



Inland Fisheries Ireland Annual Report 2011



lascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Contents

Mission Statement	2
Board Members/ Management team	3
Chairman's Statement	4
Statement of Internal Financial Control	7
Comment of Chief Executive Officer	9
Divisional Reports	
Operations	12
Research & Development	24
Business Development	31
Logistics	40
Human Resources	44
Finance & ICT	46
Glossary of Terms	50
Appendices	
1. River Basin District Map	52
2. Fisheries development and surveys undertaken in 2011	53
3. Pollution control and water quality report 2011	54
4. Fish stocking report 2011	55
5. Fishing Licences and Board managed fisheries report 2011	56
6. Protection and surveillance report 2011	57
7. Staffing Numbers report at December 2011	57
8. Salmon and Sea Trout Angling Licences and Logbook Returns for 2011	58
9. Salmon and Sea Trout Angling Licence Sales in each RBD for 2011	58
10. Commercial Salmon and Sea Trout Catches by River from Log Book Returns	59
11. Tag and Recapture of Marine Species up to December 2011	60
12. Prompt Payments 2011	61
13. Schedule of Fees and Expenses paid to the Board of IFI in 2011	61
14. 2011 Seizures Table	62-68

Mission Statement

“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 positive return for the community and the environment.”

Principal Functions

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.

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.

Inland Fisheries Ireland, Board Members

Mr Brendan O'Mahony	(Chairman) appointed with effect 1 st July 2010
Mr John Carroll	appointed with effect 3 rd November 2010
Mr Andrew Duncan	appointed with effect 1 st July 2010
Mr Lal Faherty	appointed with effect 1 st July 2010
Mr John Geary	appointed with effect 3 rd November 2010
Dr Frances Lucy	appointed with effect 1 st July 2010
Mr Marcus Mac Mahon	appointed with effect 3 rd November 2010
Mr Michael McGreal	appointed with effect 3 rd November 2010
Ms Muireann O'Neill	appointed with effect 7th December 2010
Dr Ciaran Byrne	ex-officio member by statute 1 st July 2010.

Attendance at Board meetings 1st of January 2011 to 31st of December 2011

During the period 1st January to 31st December 2011 the Board held eleven Board meetings. All Board members attended eight of the meetings with one member unable to attend two meetings and two other members unable to attend one meeting each.

Management Team

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

Chairman's Statement

I am pleased to present the 2011 Annual Report for Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI). IFI was formally established on 1st July 2010 following the amalgamation of the Central and seven Regional Fisheries Boards. The principle functions of IFI are set out in Section 7 of the Inland Fisheries Act 2010 and they are the protection, management and conservation of the inland fisheries resource. In addition, a general function of IFI is to promote, support facilitate and advise the Minister on the conservation, protection, management, marketing, development and improvement of inland fisheries, including sea angling as set out in section 7 (a) of the Act. This report provides high level account of the work undertaken and the services provided by IFI during the period from the 1st of January 2011 to the 31st of December 2011.



The financial accounts for Inland Fisheries Ireland for the year to the 31st of December 2011 are provided in the Finance & ICT report. These accounts are currently being audited so are presented in draft, un-audited, format in this report.

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 affecting the Board during the period. 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) A statement on the Board's system of internal financial control is also available in this annual report;
- (iv) The Codes of Business Conduct for Directors and for Employees have been put in place and adhered to. These Codes are available on the Board's website;
- (v) The Board has complied with Government policy on the pay of the Chief Executive Officer and all employees;
- (vi) The Board has complied with Government guidelines on payment of Director's fees. The Minister may determine the remuneration and expenses payable to board members of IFI. In the Letters of Appointment of board members it was stipulated that the payment of board members fees be "postponed" for two years. The agency has not yet paid the board members their entire fees due under their Letters of Appointment;
- (vii) As of now, there have been no significant post balance sheet events;
- (viii) The Board has complied with the Guidelines for the Appraisal and Management of Capital Expenditure Proposals;
- (ix) The Board has complied with all Government Travel Policy requirements;
- (x) All Board members have made a Disclosure of Interests in accordance with the 2009 Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.

- (xi) 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, however in the financial year 2012, Inland Fisheries Ireland intends to relocate some of its Dublin premises to avoid significant on-going rental charges and also to have the main office in a location more appropriate to a new national organisation.

2011 has been a challenging year for the fisheries service, as it, like many other State Agencies, was faced with reductions in budget and more importantly the continuation of the Public Service Recruitment Embargo. Notwithstanding these challenges, all of the staff succeeded in delivering a comprehensive, business focused programme of operations in the core areas of conservation, protection, management, marketing and development.

All of the services delivered during the period of this report recognised IFI's "value for money" ethos. The establishment of a single inland fisheries agency has led to significant savings and efficiencies in how the sector is operated and managed, and how services are procured in each of the operational areas. However the significant reductions in exchequer funding has necessitated an even closer focus on expenditure, and the current programme of driving down costs and introducing efficiencies will be continued in 2012. Significant credit is due to the staff of IFI for embracing the multitude of challenges and working closely with the senior management team to develop new ways of doing business and introducing and supporting efficiencies and new technologies right across the organisation.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members for their support during 2011. Despite the fact that this is only the first full year of IFI's existence, through their hard work and dedication they have already left a very positive mark, and I have no doubt that over the lifetime of the Board they will ably assist in transforming the inland fisheries sector.

2012 will be an even greater challenge for the inland fisheries sector and with the combined efforts of the Board, the staff, the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and all of our stakeholders we will deliver on our core goals for the inland fisheries and sea angling sectors.

Finally I would also like to thank the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Pat Rabbitte TD and the Minister of State in this Department, Fergus O' Dowd TD, and the officials from their Department for their continued strong support.

Brendan O'Mahony

Brendan O'Mahony

Chairman

April 2012

Chairman's Statement on Internal Financial Control

In making this statement I have relied on representations made by management of Inland Fisheries Ireland. During the period from the 1st of January 2011 to the 31st of December 2011 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 could 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 was 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 Board meetings and Audit Committee meetings.
- Senior management meetings consisted of the Chief Executive and members of the senior management team including the Head of Finance which met monthly to examine performance against budget and to discuss financial issues affecting the organisation.
- 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 five times in the year to 31st of December 2011. 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 Boards 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. The Board approved the risk policy subject to risk scoring being reviewed.

In respect of the period ended 31st of December 2011, a review of the effectiveness on the system of internal financial control was formally conducted by the internal auditors on behalf of the Board.



Brendan O'Mahony
Chairman.

Comment of the Chief Executive Officer, Dr Ciaran Byrne

This report sets out at a high level the work Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) has been engaged in during 2011. The core focus of the organisation in 2011 was on delivering a comprehensive business plan covering the conservation, protection, management, marketing, development and improvement of our inland fisheries and sea angling resource, and importantly, consolidating and building on IFI's establishment as a single fisheries agency with common goals and organisational culture.

IFI adopted and worked within the context of the 2009 Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. In 2011 IFI received an exchequer grant of €24.95 million, of which €17.6 million was allocated towards pay costs. IFI also generated €5.2 million from other sources during 2011, which was reinvested in the management, conservation and protection of the Inland Fisheries resource.



Finance & ICT

The Finance & ICT Division was at the forefront in dealing with the reductions in budgets and the provision of increasing volumes of management and financial information to the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (DCENR), Department of Finance (DoF) and Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER). A considerable amount of time and resources was invested in the upgrading of the financial and IT architecture for the new organisation, which reflected the change from eight separate entities to a single national inland fisheries organisation.

Operations

This Division is focused on the core role of delivering the fisheries services in local communities, and is supported in its role by each of the other Divisions. The Operations Division is managed on a River Basin District (RBD) basis. During the period of this report the core focus of the Operations Division was in delivering on the agreed business plan for 2011 and developing a consistent approach to the management of the inland fisheries resource, by identifying and implementing best practices in all RBDs. In keeping with the drive towards modernisation and efficiency, staff from the Division embraced a number of new work practices and technologies. These included the use of kayaks, mountain bikes and personal water craft (jet skis), all of which significantly increase the effectiveness of fisheries protection patrol duties.

Research & Development

Scientists in the Research & Development Division delivered a focused research and development programme, as set out in the 2011 Business plan. This programme covered a range of projects from delivering on Ireland's statutory obligations under the Water Framework and Habitats Directives to providing scientific advice for the Minister in respect of salmon and other fish species. It was also a very successful period for scientific collaborations with sister agencies, including the Office of Public Works, Waterways Ireland, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Marine Institute. Many of the key research and development deliverables over this period were only possible as a result of these successful collaborations. In addition, scientists in the Division provided a comprehensive advisory and support service to the Minister and the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources.

Human Resources

The main challenge faced by the Human Resources Division over the period of this report was working to develop a new organisational culture for IFI, and providing the HR/ IR supports and services to the public, and other Divisions within IFI while managing staff numbers down to the levels permitted by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) under the Employment Control Framework (ECF). Staff from the Division also worked very closely with colleagues from the DCENR in the provision of a range of HR information which was used to assist in public sector management particularly in the context of the reduction in size of the overall public sector.

Business Development

The establishment of IFI provided an excellent opportunity to take stock of and refocus on how fisheries in Ireland were being developed, marketed and promoted. In this regard the core task of the Division during 2011 was in consolidating the marketing and promotion of the fisheries resource into a single national service thereby generating significant efficiencies, and building the business development competency within the Division. The latter involved taking a much more pro-active role in the sector, working with stakeholders, and building the competency within IFI to facilitate the creation of sustainable business opportunities from the fisheries resource. Development of a dedicated fisheries education and outreach unit was also progressed during this period.

Logistics

As part of the transition to IFI the former Field Services Division of the Central Fisheries Board was redeveloped into the Logistics Division, the principle function of which is to manage all of IFI's fleet, equipment and facilities matters. During the period covered by this report significant efficiencies in the purchase and use of equipment were generated throughout the organisation and the size of the fleet was considerably reduced. In the area of facilities management a process of identifying and assessing the status and standard of all of IFI's properties was initiated. Staff from the Division also provided a health and safety service to the organisation, and working closely with staff from the Operations Division managed the salmon tagging and logbook scheme.

Finally, I would like to thank my Chairman, Brendan O'Mahony, my Board members, the management and staff of IFI, without whom the work reported on in this annual report would not have been possible. In December 2011 the responsibility for the management of Inland Fisheries and sea angling was transferred to DCENR staff based in the Cavan office. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the former staff of the Inland Fisheries Division within the Department for their support over a long number of years and also the new staff taking over the inland fisheries portfolio for working so hard to build up their knowledge and experience of the brief. All have provided guidance and support to IFI during the period covered by this report. I would also like to compliment all of the staff of IFI who continue to bring excellence and dedication to the work of the organisation. Having completed one of the most difficult years the fisheries service has had to face for a long time, and seeing how all of the staff and stakeholders responded to the challenges, I am confident and optimistic that with the drive, commitment and expertise demonstrated in the last year we are in an excellent position to overcome any obstacles in our way.



Dr Ciaran Byrne

CEO

Inland Fisheries Ireland

Operations

Operations – An Introduction

The Operations Division is responsible for the majority of the conservation, enhancement, development and protection work within Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI). The Division is headed by the Director of Operations, Dr Greg Forde and he is assisted by six River Basin District Directors. When IFI was established in 2010 it was done so on the basis of River Basin Districts which were broadly aligned to the former Regional Fisheries Boards. Since the establishment of IFI and particularly in 2011 significant realignment of the River Basin Districts was undertaken. The Ballina and Galway offices were amalgamated into the Western River Basin District and there has been a transfer of Districts from the South to the South East and from the South East to the South West. Further consolidation and realignment of management will take place where necessary.

2011 was a year of change; the Division lost a significant number of staff through non-replacement as a result of the continuing embargo on recruitment. Additionally the external environment noticeably changed in terms of the protection and enforcement element of the business. 2011 was a year of focusing on the core priorities and ensuring the business of fisheries management continued in a seamless manner following the formation of IFI.

Fisheries Protection

Effectively since the arrival of the Anglo Normans in the 10th century and the introduction of the concept of private ownership of a resource, as opposed to the traditional community ownership structure in place in Ireland at the time, there has been a tradition of illegal fishing. Prior to the formation of the State in the 19th century illegal fishing was a serious problem and was intrinsically linked to divisions between the classes and the private ownership of many of the best fisheries by 'absentee' landlords. To some extent, elements of this legacy type issue are present in fisheries to the present day.

There has always been an apparent inverse correlation between the state of the economy and the levels of illegal fishing; as the economy improves the levels of illegal fishing decrease. Unfortunately there has been little in the way of hard evidence to test this assertion, however one thing which can be categorically said is that there is an undercurrent of illegal fishing which is present irrespective of how the economy is doing. This could perhaps be described as a baseline level of illegal fishing. Thus the protection of Ireland's freshwater and coastal fisheries resource is currently, has traditionally been and is likely to continue into the future as one of the core elements of the fisheries service and one which consumes a significant proportion of the fisheries resource in the form of budget and manpower.

2011 was a busy year for fisheries protection. During the course of the year IFI initiated 169 prosecutions for breaches of the fisheries and water pollution acts (See Appendix 6) and a significant number of these were heard in court during 2011 and the remainder will be heard in court in 2012. Appendix 6 also outlines the breakdown of prosecutions initiated in each River Basin District during 2011.

As a result of the fisheries protection work undertaken by staff during the year, fourteen boats and over thirty thousand yards of net were seized in addition to a range of other netting and angling paraphernalia. Details of all items seized, including the date, district, location of seizure and details of the items seized are provided in Appendix 14.

A noticeable trend in recent years which continued in 2011 was that the average length of illegal nets seized had decreased from when the commercial salmon fishery was

operational. This trend reflects the move towards the use of smaller nets for targeting small rivers and estuaries and coastal areas where poachers do not risk longer nets due to the danger of it being confiscated.

Another noticeable trend which continued in 2011 was the increasing number of serious fisheries protection incidents ranging from physical assaults on staff to verbal abuse and aggressive behaviour. The environment in which Fisheries Officers are operating has become generally more aggressive and there is a concern that a culture of carrying knives by a small element is beginning to emerge. This combined with the general reduction in the number of staff and the greater number of single person patrols being carried out is a cause for concern. IFI has been to the forefront in pioneering new technologies to improve the safety and efficiency of its protection staff and during 2011 a number of new initiatives have been trialled including the use of kayaks and bicycles, to improve patrolling efficiency. Staff continue to use Personal Water Craft (PWC) to patrol estuarine and inshore areas, and quads/ All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) for other areas. A significant amount of capital funding was provided to improve the type and nature of surveillance equipment being used by Fisheries Officers, including the use of night vision and thermal imaging equipment. This equipment significantly improves the ability of Fisheries Officers to detect illegal incidents and, more importantly assess a situation before they engage with any potential poachers.

Fisheries Development

An integral part of the fisheries work is the development and enhancement of our rivers and lakes and also the provision of angling and related infrastructure. A significant number of enhancement projects, ranging from the relatively simple activity of clearing bankside vegetation and reducing tunnelling to much more substantial riverine enhancement works were undertaken throughout the country in 2011. Appendix 2 outlines the number of rivers developed in each River Basin District and also the length of river channel and riparian zone developed.

Access to Fisheries

The maintenance of access to fisheries is an important part of the works undertaken by IFI staff in any given year. This work, which is on-going in all areas throughout the year, entails improving and maintaining the physical access to fisheries by clearing bankside vegetation and pruning and shearing trees where necessary. In addition, more invasive works take place where stabilising the river bank is necessary and where in-stream work is also required. As well as this work, maintenance repair and replacement of access structures such as angling stands, stiles and footbridges was undertaken. Much of the angling infrastructure put in place during the highly successful Tourism Angling Measure (TAM Programme) in the late 1990's has now come to the end of its structurally useful life and has had to be replaced. In this regard IFI invested a significant amount of time and resources in maintaining, repairing, and where necessary replacing fisheries infrastructure. This is detailed in Appendix 2.



Figure 1. Tunnelling and blockage of the Glenisland River, a tributary of Lough Beltra (Newport system), Mayo, pre and post works



Figure 2. Removal of unsafe angling stands

In addition to maintenance and repair of physical structures much of the fisheries development work centres around creating new fisheries habitats, such as angling pools, riffles, glides and nursery and refuge areas for juvenile fish and spawning habitat. Much of the work done to create new fisheries habitats is done in conjunction with other agencies. Indeed the entire premise of the successful Environmental River Enhancement Programme (EREP) is that IFI staff work directly with the Office of Public Works (OPW) engineering teams to ensure that drained river maintenance is conducted in a fish friendly manner and where possible fisheries habitat is enhanced while at the same time ensuring the OPW's water conveyance and drainage requirements are satisfied.

An example of the type of fisheries development works undertaken is the Owengar River Restoration Project in County Leitrim which commenced in 2010, as a result of impacts from a major landslide at the Garvagh Glebe windfarm in 2008. This landslide impacted on the entire Owengar River from the source of the slide to where the river enters the Shannon at Lough Allen. The Electricity Supply Board (ESB Ireland) contributed €375,000 to IFI to carry out a rehabilitation programme for the river. To date 3km of channel has been restored on three sites; upstream of the R280 road bridge, at the spill-over dam site and upstream of Rogan's Bridge. Works included Rip-Rap protection of eroding banks where a stepped bank protection system with stone is put in place in order to protect the eroding banks, creation of level bed deflectors within the channel,

removal of tree debris, re-instating remediation works on areas affected by further debris and creating natural rock steps above the R280 Bridge for fish passage. This project is due for completion in 2012.



Figure 3. An example of the rehabilitation work carried out on the Owengar River

Staff from the Operations Division participated in a range of fisheries surveys during 2011 to support both the management of fisheries on a local basis and also the requirements of a number of National Programmes being undertaken in association with staff from the Research Division to support Ireland's obligations under the Water Framework Directive, Habitats Directive and Eel Regulations. Staff also supported the survey requirements of a range of on-going programmes such as the catchment wide electrofishing programme which provides juvenile salmon stock data which is sent to the Standing Scientific Committee for Salmon and is used as part of their overall assessment of the fishery.

An example of some of the surveys undertaken in 2011 were the investigative netting survey of Lattone Lake situated in the Lough Melvin catchment, undertaken by IFI staff, the Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure, Northern Ireland (DCAL) and students from Sligo Institute of Technology in which four fish species and roach/bream hybrid and 652 fishes were captured. Another significant survey was conducted on the River Inny Catchment between Lough Derravarragh and Lough Ree for the invasive fish species chub. Details of the surveys carried out by staff from the Operations Division are provided in Appendix 2.

Management of Fisheries

IFI owns and operates a number of significant recreational fisheries on behalf of the State; the three most significant of these fisheries are the River Moy Ridge Pool & Cloongee Fisheries, The Galway Fishery and the Erriff Fishery.

The Moy and Cloongee Fisheries

There was no sustained build-up of salmon on the Moy Fishery beats in Ballina during 2011 due to a number of factors. On each occasion that salmon numbers began to rise flood conditions facilitated their upstream migration and the timing of the main grilse run did not commence until well into August when the river was already in flood. However, it is clear from the table below that the upstream Cloongee Fishery benefited from these conditions as permit sales were well up on 2010 and the best since the fishery was purchased in 2006. This partly compensated for the overall drop in permit income on the River Moy. It is also noteworthy that the Moy Fishery permit charges were reduced in 2011 to encourage take up by anglers and that that approximately €5,660 in River Moy Fishery permit income was lost as a result of this pricing strategy which was undermined by the number of significant bad weather events.

Table 1. Permit Income from the Moy and Cloongee Fisheries in 2010 and 2011

Fishery	2010	2011	% change
Moy	€145,495	€114,409	-21.40%
Cloongee	€34,245	€46,710	+36.40%
Total	€179,740	€161,119	-10.34%

The Galway Fishery

A good season was recorded in 2011 despite slightly reduced runs of salmon and high water late in the season which resulted in fishing in September being effectively impossible. The recorded catch on the fishery was 624 salmon, with an estimated 220 fish from the upstream and downstream beats where season permits are issued to local anglers, giving a total catch of 844 salmon. The total number of rod days fished was 1,217, which was impacted by the high water during September. The income generated by the fishery is detailed below, with 2010 figures for comparison.

Table 2. Galway Fishery Income Breakdown for 2010 and 2011

Income Stream	2010	2011	% Change
Deposits/ Permits	€86,079	€88,409	+2.7%
Licence Sales	€15,560	€14,404	-7.4%
Total	€101,639	€102,813	+1.15%

The Erriff Fishery

The Erriff Fishery enjoyed a very good season with a recorded catch of 528 salmon, of which 260 were released and the remaining 268 retained, this included 54 ranched salmon. These ranched salmon were part of an experimental batch of smolts released the previous year and allowed to return to the fishery. These fish were only caught by rod and line on Beat 9 as there is a requirement to remove them once they enter the trap at the falls as genetically they were not Erriff stock. Occupation rates and rod days fished are provided in the table below.

Table 3. River Erriff Fishery Bed Nights & Rod Days 2011

Month	Bed Nights	Rod Days
April	0	1
May	18	26.5
June	111	103
July	114	183
August	169	256.5
September	143	240
Total	555	810

Income increased from €120,911 in 2010 to €142,924 in 2011 due to a 40% increase in permit revenue, a 6% increase in accommodation revenue and a 19% increase in licence sales. This goes against the downward trend in tourism nationally over the last year and likely reflects the importance of increased salmon runs, as well as an increased emphasis on marketing and promotion.

Table 4. River Erriff Fishery Income Breakdown for 2010 and 2011

Income Stream	2010	2011	% Change
Accommodation	€74,484	€79,051	+6.1%
Permits	€40,467	€56,753	+40.2%
Licences	€5,960	€7,120	+20.5%
Total	€120,911	€142,924	+18.2%

Weir Refurbishment

A significant project completed by IFI during 2011 was the refurbishment and modernisation of the Ballina Weir. This flagship project commenced shortly after the establishment of IFI in 2010 and was completed in early 2011. The salmon weir at Ballina operated for hundreds of years as a trapping mechanism for the commercial harvesting of salmon. Declining salmon stocks and an increased emphasis on the development of salmon angling, led to the cessation of salmon trapping at the weir in 1999. The weir was subsequently declared a protected structure by Ballina Town Council. Since that time a number of serious health and safety issues arose in relation to the operation of the weir and the weir infrastructure itself was beginning to experience structural damage as a result of a general wear and tear and the effects of a number of severe floods and damage from major debris accumulations.

The redevelopment of the weir was a complex project which had to pay due regard to a number of issues such as fluctuating water levels and also some very difficult engineering problems associated with automation and the incorporation of fish counters into the pre-existing protected structure. Construction cost just over one million Euros and 85% of the cost was funded from own resources predominantly through the sale of the old ice house building. The refurbishment of the salmon weir is also a major component in the redevelopment of the riverside area of Ballina and complements some projects completed in the very recent past by Ballina Town Council. These include the new footbridge immediately upstream of the weir and the recently opened Ballina Arts Centre directly opposite on the other side of the river. The refurbished weir was formally opened by An Taoiseach, Mr Enda Kenny T.D. on the 2nd of September 2011.



Figure 4. An Taoiseach pictured with IFI Board members and CEO at the opening ceremony



Figure 5. Panoramic view of the refurbished weir

Commercial Salmon & Eel Fisheries

IFI regulates and manages the commercial salmon, sea trout and eel fisheries. For conservation reasons the commercial eel fishery was closed in 2009 and remained closed during the period covered by this report. However, IFI operations staff monitored the eel trap and transport programme undertaken by the ESB as one of the management measures in the management plan for eels. In addition, IFI Research and Operations Divisions staff conducted a comprehensive monitoring programme for eels during 2011 to support the scientific requirements of the European Union Eel Regulations (EC 1100/2007).

Salmon & Sea Trout

The total number of salmon and sea trout reported caught by all methods (including catch and release) was 44,967 salmon and 2,799 sea trout (over 40cm) respectively. Whilst the 2011 catch was lower than 2010 it proved a good year for both anglers and commercial fishermen with favourable fishing conditions, reasonable marine survival rates and timely fish runs.

The 2011 commercial catch was 11,973 salmon and 61 sea trout (over 40 cm) which represent 69% of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 17,399 fish allocated to the commercial fishing sector. The biggest landings of commercial salmon catches were in County Kerry on the River Laune with 1,824 salmon (15.2% of the commercial catch), in County Limerick on the River Feale with 2,015 salmon (16.8% of the commercial catch), in County Cork on the River Lee with 1,239 salmon (10.3% of the commercial catch), and in County Cork on the River Blackwater with 886 salmon (7.4% of the commercial catch). Commercial fishermen caught 27% of the catch in 2011, compared to 28% in 2010 and recreational anglers caught 73% in 2011 compared to 72% in 2010.

Eels

IFI staff continued monitoring of the ESB funded trap and transport operations at six locations on the River Erne system in conjunction with Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) staff in Northern Ireland and at five sites on the River Shannon system, to ensure escapement of migrating silver eel to sea around the hydroelectric stations at Ballyshannon, Belleek and Ardnacrusha. A total of 24.9 tonnes of eels were captured for transportation to the Erne Estuary for release and 22.5 tonnes of eels were captured for transportation to the Shannon Estuary for release. A number of unrelated illegal infringements were detected and various items of equipment used in illegal fishing for eels were seized in the Upper and Lower reaches of the River Shannon. Staff also provided assistance in relation to associated eel scientific monitoring and tagging studies.

Environmental Management

One of the statutory roles of Inland Fisheries Ireland is the conservation and protection of our fish stocks. In this regard IFI consider fish to be a valuable indicator species of the health of the overall aquatic ecosystem. The enforcement of good water quality standards and the protection of riparian habitat is one of the core functions of the environmental wing of the organisation. There are two aspects to the work of the Environmental Officers in the organisation, one is assessing and providing observations on the array of licences, applications and planning permissions and development proposals which can have impacts on water quality and riparian habitat. This work is generally very structured and process orientated and necessitates close working relationships between IFI staff, local authorities, other State agencies (such as Coillte in the case of forestry issues), or external consultants to provide the necessary comments and/ or permissions for an activity to progress, or not. The second aspect of the work is dealing with the unplanned actions, activities or developments which have impacts on the aquatic environment or indeed the unforeseen consequences of planned activities, this element of the work is more enforcement orientated. IFI prides itself on being an open and transparent organisation which will listen to concerns and provide appropriate decisions and feedback on proposals in a rational and consistent manner. The environmental work can be broken down into a number of broad categories which include, but are not limited to; Planning and Infrastructure, Fish Kills, Forestry, Abstraction/ Water Treatment/ Discharge, Agriculture and Flood Alleviation.

Fish Kills

When systems break down and waters become polluted the inevitable result is a fish kill. Thus the ultimate barometer of the quality of the aquatic resource and the success of environmental controls is the number of fish kills. During 2011 31 fish kills were reported. Appendix 3 breaks these down by River Basin District and also cause, where possible to identify. While any fish kills are unacceptable the number of fish kills reported in 2011 are broadly consistent with recent years, with 40 fish kills being reported in the period January 2009 to June 2010 and 14 fish kills being reported in the period June 2010 to December 2010. Not all fish kills result in a prosecution as in some cases it is impossible to trace the source of pollution causing the fish kill back to an individual or business. Notwithstanding this, 16 pollution related prosecutions were initiated in 2011 for causing fish kills as well as a range of other environmental offences.

A standard part of IFI's response to fish kills and a range of other environmental issues is to take a water sample. In most cases a series of samples are taken from upstream where no pollution occurred, to downstream to identify the extent of the effect of the pollution incident. In this regard over 3,500 water samples were taken in 2011, a significant majority of these were processed by the organisations laboratory in Swords, however a number would have been processed by accredited laboratories for use in legal proceedings.

IFI are also involved in a number of environmental monitoring programmes, such as on Lough Sheelin, where water samples are taken as part of the routine monitoring. Details of the water samples taken in 2011 are provided in Appendix 3.

Planning & Infrastructure

There is no doubt that the number of planning applications received by IFI Environmental Staff has decreased since the height of the economic boom period in the mid 2000's. Notwithstanding this situation there are still quite a number of applications which have to be screened to assess which ones may potentially have an impact on the aquatic environment. Additionally, while the number of applications screened gives some indication of the activity levels it does not take account of the type or detail of the application, thus it may be relatively easy to deal with a range of small scale planning applications but the large scale strategic infrastructure projects, for the likes of a national motorway or a wind farm development can, and do, take a disproportionate amount of time. For example in the Ballina District all planning applications which may have an impact on the aquatic environment were reviewed and submissions were made as appropriate. Thus during 2011 2,453 planning applications were assessed and 52 submissions were made to the relevant Local Authorities. Over the past year, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of wind farm applications submitted and in the Ballina District consultation was underway at year end between IFI Ballina, the ESB and Coillte regarding two wind farms totalling 160 turbines, which are to be located within the Owenmore and Cloonaghmore (Palmerstown) River catchments.

Forestry

There is increased evidence that a significant proportion of State owned forest property is now reaching a level of maturity whereby initial thinning will be taking place leading to eventual clear-fell operations. Of the forestry applications dealt with in 2011, a significant proportion related to new forest roads for Coillte. This brings a chance to undo some of what we now know was poor practice which was put in place between thirty and fifty years ago, but the disadvantage is that there is also a significant amount of activity on upland catchments from clear felling and construction of forest roads which can have some negative impacts on fisheries.

Flood Alleviation

The combination of the recent extremely wet weather during both summer and winter, and poor planning leading to the substantial development of flood plains in or near towns has led to the issue of flooding coming into sharp relief. Flooding and flood alleviation is a very emotive issue, particularly so for those who have had their homes or business flooded, in some cases on more than one occasion. During 2011 IFI has worked closely with a range of statutory authorities, most noticeably a number of Local Authorities and the Office of Public Works (OPW), which is charged with delivering a number of flood relief schemes throughout the country. IFI work with these agencies to ensure the core requirements of a particular flood relief scheme are delivered in an environmentally friendly manner, insofar as possible. An example of the types of work engaged in is the Callan Flood Relief Scheme in Co. Kilkenny which involves limited encroachment on the channel of the Kings River in the form of bunding to facilitate the construction of walls to prevent flooding.

In the Clonmel Flood Relief Scheme the fish pass was completed during the year and salmon were seen migrating through it, and in the River Bandon Drainage Scheme several meetings were held with consultants engaged by the Office of Public Works (OPW) in relation to proposed works. In this regard IFI staff walked the entire channel and identified the different important habitat types from a fishery perspective which included the riffles, glides and salmon retaining pools on the river downstream of the town. Later in the year a public meeting was held by the consultants at which the “preferred solution - with the best overall balance between the environment and protecting the town from flooding” was revealed as being a major drainage of some 3.5kms of river channel downstream of the town.

In addition to all of the main flood relief schemes, IFI staff throughout the country have had consultations with Local Authorities, Drainage Boards and the OPW in relation to river channel maintenance and drainage.

Fish Counter Programme

Fish counters are electronic devices installed in strategic locations, generally a narrow point in rivers such as weirs or fish passes which facilitate the electronic counting of fish as they pass by, either migrating upstream or downstream. Fish counters have been used in Ireland for many years but the first of the current class of counter was installed in Connemara in 1988. IFI has embraced the use of fish counting technology as a way of getting a reasonably accurate assessment of the number of migrating fish, particularly salmon, in a river system. In terms of fish counters, there are two main types in use in Ireland, VAKI fish counters and Logie resistivity fish counters.

The VAKI fish counter was originally developed for use in the aquaculture industry as a means of counting fish and estimating their biomass quickly when they were being transferred from one fish cage to another. The VAKI fish counter is essentially two infra-red scanners arranged on plates separated by a gap of about 20cm. When a fish passes through the gap the infra-red beam is broken, and image of the fish is captured. This image is then recorded. These types of fish counters are particularly suited to the in-scales of fish traps.

The second type of fish counter is a resistivity fish counter. In this situation three electrodes are embedded in white plastic sheeting which is then mounted on the face of a crump weir. The resistivity of a fish is lower than that of water. So, as fish cross this barrier, they pass the embedded electrodes, and the difference in resistivity disturbs the field established in the vicinity of the electrodes, altering inter-electrode resistance. With three electrodes these disturbances can then be measured by a Wheatstone bridge, or other means, to detect the size and direction of travel of the fish. The significance of the white plastic is to provide a contrasting background so as the fish can be identified by mounted cameras which are used to verify an ‘event’ and also it was found that darker

material in the plastic contained carbon which conducted electricity and hence gave false readings.

In some cases the fish counter is located in such a manner as to provide a total count of all fish migrating upstream and downstream in a particular river, in other situations the fish counter either provides a total count of the fish migrating upstream or a partial count of the number of fish migrating up and down stream. For reasons of practicality and technology limitations it is not possible to have a total fish count in all rivers and in such situations IFI regularly performs experiments using Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags to assess the proportion of fish travelling through the fish counters.

The fish counter work undertaken by IFI staff in 2011 was divided into three main areas; maintenance and upgrading of the existing complement of fish counters, developing validation software which can be used to electronically validate fish movement events recorded by the counters, and the development and installation of a number of new counters. In addition, with the establishment of IFI the fish counters programme which was run in a number of Regional Fisheries Boards in virtual isolation has now been centralised and is benefiting from a shared approach to maintenance and development.

Maintenance of the fish counters takes a significant amount of time and resources. This is primarily due to the environmental conditions in which the fish counters operate. Many of the locations of IFI fish counters are smaller spate rivers which are prone to significant flood events, which can either damage fish counters or, depending on the magnitude of the event, render them incapable of counting fish due to massive inundation of the structure with fish either not being detected or completely bypassing the flooded structure. One of the significant drawbacks of the wet weather in 2011 was that in a number of instances it could take a number of weeks before water levels returned to a level where it was safe to effect repairs on the fish counter.

Table 5. A schedule of the fish counters located throughout Ireland and managed by IFI and their operational status at the end of 2011.

River	District	Type (L) (V)	Type	Status
Bunowen River	Ballinakill	Logie	Total count	Operational
Owenglin River	Ballinakill	Vaki and camera	Total count	Operational
Culfin River	Ballinakill	Logie	Total count	Operational
Dawros River	Ballinakill	Logie	Total count	Operational
Feale River	Limerick	Logie	Total count	Operational
Maigue River	Limerick	Logie	Partial	To be upgraded
Mulkear River	Limerick	Logie	Total count	To be upgraded
Slaney River	Wexford	Logie	Partial count	Operational
Blackcastle River	Drogheda	Vaki	Partial count	Operational
Eany River	Ballyshannon	Logie	Total count	Operational
Eske River	Ballyshannon	Logie	Total count	Operational
Munhin (Carrowmore)	Bangor	Logie	Total count	Operational
Moy	Ballina	Logie Vaki	Partial count	Logie operational Vaki's to be installed
Owenmore	Bangor	Logie	Total count	Requires upgrade
Ballisodare	Sligo	Vaki	Total count	Operational
Owenduff	Bangor	Logie	Total count	Operational
Erriff	Ballinakill	Vaki	Total count	Operational
Casla	Connemara	Logie	Total count	Operational

Ballynahinch	Connemara	Logie	Total count	Operational
Inagh	Connemara	Logie	Partial count	Operational
Corrib River/Lake	Galway	Logie	Partial count	Operational
Fane	Dundalk	Logie	Total count	Needs camera
Dee	Dundalk	Vaki	Total count	Operational
Kerry Blackwater	Kerry	Logie	Total count	Operational
Maine	Kerry	Logie	Total count	Requires upgrade
Waterville	Kerry	Logie	Total count	Operational
Bandon	Cork	Logie	Partial count	Requires upgrade
Dunkellin	Galway	Logie	Total count	Operational
Owenboliska	Galway	Logie	Total count	Operational
Gowla	Connemara	Vaki	Total count	Operational
Garavogue	Sligo	Vaki	Partial	Operational

Research and Development

Research and Development –An Introduction

The essence of good management and decision making is grounded in high-quality advice; the Research and Development Division of Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) is tasked with the delivery of scientific advice to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable development of Ireland's inland fisheries resource. The requirement for expert advice continued to grow in 2011, with the servicing of requests from Government, our parent Department, IFI management, stakeholders, other State agencies, international bodies and individuals. The quality and provision of this advice is dependent on the quality and age of the available data, these data are delivered via some of the projects described in this report.

The Research and Development Division of IFI are delighted to report on the successful delivery against the goals outlined in IFI's 2011 Business Plans. All projects had an efficacious year given the resource constraints experienced. Resource issues were mitigated through project and task prioritisation, notwithstanding this prioritisation, some projects were not able to complete the planned field programmes in full. This report does not intend to document all of the projects and the deliverables completed but illustrates some of the Division's major achievements in 2011.

IFI has identified the threat of invasive species as an issue that has the potential to destroy large swathes of the inland fisheries resource, thus all IFI staff have a role to play in addressing this threat and ensuring bio-security is a priority. Throughout 2011 IFI have been to the forefront in the battle to protect our aquatic freshwater environment, through the development of IFI processes to address the potential threat, through eradication programmes, in the development of bio-security protocols and in the education of stakeholders. This work has been supported through European Union (EU) funded projects such as the Control of Aquatic Invasive Species in Ireland (CAISIE) and the Mulkear Life project and is a key element in all of our projects.

Water Framework Directive (WFD)

As a statutory requirement of Ireland's implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (which was transposed into Irish Law through the European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003, S.I. No.722 of 2003), IFI are tasked with the fish monitoring of over 300 water bodies, including 154 river sites, 78 transitional water bodies (estuaries and lagoons) and 78 lakes on a three year monitoring cycle. Information collected in each survey is used to assign an 'ecological status' to each water body and is also used by IFI to produce scientific advice to support the conservation, protection and development of the inland fisheries resource.

WFD fish surveys conducted during 2011 were part of the second three year rolling programme from 2010 - 2012. IFI staff successfully completed fish surveys in a total of 30 lakes, 50 Rivers and 2 transitional water bodies. However, this was just 67% of the planned 2011 programme which was restricted due to resource constraints. Details of these surveys including interactive maps are available via the WFD web site at www.wfdfish.ie.



Figure 6. WFD River Sampling Programme

Habitats Directive and Red Data Book

IFI are tasked with monitoring and reporting, on a 6 year cycle, on the status of the fish species listed in Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive (River, brook and sea lamprey, Twaite and Killarney shad, Pollan and Atlantic salmon) in line with the requirements set out in the EU Habitats Directive as transposed into Irish law under SI 94 of 1997. Where feasible, this programme also includes monitoring of Ireland's Red Data Book fish species such as char and smelt. Collectively IFI refer to these species as 'conservation fish species'.

As many of the species under investigation are rare, or occur in small populations in large ecosystems, survey outcomes can vary widely and it has proved difficult to find standard protocols that provide consistent and robust outcomes. The programme was very encouraging with field trials sampling for post-larval shad in estuaries in 2011 and this method will be further investigated in 2012. The Habitats Directive team in conjunction with other IFI staff completed surveys across a range of "conservation" species in various catchments. Further details of this work are available on the IFI website (www.fisheriesireland.ie).

IFI staff were significant contributors to the Irish Red Data Book on Fish, Amphibians and Reptiles, published by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) during 2011.



Figure 7. Mouth of anadromous sea lamprey

National Eel Management Plan

In response to advice from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), that the European eel (*Anguilla anguilla* L.) is endangered and the fishery

unsustainable, the EC regulation establishing measures for the recovery of the European eel (Council Regulation 11000/2007) was created. This required Ireland to establish an eel management plan to reduce eel mortality and ensure an increase in the number of silver eels escaping Ireland to spawn. Ireland's management plan involved closure of the fishery, mitigation of hydropower, ensuring upstream eel migration at barriers and improvement in water quality. In June 2009, the EU accepted our national plan as adequate to address the issues raised by the regulation. The eel management plan contains a number of monitoring objectives to ensure compliance with the management actions. IFI is tasked with carrying out these objectives.

2011 was the third year of the eel monitoring programme. A national elver monitoring programme was continued in eight selected locations, yellow eel studies were conducted in five lakes (Meelick Bay in Lough Derg, Co. Clare; Lough Oughter, Co. Cavan; Lough Inchiquin, Co. Clare; Lough Ramor, Co. Cavan; Ballynahinch Lough, Co. Galway); the River Suir, Waterford and River Barrow Estuary in Kilkenny/ Wexford were also sampled. IFI supported a new research silver eel fishery on the River Fane catchment with a view to determining the level of silver eel escapement. The mark recapture (MR) study was continued and all eels from Lough Derg and Lough Oughter were tagged with passive integrated transponder tags (PIT). Morphological measurements (length, weight, eye diameter, pectoral fin length etc) were taken to determine life stage and estimate maturation. A number of eels were sacrificed for further analysis in the laboratory (parasite prevalence, age, growth). Further details of the work carried out are available on the IFI website (www.fisheriesireland.ie)

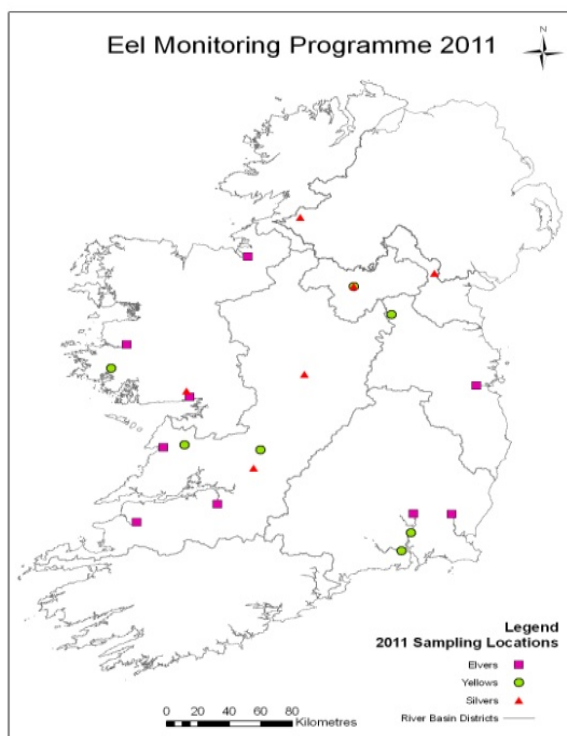


Figure 8. Locations of surveys carried out under the Eel Monitoring Programme 2011

Celtic Sea Trout Project (CSTP)

The Celtic Sea Trout Project (Ireland-Wales axis), is part of the EU funded INTERREG Iva (Innovation and Environmental Regions of Europe) programme. IFI is the lead organisation in delivering this sea trout sampling programme in freshwater, estuaries and coastal waters. The project is investigating the complex freshwater and marine

ecology of sea trout to provide management and conservation benefits for countries bordering the Irish Sea. The CSTP aims are:

- To understand and describe sea trout stocks in the Irish Sea and thereby to enhance sea trout fisheries and strengthen their contributions to quality of life, to rural economies and to national biodiversity.
- To explore the use of sea trout life history variation as a tool to detect and understand the effects of climate change.

In 2011, IFI completed sampling of juvenile trout in sea trout spawning areas from approximately 50 rivers, and with the support of anglers and clubs collated sea trout scale samples from rod-caught fish from the 10 priority sea trout systems in Ireland. Inshore sampling continued in 2011 and a 7 day trawling survey of offshore waters (off the Irish and United Kingdom coastlines) was undertaken in August. The trawling survey was the first such survey in the Irish Sea and yielded important samples. IFI has contributed to each of the seven different work packages within the CSTP including supporting the CSTP website www.celticseatrout.com

Atlantic Aquatic Resource Conservation Project (AARC)

The Atlantic Aquatic Resource Conservation (AARC) project falls under the 2007-2013 EU Atlantic Area Programme. It is an association between 13 international partners in a three year project (2010-2012) with the Irish elements focused on restorative initiatives for Atlantic salmon in the River Shannon catchment. The Irish partners are IFI, University College Cork (UCC), the Electricity Supply Board (ESB) and the Marine Institute (MI). In 2011 this project increased our understanding of some of the factors causing salmon population decline in the upper River Shannon, thus providing the knowledge required to support salmon enhancement and conservation programmes for the future. The genetic composition of the existing salmon populations within the Shannon catchment were also analysed in 2011. Further details of the work carried out are available on the IFI website (www.fisheriesireland.ie)

EELIAD Eel Research

IFI is a partner in the EELIAD project (European Eels in the Atlantic Assessment of their Decline) which is a research initiative to investigate the ecology and biology of European eels funded under the EU Framework 7 Research Programme. The information derived from the study will be integrated into models to determine the most important factors that influence silver eel production and migration success.

Field studies on migration routes, behaviour and spawning, will be supported by the use of cutting edge biotechnological analyses to determine population structure, and innovative modelling approaches that will incorporate these data into fishery management models.

In 2011, IFI tagged 16 large silver eels (1.9-2.5kg) with satellite tags and released the eels to sea off the West coast of Ireland to determine migration routes, behaviour and spawning potential, this was the third and final year of the eel tagging programme. Other biological information was collected on parasite intensity and contaminants from eel populations nationally. Further details of the work carried out are available on the IFI website (www.fisheriesireland.ie)



Figure 9. An eel fitted with a pop-off Satellite tag to record depth and temperature

Waterways Ireland Project

On behalf of Waterways Ireland, IFI provide fisheries management, aquatic plant management and water quality monitoring and pollution abatement services on the Royal and Grand Canals, the Barrow Navigation and the Shannon-Erne Waterway.

Following a 2010 pollution incident on the Barrow Line of the Grand Canal, water quality and invertebrate community monitoring throughout 2011 indicated that the canal was returning to a healthy state. Water samples, for the purposes of Water Framework Directive compliance monitoring, were collected at 44 sites on four occasions in 2011. Aquatic plant communities were assessed at these separate sites on one occasion. In 2011 IFI reported that the health of the waterways network is high and continues to meet designated targets. Aquatic plant management surveys were conducted along the Barrow Navigation, the Shannon-Erne Waterway and on the Royal Canal between Mullingar and Clondra in 2011. In addition to informing both real-time and future management programmes, these surveys also facilitate investigations of the distribution and status of an array of invasive species.

Results of fish stock assessments indicate that while some localised changes in stock structure are apparent, stocks of coarse fish and pike remain generally healthy. Approximately 2.75 tonnes of fish were relocated within adjacent canal habitats during fish rescue operations carried out in advance of essential waterway maintenance. In the largest event over 35,000 (~1.5 tonnes) fish were removed from 2.2km of the Grand Canal, near Ticknevin, in December 2011. This facilitated the chemical treatment and physical removal of New Zealand Pygmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*), a highly invasive non-native aquatic plant species. Further details of the work carried out are available on the IFI website (www.fisheriesireland.ie)

Salmon Conservation Limit (CL) Attainment Project

Salmon stocks in Ireland are being managed on an individual river basis. Each catchment has a defined Salmon Conservation Limit (CL) which can be considered as the number of salmon required to spawn in each river to ensure sustainability. If the river CL is not being achieved, the river is closed and no salmon harvest is permitted. After scientific assessment in 2011, 50 rivers were identified as having a surplus over the conservation limit and were open for salmon harvest, 28 rivers were open for catch & release angling only (meeting 65% of CL), while 63 rivers either had no identifiable

surplus or insufficient information and were closed for harvesting salmon by commercial fishing or angling.

33 rivers with no direct means of stock assessment (fish counter or rod catch) were surveyed in 2011 under the catchment wide electro-fishing programme to assess attainment of salmon conservation limits. Eleven of these rivers, which were evaluated as not having a surplus using other available indices, achieved the mean abundance threshold of 17 salmon fry. This is required to allow them to be opened for catch & release angling in 2012. This methodology provides an additional assessment of salmon stock abundance.

Salmon were tagged with passive integrated transponder tags (an encoded wire tag which can be read remotely) on the Rivers Boyne and Blackwater catchments in an on-going assessment to provide full salmon counts at partial counter sites. Under the on-going salmon genetic assessment study, juvenile salmon samples were collected from 15 rivers in 2011 to test for temporal stability and biodiversity status.



Figure 10. Catchment-wide electrofishing being undertaken on an Erriff tributary in 2011

Environmental Rivers Enhancement Programme (EREP)

The Environmental Rivers Enhancement Programme (EREP) focuses on the enhancement of drained salmonid rivers. The programme includes two different approaches to enhancement, these being capital enhancement and enhanced maintenance, which are funded by the Office of Public Works (OPW). In 2011, IFI staff planned and supported delivery of enhancement programmes along 100km of drained rivers and completed year four of the current five year programme. The programme also includes monitoring of improvements in ecology along the river corridor, delivered in salmonid stock levels and also in terms of biodiversity and habitat improvements. The EREP surveys of bird populations in river corridors are breaking new ground in establishing relationships between river corridor types and their associated avian fauna.

In 2011 this programme advanced the use of micro satellite DNA genetic studies of trout stocks, to gain a greater understanding of how these populations function. Trout stocks in Lough Ennel and the River Boyne and River Suir catchments have been examined in this regard. Results are very encouraging and will allow identification of the less productive parts of riverine systems and to target such areas for enhancement works. Further details of the work carried out are available on the IFI website (www.fisheriesireland.ie)

IFI's Fish Farms

The aim of the IFI fish stock management programme is to restore fish populations in those fisheries which have been affected by pollution or fish kills and to enhance the angling status of a fishery. The IFI fish farms in Westmeath and Tipperary rear brown trout and rainbow trout.

The farms operate commercially and in 2011 provided 279,512 adult fish for stocking to private angling clubs, IFI managed fisheries and commercial put and take fisheries. Included in this were the first adult triploid brown trout stocked out into Irish waters. As part of IFI's conservation role, over 300,000 wild brown trout fry hatched in the Mullingar site were returned to the wild.

During 2011, IFI completed a number of enhancements to the fish farm operations including the provision of new security systems with active CCTV monitoring. Replacement old transport tanks with a new monitored oxygen system greatly enhanced the capacity for larger loads of fish to be carried under less stressful conditions. This is part of an on-going programme of enhancement of IFI's fish farming operations.

Business Development

Business Development – An Introduction

The Business Development Division of Inland Fisheries Ireland is a new Division set up on the establishment of IFI. It is an acknowledgment of the importance and huge impact the business of angling and inland fisheries has on the Irish economy and also the various social effects that angling can bring to all areas of Irish life particularly in rural and coastal communities.

IFI's 2011-2015 Corporate Strategy and 2011 Business Plan set out the goals and programmes for the Business Development Division. The key strategic goal is to develop the potential of the inland fisheries sector by increasing the number of resident and tourist anglers and generating a better return for Ireland. The Division's work covers *inter alia* marketing and promotion, education and awareness as well as stakeholder empowerment through supports and assistance, helping our stakeholders to develop angling, their businesses and angling resources throughout Ireland.

The work of the Division in meeting these goals during 2011 is set out under the key programme headings below.

Develop the Business of Inland Fisheries Ireland

State Fisheries Management

Licensing of Fisheries

In 2011 a total of 86 State owned fisheries were licenced by IFI to various angling clubs and organisations. One new fishery was licensed, the River Dee and Glyde fishery which was licensed in 2011 for the first time in a number of years. All angling clubs issued an IFI fishery licence are obliged to make day permits easily available for any visiting angler to purchase to ensure that all State Fisheries can be easily enjoyed by locals and tourists alike.

Review of the Management of State Fisheries

A high level of feedback was received from the public consultation phase of the review of the management of State Fisheries in October 2010. This feedback has been reviewed and assisted with the development of a draft policy proposal which is undergoing internal review and will inform the new policy for the management of State Fisheries.

Salmon Conservation Fund

The Salmon Conservation Fund has been running since 2007 and as projects now span different years, project updates are and will be posted on the Salmon Conservation section of the IFI website. €607,000 was collected in 2011 and will be allocated to projects in 2012. €200,000 of this has been allocated to 'Contributor' projects in 2012 following the success of the pilot scheme.

Contributor projects are those undertaken by individuals, clubs or fishery owners who have made contributions to the fund through the purchase of a salmon licence. The Salmon Conservation Fund Pilot Scheme for Contributors was introduced in 2011.

€120,000 was provisionally allocated to 15 projects subject to conditions. 13 of the 15 projects fulfilled all criteria and two were decommitted and returned to the fund for further rehabilitation works.

Some State Fisheries benefited from investment through the Salmon Conservation Fund Pilot Scheme for contributors. The Kilbride Anglers, Crolly Anglers and Creeslough Anglers were all awarded funding to develop the fisheries they license. Due to unfavourable water conditions the Crolly and Creeslough Anglers were unable to carry out works and their funding has been carried over to 2012. The Kilbride Anglers also privately funded additional works on state waters under licence from IFI.

Marketing and Promotion

Angling Promotion – Angling Shows

Angling and lifestyle promotion is undertaken in part, through participation at national and international shows. During 2011 IFI Business Development staff attended shows in our main international markets of France, Germany, Holland, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, USA and Belgium in addition to national and local angling and lifestyle shows in Ireland. IFI works with its tourism development partners Fáilte Ireland and Tourism Ireland in organising participation in angling and lifestyle shows in strategic markets. IFI also supported the Loughs Agency angling and lifestyle show in 2011.



Figure 11. IFI staff member Markus Muller with Karl H Kohler at the IFI stand at Erlebnisswelt Fliegenfischen, Germany

Promotions Material

2011 was a busy year and a number of new and updated angling brochures and promotional materials were produced. The most significant new publications were "Coarse Angling in The Erne & South Donegal" and "Sea Trout Angling on Ireland's North West Coast". These will be of assistance to domestic and tourist anglers alike.

Other significant brochures which were updated include:

- Pike Angling Guide to The Erne & South Donegal (English & French)
- Guide to Sea Angling on the East Coast
- Guide to Angling in the Boyne Valley
- 2011 Salmon Angling Regulations
- Coarse & Pike Angling Bye Laws.

A number of other promotional goods were produced to support IFI projects such as the 'Something Fishy' educational project and 'Fisheries Awareness Week'. These included branded key rings, stickers, baseball caps, measuring mats and signs.

Angling Journalists Visits

32 angling journalist trips were facilitated across Ireland during 2011. These trips, covering all angling disciplines, resulted in featured articles and front covers on a number of angling magazines both at home and abroad with an equivalent advertising value in excess of €500,000. This is established by calculating what it would cost to purchase the same number of pages in the respective magazines as produced by the angling journalists on foot of their trips.



Figure 12. An example of coverage received due to journalists visits supported by IFI

Donegal Angling Tourism Pilot Project

Since 2003 much work has been carried out to upgrade the game and sea angling infrastructure in Co. Donegal and to create an organised system of access to fisheries for tourism purposes. In 2010 IFI commissioned consultants to assess this work, to set out an up-to-date picture of the angling asset and its organisation, to estimate international demand for the Donegal angling product, and to make recommendations on how this

product can be brought to market. The recommendations made are now being implemented in a 3-year pilot project which will run from May 2011 to April 2014.

Marine Tagging Programme

Sea Angling Book Statistics

The Sea Angling Book Statistics programme has been in continuous operation since 1978 when 15 charter skippers in six angling centres agreed to record key data relating to their trips over the season. By 1988 the programme had grown to include 20 charter skippers in 20 angling centres. In 1998 74 skippers in 38 angling centres participated. Participation peaked over the next few years but unfortunately by 2008 the number of skippers diversifying away from angling into other areas such as sightseeing & eco-tours was increasing and participation in the logbook programme began to decline.

Bad weather during the 2011 angling season resulted in lower figures in both the tagging and logbooks programme. Angling Charter Boat skippers continue to diversify from angling into other areas such as sightseeing and eco-tours which means the trend in participation in the logbook programme is continuing to decline. On a more positive note we are continuing to recruit more and more anglers to the Marine Sport Fish Tagging Programme, detailed below, which is growing year on year.

Marine Sport Fish Tagging Programme

IFI's Marine Sport fish Tagging Programme was initiated in 1970 by the Inland Fisheries Trust (IFT), who had responsibility for developing and promoting recreational sea angling. By the late 1960s, results from sea angling competitions were showing a decline in the capture of some of the most important species such as Blue Shark, Tope, Monkfish, Skates and Rays. At that time, virtually all fish caught by anglers were killed and taken ashore for weighing and photographic opportunities.

As little was known at the time about the biology and migration patterns of these species, the IFT decided to introduce a tagging programme with the explicit purpose of introducing conservation measures and to learn more about the migratory patterns of sea angling species. All tags used to date in the Marine Sport Fish Tagging Programme can be identified by their label - "Fisheries Board Ireland Reward". Though the tags appear in a variety of colours and shapes, the text "Fisheries Board Ireland Reward" and a unique id number are present on each tag.

Up to 50 charter skippers and a number of dedicated anglers took part in the 2010 Marine Sport Fish Tagging Programme. Over 1,000 fish were tagged and released including 203 Blue Shark, 24 Porbeagle Shark, 269 Tope, 42 Common skate and 302 Ray. Since 1970, over 40,000 sea fish have been tagged and released including almost 20,000 Blue Shark. This programme is the largest in Europe and the second largest in the world after the USA. Data for 2010 was made available in mid-2011 and data for 2011 will be available in mid-2012.

Education and Awareness

The National Education Programme 'Something Fishy'

'Something Fishy' is a collaborative active learning venture originally launched in 2005 between the former Central and Regional Fisheries Boards and Blackrock and Monaghan Education Centres to educate students on water quality, fish, the environment and angling. The programme for the 2010/11 school year was a great success and was delivered to 163 schools nationwide. The programme was also adapted for children with special needs and was run at three special schools in Kilkenny, Wexford and Cavan. In 2011 the cross border body, The Loughs Agency worked with 10 schools in the River Finn catchment in County Donegal.



Figure 13. Students from St. Joseph's National School, Co Wexford celebrating their national 'Something Fishy' Award

The winners of the national class project were St. Joseph's National School, Co. Wexford. Their winning presentation was 'Something Fishy - The Musical.' Their award was presented at the Wexford Education Centre.

Fisheries Awareness Week

Fisheries Awareness Week (FAW) 2011 took place from 7th to 15th of May. The week was supported by all IFI River Basin Districts with more than 56 events run nationwide and an estimated 2,500 people participating. Many of the events were facilitated with the help of local clubs and angling bodies. Of the 56 events promoted on the Fisheries Awareness Web site:

- 39 (69%) were open to all participants
- 11 (19 %) to schools only
- 3 (6%) to youth only
- 1 to ladies only
- 1 to families and
- 1 to community groups.

As well as fishery open days and competitions, events included ladies fly fishing days, getting to know IFI and river walks. Further information is available on the dedicated IFI fishery awareness website (www.faw.ie).



Figure 14. A group of enthusiastic Fisheries Awareness Week participants enjoy a trip to the River Boyne

Public Relations

Following the successful transition from the former Central and Regional Fisheries Boards to IFI, the organisation's activities in 2011 received good coverage across all media outlets. 'Six One News' on RTE One television featured the River Tolka 'Ireland has a new Salmon River' story, while many other news stories featured on radio, newspapers and angling press with at least 1,249 IFI news items being published or broadcast during the year.

The Business Development Division made a significant contribution to the corporate image of IFI and assisted the work of other Divisions in the design & production of material to showcase work carried out by IFI on a range of projects including but not limited to:

- Control of Aquatic Invasive Species In Ireland (CAISIE) credit cards for invasive species
- CAISIE Invasive Species Alerts, Biosecurity Leaflet & Poster for Boaters & Anglers
- IFI Corporate Plan
- Something Fishy Activity Worksheets for Schools
- IFI Licence Applications & Certificates

During 2011 IFI engaged with anglers, the general public and other stakeholders through social media outlets. Twitter and Facebook are now extensively used to share information with a wider audience than more traditional routes permit. In September, the angling portal, www.fishinginireland.info, incorporated a Wordpress blog to enhance the issuing of angling reports. This approach to publishing up to date fisheries information has been well received by users of the site.

Websites

IFI manages 10 websites; a corporate site, 4 angling portals and 5 project specific sites, 3 of which are part of a requirement of the funding bodies. In 2011, 375,370 unique visitors accessed 2,969,811 pages at these sites:

Corporate website

- www.fisheriesireland.ie

Angling portals

- www.fishinginireland.info
- www.pecheenirlande.info (French)
- www.visseninierland.info (Dutch)
- www.angelnirland.info (German)

Project sites

- www.caisie.ie
- www.celticseatrout.com
- www.faw.ie
- www.mulkearlif.com
- www.wfdfish.ie

Sponsorship Programme

A pilot sponsorship programme which aims to advance awareness of the inland fisheries resource, recreational angling and the work of IFI was run during 2011. Angling competitions, national angling teams, a heritage DVD and other projects received financial support totalling €14,875. In addition, the value of staff support to events and prizes donated amounted to approximately €75,000. The list of events/ items to which IFI awarded support is available on the IFI corporate website (www.fisheriesireland.ie).



Figure 15. Inspector Matt Nolan presenting the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland (NCFFI's) Pat Dalton with sponsorship for the NCFFI Juvenile Interprovincial Competition and International Juveniles Programme

Angling for Youth Development (AFYD) – Ireland

Angling for Youth Development Ireland is IFI's proposed new angling outreach programme. The programme is run on a modular basis introducing young people (and others) to angling and angling related topics such as fisheries habitat, flies, fly-tying etc., which can culminate in a recognised qualification. Given the nature of angling in Ireland and the fantastic resources in the many federations and clubs, it is hoped that all those interested in developing angling will support this initiative by participating as coaches and helpers, and by fund raising and through the provision of angling waters.

A pilot programme based on AFYD in Scotland is being established by IFI in partnership with the Angling Council of Ireland (ACI), sports partnerships bodies, An Garda Síochána and private individuals. AFYD Ireland can be run locally by any group of interested individuals who are appropriately trained and have the enthusiasm and interest to develop youth through angling activities.

Dublin Angling Initiative

The Dublin Angling Initiative (DAI) had a successful year with 747 young people participating in the 3 day summer angling courses. Angling has proven to be a constructive pastime that attracts teenagers from all walks of life and the DAI continues to work with young people from National and Secondary schools, summer projects and youth services throughout Dublin City Centre and its suburbs. A youth fishing stand and family education area was organised at the 2011 National Angling show in Swords and was the largest stand at the exhibition. The stand proved very successful in creating huge interest in angling for families and novice anglers alike.

External Networking and Partnering

Stakeholder Engagement

IFI works continuously with its stakeholders and partners to deliver its remit. Strong links are maintained with the many angling federations across the country. IFI also has representatives on Liason Entre Actions pour le Développement d'Economie Rurale a Rural Development Programme (LEADER) Boards part-funded by the EU with funding administered by Local Action Groups who support projects within their areas), Regional Assemblies, Fáilte Ireland Tourism Groups and other regional and local bodies.

Rural Recreation

IFI contributed to the development of the National Rural Recreational Strategy, an initiative to develop outdoor recreation on State lands and State owned waters led by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG). One key benefit of the plan is that State Agencies will work together to help promote each other's activities, so that cost savings may be made through a shared knowledge base and increased efficiencies.

24 Hour Hotline

On December 1st, 2010, Inland Fisheries Ireland launched its 24 hour confidential Hotline through which callers can report on poaching, pollution and invasive species to IFI. During 2011 the number has been advertised on angling magazines, IFI's websites, press releases and all emails.

In 2011 464 calls were made to IFI's 24 hour confidential phone line 1890 34 74 24 or, for easier recall, 1890 FISH 24. 51% of these related to illegal fishing, 25% to water quality issues and the remaining 24% were general queries about IFI or angling in Ireland. The calls are relayed to appropriate IFI staff on the ground for action.

Logistics

Logistics – An Introduction

The Logistics Division of Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) manages a number of diverse areas within the organisation on a national basis. The main focus of the Division is the provision of Field Support services to all field staff, including equipment, instruments and information, the operation and coordination of the procurement function for nationally purchased items in line with the national procurement requirements, and the provision of expertise to all Divisions in the area of public procurement, along with the management of fleet, facilities maintenance, security and the servicing of all equipment and facilities for IFI. The Division also administers the information and legislative requirements of the Salmon Management programme including management of the annual salmon regulations, the salmon tagging scheme, the logbook scheme and statistical annual reporting on salmon licensing and catch. It also provides a health and safety service to the organisation.

Property and Facilities

Upon the establishment of IFI the properties and facilities of the former Central and Regional Fisheries Boards came under the direct management of the Logistics Division. In terms of properties the key focus in 2011 was conducting an assessment of all of IFI's properties and identifying areas where key upgrades were necessary, and also identifying where surplus or deficit properties existed. In relation to the headquarters in Swords sanction was received from our parent Department to serve notice on the landlords of our intention to break out of the lease in 2012.

In terms of facilities the establishment of IFI provided an opportunity to begin the process of managing facilities on a national basis. In this regard the provision of utilities (ESB and Gas) were streamlined to effect savings, and reviews were undertaken of the facilities management issues and providers across the board with a view to streamlining and effecting further savings and efficiencies.

Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme

2011 was the eleventh year of the wild salmon and sea trout tagging scheme which IFI plans, implements and monitors. IFI was involved in strategy development, legislation review and provision of services and advice to enable the roll out of changes to the comprehensive management of Ireland's inland salmon resource.

In 2011, based on scientific advice, management recommended the closure for salmon and sea trout fishing of 62 rivers¹ and the opening of 86 Rivers (including catch and release² options). A system of brown gill tags was in operation in select rivers where it was considered necessary to ensure river based quotas were not exceeded by angling exploitation.

24% of all salmon angling licences were sold online in 2011 through IFI's online licence sales website www.salmonlicence.ie and automated licence sales distributors. The Bradán Database is the information technology tool used to capture salmon licensing and catch information. IFI's database www.fisheriesireland.ie holds commercial and recreational salmon and sea trout catch information which is collated and analysed each year and a

¹ Conservation of salmon and sea trout bye-law no. c.s. 306-2010, 307, 308-2011

² Conservation of salmon and sea trout bye-law no. 873, 874, 875, 876, 877-2010, 878, 879, 880, 893-2011

comprehensive report on the salmon management regime is produced. The annual Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Statistics report is available on the IFI website www.fisheriesireland.ie).

Table 6. Details of Salmon Catch for 2010 and 2011

2010 and 2011 Salmon Catch		
	2010	2011
Total salmon catch	51,637	44,967
Commercial salmon harvest	14,159	11,973
Salmon angling harvest	22,336	20,306
Salmon caught and released	15,142	12,688

There was a 13% decrease in the total number of salmon harvested between 2010 and 2011. The commercial salmon harvest decreased by 15.5% in 2011 when compared to 2010 (see Appendix 10 for full details). The salmon angling harvest has decreased by 9% whilst salmon caught and released decreased by 16.2% compared to 2010.

Table 7. Details of the licence sales and log book returns for 2010 and 2011

Licence and Logbooks Returns for 2010 and 2011		
	2010	2011
Angling licences sold	17,983	19,899
% Logbook return	71%	72%
No. of nationalities who purchased licences	46	52

Salmon angling licence sales increased by 10.6% in 2011 and logbook returns by 1% (see Appendix 8 and 9 for full details). Anglers from 6 additional nationalities purchased licences in 2011 as compared with 2010.

Procurement Services

The Logistics Division facilitates the tendering process for all major purchases for IFI. In 2011 a total of 14 invitations to tender for supplies/ services was posted on www.etenders.ie in respect of the following goods and services:

- Fuel card system for all of IFI's road fleet
- Contract for weed control operations at Lough Corrib
- Contract for N6 phase 2 stream enhancement project
- Supply of oxygen monitoring system at Roscrea fish farm
- Supply of large panel type van
- Supply of 7 x 4x4 SUV type passenger/ commercial type vehicles
- Supply of 6 4/5 door medium size passenger type vehicles
- Supply of 100 personal flotation devices (pfd's) for Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) operations
- Supply of hessian/ jute material for weed control projects
- Contract for production of signage for IFI
- Contract for production of films/ DVDs for IFI promotions
- Supply of 8 tonne mini hydraulic excavator for the Shannon River Basin District
- Supply of electro fishing equipment
- Supply of covert CCTV equipment for surveillance operations.

In all, 13 of the tenders were completed for supplies/ services. The tender for supply of the large panel van was put on hold as part of the fleet rationalisation.

Road Vehicle Fleet

In 2011 as part of the vehicle fleet replacement policy 17 vehicles were purchased at a total cost of €396,270 for distribution throughout the River Basin Districts. In line with the decrease in staff numbers and the rationalisation of the IFI fleet, the number of vehicles was decreased from 241 to 221.

Personal Protective Equipment and Services to the IFI River Basin Districts (RBDs)

The Division also coordinates the maintenance and management of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), safety equipment and general field equipment for IFI staff. This ensures the availability of functional serviced equipment for the field operational staff. In addition to coordinating the purchase and maintenance of all of IFI's PPE, staff in the Division provide a number of other technical specialist services to other parts of IFI's business including but not limited to:

- Provision of marine safety notices and marine advisory service
- Technical certification and safety of all sea going Rigid Inflatable Boats (RIBs)
- Design and build consultancy for all new boats
- Technical specification of specialist equipment.
- Audit of all of IFI's road fleet.

Health and Safety Management 2011

Composite Safety Statement

The IFI composite safety statement was completed and implemented from 1st July 2011. The statement comprises policies, statutory requirements and safe work practices. It is complemented by site specific risk assessments. 26 site risk assessments were completed in 2011.

The National Safety Committee

The National Safety Committee was formed in September 2011 and meets quarterly. The committee comprises safety representatives from each of the River Basin Districts, IFI Swords and senior management personnel. The Committee also includes the Health and Safety Executive, the Chief Executive Officer and the Head of Operations. The Committee is responsible for safety and health and welfare issues at a national level and from a strategic perspective.

Incident Reporting Statistics 2011

In 2011, 24 incidents were reported to the Health and Safety Executive of IFI, of which 9 were reported to the Health and Safety Authority (HSA). The number of incidents reported in each District ranges from 2 to 7 (see Figure 16). The Western River Basin District (WRBD) reported the most incidents. However, the number of incidents was roughly proportionate to the national average having considered the larger number of staff in the WRBD.

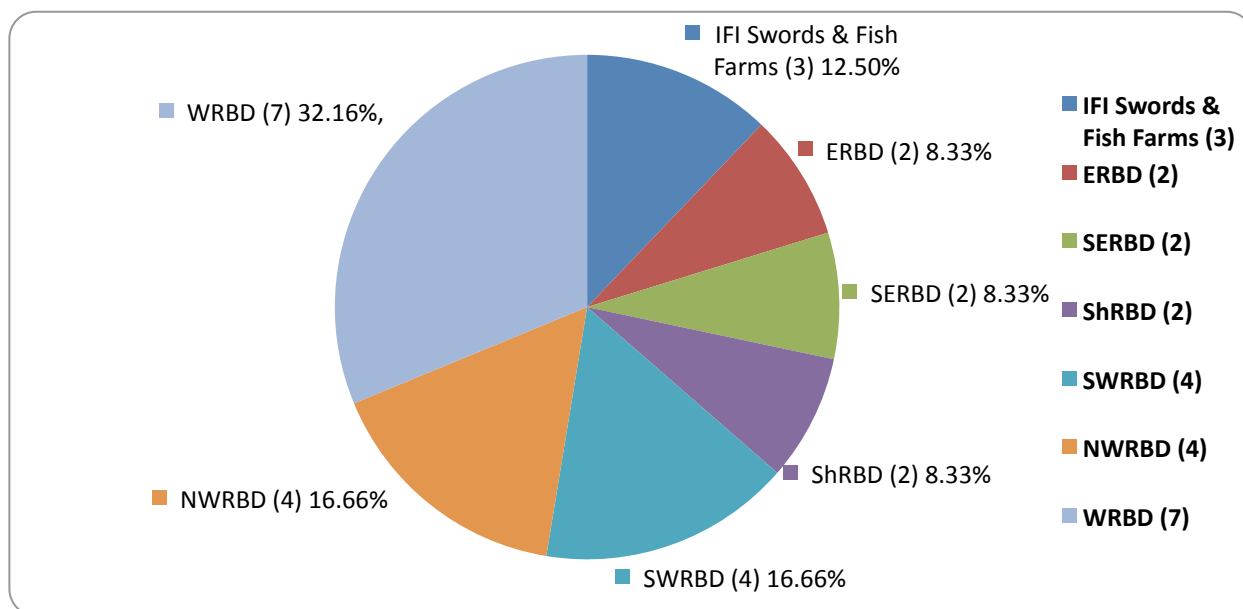


Figure 16. Incidents reported from IFI River Basin District's and Facilities

Human Resources

Human Resources – An Introduction

In 2011 the Human Resources Division concentrated on two key areas; the provision of human resources support and the provision of a learning and development support for Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI). The Division was also responsible for overseeing and meeting IFI's responsibilities in regard to the Freedom of Information Act (FOI Acts 1997 and 2003) and its Garda Vetting programme. Key areas of delivery were in the areas of organisational structural development, employee relations, centralised recruitment, headcount management and the provision of a comprehensive Learning and Development Programme.

The Division was led by the Head of Human Resources, Kieran Murphy and assisted by the HR operations and the learning and development managers.

2011 was a particularly challenging year for the Division. This was against the backdrop of the continued integration of the service into a national organisation, the staffing restrictions in place by way of the recruitment moratorium, and the Employment Control Framework (ECF). In addition, the demands associated with the Croke Park Agreement, the National Recovery Plan and, laterally, the Public Sector Reform Plan continued. During 2011 IFI met its targets and requirements related to these programmes while maintaining stable employee relations. A draft revised operational structure for IFI was developed and submitted to the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform for consideration.

Training & Development

The IFI annual National Training Plan was agreed for 2011 and delivered during the period. A key focus during 2011 was the development of a strategic training plan for the period 2012-2015. This plan will provide a schedule of training based on operational and functional requirements for each River Basin District (RBD) and Division and will include:

- Core operational training modules such as the IFI Staff Scheme, Induction Training, Fisheries Law, Conflict Resolution, Expert Witness training
- Health & Safety, Corporate Compliance, specific role related skills such as Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) Operations, Personal Survival training, Management Programmes
- Government and Business initiatives.

As part of the implementation of the strategic training plan, discussions were held with the Garda College in relation to the provision of training for IFI staff. Work is being progressed with the college to develop a training programme dealing with conflict management in line with fisheries legislation, and law enforcement.

The following training programmes were delivered in 2011 under the National Training Plan:

- Personal Survival Techniques and RIB Capsize Training
- Kayak Training
- Electrofishing Training
- Child Protection Awareness Training
- Occupational First Aid Training
- Chainsaw Training
- Corporate Governance Training
- Safe Pass Training
- Manual Handling Training

- Minute Taking Training
- Induction Training - 32 Seasonal Staff.

Freedom of Information

Eleven Freedom of Information (FOI) requests were received in 2011, three from business and interest groups and eight from the general public. Of the eleven requests three were in relation to personal matters and eight to non-personal issues.

Of the total received eight requests were granted, two were part granted, and one withdrawn and dealt with outside of the FOI process.

Garda Vetting

The Human Resources Development Manager is the authorised signatory within IFI for Garda Vetting purposes and processes all Garda Vetting applications received. During 2011 a total of 166 applications were processed.

Employee Relations

Despite the difficult budgetary and staffing circumstances in which IFI currently operates employee relations have been managed in an effective manner. Open lines of communication have been maintained with staff and trade unions. Significant progress has been made towards the provision of coordinated work wear, designed to contribute to and maintain the confidence of the public in IFI, and to support a professional image.

The sixth issue of the IFI Staff Newsletter was published in December 2011. This has been particularly successful in keeping all staff up-to-date with developments within the organisation.

Recruitment

The Government's moratorium on recruitment remained in place during 2011, and IFI was therefore not in a position to engage in any external recruitment apart from the appointment of thirty two temporary seasonal protection staff. Sanction for these appointments for a period of four months, was received in May 2011. The recruitment was conducted centrally by staff from the Human Resources Division by way of open competition.

Internal realignment/ redeployment occurred in relation to a number of roles including that of River Basin District Director.

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: €134,523 to €153,885.

Finance & ICT

Finance & ICT – An Introduction

The remit of the Finance & Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Division is to provide a comprehensive set of Financial and ICT systems which are adaptive and flexible enough to meet the evolving demands of IFI and also robust enough to meet the highest standards of corporate governance.

The overall merging of both the accounting and the ICT functions of the eight administrative offices has been an on-going and successful project. Improvements to the accounting package during 2011 facilitated management to be able to view and interrogate monthly management accounts remotely, that is to say there is no requirement to be within an IFI office to examine the accounts, these can be examined by staff from anywhere that has access to the Internet.

Financial Management

General Financial Management

IFI's inaugural accounts for the six months ended 31st of December 2010 were fully audited by the end of 2011. IFI's 2011 financial accounts will be submitted to the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources by the 29th of February 2012 and to the Minister and the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) by the 31st of March 2012 in full compliance with statutory obligations.

Internal Audit

RSM McClure Watters were appointed Internal Auditors following their success in a competitive tender process. Two internal audits were carried out in 2011, one in relation to the Human Resources Division which examined recruitment, the managing of attendance and the managing of staff leaving the organisation. The second internal audit examined the financial controls that are in place covering the key financial systems in the areas of payroll, expenses, treasury management, budgeting and payments.

Funding for 2011

In 2011 IFI received an exchequer grant of €24.95 million, of which €17.6 million was allocated towards pay costs. IFI also generated €5.2 million from other sources during 2011, which was reinvested in the management, conservation and protection of the inland fisheries resource.

An additional €0.6 million was generated from the Salmon Conservation Stamp fund during 2011. This fund is due for disbursement in 2012 for reinvestment in the management, conservation and protection of inland fisheries.

€1.1 million was invested in capital items with the biggest single item of expenditure being on vehicles of €396,270. To improve efficiencies of operational staff, €90,000 was expended on the latest surveillance technologies including covert close circuit television cameras (CCTV), night sights and thermal imaging equipment.

Pension calculations - retirement

Within the government decision to reduce public service pay in 2010, provision was made so that for the purposes of pension calculations, for staff retiring before 29

February 2012, the non-reduced salary prior to 1 January 2010 would be applied. As a consequence of this a substantial number of staff requested pension calculations to determine the financial difference between their retiring prior to 29 February 2012 and after that date. The Finance Division completed all required calculations. The Finance Division in conjunction with the HR Division held an information day for all staff who were contemplating early retirement.

Corporate Governance

In 2011 the Division developed and finalised five new corporate governance policies for IFI:

- Policy on Internal Financial Controls and Treasury Management
- Purchasing and Public Procurement Policy
- Travel and Expenses Policy
- Code of Business Conduct for Employees
- Register of Interests for Board Members.

Five existing policies were updated and two others produced to a final draft stage. The inaugural annual report for the six months ended 31 December 2010 was submitted to the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources by the statutory deadline.

Five audit committee meetings were held in 2011.

IFI have endeavoured to comply with the Prompt Payments Act and a progress report can be found on the website and at Table 5 of the Appendices to this report.

Corporate Plan

The IFI 2011 to 2015 Corporate Plan was prepared and submitted to the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources as required by the 2010 Inland Fisheries Act. The plan was approved by the Minister and is available in the public domain and on the IFI website.

Corporate Day

IFI held its first Corporate Day in October 2011 during which staff were apprised of the scope of IFI's five year corporate plan and a range of other issues of importance to IFI, including dissemination of the organisation's Health & Safety statement. Staff had provided inputs to the development of the plan via focus group meetings which were held in late 2010. During the national meeting the CEO, Dr Ciaran Byrne provided feedback as to how staff inputs were considered and incorporated into the corporate plan and he also outlined the key priorities contained in the plan and how they will be delivered.

Information and Communications Technology

ICT Strategy/ Systems

Full connectivity between all the River Basin Districts was achieved in early 2011, with all offices now fully linked from an IT architecture perspective. Webmail and online accounts facilities are being introduced by the ICT section.

Extra storage capacity was created following the installation of a Storage Area Network (SAN). This additional storage technology enabled IFI to virtualise most of its physical server infrastructure located in its data centre.

An audit of the organisations back office software licences took place and compliance was achieved through a combination of in house auditing and external vendor collaboration.

On-going ICT support was maintained to a high level for the River Basin District offices as well as the Sword's office throughout the year. A number of *ad hoc* projects were completed by the ICT section including the installation of a new eel database.

INLAND FISHERIES IRELAND					
DRAFT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2011					
	Notes	2011		2010	
		€	€	€	€
Income					
State and EU Funding					
Operating grants		24,946,450		14,053,290	
Net deferred funding for pensions	12c	3,953,587	28,900,037	5,465,600	19,518,890
Other Income	2b		5,287,770		2,119,061
Transfer from / (to) Capital Account	10		967,111		(997,777)
			4,918		20,640,174
Expenditure					
Administration			8,088		4,383,117
Operations			17,660		18,164,787
			5,748		22,547,904
Surplus / (Deficit) brought in at formation of					3,885,154
Surplus / (Deficit) at 1 January			7,424		0
Surplus / (Deficit) at period end			19,170		(1,907,730)
			6,594		1,977,424
DRAFT STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2011					
		2011		2010	
		€		€	
(Deficit)/surplus for the period		2,189,170		(1,907,730)	
Experience losses / (gains) on pension scheme liabilities		(3,592,000)		(1,761,000)	
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of pension scheme liabilities		6,188,000		(7,553,000)	
Actuarial Loss / (gain) on pension liabilities	12b	2,596,000		(9,314,000)	
Adjustment to Deferred Pension Funding		(2,596,000)		9,314,000	
Total Recognised (loss)/gain for the period		2,189,170		(1,907,730)	
The Statement of Accounts is approved by the Board of Inland Fisheries Ireland on this day of Financial Statements					
Chief Executive			Date		
Board Member			Date		

Glossary of Terms

Anadromous fish Fish born in fresh water which spends most of its life in the sea and return to fresh water to spawn eg salmon, smelt, shad, striped bass, and sturgeon are common examples. *opp* catadromous: does the opposite - lives in fresh water and enters salt water to spawn. Most eels are catadromous.

Bunding Structure to prevent water ingress

Crump Weir Generally a weir designed with a specific slope to accommodate a fish counter

DCENR the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources

DoF the Department of Finance

Electro Fishing The utilisation of the reaction of fish to electrical fields in water for facilitating fish capture.

Fish Counters Electronic device used to determine the number of fish migrating past a particular location. See Vaki, Logie, Partial Counters below.

Logie Resistivity fish counter placed across a weir to count fish moving upstream or downstream.

MI Marine Institute

NPWS National Parks and Wildlife Service

OPW the Office of Public Works

Partial Counter Fish counter which only covers part of the River width or counts only part of the fish run.

Put and Take Fisheries Fisheries where hatchery trout are stocked at a catchable size to create recreational angling.

PIT Tag A Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tag is an encoded wire tag attached to a fish which and can be read remotely using a pit tag reader based on radio frequency technology.

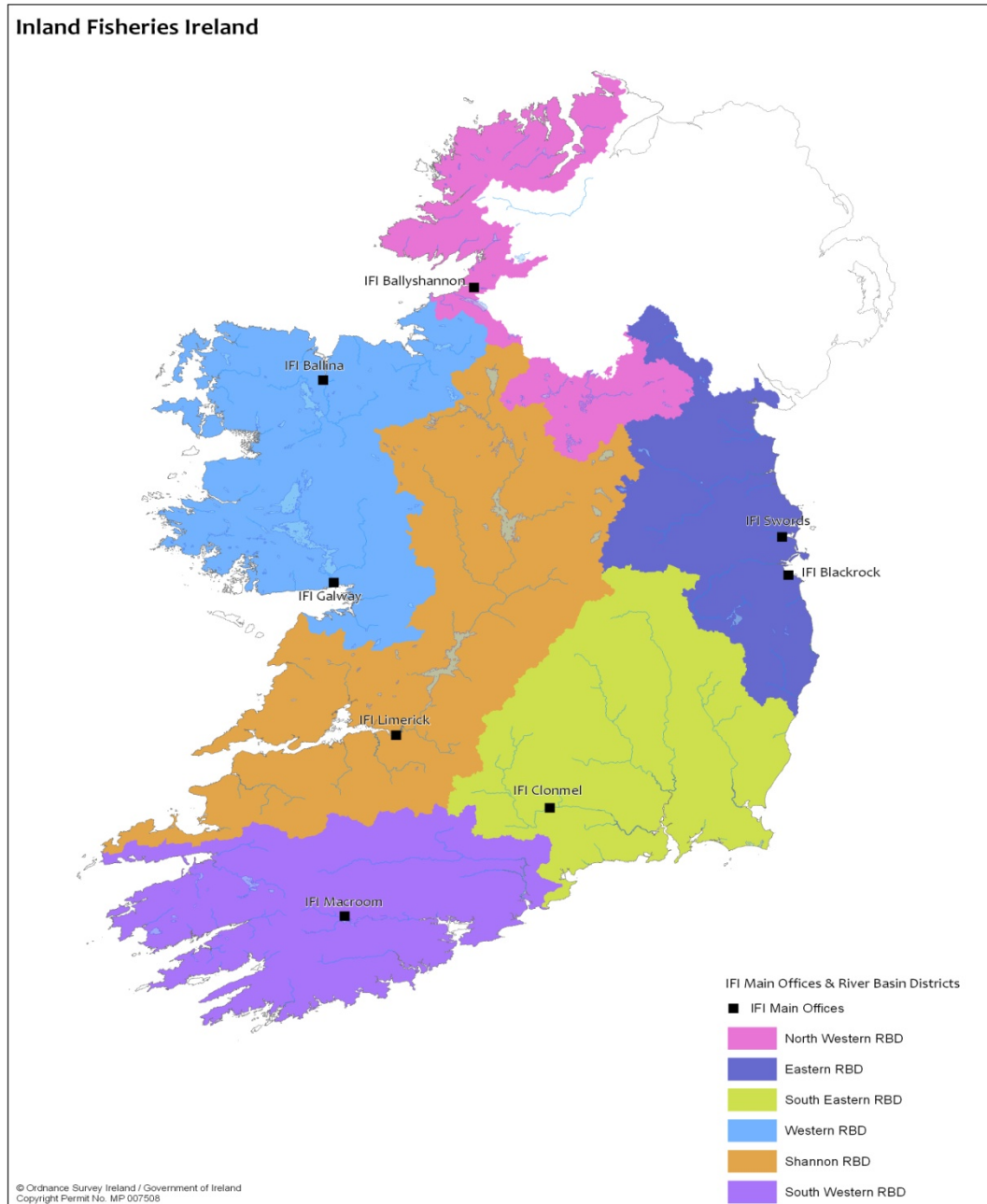
RBD River Basin District.

Standing Scientific Committee for Salmon purpose is to offer independent scientific advice to IFI on Eels and Salmon.

Vaki Infra-red fish counter used in narrow locations such as a fish pass to count salmon and sea trout.

WFD Water Framework Directive.

Appendices



Appendix 1. Inland Fisheries Ireland main offices and River Basin District Map

		IFI Blackrock	IFI Clonmel	IFI Macroom	IFI Limerick	IFI Galway	IFI Ballina	IFI Ballyshannon	Total
In stream Spawning/ Enhancement									
No. Rivers Streams Developed	No.	5	1	1	10	35	7	2	61
Length of River and Stream Enhanced	Km	2	4.5	3	30	7	12	3.5	62
Angling Development									
No. of Angling Facility Enhancement Projects	No.	3	0	2	3	2	2	3	15
Investment in Angling Facility Enhancement	€	12,000	0	1,500	80,100	10,000	13,000	135,000	251,600
Angling Pools Created	No.	5	0	0	60	1	8	0	74
Stiles, Footbridges, Platforms Etc.	No.	15	0	3	11	103	13	108	253
Additional Fishing Spaces Created	No.	20	0	0	80	0	0	0	100
Coarse Fish Transferred within the Region	No.	500	0	0	600	2,455	1,125	93	4,773
Bank Clearance/ Habitat Enhancement	Km	1.3	0	0	4	21	22	10	58.3
Surveys									
Salmonid Surveys	No.	10	3	6	25	65	3	23	135
Coarse Fish Surveys	No.	2	0	0	3	0	0	2	7
Other	No.	4	0	5	37	4	1	2	53

Appendix 2. Fisheries Development and Surveys undertaken during 2011

		IFI Blackrock	IFI Clonmel	IFI Macroon	IFI Limerick	IFI Galway	IFI Ballina	IFI Ballyshannon	Total
Pollution Control									
Reported Fish Kills	No.	7	4	8	9	0	1	2	31
Fish Kills Caused by Agriculture	No.	1	2	2	3	0	0	0	8
Fish Kills Caused by Industry	No.	1	0	4	0	0	0	1	6
Fish Kills Caused by Local Authority	No.	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Other	No.	5	2	2	6	0	0	0	15
Warning Letters Issued	No.	27	333	104	20	5	11	50	550
Pollution Prosecutions Initiated	No.	3	2	7	3	0	0	1	16
Water Quality									
Water Samples Taken	No.	52	260	168	1,489	226	776	532	3,503

Appendix 3. Pollution Control and Water Quality Report for 2011

		IFI Blackrock	IFI Clonmel	IFI Macroom	IFI Limerick	IFI Galway	IFI Ballina	IFI Ballyshannon	Total
Fish Stocking									
Brown Trout Stocked	No.	1,000	0	0	0	1,000	3,850	0	5,850
Salmon Stocked	No.	0	0	0	*345,000	**70,000	0	0	415,000
Rainbow Trout Stocked	No.	1,500	0	41,610	1,950	2,000	3,077	0	50,137
Coarse Fish Stocked	No.	750	0	0	691	2,455	1,125	0	5,021
Total		3,250	0	41,610	347,641	75,455	8,052	0	476,008
IFI Swords Stocking to RBDs									
Brown Trout Fry	No.	0	0	0	300,000	0	0	0	300,000
Brown Trout 1 Year old	No.	0	0	0	55,200	1,000	0	0	56,200
Brown Trout 2 Year old	No.	1,000	0	0	17,800	2,000	3,850	0	24,650
Rainbow Trout 1 Year old	No.	0	0	41,610	9,310	0	3,077	0	53,997
Rainbow Trout 2 Year old	No.	1,500	0	0	250	0	0	0	1,750
Total		2,500	0	41,610	382,560	3,000	6,927	0	436,597

* IFI Limerick: 345,000 Atlantic Aquatic Resource Conservation (AARC) project eggs from brood stock for genetic purposes.

** IFI Galway: includes 60,000 salmon smolts and 10,000 salmon parr.

Appendix 4. Fish Stocking Report for 2011

Rod Angling Licences issued		IFI Blackrock	IFI Clonmel	IFI Macroom	IFI Limerick	IFI Galway	IFI Ballina	IFI Ballyshannon	Total
Salmon/ Sea Trout	No.	1,086	1,459	4,862	1,252	2,366	5,742	3,132	19,899
Commercial Licences issued									
Salmon									
(Drift Net)	No.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Draft Net	No.	6	0	42	0	16	5	15	84
CFO Draft	No.	0	0	0	49	0	0	0	49
Special Local Draft Net	No.	0	0	0	9	0	23	8	40
Snap Net	No.	0	87	7	0	0	0	0	94
Other	No.	0	0	*1	0	0	24	**22	47
Totals	No.	6	87	50	58	16	52	45	314
Salmon/ Trout Dealers	No.	54	24	0	17	14	17	15	171
Eels Dealers	No.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Molluscs Dealers	No.	64	24	0	30	10	5	6	165
IFI Managed Fisheries									
Fisheries Managed	No.	2	0	16	18	4	8	8	56
Rod Days	No.	1,500	0	***0		2,373	3,662	996	8,531
Revenue	€	1,000	0	156,021	99,012	149,407	172,184	42,441	620,065

* IFI Macroom 'Other' Commercial Licence' is in respect of 1 Box/Crib licence.

** IFI Ballyshannon, 'Other' Commercial Licence is in respect of 22 Oyster Licences.

*** Rod Days in IFI Macroom are undeterminable due to the sale of multi day and annual permits.

Appendix 5. Fishing Licences and RBD Managed Fisheries in 2011

		IFI Blackrock	IFI Clonmel	IFI Macroom	IFI Limerick	IFI Galway	IFI Ballina	IFI Ballyshannon	Total
Protection & Surveillance									
Short Duration Boat Patrols	Man Hours	8,574	3,528	1,658	3,750	4,329	1,960	2,775	26,574
Net Seized	Metres	865	4,645	6,307	4,001	5,003	4,122	5,268	30,211
Boats Seized	No.	2	2	1	2	0	2	5	14
Prosecutions Initiated	No.	13	4	30	23	4	20	75	169

Appendix 6. Protection and Surveillance Report for 2011

IFI Staffing Full Time Equivalent (FTE) 2011			
Permanent Staff (FTE)		No.	313.85
Exchequer Funded Temporary Staff (FTE)		No.	18.4
Project Funded Staff (EU or other)		No.	9
Total Staff (FTE)			341.25

Appendix 7. IFI Staffing at 31st December 2011

Region	Salmon & Sea Trout Angling Licences Sold	Salmon & Sea Trout Logbook Returns	*% Logbook Returns
IFI Blackrock	1,086	980	90%
IFI Clonmel	1,459	1,152	79%
IFI Macroom	4,862	3,618	74%
IFI Limerick	1,252	911	73%
IFI Galway	2,366	1,716	73%
IFI Ballina	5,742	4,146	72%
IFI Ballyshannon	* 3,132	1,891	60%
National	19,899	14,414	72%

*22 Oyster Licences sold by IFI Ballyshannon are excluded from the licences sold figure, Logbook returns are not required in this category.

Appendix 8. Salmon and Sea Trout Angling Licence and Logbook Returns for 2011

Licence Category	Annual A	District B	Juvenile P	21 Day R	1 Day S	Foyle Ext W	Special Local W	Region Total
IFI Blackrock	521	366	55	83	57	4	0	1,086
IFI Ballyshannon	212	990	207	426	453	667	177	3,132
IFI Limerick	237	801	94	57	63	0	0	1,252
IFI Clonmel	299	881	80	151	48	0	0	1,459
IFI Macroom	756	2,050	298	1,035	721	2	0	4,862
IFI Ballina	507	2,125	413	1,662	863	172	0	5,742
IFI Galway	365	664	145	616	569	7	0	2,366
National	2,897	7,877	1,292	4,030	2,774	852	177	19,899

Appendix 9. Salmon and Sea Trout Angling Licence Sales in each RBD for 2011

Fishery District	Engine/Type	River	Salmon Caught	Sea Trout Caught	Total Reported Salmon & Sea Trout Catch
Dundalk	Draft Net	Castletown	25	0	25
Waterford	Snap Net	Nore	1,490	10	1,500
Waterford	Snap Net	Suir	566	3	569
Lismore	Draft Net	Blackwater (Munster)	169	2	171
Lismore	Snap Net	Blackwater (Munster)	717	0	717
Cork	Draft Net	Bandon	65	0	65
		Ilen	64	1	65
		Lee (Cork)	1,239	8	1,247
Kerry	Draft Net	Caragh	0	0	0
		Inny (Knockmoyle)	35	3	38
		Laune	1,824	15	1,839
		Owenmore (Brandon)	157	3	160
		Roughty	177	0	177
		Castlemaine Harbour	697	2	699
Limerick	CFO Draft Net	Feale	2,015	13	2,028
Ballinakill	Draft Net	Owenglen	14	0	14
		Dawros	30	0	30
		Culfin	91	0	91
		Killary Harbour	377	0	377
Bangor	Draft Net	Combined estuary	422	0	422
		Owenduff	569	0	569
		Glenamoy	44	0	44
		Owenmore	600	0	600
		Newport River	19	0	19
Ballyshannon	Draft Net	EanyRiver	78	1	79
Letterkenny	Draft Net	Gweebarra	158	0	158
	Special Local Draft Net	Owenea/Owentocker	331	0	331
Totals			11,973	61	12,034

Appendix 10. Commercial Salmon and Sea Trout catches by River from Log Book returns 2011

	No's Tagged To Dec. 2011	Numbers Recaptured to Dec. 2011	% Return	Days at Liberty	Dist. Travelled (Miles)	Numbers Tagged in 2011
Blue Shark	18,934	833	4.46%	2-2,887	0-4,250	238
Porbeagle Shark	165	7	4.38%	71-3,947	89-2,300	5
Thresher Shark	1	0	0	0	0	0
Tope	6,929	436	6.63%	28-6,587	0-2,185	349
Monkfish	1,027	190	18.50%	0-4,525	0-720	0
Common Skate	1,215	160	13.38%	0-3,257	0-120	19
Long Nosed Skate	3	0	0	0	1	0
White Skate	21	1	4.76%	975	3	0
Blonde Ray	714	117	16.39%	26-1,871	0-45	0
Undulate Ray	1,098	55	5.03%	0-2,676	0-60	4
Thornback Ray	9,880	285	2.92%	0-2,190	0-80	107
Painted Ray	270	13	4.96%	13-1,398	0-20	8
Homelyn Ray	358	13	3.68%	294-1,373	0-72	5
Spurdog	196	0	0	0	0	24
Bass	1,805	56	3.10%	0-1,373	0-88	0
Mullet	311	5	1.61%	0-275	0-200	0
Flounder	287	30	10.45%	0-738	0-3.5	0
Sting Ray	41	0	0	0	0	1
Bull Huss	111	5	4.81%	103-1,499	0-125	7
Dabs	43	2	4.65%	378	2	0
Smooth Hound	147	2	1.56%	0	0	19
Plaice	5	1	20,%	70	0	0
Bluefin Tuna	11	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	43,572	2,211	0	0	0	786
Total Fish Tagged to date : 43,572						

Appendix 11. Tagging and Recapture of Marine Species to December 2011

Details	Number	Value €	Percentage of total number of payments made
Number of payments made within 15 days	7,868	€4,254,180	56%
Number of payments made within 16 days to 30 days	4,037	€2,547,060	29%
Total payments made in excess of 30 days	2,183	€2,025,954	15%
Total payments made in 2011	14,088	€8,827,194	100%

Appendix 12: Prompt Payments by IFI for 2011

Board Member	Mileage and Subsistence Expenses 2011
Brendan O'Mahony (Chairman)	6,626
Andrew Duncan ^{1,2}	3,189
Lal Faherty ¹	5,908
Dr. Frances Lucy ¹	3,439
John Carroll	4,344
John Geary ²	3,722
Michael McGreal ²	4,608
Marcus Mac Mahon ²	3,313
Muireann O'Neill ¹	5,760
Total	40,909
Some members also serve on Board Subcommittees:	
¹ denotes Audit Committee	
² denotes Property Committee	
*	


Appendix 13. Schedule of Fees and expenses paid to IFI Board Members in 2011

Date	IFI Office	District	No. Incidents in month	Nets/ Other	Metres of Net	Fish	Other
			011 SEIZURE	1 long line, 5 rods, 1 net			
Oct 11	IFI Blackrock	Drogheda	6		3m		
Nov 11	IFI Blackrock	Dundalk	1	2 nets	40m		Other
Jan 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	1	1 rod		16 coarse fish	
Mar 11	IFI Clonmel	Wexford	1	1 net	20m		
Apr 11	IFI Clonmel	East Waterford	2	4 fixed nets	150m		
Apr 11	IFI Clonmel	Wexford	1	1 fixed net	75m		
Feb 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	4	2 fixed nets	510m		
Mar 11	IFI Clonmel	East Waterford	2	2 fixed nets	300m		
May 11	IFI Clonmel	East Waterford	1	5 fixed nets	10m	1 bream over size	
Jun 11	IFI Clonmel	East Waterford	5	1 fixed net	75m		
Mar 11	IFI Clonmel	East Waterford	1	4 fixed nets, 2 stroke hauling rods	25m		
Jul 11	IFI Clonmel	East Waterford	1		10m		
Apr 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	2		3m	7 fish released	
Aug 11	IFI Clonmel	East Waterford	5	7 fixed nets	250m		
May 11	IFI Clonmel	East Waterford	8	20 stake nets	520m	11 salmon	
Sept 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	10	18 nets	50m	36 salmon	1 inflatable
Jun 11	IFI Clonmel	East Waterford	7	5 nets	1,400m		1 pair of waders
Sept 11	IFI Clonmel	Wexford district	9	2 nets	95m		
Jul 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	4	3 net	175m		
Oct 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	2		2m		1 trap/cage
Jul 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	2		250m	4 salmon	
Oct 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	1	1 net			
Jul 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	3	2 nets	75m		1 x 02 CN
Aug 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	2	2 nets	350m		registration
Nov 11	IFI Clonmel	West Waterford	1	3 nets	270m lines		vehicle, 2 baits
Aug 11	IFI Macroon	Kerry	3	17 rods		126 coarse fish	1 inflatable engine, 1 bait box, 2 bags,
Jan 11	IFI Macroon	Kerry	1	21 rods, 2 mono nets	295m	2 salmon, 78 coarse fish, 8 eel	
Apr 11	IFI Macroon	Cork	1		60m		
Sept 11	IFI Macroon	Cork	11		4m		
Sept 11	IFI Macroon	Cork	3	2 nets	120m		
May 11	IFI Macroon	Cork	1				
Oct 11	IFI Blackrock	Dundalk	2				

Date	IFI Office	District	No. Incidents in month	Nets/ Other	Metres of Net	Fish	Other
May 11	IFI Limerick	Lr Shannon, Tailrace, Fergus & Shannon Estuary, Creegh, Quilty, Portumna, Meelick, Kilglass	2	12 gill nets, 1 fyke net, 2 rods		16 eels released	1 Gang of 3
Jun 11			2				nets. (a gang is one unit of
Jun 11			4		400m		many nets
Jun 11			2				together eg one
Jul 11			14		1,375m		unit (gang) could have 3 or 5 nets in it.)
Jul 11	IFI Limerick	L. O'Flynn, Clonfert, Tailrace, Shannon Estuary, Feale, Galey, Creegh, Doonbeg	3	33 gill nets	150m, 50m		
Aug 11			38		597m		1 Boat
Aug 11	IFI Limerick	R. Cashen, Feale, Galey, Dromineer, Slevin's Lake, Carrick on Shannon, L, Brosna, Portumna	3	33 gill nets, 5 pike lines, 7 fyke nets, 3 rod and reel 1 fishing bag		30 kgs eels, 12 roach	1 Boat, 12 floating pike
Aug 11			7		550m		rigs,
Sept 11			37		289m		2 knives
Sept 11			1				
Sept 11	IFI Limerick	Cross River, R. Feale,	10	9 gill nets 5 night lines	74m		
Sept 11	IFI Limerick	L. Derg, L. Bridget	3	2 fyke nets	600m		2 Gangs of 8
Nov 11			3	1 gill net	220m		nets
Oct 11	IFI Galway	Ballinakill	1	2 nets	50m		
Jan 11			1		90m		
Nov 11	IFI Galway	Connemara	1	1 rod, 1 scoop net, 1 fyke net			
Nov 11			5		320m		1 holding tank
Feb 11	IFI Galway	Connemara	1			67 scallops	2 lamps
Feb 11	IFI Galway	Galway	1	1 net	40m		1 Boat
Mar 11	IFI Ballina	Bangor	5	2 nets	32m, 170m 270m		
Feb 11	IFI Ballina	Bangor	1	2 nets	139m		
Mar 11			12		139m		
May 11	IFI Galway	Connemara	1		40m	210 scallops	
Apr 11	IFI Galway	Connemara	2	2 nets	80m		
May 11			17		342m		
Apr 11	IFI Ballina	Bangor	4	5 nets	377m	1 sea trout	
Apr 11	IFI Galway	Ballinakill	18	2 nets	158m		

Aug 11	IFI Ballina	Bangor	10	14 nets	767m	18 salmon	
May 11			2		60m		4 hand lines
Aug 11	IFI Ballina	Ballina	3	3 nets	330m		
Jun 11			3		110m		
Date	IFI Office	District	No. Incidents in month	Nets/ Other	Metres of Net	Fish	Other
Sept 11	IFI Ballina	Ballina	2	2 nets	30m		
Sept 11	IFI Ballina	Sligo	2	1 net, 1 rod	275m		
Sept 11	IFI Ballina	Bangor	3	3 nets	390m		
Oct 11	IFI Ballina	Bangor	2	2 nets	80m		
Dec 11	IFI Ballina	Ballina	1	1 net	15m		
Jul 11			30		1,866m		
Feb 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Cavan	1	1 gill net	45m		
Aug 11			8		410m		
Mar 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Cavan	1	5 rod & reel	620m	2 pike	
Aug 11			2				
Mar 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Letterkenny	2	6 nets, 1 rod	153m		
Aug 11			6		350m		1 fish trap
Sept 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Cavan	1	10 gill nets, 3 rod & reel	300m	39 coarse fish	4 inflatable dinghies
Sept 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Letterkenny	3	1 rod	115m		
May 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Cavan	2	1 gill net, 3 lines	30m, 90m		
Sept 11			3		12m		
Nov 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Cavan	1	4 gill nets, 4 rod and reel	120m	2 pike, 3 coarse fish	
Mar 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Letterkenny	12	11 nets, 1 rod	390m		1 Dinghy
Mar 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Ballyshannon	1	5 mono nets	700m		
Apr 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Letterkenny	5	5 nets	150m		
May 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Ballyshannon	6	6 mono nets	860m	1 salmon	
May 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Cavan	4	1 gill net, 7 rod & reel	380m	1 pike, 19 coarse fish, 14 eels	1 Dinghy & 1 Pick-up truck
Aug 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Ballyshannon	3	7 mono nets	266m	1 salmon	
Jun 11			2			30kg of smoked eels and bream	
Aug 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Cavan	1				1 seized from a currach
Aug 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Letterkenny	2	20 nets, 3 rods	150m	5 salmon	
Sept 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Letterkenny	10	8 nets, 2 rods	235m		
Sept 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Cavan	4	3 rod & reel	820m	4 pike,	1 inflatable

Sept 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Cavan	4	3 rod & reel 1 gill net		4 pike , 75 coarse fish	1 inflatable dinghy
Oct 11	IFI Ballyshannon	Letterkenny	1	1 net	25m		



**Inland Fisheries Ireland
Swords Business Campus,
Swords,
Co. Dublin,
Ireland.**

**Web: www.fisheriesireland.ie
Email: info@fisheriesireland.ie
Tel: +353 1 8842 600
Fax: +353 1 8360 060**