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## ISFC Chairman's Review 2010



It is gratifying to report, in these challenging times, angling in Ireland continues to prosper. This is reflected in the number of specimen claims ratified (607) and new records established in 2010. Angling is a natural resource of immense importance for tourism revenue generation and the increasing numbers of specimens reported from Red Bay, in recent years, is evidence of the potential for further growth in this sector of the industry throughout this island.

In recent years the ISFC has introduced new methods of species identification for those limited number of species where identification required the presentation of a body for scientific analysis. High quality photography and, for some species, genetic techniques have become standard identification tools. In last years report we commented on the advances achieved towards this end through genetic fingerprinting and attendees at the ISFC Awards Day enjoyed the enlightening revelations of Dr. Stefano

Mariani and Dr. Brian Hayden in this regard. Traditionally species identification was based on meristic characters (distinguishable physical features) some of which required the submission of a body to the ISFC for scientific verification, a practice that presented a particular difficulty with many anglers. Genetic identification adopted by the ISFC for cyprinids in 2007 was introduced for shad from 2009. The technique has also proved informative with regard to smooth-hound; genetic analysis shows the existence of a single species in Irish waters not two as originally thought using physical indicators. The committee will continue to apply the original methods of species identification until satisfactory replacements have been established and agreed by committee for adoption.

Genetic identification has presented some challenges for positive cyprinid identification from some waters and a further review of all available evidence from 2009 and 2010 captures will be undertaken by a small expert group in 2011. Genetic analysis of specimen shad has also identified a significant, yet unexpected, level of shad hybridization which is adding much knowledge to our understanding of both twaite and allis shad biology. I must stress the importance of high quality photographs to support claims – several claims have been rejected in 2010 due to poor recording of the species detail requested. Guidance is provided so please do not skimp on photographs. I must also request that all photographs are properly tagged to identify the angler and the fish.

Again with conservation in mind, the ISFC acknowledges the difficulties presented for Irish boat anglers wishing to record specimen fish captured at sea, however, weight will continue to be the principal criterion in accordance with tradition. Having examined preliminary data on length/weight relationships for a number of cartilaginous species and, whilst it is not at all “clear cut” or “well established” as some commentators would have us believe, the committee recognises the need to move forward on this. Some issues remain to be resolved but having examined the data available, the committee proposes to introduce a new category based on length. Initially, on a pilot basis, this will apply to tope only, for which a threshold minimum length is set at 1600cm. The majority of specimens recorded to date, irrespective of sex, exceed this length. It is important that the angler records details of sex at time of capture, this is especially evident for cartilaginous species.

The committee has now completed a comprehensive review of specimen weights based on claims experience over the past 50 or so years and the majority will remain unchanged. This is the first time such a systematic review has been undertaken. The appearance of new species, some due to fish moving northwards with increasing sea temperatures over the past number of years has contributed in the expansion of the range of species available to anglers around the coast of Ireland. The committee has published a protocol in this report dealing with the establishment of new specimen weights and records for all new species. Furthermore, modern developments in the sea angling industry dictate greater precision regarding delimiting the geographical extent of waters for the specific purposes of the ISFC. These limits are defined in this report.

Many anglers expressed their displeasure when the committee decided in 2006 to record weights in kilograms only. The reasons for this decision were explained at the time. However, very many anglers continue to use the imperial system; for this reason weight in pounds metric is being restored to the report.

On behalf of this and previous committees I wish to thank Dr Richard Briggs, AFBI, for his valued contribution in the identification of specimen fish captured by anglers in the North of Ireland. This significant contribution he provided without fanfare over many years. I am grateful to the committee for their help during the year and, most particularly, the dedicated administrative work of Bridie Fleming of Inland Fisheries Ireland, Swords. On behalf of the committee and the angling community, I express my gratitude to Central and Regional Fisheries Boards (now Inland Fisheries Ireland), Failte Ireland, the Marine Institute, The Loughs Agency, Fishery owners, Angling Associations and Clubs and individuals for their continued financial support.

Trevor Champ

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Trevor Champ". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing 'T' and 'C'.

Chairman

18th December, 2010

# Report of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee 2010

## INTRODUCTION

In 2010 the ISFC received 718 claims; 607 were ratified, including four new records. A total of 29 were rejected for non-compliance with the rules and a further 82 will be queried. Details of new records, other special awards and the specimen awards 2010 are listed below:

### **NEW IRISH RECORDS** (Engraved Silver Medal)

For fish exceeding the current Irish record weight



**NEW RECORD – BLACKMOUTHED DOGFISH**  
**1.31 kg, Islandmagee, Co. Antrim, 30th August 2010 – David Craig**



**NEW RECORD – SPUR DOGFISH**  
*10.43 kg, Red Bay, Co. Antrim, 3rd July 2010 – Connor McNeill*



**NEW RECORD – HADDOCK**  
*5.39 kg, Union Hall, Co. Cork, 21st February 2010 – Tony Santry*



**NEW RECORD – RED MULLET**

*0.82 kg, Kilmore Quay, Co. Wexford, 20th September, 2010 – Sue Tait*

## SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORIES

### **10 SPECIES AWARD (Engraved Bronze Medal)**

**Sidney Kennedy, Ballyphehane, Cork**

1997	Carp
1998	Eel
2001	Blue Shark
2007	Lesser Spotted Dogfish
2008	Twaite Shad
2009	Golden Grey Mullet, Rudd, Rudd/Bream Hybrid, Tench
2010	Bream, Thick Lipped Mullet

**David McCormick, Donaghadee, Co. Down**

2006	Ballan Wrasse, Cuckoo Wrasse, Lesser Spotted Dogfish, Pollack, Spur Dogfish
2007	Red Gurnard, Tope, Three-bearded Rockling
2010	Blackmouthed Dogfish, Tub Gurnard

**Ken Murphy, Douglas, Cork**

2005	Blonde Ray, Garfish
2006	Coalfish
2007	Cod, Megrim, Pollack
2009	Lesser Spotted Dogfish
2010	Pike (River), Haddock, Red Gurnard

**Ailbhe O'Sullivan, Fermoy, Co. Cork**

1986	Pollack
1988	Ling
2004	Cod
2005	Coalfish
2006	Painted Ray
2007	Spur Dogfish
2009	Gilthead Bream, Golden Grey Mullet, Red Gurnard
2010	Bluemouth

**Martin Rayner, Annestown, Co. Waterford**

2003	Thornback Ray
2006	Blonde Ray, Lesser Spotted Dogfish
2007	Red Gurnard
2008	Bluemouth, Flounder, Golden Grey Mullet, Twaite Shad
2009	Pollack, Smooth-hound, Three-bearded Rockling
2010	Dab

**50 SPECIMENS AWARD (Gold Badge)****David McCormick, Donaghadee, Co. Down**

2006	Ballan Wrasse (1)
2006	Pollack (1)
2006 - 2010	Cuckoo Wrasse (13)
2006 - 2010	Lesser Spotted Dogfish (10)
2006 - 2010	Spur Dogfish (15)
2007 - 2010	Red Gurnard (5)
2007 - 2010	Tope (3)
2007	Three-bearded Rockling (1)
2010	Blackmouthed Dogfish (3)
2010	Tub Gurnard (3)

**10 SPECIMENS AWARD (Silver Pin)**

Keith Aherne, Ballyphehane, Cork	2008-2010
Nigel Bell, Portadown, Co. Armagh	1991-2010
Des Chew, Templeogue, Dublin 6W	2008-2010
Philip Fox, Cabra, Dublin 7	2007-2010
Derek Greene, Howth, Co. Dublin	2008-2010
George Leslie, Portadown, Co. Armagh	2007-2010
Joseph Marsella, Waterford Road, Kilkenny	1998-2010
Colin Martin, Belfast	1996-2010
Denis McCarthy, Carrigaline, Co. Cork	2005-2010
Peter McFarland, Ballyclare, Co. Antrim	2006-2010
Keith Mooney, Ranelagh, Dublin 6	2008-2010
David Murdoch, Bangor, Co. Down	2001-2010
Jim Murray, Goatstown, Dublin 14	2003-2010
Philip Oliver, Belfast	2001-2010
Cornelis Plomp, Sleeuwijk, Holland	1975-2010



*A Lee Reservoir Bream of 3.57 kg for Sidney Kennedy*



*Martin Rayner with specimen Dab 2010*

**DR. MICHAEL KENNEDY AWARD (Engraved Plaque)****MULLET OF THE YEAR**

Dr. Michael Kennedy, the pioneering fisheries biologist and one of the founders of the ISFC, had a lifelong research interest in mullet species. This award, the Kennedy Award, is for the best specimen mullet of the year (either species) and is based on the highest percentage of the current record.

The 2010 award goes to:

**Des Chew**, Templeogue, Dublin 6W for his **Thick Lipped Mullet** of 3.2 kg taken in the Vartry Estuary on 6th July 2010.

**DR. A.E.J. WENT AWARD (Engraved Plaque & Token)****YOUNG SPECIMEN ANGLER OF THE YEAR**

Dr. Arthur Went, the noted fisheries biologist and one of the two founder members of the ISFC, nominated this award which is for the best specimen of the year (based on the highest percentage of the specimen weight) taken by an angler aged 13 years or younger.

The 2010 award goes to:

**Ben Ryan**, Kilkee, Co. Clare for his **Twaite Shad** of 1.34 kg taken at St. Mullins, River Barrow on 17th May 2010.

**The MINISTER'S AWARD (Mounted Bronze Medal)**

Inaugurated by the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, this "fish of a lifetime" award is for the best specimen fish of the year (other than a new record), and is presented to the angler who catches a fish which represents the highest percentage of the existing record.

The 2010 award goes to:

**Tony Tait**, Midleton, Co. Cork for his **Red Mullet** of 0.72 kg taken in Kilmore Quay on 15th August, 2010.

**BEST INTERNATIONAL SPECIMEN FISH AWARD (Engraved Plaque)**

This award is for the best specimen fish (calculated as the highest percentage of the current specimen weight) taken by an overseas angler.

The 2010 award goes to:

**Axel Zur Brugge**, Bad Salzuflen, Germany for his **Sea Trout** of 5.22 kg taken in Lough Currane on 20th April 2010.



## SPECIMEN FISH CLAIMS RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE IN 2010

## FRESHWATER FISH SPECIMEN LISTINGS 2010

## Coarse Fish and Pike

BREAM

Record 12 lbs 3 ozs (5.528 kg); Specimen Weight, 3.402 kg (7.5 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
4.85	10.69	58.4	Lough Ree	25-Apr	Nick Parry	Corn/Maggot
4.82	10.63	–	Lough Ree	04-Jun	Ross Macklin	Maize
4.68	10.31	–	Drumlaheen Lake	23-Jun	Keith Mooney	Maggots
4.54	10.00	–	Lough Ree	03-Jun	Ross Macklin	Maize
4.04	8.91	–	Bolganard Lake	06-Apr	Colin Martin	Sweetcorn
3.97	8.75	–	Lough Ree	24-Apr	Nick Parry	Corn/Maggot
3.82	8.42	–	Ballyhoe Lake	17-Jul	Colin Martin	Sweetcorn
3.68	8.10	53.3	Derry Lake	03-Jul	Philip Fox	Corn
3.65	8.05	61.0	Drumbad Lough	10-Aug	Liam Tully	Worm
3.60	7.94	53.3	Derry Lake	03-Jul	Philip Fox	Corn
3.60	7.94	48.3	Drumbad Lough	09-Aug	Derek Smith	Maggots
3.57	7.88	–	Lee Resr.	25-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Sweetcorn
3.54	7.81	–	Lee Resr.	23-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Sweetcorn
3.54	7.81	–	Inniscarra Resr.	25-Jun	Ross Macklin	Maggots



*Ross Macklin had three specimen Bream in 2010 including this 4.82 kg fish*



*Nick Parry with Lough Ree specimen Bream, the heaviest in 2010*

Year of capture is 2010 unless otherwise stated.

Length (L) assumed to be forklength (cm) for species with forked tails. Otherwise total length assumed.

Country of residence of international angler denoted by relevant letter after surname.

(J) after surname denotes juvenile angler.

**BREAM – continued**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.54	7.81	–	Parker's Lake	03-May	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/ Maggot Cocktail
3.52	7.75	–	Lee Reservoir	23-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Sweetcorn
3.52	7.75	–	Lee Reservoir	23-Jun	Keith Aherne	Sweetcorn
3.52	7.75	–	Lee Reservoir	25-Jun	Derick O'Brien	Sweetcorn
3.49	7.69	–	Parker's Lake	03-May	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/ Maggot Cocktail
3.46	7.63	–	Lee Reservoir	23-Jun	Keith Aherne	Sweetcorn

**CARP**

**Record 29 lbs 13 ozs (13.53 kg); Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)**

9.07	20.00	81.3	The Lough, Cork	21-Mar	Terry Jackson	Boilie
9.07	20.00	–	The Lough, Cork	25-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
9.07	20.00	–	The Lough, Cork	28-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
8.90	19.63	–	The Lough, Cork	03-May	Derick O'Brien	Boilie
8.85	19.50	–	The Lough, Cork	02-May	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie



*Jerry O'Connor with one of his specimen Carp from The Lough where all specimen Carp 2010 were recorded*

**CARP – continued**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
8.85	19.50	–	The Lough, Cork	04-Aug	Derick O'Brien	Boilie
8.56	18.88	–	The Lough, Cork	23-Apr	Keith Aherne	Bread Flake
8.42	18.56	–	The Lough, Cork	22-Jul	Colin Gemmell	Boilie
8.28	18.25	–	The Lough, Cork	25-Apr	Tony Cotter	Boilie
7.94	17.50	–	The Lough, Cork	23-Apr	Keith Aherne	Dog Biscuits
7.53	16.60	–	The Lough, Cork	19-Apr	Peter McCartin	Boilie
7.43	16.38	–	The Lough, Cork	09-Aug	Derick O'Brien	Boilie
6.80	15.00	71.1	The Lough, Cork	21-Mar	Terry Jackson	Boilie
6.58	14.50	–	The Lough, Cork	26-Mar	Dan Lynch	Boilie
6.46	14.25	–	The Lough, Cork	11-Jun	Colin Gemmell	Boilie
6.35	14.00	76.0	The Lough, Cork	20-Mar	Terry Jackson	Boilie
6.35	14.00	–	The Lough, Cork	23-Apr	Keith Aherne	Boilie
6.35	14.00	68.6	The Lough, Cork	09-Oct	Jerry O'Connor	Boilie
6.12	13.50	66.0	The Lough, Cork	09-Oct	Jerry O'Connor	Boilie
5.92	13.05	–	The Lough, Cork	26-Mar	Dan Lynch	Boilie
5.78	12.75	–	The Lough, Cork	24-Jul	Colin Gemmell	Boilie
5.62	12.40	65.0	The Lough, Cork	23-Mar	Dan Lynch	Boilie
5.60	12.35	–	The Lough, Cork	19-Apr	Peter McCartin	Boilie

**DACE**

**Record 1 lbs 2 ozs (0.51 kg); Specimen Weight 0.3 kg (0.66 lbs)**

0.41	0.90	28.6	R Barrow, Carlow	27-Jun	Terry Jackson	Sweetcorn
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**PIKE (LAKE)**

**Record 42 lbs 12 ozs (19.391 kg); Specimen Weight 13.608 kg (30 lbs)**

13.92	30.69	–	Lough Gara	31-Oct	Anthony Egan	Mackerel
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**PIKE (RIVER)**

**Record 42 lbs (19.051 kg); Specimen Weight 9.072 kg (20 lbs)**

14.63	32.25	–	R Suck, Athleague	10-Feb	Des Chew	Dead Bait
12.47	27.49	–	R Suck, Ballyforan	23-Jan	Jim Murray	Smelt
11.85	26.13	–	R Suck, Ballyforan	23-Apr	Shane Mullins	Roach
11.39	25.10	–	R Shannon, Athlone	24-Mar	Shay McDonnell	Mackerel
11.11	24.50	104.1	R Blackwater, NI	10-Jan	Terry Jackson	Roach
10.46	23.06	–	R Shannon, Jamestown	14-Nov	Derek Greene	Sardine



**PIKE (RIVER) – continued**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
10.26	22.63	–	R Shannon, Jamestown	25-Oct	Derek Greene	Sardine
9.98	22.00	–	R Lee, Macroom	02-Jan	Kenneth Murphy	Smelt
9.64	21.25	–	R Shannon, Athlone	21-Mar	Shane McDonnell	Mackerel
9.33	20.56	–	R Shannon, Jamestown	22-Oct	Derek Greene	Sardine
9.21	20.31	–	R Shannon, Clonmacnoise	13-Oct	Michael Walsh	Mackerel

*Early January saw Terry Jackson catch a lovely 11.11 kg Pike from the Blackwater*

*Top River Pike of 2010 fell to Des Chew in February on the River Suck*





## ROACH/BREAM HYBRID

Record 7 lbs (3.175 kg); Specimen Weight 1.6 kg (3.528 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.12	6.88	56.0	Monalty Lake	28-Mar	Colin Martin	Corn/Bread Flake
3.12	6.88	—	Monalty Lake	07-May	Colin Martin	Sweetcorn
3.00	6.61	—	Monalty Lake	28-May	Ronnie Martin	Sweetcorn
2.84	6.26	—	Monalty Lake	14-Jul	Ronnie Martin	Sweetcorn
2.83	6.25	—	L Derravaragh	29-Apr	John Millerick	Maggots
2.82	6.22	—	Monalty Lake	15-Aug-09	Colin Martin	Bread Flake
2.80	6.17	48.3	L Derravaragh	27-Jul	Zoe Tully	Maggots
2.72	6.00	—	Monalty Lake	14-Jul	Colin Martin	Sweetcorn
2.68	5.91	—	Monalty Lake	15-Aug-09	Ronnie Martin	Sweetcorn
2.68	5.91	—	Monalty Lake	14-Jul	Ronnie Martin	Sweetcorn
2.62	5.78	—	Monalty Lake	15-Aug-09	Ronnie Martin	Sweetcorn
2.60	5.73	48.3	L Derravaragh	27-Jul	Kim Tully	Maggots
2.54	5.60	—	Monalty Lake	15-Aug-09	Ronnie Martin	Sweetcorn
2.42	5.34	—	Monalty Lake	15-Aug-09	Colin Martin	Bread Flake/ Sweetcorn
2.40	5.29	50.8	L. Derravaragh	26-Jul	Liam Tully	Maggots
2.30	5.07	48.3	L. Derravaragh	28-Jul	Paddy Loftus	Maggots
2.04	4.50	53.0	Blackies Lough	17-Jun	Terry Jackson	Maggots
1.84	4.06	—	Drumbad Lake	08-May	Clyde McElwaine	Maggots
1.68	3.70	46.0	R Barrow, St. Mullins	01-May	Michael Norton	Maggots



*A River Lee Pike  
for Ken Murphy*



*Conor Healy with a 2.32 kg Rudd/Bream Hybrid caught  
in Carrigadrohid Reservoir in June*



## RUDD

Record 4 lbs 8 ozs (2.041 kg); Specimen Weight 0.9 kg (1.98 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.19	2.63	38.1	Carrigadrohid Resr.	15-Jun	Conor Healy	Corn/Caster

## RUDD/BREAM HYBRID

Record 7 lbs 10 ozs (3.458 kg); Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.64 lbs)

2.32	5.13	45.7	Carrigadrohid Resr.	15-Jun	Conor Healy	Sweetcorn
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## TENCH

Record 8.15 lbs (3.697 kg); Specimen Weight 2.721 kg (6 lbs)

3.29	7.25	57.2	Ballyeighter Lake	24-May	Nick Parry	Sweetcorn/ Maggot
3.20	7.06	58.4	Rahan's Lake	26-Aug	Mark Healy	Sweetcorn
3.18	7.00	–	Lough Rinn	15-May	Glenn Greene	False Corn
2.95	6.50	50.8	Rahan's Lake	26-Aug	Mark Healy	Sweetcorn
2.95	6.50	57.2	Ballyhoe Lake	31-May	Philip Fox	Boilie
2.88	6.35	53.3	Ballyhoe Lake	13-Jun	Philip Fox	Corn
2.86	6.31	–	Ballyhoe Lake	05-May	Evan Millerick (J)	Boilie
2.86	6.30	52.1	Ballyhoe Lake	13-Jun	Philip Fox	Corn
2.83	6.25	–	Drumlonan Lake	24-Jul	Keith Mooney	Corn
2.78	6.13	–	Drumbad Lake	08-May	Conor McElwaine (J)	Maggots
2.75	6.06	54.6	Drumbad Lough	09-Aug	Liam Tully	Corn
2.75	6.06	53.3	Rahan's Lake	26-Aug	Mark Healy	Sweetcorn



*Drumlonan Lake was the venue for Keith Mooney's Tench*

## Game Fish

### SALMON

Record 57 lbs (25.855 kg); Specimen Weight 9.072 kg (20 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
14.70	32.41	107.0	River Foyle	18-May	James P McHugh	Fly
10.66	23.50	91.4	River Suir	27-Sep	Mark Corps	Fly
10.50	23.15	93.2	River Corrib	11-Jun	Martin McCracken	Shrimp
9.93	21.89	91.4	Corrib - Galway Weir	21-Apr	Keith McDonagh	Spinner

*Mark Corps releasing his  
10.66 kg River Suir  
Salmon*



*The Corrib produced two  
specimen Salmon in 2010  
– Martin McCracken's fish  
weighed 10.5 kg*



## BROWN TROUT (LAKE)

Record 26 lbs 2 ozs (11.85 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
7.28	16.04	89.0	L Corrib	02-Apr	Philip McBride	Wobbler
6.24	13.75	82.0	L Corrib	20-May	Michael Canney	Roach
6.07	13.38	73.7	L Derg	23-May	Gerard McKeogh	Roach
5.78	12.75	79.0	L Corrib	19-May	Peter Mussle (D)	Roach
5.45	12.00	78.7	L Corrib	01-Aug	Marie Walker (UK)	Roach
5.43	11.96	80.0	L Mask	12-Jun	Alan Cunningham	Rapala
4.65	10.25	73.0	L Leane	11-Apr	Bartholomew O'Brien	Toby
4.60	10.14	81.3	L Corrib	25-May	Ian Garratt	Roach

## BROWN TROUT (RIVER)

Record 20 lbs (9.072 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)

6.86	15.13	83.0	Cong River	16-Apr	Harry Beattie	Worm
3.46	7.62	77.5	Cong River	17-Mar	Carl Lyon	Worm
2.97	6.55	61.0	Cong Canal	17-Mar	Andrew Newman	Worm
2.95	6.50	—	River Clare	14-Jul-09	Patrick Keogh	Fly
2.40	5.29	56.0	Sixmile River	03-Sep	Jim Gregg	Fly
2.38	5.25	63.5	Cong Canal	18-Mar	Brian Newman	Worm

## SEA TROUT

Record 16 lbs 6 ozs (7.428 kg); Specimen Weight 2.721 kg (6 lbs)

5.83	12.85	81.3	Lough Currane	09-May	Liam Ellis	Perch Rapala
5.33	11.75	78.0	River Drowes	21-Jul	Arthur Rafferty	Shrimp
5.22	11.52	76.2	Lough Currane	20-Apr	Axel Zur Brugge (D)	Trolling
4.30	9.47	74.9	Lough Currane	04-Jun	Marcel Guillou (UK)	Fly
3.86	8.50	74.0	Lough Currane	15-May	Markus Kruse (D)	Fly
3.85	8.50	68.6	Lough Currane	03-Apr	Bernd Rall (D)	Fly
3.77	8.30	73.7	Lough Currane	04-Apr	Terence Wharton	Rapala
3.74	8.25	69.0	Lough Currane	05-Jun	Julien Hoppenot (F)	Fly
3.66	8.06	70.0	Lough Currane	12-Jul	Kevin O'Meara	Fly
3.60	7.94	73.7	Lough Currane	21-Aug	Gerard O'Sullivan	Fly
3.57	7.87	72.4	Lough Currane	01-Jun	David Eccleston (UK)	Fly
3.35	7.38	71.0	Lough Currane	23-Jul	Denis O'Sullivan	Fly
3.29	7.25	69.9	Lough Currane	09-Jun	Martin Roberts (UK)	Fly
3.22	7.11	68.6	Lough Currane	02-Jul	Michael Bonner	Fly



*Liam Ellis fishing Lough Currane had the heaviest specimen Sea Trout of 2010*

### SEA TROUT – continued

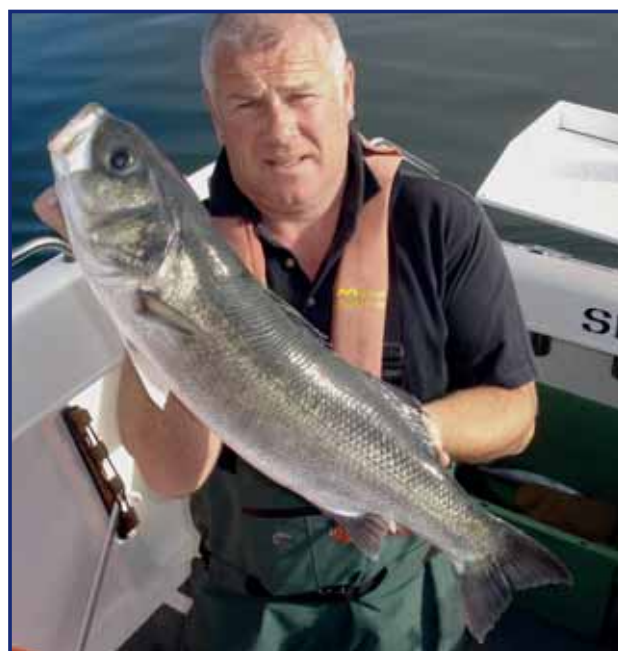
<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.04	6.70	64.8	River Drowes	14-Jul	Helmut Esch (D)	Shrimp
3.01	6.63	63.5	River Drowes	16-Jul	John O'Connor	Fly
2.83	6.25	64.0	Lough Currane	02-Jul	James Bomford (UK)	Fly
2.83	6.25	64.0	Lough Currane	27-May	Sean Smith (UK)	Fly
2.83	6.24	65.4	Lough Currane	11-May	David Eccleston (UK)	Fly
2.81	6.19	67.0	Lough Currane	17-May	Melvyn Wood (UK)	Fly

## MARINE FISH SPECIMEN LISTINGS 2010

BASS

Record 17 lbs 13 ozs (8.08 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.36	14.02	83.5	Cork Harbour	04-Jul	Tony Tait	Crab
6.20	13.67	77.5	Lahinch Strand	09-Apr	William Rothwell	Razorfish
6.08	13.41	80.0	Cork Harbour	07-Sep	Martin Fleming	Mackerel Strip
5.96	13.14	82.6	Bannow Bay	11-Jul	Michael McCormack	Eddystone Eel
5.72	12.61	—	Kilmore Quay	21-Sep	Gary Wright (UK)	Joey Mackerel
5.70	12.57	78.1	Rosscarbery	26-Oct	Michael Coleman	Sandeel
5.42	11.95	82.0	Rosslare	24-Aug	Brian Buckley	Mackerel
5.11	11.26	71.1	Ring, Clonakilty	25-Jul	Christopher Brown	Mackerel Strip
4.93	10.87	73.7	Ballybunion	14-Nov	Mike Enright	Sandeel
4.82	10.63	66.0	Roney Point	28-Aug	Dan Smith	Plastic lure
4.80	10.58	67.0	Mizen Head	25-Oct	Reg O'Keeffe	Mackerel Strip
4.65	10.25	78.0	Cork Harbour	26-Jul	Jim Clohessy	Crab

*Reg O'Keeffe with his Mizen Head Bass**An early morning Bass for Jim Clohessy out of Cork Harbour in July*



## BLUEMOUTH

Record 1.32 kg (2.91 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.9 kg (1.98 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.08	2.38	41.9	Caherciveen	05-May	Liam Walsh	Mackerel
1.07	2.36	–	Caherciveen	08-Aug	Paddy Loftus	Mackerel
1.02	2.25	–	Valentia	27-Aug	Michael Thrussell (UK)	Mackerel
1.02	2.25	41.0	Caherciveen	28-Aug	Joseph Donnelly	Mackerel Strip
0.99	2.19	38.1	Caherciveen	05-May	Liam Walsh	Mackerel
0.99	2.19	40.6	Caherciveen	05-May	Liam Walsh	Mackerel
0.99	2.19	–	Valentia	27-Aug	Nealie Lyne	Mackerel
0.96	2.13	–	Caherciveen	27-Aug	Micheál Hennessy	Mackerel
0.96	2.12	39.4	Portmagee	15-Aug	Michael Dennehy	Baited Hokkai
0.93	2.05	37.0	Caherciveen	28-Aug	Philip Barry	Baited Hokkai
0.93	2.05	38.1	Caherciveen	14-Oct	Hugh Maguire	Mackerel Strip
0.92	2.03	38.5	Caherciveen	28-Aug	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Baited Hokkai
0.92	2.03	38.5	Caherciveen	28-Aug	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Baited Hokkai
0.91	2.01	36.8	Portmagee	16-Aug	James Walsh	Mackerel Strip
0.91	2.01	–	Caherciveen	28-Aug	Danny O'Leary	Hokkai
0.91	2.00	36.0	Caherciveen	08-Aug	Nigel Clark	Mackerel
0.91	2.00	40.6	Caherciveen	28-Aug	Noel Lane	Mackerel baited feathers



*Well-known angling journalist Mike Thrussell had a Bluemouth in August*



**BLUEMOUTH – continued**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.91	2.00	–	Caherciveen	27-Aug	Micheál Hennessy	Mackerel
0.91	2.00	40.0	Valentia	27-Aug	Roland O'Shea	Mackerel
0.90	1.98	–	Caherciveen	08-Aug	Paddy Loftus	Mackerel

**COALFISH**

Record 15.1 kg (33.26 lbs); Specimen Weight 6.804 kg (15 lbs)

8.87	19.56	102.2	Castlehaven	20-May	Christy Lane	Shad
8.80	19.40	97.0	Union Hall	10-Apr	Donal Domeney	Shad
8.65	19.06	97.8	Union Hall	27-Mar	John Dennehy	Shad
8.50	18.75	95.3	Cork Harbour	04-Jan	John Higgins	Shad
8.39	18.50	97.0	Union Hall	20-Mar	Ian Mulligan	Shad
8.20	18.08	–	Union Hall	10-Apr	Donal Domeney	Shad



*Best Coalfish of 2010  
fell to Christy Lane*

## COD

**Record 42 lbs (19.051 kg); Specimen Weight 9.072 kg (20 lbs)**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
9.12	20.10	99.0	Union Hall	20-May	Ray Donnelly	Shad

## CONGER EEL

**Record 72 lbs (32.659 kg); Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs)**

22.61	49.85	185.0	Kenmare Bay	25-May	Wil Winkelman (NL)	Mackerel
20.16	44.44	165.0	Red Bay	13-Dec-09	John Bell	Coalfish
20.01	44.13	167.0	Red Bay	27-Jan	Hamish Currie	Whiting/Herring
19.84	43.75	166.0	Red Bay	06-Feb	Nigel Bell	Coalfish
19.84	43.75	167.0	Red Bay	14-Nov	Darren Guy	Coalfish
19.70	43.44	166.0	Red Bay	25-Jan	Nicholas McAlorum	Herring
19.11	42.13	165.0	Red Bay	24-Jan	Robert McFarland	Herring
19.10	42.11	189.0	Courtmacsherry	22-Aug	Micheal Quirke	Mackerel Fillet
18.60	41.00	162.0	Red Bay	23-Jan	Brian Menary	Mackerel



*Fred Mills with his Larne Lesser Spotted Dogfish*

## DAB

**Record 2 lbs 5.5 ozs (1.06 kg); Specimen Weight 0.6 kg (1.32 lbs)**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.70	1.54	38.0	Cork Harbour	16-Aug	Martyn Rayner	Mackerel/Ragworm
0.70	1.54	—	Cork Harbour	24-Oct	Jim Clohessy	Mackerel Strip
0.61	1.33	37.0	Downings	05-Jul	Rinus Hage (NL)	Mackerel Strip
0.60	1.32	35.0	Cork Harbour	13-Oct	Tony Tait	Ragworm

## BLACKMOUTHED DOGFISH

**NEW RECORD 1.31 kg (2.88 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.0 kg (2.205 lbs)**

1.31	2.88	70.5	Islandmagee	30-Aug	David Craig	Mackerel
1.25	2.75	—	Red Bay	08-Mar	Hamish Currie	Herring
1.18	2.59	70.0	Islandmagee	22-Aug	David Craig	Mackerel
1.16	2.56	68.0	Red Bay	06-Jun	John Tierney	Mackerel
1.16	2.56	68.0	Red Bay	25-Jul	Hamish Currie	Mackerel
1.16	2.56	68.0	Red Bay	14-Nov	Mark Woodside	Mackerel



*Ron Surgenor with a nice Lesser Spotted Dogfish*





*Brian Menary with a December Blackmouthed Dogfish*

### **BLACKMOUTHED DOGFISH – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.13	2.50	68.0	Red Bay	05-Aug	Rene Blokland (NL)	Mackerel
1.11	2.44	67.0	Red Bay	10-Dec-09	Brian Menary	Mackerel
1.11	2.44	67.0	Red Bay	08-May	Connor McNeill	Mackerel
1.11	2.44	67.5	Red Bay	20-Jul	Alan Richards (UK)	Mackerel
1.11	2.44	70.0	Islandmagee	30-Aug	David Craig	Mackerel
1.10	2.43	69.0	Red Bay	30-Oct	Michael Latham	Mackerel
1.08	2.38	69.0	Larne	31-Oct	David McCormick	Mackerel
1.08	2.38	67.0	Red Bay	09-May	Robert McFarland	Mackerel
1.08	2.38	67.0	Red Bay	09-Mar	Richard McAlorum	Herring
1.08	2.38	68.0	Red Bay	17-Aug	Louis Aliet (NL)	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	62.5	Red Bay	10-Dec-09	Brian Menary	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	66.0	Red Bay	23-Jan	William Watson	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	66.5	Red Bay	07-Apr	Richard McAlorum	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	66.0	Red Bay	06-May	John Love	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	66.0	Red Bay	20-Jul	Paul Cook (UK)	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	–	Red Bay	06-Aug	Peter Honsbeek (NL)	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	66.0	Red Bay	16-Sep	Peter Willem Kleijn (NL)	Mackerel



**BLACKMOUTHED DOGFISH – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.02	2.25	65.0	Red Bay	09-May	Gary Morrow	Bluey
1.02	2.25	68.0	Larne	31-Oct	Fred Mills	Mackerel Strip
1.02	2.25	68.0	Larne	31-Oct	David McCormick	Mackerel
1.00	2.20	69.9	Carnlough	06-Feb	Dessy Young	Mackerel/Squid
1.00	2.20	71.1	Larne	22-Apr	David McCormick	Mackerel

**LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH**

**Record 4 lbs 4ozs (1.928 kg); Specimen Weight 1.47 kg (3.25 lbs)**

1.84	4.06	80.0	Cork Harbour	01-Aug	Robert Creber	Mackerel
1.70	3.75	78.0	Cork Harbour	16-Aug	Martyn Rayner	Mackerel
1.62	3.56	72.0	Red Bay	03-Oct	Hamish Currie	Launce
1.62	3.56	72.0	Red Bay	01-Oct	Alec Fox	Mackerel
1.59	3.50	73.0	Red Bay	06-May	John Love	Mackerel
1.59	3.50	72.0	Red Bay	18-Jun	Mervyn Bell	Mackerel
1.56	3.44	73.0	Red Bay	01-Oct	Eddie McCarrick	Mackerel
1.56	3.44	72.0	Ballylumford, Larne	30-Oct	Ronald Surgenor	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	19-Jun	Brian Winter	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	74.0	Red Bay	22-Jul	Terry Richards (UK)	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	18-Aug	Piet Doff (NL)	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	25-Jul	Hamish Currie	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	30-Aug	Cornelis Plomp (NL)	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	19-Sep	Tony Tierney	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	30-Sep	John McCarrick	Mackerel
1.53	3.37	–	Cork Harbour	28-Nov	Luke Hegarty (J)	Mackerel
1.53	3.36	84.0	Islandmagee	30-Oct	David Craig	Whiting
1.50	3.31	72.0	Cork Harbour	15-Jun	Ken Hegarty	Mackerel
1.50	3.31	78.0	Islandmagee	14-Nov	David Craig	Mackerel
1.49	3.28	76.0	Cork Harbour	21-Aug	Tony Tait	Mackerel
1.49	3.28	76.4	Cork Harbour	05-Jul	Martyn Rayner	Mackerel
1.49	3.28	76.2	Larne	06-Feb	Fred Mills	Mackerel Fillet
1.48	3.26	–	Cork Harbour	30-May	Philip Horgan	Mackerel
1.47	3.25	76.5	Ling Rocks, Kinsale	17-Sep	Robert McClean	Mackerel
1.47	3.25	74.0	Ballycastle	25-Sep	Sam Oliver	Mackerel
1.47	3.25	74.9	Larne	06-Feb	David McCormick	Mackerel
1.47	3.25	72.0	Ballylumford, Larne	06-Mar	Ronald Surgenor	Mackerel

## GREATER SPOTTED DOGFISH

**Record 23 lbs 13 ozs (10.801 kg); Specimen Weight 7.257 kg (16 lbs)**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
8.85	19.50	135.0	Red Bay	23-Jan	Joe McBride	Herring
8.76	19.31	135.0	Red Bay	04-Jul	Hamish Currie	Mackerel
8.53	18.81	134.0	Red Bay	22-Jan	Hamish Currie	Herring
8.33	18.38	132.0	Red Bay	21-Jun	Declan Cormack	Flapper
8.22	18.13	132.0	Red Bay	25-Jan	Richard McAlorum	Herring
8.07	17.80	102.0	Kenmare Bay	09-Sep	Jaap Mol (NL)	Mackerel
8.07	17.80	102.0	Kenmare Bay	19-Oct	Marcel Levering (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
8.03	17.70	120.0	Kenmare Bay	08-Oct	Jan Visser (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
7.80	17.20	103.0	Kenmare Bay	01-Jul	Marko Roos (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
7.80	17.20	104.0	Kenmare Bay	25-May	Wil Winkelman (NL)	Mackerel
7.62	16.80	102.0	Kenmare Bay	01-Jul	Paul Verschuren (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
7.60	16.75	150.0	Red Bay	30-Aug	Ad Koekkoek (NL)	Mackerel
7.57	16.69	134.0	Red Bay	18-Oct	Rinus Stokkermans (NL)	Mackerel
7.35	16.20	102.0	Kenmare Bay	01-Sep	Johan De Greve (B)	Mackerel
7.35	16.20	102.0	Kenmare Bay	25-May	Jan Van Zal (NL)	Mackerel

## SPUR DOGFISH

**NEW RECORD 10.43 kg (23 lbs); Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)**

10.43	23.00	106.0	Red Bay	03-Jul	Connor McNeill	Mackerel
10.18	22.44	107.0	Red Bay	23-Sep	Hamish Currie	Coalfish
10.04	22.13	108.0	Red Bay	05-Jul	James Perkins	Coalfish
9.50	20.94	114.3	Islandmagee	08-Aug	David Craig	Mackerel
8.89	19.60	—	Kenmare Bay	01-Sep	Philip Verschelden (B)	Mackerel
8.50	18.75	105.5	Red Bay	23-Jan	Joe McBride	Mackerel Flapper
8.25	18.19	105.0	Red Bay	06-Mar	John Lavery	Herring
8.07	17.80	105.0	Kenmare Bay	01-Sep	Paul De La Riviere (B)	Mackerel
7.99	17.63	106.0	Red Bay	10-Aug	Hamish Currie	Coalfish
7.88	17.38	105.0	Red Bay	22-May	John Bell	Mackerel
7.85	17.31	105.0	Red Bay	05-Jul	Gary Dickenson	Coalfish Fillet
7.85	17.31	104.0	Red Bay	20-Jul	Terry Richards (UK)	Mackerel
7.57	16.70	—	Kenmare Bay	01-Sep	Erwin Hutsenband (B)	Mackerel Flapper
7.51	16.56	103.0	Red Bay	05-Jul	James Perkins	Coalfish Fillet
7.46	16.44	102.5	Red Bay	05-May	Hamish Currie	Coalfish
7.46	16.44	103.0	Red Bay	07-Jul	Declan Cormack	Coalfish Fillet
7.46	16.44	103.0	Red Bay	20-Jul	Alex Gosney (UK)	Mackerel

**SPUR DOGFISH – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
7.40	16.31	103.0	Red Bay	19-Jul	Paul Cooke (UK)	Mackerel
7.34	16.19	102.0	Red Bay	25-Jan	Nicholas McAlorum	Herring
7.26	16.00	102.0	Red Bay	09-May	Peter McFarland	Bluey
7.14	15.75	101.0	Red Bay	06-Mar	Nigel Bell	Mackerel
7.09	15.63	101.0	Red Bay	22-May	William Watson	Mackerel
7.09	15.63	102.0	Red Bay	07-Jul	Geoff Eagleson	Coalfish Fillet
6.97	15.38	101.0	Red Bay	23-Jul	Dave Harvey (UK)	Mackerel
6.95	15.31	100.5	Red Bay	22-May	Nigel Bell	Mackerel
6.95	15.31	95.0	Red Bay	12-Dec-09	David Cherry	Herring
6.92	15.25	94.0	Red Bay	21-Feb	Darren Guy	Herring
6.86	15.13	99.0	Red Bay	03-Aug	Peter Honsbeek (NL)	Mackerel
6.86	15.12	–	Kerry Head	26-Jul	Philip Barry	Mackerel Strip
6.83	15.06	94.0	Red Bay	11-Feb	Nicholas McAlorum	Herring
6.69	14.75	94.0	Red Bay	06-Feb	Tony Tierney	Mackerel
6.69	14.75	94.5	Red Bay	19-Jul	Terry Richards (UK)	Mackerel
6.63	14.63	94.5	Red Bay	05-Jul	Nick Lievense	Coalfish Fillet
6.63	14.63	94.5	Red Bay	05-Jul	James Perkins	Coalfish Fillet
6.63	14.63	108.0	Larne	06-Feb	David McCormick	Mackerel/Squid
6.61	14.56	93.0	Red Bay	06-Feb	Brian Menary	Mackerel
6.49	14.31	94.0	Red Bay	24-Jan	Peter McFarland	Mackerel Flapper
6.49	14.31	92.5	Red Bay	11-Feb	Richard McAlorum	Mackerel
6.46	14.25	93.5	Red Bay	08-May	David Cherry	Coalfish
6.44	14.19	92.0	Red Bay	06-Feb	George Leslie	Herring
6.41	14.13	93.5	Red Bay	21-Jun	Richard Johnston	Flapper
6.41	14.13	93.0	Red Bay	06-Aug	Jan Vrieswijk (NL)	Mackerel
6.38	14.06	93.5	Red Bay	13-Dec-09	John Bell	Herring
6.30	13.89	115.6	Ballycastle	24-Jan	Terry Jackson	Squid
6.24	13.75	92.0	Red Bay	24-Jan	Robert McFarland	Herring
6.18	13.63	90.0	Red Bay	11-Feb	Nicholas McAlorum	Herring
6.18	13.63	108.0	Ballylumford, Larne	06-Mar	Ronald Surgenor	Mackerel/Squid
6.15	13.56	94.0	Red Bay	19-Jul	Terry Richards (UK)	Mackerel
6.15	13.56	106.7	Ballycastle	20-Aug	David McCormick	Mackerel/Squid
6.12	13.50	94.0	Red Bay	09-May	Aaron Gracey	Bluey
6.12	13.50	92.0	Red Bay	03-Aug	Peter Honsbeek (NL)	Mackerel
6.12	13.50	106.7	Ballycastle	20-Aug	Fred Mills	Mackerel Fillet
6.10	13.45	–	Lambay Island	22-Jul	Luke Byrne (J)	Mackerel
6.08	13.40	96.0	Kenmare Bay	01-Sep	Yannic De La Riviere (B)	Mackerel



**SPUR DOGFISH – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.07	13.38	92.0	Red Bay	26-Jan	James Johnston	Mackerel
6.01	13.25	92.5	Red Bay	21-Feb	Peter McFarland	Mackerel
6.01	13.25	92.5	Red Bay	24-Jan	Gary Morrow	Mackerel
6.00	13.23	116.8	Ballycastle	24-Jan	Terry Jackson	Squid
6.00	13.23	106.7	Ballycastle	22-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
5.98	13.19	93.0	Red Bay	21-Jun	Declan Cormack	Flapper
5.95	13.13	93.0	Red Bay	02-Aug	Peter Honsbeek (NL)	Mackerel
5.95	13.13	108.0	Ballycastle	06-Mar	Ronald Surgenor	Mackerel/Squid
5.93	13.06	93.0	Red Bay	24-Jan	Gary Morrow	Mackerel
5.90	13.01	104.1	Ballycastle	22-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
5.90	13.00	93.0	Red Bay	26-Jan	William Downey	Whiting
5.90	13.00	93.0	Red Bay	05-Jun	Joe McBride	Mackerel
5.78	12.75	92.5	Red Bay	20-Aug	Kyle Jackson	Flapper
5.73	12.63	104.0	Ballycastle	06-Mar	Ronald Surgenor	Mackerel/Squid
5.70	12.56	92.0	Red Bay	06-Feb	Brian Menary	Mackerel
5.70	12.56	92.0	Red Bay	09-May	Robert McFarland	Mackerel
5.70	12.56	92.0	Red Bay	09-Mar	Richard McAlorum	Herring
5.70	12.56	92.0	Red Bay	06-Jun	Peter McFarland	Mackerel
5.70	12.56	92.0	Red Bay	03-Aug	Peter van den Berg (NL)	Mackerel
5.67	12.50	92.0	Red Bay	23-Jan	Joe McBride	Mackerel
5.67	12.50	111.8	Ballycastle	24-Jan	Dessy Young	Squid
5.67	12.50	92.0	Red Bay	03-Jul	Conor McNeill	Mackerel
5.67	12.50	91.0	Red Bay	23-Jul	Alan Richards (UK)	Mackerel
5.67	12.50	91.0	Red Bay	23-Jul	Dave Harvey (UK)	Mackerel
5.67	12.50	92.0	Red Bay	04-Aug	Rene Blokland (NL)	Coalfish Fillet
5.67	12.50	92.0	Red Bay	02-Aug	Rene Blokland (NL)	Mackerel
5.67	12.50	92.0	Red Bay	05-Aug	Peter van den Berg (NL)	Mackerel
5.65	12.46	–	Portrush	18-Jul-09	Paul Wildish	Mackerel/Squid
5.65	12.46	109.2	Ballycastle	24-Jan	Terry Jackson	Squid
5.64	12.44	91.5	Red Bay	06-Aug	Peter van den Berg (NL)	Coalfish
5.61	12.38	92.0	Red Bay	05-Jul	Christopher McArthur	Mackerel
5.61	12.38	91.0	Red Bay	10-Aug	George Leslie	Mackerel
5.58	12.31	91.5	Red Bay	09-May	Robert McFarland	Mackerel
5.58	12.31	105.4	Larne	21-Feb	David McCormick	Mackerel/Squid
5.56	12.25	91.0	Red Bay	02-Sep	Arian Huijdgrets (NL)	Mackerel
5.49	12.10	99.1	Ballycastle	22-Jan	Mark Todd	Whiting/ Mackerel



*Specimen hunter Terry Jackson had this 1.3 kg Flounder in Dec 2009*

## FLOUNDER

Record 4.91 lbs (2.229 kg); Specimen Weight 1.1 kg (2.436 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.62	3.56	48.3	Youghal	13-Oct	James Walsh	Crab
1.36	3.00	45.5	Ballyteigue Bay	15-Dec-09	Ian Mulligan	Peeler Crab
1.36	3.00	46.0	Ballyteigue Bay	15-Dec-09	Des Chew	Crab/ Lugworm Cocktail
1.36	3.00	44.5	Cullenstown Estuary	12-Dec-09	Philip Fox	Lugworm
1.33	2.94	—	Bannow Bay	24-Oct	Des Chew	Crab/ Lugworm Cocktail
1.33	2.94	—	Bannow Bay	24-Oct	Ian Mulligan	Peeler Crab
1.30	2.88	43.5	Ballyteigue Bay	15-Dec-09	Terry Jackson	Crab/Lugworm/ Squid
1.24	2.72	44.5	Bannow Bay	09-Nov	Eamon Murphy	Mussel
1.22	2.70	44.5	Courtmacsherry	09-May	John Twomey	Peeler Crab

**FLOUNDER – continued**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.22	2.69	42.6	Ballyteigue Bay	16-Dec-09	Ian Mulligan	Peeler Crab
1.21	2.67	46.0	Youghal	03-Oct	Tom Hickey	Peeler Crab
1.14	2.51	–	Ballycotton Bay	01-Jan	Kiaran Aherne (J)	Lugworm
1.13	2.50	43.0	Ring, Clonakilty	05-Aug	Alan O'Dowling	Peeler Crab
1.13	2.50	48.0	Bannow Estuary	25-Oct	Brian Cooke	Lugworm/ Crab Cocktail
1.11	2.44	–	Bannow Bay	24-Oct	Des Chew	Crab/Lugworm Cocktail

**GARFISH (*B. belone*)**

**Record 4.91 lbs (2.229 kg); Specimen Weight 1.0 kg (2.205 lbs)**

1.27	2.80	–	Roche's Point	03-Sep	Lorraine O'Donnell	Mackerel Strip
1.15	2.54	82.0	Dunmore East	25-Sep	John O'Connor	Mackerel
1.10	2.43	–	Dunmore East	29-Aug	Chris Misztela (PL)	Baited Feathers
1.05	2.31	91.0	Carrigaholt	07-Sep	Simon De Wit (NL)	Mackerel Strip
1.04	2.29	89.0	Carrigaholt	03-Sep	Hans-Peter Wittmann (D)	Mackerel Strip
1.02	2.25	84.0	Cork Harbour	22-Aug	Paul Collins	Mackerel



*The heaviest Garfish of 2010 was taken by Lorraine O'Donnell at Roche's Point*



**GARFISH (*B. belone*) – continued**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.02	2.25	93.5	Cork Harbour	22-Aug	Robert Porter	Mackerel
1.02	2.25	–	Baltimore	26-Aug	Micheál Hennessy	Mackerel
1.02	2.25	83.0	Carrigaholt	09-Sep	Ed Van Duijn (NL)	Mackerel Strip
1.02	2.25	89.2	Tramore	16-Sep	Joseph Marsella	Mackerel Strip

**GILTHEAD BREAM**

**Record 3.24 kg (7.14 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.4 kg (3.08 lbs)**

2.41	5.31	50.0	Cork Harbour	29-May	Patrick Lombard	Crab
1.70	3.75	43.0	Clonakilty Estuary	05-Jun	Alan O'Dowling	Peeler Crab
1.64	3.63	48.3	Cork Harbour	31-May	James Walsh	Crab
1.64	3.63	–	Cullinstown Strand	06-May	Desmond Frazer	Lugworm
1.64	3.63	–	Cork Harbour	29-May	John Millerick	Crab
1.36	3.00	42.0	Ballyteigue	15-Jun	Joseph Connell	Lugworm



*A Cork Harbour  
Gilthead for John  
Millerick*



*Des Frazer with his  
1.64 kg Gilthead Bream  
from Cullenstown*

## GREY GURNARD

Record 3 lbs 1 oz (1.39 kg) ; Specimen Weight 0.68 kg (1.5 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.92	2.03	48.0	Cork Harbour	17-Oct	Ken Hegarty	Mackerel

*A double shot of  
specimen Gurnard  
for Ken Hegarty  
from Cork Harbour.  
Ken's Grey Gurnard  
was the only  
specimen recorded  
in 2010*



## RED GURNARD

**Record 3 lbs 9.5 ozs (1.63 kg); Specimen Weight 0.907 kg (2 lbs)**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.30	2.87	49.0	Cork Harbour	17-Apr	Michael O'Keefe	Mackerel
1.18	2.60	49.0	Cork Harbour	17-Oct	Ken Hegarty	Mackerel
1.11	2.44	45.7	Cork Harbour	01-May	Christy Lane	Mackerel
1.10	2.43	48.0	Cork Harbour	17-Oct	Robert Creber	Mackerel
1.09	2.40	47.0	Blacksod Bay	04-Aug	Colm Summers	Mackerel Strip
1.08	2.38	48.0	Cork Harbour	05-Jun	Jim Clohessy	Mackerel Strip
1.04	2.30	44.0	Caherciveen	15-Aug	Joe Hardy	Mackerel Strip
1.02	2.25	40.6	Achill	26-Aug	Marty Lavelle	Feathers
1.02	2.25	48.3	Culdaff	03-Oct	David McCormick	Mackerel
1.00	2.20	46.0	Cork Harbour	27-Dec-09	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
0.99	2.19	48.0	Brandon Bay	05-Jul	Colm McDaid	Mackerel Strip
0.97	2.14	46.0	Cork Harbour	26-Jul	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Razorfish
0.97	2.13	44.0	Cork Harbour	02-Jun	Joseph Marsella	Mackerel Strip
0.96	2.12	48.3	Cork Harbour	13-Oct	Michael Fitzpatrick	Baited Shrimp
0.96	2.11	–	Cork Harbour	11-Mar	Eddie Butler	Mackerel
0.95	2.09	44.5	Crosshaven	12-Jun	Kenneth Murphy	Mackerel Strip
0.95	2.09	45.7	Culdaff	10-Jul	David McCormick	Mackerel
0.93	2.06	49.0	Cork Harbour	30-May	Kieran Ryan	Mackerel
0.93	2.05	–	Smiths	01-Aug	Maurice Cott	Mackerel
0.92	2.03	45.7	Culdaff	10-Jul	David McCormick	Mackerel

## TUB GURNARD

**Record 12 lbs 3.5 ozs (5.424 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)**

2.49	5.50	–	Lambay Island	20-Jun	John McGuinness	Mackerel
2.41	5.31	63.5	Downings	26-Sep	David McCormick	Mackerel

## HADDOCK

**NEW RECORD 5.39 kg (11.88 lbs); Specimen Weight 3.175 kg (7 lbs)**

5.39	11.88	71.5	Union Hall	21-Feb	Anthony Santry	Mackerel
4.59	10.13	78.7	Castlehaven	24-Mar	Noel Lane	Mackerel
4.37	9.63	71.0	Union Hall	13-Mar	John Warner	Mackerel
4.08	9.00	–	Union Hall	11-Feb	Kenneth Murphy	Mackerel
3.48	7.67	58.0	Union Hall	10-Mar	David Tully	Mackerel baited feathers





*Several Haddock specimens were claimed in 2010 including this one for Felix Rogers-Cookson*

### HADDOCK – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.40	7.50	–	Union Hall	13-Mar	John Millerick	Razorfish
3.32	7.32	68.0	Castletownbere	05-Aug	Felix Rogers-Cookson	Mackerel/Muppet
3.29	7.25	67.3	Union Hall	21-Feb	John Higgins	Mackerel

### LING

**Record 55 lbs (24.95 kg); Specimen Weight 11.34 kg (25 lbs)**

12.93	28.50	137.2	Union Hall	23-Jan	Denis McCarthy	Mackerel
12.10	26.68	120.0	Cleggan	06-Aug	Jim McLanaghan (UK)	Mackerel
12.00	26.46	–	Dunmore East	22-Aug	Roy Low	Baited Muppet
11.53	25.42	124.5	Downings	30-Aug	William Wilson	Baited Hokkai

### MEGRIM

**Record 1.85 kg; Specimen Weight 0.794 kg (1.75 lbs)**

0.91	2.01	49.5	Cork	29-Jun	Tony Tait	Mackerel
0.88	1.94	50.0	Cork Harbour	19-Jun	Ray Donnelly	Mackerel

## THICK-LIPPED MULLET

Record 9.1 lbs (4.128 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.20	7.06	–	Vartry Estuary	06-Jul	Des Chew	Bread Flake
3.06	6.75	63.0	Cork Harbour	17-Jun	Stephen O'Neill	Bread Flake
3.00	6.61	60.0	Rosscarbery	30-Aug	Patrick Lombard	Bread
2.98	6.56	59.0	Rosscarbery	14-Mar	Patrick Lombard	Bread
2.98	6.56	58.4	Lough Furnace	19-Aug	Joe Cooney	Fly
2.95	6.50	–	Rosscarbery	06-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Bread Flake
2.92	6.44	–	Rosscarbery	06-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Bread Flake
2.86	6.31	–	Rosscarbery	17-Aug	Brian Cooke	Bread
2.78	6.13	–	Rosscarbery	09-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Bread Flake
2.77	6.11	–	Avoca River	07-Aug	Philip Fox	Bread
2.72	6.00	61.0	Strangford Lough	09-Jul	Terry Jackson	Bread Flake
2.66	5.88	59.7	Strangford Lough	09-Jul	Terry Jackson	Bread Flake
2.66	5.88	–	Rosscarbery	02-May	Keith Aherne	Bread Flake
2.66	5.88	–	Rosscarbery	02-May	Derick O'Brien	Bread
2.61	5.75	–	Wicklow	15-Jul	Des Chew	Bread Flake
2.59	5.70	–	Wicklow Harbour	20-Jul	Shay McDonnell	Mackerel
2.49	5.50	–	Wicklow	06-Aug	Christopher McGregor	Bread Flake



*A bright day in August produced a Thick-lipped Mullet for Brian Cooke in Rosscarbery*

**THICK-LIPPED MULLET – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.49	5.50	58.4	Avoca River	24-Jul	Philip Fox	Bread
2.47	5.44	57.2	Rosscarbery	17-Mar	Christy Lane	Bread Flake
2.44	5.38	58.0	Rosscarbery	28-Feb	Brian Lombard (J)	Bread
2.44	5.38	55.9	Inch Beach	02-Aug	Jerry O'Connor	Sandeel
2.44	5.38	–	Rosscarbery	15-Aug	Brian Cooke	Bread Flake
2.41	5.31	–	Rosscarbery	02-May	Sidney Kennedy	Bread
2.40	5.30	–	Wicklow Harbour	20-Jul	Shay McDonnell	Mackerel
2.38	5.25	58.4	Strangford Lough	12-Jul	Philip Oliver	Bread Flake
2.35	5.19	–	Rosscarbery	04-May	Sidney Kennedy	Bread
2.35	5.19	55.0	Strangford Lough	25-Jun	Ronald Surgenor	Bread
2.32	5.13	–	Ballyteigue	29-Jun	Josie Mahon	Bread Flake
2.32	5.13	–	Castletownbere	15-Mar	John Angles	Bread Flake
2.32	5.11	–	Arklow	03-Aug	Nick Parry	Bread
2.31	5.10	56.0	Rosscarbery	15-Apr	Dan Lynch	Bread
2.31	5.09	–	Laytown	01-Aug	Liam Kane	Bread
2.30	5.07	57.0	Rosscarbery	07-Sep	Patrick Lombard	Bread
2.30	5.06	–	Rosscarbery	02-May	Keith Aherne	Bread Flake
2.30	5.06	–	Vartry Estuary	20-May	Des Chew	Bread Flake
2.30	5.06	–	Union Hall	15-Jul	Micheál Hennessy	Bread
2.28	5.02	–	Laytown	02-Aug	Liam Kane	Bread



*Ballyteigue was the venue for Josie Mahon's Mullet*



*Liam Kane and one of his Laytown Mullet*



**THICK-LIPPED MULLET – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.27	5.00	–	River Corrib	21-Aug	Jim Murray	Bread
2.27	5.00	57.0	Rosscarbery	16-Apr	Dan Lynch	Bread
2.27	5.00	–	River Nanny	16-Jun	Ray McElhinney	Bread
2.27	5.00	–	Strangford Lough	01-Aug	Terry Jackson	Bread Flake

**GOLDEN GREY MULLET**

**Record 1.191 kg (2.63 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.68 kg (1.5 lbs)**

0.90	1.98	–	Cork Harbour	24-Jun	Ray Bannerman	Mepps/ Ragworm
0.77	1.70	–	Baltimore	25-Aug	Micheál Hennessy	Ragworm



*Golden Grey Mullet from Baltimore  
Micheál Hennessy's fish photographed by Mike Thrussell*

**RED MULLET**

**NEW RECORD 0.82 kg (1.81 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.454 kg (1 lb)**

0.82	1.81	39.0	Kilmore Quay	20-Sep	Sue Tait	Crab
0.72	1.59	38.3	Kilmore Quay	15-Aug	Tony Tait	Peeler Crab

*Pollack for  
Matthew Barr  
from Red Bay*



## POLLACK

Record 19 lbs 3 ozs (8.703 kg); Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.18	13.63	87.6	Union Hall	27-Mar	John Dennehy	Shad
6.12	13.50	90.0	Union Hall	20-Mar	Ian Mulligan	Shad
5.70	12.56	86.0	Red Bay	19-Sep	Nigel Bell	Shad
5.67	12.50	83.8	Reen Pier	27-Mar	Mattie Foley	Shad
5.62	12.39	89.0	Ling Rocks	02-Jun	Martyn Rayner	Jellyworms
5.62	12.38	83.0	St. John's Point	13-Jul	Christopher Heading	Leadhead/ Twister
5.61	12.38	84.0	Red Bay	02-Oct	Matthew Barr	Mackerel
5.56	12.26	83.5	Cork Harbour	26-Sep	Joep van Pinxteren (NL)	Jellyworm
5.53	12.20	88.0	Ling Rocks	10-Mar	Martyn Rayner	Jellyworm



*Nigel Bell posing with  
his Red Bay Pollack*

## POUTING

Record 4 lbs 13.5 oz (2.12 kg); Specimen Weight 1.361 kg (3 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.59	3.50	47.0	Brandon Bay	10-Jun	John Boyle	Mackerel
1.54	3.40	46.5	Cork Harbour	20-Apr	Paul O'Grady	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	–	Castletownbere	14-Feb	John Angles	Mackerel
1.47	3.25	–	Union Hall	14-Jul	Patrick Cunningham (UK)	Mackerel
1.42	3.13	44.5	Brandon Bay	15-Jul	Terry O'Flaherty	Mackerel
1.41	3.10	–	Power Head	26-Jun	David O'Sullivan	Eel rig



*Charter skipper  
John Angles with his  
Pouting from  
Castletownbere*

## BLONDE RAY

Record 37 lbs (16.8 kg); Specimen Weight 11.34 kg (25 lbs)

12.20	26.90	–	Cork Harbour	13-Sep	Peter Schaap (NL)	Mackerel
11.54	25.44	96.0	Red Bay	12-Sep	Hamish Currie	Launce

## HOMELYN RAY

Record 8.28 lbs (3.756 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)

2.41	5.31	–	Castletownbere	11-Sep	John Angles	Squid Cocktail
2.31	5.09	–	Beara Peninsula	17-Jun	Edwin Booms (NL)	Mackerel
2.28	5.04	68.5	Caherciveen	12-Sep	Paddy Loftus	Mackerel





*Dan Lynch with a Courtmacsherry Painted Ray*

## PAINTED RAY

Record 17.21 lbs (7.806 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
5.80	12.79	64.0	Tralee Bay	20-Aug	Gavin Fogarty	Sandeel
4.68	10.31	–	Tralee Bay	13-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Sandeel
4.60	10.14	–	Courtmacsherry	27-Aug	Dan Lynch	Crab

## THREE BEARDED ROCKLING

Record 3 lbs 1 oz (1.389 kg); Specimen Weight 0.794 kg (1.75 lbs)

0.94	2.06	–	Beara Peninsula	21-Jun	David Rose (UK)	Mackerel
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## TWAITE SHAD

Record 1.54 kg (3.4 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.1 kg (2.426 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.40	3.09	–	R Barrow, St. Mullins	04-May-09	Duncan Cole	Tasmanian Devil
1.39	3.06	–	St. Mullins	11-May	Ian Mulligan	Tasmanian Devil
1.38	3.04	–	St. Mullins	15-May-09	Ronan Doherty	Tasmanian Devil
1.36	3.00	–	St. Mullins	12-May	Brian Cooke	Tasmanian Devil
1.36	3.00	47.0	St. Mullins	12-May-09	Jimmy Kelly	Tasmanian Devil
1.34	2.95	–	St. Mullins	17-May	Ben Ryan (J)	Tasmanian Devil
1.33	2.94	–	St. Mullins	12-May-09	Ian Mulligan	Tasmanian Devil
1.33	2.94	53.0	St. Mullins	30-Apr	Terry Jackson	Tasmanian Devil
1.32	2.91	46.0	St. Mullins	11-May	Jerry O'Connor	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.88	–	St. Mullins	13-May-09	Dara Tuohy	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.87	–	St. Mullins	27-Apr	Ger Doran	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.82	47.0	St. Mullins	06-May-09	Albert Allan	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.82	40.0	St. Mullins	07-May-09	Der Casey	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.82	–	St. Mullins	09-May	Emmet Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.81	–	St. Mullins	11-May-09	Joseph Marsella	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.81	45.7	St. Mullins	07-May-09	Eric Gosnell	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.81	–	St. Mullins	13-May-09	Michael Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.81	–	St. Mullins	11-May	Lukasz Wisniewski	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.81	–	St. Mullins	11-May	John Millerick	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.81	–	St. Mullins	11-May	Ian Mulligan	Tasmanian Devil
1.25	2.75	–	St. Mullins	12-May-09	Ian Mulligan	Tasmanian Devil
1.25	2.75	52.0	St. Mullins	29-Apr	Terry Jackson	Tasmanian Devil
1.25	2.75	–	St. Mullins	13-May	Sidney Kennedy	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	48.0	St. Mullins	16-May-09	Andrew Boyce	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	–	St. Mullins	12-May-09	Bill Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	48.0	St. Mullins	11-May	Micheál Hennessy	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	–	St. Mullins	12-May	Gary Doyle	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	–	St. Mullins	10-May	Sidney Kennedy	Tasmanian Devil
1.20	2.65	44.0	St. Mullins	16-May	David Murdoch	Tasmanian Devil
1.19	2.63	–	St. Mullins	22-May	Peter Bolger	Tasmanian Devil
1.19	2.63	46.0	St. Mullins	11-May	Micheál Hennessy	Tasmanian Devil
1.16	2.56	–	St. Mullins	11-May-09	Ian Mulligan	Tasmanian Devil
1.16	2.56	46.0	St. Mullins	12-May	Micheál Hennessy	Tasmanian Devil
1.16	2.56	52.0	St. Mullins	29-Apr	Terry Jackson	Tasmanian Devil
1.16	2.56	–	St. Mullins	12-May	Oliver Doyle	Tasmanian Devil

**TWAITE SHAD – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.16	2.56	42.0	St. Mullins	13-May	Jerry O'Connor	Tasmanian Devil
1.16	2.56	–	St. Mullins	18-May	Clyde McElwaine	Tasmanian Devil
1.15	2.54	43.5	St. Mullins	29-Apr	Eric Gosnell	Tasmanian Devil
1.14	2.51	–	St. Mullins	11-May-09	Brian Lowth	Tasmanian Devil
1.14	2.51	45.0	St. Mullins	07-May-09	Jimmy Kelly	Tasmanian Devil
1.14	2.51	45.0	St. Mullins	15-May	Michael Norton	Tasmanian Devil
1.14	2.51	–	St. Mullins	08-May	Kevin McClean	Tasmanian Devil
1.14	2.51	–	St. Mullins	15-May	Sam Ryan (J)	Tasmanian Devil
1.13	2.50	–	St. Mullins	14-May-09	Joseph Marsella	Tasmanian Devil
1.13	2.50	45.1	St. Mullins	08-May-09	Christy Lane	Tasmanian Devil
1.13	2.50	–	St. Mullins	11-May	Brian Cooke	Tasmanian Devil
1.13	2.50	–	St. Mullins	12-May	John Millerick	Tasmanian Devil
1.13	2.50	–	St. Mullins	10-May	Derick O'Brien	Tasmanian Devil
1.13	2.49	–	St. Mullins	08-May	Kevin McClean	Tasmanian Devil
1.12	2.47	43.5	St. Mullins	07-May-09	David Murdoch	Tasmanian Devil



*Lambay Island produced this Tope for Luke Byrne*



**TWAITE SHAD – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.12	2.47	–	St. Mullins	12-May-09	Dara Tuohy	Tasmanian Devil
1.11	2.44	–	St. Mullins	12-May	John Millerick	Tasmanian Devil
1.11	2.44	–	St. Mullins	11-May	Peter McGrath	Tasmanian Devil
1.10	2.43	41.0	St. Mullins	11-May-09	Pat Dalton	Tasmanian Devil
1.10	2.43	43.0	St. Mullins	08-May-09	Ronald Surgenor	Tasmanian Devil
1.10	2.43	–	St. Mullins	29-Apr	Robbie Hyland	Tasmanian Devil
1.10	2.43	–	St. Mullins	11-May	Bill Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
1.10	2.43	42.0	St. Mullins	27-Apr	Martyn Rayner	Tasmanian Devil

**SMOOTH-HOUND**

**Record 16.58 lbs (7.52 kg); Specimen Weight 3.175 kg (7 lbs)**

3.90	8.60	–	Greystones	25-Jun	Shay McDonnell	Crab
3.49	7.70	–	Cahore	05-Jun	Shay McDonnell	Crab
3.20	7.06	–	Cahore	14-Jun-09	John Millerick	Crab
3.20	7.05	83.0	Kilmore Quay	13-Aug-09	Martyn Rayner	Peeler Crab

**TOPE**

**Record 66 lbs 8 ozs (30.159 kg); Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs)**

24.54	54.10	166.0	Greystones	02-Aug	Robert McClean	Mackerel Flapper
22.45	49.50	176.0	Red Bay	15-Jun	Berend Masselink (NL)	Flapper
21.52	47.44	173.0	Red Bay	18-Sep	Peter Willem Kleijn (NL)	Flapper
20.95	46.19	174.0	Red Bay	15-Jun	Nicholas McAlorum	Mackerel Flapper
20.87	46.00	–	Lambay Is.	02-Aug-09	Luke Byrne (J)	Mackerel
20.81	45.88	173.0	Red Bay	31-Aug	Cornelis Plomp (NL)	Flapper
20.30	44.75	174.0	Red Bay	14-Jun	Hamish Currie	Flapper
20.21	44.56	171.0	Red Bay	02-Aug	Pieter van den Berg (NL)	Mackerel
20.04	44.19	174.0	Red Bay	20-Sep	Richard McAlorum	Flapper
19.78	43.61	158.0	Greystones	02-Aug	Kevin McClean	Mackerel
19.25	42.44	172.0	Red Bay	02-Aug	Rene Blokland (NL)	Mackerel
19.22	42.38	168.0	Red Bay	02-Oct-09	David van Nieuwenhuizen (NL)	Launce
18.82	41.50	160.0	Culdaff	08-Sep	Fred Mills	Mackerel Flapper
18.60	41.00	157.5	Culdaff	08-Sep	David McCormick	Mackerel Flapper



*Greystones yielded Kevin McClean's Tope in August*

## TRIGGER FISH

Record 2.54 kg (5.6 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.474 kg (3.25 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.70	3.75	49.0	Kells Bay	08-Aug	Colm McDaid	Mackerel Strip

## WHITING

Record 4 lbs 14.5 oz (2.225 kg); Specimen Weight 1.361 kg (3 lbs)

1.62	3.57	60.0	Carrigaholt	28-Jul	Rob Weenink (NL)	Mackerel Strip
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## BALLAN WRASSE

Record 4.3 kg (9.47 lbs); Specimen Weight 2.154 kg (4.75 lbs)

2.58	5.69	53.0	Donegal Bay	10-Oct	Peter McGroary	Crab
2.52	5.56	—	Kilmore Quay	21-Jul	Derek Dooley	Baited Hokkai
2.51	5.53	56.0	Kilmore Quay	03-Jul	Bert McGregor	Peeler Crab
2.32	5.11	49.0	Courtmacsherry	18-Apr	Sergi Motsjonov (EST)	Feathers
2.30	5.06	—	Doonbeg	22-Sep	Bill Ryan	Crab
2.29	5.05	52.0	Mullaghmore	11-Sep	Donal Domeney	Ragworm/ Mackerel



*Best Ballan  
Wrasse of 2010  
fell to  
Peter McGroary*



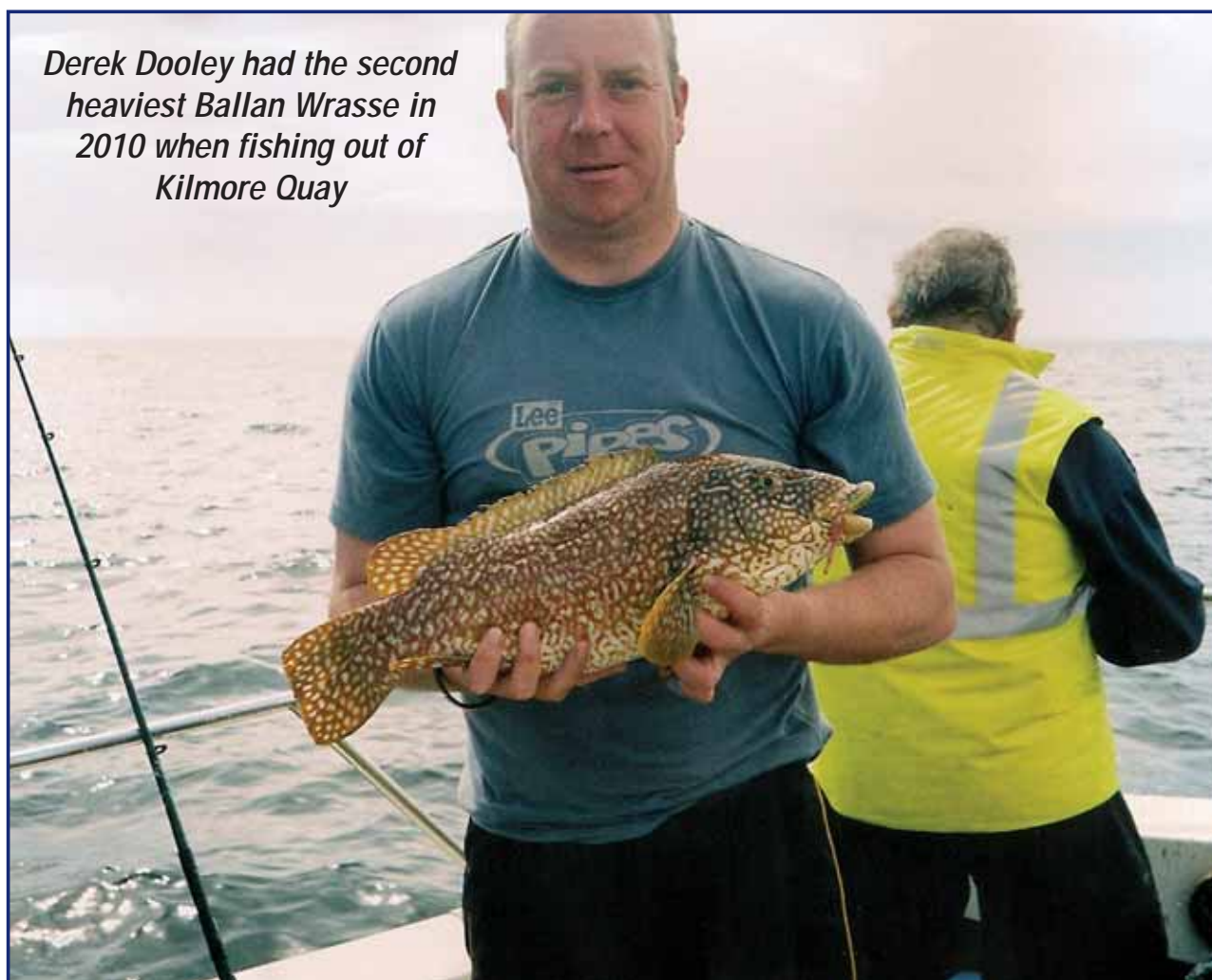
*Bill Ryan with a  
Co. Clare Ballan  
Wrasse*



**BALLAN WRASSE – continued**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.27	5.00	52.0	Ballycotton	10-Jun	Pat Condon	Ragworm
2.21	4.88	–	St. John's Point	30-Aug	Des Chew	Crab
2.19	4.83	–	Kenmare Bay	31-Aug	Andre de Nooijer (NL)	Mackerel
2.19	4.83	44.0	Kenmare Bay	08-Sep	Jaap Mol (NL)	Mackerel
2.15	4.75	52.0	Pound Point, Donegal	16-Oct	Ronald Surgenor	Crab

*Derek Dooley had the second heaviest Ballan Wrasse in 2010 when fishing out of Kilmore Quay*

**CUCKOO WRASSE**

**Record 2 lbs 7 ozs (1.106 kg); Specimen Weight 0.567 kg (1.25 lbs)**

0.85	1.88	38.0	Red Bay	06-Oct	Hamish Currie	Crab
0.79	1.75	38.0	Red Bay	16-Oct	William Watson	Mackerel
0.74	1.63	36.5	Dunmore East	15-Aug	Chris Misztela (PL)	Baited Feathers
0.74	1.63	39.0	Red Bay	15-Sep	Gerard Wanders (NL)	Mackerel

**CUCKOO WRASSE – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.74	1.63	37.5	Red Bay	17-Oct	Jonathan Stewart	Mackerel
0.73	1.60	37.5	Belmullet	16-May	Kevin Walsh	Mackerel Strip
0.72	1.59	36.0	Kilmore Quay	03-Jul	Bert McGregor	Ragworm
0.71	1.56	38.0	Red Bay	27-Jun	Wolfgang Niklas	Mackerel
0.71	1.56	38.0	Red Bay	25-Jul	Hamish Currie	Crab
0.71	1.56	37.0	Red Bay	17-Oct	Gary Blair	Mackerel
0.68	1.50	–	Kilmore Quay	03-Aug	Luke Byrne (J)	Rag/Mackerel Cocktail
0.68	1.50	37.5	Red Bay	20-Jun	Dennis Deornellas	Mackerel
0.68	1.50	37.5	Red Bay	19-Jul	Terry Richards (UK)	Mackerel



*A Cuckoo Wrasse from Red Bay for Wolfgang Nicklas*

**CUCKOO WRASSE – *continued***

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.68	1.50	36.0	Red Bay	28-Aug	Pat McElhatton	Mackerel
0.68	1.50	37.0	Red Bay	14-Oct	Nicholas McAlorum	Ragworm
0.65	1.44	37.0	Red Bay	03-Aug	Pieter van den Berg (NL)	Mackerel
0.65	1.44	37.0	Red Bay	28-Oct	Richard McAlorum	Ragworm
0.65	1.44	39.0	Ballylumford	10-Dec-09	Ronald Surgenor	Squid Strip
0.65	1.43	35.5	Ballycastle	26-Sep	Michael McGimpsey	Baited Feathers
0.62	1.38	37.0	Red Bay	19-Jun	Hamish Currie	Crab
0.62	1.38	36.0	Red Bay	27-Jul	Nicholas McAlorum	Ragworm
0.62	1.38	37.0	Red Bay	13-Sep	David Nieuwenhuizen (NL)	Mackerel
0.62	1.38	36.5	Red Bay	28-Oct	Richard McAlorum	Ragworm
0.62	1.38	36.5	Red Bay	27-Oct	Gary Dickenson	Mackerel
0.62	1.38	36.5	Red Bay	16-Oct	George Leslie	Ragworm
0.62	1.38	–	Caherciveen	27-Aug	Michael Thrussell (UK)	Mackerel
0.62	1.37	–	Dingle Bay	02-Apr	Alan Pyne	Mackerel Strip
0.61	1.34	36.8	Larne	14-Nov	Fred Mills	Mackerel Strip
0.60	1.32	34.2	Ballycastle	26-Sep	Dessy Young	Baited Feathers
0.60	1.32	35.5	Ballycastle	26-Sep	Terry Jackson	Baited Feathers
0.60	1.31	36.0	Red Bay	28-Oct	Richard McAlorum	Ragworm
0.59	1.30	34.0	Duncannon	04-Sep	Robert Byrne	Mackerel Strip
0.58	1.28	35.6	Larne	14-Nov	Fred Mills	Mackerel Strip
0.58	1.28	35.6	Larne	14-Nov	David McCormick	Mackerel
0.58	1.28	35.6	Larne	14-Nov	David McCormick	Mackerel
0.58	1.27	34.1	Ballycastle	26-Sep	Michael McGimpsey	Baited Feathers
0.58	1.27	–	Ventry, Dingle Bay	02-Apr	Inis MacGabhann (J)	Mackerel Strip
0.57	1.25	36.0	Red Bay	13-Sep	Gerard Wanders (NL)	Mackerel
0.57	1.25	–	Red Bay	16-Oct	George Leslie	Ragworm
0.57	1.25	35.0	Red Bay	14-Oct	Nicolas McAlorum	Ragworm
0.57	1.25	35.6	Ballycastle	13-Feb	David McCormick	Mackerel
0.57	1.25	37.0	Ballylumford	10-Dec-09	Ronald Surgenor	Mackerel Strip





*Young angler Inis MacGabhann had this strikingly coloured Cuckoo Wrasse in Dingle in April*

# Special Notices

## GEOGRAPHICAL LIMIT FOR MARINE SPECIES CLAIMS

The geographical limit for claiming marine specimen fish is defined as the marine waters bound by the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland sectors of the European Economic Zone (EEZ), and on the north east coast by the midpoint between NI and the remainder of the United Kingdom landmass.

## IMPLICATIONS OF COARSE FISH BYE-LAW FOR ISFC AND ANGLERS

In July 2006 the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources introduced a bye law titled CONSERVATION OF AND PROHIBITION ON SALE OF COARSE FISH BYE-LAW NO. 806, 2006 which provided for the following conservation measures:

- a bag limit of 4 coarse fish in any one day,
- prohibits the killing of any coarse fish greater than 25 cm in length,
- prohibits the sale of any coarse fish in Ireland (excluding NI), this provision will not apply to fishing tackle dealers and fish bait suppliers who have been granted an exemption from their respective Regional Fisheries Board.

This bye-law means that the ISFC cannot accept bodies of any coarse fish (dace, roach, rudd or any hybrids > 25 cm) from anglers for the purposes of claiming a specimen. Bodies were required to positively identify to species or hybrid level because of the similarity of their external features.

For many years the Committee recognised that genetic fingerprinting of cyprinids was required for consistent identification of fish, to enable fish to be returned alive to the water and, importantly, to allow anglers to continue to claim specimen cyprinids. Arising from ongoing research into the dynamics of selected cyprinid species in some Irish lakes, being carried out by researchers in the School of Biology and Environmental Science at University College Dublin and funded by the Central Fisheries Board, Swords, Co. Dublin, genetic fingerprinting of cyprinid specimens commenced in 2007.

Results showed clear differentiation and identifications have been made using a combination of these results and all photographic evidence received. Several fish were not as claimed which demonstrated the scope of the technique. Since 2009 this technology has been adopted by the ISFC as the standard approach to cyprinid identification. Arising from the capacity to distinguish between hybrids, rudd/roach hybrids were added to the list of eligible species from 2010.

To support a claim, anglers were requested to submit a small sample of scales (3 scales) in a dry envelope (not in a plastic bag or tin foil) and good quality colour photographs. The entire fish on its side and fins well displayed, the dorsal and the anal fins (fully splayed), with additional close up photographs of the head (side on), are required for each fish claimed.

## GENETIC FINGERPRINTING OF SHAD AND SMOOTH-HOUND

The success of ongoing collaborations between the ISFC, Inland Fisheries Ireland and the School of Biology and Environmental Science at University College Dublin on shad (*Alosa* spp.) and smooth-

hound (*Mustelas* spp.) meant these species could be identified by genetic fingerprinting from 2009 onwards. This eliminated the requirement for a body to be presented for both groups of fish.

An extensive study of smooth-hound carried out by Dr. Edward Farrell, formerly UCD, found no evidence of *M. mustelas* (Common smooth-hound) in Irish waters despite extensive sampling. Therefore ISFC will no longer require a tissue sample for genetic analysis to support a claim for a smooth-hound.

For shad 3 scales are required. Scale storage and photographic requirements are described below.

Sample requirements for genetic analysis of selected cyprinids and shads for species/hybrid determination			
Species	Sample required	Storage	Additional information
Roach, Rudd and their hybrids	3 scales	In an envelope with fish details and date	Good quality photographs required
Shad species	3 scales	In an envelope with fish details and date	Ensure fish is retained in water as much as is feasible
<b>Notes:</b> As all fish can be returned alive please handle carefully. Allow envelope to dry out to preserve the sample. Do not store scales or tissue in plastic as sample will degrade.			

## ESTABLISHING A NEW SPECIMEN FISH CATEGORY

An important function of the ISFC is to act as a focal point for data collection on the occurrence of notable, rare or unusual species taken on rod and line in Irish waters. In some instances this has led to species previously regarded as “unusual” being added to the list of eligible species. Examples from recent years include smooth-hound (*Mustelas asterias*) and three bearded rockling (*Gaidropsarus vulgaris*), (from 1983), garfish (*Belone svetovidovi*) (from 1986), torsk (*Brosme brosme*) (from 1988), trigger fish (*Balistes carolinensis*) (from 1992), bluemouth (*Helicolenus dactylopterus*) (from 2002), albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) (from 2002), golden grey mullet (*Liza aurata* (Risso)) (from 2005), gilthead bream (*Sparus aurata* L.) (from 2007), blackmouthed dogfish (*Galeus melastomus*) (from 2008) and Black Bream (*Spondyliosoma cantharus*) (from 2009).

*To begin the process of attempting to establish a new specimen fish category, anglers are requested to submit a completed claim form* for each fish captured. This is particularly important as it will establish a database for the species and enable further investigation and comparison of future claims. Claims for 10 fish of that species must be submitted for it to be considered for possible inclusion on the listings. The specimen weight will be set from this dataset and other relevant data. The record fish will be ratified after 5 fish exceeding specimen weight are ratified.

With most species the body will have to be forwarded for positive identification. Other arrangements would apply for large fish. The availability of the body is essential to allow the Committee to verify positive identification of the species. The claim form will allow monitoring of numbers and weights of the species. This facilitates assessment of the likelihood of capture, the likely specimen weight



and the availability and seasonality of the species. It is difficult to legislate for every situation that may arise but the final decision will rest with the Committee and will be based on a balanced review of the information available. While this process is progressing some details of interesting fish captured will be reported in the annual report.

### **GUIDANCE NOTE TO ASSIST ANGLERS TAKING FISH PHOTOGRAPHS FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES**

In 2005 the ISFC added a clause to Rule 4 which facilitated anglers who wished to present photographs for fish identification purposes instead of presenting a fish body.

This means that, for the few species where a body is normally required, photographs may be sufficient **if they provide conclusive evidence of the identity of the fish**. To assist anglers, a list of some external identification features for these particular species are presented below. However, **the Committee cautions that a body, which will be examined by a biologist, is the only reliable means of ensuring a correct identification.**

Photographs should be taken as soon as possible after the fish is captured. The photograph must be in focus, clear and in colour, printed on good quality paper and show the relevant identification features. It should include the name of the angler and date of capture. Close up photographs are required for many features and these photographs should fill the entire frame. **Retain the fish if unsure of photograph quality.**



*High quality Roach/Bream Hybrid identification images from Dubliner Philip Brennan*

Species	Features to photograph (a) the whole body (lateral view) must be photographed for all species AND (b) the specific features detailed below
All cyprinids (Dace, Roach, Roach/Bream, Rudd, Rudd/Bream)	Body with fins extended and close ups of: (a) mouth - closed (b) dorsal fin (c) full lateral line (d) anal fin Three scales to be taken
Angler Fish	Head area showing head appendages upright
Brill	Close up of skin
Cuckoo Wrasse	Body – lateral view, close up of head
Dab	Close up of skin and lateral line
Flounder	Full body and close up of lateral line scales close to head
Garfish ( <i>B. belone</i> )	Gill rakers count - body required
Garfish ( <i>B. svetovidovi</i> )	Gill rakers count - body required
Golden Grey Mullet	Close up of (a) head including pectoral fin (lying flat) (b) mouth showing upper lip (c) underside of head
Grey Gurnard	Close up of lateral line and head
Grey Mullet	Close up of head showing upper lip (head-on), underside of head to back of gills
Herring	Keel of fish
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	Underside of head
Mackerel	Close up of stripes on back
Megrim	Head
Ray's Bream	Close up of head
Red Gurnard	Detail of lateral line, head with pectoral fin fully expanded
Red Mullet	Close up of head

Species	Features to photograph (a) the whole body (lateral view) must be photographed for all species AND (b) the specific features detailed below
River Eel (in tidal water)	Fully extended body
Scad	Close up of entire lateral line
Shad - Allis & Twaite	Three scales to be taken
Smooth-hound	Close ups (a) tail fin (b) underside of head showing mouth (c) back in region of dorsal fin
Three Bearded Rockling	Close up of head and chin area, and close up of area in front of dorsal fin
Torsk	Close up of skin, and dorsal and tail fin area

### IMPORTANT POINTS REGARDING CLAIMS

**Photographic evidence for new records:** Except in cases where a body or presentation of the fish is required for species identification, a clear photograph must accompany all record fish claims.

**Place of capture:** For freshwater species all claims must include the name of the water in which the fish was caught (e.g., Monalty Lake) and in the case of the larger systems, the area (e.g., River Shannon – Rooskey). For marine species taken by boat angling the port of origin, and the place of capture (examples: Burford Bank, 5 km West of Stags Head or Smiths) should be stated.

**Closed seasons:** Closed seasons apply to several species (e.g. bass, brown trout, salmon, eel etc). Any fish taken in the closed season will not be ratified.

**Maximum number of claims per species:** A maximum of three (3) awards will be made to any particular claimant for a single species in any one year. However, if an angler achieves this target and subsequently captures a larger fish, this fish can be claimed. However, the final number of awards for any species in a single year will not be more than three. By including this provision, it ensures that the anglers' competitive spirit is kept up and higher achievements could still be sought.

**Exclusion from specimen status (stocked fish):** Where species of fish are introduced to a fishery at or above existing specimen weights, those species from that particular fishery shall not be considered for specimen or record status. Escapees from fish farms either freshwater or marine are also excluded.

**Exclusion from specimen status – Common Skate, Undulate Ray, Monkfish and Eel:** Sharks and rays (elasmobranchs) are a group of fishes requiring special consideration. In terms of conservation status, Undulate Ray (*Raja undulata*) are deemed as endangered while Common Skate (*Raja Batis*) and Angelshark (*Squatina squatina*) are deemed as critically endangered (IUCN, 2008). In 2009, the Common Skate received protection from the European Council in ICES boxes IIa, IIIa, IV, VIIa-k, VIII and IX (which include all Irish coastal fisheries) which means that the species cannot be retained by



commercial fishermen if captured. Undulate Ray and Angelshark (or Monkfish) also received full protection in 2009 from the European Council in ICES boxes VIa-b, VIIa-k, VIII and IX, meaning that neither species can be retained or landed if caught. Fishing mortality is likely to be substantially reduced due to this mandatory release order.

In 1976, the ISFC, in the interests of conservation, decided to remove the Common Skate from the list of eligible fishes and not to consider any claims whatsoever, except for a possible new record (i.e., a fish weighing in excess of 100 kg (221 lbs)).

Undulate Ray and Monkfish were removed from the list of eligible species in 2006. Claims for a new record in either species will be considered provided that the fish is weighed on shore, photographed and returned alive. In 2006 as the ISFC wanted to ensure no mortalities arising from specimen angling both were suspended from the listings for a period of three years. Based on a review of all available data for both species in 2009, which showed a decline in the numbers of Angelshark being caught and released by anglers, and no major change in Undulate Ray catches, the ISFC has decided that the moratorium on all three species will continue until 2012 when it will be reviewed again.

Freshwater eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) has been suspended from the specimen listings since mid May 2009 because of the introduction of Bye-law No C.S. 303, 2009 which prohibits angling for eel. This bye-law was introduced to assist in the recovery of eel stocks which have virtually collapsed throughout its natural range in Europe. In keeping with the bye-law the situation will be reviewed in 2012 when the impacts of various measures on eel stock recovery, including the cessation of the commercial eel fishery in Ireland, will be assessed.

**Handling fish:** Rays and monkfish sharks are elasmobranchs with a flattened shape. Sharks have a more cylindrical form and many species are vulnerable because they mature slowly and produce small numbers of young. Female sharks are often larger than males, and the heaviest are likely to be pregnant when they achieve specimen size. Handle them gently and return them to the water as quickly as possible. The ISFC urges anglers to apply the same handling principles to all species particularly around spawning time.

**Captors Addresses:** Because of difficulties in establishing eligibility for the 20 Species, 10 Species, 50 Specimen and 10 Specimen Awards, captors are advised to inform the Committee of any changes in their addresses.

## BIG GAME FISH

Since 2000 the ISFC has adopted a watching brief with regard to the rules governing the capture of big game fish. Based on the deliberations of an ISFC sub-committee appointed in 2002, revised rules derived from relevant sections from the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) rules have been incorporated into the existing ISFC rules (see Rule 2).

## IMPORTANT POINTS ABOUT WEIGHING OF FISH

**Weighing instruments and certification:** The Committee insists that all fish be weighed on scales which are verified for accuracy. Shop scales normally used in trade are checked regularly by officers of the Legal Metrology Service (National Standards Authority of Ireland) and are acceptable for weighing specimen and record fish. Club or personalised (i.e. scales not normally certified by the Weights and Measures Authority for trade purposes) can be certified for accuracy by this agency. *A full listing of Legal Metrology Centres throughout the country where scales can be independently certified are presented in this report.* Such scales, if certified in advance are acceptable to the

Committee for weighing purposes. Certification will be valid for one year from the date of issue of the certificate of accuracy. The manufacturers certificate of accuracy will not suffice. Weights from scales which are not certified at the time of weighing or certified in retrospect will not be accepted.

**Metrification:** Since 2006, fish weights have been presented in kilograms in the Annual Report. Many anglers continue to use imperial measurements for fish and, recognising this, the ISFC has decided to report in both metric (SI) and imperial metric systems for the 2010 and subsequent reports. Claims will be accepted under either system unless legislation dictates otherwise.

**Weight conversion figures:** The ISFC decided to use the metric system (kg) for reporting from 2006 onwards, although some older record fish will be reported in the imperial system until a new record is set.

To aid anglers in the conversion between both systems conversion factors are provided below:

**Kilogrammes to pounds**

X kg divided by 0.454 = Y metric pounds

**Pounds to kilogrammes**

X lbs divided by 2.205 = Y kg

## REVIEW OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS

In 2009 the ISFC began to systematically review all species and weights of specimen fish based on the data collated since the ISFC was established. This process aims to reflect current developments in specimen angling and other issues including conservation. This process was carried out for some species in recent years (e.g. Coalfish in 2006 and 2007). Factors taken into account included the number of specimens taken per annum, the geographical distribution of specimens around Ireland and trends in the numbers taken over different periods. In 2010 the review was completed (from Garfish (*B. svetovidovi*) to Cuckoo Wrasse) and resulted in reductions in specimen weights for some species, several of which had not been adjusted since the ISFC was founded. Specimen weights were reduced for three of the eighteen fish categories in freshwater (16.7%) and 15 of 69 marine species (21.7%).

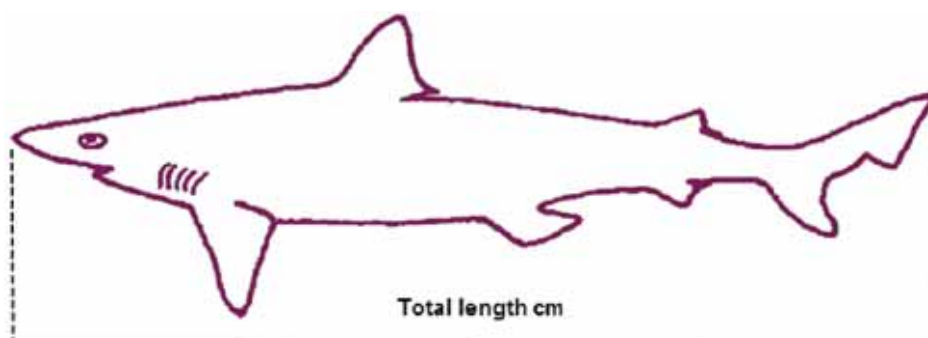
The complete list of specimen weight changes is as per facing table:

Species	Previous specimen weight (kg)	Revised specimen weight (kg)
Rudd	1.021	0.9
Rudd/Bream	1.361	1.2
Dace	0.35	0.3
Anglerfish	18.144	12.0
Black sole	0.907	0.8
Brill	2.268	2.0
Dab	0.68	0.6
Garfish	1.021	1.0
Hake	4.536	3.5
Halibut	22.68	15
Mackerel	1.134	1.0
Plaice	1.814	1.5
Cuckoo Ray	2.041	1.8
Thornback Ray	9.072	8.0
Ray's Bream	2.268	2.0
Red Sea Bream	2.041	1.8
Smooth-hound	3.175	3.0
Turbot	8.165	7.0

### LENGTH-BASED SPECIMENS (CONSERVATION SPECIMENS)

Anglers are increasingly conservation orientated and submissions have been received by the ISFC from anglers and others in recent years regarding the desirability of using length as a proxy for weight. This would allow fish (particularly elasmobranchs) to be returned alive to the water without the requirement for measuring weight on land as is required under the existing ISFC rules. The ISFC undertook to examine the possibility of a "Conservation Specimen" category in 2009, for two species Tope and Blue Shark, which would be based on fish length.

A length-based specimen award is proposed on a pilot basis for Tope for 2011. The threshold length is 1.6 m or 1600 cm. Claims will be made on the existing claim form and the angler will specify that length only is being measured. On board weighing of fish is not acceptable (except where a certified motion compensated balance is used). All length data to be given as total length; this is the measurement most often used as an independent variable and is the standard measurement in scientific shark literature (e.g. Campagno, 1984). The fish has to be placed belly down on the measuring device with its dorsal caudal lobe depressed into line with its body axis and total length measured as a point to point distance (not over the curve of the body) from the snout tip to the tip of the dorsal caudal lobe. The snout tip must be placed against a perpendicular front bar or plate to index the 0 cm measurement accurately.





The following evidence must accompany each length-based specimen claim:

- (a) Photograph(s) showing fish placed belly down on properly extended measuring device with snout against perpendicular bar or plate with the actual recorded length (cm) visible and
- (b) the sex of the fish. Males can be identified by their claspers (modified pelvic fins) which are thin elongated paired fins situated behind the pelvic fins. Females do not have claspers but have an opening between the pelvic fins.

Permanent attachment of a durable, accurate measuring device to the deck of a boat is the preferred means of providing an accurate measurement. High quality, self adhesive measuring tapes are available from various retailers.

Lengths (cm) as submitted on each claim form were presented in this report for the first time in 2009. Lengths should be recorded on all claims submitted. Significant length variation is evident for most species. This is due to natural variability (time of year, sex, location, feeding etc) but it is likely that fish length measurement techniques were inconsistent also.

The ISFC requests that all specimen fish are measured according to table below:

Species	Measurement (cm) required	Technique
ALL Marine species except Bass	Total length	Place fish on top of measuring device and measure in a straight line from tip of snout to end of tail
ALL Marine species (except ray and skate)	Girth	Measure greatest girth using tape measure – usually in front of dorsal fin
Ray and skate	Wingspan	Place fish on top of measuring device and measure from wingtip to wingtip
ALL Freshwater species AND Bass	Forklength	Place fish on top of measuring device and measure from tip of snout to middle rays of tail
ALL Sharks, Rays and Skates	Sex – state on claim form if fish is male or female	Males can be identified by their claspers (modified pelvic fins) which are thin elongated paired fins situated behind the pelvic fins. Females do not have claspers but have an opening between the pelvic fins.

## TAGGING PHOTOGRAPHS

The annual report is greatly enhanced by photographs. Many, particularly digital images, are sent by different means including CD and email. For greater efficiency please tag all photographs, CDs and emailed photographs with relevant details. CDs should have a list of the angler(s), the species, the weight and date(s) of capture printed on the disk. All emailed photographs should be tagged with abbreviated angler name, species and weight.

# Weighing Scale Certification

## LIST OF REGIONAL VERIFICATION CENTRES

Legal Metrology Service, National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI), Santry, Dublin 9.

Region & Area	Region & Area
<b>Cork</b> <b>Legal Metrology Service</b> Rossa Avenue Bishopstown Cork Tel: + 353 21 4346 256 Fax: + 353 21 4346 679	<b>Limerick</b> <b>Legal Metrology Service</b> Plessey Technology Park Castletroy Limerick Tel: + 353 61 330 708 Fax: + 353 61 330 698
<b>Dublin</b> <b>Legal Metrology Service</b> IDA Industrial Estate Poppintree Dublin 11 Tel: + 353 1 864 3848 Fax: + 353 1 864 3880	<b>Sligo</b> <b>Legal Metrology Service</b> Finisklin Industrial Estate Sligo Tel: + 353 71 9150738 Fax: + 353 71 9150739
<b>Dundalk</b> <b>Legal Metrology Service</b> IDA Business Park Coe's Road Dundalk Co Louth Tel: + 353 42 933 2758 Fax: + 353 42 933 2751	<b>Waterford</b> <b>Legal Metrology Service</b> IDA Industrial Estate Northern Extension Cork Road Waterford Tel: + 353 51 358 020 Fax: + 353 51 358 021
<b>Galway</b> <b>Legal Metrology Service</b> Ballybrit Business Park Ballybane Galway Tel: + 353 91 771 943 Fax: + 353 91 758 932	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Legal Metrology Service</b> NSAI, 1 Swift Square Northwood, Santry, Dublin 9 Ireland Tel: +353 1 8073807 Fax: +353 1 8073808

## PRESENTATION OF 2009 AWARDS

Professor Ken Whelan made the Annual Presentation of Awards to 2009 award winners at the Red Cow Morans Hotel, Dublin on 20th February 2010.

In March 2010, Dutch and Belgian winners were presented with their awards by Paul Bourke, Inland Fisheries Ireland and Peter Dohmen, renowned angling journalist, at VISMA, Rotterdam, in association with Tourism Ireland.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Photographs:** The majority of photographs in this report are taken by anglers. Good quality photographs have enhanced the report considerably over the past decade and anglers are encouraged to send photographs of specimen fish catches to the Committee.

All will be considered for publication. The Committee is extremely grateful to anglers, staff, charter skippers and other supporters, particularly Mike Thrussell, who submitted photographs this year.

**Special acknowledgements:** Charter skippers, club members, guesthouse owners, tackle dealers and staffs from the Central and Regional Fisheries Boards (now Inland Fisheries Ireland) who follow up claims and ensure that the necessary paperwork is attended to are gratefully acknowledged.

Sincere thanks to Myles Kelly, IFI and ISFC webmaster, for his input throughout 2010 and special thanks to Jim Clohessy for his article.

AFBINI continues to provide an excellent fish identification service for anglers in the northern part of Ireland and the ISFC is indebted to those staff.

Special thanks are due to the extremely cooperative staff of the Legal Metrology Service NSAI for certification of scales.

The genetic fingerprinting work of Dr. Stefano Mariani and his team at UCD has significantly advanced ISFC identification procedures and the Committee is very grateful to everyone involved in this important activity.

The Central Fisheries Board (now IFI) provides unstinting administrative support and other services to the ISFC and is sincerely acknowledged. Bridie Fleming underpins all activity in the ISFC and is a vital part of the continued success of the Committee.



## DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIMEN AWARDS

Nationalities of anglers whose claims were ratified:

Year	Ireland	Britain (UK)	Holland (NL)	Germany (D)	Belgium (B)	France (F)	Other	TOTAL
1985	443	90	25	15	3	2	n/d	578
1986	349	93	21	16	3	7	n/d	489
1987	300	59	36	8	1	4	n/d	408
1988	259	60	14	5	4	4	n/d	346
1989	261	48	18	10	0	0	n/d	337
1990	286	45	21	23	4	1	n/d	380
1991	332	46	30	19	1	3	n/d	431
1992	336	56	32	9	1	3	n/d	437
1993	352	45	30	16	3	4	n/d	450
1994	282	39	33	13	1	2	n/d	370
1995	295	55	35	18	7	1	n/d	411
1996	307	69	27	6	4	2	n/d	415
1997	449	57	28	9	5	4	n/d	552
1998	344	53	46	6	5	4	n/d	458
1999	310	35	33	3	1	1	1	384
2000	403	48	41	13	1	0	2	508
2001	427	37	28	5	4	3	4	508
2002	471	43	23	7	6	2	7	559
2003	384	41	63	11	13	4	5	521
2004	412	38	48	3	9	4	4	518
2005	432	52	62	10	7	4	1	568
2006	351	42	44	2	10	0	2	449
2007	424	28	56	6	12	2	2	530
2008	429	23	46	1	3	0	0	502
2009	470	15	39	5	0	0	2	531
2010	521	26	45	6	5	1	3	607

n/d = not determined

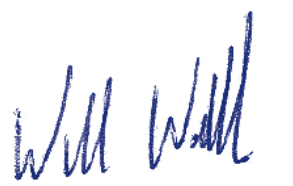
## Irish Specimen Fish Committee

### Expenditure and Revenue Account - 1st January to 31st December 2009

2008	Expenditure	2009	2008	Revenue	2009
€		€	€		€
				Balance b/f	13743.90
				<b>Grants</b>	
7934.01	Printing	8344.52	5500.00	CFB	–
4514.18	Award Medals/trophies	707.15	150.00	SWRFB	150.00
442.16	Miscellaneous	508.28	4000.00	ERFB	–
–	ISFC meeting expenses	136.25	3000.00	MI	3000.00
3935.00	Awards Day costs	1760.00	2500.00	Failte Ireland	2500.00
500.00	Booking deposit	200.00	300.00	RTE	–
17.24	Bank charges	4.66	–	Loughs Agency	4425.02
			–	NWRFB	500.00
	<b>Total</b>	11660.86		<b>Donations</b>	
				Clubs, Feds & individuals	1270.18
	<b>Balance c/d</b>	13928.24			
		25589.10			25589.10
				<b>Balance b/d</b>	13928.24

The ISFC has prepared a revenue and expenditure account for 12 months ending 31st Dec 2009 based on movements in the bank. Upon review of the financial records provided we are satisfied that this account accurately reflects the underlying transactions.

Signed:




W. Walsh & H. O'Rourke (Auditors)

## DONATIONS

**Donations:** The ISFC is a voluntary body and all of its activities are funded by donations from diverse sources. The ISFC is extremely grateful to all donors.

**Benefactors in 2010 were:**

Central Fisheries Board (now Inland Fisheries Ireland); Failte Ireland; Marine Institute; Eastern Regional Fisheries Board; Shannon Regional Fisheries Board; North Western Regional Fisheries Board; Northern Regional Fisheries Board; Delphi Fishery Ltd.

Val Atkins, 4 Abbey Park, Ferrybank, Waterford; Peter Bolger, 70 Ferrycarrig Road, Coolock, Dublin 17; Maurice Cott, 5 Thornton Park, Whitegate, Co. Cork; Donal Domeney, 20 Courtown Drive, Cork City; Eric Gosnell, 52 Marian Park, Church Road, Blackrock, Cork; Jim Gregg, 20 The Meadows, Antrim, BT41 1EY; Richard Hancox, 30 Greenfield Avenue, Northampton, NN3 2AA, England; Terry Jackson, 20 Cook's Brae, Kircubbin, Co. Down, BT22 2SQ; Christy Lane, 10 Harringtons Square, Dillons Cross, Cork City; Noel Lane, 65 Silverheights Avenue, Mayfield, Cork; Dan Lynch, Halfway, Ballinhassig, Co. Cork; Joseph Marsella, Ballyda, Danesfort, Kilkenny; Bert McGregor, 34 Rivermead Park, St. Margarets, Co. Dublin; Vincent McKernan, 19 Drummaul Park, Randalstown, Co. Armagh, BT41 3AR; W. F. McLaughlin, 27 Castle Gardens, Limavady, Co. Derry, BT49 OSD; Derek J. Miller, 35 Greenmeadows Road, Madeley, Crewe, Cheshire, CW3 9 EY, England; Chris Neill, 7 Glencraig Road, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim, BT36 5WJ; Jim Newell, 129 Haypark Avenue, Belfast, BT7 3FG; Karl O'Leary, 33 Meadowlawn, Raheen, Limerick; Stephen O'Neill, 35 Ferndale, Carrigaline, Co. Cork; Tony & Sue Tait, Aghada Hall Lodge, Lower Aghada, Middleton, Co. Cork.



*10 Specimen Award winner 2010 Keith Aherne with a 2.3 kg Rosscarbery Mullet*



*Derek Greene with one of his three Shannon specimen Pike*



*10 Specimen Award winner 2010 Philip Fox with a Bream from Derry Lake*



*A River Barrow Twaite Shad for David Murdoch*



## IRISH RECORD FISH

FRESHWATER SPECIES

Species	Weight		Date of	Place of Capture	Captor
	lbs	ozs	Capture		
Bream	12	3	22.5.1997	Bolganard Lake	Paul Mathers
Carp	29	13	5.7.1998	The Lough, Cork	Sidney Kennedy
Dace	1	2	8.8.1966	River Blackwater, Cappoquin	John T. Henry
Eel	6	15	12.6.1979	Lough Droumenisa, Bantry	J. Murnane
Perch	5	8	1946	Lough Erne	S. Drum
Pike (Lake)	42	12	25.9.2005	White Lake	Larry Kelly
Pike (River)	42		22.3.1964	River Barrow	M. Watkins
Roach	1.425 kg		6.10.2002	Drumacritten Lake	Terry Jackson
Roach/Bream Hybrid	7		24.4.2002	River Bann, Toome	Roy Gretton
Rudd	4	8	5.9.1996	Coney Lake	Hugh Gough
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	7	10	19.10.1996	Monalty Lake	Brendan Doran
Tench	8.15		20.6.1995	Ballyeigher Lake	Nick Parry
Salmon	57		1874	River Suir	M. Maher
Brown Trout (Lake)	26	2	15.7.1894	Lough Ennell	Wm. Mears
Brown Trout (River)	20		22.2.1957	River Shannon, Corbally	Major Hugh Place
Sea Trout	16	6	29.10.1983	Shimna River, Co. Down	Thomas McManus

MARINE SPECIES

Species	Weight		Date of	Place of Capture	Captor
	lbs	ozs	Capture		
Angler Fish	42.985 kg		3.11.1985	Belfast Lough	Sean Neill
Bass	17	13	21.10.2000	Doughmore Strand	Emmet Naughton
Black Sole	6.32		28.12.1986	Ballycotton	Eddie Cull
Bluemouth	1.32 kg		28.7.2008	Caherciveen	Sue Tait
Brill	9	8	8.9.1984	Causeway Coast	Deborah Gregg
Coalfish	15.1 kg		30.8.2003	Castletownshend	Roger Barham
Cod	42		1921	Ballycotton	I.L. Stewart
Conger Eel	72		June, 1914	Valentia	J. Green
Dab	2	5.5	2.10.2002	Cork Harbour	Mick Duff
Blackmouthed Dogfish	1.31 kg		30.8.2010	Islandmagee	David Craig
Spur Dogfish	10.43 kg		3.7.2010	Red Bay	Connor McNeill
Greater Spotted Dogfish	23	13	17.09.2003	Kenmare Bay	Perry Dumay
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	4	4	26.7.1982	Valentia	Cor Heinis
Flounder	4.91		2.10.1993	Ballyteigue	Brian Russell
Garfish ( <i>B. belone</i> )	1.729		28.5.2007	Cork Harbour	Stephen O'Neill
Garfish ( <i>B. svetovidovi</i> )	1.11		5.8.1994	Courtmacsherry	Eric Leijten
Gilthead Bream	3.24 kg		10.9.2007	Cork Harbour	Robert McClean

**MARINE SPECIES (Contd.)**

Species	Weight lbs    ozs	Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
Tub Gurnard	12    3.5	8.8.1973	Bullsmouth, Achill	Robert Seaman
Grey Gurnard	3       1	21.9.1967	Rosslare Bay	Brendan Walsh
Red Gurnard	3       9.5	17.7.1968	Belmullet	James Prescott
Haddock	5.39 kg	21.2.2010	Union Hall	Tony Santry
Hake	25    5.5	28.4.1962	Belfast Lough	H. W. Steele
Halibut	156	23.7.1972	Belmullet	Frank Brogan
Herring	0.454 kg	5.6.2008	Red Bay	Hamish Currie
John Dory	7       8	12.8.1984	Killala Bay	Cleona Walkin
Ling	55	3.1.2004	Cork Harbour	Ailbhe O'Sullivan
Mackerel	4       2	18.9.1979	Ballycotton	Ulrich Plassmann
Megrim	1.85 kg	26.7.1987	Killala	Paul Hennigan
Monkfish	73	1.6.1980	Fenit, Co. Kerry	James Boyd
Grey Mullet	9.10	26.9.1993	Cork Harbour	Cay Heerwagen
Golden Grey Mullet	1.191 kg	24.6.2006	Cork Harbour	Noel Lane
Red Mullet	0.82 kg	20.9.2010	Kilmore Quay	Sue Tait
Plaice	8.23	23.1.1982	Ballycotton Pier	Edmund Cull
Pollack	19       3	1904	Ballycotton	J. N. Hearne
Pouting	4    13.5	2.4.1983	Kilmore Quay	John Devereaux
Thornback Ray	37	28.5.1961	Ling Rocks, Kinsale	M. J. Fitzgerald
Blonde Ray	37	10.10.2005	Cobh	Paul Tennant
Sting Ray	33.2 kg	19.5.1999	Tralee Bay	Michael Wall
Cuckoo Ray	5       11	3. 8.1975	Causeway Coast	V. Morrison
Undulate Ray	18	11.6.1977	Fenit	Ann-Mari Liedecke
Homelyn Ray	8.28	28.9.1983	Cork Harbour	Edmund Cull
Painted Ray	17.21	29.8.1994	Garryvoe, Co. Cork	Edmund Cull
Electric Ray	40 kg	24.8.2002	Achill	Shay Boylan
Ray's Bream	6    4.25	26.8.1978	Valentia	Martin Sarney
Red Sea Bream	9       6	24.8.1963	Valentia	P. Maguire
Twaite Shad	1.54 kg	7.5.1999	St. Mullins	Michael O'Leary
Porbeagle Shark	365	1932	Keem Bay, Achill	Dr. O'Donel Brown
Blue Shark	206	7.10.59	Achill Head	J. McMonagle
Six Gilled Shark	480 kg	16.6.09	Carrigaholt	Joe Waldis
Common Skate	221	1913	Ballycotton	T. Tucker
White Skate	165	7.8.1966	Clew Bay	Jack Stack
Scad	1.97	6.9.1986	Clonakilty	Master R. McCarthy
Smooth-Hound	16.58	25.9.2000	Carne	Keith Gray
Stone Basse	11.72	14.7.2005	Baltimore	Tony Rainer
Three Bearded Rockling	3       1	1.5.1990	Arklow	Maurice Laurent
Tope	66       8	15.7.1979	Carlingford Lough	Cyril Young
Torsk	4.858 kg	26.6.2006	Rosguill	Jan de Bakker
Trigger Fish	2.54 kg	7.9.2006	Slea Head	Bob Moss
Turbot	34	9.6.1982	Cork Harbour	Frank Fleming
Tuna – Albacore	29.96 kg	5.9.2007	Caherciveen	Henry McAuley
– Bluefin	440 kg	5.10.2001	Donegal Bay	Adrian Molloy
Whiting	4    14.5	19.3.1981	Kenmare Bay	Comdt. M. J. O'Connor
Ballan Wrasse	4.3 kg	20.8.1983	Clogher Head	Bertrand Kron
Cuckoo Wrasse	2       7	15.9.1998	Causeway Coast	Brian McLoughlin

## SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
FRESHWATER FISH	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs	
Bream ( <i>Abramis brama</i> )	12	3	3.402	7.5	-
Carp ( <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> )	29	13	5.443	12	-
Dace ( <i>Leuciscus leuciscus</i> )	1	2	0.3	0.66	Scales* & photos*
Eel ( <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> )	6	15	suspended from listings		
Perch ( <i>Perca fluviatilis</i> )	5	8	1.2	2.646	-
Pike ( <i>Esox lucius</i> ) (Lake)	42	12	13.608	30	-
Pike ( <i>Esox lucius</i> ) (River)	42		9.072	20	-
Roach ( <i>Rutilus rutilus</i> )	1.425 kg		0.907	2	Scales* & photos*
Roach/Bream Hybrid	7		1.6	3.528	Scales* & photos*
Roach/Rudd Hybrid	-		0.9	1.98	Scales* & photos*
Rudd ( <i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i> )	4	8	0.9	1.98	Scales* & photos*
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	7	10	1.2	2.64	Scales* & photos*
Tench ( <i>Tinca tinca</i> )	8.15		2.722	6	-
Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	57		9.072	20	Scales
Brown Trout ( <i>Salmo trutta</i> ) (Lake)	26	2	4.536	10	Scales
Brown Trout ( <i>Salmo trutta</i> ) (River)	20		2.268	5	Scales
Sea Trout ( <i>Salmo trutta</i> )	16	6	2.722	6	Scales
Slob Trout ( <i>Salmo trutta</i> )	-		4.536	10	Scales
* for genetic fingerprinting feasibility study					
SEA FISH					
Angler Fish ( <i>Lophius piscatorius</i> )	42.985 kg		12.0	26.43	Body
Bass ( <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i> )	17	13	4.536	10	-
Black Sole ( <i>Solea solea</i> )	6.32		0.8	1.76	-
Black Bream ( <i>Spondyliosoma cantharus</i> )	-		1.0	2.205	Body
Bluemouth ( <i>Helicolenus dactylopterus</i> )	1.32 kg		0.9	1.9845	Photo
Brill ( <i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i> )	9	8	2.0	4.4	Body
Coalfish ( <i>Pollachius virens</i> )	15.1 kg		6.804	15	Photo
Cod ( <i>Gadus morhua</i> )	42		9.072	20	-
Conger eel ( <i>Conger conger</i> )	72		18.144	40	-
Dab ( <i>Limanda limanda</i> )	2	5.5	0.6	1.32	Body
Dogfish – Blackmouthed ( <i>Galeus melastomus</i> )	1.31 kg		1.0	2.205	Photo
Dogfish - Lesser Spotted ( <i>Scyliorhinus caniculus</i> )	4	4	1.474	3.25	Body
Dogfish - Greater Spotted ( <i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i> )	23	13	7.257	16	-
Dogfish – Spur ( <i>Squalus acanthias</i> )	10.43 kg		5.443	12	-
Flounder ( <i>Platichthys flesus</i> )	4.91		1.1	2.4255	Body
Garfish ( <i>Belone belone</i> )	1.729 kg		1.0	2.205	Head and gills
Garfish ( <i>Belone svetovidovi</i> )	1.11		0.355	0.875	Head and gills
Gilthead bream ( <i>Sparus aurata</i> )	3.24 kg		1.4	3.08	Photo (whole body, head shot showing mouth and eyes)
Gurnard - Grey ( <i>Eutrigla gurnardus</i> )	3	1	0.68	1.5	Body
Gurnard - Red ( <i>Aspitrigla cuculus</i> )	3	9.5	0.907	2	Body
Gurnard - Tub ( <i>Trigla lucerna</i> )	12	3.5	2.268	5	Photo (pectoral fins must be fully expanded)



SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS – *contd.*

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs	
Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )	5.39	kg	3.175	7.0	-
Hake ( <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> )	25	5.5	3.5	7.72	-
Halibut ( <i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i> )	156		15	33.08	-
Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )	0.454	kg	0.34	0.75	Body
John Dory ( <i>Zeus faber</i> )	7	8	1.814	4	-
Ling ( <i>Molva molva</i> )	55		11.34	25	-
Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )	4	2	1.0	2.5	Body
Megrim ( <i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i> )	1.85	kg	0.794	1.75	Body
Monkfish ( <i>Squatina squatina</i> )	73		suspended from listings		
Mullet - Grey, thick lipped ( <i>Chelon labrosus</i> )	9.1		2.268	5	Body
Mullet - Golden Grey ( <i>Liza aurata</i> )	1.191	kg	0.68	1.5	Body
Mullet – Red ( <i>Mullus surmuletus</i> )	0.82	kg	0.454	1.0	Body
Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	8.23		1.5	3.31	-
Pollack ( <i>Pollachius pollachius</i> )	19	3	5.443	12	Photo
Pouting ( <i>Trisopterus luscus</i> )	4	13.5	1.361	3	-
Ray - Blonde ( <i>Raja brachyura</i> )	37		11.34	25	Photo
Ray – Cuckoo ( <i>Raja naevus</i> )	5	11	1.8	4.0	Photo
Ray - Electric ( <i>Torpedo nobiliana</i> )	40	kg	9.072	20	Photo
Ray - Homelyn ( <i>Raja montagui</i> )	8.28		2.268	5	Photo
Ray - Painted ( <i>Raja microcellata</i> )	17.21		4.536	10	Photo
Ray - Sting ( <i>Dasyatis pastinaca</i> )	33.2	kg	13.608	30	Photo
Ray – Thornback ( <i>Raja clavata</i> )	37		8.0	17.64	Photo
Ray - Undulate ( <i>Raja undulata</i> )	18		suspended from listings		
Ray's Bream ( <i>Brama brama</i> )	6	4.25	2.0	4.41	Body
Red Sea Bream ( <i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i> )	9	6	1.8	4.0	-
Rockling, Three Bearded ( <i>Gaidropsarus vulgaris</i> )	3	1	0.794	1.75	Body
Scad ( <i>Trachurus trachurus</i> )	1.97		0.680	1.5	Body
Shad - Allis ( <i>Alosa alosa</i> )	-		1.814	4	Scales
Shad - Twaite ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> )	1.54	kg	1.1	2.4255	Scales
Shark - Blue ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )	206		45.359	100	Photo
Shark - Mako ( <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> )	-		90.718	200	Photo
Shark - Porbeagle ( <i>Lamna nasus</i> )	365		68.038	150	Photo
Shark - Six-Gilled ( <i>Hexanchus griseus</i> )	480	kg	45.359	100	Photo
Shark - Thresher ( <i>Alopias vulpinus</i> )	-		54.431	120	Photo
Skate - Common ( <i>Raja batis</i> )	221		suspended from listings		
Skate - Long Nosed ( <i>Raja oxyrinchus</i> )	-		36.287	80	Photo
Skate - White ( <i>Raja alba</i> )	165		54.431	120	Photo
Smooth-Hound ( <i>Mustelas asterias</i> )	16.58		3.0	6.62	Photo
Stone Basse ( <i>Polyprion americanus</i> )	11.72		3.628	8	-
Tope ( <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i> )	66	8	18.144	40	Photo
Torsk ( <i>Brosme brosme</i> )	4.858	kg	2.721	6	Body
Trigger Fish ( <i>Balistes carolinensis</i> )	2.54	kg	1.474	3.25	Photo
Tuna - Albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )	29.96	kg	12	26.46	Photo
Tuna - Bluefin ( <i>Thunnus thynnus</i> )	440	kg	250	551.88	-
Turbot ( <i>Scophthalmus maximus</i> )	34		7	15.44	-
Whiting ( <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> )	4	14.5	1.361	3	-
Wrasse Ballan ( <i>Labrus bergylla</i> )	4.3	kg	2.154	4.75	Photo
Wrasse Cuckoo ( <i>Labrus mixtus</i> )	2	7	0.567	1.25	Body

N.B. Where species identification states body required, high quality photographs (see Rule 4) may suffice.

## IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE RULES

### PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

- (1) **IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE:** This Committee consists of representatives of the Irish Angling Federations and the Government Departments and official organisations interested in angling. Its objective is to verify, record and publicise the capture of large fish on rod and line in Irish waters. A list of Specimen Fish is published annually by the Committee. Only fish which can be fully vouched for as to weight and species can be accepted and listed by the Committee. Except in exceptional circumstances, claims will remain valid for a period of one year following the year of capture.
- (2) **FAIR ANGLING:** “Fair Angling” means any legitimate method of angling with rod and reel which is recognised as a fair and sporting method. A fish must be hooked in or in the immediate vicinity of the mouth when it has taken the bait or lure; fish which have been foul-hooked, even accidentally, are not eligible. A fish in respect of which a claim is made must be hooked, played and brought to gaff or net by the angler **UNAIDED**, though the fish may be gaffed or netted by another, and it is permissible for the person using the gaff to take hold of the trace or doubled line (in the case of big game fishing) to steady the fish when it has been played out and brought within reach. If a fixed rod holder is in use while boat fishing, and a fish strikes, the rod must be removed from the holder as quickly as possible. This is to ensure that the angler hooks and plays the fish with rod in hand. Where a fighting chair is employed, it must not have any mechanically driven device which aids the angler in playing a fish. Body harnesses (which attach the rod to the body) are permissible but must not be fixed to the chair. Gimbals must be free swinging including those which move in the vertical plane. Gimbals which permit the angler to rest or reduce strain while playing a fish are prohibited. Breakage of rod, reel or line, or alteration or substitution of tackle, while a fish is being played, disqualify it for claim or record purposes. A fish may not be shot, lanced, clubbed or harpooned before landing. Claims for fish caught during the statutory close season for the species (where this applies) cannot be accepted.
- (3) **WEIGHING:** Fish must be weighed in the presence of independent, reliable witnesses on a properly certified scales, e.g., a shop scales or an official club scales which is covered by a certificate from the Weights and Measures Officer (see List of Weighing Scales Certification Centres in this report). Claims cannot be accepted in respect of fish weighed on scales inappropriate to the size of the fish, e.g., fish in the 1 to 3 kg range weighed on balances weighing up to 50 kg or over and graduated in large divisions. Where weights are in large divisions (e.g. 1 lb/1 kg divisions) the weight of a fish must be rounded **DOWN** to the nearest actual division.

**CLAIMS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED IN THE CASE OF FISH WHICH HAVE BEEN WEIGHED ON BOARD A BOAT, UNLESS WEIGHED ON A CERTIFIED MOTION-COMPENSATED BALANCE.**

*Please note:* All club and personal scales **MUST** be certified annually by an independent agency. Weighing scales must be covered by a Certificate of Accuracy at the time of weighing. They cannot be certified in retrospect, i.e. after the fish has been weighed.

- (4) IDENTIFICATION:** The identification of a fish must be fully documented where there is a possibility of its confusion with any other (and particularly larger) species. For this reason, the Committee, in respect of some species, insists that scales from the fish, close up photographs or the actual body must be forwarded as actual proof of identification, before it will consider claims.

**FISH SCALES** must be submitted in respect of claims for SALMON, SEA TROUT, BROWN TROUT (including SLOB TROUT), RUDD, ROACH, and their hybrids, and SHAD. Any brown trout taken in tidal waters, i.e., in the sea or in an estuary below the freshwater boundary as defined for that river will be regarded for claim purposes as a slob trout. About 10 scales scraped from one shoulder of the salmonid should be sent with the claim.

**THE ACTUAL BODY** must be forwarded for identification in the case of the following species:- MACKEREL, SCAD, HERRING, FLOUNDER, DAB, BRILL, MEGRIM, GREY & RED GURNARDS, GREY MULLET, GOLDEN GREY AND RED MULLET, ANGLER FISH, LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH, THREE BEARDED ROCKLING, BLACK BREAM, RAYS BREAM, CUCKOO WRASSE, TORSK, "RIVER" EELS taken in tidal waters and GARFISH (head and gills only). Claims may be ratified where a photograph is of sufficient quality to provide conclusive evidence (i.e. key identification features clearly visible) to identify a fish, to the satisfaction of the Committee. However, the onus to provide suitable evidence rests solely with the angler.

**CLEAR, SHARP, CLOSE-UP PHOTOGRAPHS**, showing the entire fish with its fins and other features easily seen, and not fore-shortened or obscured by shadows or bystanders must be provided in the case of TOPE, SHARKS, SKATE, RAYS, BLUEMOUTH, MONKFISH, POLLACK, COALFISH, BALLAN WRASSE, TRIGGER FISH, ALBACORE, TUB GURNARD (pectoral fins of gurnard must be fully expanded), GILTHEAD BREAM (whole body and head shot showing mouth and eyes) and BLACKMOUTHED DOGFISH.

In the case of skates and rays, photographs of both back and belly surfaces should be provided and particulars of the coloration given (with particular reference to the presence of dark or grey spots, or streaks or patches on the belly side). Samples of the teeth should be furnished in the case of Porbeagle and Mako Sharks. In addition, there should be a clear close-up photograph showing the jaws and teeth exposed.



**(5) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF CLAIMS:** A maximum of three (3) awards will be made to any particular claimant for a single species in any one year. However, provision will be made that when an angler achieves this target and subsequently captures larger fish, these will be taken into account but the final number of awards for any species in a single year will not be more than three awards. By including this latter provision, it will ensure that the anglers competitive spirit is kept up and higher achievements could still be sought.

**(6) SENDING FISH TO THE COMMITTEE:**

*Please*

- (1) Notify the Committee when a fish is being sent in for identification  
Telephone 01-884 2600; Fax: 01-836 0060. E-mail: [info@isfc.ie](mailto:info@isfc.ie)
- (2) Do not forward fish to the Committee before Bank Holidays or weekends; (keep in a cold store or preferably frozen if fish cannot be delivered quickly on or before Friday afternoon).
- (3) Please attach a label to each fish forwarded for identification giving the captor's name and address, date and place of capture and the weight of the fish.
- (4) Fish should not be sent in polythene bags or wrapped in aluminium foil as this causes rapid decomposition. Specimens should be wrapped in greaseproof paper and then in newspaper and brown paper.

**(7) AWARDS:** Anglers whose claims have been accepted by the Committee will be awarded special "Merit Badges" in the case of Specimen Fish and Silver Medals in the case of Record Fish. Specimen Fish Certificates will also be issued in respect of all ratified claims. Only one merit badge will be awarded to any angler per annum even where multiple claims are received. Special badges are awarded to anglers who have caught specimens of ten or more species and a special badge is issued each year for fish of exceptional merit though not of record size.

**IMPORTANT** – Completed claim forms should be sent to: The Irish Specimen Fish Committee, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin, Rep. of Ireland (Tel. 00-353-1-884 2600) before 30th November each year. Where required for identification purposes (see Rule 4) fish should be sent to the same address.

For marine fish taken in Northern Ireland contact Dr. Steven Beggs, AFBINI, Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX, Ph: +44 (0) 28 9025 5503.

Email: [steven.beggs@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:steven.beggs@afbini.gov.uk)

For freshwater fish taken in Northern Ireland contact Dr. Robert Rosell, AFBINI, Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX. Tel: +44 (0) 28 9025 5236, Fax: +44 (0) 28 9025 5004.

Email: [robert.rosell@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:robert.rosell@afbini.gov.uk)

## THE LUCKY FISH?

*Like Gary Player, **Jim Clohessy** finds that the more effort he puts into his specimen hunting the 'luckier' he becomes!*

I am a specimen hunter. I fish therefore I am! My relationship with the ISFC system began as a younger man. My father was lucky enough to catch a fine specimen bass and was aware of the Committee's work. He got his splendid fish weighed and sent off the details to Dublin. It was a proud day when he took the trip to the Big Smoke to collect his certificate and specimen badge. At that time angling for me was more about catching as many as I could; the competition thrill was my driver. When my desire to catch the most fish departed it was replaced by a need to catch as many species of fish as I could. It was a major learning experience: when – where – how..... my mind was bursting with ideas. Where did I go for information? The Specimen Fish Committee Report always featured heavily in my investigations.

As the years rolled on I found that technology has helped me advance my specimen hunting. GPS has to be one of the most useful gadgets that the sea angler uses. It is incredible when you think about the cost of putting satellites in orbit and then allowing the masses to tap into them. It meant that the sea angler did not need to look to the shore for reference points anymore. But GPS also poses one of the greatest threats to the fish stocks on the offshore wrecks and commercial fishing pressure has increased as more boats net the wrecks.

In the mid-90s, the combination of GPS and additional technology such as a fast angling boat meant that offshore wrecks were a realistic target for me – the small boat angler. Those first few trips were not successful for me, but successful nonetheless – I learned a lot! Perhaps there was more to catching big fish. I thought about my father's catch. That specimen bass was his first and his only specimen bass so far – an amazing fish considering the pressure the stock was under from commercial fishing around the time. The bass protection measures had only just come into being around that time. It became clear to me that luck plays its part, but being in the right place, at the right time, with the right technique, is the ultimate goal for the specimen angler.

I eventually got on the specimen ladder in 2001 and luckily I have not been off it since – always marine species and always from my small boat – that's my quirk! The ingredients have always been: right place, right time and right technique. After that, I will admit that Lady Luck plays her part. Take my latest specimen – a beautiful dab of 0.7kg. I was fishing for thornback rays and getting consistent small bites. I reckoned that the bites were 'dab-like'. I retrieved one of my rods and tackled up a trace more suitable for smaller fish. Within a few minutes I had a specimen fish in the landing net. Was that luck or was it watercraft combined with a bit of experience and some logic? I felt more privileged than lucky.

I meet the same 'lucky' anglers each year at the ISFC Awards Day. It is one of the added bonuses of going to the awards ceremony. I meet like-minded people who are dedicated specimen hunters. You will always have the guy who catches the fish of a lifetime by chance, and he enjoys his day out as much as anyone else. But for me it is the guys that I have been meeting every year – consistent specimen catchers – they make my day. The dedication, research, planning, time and effort that these guys put into their quest is superb. You rarely hear of the many fruitless trips these guys have made before eventually the 'right' stuff gels and the specimen fish is landed. For them that is the ultimate – the successful quest for the 'lucky' fish.



*Jim with his specimen Dab of 0.7 kg*

As I get older, I realise that there are several stages in a specimen angler's career. Firstly, you must catch the first specimen – any species will do! Then you move to catching as many specimens as you possibly can. Is the next stage targeting specific species and working to that end? Eventually you will succumb to the lure of the specimen species count – sea anglers head for the fresh water and fresh water anglers take to the sea. It seems to be inevitable!

Whatever your reasons for seeking out that 'lucky' fish, remember you are doing more than chasing your dream. You are writing your name into Irish angling history. You are leaving an invaluable record for those who will follow and be lured to fish in the rich waters in Ireland. Economically we find ourselves again in dire straits. An added bonus to certifying your specimen catch is that you play your part in enticing anglers and their valuable business to our angling venues. For many less common species specimen catches over the past 50 years provide the only long-term record of its status.

Specimen anglers – your quest is a noble one! I don't think there are 'lucky' catches of specimen fish – only dedicated anglers lucky enough to be part of something greater than the sum of its parts.

*Jim Clohessy  
Glanmire, Co. Cork  
November 2010*