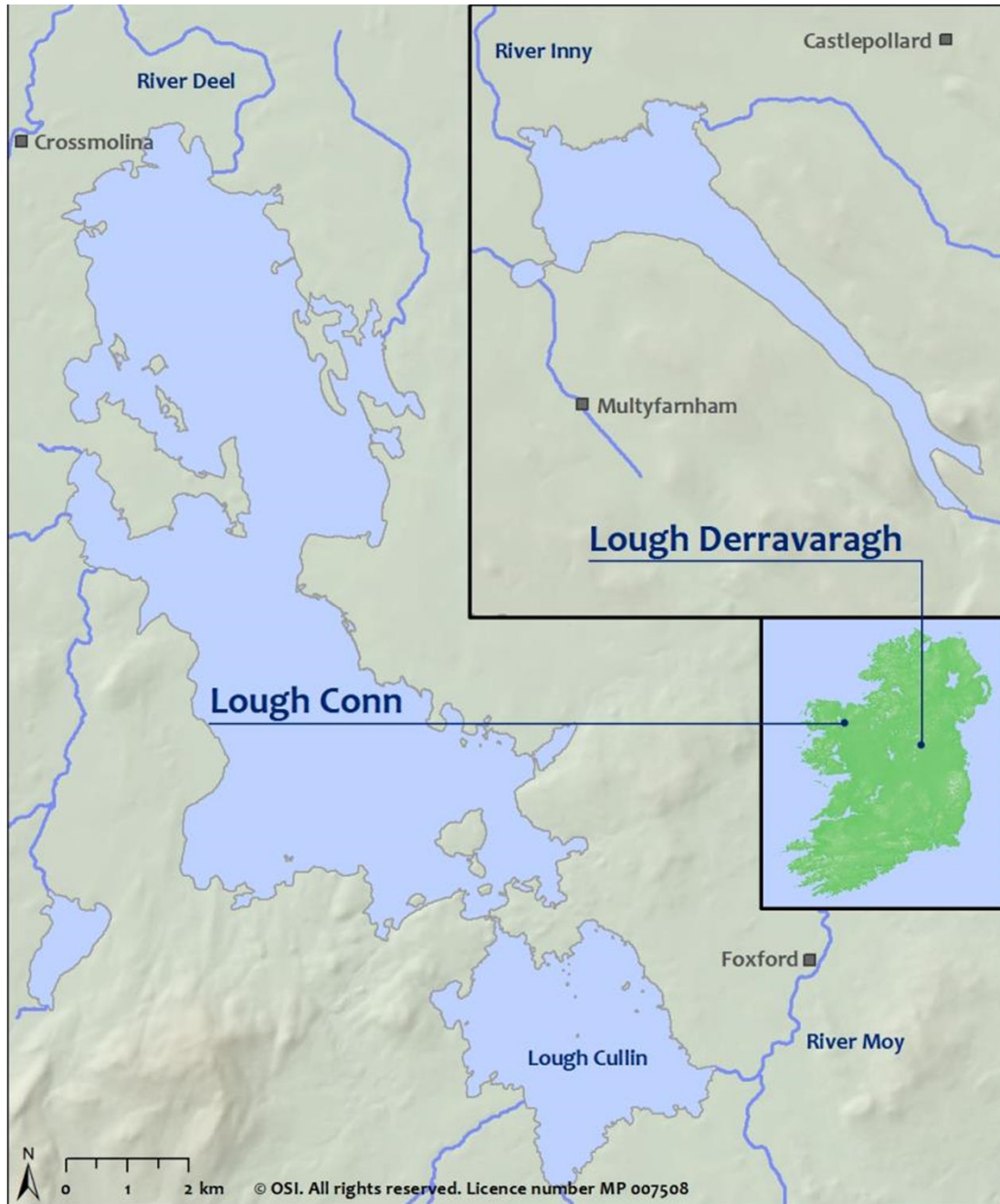


Diet of Pike in Irish Lakes

Paul McLoone

Pike Policy Group Meeting 29th May 2017





Conn & Derravaragh

Commenced in August 2016

Monthly sampling in **each** lake (except September 2016)

Field sampling scheduled for completion in July 2017

Both lakes contain **trout** and **roach** – the latter species was not present in many Irish lakes when previous research studies were completed

Aim to elucidate the dietary composition of pike across all seasons

Capture Method



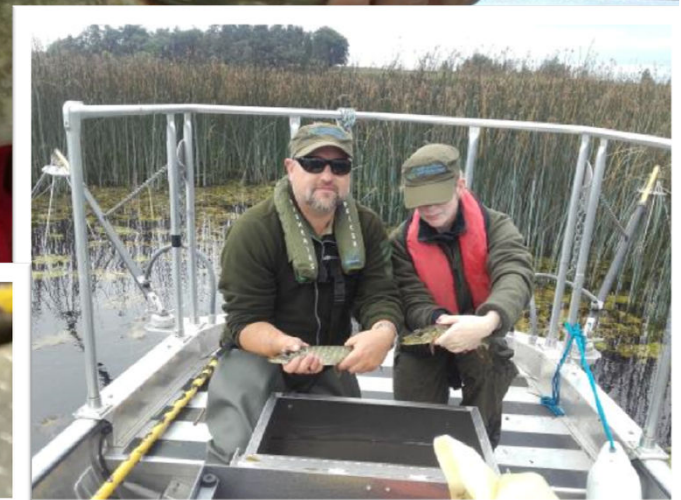
Boom boat electrofishing



Additional samples *via* angling



Examining pike of all sizes



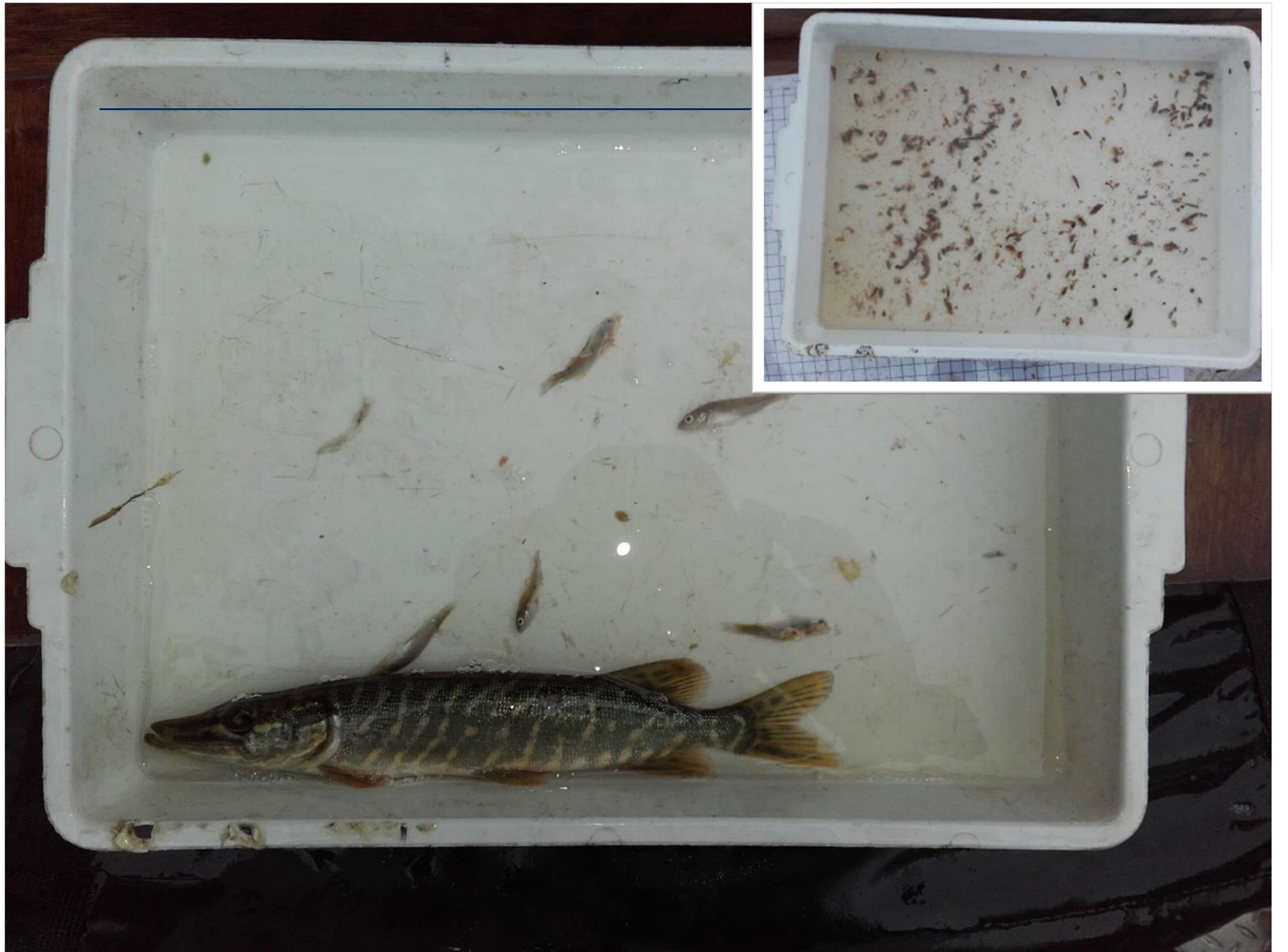
How are stomachs examined?

Gastric Lavage ('stomach pumping')



**Pike are anaesthetised
Stomachs flushed with lake
water**







Samples are retained in alcohol and returned to the lab for processing & analysis



**Pike are returned to the lake
alive after stomach contents
have been sampled**

**~ 1000 pike sampled in total so far.
Field data and lab sampling is ongoing**

