



Inland Fisheries Ireland
Annual Report
2014





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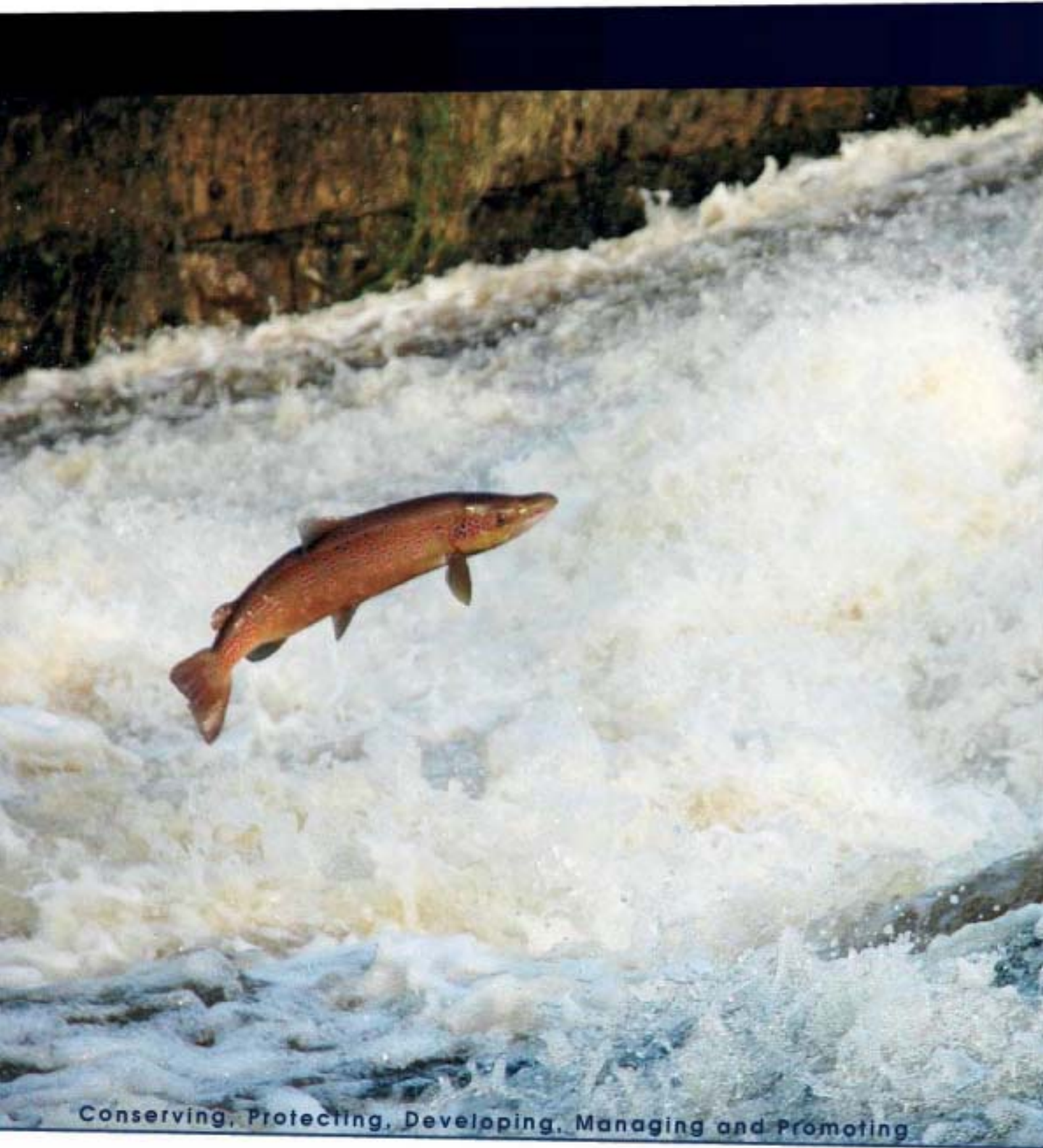




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Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting



Mission of Inland Fisheries Ireland



To ensure that the valuable natural resources of inland fisheries and sea angling are conserved, managed, developed and promoted in their own right to generate a positive return for the community and the environment.

Principal functions of Inland Fisheries Ireland

Inland Fisheries Ireland is the statutory agency responsible for inland fisheries in Ireland. It operates under the aegis of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (DCENR).

The principal function of Inland Fisheries Ireland is set out under Section 7 (2) of the Inland Fisheries Act of 2010. This is the protection, management and conservation of the inland fisheries resource. The general functions of IFI are to:

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



Chairman's Statement

I am pleased to present the Annual Report 2014 for Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI). The principal functions of IFI are set out in Section 7 of the Inland Fisheries Act 2010. They are the conservation, protection, management, marketing, development and improvement of our inland fisheries and sea angling resources. This report provides a high level account of the work undertaken and the services provided by IFI during 2014.

In accordance with section 13.1 of the 2009 Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies;

- (i) There were no commercially significant developments in 2014 and the Board did not establish any subsidiaries, participate in joint ventures or acquire shares;
- (ii) The Board complied with all appropriate procedures for financial reporting, internal audit, procurement and disposal of assets;
- (iii) The Board has complied with its obligations under tax law;
- (iv) A statement on the Board's system of internal financial control is also available in this annual report;
- (v) The Codes of Business Conduct for Directors and for Employees have been put in place and adhered to. These Codes are available on the IFI website;
- (vi) The Board has complied with Government policy on the pay of the Chief Executive Officer and all employees;
- (vii) The Board was in compliance with Government guidelines on the payment of Director's fees.
- (viii) As of now, there have been no significant post balance sheet events;
- (ix) The Board has complied with the Guidelines for the Appraisal and Management of Capital Expenditure Proposals;
- (x) The Board has complied with all Government Travel Policy requirements;
- (xi) All Board members have made a Disclosure of Interests in accordance with the 2009 Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.
- (xii) The 2009 Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies has been adopted by the Board and the Board is compliant with the provisions of the Code.

In accordance with Section 13.2 of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies I can confirm that no commercially sensitive developments took place in the preceding six months.

Among the core values of IFI are the promotion of a value for money culture and also achieving excellence in all that it does. In this regard IFI continued its focus on streamlining its activities and improving effectiveness and efficiency in its business processes. The Board of IFI have been to the forefront in restructuring the organisation to ensure it is best placed to meet with challenges facing the sectors in which it operates, the customer facing inland fisheries sector, and the wider public sector. It is in this regard that there was a continued emphasis on cost reduction and being strategic in its outlook and activities.

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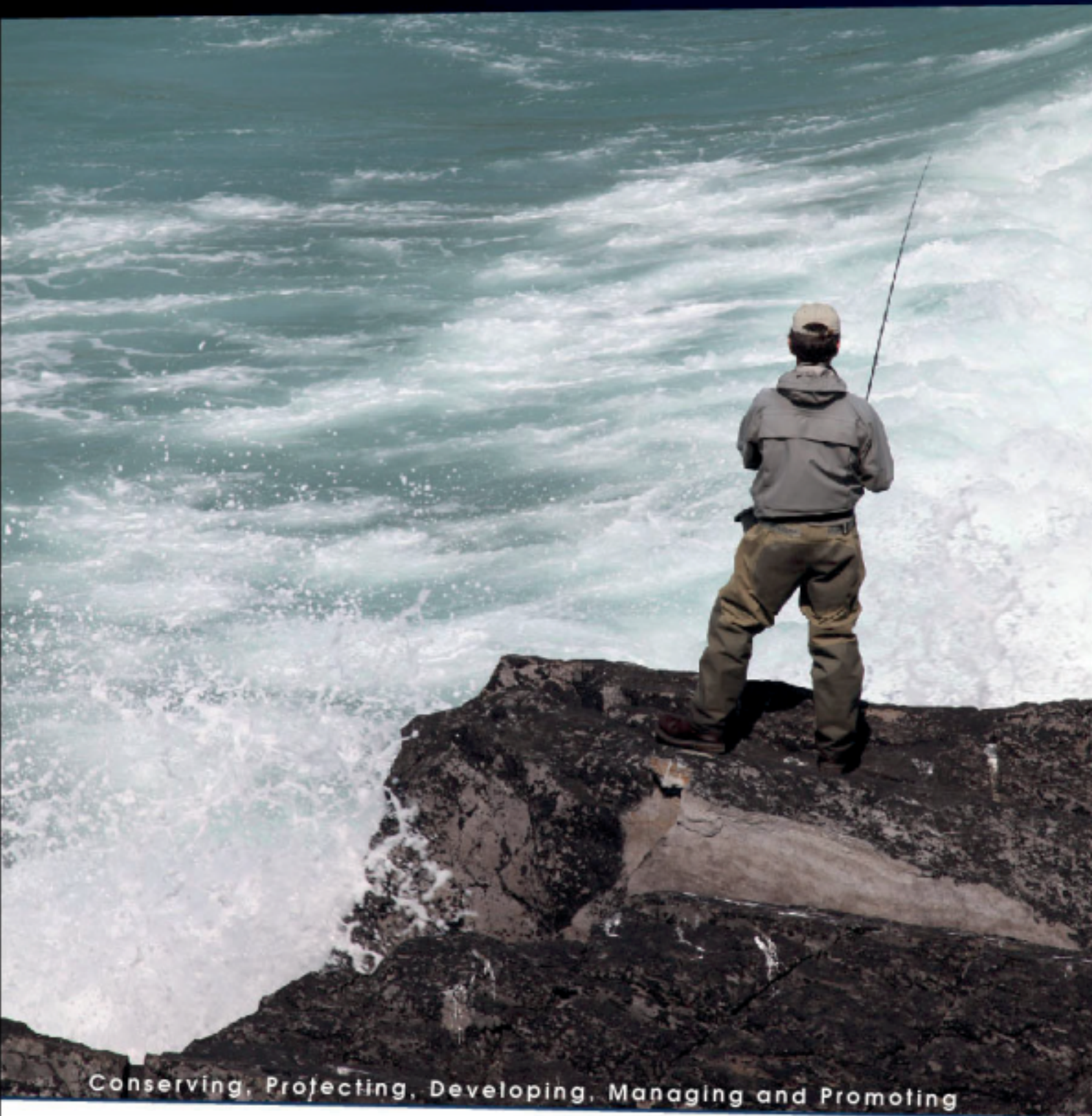
Chairman's Statement



I would like to thank my fellow Board members for their support and express my particular thanks to the members who left the Board during the year, Muireann O'Neill and Michael McGreal for their hard work and commitment to fisheries. I welcome Martin McEnroe and Niall Greene who joined the Board in 2014. I would also like to extend my gratitude and that of all the Board members to the staff of IFI without whom none of the work contained in this report would be possible. They are a particularly innovative and resourceful group of people who have now embedded continuous change into their daily work practices and continue to strive to deliver the most excellent fisheries service possible.

Finally, I would also like to thank Minister Alex White TD and Minister of State Joe McHugh TD at the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, and the officials from the Department for their continued unwavering and strong support.

Brendan O'Mahony
Chairman



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Chief Executive Officer's Introduction



I am delighted to present the 2014 Annual Report for Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI). This report presents a high level account of the work undertaken by the agency in the last year. The format of the report has changed from previous years. There has been an increased focus on making the key information contained in the report more accessible to the reader, and also providing more links to the IFI website where more detailed reports are published. IFI prides itself on being a lean organisation and delivering value for the taxpayer in all of the activities it undertakes. It is in this regard that there was a further programme of rationalisation in 2014 and, with the support of the Board, a refocusing on the delivering on our core statutory remit. During the period of this report IFI received an exchequer grant of €24.417 million, of which €15.654 million was allocated towards pay costs. Additionally IFI generated €4.1 million of own resources, a significant portion of which went towards the pay bill and the remainder to the running of the organisation and its programmes.

Throughout the year the Board of Inland Fisheries Ireland took a very active role in driving the delivery of the Corporate Plan of the organisation and as part of this process they identified a number of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing the organisation. In terms of the internal environment, one of the more significant threats identified was the age profile of staff when compared with the activities which have to be undertaken. However, this is counter balanced by the incredibly positive attitude of staff regarding the work of IFI and their dedication to achieving results. With respect to the external environment one of the concerns of the Board is the status of salmonid stocks specifically when faced with the potential adverse impacts sea lice have on migrating salmonids. The year like many previous has been a challenging one but with the support of the Board and a strong focus on delivering on the strategic issues, many of the key challenges have been met.

I would like to pay particular tribute to the staff of IFI who have continued to deliver on the remit of IFI in a difficult and changing environment. Finally, I would also like to thank the Board of IFI for their support in delivering on the challenging business plan set out for the organisation.

Dr Claran Byrne
Chief Executive Officer



The Numbers 2014




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678
Illegal
Equipment
Seizures



82
Cases
Heard
in Court



253
Fixed Charge
Notices
Issued

27,683
Fisheries Patrols



2%
(up 42%)



5%



93%

€270,225
Spent on
96 Angling Facility Projects



Replaced 169

stiles, footbridges & platforms

NEW
321
fishing
spaces



The Numbers 2014

Salmon

36% Rod Caught Salmon were replaced



57 Rivers Open



30 Catch & Release



56 Rivers Closed

143 Total Number of Rivers 2014

Since the 1970s over
44,000
Marine Sport Fish Tagged
including 19,750
blue shark



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1,081
sites were
electro-fished
within 34 catchments to
survey salmon populations



stakeholders accessed
4,501,847
page views
relating to angling in Ireland,
bio-security, invasive species,
fisheries management, research
projects and environmental
advice

48
articles
published in the angling press
as a result of IFI supporting
media visits that occurred in
previous years -
advertising rate equivalency
in excess of €339,000

€410,000
made available to clubs, fishery
owners, commercial salmon fishers
and other organisations through the
Salmon Conservation Fund, Midland
Fisheries Fund and the Co-op Funds



Ireland's Inland Fisheries & Sea Angling Resource



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Operations



Inland Fisheries Ireland continues to maximise the return on state investment in the protection and conservation of the fisheries resource by developing innovative protection and environmental practices and by rolling these new practices out across the country. The **Operations Division** consists of a Head of Function and six River Basin District Directors who are regionally based around the country, under this structure there are 240 staff.

The implementation of proven traditional work processes and the increasing use of creative approaches such as kayak patrols, bike patrolling, dog assisted patrolling and covert surveillance technologies have delivered further significant improvements in efficiencies and effectiveness in 2014.

Field Staff are multifunctional and cover development, protection and environmental aspects of the fisheries duties. Throughout the year staff supported the management of wild fisheries by protecting the water resources, the riparian zones, fish stocks and reviewing and commenting on proposed infrastructural development projects.

Protection of our Fisheries Resource

The protection of Ireland's fisheries resource remained the key priority in 2014. This was achieved despite some extreme weather conditions experienced during the year. Severe drought conditions occurred during July and August with many rivers and lakes experiencing unprecedented decreases in water levels. This was particularly apparent in river catchments with underlying limestone geology which resulted in some rivers running dry.

The drought conditions posed a particularly serious threat to salmon and trout species as they attempted to migrate upstream to spawn. This necessitated a greater degree of vigilance from staff to prevent both illegal fishing and environmental damage to rivers that were in drought. Protection efforts were concentrated on salmon and sea trout in certain parts of the country while in the Upper Shannon, Cavan and Monaghan areas a greater emphasis was placed on protecting coarse fish species.

New surveillance technologies were instrumental in the detection and apprehension of a number of individuals involved in illegal activity across the country. High resolution spotting scopes have proven highly effective in providing targeted guidance in surveillance operations.

Bass surveillance and coastal fishing monitoring also remained a high priority throughout the year particularly on the southern coastline.



Protection of our Fisheries Resource

During the year a significant number of breaches of the fisheries acts were detected, both in terms of the number and the range of offences. These included netting on lakes, rivers, estuaries and at sea, breaches of the pike and coarse fish Bye-laws, 'stroke hauling', 'long lining', disturbance of spawning beds as well as breaches of the legislation governing the harvesting of oysters. Where appropriate legal proceedings were initiated, in certain less severe cases, offenders were issued Fixed Charge Penalty notices in lieu of prosecution.

Protection activities on eel fisheries indicated increased levels of illegal eel fishing, particularly in the Lower Shannon and Upper Erne catchments where a number of illegal fishing nets were detected and seized.

Patrols were carried out using the full range of methods currently available to fisheries staff while the majority of patrols were vehicle or boat patrols, the increased use of innovative new patrol methods was evident. The numbers of boat/kayak/personal watercraft patrols increased in 2014 to 1,434 in comparison to 1,353 the previous year; an increase of 6%. This increase is a result of training additional staff to an appropriate standard with the new equipment. The number of bicycle/quad patrols also increased in 2014 with 616 patrols completed in comparison to 432 patrols in 2013 which represents an increase of 42.6%. It is the intention of IFI to continue to grow the number of patrols undertaken by alternative means. In total **27,683 patrols** were carried out during 2014.

355 nets were seized from inland waters, measuring **17,086 metres**, and **17 nets** measuring **3,635 metres** were seized at sea. A range of fishing equipment was also seized including fishing rods, dinghies, hand lines, pitchfork and spear. Quantities of fish, oysters and scallops were also seized. A full list of seizures made during 2014 is available on the IFI website www.fisheriesireland.ie.

Prosecutions

During the year a new co-ordinated suite of protocols and documentation was adopted by IFI for undertaking prosecutions.

In total **82 prosecution cases** were heard during 2014. Prosecutions were taken in response to breaches of fisheries legislation and water quality infringement incidents. Nine cases are being appealed to the Circuit Court, in some cases by IFI, in other cases by the individual convicted in the District Court. 253 Fixed charge Penalty notices were issued in 2014.



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The Environment and Fish



Water Quality / Pollution

There were **7,650 environmental inspections** carried out in 2014. This includes an 11% increase in the number of inspections on wastewater treatment plants, from 1,736 in 2013 to 1,922 in 2014, and an increase of almost 4% on the number of farm inspections carried out, from 2,468 inspections in 2013 to 2,563 inspections in 2014. Where poor farm management practices were identified they were brought to the attention of the landowners and satisfactory measures were agreed to address the issues highlighted.

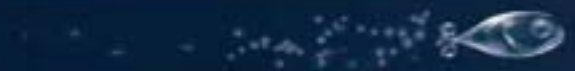




Map of Fish Kills recorded by IFI in 2014



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Fish Kills

IFI staff recorded 22 incidences of fish kills in 2014 which is a significant decrease of over 58% on the 53 fish kills recorded in 2013. [See Appendix I for the 2014 Pollution Control and Water Quality Report](#). Additionally IFI staff initiated a number of investigations in response to reports of dead fish in rivers and lakes particularly during the extended dry spell in the summer of 2014. Many of these reports did not ultimately result in a recorded fish kill.

Examples of environmental matters dealt with in 2014 include a successful prosecution against an aquaculture company for illegally damaging a salmonid river to source freshwater to treat Amoebic Gill Disease (AGD), and a very significant fish kill on the Tolka River which killed a significant number of fish over a long stretch of river. This matter is currently before the courts and updates can be found on the IFI website during 2015: <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Table/About-us/Press-releases/>

[Appendix IA lists fish kills illustrated opposite](#)





Securing a Future for Fish

Fisheries Infrastructure Development

One of the core remits of IFI is the protection and development of the fisheries habitat and IFI does this in a number of ways; directly undertaking projects itself; using funding mechanisms such as the Salmon Conservation Fund to assist other interested parties in undertaking projects; and also taking a proactive approach to working with other agencies and groups to ensure that development works which impact on rivers and lakes are done in a fish friendly manner. To the largest extent possible IFI engages positively and proactively in projects to ensure they can proceed in an efficient manner and maintain the integrity of fisheries habitat. The positive outcome from this approach is that in a significant number of projects the fisheries habitat is improved following works. An example of some of the infrastructural projects IFI were involved in during 2014 include the lower River Dodder Flood Alleviation Scheme, the River Dargle Flood Mitigation Scheme and resolving problems associated with erosion of a significant private development near Bray.

Fish Habitat Development

The maintenance and development of fisheries habitat may be as simple as pruning bankside vegetation and raking or replacing spawning gravels, whereas in other cases fish habitats may require infrastructural intervention. Many of these larger projects involve bank stabilisation and the removal or bypassing of riverine obstacles and they require the same level of detail and planning as construction projects. It is important to understand that our lakes and rivers require continuous maintenance and improvement to ensure optimum fish populations are achieved and sustained.

Some excellent examples of work carried out during the year include the new rock ramp fish pass installed on the Goldmine River at Woodenbridge. This pass was installed at the side of an artificial weir which was previously impassable to fish and following the works it now allows passage of all fish species at all times. Electrofishing of the site in September confirmed the upstream migration of juvenile Atlantic salmon into the channel above and this is the first time these fish have accessed the Goldmine River at this location for at least 30 years.

On the River Moy system almost 12km of channel bank was cleared of excessive vegetation which will greatly increase productivity of the river due to increased light penetration. Most of this work was carried out by participants in an IFI sponsored Community Employment Scheme (CES) based in Ballina. Significant bank clearance works were also completed on many other channels throughout the country. In very many cases local angling clubs, federations and community groups with the assistance and guidance of IFI staff have put in significant effort to enhance and maintain their fisheries and the waters in their communities. This type of work is generally of high impact on a local scale and relatively low cost.

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Managing Lakes and Rivers



Angling Infrastructure Development

In 2014, **96 angling development projects were initiated at a cost of €270,225** which resulted in the replacement of 169 stiles, footbridges and platforms. These works resulted in the **creation of 321 additional angling spaces**. Due to the need for structures to last longer IFI is increasingly changing to utilising 'plastic wood' (recycled plastic) and, where appropriate, steel structures to provide safe angling access to venues. **See Appendix II for Angling Development Works by District for 2014.**

In many locations these developments enhanced the fishing available to anglers by making fish lies more accessible. In addition to facilitating access to angling, these developments also enable the crossing of streams, drains and fences where access had previously been impeded. IFI continues to liaise with the individual land owners to ensure that fishing and farming can be developed in harmony.

Similar to the projects referenced above, IFI is increasingly partnering with other agencies to increase the investment in angling and in many cases work done on angling infrastructure is complementary to the wider investment in outdoor recreation. An example of this partnering approach is a rural regeneration project lead by Monaghan County Council, The Clones Erne East Blackwater (CEEB) project. As part of this scheme a total of €116,000 was invested in the development of angling access infrastructure at a series of lakes in the Clones area.

Other examples of angling infrastructure projects completed in 2014 include a substantial development project on the River Suck, undertaken in September. This work involved the removal of old stand structures at Black Lough, Stonehams Lough and Holygrove Lough (Galway and Roscommon). It also involved the construction of two slipways at Donamon and Glinsk, both in the River Suck catchment. These slipways both enable boaters access to prime angling and are strategic launching points for IFI protection patrols.

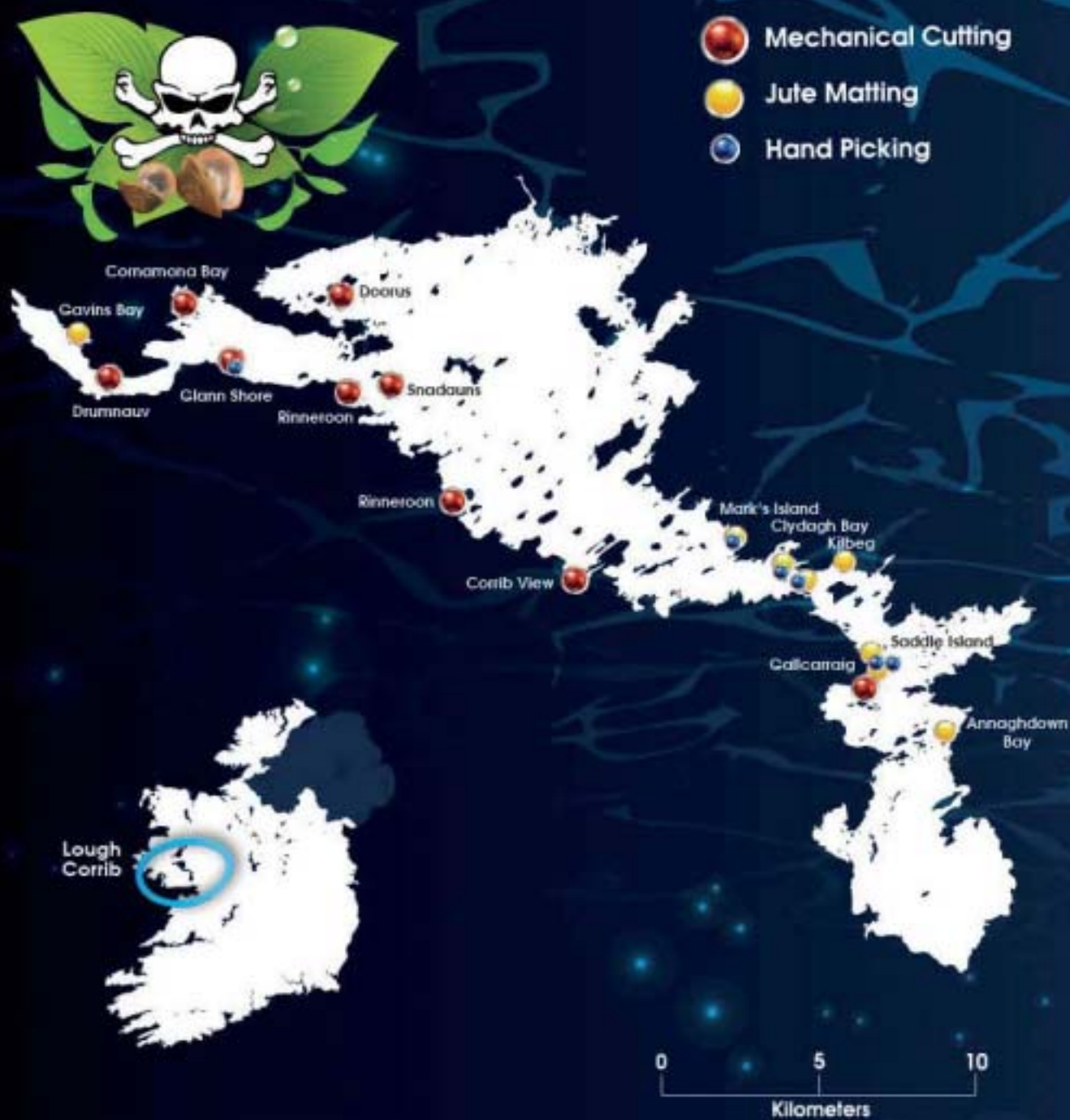
IFI have also provided detailed plans to ESB Fisheries to enable the development of structures and access for anglers along various ESB owned fisheries. Work was carried out in two phases on the Camlin River in the Lough Ree catchment, with the installation of footbridges, stiles and carpark facilities over a 3km stretch. In addition plans were also prepared for the Shannon Fisheries Partnership (an ESB initiative with local angling clubs) on the Ballyfinboy, Rock, Nenagh Camcor and Clooneigh Rivers, all in the Shannon catchment.

Replaced 169

stiles, footbridges & platforms

NEW
321
fishing spaces

Locations and Methods of Treatment in 2014



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Aquatic Invasive Species Management



Control of Lagarosiphon major on Lough Corrib

In 2014, approximately 24ha of Lough Corrib was treated for the highly invasive Lagarosiphon major. At the beginning of 2014 and, taking weed expansion into account, there were 31.5ha of weed in the lake which, by year end, had been reduced to 18.9ha. The locations treated and areas of lake treated by the three methods are highlighted opposite and below. Expenditure on the **contract weed control team amounted to €128,166** and a further €18,846 was expended on the purchase of jute matting. Funding for the work was provided by Galway County Council, the Office of Public Works (OPW) which also provided significant logistical support, the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) and IFI from its development fund. This figure represents direct expenditure on the project and does not include additional costs of management and the supports provided by other IFI staff.







Facilities



During 2014, IFI continued the process of adjusting its property portfolio in line with the strategic needs of the organisation, which are to have staff concentrated in a smaller number of better resourced operational bases. Historically the fisheries service staff worked in close proximity to their operational base and the service had a large number of smaller stores and bases dotted around the country, and particularly concentrated in the vicinity of our larger lakes. The rationalisation of the IFI property portfolio is designed to optimise the protection, conservation and management of the fisheries resource.

This process forms part of the continued drive towards efficiency, with the focus firmly placed on having strategically placed properties which will maximise operations and reflect the revised shape of the organisation. In 2014, 5 significant projects were either commenced or completed, a number of properties were purchased and several existing properties were upgraded. The main projects included the purchase and fit-out of a new Headquarters building in Citywest, the purchase of an operational base in New Ross which is being fitted out, the completion of the Letterkenny operational base, the purchase of the old army barracks in Fermoy to be used as an operational base and the sourcing of a new logistics and research centre in the vicinity of the Citywest Headquarters.

IFI Headquarters and Logistic Research Centre (LRC)

In April IFI moved premises from its old Headquarters in Swords Business Campus to its new offices on 30M Lake Drive, Citywest, Dublin 24. In May the staff of IFI Blackrock moved into the Citywest premises, as part of the strategy of rationalising buildings in Dublin and exiting from high cost leases.

The logistics of the move went extremely smoothly and there was no downtime as service delivery continued throughout the process.

IFI have now identified a Logistics and Research Centre (LRC) in near proximity to replace its other 2 leased premises in the Swords area. It is expected that purchase of this premises will be completed in 2015.

Over €1.5m was spent on the rationalisation of the IFI property portfolio with savings secured from exiting leases. IFI will continue to reduce the overall property portfolio over the coming years while ensuring that existing properties are brought up to a more consistent standard.



Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting

Research and Development



The Research and Development Division of IFI is tasked with the delivery of high quality applied research and advice to support the management of this natural resource. In 2014, IFI delivered high quality research across a range of projects and species to support the conservation and management of the inland fisheries resources. IFI scientists offered a range of advice to managers, stakeholders and government departments in addition to providing inputs to international organisations such as the International Council of Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO) and the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC).

Sea Trout

The National Sea Trout Index Catchment (NSIC) – the River Erriff Catchment

A long-term sea trout monitoring programme has been in place on the Tawnyard sub-catchment of the NSIC since 1985. From March through to June 2014, a total of 2,330 sea trout smolts (juveniles) and 228 sea trout kelts (spawned adults) were recorded; monitoring of returning salmon and sea trout also took place with a total of 1,792 salmon and 5,240 sea trout ascending the Aasleagh trap during 2014.

The NSIC is critically important in monitoring the Erriff sea trout population into the future and will allow assessment of the impact of environmental factors, including sea lice levels on the sea trout stock. The NSIC catchment acts as an index for other west of Ireland sea trout populations and, in 2014 investment was made to enhance its research and monitoring capacities. As part of this investment, an array of hydro acoustic receivers was installed in Killary Harbour to monitor sea trout and salmon movement and residency. 50 sea trout smolts, 10 kelts and 10 salmon smolts were acoustically tagged and released in the Erriff River in spring 2014. The salmon migrated quickly out of the fjord within 2 days of their release in the lower reaches. The sea trout (smolts and kelts) displayed differential movement patterns: some migrated fully out of Killary Harbour and others resided fully within the fjord. The remainder were mainly Killary residents making sporadic returns to freshwater. To date 33% of kelts and 24% of smolts have returned fully to freshwater. Monitoring continues for marine overwintered fish.

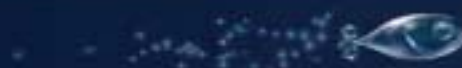
Monitoring of the survival of ranched salmon smolts, treated with a chemical treatment (Slice) to provide protection against sea lice infestation was again undertaken on returning ranched salmon. A total of 379 ranched salmon were removed from the trap in 2014 and micro-tag analysis will reveal the number of returning salmon from treatment and control groups. Ranched salmon smolts in treated and control groups were released from the Erriff station in April 2014 in the continuing programme to assess marine mortality associated with sea lice infestation of out-migrating salmon smolts.





Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting

Research and Development



Bass

Bass is the only marine fish species managed for angling and IFI has been working at the forefront of bass research since the 1970s. In 2014, IFI's National Bass Conservation Programme conducted juvenile bass surveys in three large estuaries and a detailed inshore trawling survey in Waterford Estuary to survey for 1 and 2 year old bass. Scale sampling by bass anglers and the voluntary catch logbook programme continued in 2014. Sampling involved anglers all along the coast providing bass scales to IFI scientists for age and growth studies. A total of **650 bass** have been analysed since 2013 via this dynamic citizen science programme being run by IFI. This type of initiative is invaluable in bringing research to the public and increasing awareness of the work of IFI in protecting this valuable species.

A novel satellite tagging project to investigate pre-spawning migrations of adult bass was initiated by IFI in Cork Harbour in 2014, with partners Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA) and Wildlife Computers (satellite tag developers). Large tag size precludes deployment of conventional satellite tags on smaller fish species but this innovative tag design facilitated tagging of sixteen bass ranging from 48.0-73.5 cm (mean 59.8 cm) total length. Preliminary results showed that six fish that had moved out of Cork Harbour into coastal waters were migrating in a north easterly direction close to the shore. Further analysis of a detailed dataset from this new technology will be available next year when the experiments have been concluded.

The study of the microchemistry of bass otoliths (ear bones which grow continuously over the life of the fish) enables the identification of metals which are incorporated into the ear bones throughout the life of the bass. Microchemistry review of the juvenile ear bones has demonstrated good levels of metal discrimination which can be then matched to the underlying geology of the estuary. The significance of this technique is that it can be used as a way of identifying the juvenile inshore habitats of bass.

Long-term datasets collected since the 1970s (angler catch, competition results etc) have been analysed to determine stock trends. The analysis indicates that stock levels remain very low compared to the 1980s. Good quality data are required over a long time series to be able to provide an adequate appraisal of stock status and IFI is working with anglers towards this goal using the citizen science programme. Further information on the National Bass Programme can be found on the IFI website at <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Projects/national-bass-programme.html>. IFI launched a Bass Policy in 2014 and a copy of this policy can be found on the IFI website at <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/policies/453-inland-fisheries-ireland-bass-policy>

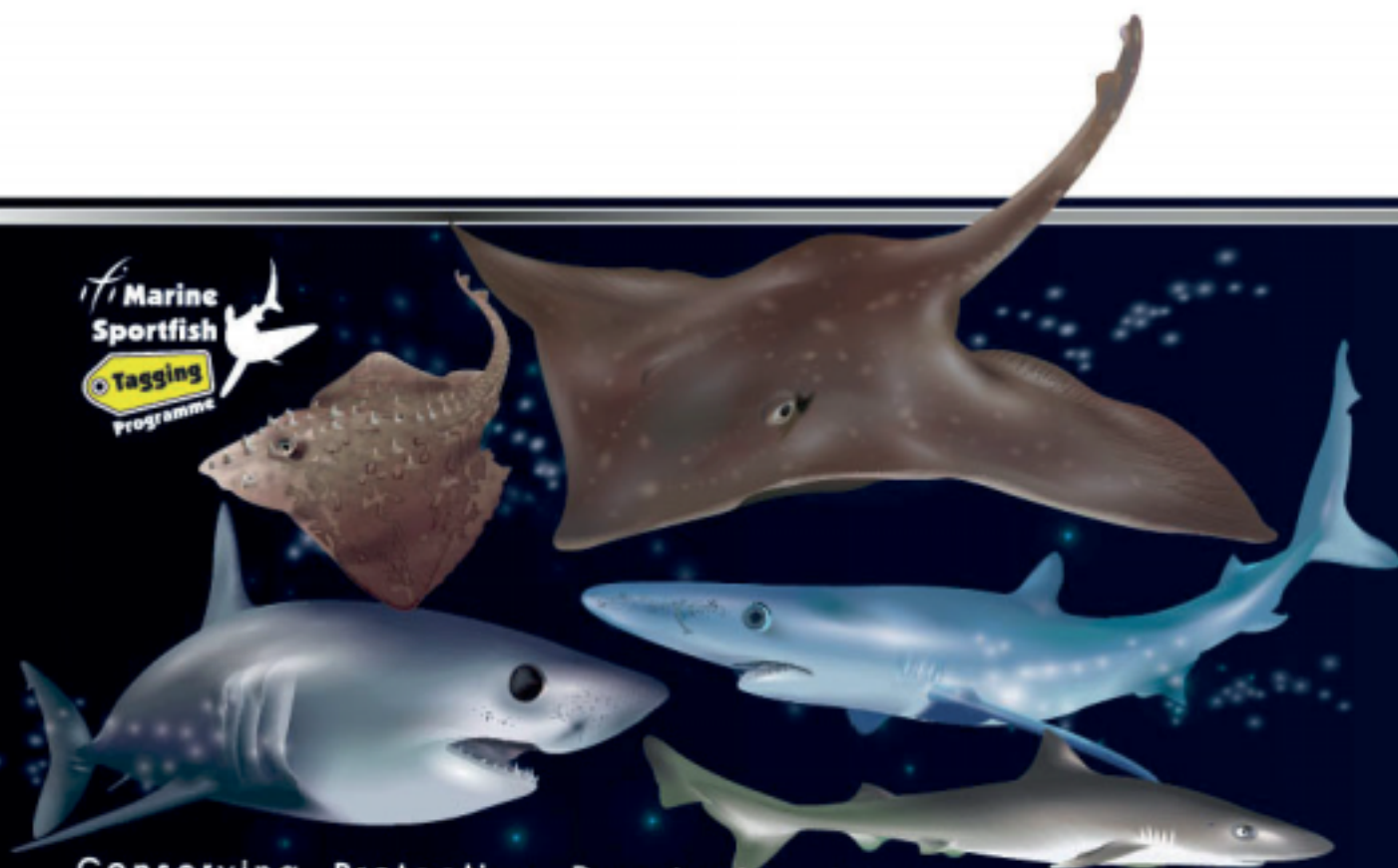


Marine Sportfish Tagging Programme

Since 1970, IFI has operated an elasmobranch tag (for use on sharks, rays and skates) and recapture programme which is operated mainly by angling charter boat skippers. Over the course of the programme **more than 44,000** fish have been tagged spanning 15 different species.

Blue shark dominate the list of tagged sharks and rays from IFI's long-running tagging programme. Since 1970 to date, a total of **19,750 blue shark have been tagged and 881 recaptures** have been reported; this return rate of 4.5% for this type of longitudinal study is quite reasonable when compared with international data. These data have been used to provide important conservation information about these species and in this way to contribute to understanding and protecting valuable species in the marine ecosystem. A comprehensive report on some of the more vulnerable species was submitted to the International Council of Exploration of the Sea (ICES) in 2014. A draft copy of this report is available on the ICES website:

http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Expert%20Group%20Report/acom/2014/WGEF/wgef_draft_2014.pdf



Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting

Coarse Fish



Results of fish stock assessments undertaken during 2014 under contract with Waterways Ireland indicate that stocks of pike and coarse fish remain generally healthy on the Royal and Grand Canals. In 2014, IFI received delivery of two electrofishing Boom boats. Trials of these boats conducted on river and lake habitats in 2014 have been very encouraging and these boats will enhance research capability particularly into aspects of the biology and ecology of our important pike and coarse angling species.

IFI launched its Pike Policy in 2014. The policy group comprising of internal and external experts reviewed the existing pike policy and made recommendations in respect of new measures that would ensure the conservation of the species while also protecting the broader aquatic resource. This policy document is available to download at: <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/policies/455-inland-fisheries-ireland-pike-policy>.

In November of 2014, three laymen's reports were published on the IFI website relating to: the diet of pike in Irish watercourse; genetic structure of pike and its history in Ireland; and the ecomorphology of pike in Irish freshwater.



Ireland's Inland Fisheries & Sea Angling Resource

Brown Trout

IFI have been to the fore in using genetic techniques to identify the origin of brown trout and sea trout populations. This work involves taking samples of juvenile fish from a range of river catchments surrounding a particular lake and also sampling fish from the lake. By matching the genetic code it is possible to identify which rivers are providing the stocks of fish for the lake. The results have been remarkable. This research has identified that smaller rivers contribute a greater proportion of their fish to lake stocks than the larger rivers, and this is likely due to the paucity of suitable feeding opportunities in the smaller rivers. The conventional wisdom had previously been that large rivers would contribute more stocks to lake fisheries, and this appears not to be the case. This in turn facilitates managers in identifying potential locations for focused enhancement programmes for stock restoration and development and to also evaluate the value of previous enhancement programmes.

IFI's brown trout genetics programme continued in 2014 with the commencement of three new projects on the Dublin rivers (Liffey, Dodder and Tolka), Moy Catchment and Mid Shannon System (from Carrick-on-Shannon south to and including the River Suck, Lough Ree and River Inny). Baseline data was collected throughout the year and laboratory analysis has commenced. These studies are being carried out by IFI in collaboration with Queens University Belfast (QUB). Other genetics studies completed by IFI include the Lough Corrib, Lough Mask, Lough Ennell, Lough Sheelin, Lough Derg and Rivers Boyne and Suir catchments.

IFI launched its Wild Brown Trout Policy in 2014; this document outlines recommendations that would ensure the long-term sustainable management of this resource from both a conservation perspective while still retaining the socio-economic value of this resource to the community. A copy of this policy can be found on the IFI website at <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/policies/454-inland-fisheries-ireland-brown-trout-policy>



Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting

Salmon



A total of 87 of the 143 salmon rivers in Ireland were open for angling in 2014. 57 were fully open while 30 were open for catch and release angling only. There are 16 recognised "spring salmon" rivers in Ireland. The majority of these were fully open and three more were open on a catch and release basis.

The annual advice on the status of salmon stocks and associated documentation was produced by the Independent Standing Scientific Committee on Salmon (SSCS) and is available for download on the IFI website at <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/fisheries-management-1/482-the-status-of-irish-salmon-stocks-in-2014-with-precautionary-catch-advice-for-2015>

During 2014, Catchment Wide Electro-Fishing (CWEF) was completed in 34 catchments to assess abundance and distribution of salmon fry. In many systems these results provide the only data for adult salmon abundance. A total of **1,081 sites were visited in 2014**. In the first eight years of this programme (2007-2014) a total of 307 catchment surveys in 134 catchments have been undertaken comprising 5,745 individual site surveys. In relation to scientific advice for 2014, based on these CWEF data, sixteen rivers predicted to be under their Conservation Limit, but with a high average catchment-wide salmon fry index (i.e. ≥ 17 fish/5-min over the 2007-2013 period), were recommended for opening on a catch and release angling basis. A comprehensive series of reports on the IFI salmon management programme are available on the IFI website at <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Fisheries-management/salmon-management.html>



Ireland's Inland Fisheries & Sea Angling Resource

Habitats Directive & 'Red Data Book' Fish Programme

This programme is designed to compile a baseline on the status of a series of fish species, known as the conservation fish species, and using the baseline to identify and undertake measures to conserve and enhance the status of these species. The species in question are river, brook and sea lamprey, Twaité and Killarney shad, pollan and Atlantic salmon, all listed in Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive, as well as char and smelt. Under Irish law, the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources has a responsibility to undertake surveillance on the status of the Annex II fish species of the Habitats Directive and IFI performs this function for the Minister. There is a legal obligation on EU member states to report to the European Commission, under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive, on a six-year cycle. The 2014 report will be available at <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Projects/habitats-directive-and-red-data-book-fish-species.html>

Following completion of the Article 17 report to the EU, a new six-year round of investigations was commenced in 2013. The present six-year cycle will re-examine larval lamprey status in all the major Special Area of Conservation (SAC) catchments designated for lamprey and to establish a network of index channels where larval lamprey status will be examined in order to look at trends in population presence, size and structure. The team members presented three papers at an international conference on lamprey in the UK in May 2014, convened by the Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM). A paper, dealing with IFI's telemetry work on shads, was also presented at an IFM conference on telemetry in the UK in July 2014.

Trials were carried out using hydro acoustics, mid-water trawling and pelagic gillnets to sample for pollan in Lough Allen in June and for Killarney shad in both May and September.

The sampling strategy for juvenile or early stage shads and smelt, towing a fine-mesh net for set durations in target estuaries, continues to be developed as a repeatable and robust assessment approach. This method was trialled for early-stage pollan in Lough Ree in 2013 with some success and the strategy was successfully employed in Lough Allen in 2014.



Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting

Water Framework Directive



In 2007, Inland Fisheries Ireland (at that time the Central and Regional Fisheries Boards), began a fish monitoring programme to assess the health of Ireland's rivers, lakes and estuaries/lagoons. This work is necessary to fulfil the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) (which was transposed into Irish Law through the European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 722 of 2003)). The comprehensive three-year rolling fish monitoring programme developed by IFI encompasses over 300 water bodies, (river, lake and transitional water bodies (estuaries and lagoons)). Information collected in each survey is used to assign an 'ecological status' to each water body, ranging from bad to high status. WFD fish surveys conducted during 2014 were part of the third three-year rolling programme (2013 – 2015). Good weather during 2014 resulted in the completion of surveys on all scheduled waterbodies; 26 lakes, 53 rivers and seven transitional (estuarine) waterbodies nationwide. The surveys were conducted using a suite of European standard methods.

A total of 83 sites within 53 rivers in 23 catchments were surveyed between July and September 2014. A total of 14 fish species and one hybrid were recorded. Brown trout was the most common fish species followed by salmon, eel, stone loach and minnow. The recovery of four rivers after fish kills which occurred during 2012 and 2013 was also assessed as part of the ecological status assessment for the WFD. The 2014 ecological status updates will be available in mid-2015.

Twenty-six lakes were surveyed during 2014, with a total of 19 fish species (sea trout are included as a separate 'variety' of trout) and two types of hybrids being recorded. Eel was the most common fish species recorded, occurring in 96% of the lakes surveyed. This was followed by brown trout, perch, roach and pike which were present in 81%, 65%, 42% and 38% of lakes respectively. In general, salmonids were the dominant species in lakes in the north, west and south-west of the country. Sea trout were captured in seven lakes; Lough Beagh, Glencullin Lough, Carrowmore Lake, Lough Brin, Lough Caragh, Upper Lake and Lough Leane. Arctic char were recorded in six lakes; Lough Acoose, Lough Caragh, Lough Leane, Lough Beagh,



Ireland's Inland Fisheries & Sea Angling Resource



National Eel Management Plan

Lough Melvin and Lough Talt. Seven transitional water bodies were also surveyed, including four water bodies on the Shannon Estuary and three on the Skanney Estuary. A total of 50 species of fish were recorded across the seven water bodies. Preliminary reports for all water bodies surveyed in 2014 have been published on the [WFD fish](http://www.wfdfish.ie) website (www.wfdfish.ie) and will be replaced with more detailed reports once all fish data has been processed. <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Projects/water-framework-directive.html>

Additionally IFI was contracted by Waterways Ireland to provide fisheries management, aquatic plant management and Water Framework Directive (WFD) monitoring on the Royal and Grand Canals, the Barrow Navigation and the Shannon-Enne Waterway. The programme reflects the statutory obligations of Waterways Ireland and its objective of providing a quality waterways habitat commensurate with its use by a wide diversity of user groups.

Monitoring of the Royal and Grand Canals and the canalised section of the Shannon-Enne Waterway includes the sampling of a total of 44 sites for physio-chemistry, aquatic macrophytes and benthic macroinvertebrates. Approximately 20,000 adult fish were safely relocated during fish rescue operations conducted at four locations on the Grand and Royal Canals and the Barrow Navigation system. Where encountered and under licence to NPWS, crayfish were also removed to safety. This also allows examination of drained waterways for the presence of unusual invasive or problematic plant and animal species.

National Eel Management Plan

The National Eel Monitoring Programme (EMP) is approaching the end of the second 3 year cycle (2012 – 2015) of monitoring. The aim of the programme is to fulfil Ireland's obligations under the monitoring objectives set out in the national eel management plan.

The national elver monitoring programme was carried out for a fifth year in 2014. The aim of the programme is to monitor the level of elver recruitment arriving in Ireland and create a long-term time series to track changes in recruitment levels. Elver monitoring was undertaken at 6 sites nationally. The distribution of recruitment was spatially uneven this year with some sites recording increased numbers but other sites recording very poor recruitment. The recruitment for Europe has increased over the last 3 years however it still remains at 12% of historic levels and thus the endangered status of the stock has not changed. It remains to be seen if this increase in recruitment is as a result of the management measures put in place since 2009 or is just natural variability in the recruitment indices.



In the yellow eel monitoring programme, an intensive fyke net survey was carried out at two lakes (Lough Muckno and Lough Ramor). The Kells Blackwater River sub-catchment was electro-fished for eels to determine the extent of eel distribution in the rivers around Lough Ramor. The south sloblands, a brackish lagoon was also fished for 2 nights using fyke nets in order to compare with historical data available from the Fisheries Research Centre (FRC).

In 2014, 6 additional acoustic receivers were deployed in the River Barrow upper estuary in order to improve our understanding of eel movement within this habitat. Ten eels were tagged with acoustic tags in July 2014. The study site is 3kms of river channel with 7 receivers located approximately 500m apart. The site is nested within the existing River Barrow acoustic array so eels that migrate as 'silvers' will be detected on the migration route downstream. This study is a follow up of the pilot study undertaken in St Mullins in 2012 and 2013. The battery in the acoustic tags is expected to expire in March 2015 at which time the study will have taken place over 9 months, results will be available in 2015.

Monitoring of the silver eel run on the River Fane system continued for the fourth year. A total catch of 607kg was caught in 25 nights, however 76% of the run came in November coinciding with a large flood event. A second east coast silver eel fishery was set up on the River Barrow in 2014. Due to the size of the River Barrow, this fishery project was managed by setting nets on the lock gates of the canal. The site was fished commercially up to 2008. A total catch of 174kg was caught over 22 nights. It is hoped to continue to monitor the silver eel escapement in the Barrow catchment as it is the only silver eel index site with a river dominated habitat. The length frequency of eels coming from the River Barrow was interesting due to the extent of small eels in the catch which was not expected, 60% of the eels taken back to the laboratory were male eels. However, a stocking programme carried out by the Fisheries Research Centre in 1990 and 1991 where eels from the River Feale were stocked into the River Barrow could be influencing the stock structure.

Full information on the eel monitoring programme and the EU report are available on the IRI website at <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Fisheries-Management/eel-management-plan.html>



Environmental Rivers Enhancement Programme

This is the second year of phase 2 of the Environmental Rivers Enhancement Programme (EREP) which originally commenced in 2008. In 2014, €270,000 of funding was provided to IFI and the planned programme of works was completed in full. Funding for this programme was provided by the Office of Public Works (OPW), and all river enhancement plans were designed by IFI personnel with works being carried out by OPW staff. Supervision of the works along with monitoring of their effectiveness was carried out by IFI staff.

The funding to IFI was additional to "in-kind" funding provided by OPW to the project, by way of driver and machine time and expenditure on materials such as fencing, rock and gravels. An integral element of the programme is the annual series of audits of driver performance in implementing 'enhanced maintenance' undertaken by the IFI team on a country-wide basis. A target of 33% auditing of driver teams is achieved annually.

This collaborative programme between the Engineering Services Section of the OPW and IFI had two main objectives, to carry out capital works programmes on 25km of drained salmonid rivers which deals with river morphology enhancement and environmental biodiversity improvements of the river corridor and to carry out an enhanced maintenance programme on 75km of drained channels whereby standard drainage maintenance would have a less severe impact on the biota of river corridors.

In the longer term, this programme aims to bring about a culture shift in the way the OPW approaches its legal obligations to maintain river channels, with a regard for compliance with EU Directives and for river corridor integrity as integral elements.

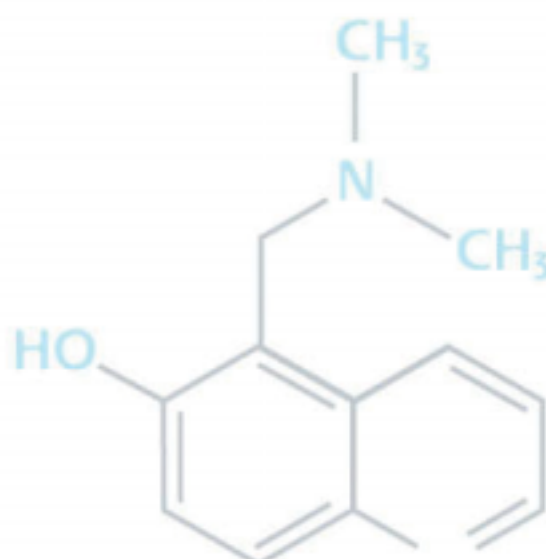
Laboratory Services



The IFI laboratory offers a nationwide environmental testing and support service for the organisation. In addition, the laboratory carries out statutory analyses for IFI fish farm discharge licences. During 2014, 2806 water samples were analysed. A report detailing the nutrient loadings to Lough Sheelin was initiated in 2014 by research and operations staff.

Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) is a type of mass spectrometry which is capable of quantifying the elemental make up of solid state samples such as fish scales and otoliths. This technology allows scientists to understand which elements are found in fish scales and otoliths (ear bones) and in what quantities. This can then be traced back to the relative proportions found in particular environments and it is possible to identify which fish came from which particular rivers or catchments.

Using this technology a pilot project investigating recruitment patterns of Lough Mask brown trout was completed in 2014. The microchemistry of the main spawning streams were characterised using fish scales to assign Lough Mask caught brown trout, sampled in summer 2012 and 2013, to their natal streams. The timing of movement of these trout populations from natal stream to lake was also examined. From the various samples available, it was possible to assign many fish to their natal streams. Analyses also confirmed that a portion of the Lough Mask brown trout population spawn in the lake. A scientific paper on this work has been submitted to 'The Journal of Fish Biology' and is currently being revised prior to publication.





Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting

Business Development



The Business Development Division of IFI is responsible for the marketing and promotion of Ireland's angling resource. The promotion remit of IFI is fulfilled through a variety of programmes, partnering and support. The Business Development Division is also responsible for the logistic requirement of IFI and in this regard 2014 was a very successful year.

The combined Division of Business Development and Logistics is pleased to report on the successful delivery of the objectives set out in the 2014 business plan which include; logistics surrounding the move from IFI's headquarters in Swords to its new headquarters in Citywest, Dublin 24; commencement of the preparation of the National Strategy for Angling Development; the support of many and various organisations through the 2014 funding schemes.

Despite reduced resources, all programmes were completed due to the prioritisation and partnering approach that has been adopted. This section outlines in brief some of the programmes delivered by the Division during 2014.

Business Development & Stakeholder Empowerment The National Strategy for Angling Development

The Socio-economic Study of Recreational Angling in Ireland published in July 2013 estimated that recreational angling contributes €755 million annually to the Irish economy. The Board has prioritised the formulation of a National Strategy for Angling Development (NSAD) as a result of this study and it further increases the economic return criteria, support and proposals to ensure the sustainability of Ireland's angling resource and the continuing sustainable development of that resource to maximise the benefits (social and economic) to Ireland. Recreational angling has been estimated to support 10,000 jobs in Ireland, particularly in rural and peripheral communities; however, there is significant potential to create further jobs through the sustainable development and maintenance of the resource. This in turn will lead to an increase in the number of anglers providing an overall boost to the value of angling to the Irish economy.

Since its establishment, it has been IFI's strategy to empower stakeholders to undertake fisheries development works. To this end IFI has created a number of schemes which to date have been funded from salmon licence conservation contributions and permit sales revenue.

In 2014 €410,000 was made available to clubs, fishery owners, commercial salmon fishers and other organisations through the Salmon Conservation Fund (€200,000), the Midland Fisheries Fund (€50,000) and the Co-op Funds (€160,000) to undertake works to improve habitat, stocks, access, invasive species management, angling etc under the supervision and direction of IFI. A further €125,000 was sourced by IFI through rural recreation initiatives and applied to complete a number of projects. A total of 40 angling clubs and community groups had 44 projects funded under the various schemes.





Development Support

The Co-ops Fund was a 'once off' fund in 2014 and comprised the various funds remitted to IFI on the dissolution of the Trout and Coarse Fish Development Societies. Seven angling and community groups from 4 regions secured funding from this fund. A report will be available on the IFI website when all projects have been completed.

In an effort to empower IFI state fisheries licencees, IFI also issued longer term licences to clubs and associations that have approved fishery management plans in place to develop state fisheries. Licences have been extended to six years in some cases. A six year licence allows clubs apply for LEADER grants.

Websites

The Inland Fisheries Ireland websites have a wide reach, enjoying very strong listings in the leading search engines and being linked to widely by other websites with related content. This provides a significant boost to the distribution of angling news, marketing messages and corporate communications with stakeholders. In 2014, IFI reached **820,915 individuals across Ireland, the UK, Europe and North America through its online platforms. These users accessed 4,501,847 pages of content relating to angling in Ireland, bio-security, invasive species, fisheries management, various research projects and environmental advice - the equivalent of over 75,000 60 page booklets.**

IFI's website www.fishinginireland.info plays an important role in connecting domestic and tourist anglers with service providers in the angling sector and in 2014 over **99,167 referrals were made to service provider websites.** 2014 also saw the development of two new websites for the 2nd Sea Trout Symposium and Non Native Species Risk assessment for Ireland.

Social Media

The use of social media to engage stakeholders is of great value to IFI. Angling reports are posted to the blog at www.fishinginireland.info and tweeted to our followers on Twitter. There were over **5,544 Facebook 'likes'** of IFI's posts on angling in Ireland and other announcements in 2014 (up 47%) which had the potential to be seen by as many as 18,242 people in a single day.

While social media is undoubtedly a positive development for communicating with stakeholders and building the profile of the organisation, IFI has seen a significant amount of extremely abusive and deliberately misleading content being posted on our social media portals and IFI is concerned with this 'growing trend'.

Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting

E-Business



In line with Government policy, IFI have been engaged in the development of more streamlined services. To this end, Midlands Fishery Group Permits continue to be sold from the IFI websites and delivered electronically to customers. The development of a similar product to deliver salmon licences is on-going with sister agencies, The Lough Agency (LA) and the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) in Northern Ireland under an INTERREG project.

Sponsorship

Through the IFI Sponsorship Scheme 2014, €100,457 was awarded to clubs, federations, community groups etc to support competitions, novice angler initiatives, national angling team, prizes, equipment etc. Further support was awarded in the form of staff assistance, equipment on loan and provision of venues.

Preliminary research shows that such sponsorship promotes economic activity and supports jobs where angling events take place. A research project partnership between IFI, the Irish Research Council and National University of Ireland (NUI) Galway, demonstrates that anglers who participate in angling competitions are likely to spend more money than pleasure anglers.

Almost 100 events were supported in 2014 including the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland (TAFI) team at the World Fly Fishing Championships in the Czech Republic, the Irish Bass Festival in Tramore, Angling for Youth Development (AFYD), the Irish Angling Development Association's (IADA) coaching programme, Recreational Angling Ireland's (RAI) angling instruction programme, The World Pairs, The World Feeder Fishing Championships in Cork and the Rosslare Small Boats Festival and many other events.

24 Hour Hotline

IFI operates a 24 Hour Confidential Hotline on 1890 34 74 24 or (1890 FISH 24) through which concerned individuals can report incidents of pollution, poaching and the presence of invasive species. During 2014, **522 calls were received through the Hotline**. The most common reason to call the hotline number was to report an illegal fishing incident 241 (down 2%), 122 calls related to pollution incidents (up 5%), 9 calls reported the presence of invasive species (up 50%) and 150 were general queries (down 3%).



1890 34 74 24



Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting



Marketing & Promotion



Angling Promotion - Trade Show

In 2014, Inland Fisheries Ireland attended a total of 15 trade shows spread across Ireland, France, The Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Belgium and the UK, a 30% increase on 2013. These trade shows were selected for their proven track record in providing effective access to both customers and media. Each trade show provided a slightly different mix in terms of angling disciplines and target markets. IFI selected staff with the appropriate expertise and language skills to maximise the return on investment. In some cases, local angling 'celebrities' were invited onto the IFI stand to enhance attendance; this has proved to be a very effective marketing tool. Feedback from staff and members of the trade attending the shows has been positive. An 'Ireland' presence at angling shows abroad is deemed vital to ensure continued awareness of the Irish angling product across the various markets. However, although the effectiveness of shows is difficult to assess, the continued participation by industry on IFI stands and the support of the tourism agencies indicates the significance of shows in attracting visitors.

Inland Fisheries Ireland attended a number of angling shows promoting angling in conjunction with colleagues from the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) and the Loughs Agency (LA) under the 'Angling in Ireland' brand. Further cooperation between the three agencies and a joint calendar of events has been agreed for the 2015 shows season.

Journalists & Articles

Fifteen journalist visits were organised and guided in 2014. These trips were run in association with our tourism partners and with the assistance of many angling service providers around the country. Journalists from France, the UK, Germany, The Netherlands and the USA all visited Ireland throughout the year covering a wide range of angling experiences. It is anticipated that each trip would lead to at least 2 articles in print and many more online.

As a result of supported media visits, **48 articles** were published in the angling press during 2014. The estimated value of these articles in terms of **advertising rate equivalency was in excess of €339,000**. These articles highlighted the wealth of angling available in Ireland and should help to maintain Ireland's strong credentials as a quality angling destination. Online articles are not included in this number as they are impossible to quantify accurately.



Promotional Material

During 2014, 7 brochures and other promotional literature were produced, including a new German translation of the River Erne system, Pike Angling Guide and a new brochure to promote angling in the Lakelands area in partnership with Lakelands & Inland Waterways. These brochures can be accessed at <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Angling/angling-publications.html>. A new 'Fish Species' poster was also designed and printed to be used in the education and outreach programmes throughout the country. The angling brand created for the 'Angling in Ireland' joint venture with the LA and DCAL involved the production of new promotional banners and branded apparel used by the three agencies when attending trade shows. This new coordinated approach strengthens the joint brand and improves the interaction with consumers at trade shows.

IFI also produced a YouTube 'Guide to Fly Fishing for Pike' in English and German as well as posting many clips to IFI's YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/user/IrishAnglingUpdate>

Education & Awareness

IFI runs and supports three major education and outreach programmes; the Something Fishy programme, Fisheries Awareness Week and the Dublin Angling Initiative. IFI also supports events and information provision for novice anglers, the general public, farmers and land owners and a range of other stakeholders. During 2014 IFI participated in a number of TV and radio programmes which highlighted the value of the inland fisheries resource, angling and the need for conservation and management.

Something Fishy

This project, aimed at fifth and sixth classes in primary schools, is based on the Social, Environmental and Scientific Education (SESE) curriculum. It aims to create awareness of the fisheries resource and to highlight the importance of the children's local environment and fishery habitat. The programme explores different aspects of fish life including the life cycle of the salmon, fish species, angling methods and the conservation of our rivers and lakes. It is an activity-based educational resource and is designed to be interesting and attractive to both teachers and students. In its 11th successful year, the programme continues for the 2014/15 academic year with 'Water' as the class project theme. It would not be possible to run the programme successfully without the Blackrock Education Centre (coordinating) and other education centres throughout Ireland.



Fisheries Awareness Week

51 successful angling promotion and education events took place nationally attracting many angling novices to experience fishing which generated considerable local media attention. The activities organised included sea angling, river fishing, fly casting lessons, lake fishing, aquatic displays, Down Syndrome Ireland Angling Day, Sea Shore Biodiversity, environmental talks, and 'Discovering How to Fish'.

The aim of Fisheries Awareness Week is to encourage adults and youngsters who may not have fished before to take up a new hobby. When working with adults and children throughout the course of the week, IFI promotes the role the fisheries service has in the protection, management and conservation of our fisheries resource. The 2014 Fisheries Awareness Week ran from 16th to the 25th of May to coincide with World Fish Migration Day on the 24th of May and 'Bioblitz' on May 24th and 25th.

Dublin Angling Initiative (DAI)

The Dublin Angling Initiative (DAI) was set up in 1995. Its principal aims are to promote, develop and improve angling in the Dublin and Greater Dublin area. During 2014, the DAI ran an interactive family area at the National Angling Show in Swords on the 15th and 16th of February. There were workshops on game, coarse and sea fishing. More than 20 volunteers worked on the stand over 2 days. The show was a great success creating huge interest in angling for families and beginners. 89 young people participated in fishing courses run during the summer months. The group ranged in age from 11-15 years with girls and boys participating in game, coarse and sea fishing, almost half of the juveniles had participated in fishing courses before and the other half were complete beginners. They learned to cast, tie knots, bait hooks, catch and release fish safely. Most courses comprised 3 days of fishing with one day of game fishing taking place at Aughrim Angling for All and Annamoe Trout Fishery, both located in County Wicklow. Sea fishing took place at the South Beach at Greystones and coarse angling took place at a number of venues including the Royal Canal at Maynooth and Galmoyestown carp fishery in Co. Westmeath.

IFI staff worked with Dublin City Council on securing funding for jute to treat the small pond in Darndale for the treatment of the aquatic invasive species *Lagarosiphon major*. Dublin City Council contributed €6,000 to the project and in October, laying of the jute was carried out by IFI in collaboration with Dublin City Council. Stakeholders from the local community provided valuable assistance. This cooperation illustrates the very strong and meaningful relationship that has been built over many years between IFI through the DAI and angling stakeholders in Darndale.



Salmon Management

Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme

In 2014, based on scientific advice, management recommended the opening of 87 rivers¹ (including catch and release options) and the closure of salmon and sea trout fishing in 56 rivers². A system of brown gill tags was in operation in select rivers where it was considered necessary to ensure river based salmon angling quotas were not exceeded.

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 sustainable manner 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 RBD offices as set out in the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme regulations.

This data is entered into a national database by IFI staff and following this, the validation, collation and analysis of the data is performed to produce the annual Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics Report. This report provides valuable information to fisheries managers, scientists, policy makers and legislators and assist in the design and implementation of policies and strategies for the conservation of salmon and sea trout stocks in Ireland. The most recent reports (2001 to 2013) can be downloaded from the IFI website at <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Salmon-Management/wild-salmon-and-sea-trout-statistics.html>

Salmon Catch

The 2014 Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics show that the total number of salmon caught by all methods (including catch and release) was 27,420 salmon and 1,553 sea trout (over 40cm) respectively, which represent a decrease of 36.2% on the total salmon catch recorded in 2013 (42,985) and a decrease of 13.6% on the total sea trout catch recorded in 2013 (1,797).

The 2014 commercial catch was 9,570 salmon and 41 sea trout (over 40 cm) which represent 65% of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 14,834 fish allocated to the commercial fishing sector. The 2014 angling catch was 17,850 salmon and 1,512 sea trout (over 40cm). Of the 17,850 salmon caught by anglers, 11,313 were harvested and 6,537 released. Commercial fishermen caught 35% of salmon in 2014 compared to 33% in 2013 and recreational anglers caught 65% of salmon in 2014 compared to 67% in 2013.

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¹ Conservation of salmon and sea trout bye-law no. 914/915-2013, 917/918/919/920/922/923/925/2014
² Conservation of salmon and sea trout bye-law no. 316-2013



The 2014 fishing season experienced excellent weather and good fishing conditions, facilitating good fishing effort throughout the season. Despite this, catches were lower than previous years with late grilse runs, many of small sizes with few sea trout appearing. Average weights ranged from 2-4kg with fish in good condition and some fish reported up to 9kg. The majority of fish were caught in the second half of the season. Average prices were €12/kg but ranged from €10-€25/kg depending on fish size and condition.

Salmon Catch	2014	2013
Angling and Commercial Total Angling and Commercial Salmon Catch	27,420	42,985
Commercial Total Commercial Salmon Catch Data	9,570	14,125
Angling and Commercial Total Angling Salmon Harvest Total Angling Salmon Caught and Released	11,313 6,537	18,178 10,682
Total Salmon Angling Catch	17,850	28,860

Licence Sales & Log Book Returns

18,085 salmon rod licences were sold to anglers from 52 different countries which represents a decrease in sales of 5.4% over 2013 (19,109). The majority of licence sales (63%) were to residents within Ireland, 11% to Northern Ireland and a further 9% of angling licence sales to UK residents with a significant number of anglers also coming from France (5%) and Germany (3%). Anglers returned 12,880 logbooks in 2014, with a national return rate of 71%, down from 73.5% on 2013 (14,035) logbook returns. The annual wild salmon and sea trout statistics reports which set out the licence sales and associated catch on the various rivers are available for viewing and download on the IFI website at: <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Salmon-Management/wild-salmon-and-sea-trout-statistics.html>



Locations of Projects Approved under the Salmon Conservation Stamp Fund

SEE APPENDIX III
for a full list of these projects



Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting



Human Resources



The Human Resources Division of Inland Fisheries Ireland was set a target of achieving a staffing level of 306 by December 31st 2015 (Employment Control Framework (ECF)).

During 2014 the overall staffing level reduced from 314.1 at the 31st of December 2013 to 299.6 at the 31st of December 2014. This represents an overall decrease of 14.5 during the year and 54.5 since the formation of IFI in 2010. The overall reduction in IFI since 2009 is 140.5 staff, a decrease of 32%. The 2014 reductions arose by way of a limited Targeted Voluntary Redundancy scheme (TVR), natural turnover and retirements. IFI reached its ECF limit and as a consequence will commence recruitment to that ceiling in 2015.

A significant development during the year was the upgrading of a cohort of 37 staff previously employed as General Operatives to the role of Fisheries Officer. These upgrades will serve to enhance protection services.

Training & Development

The IFI Training Plan for 2014 was delivered throughout the year. Grade specific training syllabi were developed based on the core skill requirements for particular roles within IFI. All operational training needs will in future be based on these syllabi and individual staff member's annual training plans will be developed with reference to these programmes.

Overall, 39 training programmes were delivered for staff of IFI in 2014, over 2316 training days, averaging 7.75 days per employee. The training cost for 2014 amounts to 3.4% of payroll. Again in 2014, the quality of the training provided has allowed the staff of IFI to work with improved safety, and enabled increased efficiency and effectiveness towards achieving the goals of the organisation and in providing a more professional and customer orientated service for our stakeholders. [See Appendix V for the list of courses conducted in 2014.](#)

A significant development during the year was the roll out of best practice training in rigid inflatable boats (RIB) & basic boat skills. The training course and its content have been approved by the Marine Survey Office (MSO) and are viewed as a benchmark for other organisations with seagoing requirements. The programme is being delivered to all relevant staff over a three year period. It is divided into two separate elements each with five modules. The first (basic boat operations) is applicable to all staff who are required to operate from boats (at sea and inshore), the second (advanced offshore powerboat) is specifically aimed at staff who are coxswains of RIB patrols.



Employee Relations

IFI adopts a proactive approach in relation to the management of employee relations matters, and strives to ensure lines of communication on key issues are maintained with staff and trade unions. As a result stable employee relations were maintained during 2014 despite the on-going difficult conditions in which IFI operates. Management of major change was achieved in this manner; this included the introduction of the revised Public Service Sickness payment scheme and the transfer of IFI headquarters to Citywest. As in previous years, the 2014 staff Corporate Day designed to update staff on business and related matters took place.

Health and Safety

Maintenance of excellent health and safety standards is a fundamental objective of all staff in IFI. Underpinning this objective is a very proactive approach in managing all health and safety matters that arise. Fundamental to this approach is the operation of the National Safety Committee consisting of appropriately trained elected safety representatives. In 2014 the committee completed its term of office and will be replaced by a newly elected committee early in 2015. During its term, the committee worked on a number of major safety matters including the updating of the national safety statement, the upgrading of personal protective equipment, lone working procedures, and manual handling improvements.

Safety risk assessments of IFI properties and operational bases continued as a key part of the health and safety management programme. The programme is designed to ensure each property is assessed on a biannual basis and any improvements implemented when identified. Thirty-eight site assessments were completed in 2014 in addition to assessments of disinfection stations, fish counters, fish cages, boom boats and hydro acoustic surveys.

Incident Reporting Statistics

14 incidents resulting in injury were reported to the Health & Safety Executive in 2014. This is a decrease of 25% when compared to 2013. Of these, 6 were reported to the Health & Safety Authority.



Freedom of Information (FOI)

17 FOI requests were received in 2014. Of the seventeen, one was in relation to personal information, twelve were non-personal and four were seeking a range of information of both a personal and non-personal nature. Of those received, eight were granted, four part granted and two refused, one was withdrawn and handled outside of the FOI process and two were brought forward to 2015.

Access to Information on the Environment (AIE)

3 AIE requests were received in 2014. Of the three, two were granted and one was brought forward to 2015.

Chief Executive Officer Remuneration

The remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer of Inland Fisheries Ireland is in accordance with the Assistant Secretary scale which ranges from: minimum €119, 381 to maximum €136, 276. Note: the scale quoted reflects reductions required under the terms of the Haddington Road Agreement.



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Finance & ICT



The role of the Finance and Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Division of Inland Fisheries Ireland is to deliver an effective financial management service to IFI through provision of a comprehensive set of Financial and ICT systems which are adaptive and flexible enough to meet the evolving demands of IFI and robust enough to meet the highest standards of corporate governance.

The Finance Division is pleased to report on the successful delivery against the goals defined in the agency's 2014 Business Plans. In addition to providing the necessary financial management, co-ordination, and specialist support services to all Divisions and maintaining proper financial records for the agency during 2014, the Division complied with statutory and corporate governance reporting deadlines for both the Financial Statements and the Annual Report.

The finance team also provided financial advice for strategic decision making to the management and Board of IFI, including Board financial accounts and analysis.

The Finance Division was also instrumental in managing the financial and legal aspects relating to all property transactions during 2014 which included the fit out of the new Dublin property in Citywest, and the acquisition of the premises at Fermoy.

Financial Management Budgets and Management Accounts

During 2014, detailed Divisional budgets were prepared and consolidated into a final IFI budget that was agreed by the Board and the Senior Management Team (SMT). Management accounts were presented to the Board and SMT on a monthly basis with a commentary on performance against budget. Additionally, management accounts were reviewed in detail at each Audit Sub-Committee meeting.

Financial Statements

IFI's Financial Accounts in respect of 2013 were submitted to the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (DCENR) by the 28th of February 2014 and to the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) by the 31st of March 2014 in full compliance with statutory obligations.

Electronic Purchase Order System Rollout

The electronic Purchase Order systems roll out was completed in all IFI offices in 2014 and has led to increased streamlining of financial operations nationally.



Projects and Non-Standard Financial Reports

There were two European Union (EU) sponsored projects in operation during 2014. Claims were submitted within the required deadlines. Controlling priority invasive non-native species and restoring native biodiversity project (Controlling Priority Invasive Non-native Riparian Plants and Restoring Native Biodiversity (CIRB), funded through INTERREG) which came to a conclusion on 31st December 2014. In addition Celtic Sea Trout Project (CSTP, funded through INTERREG) was randomly selected by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and audited by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Audit Authority in 2014.

The amount of EU funding recognised in the financial statements to the 31st of December 2014 was €324,824.

Property

The acquisition of the premises in Fermoy, the break in lease clauses for the Swords properties and the consequential dilapidations, together with the fit out of the new Headquarters and assistance with finding a new warehouse property were the key property transactions that involved significant input from the Finance Division.

A total of €3.173 million was expended on the purchase of assets in 2014. Fitting out new premises at Citywest, Letterkenny and New Ross and the acquisition of a new premises in Fermoy accounted for €1.5 million of this spend.

Procurement

Strict procurement procedures were applied and in a significant number of cases, assets were purchased either through Government frameworks set up by the National Procurement Service or the eTenders portal. Assets not purchased through these processes were generally only in specific cases of bespoke or force majeure requirements. Management continued to nurture the strong value for money culture inherent throughout the organisation.

Financial Planning

Financial and Treasury Management

The Finance Division, in conjunction with our parent department, the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (DCENR), successfully met both strategic and operational funding requirements during 2014.

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Funding for 2014

IFI received an exchequer grant of €24.417 million in 2014, of which €15.654 million related to pay compared to €17.617 million in 2013, the total cost of pay in 2014 was €19.1 million. IFI also received a capital grant of €0.743 million. IFI also generated €4.1 million from other sources during 2014 down 10% on 2013. This helped bridge the shortfall between the pay grant and the actual pay paid.

An additional €0.51 million was generated from the Salmon Conservation Fund during 2014. This fund is due to be disbursed in 2015 for reinvestment in the conservation and rehabilitation of salmon and sea trout fisheries/habitats. Part of these funds will be made available to angling clubs, federations and similar organisations.

Information & Communications Technology (ICT) Move of ICT infrastructure from Swords to Citywest

The first of two major projects undertaken in 2014 by the ICT Division was the successful move of the ICT infrastructure from Swords to Citywest. Aside from extensive quantities of hardware, cabling, and communication lines\ dishes, this also involved moving modules such as the Finance Package and email that are shared by the seven River Basin District (RBD) offices and with excellent planning, not a minute of downtime was incurred anywhere in the country.

Voice over IP (VoIP) phone system roll out

The second significant project was the roll out of a new VOIP phone system across all offices. Seven RBD's distributed at key centres around the country are now on the one phone system. This means that a call from the Clonmel office can be transferred to the Ballyshannon office at no cost, calls between offices are made as though the colleague was on an extension within the building. Along with this development, a national Wi-Fi network was completed for all IFI public offices. This means staff can seamlessly transfer between District offices and gain access to their network folders. IFI is one of the few in the public\civil service to achieve this.



Governance

In 2014, there was continued development of policies and procedures to enhance good corporate governance and to reflect best practice. The following actions were undertaken in 2014:

- The 2013 draft Annual Report was submitted to DCENR by the statutory deadline.
- Four Audit Committee meetings were held in 2014.
- IFI coordinated responses to 105 Parliamentary questions.

Internal Audit

A number of internal audits were carried out by RSM McClure Watters in 2014. Areas covered were an On-Site Fleet Review, Fixed Assets Verification, Cash and Bank, local procurement and management of seized assets. RSM McClure Watters confirmed systems are in place to provide satisfactory assurance that objectives relating to key financial systems can be achieved.

Board Members

Mr Brendan O'Mahony	(Chairman) appointed with effect from the 1st of July 2010 (5 year period)
Mr Lal Faherty	appointed with effect from the 1st of July 2010 (5 year period)
Mr John Geary	appointed with effect from the 3rd of November 2010 (5 year period)
Mr Marcus McMahon	appointed with effect from the 17th of November 2010 (5 year period)
Mr Michael McGreal	appointed with effect from the 3rd of November 2010 (4 year period)
Ms Muireann O'Neill	appointed with effect from the 7th of December 2010 (4 year period)
Mr Peter John Nally	appointed with effect from the 10th of September 2013 (5 year period)
Mr Fintan Gorman	appointed with effect from the 10th of September 2013 (5 year period)
Mr Martin McEnroe	appointed with effect from the 26th of February 2014 (5 year period)
Mr Niall Greene	appointed with effect from the 1st of July 2014 (5 year period)
Dr Ciaran Byrne	CEO and ex-officio member by statute from the 1st of July 2010

Attendance at Board Meetings 2014

During the period from the 1st of January to the 31st of December 2014 the Board held eleven Board meetings. Of the nine members and the ex-officio member, 4 attended all 11 meetings, 1 attended 10 of 11 meetings, 1 attended 9 of 11 meetings and 1 attended 8 of 11 meetings. Of the departing Board members, 1 attended 8 of 9 meetings and 1 attended 7 of 10 meetings. Of the new Board members in 2014 1 attended 10 of 10 meetings and 1 attended 4 of 5 meetings.

Management Team

Dr Ciaran Byrne	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Pat Doherty	Head of Finance & ICT
Mr Kieran Murphy	Head of Human Resources
Dr Greg Forde	Head of Operations
Dr Cathal Gallagher	Head of Research & Development
Ms Suzanne Campion	Head of Business Development

Conserving, Protecting, Developing, Managing and Promoting

Chairman's Statement of Internal Financial Controls



In making this statement I have relied on representations made by management of Inland Fisheries Ireland and the assurances provided by our internal auditors. During the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014, the Board of IFI was responsible for ensuring that an appropriate system of internal financial control was in operation within the Agency.

The systems which the Board had in place can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets were safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities were either prevented or were detected in a timely manner.

The system of internal financial control continues to be based on a framework of regular management information, administrative procedures including segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular it included:

- Strategic plans and annual budgets which were approved by the Board;
- High level budget reports which reviewed performance against budget and which were reviewed at each Board meeting;
- Senior management meetings consisted of the Chief Executive and the Heads of Functions which met monthly to examine performance against budget and to discuss financial issues affecting the organisation;
- A robust set of recently enhanced procedures;
- An Internal Audit function which monitored compliance with policies and procedures and the effectiveness of internal controls within the organisation. The Internal Auditor reported to the Chairman of the Audit Committee;
- An Audit Committee which was made up of a minimum of three Board members and which met four times in the year to 31 December 2014. The Committee's duties include:
 - a) review of annual financial statements before submission to the Board,
 - b) discussions as appropriate with the Comptroller and Auditor General's Office,
 - c) discussion of any problems and reservations arising from internal and external audit and any matters which auditors may wish to discuss with the committee (in the absence of management where necessary),
 - d) to review the external auditor's management letter and management's response,
 - e) to review the Board's internal control systems with particular reference to EU funds,
 - f) to consider major findings of internal investigations and management's response,
 - g) to consider other relevant topics, as defined by the Board.

The chairperson of the Audit Committee reports to the Board.



The Board takes major strategic decisions and meet at regular intervals to monitor performance and plans. The executive management only act within the remit delegated to them by the Board to give effect to Board policy and decisions. The Board's professional advisors are available for consultation by the Board as required.

In respect of the period ended 31 December 2014, there was a review of the effectiveness on the system of internal financial control formally conducted by the Board.

Like all public sector bodies, IFI continues to face the risk of over reliance on key individuals due to a number of external factors. Management continue to manage this risk, however this may become less sustainable over time.

Brendan O'Mahony Chairman

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INLAND FISHERIES IRELAND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2014

	Notes	2014	
		€	€
Income			
State and EU Funding			
Operating grants	1	24,417,000	
Net deferred funding for pensions	12c	3,970,080	28,387,080
Other Income	2	..	4,177,793
Transfer from / (to) Capital Account	10		(1,509,622)
			31,055,251
Expenditure			
Administration	3		5,810,180
Operations	4		27,312,545
			33,122,725
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year			(2,067,474)
Surplus / (Deficit) at 1 January			8,712,841
			6,645,367

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2014

		2014 €
(Deficit)/surplus for the period		(2,067,474)
Experience (losses) / gains on pension scheme liabilities		(828,000)
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of pension scheme liabilities		(14,481,000)
Actuarial (loss)/gain on pension liabilities	12b	(15,309,000)
Adjustment to Deferred Pension Funding		15,309,000
Total Recognised (loss)/gain for the period		(2,067,474)



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Appendices





Appendix I

Pollution Control and Water Quality Report 2014

Pollution Control & Water Quality	ERBD	SERBD	SWRBD	SHRBD	WRBD	NWRBD	Total
Reported Fish Kills	8	2	3	4	1	4	22
Fish Kills caused by Agricultural Practice	0	0	0	2	0	1	3
Fish Kills caused by Industrial Operations	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Fish Kills caused by Municipal Works	0	0	0	1	0	2	3
Other	4 1**	2	3	3	1	1	15
Number of Water Samples Collected	50	86	120	1,904**	339**	502**	3001

* Other: cause not determined in some incidents high temperatures and low water levels are suspected.

** ERBD: Avoca Acid Mine Drainage

** NWRBD: 502 figure also includes samples collected as part of the Upper Erne ongoing programme for water sampling

** SHRBD: 1904 figure also includes water quality sampling as part of ongoing monitoring of Lough Sheelin, Co. Westmeath.

** WRBD: 339 figure includes samples taken as part of routine lake monitoring for discharge licences concerning Cong hatchery and Oughterard hatchery

REPORTED FISH KILLS

WATERBODY NAME

Avoca River ERBD
Mountainwater River ERBD
River Lear ERBD
Talka River ERBD
Emy Lough ERBD
Talka River ERBD
Talka River ERBD
Whitechurch River ERBD

Unnamed tributary of River Suir at Clonmel SERBD
Mall River (River Suir Catchment) SERBD
Cavan Waste Water Treatment Plant NWRBD
Tullycoe (Laragh River) NWRBD
Milltown Lake, Shercock NWRBD

WATERBODY NAME

NWRBD Threemilehouse Water Treatment Plant
WRBD River Deel
SHRBD Green River, Tarbert Co Limerick
SHRBD River Loobagh, Riversfield Co Limerick
SHRBD Gullity, Seafield Bay, Co Clare
SHRBD Lifford, Beal, Co. Kerry.
SWRBD Spa Stream Dingle
SWRBD Blackwater Mallow
SWRBD Ballincollig

Appendix II

Angling Development Works 2014

Angling Development Works	ERBD	SERBD	SWRBD	SHRBD	WRBD	NWRBD	Total
Number of Angling Facility Projects	6	2	6	12	11	59	96
Investment in Angling Facility € (Excluding Salmon Conservation Projects)	€7,500	*€75,000	**€4,000	€102,700	€24,425	€51,600	€265,225
Number of Stiles, Footbridges, Platforms Replaced	4	10	0	20	37	98	169
Number of New Additional Fishing Spaces Created	35	20	0	22	4	240	321
Number of Coarse Fish transferred between Districts	3,000	0	0	363	1,326	71	4,760

* SERBD: Ballyshunnock Lake €15,000 and Knockadeiry Lake pontoons €60,000 were completed by angling clubs and funded under the Co-op fund and supervised by IFI.

**SWRBD: Six projects involved the maintenance and repair of existing infrastructure, hence no additional angling spaces created.



Appendix III

Projects Allocated Funding from the 2013 Salmon Conservation Fund

	IFI Projects Allocated Funding - 2013 Fund	Allocated
1	Assessment of Attainment of Salmon Conservation Limit 2014.	€83,270
2	Lackagh Fishery Salmon Counter (ancillary Works), Co. Donegal.	€10,000
3	Bolusce Stream Enhancement, Co. Galway.	€9,830
4	Multeen River Instream Management Programme 2014, Co. Tipperary.	€15,000
5	The River Fergus Fish Counter, Ennis, Co. Clare.	€30,264
6	Boyne Tagging Project - Phase 5, Co. Meath.	€12,400
7	Fish Pass Modification on Rye water (tributary of River Liffey), Co. Kildare	€5,200
8	Dunkellin River Enhancement Kiltullagh 2014, Co. Galway.	€16,850
9	Consultancy for proposed fish pass on the White River, Dunleer, Co. Louth.	€4,000
10	Spawning Enhancement River Liffey, Co. Kildare.	€3,100
11	Enhancement works on the River Kiline (Shiven Catchment), Co. Galway.	€34,512
12	River Shannon Barriers Study - Phase 2	€20,628
13	Owengowla Fish Counter Project, Co. Galway.	€30,415
14	Corrib enhancement 2014, Co. Galway.	€65,044
	Total	€340,513

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Projects Allocated Funding from the 2013 Salmon Conservation Fund

	Contributor Projects Allocated Funding - 2013 Fund	Allocated
15	Lislea River Enhancement, Co. Cavan	€14,939
16	Spawning & Pool Enhancement 2014, Co. Wicklow.	€4,795
17	Yellow River Rehabilitation Phase 2	€15,000
18	Improvement to Blackwater Main Channel (Phase 4)	€15,000
19	Borora Enhancement Phase 2	€5,755
20	Fish passage improvement on the Glendorrigh River, Co. Mayo.	€15,000
21	River Tar Enhancement Programme (Pruning)	€12,000
22	Carna River Rehabilitation	€5,188
23	Rossnaree Fishery Restoration	€3,171
24	Drumsalagh Instream Enhancement Project	€3,116
25	Rehabilitation of Salmon Spawning Areas on the Nenagh River	€7,952
26	Castletown River Project	€5,448
27	Killary Instream Salmon Enhancement Project	€12,642
28	Owentisha River Phase 2 + Fish Passage Construction on the Crow River & Bank Enhancement, Glen River	€15,000
29	Arcin Fishery Restoration Project	€6,000
30	DeVesci Estate Bank Protection Works	€15,000
31	Clearing and opening end of Gurteeney River	€5,700
32	Glenfurk River Rehabilitation Works - Phase 1	€15,000
33	Dooghda River Enhancement Works	€12,750
34	Spawning Bed Rehabilitation	€392
35	Owenriff Protection	€10,000
36	Castlering River Development on the River Fane	€4,654
37	Calcified Gravel on Rivers Yellow and Martry	€750
38	Crana River Fishery Development Plan	€15,000
39	Dromrahan (Rockforest Fishery) Improvements	€11,231
	Total	€231,483



Appendix IV

Salmon Licences & IFI Managed Fisheries

Salmon/ Sea Trout Angling Licences issued	ERBD	SERBD	SWRBD	SHRBD	WRBD	NWRBD	Total
	1,073	1,226	4,422	871	7,521	3,004	18,117
Commercial Salmon Licences issued							
Private Draft Net	0	0	11	1	2	0	14
Public Draft Net under Control of Fishing for Salmon Order (CFSO)	0	0	30	31	17	10	88
Special Local Draft Net	0	0	0	12	13	8	33
Snap Net	0	32	4	0	0	0	36
Other	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Totals	0	32	46	44	32	18	172
Dealer Licences Issued							
Salmon/Sea Trout Dealers	57	23	33	13	37	11	174
Molluscan Dealers	68	23	27	25	22	6	171
Oyster Dredge Licences	0	0	0	0	95	24	119
IFI Managed Fisheries							
Number of Fisheries Managed	1	0	12	25	10	8	56
Revenue €	€1,720	0	€95,437	€108,951	€305,708	€33,585	€545,401

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Appendix V

Training and Development Programmes 2014

	No. of Participants	Duration of Training (Days)	Total Training Man Days
Abrasive Wheels	26	0.5	13
Admin Workshop	1	1	1
Appropriate Assessment Training	7	1	7
Basic Boat Operations Course	48	9	432
Advanced Boat Operations	48	8	384
Cold Water Immersion Training	50	1	50
Conflict management	38	3.5	133
Corporate Governance Training IPA	2	1	2
Data protection	94	1	94
Electrofishing	36	5	180
Fishery Officer Preparation Training	41	1	41
GIS 9.1 Basic/ Introductory	3	2	6
Health & Safety Induction	41	0.5	20.5
Induction (HR)	17	1	17
Internal Occupational Health & Safety Management System Audit	1	5	5
Jet ski K38	8	2	16
Kayak Skills- Level 2	18	3	54
4x4 Off Road Driving	47	2	94
LAST: Laboratory Animal Science and Training	6	2	12
LAST Surgery: Laboratory Animal Science and Training	1	2	2
Managing Safety	4	5	20
Manual Handling	12	0.5	6
Occupational First Aid - FETAC Level 5	161	3	483
Pesticide Awareness Training	1	1	1
Pesticide Training-Level 2 City and Guilds	6	2	12
PMDS Phase 3	1	1	1
PO Training	11	0.5	5.5
Project Management	10	2	20
PST	33	1	33
PWC - Patrick Buck	2	2	4
Quad Bike Training	2	2	4
Radio Operator's Short Range Certificate	1	1	1
Retirement Course	11	2	22
Safe and Efficient Use of Electric Fishing Equipment	1	1	1
Safe Pass	43	1	43
Swift water & Flood First Responder	30	2	60
Swimming	2	1.5	3
Time Management	25	1	25
Water & Flood Awareness	4	2	8



Appendix VI

Mileage and Subsistence Expenses & Fees paid to IFI Board Members in 2014

Board Member	Mileage & Subsistence	Fees * Remuneration
	Euro €	Euro €
Brendan O'Mahony (Chairman)	8,607	11,970
Lal Faherty ^{1,2,3}	9,826	7,695
John Geary ³	3,534	7,695
Michael McGreal *** ³	5,579	6,466
Marcus MacMahon ^{2,3}	3,599	5,585
Muireann O'Neill **** ¹	4,760	
Peter John Nally ^{1,3}	5,110	7,695
Fintan Gorman ^{1,3}	8,162	2,556
Martin McEnroe* ³	5,891	6,536
Niall Greene **	1,327	3,848
Dr Claran Byrne (Ex officio Board Member)	12,757	
TOTAL	69,152	60,046

Some Members also serve on Board Subcommittees:

¹ also served on Audit Sub Committee

² also served on Property Sub Committee

³ also served on Development Sub Committee

* 5 year term of appointment commenced February 26th 2014

** 5 year term of appointment commenced July 1st 2014

*** 5 year term of appointment ended November 2nd 2014

**** 5 year term of appointment ended June 30th 2014

