

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND COMMUNICATIONS

INLAND FISHERIES ACTS 1959 TO 2017

CONSERVATION OF SALMON AND SEA TROUT (BAG LIMITS)

BYE-LAW NO. 997, 2022

I, Eamon Ryan, Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 57 of the Inland Fisheries Act 2010 (No. 10 of 2010) (as adapted by the Communications, Climate Action and Environment (Alteration of Name of Department and Title of Minister) Order 2020 (S.I. No. 373 of 2020)), hereby make the following bye-law:

1. (1) This Bye-law may be cited as the Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Bag Limits) Bye-Law No. 997 of 2022.

(2) This Bye-law comes into operation on 1 January 2023.

2. In this Bye-law:

“catch and release”, in relation to angling for salmon or sea trout in the waters to which this bye-law applies, means the careful handling of any fish caught and the immediate return of such fish alive to the water from which it was taken;

“fish” means salmon or sea trout or both;

“salmon” means fish of the species *Salmo salar* (Atlantic salmon);

“sea trout” means fish of the migratory form *Salmo trutta*, but does not include a sea trout which is 40 centimetres or less in length measured in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail.

3. Notwithstanding anything contained in any bye-law prohibiting the taking or having possession of more than a specified number of salmon or sea trout, a person shall not take by rod and line more than 10 fish in any year.

4. Subject to Article 6, it is prohibited for a person to take by rod and line in any year between 1 January and 11 May, more than 3 fish, and a person shall not take more than 1 fish on any day during that period, in the waters of a river mentioned in column (2) of Schedule 1 opposite the mention of a fishery district in column (1) of that Schedule.

5. Subject to Article 6, it is prohibited for a person to take by rod and line on any day in any year -

(a) between 12 May and 31 August, more than 3 fish, and

(b) between 1 September and the day immediately before the next annual close season for salmon and trout, more than 1 fish,

in the waters of a river mentioned in column (2) of Schedules 1 and 2 opposite the mention of a fishery district in column (1) of those Schedules.

6. Where a person has taken the number of fish permitted under this bye-law or fails to comply with Article 3 and Article 5 of the Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme Regulations (S.I. No. 585 of 2018), he or she is prohibited, in the waters of a river mentioned in column (2) of Schedules 1 and 2 opposite the mention of a fishery district in column (1) of those Schedules, to -

- (a) take by rod and line any fish other than by catch and release, and
- (b) in the course of angling, use or attempt to use worms as bait, or any fish hooks, other than single or double barbless hooks.

7. The Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Bag Limits) Bye-law No. 994, 2021 is revoked.

SCHEDULE 1

Article 4, 5, 6

Fishery District (1)	River (2)
No. 4 or Lismore District	Blackwater (Munster) including Glenshelane and Finisk
No. 5 or Cork District	Bandon Lower Lee Mealagh Owvane Coomhola Glengarriff Ilen
No. 7 or Kerry District	Roughy Sneem Waterville/Cummeragh/Currane Laune including Cottoners Maine Caragh Owenmore R. Sheen Croanshagh Ferta

No. 9 ⁽¹⁾ or Galway District	Corrib
No. 9 ⁽²⁾ or Connemara District	Ballynahinch (Owenmore) Cashla
No. 10 ⁽¹⁾ or Ballinakill District	Bundorragha (Delphi) Erriff Culfin Dawros Owenglin Bunowen Carrownisky
No. 10 ⁽²⁾ or Bangor District	Owenduff Owenmore Newport R (Lough Beltra) Carrowmore Lake
No. 11 or Ballina District	Moy Easkey

No. 12 or Sligo District	<p>Ballysadare</p> <p>Drumcliff</p>
No. 13 or Ballyshannon District	<p>Drowes</p> <p>Owenwee (Yellow)</p>
No. 14 or Letterkenny District	<p>Clady</p> <p>Gweedore (Crolly)</p> <p>Tullaghobegley</p> <p>Crana</p> <p>Owenea/Owentocker</p>
No. 17 ⁽²⁾ or Dundalk District	<p>Fane</p>

Schedule 2

(Open from 12th May)

Article 5, 6

Fishery District (1)	River (2)
No. 14 or Letterkenny District	Gweebarra

GIVEN under my hand,

16 December 2022.

EAMON RYAN

Minister for the Environment, Climate
and Communications.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This is not part of the Bye-law and does not purport to be a legal interpretation.)

This Bye-Law provides for an annual bag limit of 10 fish being either salmon or sea trout (over 40 cm) per angler and provides for a season bag limit of 3 fish in the period 1 January to 11 May, a daily bag limit of 3 fish from 12 May to 31 August and a daily bag limit of 1 fish from 1 September to the end of the season. The Bye-law also provides for the use of single or double barbless hooks and prohibits the use of worms as bait once the specified numbers of fish have been caught in the specified periods.

FOOTNOTE

Section 57 (7) of the Inland Fisheries Act, 2010 provides that any person aggrieved by this Bye-law may within 28 days after its publication in the *Iris Oifigiúil*, appeal against same to the High Court.