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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Thursday 26 February 2026 11:30  
**To:** DCEF IFD Public Consultations  
**Subject:** FW: [Redacted]

FYI

Kind Regards,

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday 25 February 2026 16:18  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** [Redacted]

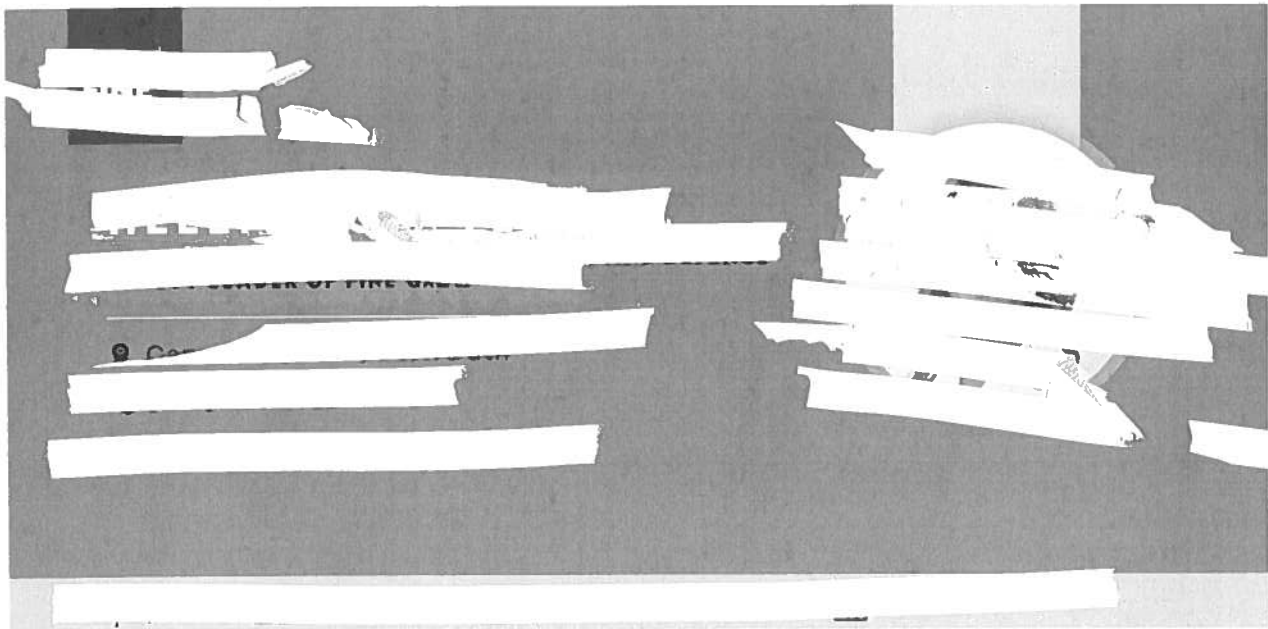
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[Redacted],

Please see below an e-mail from a constituent of [Redacted] regarding some concerns relating to the 2026 Draft Salmon and Seatrout regulations.

We look forward to your reply regarding these concerns,

Regards



**From**

**Sent:** Saturday 21 February 2026 16:07

**To:**

**Cairncroft.ie**; Gillian T...  
<aiding.dempsey@eircom.net>

**Subject:** Boyne Closure 2026 Draft Salmon and Seatrout regulations

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Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing as a resident of County Meath and a member of local community to express serious concern about the proposal by Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI), based on TEGOS advice, to fully close the River Boyne under the draft Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Regulations for 2026.

The Boyne is central to Meath's heritage and community life. Closing it to salmon fishing is not a minor regulatory change but a major local decision that will occur during your term representing this county. With the public consultation closing at 5.30 pm on Thursday, 5 March 2026, there is very limited time for proper scrutiny.

The river currently operates under catch-and-release, which IFI states can achieve near-100% survival when practiced correctly. Once rivers are fully closed, they rarely reopen. Closure would effectively remove lawful presence from the banks, leading to increased risk of poaching, reduced reporting of pollution, decline of voluntary habitat work, loss of funding, and weakened community engagement.

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Closure also risks significant social impacts. For many people, angling is not only a tradition but an important outdoor activity that supports physical and mental wellbeing. Removing access to a long-standing pastime may contribute to isolation, stress, and mental health difficulties, particularly for older anglers and those who rely on fishing as a primary recreational outlet.

It is also unclear why a well-regulated catch-and-release fishery — which IFI itself promotes as an effective conservation tool — should be replaced by full closure when major drivers of salmon decline such as marine survival, climate change, pollution, and habitat issues remain unaddressed.

I respectfully ask that you raise this matter urgently with \_\_\_\_\_ and seek clarification on:

- The evidence supporting full closure rather than continued catch-and-release
- How poaching and pollution will be monitored without anglers present
- Why the Boyne remained marked for closure despite changes to other rivers between draft regulations
- How community, economic, and wellbeing impacts have been considered

Maintaining the Boyne as a catch-and-release fishery, as in recent years, would protect fish stocks while preserving oversight, local stewardship, and public engagement.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue. I would appreciate confirmation that these concerns will be raised before the consultation deadline.

Yours sincerely,

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