

**From:**  
**Sent:** Saturday 7 February 2026 14:09  
**To:** DCEE IFD Public Consultations  
**Subject:** Salmon tagging.

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Dear Sir, Madam,

I wish to submit my objection to the proposed tagging scheme for the Easkey River for 2026. I have been fishing the river for decades and a member of the River fish the river from anything between 30 - 50 days a season, depending on conditions. I have no doubt I am well qualified to voice an opinion.

The last 2 years, 2024/25 have seen the best run of Salmon and Sea Trout in a long time. I am not fully aware how IFI account for the numbers of fish in the system on which they decide on the status of the river for the coming season however I am certain of one thing, they are seriously mistaken.

If it is the case that they accessed the numbers of fish based on the log book returns for the year well that would be a deeply flawed and lazy metric. This method is therefore completely dependent on the number of anglers who will fish the river which in turn is completely dependent on water conditions as the Easkey river is a spate river, totally different from The Moy I might add. Furthermore, it is dependent on these anglers accounting for every fish they catch, which they do NOT. I myself am guilty of this, last year I killed and tagged 1 Salmon Grilse but returned alive 7 other Salmon and numerous Sea Trout. I was of the opinion that the sole reason for the log book was to record the tags used. I am not the only one, many anglers do not record released fish. Another method of accounting for fish caught is needed, one that will assist IFI and the Minister in coming to a realistic conclusion, not one that turns whole Angling and hospitality communities against them.

Kind regards,

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