lakes are situated close the N26 Foxford - Swinford Road, approximately 4km east of Foxford. The two lakes (north and south) are approximately 65 hectares each and are joined by a narrow channel, which is passable to small boats with caution. Both lakes hold good stocks of wild brown trout averaging 0.5kg in weight, although fish between 1kg and 1.5kg are regularly caught. Trout in the south lake are of a larger average size, while those in the north lake are smaller and more numerous. The lakes get good hatches of duckfly, mayfly and sedges and can fish particularly well with a moderate south westerly wind in spring and early summer. Boats can easily be launched from the jetty on the south lake, or alternatively can be hired locally. Contact for boat hire: Tom Deasy, Tel: +353 (0)94 9256266

19 Lough Muck

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.
Permission	Not required.

Fishery Description

Lough Muck is a small scenic lough, located on the high ground between Foxford and Callow. It has a large stock of small wild brown trout (average size 0.3kg) which rise freely, good road access, and can produce sport for anglers using light tackle, particularly during a westerly breeze. The shore can be waded in places; however boats are available for hire locally.

20 Palmerstown/Cloonaghmore River

Species & Season	Salmon:	1 st June - 30 th September
	Sea Trout:	1 st June - 12 th October
	Brown Trout:	1 st June - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	At the time of writing the river is open on a Catch & Release basis, but this may change annually depending on stock levels. Check www.fishinginireland.info for the latest information. Single barbless hooks only, no worm fishing. All sea trout over 40cm and all salmon must be released.	
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.	

Fishery Description

The Palmerstown River enters Killala Bay approximately 3km north of Killala village. Once famed for its great sea trout fishing, the system now receives only a moderate run of sea trout, most prolific towards the end of the season. It also holds a resident stock of small brown trout, and is currently closed for salmon angling as a conservation measure. Anglers are advised to check with the local IFI office, as current angling regulations may be subject to change. The river is currently closed for salmon angling.

21 Ballinglen River

Species & Season	Salmon:	Currently closed for salmon angling
	Sea Trout:	1 st February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	Single barbless hooks only, no worm fishing and all sea trout over 40cm must be released.	
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.	

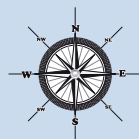
Fishery Description

This small spate river enters the sea near the village of Ballycastle. The lower reaches contain the best pools, further upstream it is overgrown and unfishable. The river is currently closed for salmon angling.



Map 2

10km



22 Muingnabo River

Species & Season	Salmon:	Currently closed for salmon angling
	Sea Trout:	1 st May - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	Single barbless hooks only, no worm fishing and all sea trout over 40cm must be released.	
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.	

Fishery Description

The Muingnabo River drains a relatively small catchment of 42km² and is just 15km long. It is located in a remote area of north west Mayo and enters the sea at Sruwaddacon Bay. It can produce good sport for sea trout following a spate in the latter part of the season. Upstream of Annie Brady's Bridge for 2km there are some good pools, the river can also be fished from the bridge down to the estuary. The river is currently closed for salmon angling.





23 Glenamoy River

Species & Season	Salmon:	1 st May - 30 th September
	Sea Trout:	1 st May - 12 th October
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only.	
Permission	Glenamoy Community Anglers Association, Anglers Rest Bar, Glenamoy. Tel: +353 (0)97 87961.	
	Email:	info@glenamoyangling.com
	Website:	www.glenamoyangling.com

Fishery Description

The Glenamoy River is located in north west Mayo and enters the sea at Sruwaddacon Bay. It is 26km long and has a catchment size of approx. 85km². The river gets a good run of grilse and sea trout from July to September. It is a spate river with the best of the sport to be had as water levels recede after a flood. The more successful anglers pay close attention to the prevailing weather conditions in the catchment as the water levels can rise and fall quite quickly over the course of a flood. Extensive fishing is available from Glencalry to the tidal region of the lower river. Fishing rights on the river are state owned and the fishery is licenced to Glenamoy Community Angling Association.

Considerable development works have been carried out by IFI in recent years. Access has been improved with an extensive bush clearance programme and the erection of stiles and footbridges throughout the length of the fishery. Angling pools have been excavated and wheelchair access is also provided. Day permits and State Angling Licences are available from The Anglers Rest Bar in Glenamoy village, for further details see www.glenamoyangling.com.

Please check with the local IFI office as regards catch quotas as these may be subject to change.



24 Owenmore River

Species & Season	Salmon:	1 st February - 30 th September
	Sea Trout:	1 st February - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	At the time of writing the river is open on a Catch & Release basis, but this may change annually depending on stock levels. Check www.fishinginireland.info for the latest information. Fly only & single barbless hooks. All sea trout over 40cm and all salmon must be released.	
Permission	Day tickets available for the section leased to Bangor Erris Angling Club, available from the West End Bar, Bangor Erris. Tel: +353 (0)97 83487, Fax: +353 (0)97 83543. Email: info@bangorerrisangling.com Website: www.bangorerrisangling.com	

Fishery Description

The Owenmore is a magnificent spate river, draining a large area of bog and moorland between Crossmolina and Bangor. Much of the water is held by various syndicates. However, a 6.5km section near of the village of Bangor Erris is leased by Bangor Angling Club, with a limited number of day tickets available. The river is characteristically wild, with many great riffles, glides and holding pools, and is easily fished as the banks are generally clear of tree growth. Spates tend to drop quickly on this system, and it is during the run-off of a spate when it fishes best. It receives a small run of spring salmon but has a prolific grilse run from mid-summer. It fishes best from late July until the end of the season in September. It also gets a good run of sea trout from mid-summer, although the majority of these would be under 0.5kg. Most successful flies include Orange & Yellow Flamethrower, Magenta Shrimp, Ally's Shrimp, Ally's Cascade and Shadow Shrimp. For details on day tickets, see the website above or contact Bangor Angling Club, Bangor Erris, Co. Mayo. Tel: +353(0)97 83487, Fax: +353 (0)97 83543.

The major tributary of the Owenmore is the Oweninny, which meets the Altnabrocky River at Bellacorick to form the Owenmore. This is a small, wild spate river, running through extensive blanket bog, and only produces good angling on a dropping spate. Ownership of the lower section is very fragmented. However, rights are state owned in the townlands of Shrameen, Knockmoyle and Laghtnavack, and angling is permitted from the boundary of the Nature Reserve (approximately 300m upstream of the confluence of the Oweninny and Sheskin Rivers) for around 8.5km upstream to its confluence with the Shrameen River. This section is rugged and wild, and only suitable for the most adventurous of anglers.





25 Carrowmore Lake

Species & Season	Salmon:	1 st January - 30 th September
	Sea Trout:	1 st February - 30 th September
	Brown Trout:	1 st February - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	Spinning and fly fishing up to 31 st March, after which only fly fishing is allowed. Trolling or bank fishing is not permitted at any time. Minimum size limit for sea trout 12 inches (30.48cm).	
Permission	Bangor Erris Angling Club, boats & permits available from the West End Bar, Bangor Erris. Tel: +353 (0)97 83487, Fax: +353 (0)97 83543. Email: info@bangorerriangling.com Website: www.bangorerriangling.com	

Fishery Description

Carrowmore Lake lies 3.2km north-west of the village of Bangor. The lake is over 6.5km long and nearly 5km wide at its widest point. It receives a run of spring salmon from opening day, sea trout from June and a fair grilse run in July. It also has a resident stock of brown trout, occasionally reaching 1.5kg. The lake is drained by the Munhin River, which joins the lower Owenmore River before entering Tullaghan Bay, just south of Doohoma. Carrowmore is the premier spring salmon fishing lough in the country. The best spring fishing begins with the first mild and settled weather in late February and peaks in April and May. The main angling quarry, at the height of the season from June onwards is sea trout, although the lake also receives a small run of grilse throughout the summer. Favourite fishing areas are the mouth of the Glencullin River, Paradise Bay, the Black Banks area, all along the north shore, Glenturk Bay and around Gortmore Island on the south side. It fishes best in a light or moderate wind as this is a relatively shallow lake, strong winds can quickly cause discoloration. Successful flies for Carrowmore Lake include, Clan Chief, Claret & Black Dabbler, Bibio, Claret Bumble and the Green Peter.



26 Owenduff River

Species & Season	Salmon:	1 st February - 30 th September
	Sea Trout:	1 st February - 12 th October
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only.	
Permission	Permit required to fish all but the lowest, tidal section. See contact details of the lodges below.	

Fishery Description

This is an exceptionally attractive and prolific salmon and sea trout fishery. There are abundant stocks of spring salmon, grilse and sea trout. Together with its tributary, the Tarsaghaunmore, the Owenduff drains an area of 135km² of wild moorland and mountain into Tullaghan Bay. Fishing rights are privately owned, with the exception of the tidal section below the weir at Srahnamanragh Bridge where there is approximately a mile of free fishing, which can produce good sea trout. Access to the bank is through private lands, permission should be sought from local landowners before fishing. Successful flies for sea trout include various micro tubes, Connemara Black, Teal, Blue and Silver and the Black Pennell. To access this section of the river permission should be sought from the land owners.

Up river, there are three private fisheries and lodges: Lagduff Lodge, Shean Lodge and Rock House near Ballycroy. Rock House also controls fishing on the Bellareeeny River. Fishing rights on the Tarsaghaun River, a major tributary of the Owenduff River, are privately owned. Anglers can purchase permits from these lodges subject to availability. Accommodation is also available, again, subject to availability.

For further details contact the Lodges:

Lagduff Lodge: Email: enquiries@lagduff.com

Shean Lodge: Tel: +353 (0)1 6272671, Mobile: +353 (0)86 6075958,
Email: info@sheanlodgefishery.com, Web: www.sheanlodgefishery.com

Rock House: Tel: +353 (0) 852121564, Email: rockhouseestate@gmail.com
Web: www.rockhouse-estate.com

27 Lough Beltra

Species & Season	Salmon:	20 th March - 30 th September
	Sea Trout:	20 th March - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only. Sea trout angling is catch and release.	
Permission	The Fishery Manager, Newport House, Newport, Co. Mayo. Tel: +353 (0)98 41222, email: info@newporthouse.ie Web: www.newporthouse.ie Glenisland Anglers Co-Operative, Kilgarve, Glenisland, Co. Mayo, Tel: +353 (0)94 9021302, email: info@loughbeltra.com or see www.loughbeltra.com .	

Fishery Description



Fine Beltra Salmon

The fishery is located 13km north west of Castlebar, and 8km north east of Newport, and lies in a picturesque basin surrounded by mountains. It produces spring salmon from its opening day on the 20th March, and good sport can be had throughout the season, as the spring run is followed by a grilse run. Lough Beltra also gets a fair run of sea trout. Fishing is from boats only and a fly only rule applies. The lough, measuring 3.6km long by 1.6km wide, is divided between Newport House (Beltra West Fishery) and the Glenisland Anglers Co-

Op, which controls angling from the east shore under licence from IFI.

Best salmon flies include Beltra Badger, Silver Doctor, Black Doctor, Quack, Thunder & Lightning, Lemon & Grey, Red Shrimp and Hairy Mary.

Boat, engine and ghillie are available from Newport House, and permits, outboards and boats can be pre-booked with the Glenisland Anglers Co-Op.



28 Burrishoole Fishery

Species & Season	Salmon: Mid June (date may vary) to 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only
Permission	Permits available from Pat Hughes, Fishery Manager, Marine Institute Salmon Services, Furnace, Newport, Co. Mayo; Tel: +353 (0)98 42300, Mob: +353 (0)87 2377078 Email: pat.hughes@marine.ie Web: www.burrishoole.ie

Fishery Description

The Burrishoole Fishery is located on the northern side of Clew Bay, about 6km north west of Newport, Co. Mayo. It consists of two scenic lakes, Loughs Furnace and Feeagh (130 hectares and 320 hectares) respectively. Lough Furnace gets a good run of grilse, some wild and some originating from a ranching programme which has been established at Burrishoole for many years by the Marine Institute. All wild fish caught must be released, and all ranched fish (adipose fin clipped) caught must be retained for scientific research. Fishing on L. Furnace begins around the first or second week of June and most of the angling takes place from boats which can be booked through the Fishery Manager. In recent years Lough Feeagh has been closed to anglers but reopened in 2011 on a catch and release basis. Rules and conditions are subject to change; therefore it is advisable to check with the Fishery Manager before booking.



29 Newport River

Species & Season	Salmon:	20 th March - 30 th September
	Sea Trout:	20 th March - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only. Sea trout angling is catch and release.	
Permission	The Fishery Manager, Newport House, Newport, Co. Mayo. Tel: +353 (0)98 41222 Email: info@newporthouse.ie , Web: www.newporthouse.ie	

Fishery Description

The Newport river is 11km long and drains Lough Beltra. It flows through bog, rough pasture and woodland, creating many nice pools and runs and includes 24 named pools.

The river can produce salmon from its opening day, with many spring fish weighing 7kg - 9kg caught in recent seasons. It also has a fair grilse run from mid-June. Sea trout enter the river from mid-July, and can produce good sport for the angler, especially in late evening. However, sea trout angling is catch and release at present.

Day permits for the river are available from Newport House, as are detailed maps of the fishery. The services of a ghillie are normally available on request.



30 Owengarve River

Species & Season	Salmon:	Currently closed for salmon angling
	Sea Trout:	1 st May - 12 th October
	Brown Trout:	1 st May - 12 th October
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only and sea trout angling is catch and release (single barbless hooks).	
Permission	Not normally required, however, riparian owners should be consulted in relation to access.	

Fishery Description

This small spate river is located between Newport and Mulranny. It holds salmon and sea trout in late summer and can produce its best fishing during a spate. The river is currently closed for salmon angling.

31 Ballin Lough

Species & Season	Rainbow Trout:	1 st April - 31 st October
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only. No bank fishing. Daily bag limit 4 trout per angler. Minimum size limit 12 inches (30.48cm).	
Permission	Permit required to fish, available on an evening or daily basis. Contact IFI Ballina on +353(0)96 22788 for further details.	

Fishery Description



Ballin Lough

Ballin Lough is a rich, though shallow, limestone lake of 22 hectares located 3.2km north of Westport and is managed by IFI. The majority of the rainbow trout stock has been introduced as fry, allowing the fish to develop into fine, fully finned specimens. Many

successfully over winter, leading to specimens of over 3kg. The trout are free rising, and are encouraged by hatches of olives, sedges and wind blown terrestrials. Rainbow trout can be taken on various generic trout flies including the Peter Ross, Minkie, Thunder & Lighting and various streamer patterns. Angling is permitted from boat only, as the lake bed can be deceptively soft in places. Permits are available on an evening or full day basis, and include the hire of a boat.

32 Clogher Lough

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 1 st April - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only. Daily bag limit 4 trout per angler. Minimum size limit 9 inches (22.9cm).
Permission	Permit required to fish, available from Clogher Post Office, Westport, Co. Mayo, Tel: +353 (0)98 25061.

Fishery Description

Clogher Lough is located 5.6km north east of Westport, and holds a good stock of trout ranging from 0.25kg-0.7kg. Access is from the north through the road to the cemetery. It can get good hatches of duckfly, as well as olives and sedges. It can be fished from the shore, though care is needed if wading. Boats are also available to hire, and permits can be purchased from Clogher Post Office, Westport Co. Mayo Tel: +353 (0)98 25061.

33 Loughs Bilberry and Lannagh

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 10 th October
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only. Daily bag limit 6 trout per angler. Minimum size limit 12 inch (30.5cm). Boat and bank fishing allowed.
Permission	Not required

Fishery Description

Bilberry (Islandeady Lough) and Lough Lannagh are located north of the Westport-Castlebar Road. They form a fishery of over 655 hectares which is managed by Bilberry and Lannagh Angling Club. The lakes hold a resident population of brown trout which is supplemented each year with additional stock by IFI. When conditions are right, the trout can be free rising producing good sport. Boats available for hire from Mrs Kay McGrath, Windermere House, Westport Rd, Castlebar. Tel: +353 (0)94 9023329.

34 Nephin Beg Mountain Lakes

Species & Season	Brown Trout: 15 th February - 12 th October
Methods & Regulations	Fly fishing only
Permission	Permission required to fish the Scardaun Loughs and Black Lough. Contact: Rock House Estate rockhouseestate@gmail.com & Richard Hewat rhewat@esatclear.ie

Fishery Description

The three main lakes of interest to the angler are Black Lough, the Scardaun Loughs and Corslieve/Kilnabinna Lough. These remote mountain lakes are located high in the Nephin Beg mountain range, with Black Lough and the Scardaun Loughs situated in a remote mountain valley north west of Nephin Beg peak. Corslieve or Kilnabinna is located close to Corslieve peak. These lakes have a good stock of wild brown trout, which rarely reach weights in excess of 0.4kg (although Corslieve has been known to produce much bigger) and can be very free rising in the right conditions when there is a good wave on the surface. Flies such as the Black Pennell, Connemara Black and Butcher can work well here.

The scenery is unsurpassed, though it does take considerable effort to reach these lakes as access is by foot only. Only advisable for the most adventurous of anglers.





35 Achill Island Lakes, Lough Keel, Lough Gall, Lough Nambrack and Lough Acorrmoyre

Species & Season	Sea Trout:	1 st February - 12 th October
	Brown Trout:	15 th February - 12 th October
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Sea trout angling is catch and release.	
Permission	David Gumley, Achill Sporting Club, Valley House, Achill Island.	
	Tel:	+353 (0)86 6641164
	Email:	dggumley@gmail.com

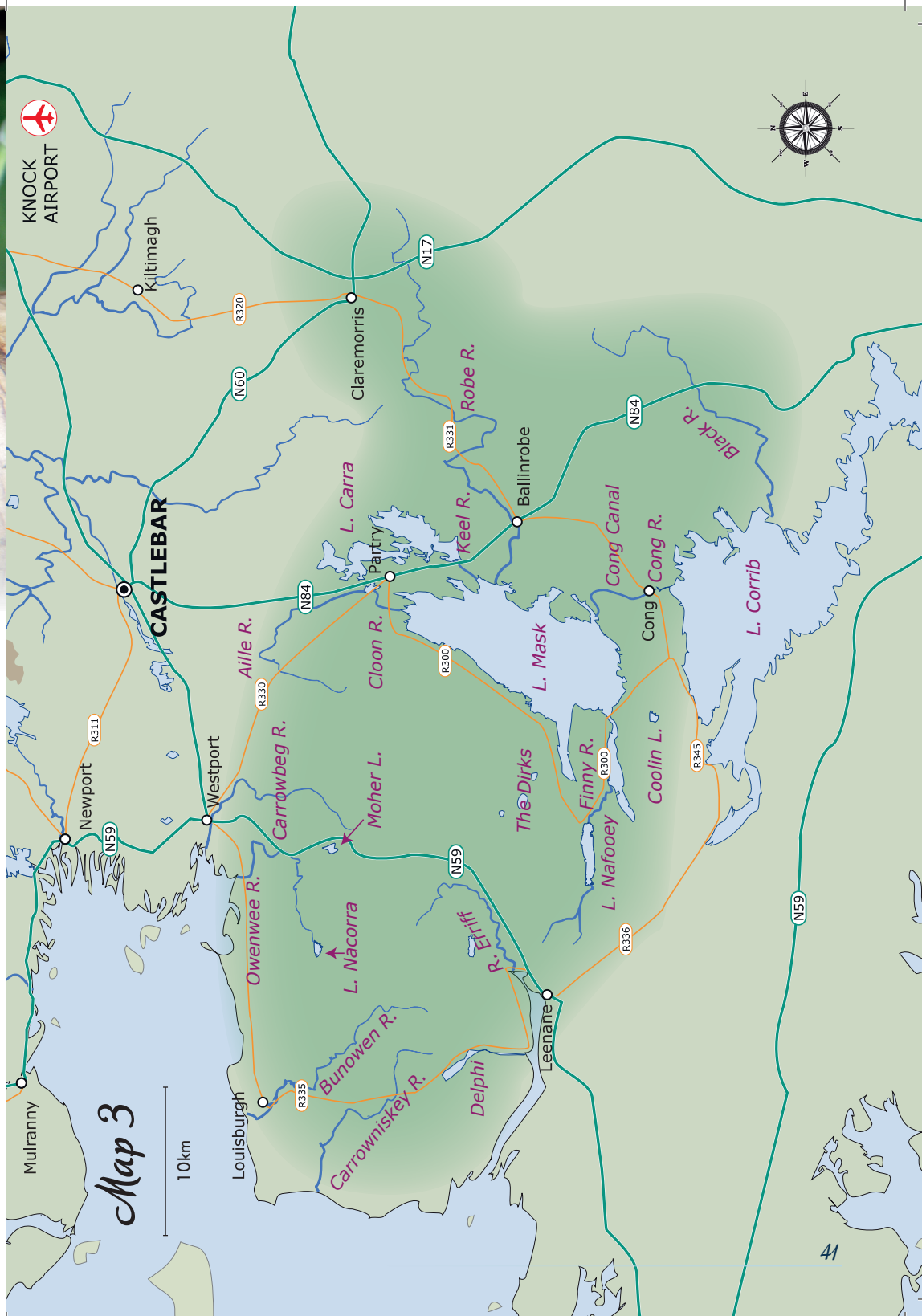
Fishery Description

There are several lakes on Achill Island, with only four of real angling interest. Keel Lough, the largest, is a brackish, shallow lough located to the north of the R319 near the village of Keel. It can get a run of sea trout after mid-summer, following a flood. The trout average 0.3kg, however fish up to 1.5kg can be present. The lough fishes best with a good ripple on the surface.

Lough Nambrack is situated in the north eastern corner of Achill, and has a healthy stock of brown trout, averaging 0.2kg, with some up to 0.7kg and is fly fishing only.

Lough Gall, located in the grounds of Valley House, is also situated in the north east of the island. It holds a good stock of brown trout and is also occasionally stocked with rainbows. Average size of the fish is 0.3kg, though fish up to 2kg have been landed here.

Lough Acorrmoyre, is a small corrie lake set on Croaghnaun mountain to the west of the island. The area offers breathtaking views, and the lake has a large stock of small trout. A road way provides access to the lake.



36 Cloon River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 33cm (13"). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not normally required.

Fishery Description

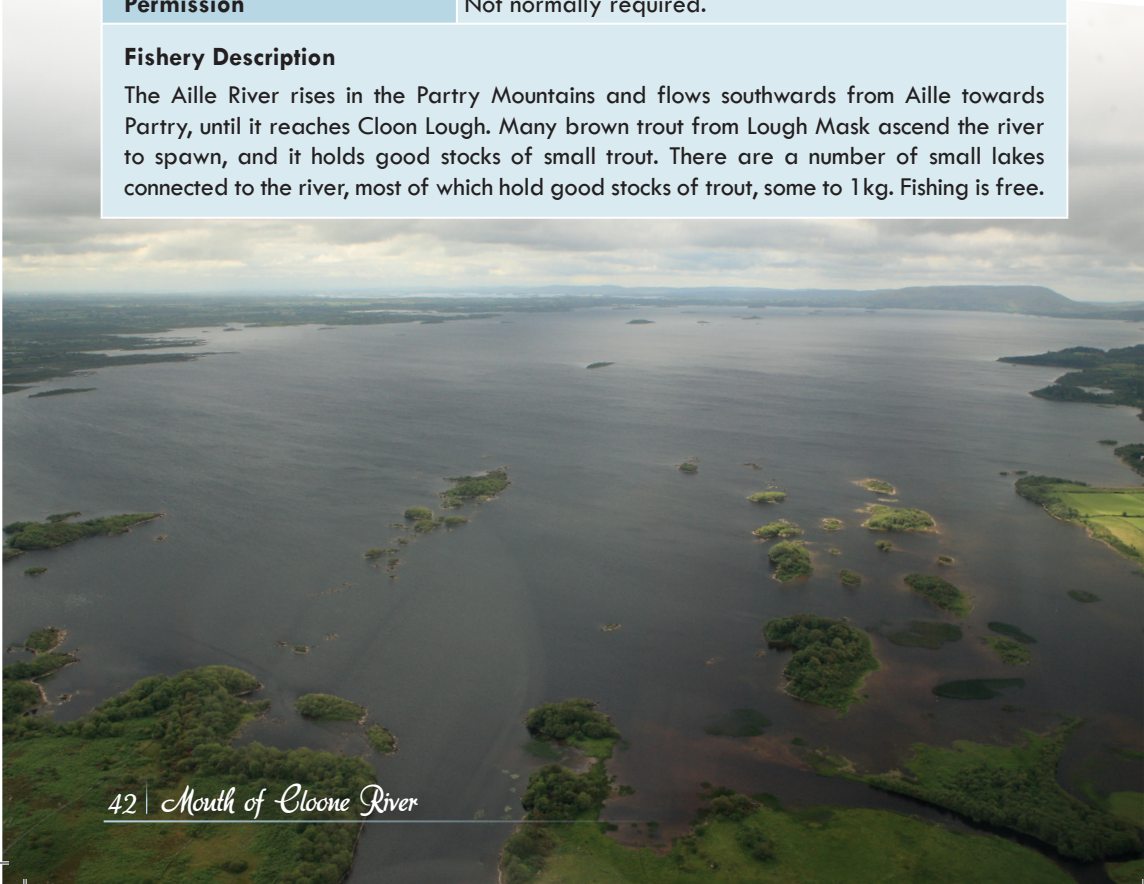
The Cloon River drains Cloon Lough and flows for less than 2 miles to Lough Mask. In its lower reaches it is deep and slow-flowing, holding pike and coarse fish, but further upstream it holds some trout. The best time for fishing is early season, March-April, when some large trout are caught. Fishing is free.

37 Aille River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 33cm (13"). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not normally required.

Fishery Description

The Aille River rises in the Partry Mountains and flows southwards from Aille towards Partry, until it reaches Cloon Lough. Many brown trout from Lough Mask ascend the river to spawn, and it holds good stocks of small trout. There are a number of small lakes connected to the river, most of which hold good stocks of trout, some to 1kg. Fishing is free.



38 The Dirks

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not normally required.

Fishery Description

The Dirks are a collective name for 3 small mountain lakes, located high in the hills about 10km southwest of Tourmakeady. A mountain road provides access part of the way, but a good walk is still required to reach the lakes. All hold stocks of small brown trout, but some larger trout from Lough Mask run the lakes and may be caught in September. Angling is free.

39 Lough Nafooe

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not normally required.

Fishery Description

Lough Nafooe is better known for pike and coarse angling, but it holds some resident trout, and later in the season it gets a run of fish from Lough Mask, consequently angling is best in August and September. Angling is free.

40 Keel River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - September 30 th
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not normally required.

Fishery Description

The Keel River is a very short river that flows for less than 2km from Lough Carra to Lough Mask. It is a limestone river, and the water is crystal clear, with good depth throughout. It holds very good stocks of trout, some of which can be over 1.5kg. The clarity of the water means a stealthy approach is required, and careful fly presentation is needed in order not to spook the fish. Dry fly fishing is best on this river, and it is a great place to practise this technique. Evening fishing is best in summertime, when hatches of sedges will get fish feeding.

41 Coolin Lough

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - September 30 th
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not normally required.

Fishery Description

Coolin Lough is located in the hills about 3km west of the village of Clonbur. It can be reached by taking a small road off the Clonbur-Tourmakeady road about 2km from Clonbur, and the road goes almost to the lake. The lake holds a stock of good sized trout, with fish to 1.5kg+ reported, but they are not easily caught. Fishing is free.

42 Robe River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - September 30 th
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Permission – Some stretches private. Seek landowner permission if present, and obey signs.

Fishery Description

The Robe River flows from near Claremorris to enter Lough Mask downstream of Ballinrobe. As the largest tributary of Lough Mask, it gets good runs of lake trout on their spawning migration later in the season, but also has good stocks of resident trout averaging .5-1kg. There is good access throughout most of the length of the river, and large sections of the river are State-owned, and fishing is free on these sections. Some of the best fishing is in the Crossboyne and Hollymount areas, with some excellent dry-fly fishing available, particularly on summer evenings. Nymphing is also a good method here. All methods are permitted, but fly fishing is probably most effective, and the fish are generally free-rising.

43 Finny River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - August 31 st
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not normally required.

Fishery Description

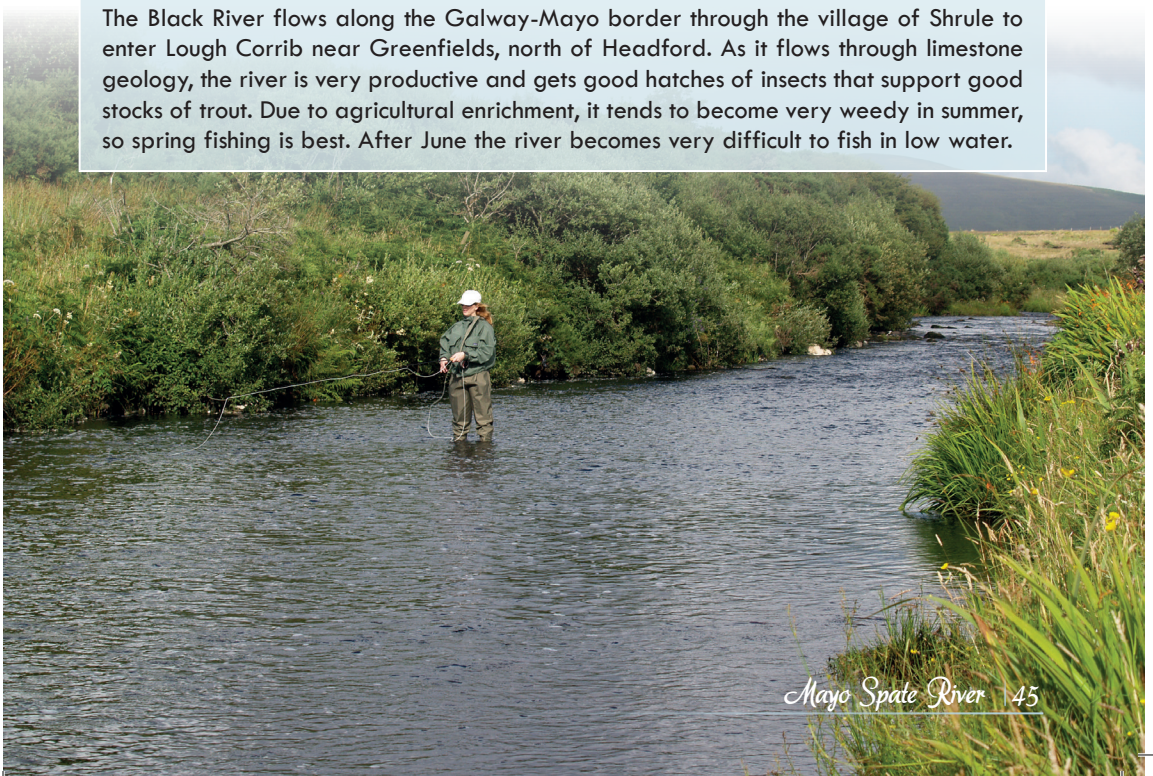
The Finny River is a spawning tributary of Lough Mask, connecting Lough Nafooe to Lough Mask. It holds a stock of small resident trout, and gets good runs of lake trout from late summer. As it is an important spawning river, anglers are asked to practise catch-and-release on this river. The season finishes a month earlier on this river in order to protect spawning fish. Angling is free.

44 Black River

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - September 30 th
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not normally required.

Fishery Description

The Black River flows along the Galway-Mayo border through the village of Shrul to enter Lough Corrib near Greenfields, north of Headford. As it flows through limestone geology, the river is very productive and gets good hatches of insects that support good stocks of trout. Due to agricultural enrichment, it tends to become very weedy in summer, so spring fishing is best. After June the river becomes very difficult to fish in low water.



45 Lough Carra

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 1 st - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not required.

Fishery Description

Lough Carra is another of the Great Western Lakes, and is probably the most classical limestone lake in Ireland. The lake bottom is comprised of marl (calcium carbonate), giving it a white sand appearance, while the water is crystal clear. Much of the lake is shallow, and with the marl bottom resembles tropical sandflats in bright sunshine. Boating on the lake is generally safe, as there are not that many hazards. Wading on the lake is not advised, as the marl bottom is unstable, with soft mud underneath.

Carra is a very productive lake, with great hatches of insects and very good stocks of trout. Fishing opens on the 1st of March, and duckfly hatches get going later in the month. From April on the lake can provide excellent sport on olive patterns, and olives continue to hatch through the summer. Mayfly usually hatch on Carra slightly earlier than the other western lakes, peaking in mid-May, and often providing really good sport, both for flyfishing and dapping. Carra is renowned as a lake for dapping during the mayfly. Carra is probably the best western lake for spent gnat fishing, and in suitable conditions anglers can enjoy spent gnat fishing during the daytime as well as in the late evening.



Lough Carra

From June on the lake gets very good hatches of sedge, including the large Murrough, and dry fly fishing comes into its own, especially for anglers prepared to fish late into the evening and even a couple of hours after dark. While the other lakes tend to go quiet during July as trout feed on perch fry, Carra can fish very well at this time.

Fishing on Lough Carra is free. A detailed map of the lake, showing general depths

and giving detailed information on fishing in the different areas of the lake is available from Inland Fisheries Ireland - Galway office, or online at www.fishinginireland.info

46 Cong River and Cong Canal

Species & Season	Brown Trout: March 17 th - August 31 st
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Permission required from Ashford Castle to fish lower stretch of Cong River. Permission not required upstream, or on Cong Canal.

Fishery Description



The Cong Canal Mouth

The Cong River rises in the village of Cong and flows for about a mile until it enters Lough Corrib at Ashford Castle. The lower stretch is controlled by Ashford Castle, and permits are available from the castle. The upper stretch, from the hatchery as far as the eel weir, is regarded as free fishing. There are 2 stands for disabled anglers provided at the rear of the hatchery complex, which is open during the day. Full details from the hatchery manager at +353 (0)94 9546049.

The river gets a good run of spring salmon in April and May, followed by very good runs of grilse in July and August. A lot of fish are caught spinning and on shrimp, but when the water drops in summer the river becomes easier to wade, and flyfishing can be productive.

The Cong Canal flows from Lough Mask, near Dringeen, to join the Cong River beside the hatchery. There is a grid fitted at the lower end to prevent salmon migrating upstream to Lough Mask, where they are not native. The canal was dug through a limestone bed, and most years the lower stretches dry up in summertime as the water table drops. Early season fishing can be very good, with many specimen trout reported, and as the level drops it becomes better for flyfishing. The best stretch is between the canal mouth, where it leaves Lough Mask, and Cahernagower Bridge. This part of the canal is accessed by the Inishmaine road, off the Ballinrobe-Clonbur road. The top end of the canal at Castle Bay is very good for dry fly fishing on summer evenings.

The Cong River and Canal are important spawning tributaries for ferox trout, which is why they are closed early in September. Anglers are asked to use restraint and release any large ferox trout caught in this area in order to preserve stocks of this increasingly rare fish.

47 Lough Mask

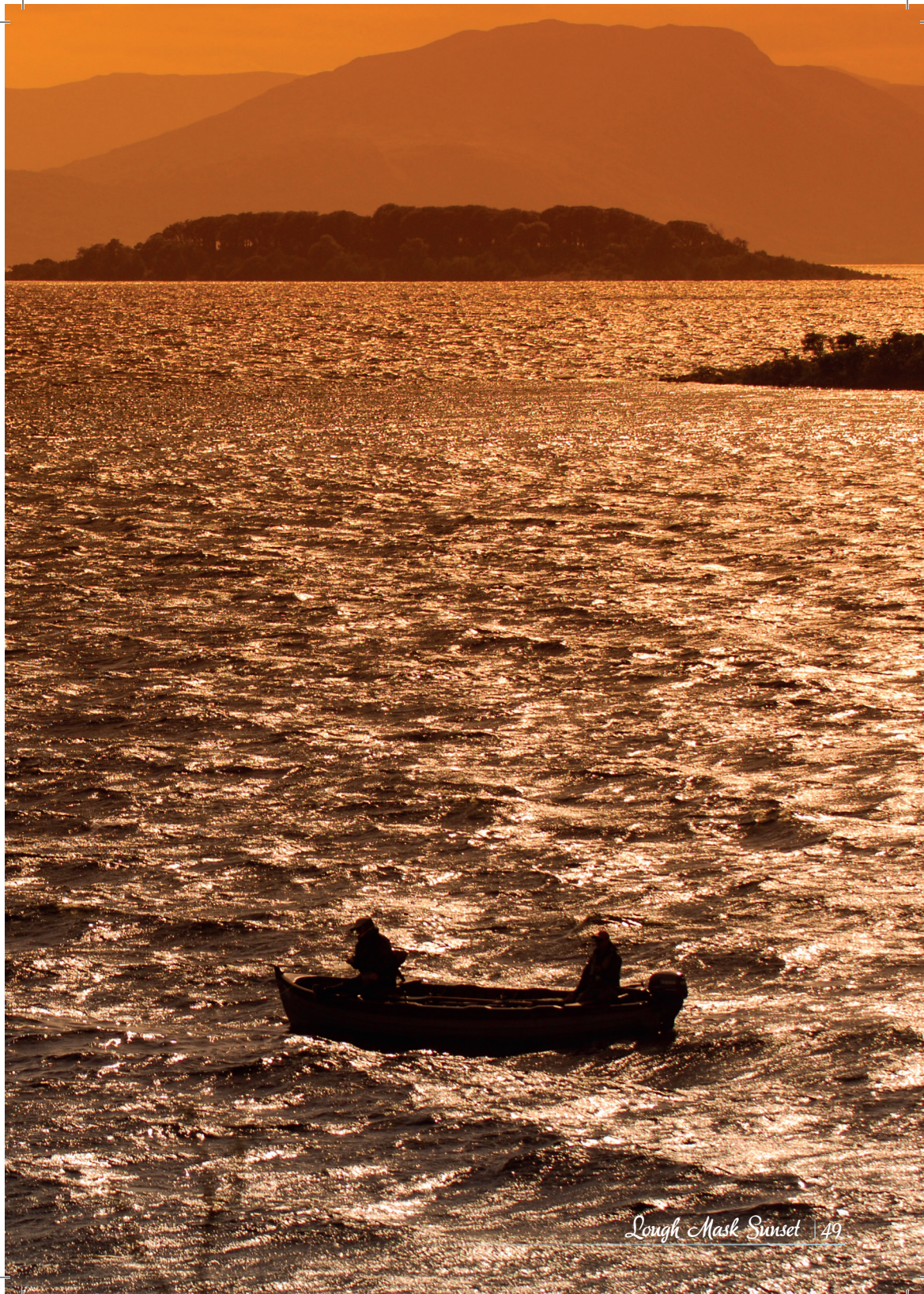
Species & Season	Brown Trout: February 15 th - September 30 th
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed. Minimum size 13" (33cm). Bag Limit 4 trout per day, including max. one fish over 10lbs (4.53kg). Limits on number of rods permitted.
Permission	Not required.

Fishery Description

Lough Mask is the jewel in the crown of Mayo trout lakes, and at approx. 8,500 hectares is one of the largest lakes in the region. Mask is renowned for the quality of its trout fishing, with excellent stocks of brown trout, as well as good numbers of ferox trout well into double figures. The lake is known for the quality of its wet and dry fly fishing, but dapping is also a very productive method, particularly during the mayfly and later in the summer.

The lake opens on the 15th of February, but fishing in earnest doesn't begin until March. Late March brings the first big hatches of duckfly (chironomids), followed by olives around the middle of April. Olives will continue to hatch for several months, even up to the end of the season, including large lake olives as well as golden and sooty olives. Mayfly hatches get going a bit later here than on neighbouring Lough Corrib, typically peaking around the third week of May, but often continuing into June, and sporadic mayfly hatches continue throughout the summer. Summertime on Mask is dominated by sedge hatches, and although the fishing tends to go quiet during July, it then comes alive in August and September are often the best months. Late in the season the very deep water on the western side of the lake can fish extremely well for trout feeding on Daphnia (freshwater crustaceans).

The lake is extremely varied, from rocky shallows to deeper areas over 80m in depth, as well as a huge number and variety of sheltered bays and reedy shorelines. The water level can vary from winter to summer by as much as 3 metres due to the limestone geology and massive variations in the water table. Heavy rainfall can raise levels again in a short period of time. This means that rocks which may be submerged well beneath the water one week may lie just under the surface the next, and makes navigation quite dangerous for those who are not familiar with the lake. Anglers fishing the lake for the first time are strongly advised to hire a local guide and not rely on their own judgement. Fishing on Mask is free. A detailed map of the lake, showing general depths and giving detailed information on fishing in the different areas of the lake is available from Inland Fisheries Ireland - Galway office, or online at www.fishinginireland.info





48 Erriff River

Species & Season	Sea Trout:	June 1 st - October 12 th
	Salmon:	February 1 st - September 30 th
	Brown Trout:	February 15 th - October 12 th
Methods & Regulations	Flyfishing only except as allowed by fishery manager.	
Permission	Permission required.	

Fishery Description

The Erriff Fishery is a gem of a spate salmon fishery, flowing through a beautiful valley to reach the sea at the head of Killary Fjord, near Leenane. The fishery comprises the river, with 9 beats over approx. 20km, as well as 4 lakes - Tawnyard, Derrintin, Glenawough and Lugacoliwee. The last 2 are located high in the hills and accessible only by hiking. Fishing is controlled by Aasleagh Lodge and managed by the fishery manager at the lodge. Tel. +353 (0)95 42252, www.aasleaghlodge.ie

The river gets a small run of spring fish in April and May, but it is as a grilse fishery that the Erriff is most renowned. In recent years, since the cessation of driftnetting, runs have improved significantly, and in 2011 over 500 salmon were landed. The river is a spate fishery, so it requires rainfall to fish well, but in this part of Ireland that is a frequent occurrence. The best fishing is from late June on, and it fishes well right to the end of the season, with excellent fishing in September being a feature of recent years. Sea trout run the river from July on every flood.

Tawnyard Lough gets a good run of sea trout and grilse in high water from July onwards, and can provide excellent sport when the river is low. A boat and engine is provided. Derrintin provides good fishing for wild brown trout.

Accommodation is provided at Aasleagh Lodge, overlooking the falls at the lower end of the river, and lodge guests get priority access to the fishing, but day permits are available when the lodge is not fully booked. To inquire about fishing or accommodation, contact the manager at +353 (0)95 42252, or check www.aasleaghlodge.ie

49 Delphi Fishery

Species & Season	Sea Trout:	June 1 st - September 30 th
	Salmon:	February 1 st - September 30 th
	Brown Trout:	February 15 th - October 12 th
Methods & Regulations	Flyfishing, dapping and some trolling allowed at discretion of fishery manager.	
Permission	Permission required.	

Fishery Description

The first lake on the system is Finlough, the smallest of the three, but it gets good runs of spring salmon from February, and fishes well through the spring. It has excellent grilse fishing from mid-June onwards, and fishing is fly only.

Doolough, or Dhu Lough, is the largest lake on the fishery, over 3 km long, and steep mountains rise on either side, making for dramatic and majestic scenery. The lake provides good fishing for grilse and sea trout during the summer months, with flyfishing and dapping allowed. Some trolling is permitted in spring.

Glencullin Lough was not fished much since the decline of sea trout stocks, but in recent years the lodge has had a boat there, and it has occasionally provided excellent sport for sea trout when runs recovered somewhat. Flyfishing and dapping only.

Information on fishing and accommodation from Delphi Lodge +353 (0)95 42222 or check www.delphi-salmon.com



50 Lough Nacorra

Species & Season	Sea Trout:	June 1 st - September 30 th
	Brown Trout:	February 15 th - October 12 th
Methods & Regulations	All legal methods allowed.	
Permission	Not normally required.	

Fishery Description

This small lake is situated at the base of Croagh Patrick, and can only be reached by a good hike from the nearest road. It drains into the Owenwee (Belclare) River, and in late summer can get a run of sea trout. The lake holds very good stocks of small brown trout, averaging less than half a pound, but they are generally free-rising and can provide great sport. Access is difficult but fishing is free and worth the effort to get there.

51 Moher Lough

Species & Season	Sea Trout:	June 1 st - September 30 th
	Brown Trout:	March 1 st - October 12 th
Methods & Regulations	Flyfishing only.	
Permission	Permission required.	

Fishery Description

Moher Lough is managed by Inland Fisheries Ireland, who stock it with brown trout on an annual basis. It is located about 8km from Westport on the N59 Leenane road, and permits are available from McDonnell's house beside the lake: Tel. +353 (0)98 21638.

There are several boats for hire on the lake, and the only permitted method is flyfishing. No bank fishing is allowed. The lake provides very good sport for stocked trout averaging .5kg, with excellent sport also provided by a large stock of small wild trout. It fishes best on summer evenings, and sedge patterns usually work best.

52 Owenwee River

Species & Season	Salmon:	February 1 st - September 30 th
	Sea Trout:	June 1 st - September 30 th
	Brown Trout:	February 15 th - October 12 th
Methods & Regulations	Flyfishing only on lower reaches. Other methods allowed upstream.	
Permission	Permission required.	

Fishery Description

The Owenwee River (also known as the Belclare River) is a small spate river that enters Clew Bay just west of Westport. It gets a small run of spring salmon in April/May, followed by good runs of grilse later in the summer. It also gets a small run of sea trout. Fishing is controlled by the Bourke family, and permits are available. The stretch from Belclare Bridge on the main Westport-Louisburgh road downstream to the sea is flyfishing only. Upstream, other methods are allowed. At the time of writing, the river is open for salmon fishing, but this may change annually depending on stock levels. Check www.fishinginireland.info for updates to the salmon fishing regulations and an up-to-date list of C&R rivers.



River Owenwee

53 Bunowen River

Species & Season	Brown Trout:	1 st April - 30 th September
	Sea Trout :	1 st June - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	Check www.fishinginireland.info for up to date information and current regulations.	
Permission	The Bunowen/Carrowniskey permit is required to fish the lake.	

Fishery Description

The Bunowen River is owned and managed by Inland Fisheries Ireland. It is a short spate river, that gets a decent run of grilse and some larger summer salmon. Best fishing is from July to September, after a flood. There are also sea trout in the river, although in recent years runs have not been very large. Permits are available from the West View Hotel in Louisburgh.

54 Carrowniskey River

Species & Season	Salmon:	1 st April - 30 th September
	Sea Trout:	1 st June - 30 th September
	Brown Trout:	1 st April - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	Check www.fishinginireland.info for up to date information and current regulations.	
Permission	The Bunowen/Carrowniskey permit is required to fish the lake.	

Fishery Description

The Carrowniskey River is a short spate river that enters the sea south of Louisburgh. It suffered from declining runs in recent years, and at time of writing is open on a catch-and-release basis. A fish counter is planned which will allow salmon runs to be monitored. The Carrowniskey River is managed by Inland Fisheries Ireland, and the permit for the Bunowen River also covers the Carrowniskey. It gets a run of grilse and sea trout from July on, and fished best on a falling flood. Roonagh Lough, at the mouth of the river, is a brackish water lake with a tidal influence, that holds salmon and sea trout when they are running. Permits are available from the West View Hotel in Louisburgh.

55 Carrowbeg River

Species & Season	Brown Trout:	1 st March - 30 th September
Methods & Regulations	All methods allowed.	
Permission	Fishing is free	

Fishery Description

The Carrowbeg River is a short river that flows through Westport. An impassable weir at the lower end of the river prevents access by salmon or sea trout, so the only species present is brown trout. The river holds a good stock of small brown trout and is fished mainly by local youngsters. Catch-and-release is encouraged in order to keep these fish available to the local youngsters throughout the summer.

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