

## Terms of Reference for the Pike & Wild Brown Trout Policy Review Group

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) is a national authority established under the Inland Fisheries Act 2010. Under Section 7.1 (b) & (c) of this act IFI is tasked with advising the Minister on policy and national strategies relating to inland fisheries including sea angling.

In 2014 IFI developed policies on the management of Wild Brown Trout, Pike and Bass. These policies were scheduled to be reviewed in 2017, however recognising the concerns of some stakeholders in relation to the pike and wild brown trout policies, the Board of IFI have decided to bring forward the review period for the pike and wild brown trout policies and commence the process in 2016. Given the interrelationship between pike and wild brown trout and the experiences from the initial policy development groups, it was decided to combine the review group and consider both policies in tandem.

The Pike & Wild Brown Trout Policy Review Group is comprised of a range of representatives from all disciplines within IFI. The IFI representatives on the group are;

Mr. Sean Long –Director, South Western River Basin District (Chairman)

Dr. Sam Sheppard – Population Modeler, IFI Research & Development

Mr. Declan Cooke – Inspector, Western River Basin District

MS Josie Mahon – Inspector, Eastern River Basin District

Mr. Paul O' Reilly – Economic Research & Angling Advisor, Business Development Division

Mr. Myles Kelly – Secretariat to Group, IFI

In reviewing the existing trout and pike policies the group shall have regard to the following:-

- (a) Best practice in the management of both species internationally;
- (b) Obligations on IFI under international and European legislative measures (e.g. Convention on Biodiversity, Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive, Fish Health Directive);

- (c) Obligations on IFI under national legislation including, but not limited to the Health & Safety Act 2015, Animal Health & Welfare Act 2013, Maritime Safety Act 2005;
- (d) Government policies and the legislative, budgetary and financial circumstances of IFI and the wider inland fisheries sector;
- (e) Relevant scientific studies on the inter relationship of the two species – pike and trout
- (f) The distribution of the angling resource and whether different policies are necessary in specific areas
- (g) The concerns of the wider angling sector
- (h) Corporate and other governance obligations relevant to the sector;

The revised policies will follow the best precautionary principles while being cognisant of enhancing and conserving the environment for all species. The group is requested to confine its work to a review of the existing policies, the implementation of the revised policies will be considered by IFI at a later stage.

IFI will provide a secretariat to the group. All documents, minutes, presentations, submissions relating to the work of the group will be made publicly available on the IFI website. The Chairman of the review group will be able to request any external experts or interested party to advise, present or join the group, as he deems appropriate, subject to budgetary and financial constraints.