

The pointless task of Pike management

The Pointless and wasteful task of Pike management will be the demise of some of the greatest assets this country has to offer, not only are we destroying the greatest gene pool of northern Pike but, we are destroying the brown trout strain that makes this country an angling mecca.

The evidence is there to see, from the early 60s up to now the volume and quality of both species has had a massive decline with the increase of Perch and hybrids. If you continue to carry out this Barbaric policy of culling the apex predator you will destroy the trout stocks, this evidence can be seen in the 2012 lough Corrib survey when compared to the 1996 survey.

The evidence is there in historic records to show how fantastic the trout fishing was on these lakes for hundreds of years before some so-called scientist decided to remove pike to increase trout stocks. If you look back on the records of pike recorded on these lakes in the late 19th and early twentieth century you will see that these lakes produced some of the largest Northern pike recorded anywhere in the world and the trout stocks and quality were fantastic.

I ask you to look at the facts of your own surveys and see what you are doing is both ethically, morally and financially wrong, you are doing it to please people who were misguided by yourselves in the 50s, admit you were wrong and re-educate these people so that their grandchildren can experience the fishing that their grandfathers experienced, bring in an independent scientific crew and let them prove it to them.

By removing the pike you have unleashed an even bigger monster, the Perch, they will destroy the feeding beds that the trout rely on and the trout fry will be decimated.

Below I have posted some images of the barbaric practice from the early sixties to the present day and below them you will see the result of a sixteen year survey, it does not work, it is destroying both species and we are all losing out on our sport and on tourism, after all, who would not like to visit a country that has monster pike like we had before this madness started, 30, 40, 50, 60 and even reports as high as 90lb pike on these lakes in the past, with the average brown trout coming to fly at 3 to 4lb.

If pike were ever going to decimate the trout on these lakes it would have happened over one hundred years ago, be honest with yourselves and see that it is wrong, make a difference and stop this madness before it is too late and both species are at the point of no return.

Thank you