

## **In-stream enhancement at Altnabrocky River, Owenmore Catchment, Co. Mayo.**

### **Habitat Enhancement**

This habitat enhancement project built upon a 2016 NSAD Salmon Conservation Fund (SCF) project. This project was designed primarily to restore and protect important spawning beds and river banks in the Altnabrocky River - which is one of the most important spawning areas in the Owenmore Catchment in Co. Mayo. The river is currently catch and release as salmon stocks are below its conservation limit.

Extraordinary flooding events in the past three years have accelerated erosion along sections of the Altnabrocky River banks causing large sections of peat to collapse into the river. This issue prompted the applicants to do all they could to make the spawning areas in as good a condition as possible to achieve maximum returns from spawning within the catchment.

The GlenAlt Syndicate were awarded funding of €18,571 in December 2017 from Inland Fisheries Ireland through the SCF funding scheme to conduct remedial works. The project utilised local rock revetments to protect the eroding river bank. In addition, it re-distributed excess gravel that had built up to further improve these important spawning areas. The high river banks were graded back to reduce the energy and impact of high flooding events. The distance involved in the enhancement was approximately 160m in total.

