

IRISH SPECIMEN FISH 2013



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE

Website: www.irish-trophy-fish.com

Coiste Éisc Mór na hÉirinn

The Irish Specimen Fish Committee

Founded in 1955, the ISFC is an independent voluntary body, representative of angling interests in Ireland, whose principal function is to verify, record and publicise the capture of large (i.e. specimen) fish caught on rod and line by anglers in Ireland, both in freshwater and marine waters. The Committee also ratifies Irish record rod caught fish. The ISFC coordinates and administers the unique specimen awards scheme which is designed to recognize any angler who catches a specimen fish and to publicise the angling venue. Successful anglers are awarded a certificate and a commemorative badge. Specially commissioned silver medals are presented to captors of record fish and special awards are also made to captors of multiple specimen fish (on a cumulative basis). This report is a detailed listing of all particulars relating to specimen and record fish captures in Irish waters in 2013. Over 25,000 claims have been received by the ISFC over the past 58 years. This dataset is one of the most valuable and long-running time-series of its type.

Irish Specimen Fish Committee Members 2013

Dr. Robert Rosell (*AFBI*), Chairman, Dr. William Roche, Secretary, Shane O'Reilly and Micheál Hennessy (*Inland Fisheries Ireland*), Alan McGurdy, Stewart McGrane (*Game Angling*), Orla Woods (*Faite Ireland*), Dr. Edward Fahy (*Marine Institute*), Dr. Patrick Boylan (*Loughs Agency*), Der Casey (*Coarse Angling*) and Hugh O'Rorke (*Sea Angling*).

Awards Presentation

The Annual Presentation of Awards
to anglers whose claims were accepted during 2013

will be held in

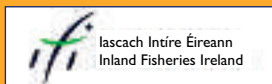
Bewleys Airport Hotel

Swords, Co. Dublin at 2.30pm sharp

on Saturday 15th February 2014

All Irish anglers who are due awards are invited to attend

This report was produced by the ISFC with financial support from:



www.fisheriesireland.ie



www.failteireland.ie



www.loughs-agency.org

Cover: UK based Heather Linfield with a specimen Gilthead Bream from Clonakilty

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ISFC Chairman's Review 2013



The Irish Specimen Fish Committee sets itself the annual task of recording and recognising records of the capture by anglers of large specimens and record fish. The annual report is the highlight of the year for a particular group of anglers who set out to catch those fish, but it is also much more than just a simple record of exceptional captures. The committee's origins stem from the needs of science to record the maximum growth potential of individual species. Anglers are often the source of records of the largest individuals, their data on length and weight filling a gap often identified in routine stock assessment surveys. The current format of the report, with its wonderful colour photographs, serves the twin purposes of an advertisement for angling in Ireland to visitors from overseas and a spur to encourage anglers at home to seek the larger fish.

The writing of this year's Chairman's report is tinged with sadness, as the committee lost its long standing chairman with the death of Trevor Champ during the year. Trevor's passing robbed the fisheries management and science worlds of a major figure, a mentor to younger scientists and a role model of the highest standing. His passionate interest in safeguarding the health of lakes, rivers and fish was and will remain a spur to us all to continue with the work. It is somewhat daunting and a significant honour to be asked to take on the chairmanship following on Trevor's major contribution over many years.

The work of the committee has changed much over time. In its infancy in the 1950s the normal practice was to return the bodies of some species that were difficult to identify to an ISFC scientist for verification. Anglers and especially specimen hunters are now much more conservation orientated and want to return fish to the water alive. Indeed, rules exist in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland to re-inforce this practice for most species. A combination of techniques including high quality digital photographs, scale sampling and the use of modern genetics makes it possible to accurately identify even difficult species where 40 years ago an expert examination was the only way. With these developments and changing reporting practice, the onus is clearly more than ever on anglers to submit accurate and fairly recorded records in line with the requirements of the committee. Other developments include continuing to test new categories of length, rather than weight-based claims to facilitate recording both shore and boat caught specimens. Following the introduction of a length-based system for specimen tope recording in 2011 the ISFC has introduced the same system for spurdog and smooth-hound from 2014 onwards. Anglers are encouraged to prepare for length based specimens by purchasing measuring mats which are available from suppliers including Inland Fisheries Ireland.

In keeping with the legal position bluefin tuna has been suspended from ISFC listings as Ireland, under EU fishing regulations, does not have a quota for landing this species, which ironically appeared in reasonable numbers off the Irish coast in 2013. European (freshwater) eel also remains closed to record claims.

Highlights of the year include two new records – the largest ever captures of a gilthead bream and a roach/bream hybrid. The fine summer, despite coming after a prolonged cold spring, proved good for some species, with many declared specimens of smooth-hound and spurdog. It was also a good year for gilthead bream and mullet from the shore and in estuaries. There were fewer than normal large gadoids, for reasons as yet unexplained. Freshwater highlights reported included pike over thirty pounds (13.6 Kg) from lake and river, some large roach/bream hybrids in addition to the new record, and some excellent bream from Lough Ree. Lough Currane produced a fine sea trout over 5 Kg.

The ISFC cannot function without the support of individuals on the committee who give freely of their time to review the records sent in and further the business of the committee. The contribution of staff time by committee members' professional employers is significant, and sponsorship from Inland Fisheries Ireland, Failte Ireland, the Loughs Agency, Fishery owners, Angling Associations and Clubs and individuals is gratefully acknowledged. Sourcing funding remains a constant item on the ISFC's agenda – contributions from anglers are also important to delivery of the service offered. In other developments ISFC launched a new website in 2013.

Hugh O'Rorke has retired from the Committee and I want to thank him for his contribution to business over the years.

I look forward to working as Chairman of the ISFC and hope that angling on the island will continue to provide excellent sport and an interesting variety of species for many years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Rosell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Robert Rosell, Chairman

16th January, 2014

Report of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee 2013

INTRODUCTION

In 2013 the ISFC processed 685 claims; 595 were ratified, including two new records. A total of 48 were rejected for non-compliance with the rules and a further 42 will be queried further. Details of new records, other special awards and specimen awards 2013 are listed below:

NEW IRISH RECORDS (Engraved Silver Medal)

For fish exceeding the current Irish record weight



***NEW RECORD Gilthead Bream
3.505 kg, Dingle, Co. Kerry, 17th August 2013 – Jeremy Coleman***



***NEW RECORD Roach/Bream Hybrid
3.376 kg, Monalty Lake, Co. Monaghan, 3rd May 2013 – Jason Dingle***

SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORIES 2013

20 SPECIES AWARD (Engraved Plaque)

Philip Barry, Ballyvolane, Cork

1984	Blonde Ray
1985	Plaice
2005	Coalfish
2006	Cod, Cuckoo Wrasse
2007	Painted Ray, Red Gurnard, Spur Dogfish, Thick Lipped Mullet
2008	Grey Gurnard, Pollack
2009	Ballan Wrasse, Golden Grey Mullet, Gilthead Bream
2010	Bluemouth
2011	Flounder
2012	Megrim, Smooth Hound, Twaite Shad
2013	Lesser Spotted Dogfish

10 SPECIES AWARD (Engraved Bronze Medal)**Rini Anemaet, 4694 EG Scherpenisse, Netherlands**

1983	Turbot
1984	Conger Eel
1993	Monkfish
1994	Ling
1998	Sting Ray
1999	Pouting
2002	Cod
2005	Coalfish, Lesser Spotted Dogfish
2011	Spur Dogfish

Des Chew, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14

2008	Thick Lipped Mullet
2009	Flounder
2010	Ballan Wrasse, Bream, Pike (River)
2012	Painted Ray, Roach/Rudd Hybrid, Rudd/Bream Hybrid, Smooth Hound,
2013	Tench

Desmond Frazer, Sandymount, Dublin 4

1986	Bass
1996	Thick Lipped Mullet
2005	Coalfish, Tub Gurnard
2007	Spur Dogfish, Twaite Shad
2009	Conger Eel
2010	Gilthead Bream
2012	Golden Grey Mullet
2013	Smooth Hound

Stephen O'Neill, Carrigaline, Co. Cork

1999	Conger
2007	Bass, Blonde Ray, Garfish (B. bellone),
2008	Cod, Flounder
2010	Thick Lipped Mullet
2011	Lesser Spotted Dogfish
2012	Plaice, Red Gurnard
2013	Golden Grey Mullet, Scad

Jerry O'Connor, Tralee, Co. Kerry

2009	Carp
2010	Thick Lipped Mullet, Twaite Shad
2011	Rudd/Bream Hybrid, Shad Hybrid
2012	Sting Ray, Smooth Hound, Painted Ray, Flounder
2013	Gilthead Bream

Robert Porter, Friars Walk, Cork

2007	Coalfish, Sea Trout
2009	Cod
2010	Garfish (B. bellone)
2012	Rudd/Bream Hybrid, Rudd, Salmon, Roach/Rudd Hybrid
2013	Painted Ray, Smooth Hound, Brown Trout (River)

50 SPECIMENS AWARD (Gold Specimen Badge)**Peter Bolger, Coolock, Dublin 17**

1983	Flounder (1)
1992-2011	Twaite Shad (19)
1995-1998	Bass (2)
1997-2013	Thick Lipped Mullet (11)
1998-1999	Pike (River) (2)
2000-2001	Roach/Bream Hybrids (4)
2002	Pollack (1)
2002	Spur Dogfish (1)
2002	Dace (1)
2002-2006	Ballan Wrasse (4)
2011	Shad Hybrid (2)
2013	Gilthead Bream (1), Golden Grey Mullet (1)

Shay McDonnell, Tallaght, Dublin 24

1982-1994	Flounder (10)
1983-1995	Ling (2)
1983-1985	Twaite Shad (4)
1984-2010	Pike (River) (11)
1984-2010	Smooth Hound (3)
1985-2007	Pollack (3)
1985-1988	Thornback Ray (2)
1986-2012	Rudd/Bream Hybrids (4)
1986	Spur Dogfish (1)
1986	Tope (1)
1988	Grey Gurnard (1)
1998	Roach/Bream Hybrid (1)
2002	Bream (1)
2010-2011	Thick Lipped Mullet (3)
2012	Carp (2)
2013	Brown Trout (Lake) (1)

10 SPECIMENS AWARD (Silver Pin)

Duncan Cole , Kircubbin, Co. Down	2008-2013
Arian Huijbregts , Zevenb. Hoek, The Netherlands	2008-2013
Barry James , South Douglas Road, Cork	1973-2013
Peter Kleijn , Schagen, The Netherlands	2008-2013
Thomas Lynch , Rush, Co. Dublin	2012-2013
Clyde McElwaine , Rathfarnham, Co. Dublin	2006-2013
Liam Millerick , Kinsealy, Co. Dublin	2011-2013
Craig Murphy , Inchicore, Dublin 8	2011-2013
Kim Tully , Clonsilla, Dublin 15	2005-2013
Zoe Tully , Clonsilla, Dublin 15	2005-2013
Andrew Wolsey , Dromore, Co. Down	2009-2013

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

Dr. Michael Kennedy, a pioneering fisheries biologist and one of the founders of the ISFC, had a lifelong research interest in mullet species. The Kennedy Award is for the best specimen (highest percentage of the record) and/or a new record of any of the three mullet species for that year.

The 2013 award winner is:

Ciaran Barry, Douglas, Cork, for a **Golden Grey Mullet** of 1.13 kg taken in Clonakilty on 30th July 2013.

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

Dr. Arthur Went, a 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 2013 award winner is:

Joshua Higginson, Ballynahinch, Co. Down, BT24 8HW for a **Twaite Shad** of 1.35 kg taken in the River Barrow at St. Mullins on 5th May 2013.

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 2013 award winner is:

Mari Van Der Wiel, 4285 BM Woudrichem, The Netherlands for a **Spur Dogfish** of 10.4 kg taken in Red Bay on 9th August, 2013.

BEST INTERNATIONAL SPECIMEN FISH AWARD (Engraved Plaque)

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

The 2013 award winner is:

Mari Van Der Wiel, 4285 BM Woudrichem, The Netherlands for a **Spur Dogfish** of 10.4 kg taken in Red Bay on 9th August, 2013.

*Des Chew with a
Vartry estuary
Thick Lipped Mullet*



*A 5.64 kg Wicklow
Smooth-Hound for
Philip O'Brien*

SPECIMEN FISH CLAIMS RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE IN 2013

FRESHWATER FISH 2013

Coarse Fish and Pike

BREAM**Record 6.07 kg; Specimen Weight, 3.402 kg (7.5 lbs)**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
4.54	10.00	–	Lough Ree	11-May	Sidney Kennedy	Maggot
4.54	10.00	61.0	Lough Ree	11-May	Andrew Wolsey	Worm/ Maggot
4.54	10.00	60.0	Lough Ree	11-May	Andrew Wolsey	Worm/ Maggot
4.43	9.76	–	Lough Ree	11-May	Sidney Kennedy	Maggot
4.42	9.75	67.5	Lough Ree	11-May	Terry Jackson	Maggot
4.40	9.70	–	Keenkeen Lake	12-May	James Dignam	Red maggots
4.37	9.62	–	Lough Ree	11-May	Sidney Kennedy	Maggot
4.03	8.87	–	Lough Ree	11-May	Derick O'Brien	Sweetcorn
4.03	8.87	–	Lough Ree	11-May	Derick O'Brien	Sweetcorn
4.03	8.87	65.0	Lough Ree	11-May	Terry Jackson	Maggot



***James Dignam with
one of his three
specimen Bream***

Year of capture is 2013 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>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.97	8.75	–	Ballyhoe Lake	05-Sep	Michael Connell	Cork ball
3.91	8.62	–	Lough Ree	11-May	Derick O'Brien	Sweetcorn
3.88	8.56	–	Keenkeen L	17-Sep	James Dignam	Corn
3.83	8.44	–	Keenkeen L	03-Aug	James Dignam	Maggot
3.74	8.25	61.0	Lough Ree	11-May	Andrew Wolsey	Worm/ Maggot
3.74	8.25	63.0	Lough Ree	11-May	Terry Jackson	Maggot
3.65	8.05	–	Drumlaheen Lake	20-Jun	Colin Martin	Sweetcorn
3.46	7.62	55.9	Lough Derravaragh	09-Sep	Jonathan Kenna	Maggot
3.46	7.62	63.5	Lough Derravaragh	11-Sep	Robert Tully	Maggot

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

8.28	18.25	70.0	The Lough, Cork	09-Jun	Barry James	Floating Crust
8.16	18.00	73.0	The Lough, Cork	24-Apr	Kenneth Murphy	Boilie
8.12	17.91	73.0	The Lough, Cork	06-May	Patrick Lombard	Boilie
8.11	17.87	–	The Lough, Cork	06-May	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
7.87	17.35	–	The Lough, Cork	26-Jul	David McFarlane	Boilie
7.71	17.00	–	The Lough, Cork	06-May	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
7.34	16.19	71.0	The Lough, Cork	29-Apr	Sarah Lynch (J)	Boilie
7.26	16.00	–	The Lough, Cork	05-May	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
7.00	15.44	74.0	The Lough, Cork	06-May	John O'Sullivan	Boilie
6.89	15.19	–	The Lough, Cork	26-Jul	Sarah Lynch (J)	Boilie
6.83	15.06	68.0	The Lough, Cork	24-Apr	John O'Sullivan	Boilie
6.80	15.00	68.6	The Lough, Cork	19-Oct	Terry Jackson	Bread flake/ sweetcorn
6.80	15.00	–	The Lough, Cork	07-Jun	Brendan McNamara	Bread
6.76	14.90	–	The Lough, Cork	26-Jul	Paul McDonald	Boilie
6.69	14.75	61.0	The Lough, Cork	09-Jun	Brian Lombard	Boilie
6.69	14.75	–	The Lough, Cork	26-Jul	Dan Lynch	Boilie
6.63	14.62	–	The Lough, Cork	12-May	Brian Lombard	Boilie
6.55	14.44	72.0	The Lough, Cork	26-Apr	Aaron Murphy (J)	Boilie
6.46	14.25	68.6	The Lough, Cork	19-Oct	Terry Jackson	Bread flake/ sweetcorn
6.35	14.00	–	The Lough, Cork	06-May	Derick O'Brien	Boilie
6.35	14.00	–	The Lough, Cork	15-Jul	Noel Darcy	Boilie

CARP – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.29	13.87	–	The Lough, Cork	29-Apr	Dan Lynch	Boilie
6.29	13.87	76.0	The Lough, Cork	23-Apr	Patrick Lombard	Boilie
6.26	13.80	–	The Lough, Cork	26-Jul	Paul McDonald	Boilie
6.18	13.62	74.0	The Lough, Cork	23-Apr	Patrick Lombard	Boilie
6.12	13.50	66.0	The Lough, Cork	30-May	Jerry O'Connor	Boilie
5.93	13.06	68.0	The Lough, Cork	09-Jun	Barry James	Boilie
5.92	13.05	–	The Lough, Cork	15-Jul	Noel Darcy	Boilie
5.91	13.03	–	The Lough, Cork	15-Jul	David McFarlane	Boilie
5.90	13.00	70.0	The Lough, Cork	26-Oct	Conor Ward (J)	Boilie
5.67	12.50	–	The Lough, Cork	15-Jul	Noel Darcy	Boilie
5.56	12.25	68.0	The Lough, Cork	28-Oct	Jerry O'Connor	Boilie
5.50	12.12	69.9	The Lough, Cork	19-Oct	Terry Jackson	Boilie



The Lough produced all of the specimen carp in 2013 including this 5.9 kg fish for Conor Ward



One of the best carp of 2013 at 7.34 kg fell to Sarah Lynch



A River Lee Pike for Sidney Kennedy taken on a pike fly

PIKE (LAKE)

Record 42 lbs 12 ozs (19.408 kg); Specimen Weight 13.608 kg (30 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
14.06	31.00	110.0	Annaghiery Lough	23-Feb	Brian O'Donnell	Mackerel

PIKE (RIVER)

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

15.17	33.44	126.0	River Shannon, Rooskey	01-Mar	Kevin Lyons	Roach
13.21	29.12	124.0	River Shannon, Rooskey	27-Feb	Kevin Lyons	Herring
11.96	26.37	120.0	River Shannon, Rooskey	27-Feb	Kevin Lyons	Mackerel
11.45	25.25	—	River Lee	15-Mar	Sidney Kennedy	Fly
11.17	24.62	108.0	R. Blackwater, Moy	06-Jan	Terry Jackson	Bream



A River Shannon Pike for Derek Greene

PIKE (RIVER) – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
10.94	24.12	–	River Erne, Belturbet	09-Dec-12	David McConnell	Mackerel
10.94	24.12	–	R. Shannon, Jamestown	03-Feb	Derek Greene	Sardine
10.55	23.25	–	R. Shannon, Jamestown	01-Feb	Derek Greene	Sardine
10.49	23.12	–	River Erne, Belturbet	08-Nov	Phil Wilson	Roach
10.01	22.06	–	R. Shannon, Athlone	03-Apr	Sean O'Brien	Bait
9.87	21.75	–	River Suck, Ballyforan	25-May	Clyde McElwaine	Roach
9.30	20.50	–	Woodford R., Ballinamore	27-Apr	David McConnell	Mackerel
9.19	20.25	100.0	R. Shannon, Lanesboro	01-Apr	Conor Ward (J)	Roach

ROACH**Record 1.425 kg; Specimen Weight 0.907 kg (2 lbs)**

1.19	2.62	40.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	23-Mar-12	Dan Lynch	Maggot
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ROACH/BREAM HYBRID**New Record 3.376 kg (7 lbs 7 ozs); Specimen Weight 1.6 kg (3.528 lbs)**

3.37	7.44	–	Monalty Lake	03-May	Jason Dingle	Maggot
2.98	6.56	–	Lough Derravaragh	01-May	James Dignam	Sweetcorn
2.86	6.31	–	Lough Derravaragh	02-May	James Dignam	Maggot
2.81	6.19	–	Keenkeen Lake	13-Aug	James Dignam	Maggot
2.72	6.00	49.5	Lough Derravaragh	11-Sep	Zoe Tully	Maggot
2.72	6.00	56.5	Lough Ree	12-May	Terry Jackson	Maggot
2.72	6.00	56.0	Lough Ree	11-May	Terry Jackson	Maggot
2.66	5.87	–	Lough Ree	11-May	Sidney Kennedy	Sweetcorn
2.66	5.87	53.0	Lough Ree	12-May	Terry Jackson	Maggot
2.61	5.75	52.5	Lough Ree	11-May	Andrew Wolsey	Worm/ Maggot
2.55	5.62	49.0	Lough Derravaragh	28-Sep-12	Dan Lynch	Maggot
2.44	5.37	–	Monalty Lake	26-Apr-12	Owen McGuinness	Pellets/ Corn
2.32	5.12	–	Lough Ree	11-May	Sidney Kennedy	Maggot
2.32	5.12	53.0	Lough Ree	11-May	Andrew Wolsey	Worm/ Maggot
2.32	5.12	51.0	Lough Ree	11-May	Andrew Wolsey	Worm/ Maggot
2.21	4.87	53.3	Lough Derravaragh	09-Sep	Jonathan Kenna	Maggot

ROACH/BREAM HYBRID – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.20	4.85	50.8	Lough Derravaragh	11-Sep	Liam Tully	Maggot
2.20	4.85	52.1	Lough Derravaragh	10-Sep	Kim Tully	Maggot
2.00	4.41	47.0	Lough Derravaragh	11-Sep	Zoe Tully	Maggot
2.00	4.41	49.5	Lough Derravaragh	10-Sep	Kim Tully	Maggot
2.00	4.41	45.7	Lough Derravaragh	10-Sep	Clare Maurer	Maggot
1.96	4.31	–	Lough Derravaragh	28-Sep-12	Sidney Kennedy	Maggot
1.95	4.30	–	Lough Derravaragh	09-Sep	Kim Tully	Maggot
1.93	4.25	49.5	Lough Derravaragh	10-Sep	Clare Maurer	Maggot
1.90	4.19	49.5	Lough Derravaragh	11-Sep	Zoe Tully	Maggot
1.90	4.19	50.8	Lough Derravaragh	11-Sep	Clare Maurer	Maggot
1.87	4.12	–	Lough Derravaragh	28-Sep-12	Sidney Kennedy	Sweetcorn
1.85	4.08	49.5	Lough Derravaragh	10-Sep	Liam Tully	Maggot
1.81	4.00	48.3	Lough Derravaragh	11-Sep	Robert Tully	Maggot
1.76	3.87	49.5	Lough Derravaragh	11-Sep	Liam Tully	Maggot
1.70	3.75	48.3	Lough Derravaragh	09-Sep	Jonathan Kenna	Maggot

ROACH/RUDD HYBRID**Record 2.1 kg (4.63 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.9 kg (1.98 lbs)**

1.28	2.81	41.0	R. Lagan, u/s Stranmillis	01-Jun	Andrew Wolsey	Maggot/ Caster
1.22	2.69	43.0	u/s Stranmillis	01-Jun	Terry Jackson	Maggot/ Caster Cocktail
1.11	2.44	–	Lee Reservoir	25-Jun-12	Sidney Kennedy	Corn
1.11	2.44	–	Inniscarra Reservoir	04-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggot
1.08	2.37	39.5	u/s Stranmillis	01-Jun	Terry Jackson	Maggot/ Caster Cocktail
1.08	2.37	43.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	15-Feb-12	Dan Lynch	Maggot
1.06	2.34	43.0	u/s Stranmillis	29-Jun	Andrew Wolsey	Worm
1.05	2.31	37.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	05-May	Robert Reid	Maggot
1.05	2.31	37.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	04-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggot
1.02	2.25	40.0	u/s Stranmillis	02-Jun	Terry Jackson	Maggot/ Caster Cocktail
0.98	2.15	37.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	23-Apr	Dan Lynch	Maggot
0.96	2.12	37.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	04-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggot
0.96	2.12	38.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	16-May	Micheal Hennessy	Maggot
0.94	2.06	38.0	u/s Stranmillis	01-Jun	Andrew Wolsey	Maggot/Worm
0.94	2.06	41.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	09-Jun-12	Jerry O'Connor	Maggot

ROACH/RUDD HYBRID – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.94	2.06	40.0	Lee Reservoir	15-May-12	Jerry O'Connor	Maggot
0.94	2.06	42.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	17-May-12	Jerry O'Connor	Maggot
0.91	2.00	36.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	05-May	Robert Reid	Maggot



*Andrew Wolsey
admires his
Lagan
Roach/Rudd*

RUDD

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

1.30	2.87	–	Carrigadrohid Res.	15-Jun-11	Ross Macklin	Maggot
0.91	2.00	35.6	Lough Derravaragh	09-Sep	Robert Tully	Maggot

RUDD/BREAM HYBRID

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

2.32	5.12	48.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	05-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggot
2.15	4.75	45.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	09-Jun-12	Jerry O'Connor	Corn/ Maggot
2.10	4.62	–	Lee Reservoir	23-Jun-12	Sidney Kennedy	Sweetcorn
2.04	4.50	–	Inniscarra Reservoir	05-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggot
1.96	4.31	49.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	20-May	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/ maggot



The Lee system was very productive for specimen Rudd/Bream in recent years. John O'Sullivan had this 1.64 kg fish in May 2012.

RUDD/BREAM HYBRID – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.81	4.00	–	Carrigadrohid Reservoir	07-May-12	Kenneth Murphy	Maggot
1.79	3.94	–	Carrigadrohid Reservoir	07-May-12	Kenneth Murphy	Maggot
1.64	3.62	–	Carrigadrohid Reservoir	19-May-12	John O'Sullivan	Maggot
1.59	3.50	48.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	21-May	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/ Maggot
1.59	3.50	47.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	20-May	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/ Maggot
1.59	3.50	43.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	15-Feb-12	Dan Lynch	Maggot
1.56	3.44	–	Lee Reservoir	07-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Maggot
1.50	3.31	–	Carrigadrohid Reservoir	19-May-12	Kenneth Murphy	Maggot
1.47	3.25	–	Carrigadrohid Reservoir	07-May-12	John O'Sullivan	Maggot
1.47	3.25	42.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	15-Feb-12	Dan Lynch	Pellet
1.45	3.20	48.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	20-Jun	Patrick Lombard	Maggot
1.45	3.19	45.1	Inniscarra Reservoir	24-Jul	Christy Lane	Sweetcorn
1.45	3.19	–	Lee Reservoir	12-May-12	Sarah Lynch (J)	Maggot
1.45	3.19	42.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	15-Feb-12	Dan Lynch	Pellet
1.36	3.00	43.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	25-Jun	James Dignam	Maggot
1.33	2.94	–	Carrigadrohid Reservoir	19-May-12	John O'Sullivan	Maggot
1.29	2.85	47.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	20-Jun	Brian Lombard	Maggot

RUDD/BREAM HYBRID – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.28	2.81	–	Lee Reservoir	27-Sep-12	Derick O'Brien	Maggot
1.25	2.75	43.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	06-Oct	Chris. McGregor	Sweetcorn
1.25	2.76	–	Carrigadrohid Res	20-Jun	Kenneth Murphy	Maggot
1.22	2.69	–	Inniscarra Reservoir	09-May	Micheal Hennessy	Maggot
1.22	2.69	–	Inniscarra Reservoir	25-Jun	James Dignam	Maggot
1.20	2.65	40.0	Inniscarra Reservoir	23-May	Thomas Lynch	Maggot

TENCH

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

3.52	7.75	56.0	Ballyeighter Lough	19-Jun	Nick Parry	Lobworm
3.46	7.62	56.0	Lough Derravaragh	02-Jul	Ben Carvosso	Maggot/ Caster
2.92	6.44	–	Monalty Lake	21-Jun	David Hunter	Maggot/ Sweetcorn
2.81	6.19	55.0	Ballyhoe Lake	05-Jun	John Millerick	Boilie
2.75	6.06	–	Ballyeighter Lake	05-Aug	Des Chew	Maggot



Lough Currane produced a specimen Salmon for Michael O'Sullivan in February

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>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
9.94	21.90	–	River Bandon	20-Apr	David Forde	Fly
9.85	21.72	99.1	Caragh Lake	09-Jun	Shane Healy	Toby
9.07	20.00	95.3	Lough Currane	27-Feb	Michael O'Sullivan	Rapala

BROWN TROUT (LAKE)

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

6.80	14.99	85.0	Lough Corrib	22-Feb	Nicholas Ward	Roach
5.44	12.00	–	Lough Ramor	06-Mar	Eric Cahill	Dead bait
4.99	11.00	–	Lough Gara	01-Mar	Shay McDonnell	Pollan

BROWN TROUT (RIVER)

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

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
4.82	10.62	–	Cong Canal	17-Mar	Micheal Hennessy	Worms
4.76	10.50	79.0	Cong Canal	17-Mar	Robert Porter	Roach
4.54	10.00	–	Cong Canal	17-Mar	Sidney Kennedy	Savage sandeel
4.42	9.74	71.0	River Shannon, Hudson Bay	06-Mar	Alan Stenson	Bulldog lure
3.91	8.62	81.5	Cong Canal	17-Mar	Terry Jackson	Rudd
3.63	8.00	–	Cong Canal	17-Mar	Terry Jackson	Rudd
3.52	7.76	–	Cong Canal	17-Mar	Ray McElhinney	Roach
3.52	7.75	–	Shannon River, Rooskey	03-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Herring
3.46	7.62	–	Cong Canal	13-Mar	Micheal Hennessy	Worms
2.75	6.06	–	Six Mile Water	30-Aug	Jim Gregg	Fly
2.55	5.62	–	Cong Canal	17-Mar	Michael Hennessy	Worms
2.32	5.12	60.0	River Barrow	30-Jun	Dan Lynch	Salty Lure
2.30	5.06	–	Clare River	16-Jun	Sean O'Donovan	Wet fly
2.27	5.00	61.5	Cong Canal	22-Mar	Conor Ward (J)	Worm



**A 4.99 kg
Brown Trout
from Lough Gara
for
Shay McDonnell**

SEA TROUT

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

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
5.07	11.19	79.0	Lough Currane	27-Sep	David Hempsey	Toby
4.10	9.04	69.0	Lough Currane	15-Apr	Timotheus vd Laan (NL)	Rapala
3.89	8.58	74.0	Lough Currane	21-Apr	Timotheus vd Laan (NL)	Rapala
3.86	8.51	71.8	Lough Currane	01-Jul	James Cooke (UK)	Fly
3.72	8.19	69.9	Lough Currane	01-May	Ed Newacki (NL)	Rapala
3.54	7.81	69.2	Lough Currane	11-Jun	Karamat Jah	Fly
3.52	7.75	72.0	Lough Currane	29-Jun	Kevin Edwards	Fly
3.51	7.74	68.6	Lough Currane	20-Apr	Dr. Ernie Smith	Fly
3.43	7.56	–	Cummeragh River	22-Jun	Stephen Coveney	Fly
3.40	7.49	68.6	Lough Currane	06-Jul	Pat Mahoney	Fly
3.29	7.25	68.6	North Dublin	24-Apr	Robert Fullerton	Viva Parade
3.25	7.17	66.0	Lough Currane	24-May	Nigel Henshaw (UK)	Fly
3.18	7.00	64.0	Cummeragh River	15-Jun	Martin Coveney	Worm
3.01	6.64	–	Portrane	20-Jun	Christy Emmet	Lure
3.00	6.61	68.6	Lough Currane	02-Aug	Ivor O'Connor	Mepps
2.86	6.31	65.0	Lough Currane	11-May	Sean Smith (UK)	Fly
2.81	6.19	66.0	Lough Currane	02-Jun	Gavin McCarthy	Fly
2.74	6.04	64.5	Lough Currane	20-May	Marcel Guillou (UK)	Fly



A December 2012 Bass which fell to Pat O'Shea in Cork Harbour



*July produced all of the specimen Bluemouth in 2013.
Dermot O'Brien had two.*

MARINE FISH 2013

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>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
5.33	11.75	70.0	Cullinstown	20-Nov	Ian Mulligan	Peeler crab
5.05	11.12	76.2	Tramore	09-Oct	Keith Fennelly	Ragworm
4.71	10.37	72.0	Cork Harbour	27-Sep	John Barry	Mackerel strip
4.68	10.31	77.0	Cork Harbour	29-Jun	Pat O'Shea	Sandeel Slug
4.62	10.19	75.0	Cork Harbour	02-Dec	Pat O'Shea	Sidewinder Sandeel

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

1.20	2.65	40.0	Caherciveen	14-Jul	Noel Cotter	Mackerel
1.07	2.35	39.0	Caherciveen	20-Jul	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
1.04	2.30	39.0	Caherciveen	14-Jul	Noel Cotter	Mackerel
1.02	2.25	38.0	Caherciveen	20-Jul	Dermot O'Brien	Mackerel
1.02	2.25	38.0	Caherciveen	20-Jul	John Cronin	Mackerel
1.00	2.20	38.0	Caherciveen	14-Jul	Ray O'Sullivan	Mackerel
1.00	2.20	39.0	Caherciveen	14-Jul	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
0.96	2.13	—	Caherciveen	19-Jul	Liam Tully	Mackerel
0.95	2.10	38.0	Caherciveen	14-Jul	Ray O'Sullivan	Mackerel
0.94	2.07	39.0	Caherciveen	11-Jul	Sue Tait	Mackerel Strip
0.93	2.05	38.0	Caherciveen	14-Jul	Dermot O'Brien	Mackerel
0.93	2.05	38.0	Caherciveen	20-Jul	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
0.91	2.00	37.0	Caherciveen	20-Jul	Dan Lynch	Mackerel

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

21.12	46.56	164.0	Red Bay	26-Feb	Hamish Currie	Whiting
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Jaco van't Hof from the Netherlands had this Dab off Inisbofin in September 2012

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>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.70	1.55	38.0	Inisbofin	14-Sep-12	Jaco van't Hof (NL)	Mackerel Strip
0.68	1.50	38.0	Dingle Lighthouse	16-Oct	Michael Cooney	Mackerel
0.65	1.44	37.0	Cobh	14-Sep	Terry Carolan	Ragworm/ Mackerel
0.63	1.38	37.5	Cork Harbour	17-Oct	James MacSweeney	Mackerel strip



A Red Bay Blackmouthed Dogfish for Connor McNeill

BLACKMOUTHED DOGFISH

Record 1.33 kg (2.94 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.0 kg (2.205 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.30	2.87	69.0	Red Bay	02-Aug	Rene Janssen (NL)	Mackerel
1.16	2.56	66.0	Red Bay	23-Nov	Connor McNeill	Herring
1.15	2.54	71.0	Islandmagee	08-Sep	David Craig	Mackerel
1.13	2.50	68.0	Red Bay	18-Jun	Joel Eijdemis (NL)	Mackerel
1.08	2.37	67.0	Red Bay	01-Jul	Arian Huijbregts (NL)	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	70.0	Islandmagee	05-Oct	David Craig	Herring
1.05	2.31	66.0	Red Bay	16-Jun	Tony Tierney	Mackerel
1.02	2.25	66.0	Red Bay	05-Aug	Rene Janssen (NL)	Mackerel

LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH

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

1.70	3.75	—	Kinsale	12-Jan	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
1.68	3.70	—	Cork Harbour	26-Sep	Pat O'Shea	Ragworm
1.59	3.50	78.0	Greystones	22-Aug	Bert McGregor	Mackerel
1.56	3.44	73.0	Red Bay	17-Jun	Min Jacobs (B)	Mackerel
1.56	3.44	76.2	Cork Harbour	14-Jul	Noel Lane	Mackerel



Charter skipper Kit Dunne with one of the many specimen Smooth-Hounds caught off Wicklow in 2013

LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.53	3.37	73.0	Red Bay	15-Aug	Paul Dijkman (NL)	Mackerel
1.50	3.31	73.0	Red Bay	18-Jun	Frank Schoonbrood (NL)	Mackerel
1.50	3.30	74.0	Ballyheigue Bay	07-Aug	Philip Barry	Mackerel Strip

GREATER SPOTTED DOGFISH

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

9.02	19.87	135.0	Red Bay	26-Feb	Hamish Currie	Whiting
8.73	19.25	135.0	Red Bay	01-Sep	Nico de With (NL)	Mackerel
8.04	17.73	121.0	Kenmare Bay	14-Sep	Tony Togher	Mackerel
7.82	17.25	121.0	Wicklow	17-Jul	Peter Schiffer (D)	Mackerel
7.40	16.31	–	Cork Harbour	28-Aug	Eric van Millingen (NL)	Mackerel



A 7.82 kg Greater Spotted Dogfish for Peter Schiffer

SPUR DOGFISH

Record 10.6 kg (23.38 lbs); Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
10.40	22.94	107.0	Red Bay	09-Aug	Mari Van Der Wiel (NL)	Mackerel
10.35	22.81	106.0	Red Bay	01-Sep	Nico de With (NL)	Whole Mackerel
10.26	22.62	106.0	Red Bay	08-Sep	Hamish Currie	Whole whiting
10.12	22.31	105.0	Red Bay	08-Sep	Hamish Currie	Whole coalfish
10.06	22.19	108.0	Red Bay	01-Sep	Nico de With (NL)	Mackerel
9.98	22.00	108.0	Red Bay	19-May	William Watson	Flapper
8.76	19.31	107.0	Red Bay	19-Feb	Richard McAlorum	Mackerel
8.73	19.25	107.0	Red Bay	17-Jun	Joel Eijdemans (NL)	Mackerel
8.67	19.12	107.0	Red Bay	16-Jun	Drew Nelson	Mackerel
8.67	19.12	107.0	Red Bay	16-Feb	Tony Tierney	Coalfish fillet
8.48	18.69	106.0	Red Bay	01-Sep	Johan Aerts (NL)	Mackerel
8.45	18.62	106.0	Red Bay	02-Sep	Ton Van Schaik (NL)	Flapper



Greystones was productive for Tope in 2013. James Dignam had this 18.7 kg fish in October

SPUR DOGFISH – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
8.45	18.62	106.0	Red Bay	09-Aug	Rene Janssen (NL)	Flapper
8.14	17.94	106.0	Red Bay	02-Sep	Robin Van Der Meer (NL)	Mackerel
8.08	17.81	106.0	Red Bay	01-Aug	Mari Van Der Wiel (NL)	Mackerel
8.05	17.75	92.0	Red Bay	17-May	John Love	Mackerel
7.97	17.56	105.0	Red Bay	19-May	William Watson	Flapper
7.94	17.50	105.0	Red Bay	02-Sep	Sepp Zanolli (NL)	Mackerel
7.91	17.44	105.0	Red Bay	01-Aug	Rene Janssen (NL)	Mackerel
7.91	17.44	105.0	Red Bay	19-Feb	Nicholas McAlorum	Mackerel
7.34	16.19	102.0	Red Bay	02-Sep	Robin Van Der Meer (NL)	Mackerel
7.29	16.06	102.0	Red Bay	02-Sep	Sepp Zanolli (NL)	Mackerel
7.29	16.06	102.0	Red Bay	18-Jun	Pascal Ligter (NL)	Mackerel
7.26	16.00	107.0	Ballycastle	16-Aug	Andrew Wolsey	Mackerel
7.26	16.00	102.0	Red Bay	19-Feb	Richard McAlorum	Mackerel
7.08	15.60	–	Killala Bay	05-Oct	Lorcan O'Connor	Mackerel
6.86	15.12	103.0	Ballycastle	01-Aug	Terry Jackson	Mackerel
6.78	14.94	108.0	Ballycastle	16-Aug	Nicholas Ward	Mackerel

SPUR DOGFISH – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.69	14.75	106.0	Ballycastle	16-Aug	Andrew Wolsey	Mackerel
6.69	14.75	95.0	Red Bay	08-Aug	Richard Meeder (NL)	Mackerel
6.69	14.75	95.0	Red Bay	03-Jun	James Walsh	Mackerel
6.67	–	103.0	Kenmare Bay	27-Jun	Eelco Hutten (NL)	Mackerel
6.61	14.56	94.0	Red Bay	04-Sep	Sepp Zanolì (NL)	Mackerel
6.58	14.50	94.0	Red Bay	11-Sep	Manfred Sbrzesky (D)	Mackerel
6.55	14.44	94.0	Red Bay	02-Sep	Robin Van Der Meer (NL)	Mackerel
6.55	14.44	94.0	Red Bay	02-Sep	Ton Van Schaik (NL)	Flapper
6.52	14.37	94.0	Red Bay	17-May	Nigel Ritchie	Mackerel
6.41	14.12	93.0	Red Bay	19-Feb	Nicholas McAlorum	Mackerel
6.35	14.00	102.0	Ballycastle	16-Aug	Nicholas Ward	Mackerel
6.24	13.75	105.0	Ballycastle	01-Aug	Terry Jackson	Mackerel
6.07	13.37	93.0	Red Bay	16-Jun	Drew Nelson	Mackerel
6.01	13.25	102.0	Ballycastle	01-Aug	Terry Jackson	Mackerel
5.98	13.19	93.0	Red Bay	11-Sep	Manfred Sbrzesky (D)	Mackerel
5.93	13.06	93.0	Red Bay	17-Jun	Frank Schoonbrood (NL)	Mackerel
5.93	13.06	93.0	Red Bay	16-Feb	Thomas White	Whiting
5.90	13.00	104.0	Ballycastle	16-Aug	Nicholas Ward	Mackerel
5.70	12.56	92.0	Red Bay	19-Feb	Richard McAlorum	Mackerel
5.67	12.50	92.0	Red Bay	01-Aug	Richard Meeder (NL)	Mackerel
5.64	12.44	92.0	Red Bay	17-May	John Love	Mackerel
5.61	12.37	92.0	Red Bay	03-Jun	Tom Walsh	Mackerel
5.58	12.31	91.0	Red Bay	29-Aug	Wijnard de Ruiter (NL)	Mackerel
5.53	12.19	91.0	Red Bay	29-Aug	Wijnard de Ruiter (NL)	Mackerel
5.50	12.12	102.0	Ballycastle	16-Aug	Andrew Wolsey	Mackerel

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

1.62	3.56	49.5	Youghal	09-Nov	Noel Lane	Peeler crab
1.52	3.34	46.0	Youghal	23-Sep	Stan Ryan	Crab
1.45	3.19	–	Ballyteigue	10-Nov	Ken Garry	Peeler crab
1.45	3.19	45.0	Youghal	23-Nov	Sidney Kennedy	Peeler crab
1.39	3.06	44.0	Cullenstown	20-Nov	Ian Mulligan	Peeler crab
1.39	3.06	45.0	Cullenstown	23-Nov	Ian Mulligan	Peeler crab
1.38	3.04	46.5	Culdaff	01-Dec-12	Richard Kennedy	Ragworm
1.36	3.00	–	Cullenstown	16-Nov	Thomas Lynch	Crab
1.23	2.72	45.0	Youghal	16-Nov	Jerry O'Connor	Worm
1.22	2.69	45.0	Clonakilty Bay	26-Nov	Robert Reid	Peeler crab



The third heaviest Flounder fell to Ken Garry in November

Josie Mahon with a Ballyteigue Flounder

FLOUNDER – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.22	2.69	–	Ballyteigue	27-Nov	Des Chew	Crab
1.19	2.62	45.0	Youghal	23-Nov	Sidney Kennedy	Peeler crab
1.19	2.62	39.5	Cullenstown	20-Nov	Ian Mulligan	Peeler crab
1.18	2.60	–	Vartry Bay	14-Nov	Des Chew	Crab bait
1.16	2.56	44.0	Cullenstown	16-Nov	Thomas Lynch	Crab
1.16	2.56	46.0	Cullenstown	13-Oct	Neil Tyrrell	Crab
1.16	2.56	44.0	Bannow Bay	09-Jun	Ronan Doherty	Lugworm
1.13	2.50	–	Courtmacsherry	22-Oct	Sidney Kennedy	Lugworm
1.12	2.47	42.5	Kilcummin	24-Nov	Jerome Quirke	Lugworm
1.11	2.44	43.0	Youghal	23-Nov	Terry Jackson	Peeler crab
1.11	2.44	46.0	Ballyteigue	15-Sep	Josie Mahon	Peeler crab
1.11	2.44	45.0	Ballyteigue	26-Oct	Des Chew	Peeler crab
1.11	2.44	43.2	Argideen Estuary	13-Oct	Noel Lane	Peeler crab
1.10	2.43	–	Youghal	11-Nov	Pat O'Shea	Crab

GARFISH (*B. bellone*)

Record 1.729 kg (3.81 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.0 kg (2.205 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.25	2.75	88.9	Courtmacsherry	09-Sep	Henk Veldman	Mackerel
1.03	2.28	84.0	Cobh	05-Sep	Laurence Collings (UK)	Mackerel
1.03	2.26	—	Cork Harbour	22-Sep-12	Myles Kelly	Mackerel



Joe Byrne had this specimen Gilthead from Kilmore

*Cork Harbour produced a specimen
Lesser Spotted Dogfish for Pat O'Shea*



GILTHEAD BREAM

New Record 3.505 kg; Specimen Weight 1.4 kg (3.08 lbs)

3.51	7.73	54.0	Dingle	17-Aug	Jeremy Coleman (UK)	Lugworm
2.15	4.75	48.3	Bannow Bay	13-May	Desmond Fraser	Lugworm
2.15	4.75	51.0	Clonakilty Bay	09-Jun	Ian Mulligan	Lugworm
2.13	4.70	52.0	Clonakilty Bay	15-Oct	Jerry O'Connor	Lugworm
2.07	4.56	45.5	Bannow Estuary	21-Aug	Leslie Arnold	Crab
2.04	4.50	46.0	Clonakilty Bay	09-Jun	Ian Mulligan	Lugworm
2.04	4.50	51.0	Clonakilty Bay	16-Aug	Eric Gosnell	Lugworm
1.98	4.37	51.0	Rosscarbery	11-Jul	Terry Jackson	Lugworm
1.93	4.25	46.0	Clonakilty Bay	09-Jun	Ian Mulligan	Lugworm
1.90	4.19	50.0	Clonakilty Bay	16-Jul	Eric Gosnell	Lugworm
1.84	4.06	50.0	Ring	21-Aug	Peter Bolger	Lugworm
1.84	4.06	45.0	Dungarvan	09-Aug	Stan Ryan	Lugworm



*David Barry from
Cork with a
Clonakilty Bay
Gilthead*

*Clonakilty was
the location for
Jerry O'Connor's
Gilthead*



*A Gilthead from
Dungarvan for
Stan Ryan*

GILTHEAD BREAM – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.81	4.00	48.0	Rosscarbery	13-Jul	Andrew Wolsey	Lugworm
1.81	3.99	43.0	Clonakilty Bay	08-Jul	Nicholas McEvoy	Lugworm
1.80	3.96	47.0	Rosscarbery	03-Sep	Christopher Brown (UK)	Lugworm
1.77	3.90	51.0	Clonakilty Bay	29-Jun	David Barry	Lugworm
1.70	3.75	51.0	Ring	03-Jun	Liam Millerick (J)	Peeler crab
1.62	3.56	45.0	Rosscarbery	14-Jul	Andrew Wolsey	Lugworm
1.62	3.56	48.0	Rosscarbery	13-Jul	Terry Jackson	Lugworm
1.59	3.50	46.0	Clonakilty Bay	09-Jun	Thomas Lynch	Lugworm
1.57	3.46	48.0	Clonakilty Bay	30-Jul	Eric Gosnell	Lugworm
1.56	3.44	–	Rosscarbery	27-Apr	Dan Lynch	Lugworm
1.53	3.37	46.0	Rosscarbery	14-Jul	Terry Jackson	Lugworm
1.53	3.37	46.0	Clonakilty Bay	30-Jun	Gordon Thornes (UK)	Lugworm
1.50	3.30	–	Kilmore	27-May	Joe Byrne	Crab
1.47	3.25	47.5	Clonakilty Bay	03-Jun	John Millerick	Lugworm
1.47	3.25	44.0	Rosscarbery	29-Aug	Nicholas Ward	Lugworm
1.42	3.12	44.0	Ring	03-Jun	Evan Millerick (J)	Peeler crab
1.42	3.12	–	Clonakilty Bay	30-Jun	Heather Lindfield (UK)	Maddies



Robert McClean with a Kinsale Red Gurnard weighing 1 kg

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>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.10	2.43	—	Cork Harbour	13-Oct	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
1.08	2.38	46.0	Ling Rocks	27-May	Joseph Marsella	Mackerel strip
1.08	2.38	49.0	Cork Harbour	30-Aug	Eddie Butler	Mackerel Strip
1.00	2.20	49.0	Cork Harbour	07-Jul	Ray Donnelly	Mackerel
1.00	2.20	49.0	Ling Rocks, Kinsale	19-Jan	John Young (UK)	Mackerel Strip
1.00	2.20	49.0	Kinsale	31-Aug	Robert McClean	Mackerel
0.94	2.06	45.0	Culdaff	20-Jul	David McCormick	Mackerel
0.92	2.03	44.0	Cork Harbour	10-Sep	Stephen O'Neill	Mackerel

HADDOCK

Record 5.39 kg; Specimen Weight 3.175 kg (7 lbs)

3.20	7.05	72.0	Cork Harbour	20-Mar	Martyn Rayner	Mackerel
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*The only
Haddock of
2013 fell to
Martyn Rayner*

LING

Record 55 lbs (24.97 kg); Specimen Weight 11.34 kg (25 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
14.97	33.00	137.2	Kinsale	28-Jun	Ian Murphy	Mackerel

MACKEREL

Record 4 lbs 2ozs (1.87 kg); Specimen Weight 1.00 kg (2.205 lbs)

1.05	2.31	45.0	Red Bay	14-Jul	Hamish Currie	Feathers
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MEGRIM

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

0.80	1.76	48.0	Crosshaven Bay	21-Aug	Declan O'Shea	Mackerel
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Duncan Cole from Co. Down with his 2.33 kg Rosscarbery fish, one of fifty specimen Thick Lipped Mullet ratified in 2013

THICK-LIPPED MULLET

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

3.09	6.81	—	Arklow	22-Jul	Craig Murphy	Bread
3.03	6.69	—	Rosscarbery	06-Jun	Micheal Hennessy	Bread
3.01	6.62	63.5	Rosscarbery	05-Oct	Noel Lane	Bread crust
2.95	6.50	61.0	Rosscarbery	09-Jul	Andrew Wolsey	Bread



*Matthew Murdoch
had his specimen
Thick Lipped Mullet
at Rosscarbery*

THICK-LIPPED MULLET – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.95	6.50	–	Vartry Estuary	21-Jul	Des Chew	Bread flake
2.95	6.50	61.0	Strangford Lough	20-Aug	Terry Jackson	Bread flake
2.83	6.25	62.0	Strangford Lough	21-Aug	Terry Jackson	Bread flake
2.82	6.22	62.0	Rosscarbery	16-Apr	Patrick Lombard	Bread
2.79	6.16	63.0	Clonakilty Bay	01-Jul	Stephen Brennan	Bread
2.78	6.12	–	Rosscarbery	10-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Bread
2.75	6.06	–	Vartry Estuary	23-Jul	Des Chew	Bread flake
2.69	5.94	63.5	Rosscarbery	05-Oct	Noel Lane	Bread crust
2.66	5.87	60.0	Clonakilty Bay	02-Jul	Stephen Brennan	Bread
2.66	5.86	60.5	Strangford Lough	06-Aug	David Murdoch	Bread
2.61	5.75	60.0	Rosscarbery	02-Jun	Ian Mulligan	Bread flake
2.59	5.72	61.0	Rosscarbery	02-Jun	Patrick Lombard	Bread
2.58	5.69	59.0	Rosscarbery	30-Apr	Patrick Lombard	Bread
2.55	5.62	60.0	Rosscarbery	02-Sep	John Millerick	Bread
2.55	5.62	–	Rosscarbery	02-Jun	Ian Mulligan	Bread flake
2.52	5.56	–	Rosscarbery	02-Jun	Conor Kirby	Bread
2.50	5.50	–	Laytown	24-Jul	Ray McElhinney	Bread

*Clonakilty
produced this
Thick Lipped Mullet
for JP Molloy
in June*



THICK-LIPPED MULLET – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.49	5.50	56.0	Strangford Lough	21-Aug	Terry Jackson	Bread flake
2.49	5.50	–	Rosscarbery	10-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Bread
2.49	5.50	58.0	Rosscarbery	24-Aug	Conor Ward (J)	Bread
2.47	5.44	59.0	Rosscarbery	02-Jun	John Millerick	Ragworm
2.47	5.44	60.3	Rosscarbery	21-Jun	Christy Lane	Bread
2.44	5.37	57.0	Clonakilty Bay	02-Jul	Stephen Brennan	Bread
2.41	5.31	53.0	Rosscarbery	10-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Bread flake
2.40	5.30	–	Rosscarbery	06-Oct	Joseph Marsella	Bread flake
2.38	5.25	58.0	Rosscarbery	01-Jun	John Millerick	Bread
2.38	5.25	57.0	Rosscarbery	12-Sep	Joseph Marsella	Bread flake
2.36	5.20	59.0	Rosscarbery	12-Jul	Matthew Murdoch (J)	Bread
2.34	5.15	53.0	Rosscarbery	04-Sep	Joseph Marsella	Bread
2.33	5.14	–	Rosscarbery	30-Oct	Duncan Cole	Bread
2.33	5.14	–	Clonakilty	03-Jun	J. P. Molloy	Maddies
2.32	5.12	–	Rosscarbery	10-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Bread
2.32	5.12	55.0	Rosscarbery	28-Aug	Nicholas Ward	Bread flake
2.32	5.12	56.0	River Liffey Lwr	17-Jul	Craig Murphy	Bread
2.32	5.12	58.0	River Liffey Lwr	24-Aug	Peter Bolger	Bread
2.30	5.08	–	Rosscarbery	28-Oct	Duncan Cole	Bread

THICK-LIPPED MULLET – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.30	5.06	–	Avoca Estuary	24-Jun	Anthony Duffy	Bread flake
2.30	5.06	–	Wicklow town	05-Oct	Josie Mahon	Bread flake
2.30	5.06	57.2	Rosscarbery	18-Jun	Christy Lane	Bread
2.30	5.06	55.9	Rosscarbery	01-Jun	Noel Lane	Bread
2.29	5.05	58.0	Cork Harbour	11-Jul	Jim Dooley	Bread
2.29	5.04	–	Rosscarbery	10-Sep	Duncan Cole	Bread
2.27	5.00	–	Vartry Estuary	25-Sep	Des Chew	Bread flake
2.27	5.00	58.0	Rosscarbery	15-Jul	David Murdoch	Bread
2.27	5.00	–	Rosscarbery	27-Jul	Sarah Lynch (J)	Bread
2.27	5.00	51.0	Arklow	29-Jun	Bernadette McKenna	Bread flake



***A Golden Grey Mullet
of 0.72 kg for
Stephen Brennan
at Clonakilty***

GOLDEN GREY MULLET

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

1.13	2.48	47.5	Clonakilty	30-Jul	Ciaran Barry	Lugworm
1.02	2.25	47.0	Rosscarbery	06-Aug	Brian Lombard	Ragworm
0.96	2.12	46.0	Rosscarbery	31-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Maddies
0.95	2.09	46.0	Rosscarbery	07-Aug	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
0.94	2.06	45.0	Rosscarbery	10-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Maddies
0.91	2.00	45.0	Rosscarbery	01-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Maddies
0.91	2.00	45.0	Clonakilty	16-Aug	Brian Lombard	Ragworm

GOLDEN GREY MULLET – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.89	1.97	46.0	Rosscarbery	05-Jul	Stephen Brennan	Ragworm
0.89	1.97	45.0	Clonakilty	09-Jul	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
0.88	1.94	45.0	Clonakilty	09-Jul	Brian Lombard	Ragworm
0.86	1.90	43.0	Cork Harbour	27-Jul	Maurice Cott	Maddies
0.85	1.87	45.0	Rosscarbery	13-Jul	Terry Jackson	Ragworm
0.83	1.82	44.5	Rosscarbery	01-Aug	David Murdoch	Maddies/Ragworm
0.79	1.75	42.0	Cork Harbour	19-Jul	Stephen O'Neill	Maddies
0.79	1.75	45.0	Rosscarbery	11-Sep	Peter Bolger	Maddies
0.78	1.72	45.0	Clonakilty Bay	06-Jul	Stephen Brennan	Ragworm
0.77	1.70	42.5	Rosscarbery	30-Jul	David Murdoch	Maddies/Ragworm
0.77	1.69	44.0	Rosscarbery	31-Aug	Micheal Hennessy	Ragworm
0.75	1.66	–	Rosscarbery	02-Sep	John Millerick	Ragworm
0.74	1.62	–	Rosscarbery	05-Jul	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm
0.74	1.63	–	Clonakilty	22-Aug	Ken McCarthy	Maddies
0.73	1.60	40.0	Cork Harbour	19-Jul	Stephen O'Neill	Maddies
0.73	1.60	41.0	Cork Harbour	19-Jul	Stephen O'Neill	Maddies
0.73	1.60	38.5	Rosscarbery	12-Aug	Ken Whelan	Fly
0.72	1.59	44.0	Rosscarbery	05-Jul	Stephen Brennan	Ragworm
0.72	1.58	42.0	Rosscarbery	31-Jul	David Murdoch	Maddies/Ragworm
0.71	1.56	–	Rosscarbery	05-Jul	Derick O'Brien	Ragworm
0.71	1.56	42.0	Clonakilty	10-Jul	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
0.71	1.56	–	Rosscarbery	01-Sep	Conor Hennessy (J)	Bread
0.71	1.56	42.0	Rosscarbery	11-Sep	Peter McCartin	Ragworm/Maddies
0.70	1.54	39.0	Rosscarbery	10-Aug	Ken Whelan	Ragworm
0.68	1.50	–	Clonakilty	06-Jun	J. P Molloy	Maddies

THIN LIPPED MULLET**Record 2.83 kg; Specimen Weight 1.5 kg (3.31 lbs)**

1.57	3.47	54.0	Rosscarbery	01-Sep	Thomas Lynch	Maddies
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POLLACK**Record 19 lbs 3 ozs (8.703 kg); Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)**

6.07	13.37	84.0	Ling Rocks	13-Jul	Michael Smith	Mackerel
5.64	12.44	84.0	Red Bay	26-Aug	Frans Vleugils (NL)	Mackerel



Only two specimen Pollack were claimed in 2013 and Dutch angler Frans Vleugils had this specimen in Red Bay in August

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>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
5.52	12.17	87.0	Youghal	11-Nov	George Ruxton	Crab
5.25	11.57	86.0	Youghal	01-Nov	John Owens	Crab
5.22	11.50	83.0	Garretstown	30-Oct	Robert Porter	Sandeel
5.13	11.30	84.0	Green Park, Youghal	09-Nov	Robert Porter	Crab
5.10	11.25	83.0	Sandy Bay, Castlegregory	15-Aug	Jerry O'Connor	Sandeel
5.08	11.21	86.0	Youghal	12-Nov	Luke Mansfield	Crab
5.05	11.12	81.0	Castlegregory	14-Oct	Micheal Hennessy	Sandeel
4.99	11.00	83.5	Youghal	25-Nov	Terry Jackson	Peeler Crab
4.99	11.00	—	Sandy Bay, Castlegregory	15-Oct	Sidney Kennedy	Sandeel
4.76	10.50	80.0	Sandy Bay, Castlegregory	20-Oct	Jerry O'Connor	Sandeel
4.76	10.50	79.0	Castlegregory	13-Oct	Conor Hennessy (J)	Sandeel
4.65	10.25	80.0	Sandy Bay, Castlegregory	20-Oct	Jerry O'Connor	Sandeel
4.54	10.00	—	Ballycotton	05-Oct	Sidney Kennedy	Crab

STING RAY

Record 33.2 kg; Specimen Weight 13.608 kg (30 lbs)

22.68	50.00	—	Tralee Bay	29-May	John Sheehan	Crab
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*Portrait of Terry Jackson's
Three Bearded Rockling*

*A Tralee Bay Sting Ray
of 22.68 kg for John Sheehan,
the only specimen of 2013*

THREE BEARDED ROCKLING

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

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.99	2.19	45.7	Belfast Lough	02-Jun	Jason Allen	Ragworm
0.82	1.81	43.0	Bangor	02-Dec	Terry Jackson	Mackerel strip

SCAD

Record 1.97 lbs (0.894 kg); Specimen Weight 0.68 kg (1.5 lbs)

0.70	1.55	45.0	Cork Harbour	18-Aug	Stephen O'Neill	Lure
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***Winner of the
Went Award for
Best Young
Specimen Angler
went to
Josh Higginson
for his
Twaité Shad***

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>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.50	3.31	—	River Barrow, St. Mullins	17-May-12	Sidney Kennedy	Spinner
1.50	3.31	—	St. Mullins	17-May-12	Adam Barrett	Tasmanian Devil
1.44	3.17	—	St. Mullins	03-Jun	James Malone	Tasmanian Devil
1.42	3.12	—	St. Mullins	18-May-12	Sidney Kennedy	Tasmanian Devil
1.42	3.12	—	St. Mullins	18-May-12	Ross Macklin	Tasmanian Devil
1.38	3.05	51.0	St. Mullins	25-May	Kenneth Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
1.38	3.04	—	St. Mullins	04-Jun	Noel Darcy	Tasmanian Devil
1.36	3.00	51.0	St. Mullins	25-May	Kenneth Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
1.35	2.98	—	St. Mullins	05-May	Joshua Higginson (J)	Tasmanian Devil
1.33	2.94	—	St. Mullins	17-May-12	Sidney Kennedy	Tasmanian Devil
1.33	2.94	—	St. Mullins	18-May-12	Ross Macklin	Tasmanian Devil
1.33	2.93	—	St. Mullins	02-Jun	James Malone	Tasmanian Devil
1.32	2.91	—	St. Mullins	26-May	Conor Barry	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.87	—	St. Mullins	08-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Spinner
1.29	2.85	49.0	St. Mullins	25-May	John O'Sullivan	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.82	44.0	St. Mullins	14-May	Joseph Marsella	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.81	—	St. Mullins	18-May-12	Derick O'Brien	Tasmanian Devil
1.26	2.78	48.0	St. Mullins	09-May	Eddie Butler	Tasmanian Devil

TWAITE SHAD – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.22	2.69	–	St. Mullins	28-May	Noel Darcy	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	–	St. Mullins	26-May	David McFarlane	Tasmanian Devil
1.20	2.65	–	St. Mullins	26-May	Craig Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
1.20	2.65	–	St. Mullins	29-May	Noel Darcy	Tasmanian Devil
1.20	2.65	–	St. Mullins	28-May	David McFarlane	Tasmanian Devil
1.16	2.55	46.0	St. Mullins	24-May	John O'Sullivan	Tasmanian Devil



*One of the largest
Smooth Hounds
of 2013 fell to
John Millerick*

SMOOTH-HOUND

Record 16.58 lbs (7.52 kg); Specimen Weight 3 kg (6.62 lbs)

7.37	16.25	114.5	Wicklow	06-Jul	Christy Lane	Crab
7.03	15.50	117.0	Wicklow	13-Jul	Metin Amet	Crab
6.65	14.65	115.0	Wexford	21-Jun	Francis McNeilly	Peeler crab
6.52	14.37	104.0	Wicklow Town	01-Jul	Ken Hegarty	Peeler crab
6.35	14.00	113.0	Wicklow	15-Jul	John Millerick	Crab
6.35	14.00	106.0	Kilmore	30-May	Brendan Wall	Mackerel
6.24	13.75	110.0	Wicklow	15-Jul	John Millerick	Crab
6.12	13.50	111.0	Wicklow	14-Jul	Desmond Fraser	Crab
6.08	13.40	112.0	Wicklow	20-Jun	John Brierton	Crab
6.01	13.25	107.0	Wicklow	14-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Peeler crab
5.90	13.00	110.0	Wicklow	21-Jul	Kit Dunne	Crab
5.78	12.75	105.0	Wicklow	03-Jun	Ronnie Sutcliffe	Crab
5.78	12.75	107.0	Wicklow	16-Jul	Thomas Lynch	Crab



Smooth-Hounds were one of the most prominent species in 2013.

*Alex Holfeld (top),
Christy Lane,
with the heaviest of 2013
(middle),
and Dutch angler
Allard van Dijk
were successful*



SMOOTH-HOUND – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
5.73	12.62	111.0	Wicklow	15-Jul	John Millerick	Crab
5.64	12.44	–	Wicklow	04-Jul	Philip O'Brien	Peeler crab
5.62	12.40	105.0	Wicklow	15-Jul	Mike Wheeler (D)	Crab
5.58	12.30	111.0	Wicklow	06-Jul	Noel Lane	Crab
5.08	11.20	110.0	Wicklow	01-Jun	Shane Nugent	Crab
4.99	11.00	107.0	Wicklow	20-Jul	Allard Van Dijk (NL)	Crab
4.99	11.00	108.0	Wicklow	02-Jun	Anthony Morris	Crab
4.88	10.75	115.0	Wicklow	05-Jul	Liam Millerick (J)	Peeler crab
4.88	10.75	105.0	Wicklow	09-Jun	Noel Lane	Crab
4.72	10.40	106.0	Wicklow	20-Jul	Allard Van Dijk (NL)	Crab
4.63	10.20	107.0	Wicklow	03-Aug	Kit Dunne	Crab
4.60	10.14	99.0	Wicklow Town	07-Jul	John Dennehy	Peeler crab
4.59	10.12	111.0	Howth	24-Aug	Stephen Browne	Peeler crab
4.54	10.00	104.0	Wicklow	05-Jul	Liam Millerick (L)	Peeler crab
4.51	9.95	104.0	Wicklow	07-Jul	Vincent Hogan	Hermit crab
4.40	9.70	102.0	Wicklow Head	04-Jun	Kit Dunne	Peeler crab/ squid
4.35	9.60	101.0	Wicklow	20-Jul	Peter Schiffer (D)	Crab
4.31	9.50	101.0	Wicklow	14-Jul	Anthony Morris	Crab
4.31	9.50	103.0	Wicklow	17-Jun	Des Chew	Crab
4.22	9.31	–	Wicklow	04-Jul	Josie Mahon	Crab
4.20	9.25	101.0	Wicklow	13-Jul	Keith O'Leary	Crab
4.17	9.19	99.0	Wicklow	05-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Peeler crab
4.08	9.00	99.0	Wicklow	05-Jul	Peter McGrath	Peeler crab
4.08	9.00	103.0	Wicklow	19-May	Christopher Boylan	Peeler crab
4.08	9.00	101.0	Wicklow	21-Jul	Paddy Taylor	Peeler crab
4.06	8.95	100.0	Wicklow	06-Jul	Phillip Lynch	Peeler crab
3.99	8.80	100.0	Wicklow	08-Jun	Alex Holfeld	Peeler crab
3.97	8.75	102.5	Wicklow	07-Jul	Robert Porter	Peeler crab
3.97	8.75	94.0	Wicklow	04-Jul	Des Chew	Crab
3.97	8.75	102.0	Wicklow	08-Jun	Rob Millard	Crab
3.95	8.70	–	Wicklow	04-Jul	Brian McDonnell	Peeler crab
3.90	8.60	102.0	Wicklow	20-Jul	Allard Van Dijk (NL)	Crab
3.83	8.44	102.5	Wicklow	17-Jul	Desmond Fraser	Crab
3.80	8.38	102.0	Wicklow	10-Jul	Clyde McElwaine	Crab
3.77	8.31	102.0	Wicklow	14-Jul	Desmond Fraser	Crab
3.74	8.25	104.0	Howth Head	11-Aug	Bert McGregor	Peeler crab
3.69	8.12	96.0	Wicklow	05-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Peeler crab

SMOOTH-HOUND – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.67	8.10	97.0	Wicklow	29-Jun	David Sexton	Peeler
3.67	8.10	106.0	Wicklow	28-Jun	Matthew Glennon	Peeler crab
3.61	7.95	97.0	Wicklow	09-Jun	Dan Lynch	Crab
3.60	7.94	99.0	Wicklow Town	07-Jul	Ken Hegarty	Peeler crab
3.54	7.80	96.0	Wicklow	05-Jul	Christopher McGregor	Crab
3.52	7.75	98.0	Wicklow	01-Jul	Anthony Morris	Crab
3.50	7.72	101.0	Howth Head	07-Aug	Bert McGregor	Peeler crab
3.50	7.72	99.8	Wicklow	28-Jun	John Barry	Peeler crab
3.46	7.62	104.0	Wicklow	04-Sep	Josie Mahon	Crab
3.29	7.25	94.0	Wicklow	16-Jul	Thomas Lynch	Crab
3.29	7.25	94.0	Wicklow	15-Jul	Brian Cooke	Crab
3.29	7.25	95.0	Wicklow	07-Jul	Christy Lane	Crab
3.27	7.20	97.0	Wicklow	13-Jul	Noel Caffrey	Crab
3.19	7.03	98.0	Howth Head	07-Aug	Bert McGregor	Peeler crab
3.18	7.00	99.0	Wicklow	29-Jul	Des Chew	Crab
3.18	7.00	91.0	Wicklow	16-Jul	Thomas Lynch	Crab
3.18	7.00	97.0	Wicklow	28-Jun	Tony Hickey	Peeler crab
3.13	6.90	96.0	Wicklow	21-Jul	P. J Taylor	Peeler crab
3.06	6.75	97.0	Wicklow	05-Jul	Christopher McGregor	Crab
3.06	6.75	–	Malahide	22-Aug	Dan Smith	Crab



Three Stone Basse specimens were taken in 2013. Izak van der Bliek had the heaviest at 4.1 kg



*Pat Mostyn from
Cork with his
Stone Basse*

STONE BASSE

Record 11.72 lbs (5.32 kg); Specimen Weight 3.628 kg (8 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
4.10	9.04	62.0	S. of Crosshaven (Cork Harbour)	13-Aug	Izak van der Blik (NL)	Mackerel Strip
3.71	8.19	—	Kinsale	03-Aug	Pat Mostyn	Mackerel
3.71	8.18	50.8	Courtmacsherry Bay	23-Aug	Krzysziof Knopp (PL)	Mackerel Strip

TOPE

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

25.23	55.62	173.0	Kilmore	27-Jun	Brendan Wall	Mackerel
24.66	54.37	163.0	Greystones	22-Aug	Philip Browne	Mackerel
24.49	54.00	173.0	Greystones	10-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Mackerel
21.66	47.75	159.0	Howth	14-Sep	Bert McGregor	Mackerel Flapper
21.32	47.00	162.0	Greystones	22-Aug	Thomas Lynch	Mackerel
21.32	47.00	—	Greystones	29-Jun	David Flood	Mackerel Fillet
21.00	46.30	149.0	Greystones	08-Oct	Charlie Timmins	Mackerel
20.98	46.25	157.0	Greystones	28-Aug	Philip Browne	Mackerel
20.43	45.05	—	Greystones	10-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Mackerel



*First ever
Tope for
Anthony Greene*

TOPE – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
20.41	45.00	160.0	Red Bay	24-Jul	Joe Mulholland	Coalfish
20.00	44.09	154.0	Greystones	27-Sep	Nicholas Ward	Whiting
19.84	43.75	159.0	Red Bay	24-Oct	Richard McAlorum	Mackerel
19.50	43.00	163.0	Greystones	25-Aug	John Millerick	Mackerel
19.50	43.00	168.0	Greystones	13-Aug	Thomas Lynch	Mackerel
19.50	43.00	154.0	Greystones	16-Jul	Pat Kirwan	Mackerel
19.05	42.00	164.0	Greystones	25-Aug	Matt Fitzsimons	Mackerel
19.05	42.00	153.0	Greystones	13-Jul	Pat Kirwan	Mackerel Fillet
18.70	41.23	–	Greystones	8-Oct	James Dignam	Mackerel

TOPE

Length based specimen; Qualifying length 160 cm

–	–	166.0	Greystones	20-Jul	Pat Kirwan	Mackerel
–	–	165.0	Wicklow	24-Jun	Kit Dunne	Mackerel
–	–	165.0	Sligo Bay	22-Jul	Ashley Ridout	Mackerel
–	–	164.0	Greystones	28-Sep	Derek Kilbey	Mackerel
–	–	163.0	Wicklow	31-Aug	Collie Ennis	Mackerel
–	–	160.5	Wicklow	24-Jun	Kieran Nichols	Mackerel
–	–	160.5	Wicklow	16-Aug	Anthony Greene	Mackerel
–	–	160.0	Greystones	27-Sep	Nicholas Ward	Mackerel

ALBACORE TUNA

Record 29.96 kg; Specimen Weight, 12 kg (26.46 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
20.00	44.09	–	Kinsale	21-Aug	Michael Dennehy	Zutier ZP
14.47	31.90	–	Kinsale	21-Aug	Gary Farrell	Rapala

WHITING

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

1.45	3.19	56.5	Ling Rocks, Kinsale	03-Jan	Christy Lane	Mackerel
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Dingle produced this Ballan Wrasse for Peter McGroary

BALLAN WRASSE

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

2.62	5.78	56.0	Bunboy, Beara Peninsula	21-Jun	Tonnie Uitterhoeve (NL)	Crab
2.41	5.32	–	Kilmore Quay	10-Aug	Jason Perry	Ragworm
2.19	4.84	54.0	Galway Bay - Spiddal	15-Jan	Marcin Tomaszek	Mackerel
2.15	4.75	–	Clogher Head, Dingle	23-Sep	Peter McGroary	Green crab



John Millerick with a Kilmore Quay Cuckoo Wrasse

CUCKOO WRASSE

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

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.85	1.88	37.0	Red Bay	15-Nov	Hamish Currie	Ragworm
0.70	1.54	38.5	Rathlin Island	28-Sep	William F. McLaughlin	Mackerel
0.70	1.54	34.3	Sligo Bay	30-Sep	Kyle McCallion	Mackerel
0.68	1.50	35.0	Kilmore Quay	17-Jun	John Millerick	Baited feathers
0.65	1.44	39.0	Ballycastle	12-Oct	David McCormick	Mackerel
0.63	1.38	37.0	Islandmagee	19-May	David Craig	Mackerel
0.60	1.32	36.0	Islandmagee	07-Jul	David Craig	Squid
0.57	1.27	—	Downings	24-Jun	Gordon Oliver (UK)	Mackerel Strip
0.56	1.23	33.7	Sligo Bay	21-Aug	Kyle McCallion	Mackerel



Islandmagee yielded two Cuckoo Wrasse for David Craig



Well known UK angler Gordon Thornes with a Clonakilty Gilthead



An offshore trip in mid-August produced two specimen Albacore in 2013. Michael Dennehy's fish weighed 20 kg



Bernadette McKenna with her Thick Lipped Mullet from Arklow



Dusk produced a Gilthead for Terry Jackson at Rosscarbery



*Examples of
photographs required
for Mullet species
identification
(courtesy of
Paul O'Sullivan)*



Special Notices

SPECIMEN WEIGHT REVISION

No revisions for 2014.

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 by Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI).

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 research into the dynamics of selected cyprinid species in some Irish lakes, carried out by researchers in the School of Biology and Environmental Science at University College Dublin and funded by IFI, 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 are 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 with, the dorsal and anal fins fully splayed, and 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 no longer require a tissue sample for genetic analysis to support a claim for a smooth-hound.

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
Notes: 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.			

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

As genetic analysis of scales requires considerable time to process samples anglers are requested to submit scale samples as soon as is feasible and before 15th October.

SHAD HYBRIDS

Considerable numbers of hybrid shad which were identified by genetic analysis were caught by anglers in 2011. The Committee decided to add this Allis/Twaite hybrid to the listing of eligible fish in 2012 because of the numbers of claims submitted. Following a review no statistically significant difference in mean weight of specimens was determined between Twaite and Hybrid Shad and the Committee set the qualifying weight at 1.2 kg for the Hybrid also. No hybrids have been claimed since 2011. Only three claims may be submitted for any combination of Shad (i.e. Shad or Shad Hybrids).

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), Black Bream (*Spondyllosoma cantharus*) (from 2009), and thin lipped mullet (*Liza ramada*) from 2011.

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 some species a body may have to be forwarded for positive identification. Other arrangements would apply for larger fish. The availability of a body will allow the Committee to verify positive identification of the species and the claims 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 FOR 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.

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.



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, Roach/Rudd, 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 Thin-Lipped 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
All Gurnards	Detail of lateral line, head with pectoral fin fully expanded
Red Mullet	Close up of head
River Eel (in tidal water)	Fully extended body
Scad	Close up of entire lateral line
Shad - Allis, Twaite & Hybrid	Three scales to be taken

Species	Features to photograph: (a) the whole body (lateral view) must be photographed for all species AND (b) the specific features detailed below
Smooth-hound	Close ups of: (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 the few cases where a body or presentation of the fish is required for species identification, a series of clear photographs must accompany all **record** fish claims. The photograph(s) must show the full fish lying on a flat surface and include a measure of scale (measurement mat, ruler, mobile phone, etc.). Preferably it would be photographed on a measuring mat or similar. Supplementary photographs showing the fish being weighed and the recorded weight would assist in further substantiating the claim.

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 (Angelshark), Porbeagle, Eel and Bluefin Tuna: Sharks and rays (elasmobranchs) are a group of fishes requiring special consideration. In terms of conservation status, Porbeagle (*Lamna nasus*) are deemed as vulnerable, Undulate Ray (*Raja undulata*) are deemed as endangered while Common Skate (*Raja Batis*) and Angelshark (*Squatina squatina*) are deemed as critically endangered (IUCN, 2008 & 2012). 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 Angelshark were suspended 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 decided that the moratorium on all three species would continue until 2012. The ISFC has decided to maintain this precautionary approach for these species (and include Porbeagle) until they are reviewed in 2015.

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. Eel will remain as an excluded species for specimen angling from 2014 onwards.

In the absence of a quota and due to its poor conservation status, Bluefin Tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) has been suspended from ISFC listings from 2014 onwards.

Handling fish: Rays and monkfish sharks are elasmobranches 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. Such scales, if certified in advance by a reputable agency/company 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.

Since 2012 the National Metrology Laboratory (NML), on request from ISFC, has provided a service to calibrate mechanical and digital fish scales (personal/club) based on EN 45501, from 0 – 100kg. The NML is the national metrology institute for Ireland and is responsible for establishing, maintaining and developing the national measurement standards for physical quantities and their dissemination to Irish users. NML operates as a division of NSAI (The National Standards Authority of Ireland).

Contact details:

NSAI National Metrology Laboratory (Rory Hanrahan)

Griffith Avenue Extension

Glasnevin

Dublin 9

Tel: 01 8082609

<http://www.nsai.ie/Our-Services/Measurement/Calibration-Services/Fish-Scale-Calibration.aspx>

Metritication: 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 decided to report in both metric (SI) and imperial metric systems since 2010. 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%).

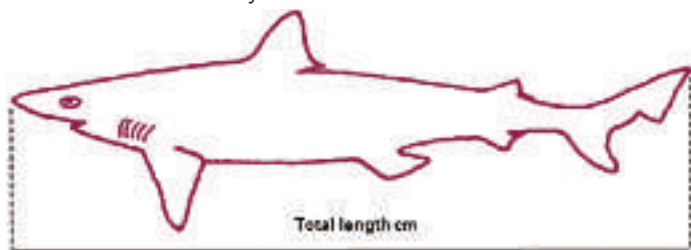
The complete list of specimen weight changes is as per following table:

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 commenced on a pilot basis for Tope for 2011. The threshold length is 1.6 m or 160 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.

Fish must be measured on a recognised measuring device with an end stop and suitable graduations. Suitable devices (measuring mats) are available from IFI, IGFA or tackle manufacturers.

LENGTH-BASED SPECIMEN THRESHOLDS

From 2014 onwards three species Tope (since 2011), Spur Dogfish and Smooth-Hound can be claimed as length-based specimens. Spur Dogfish is deemed vulnerable (IUCN, 2012) and a zero Total Allowable Catch (TAC) applied in EU waters in 2012. Weight-based specimens will be accepted for all three species but only three claims for any one species will be allowed. Anglers are encouraged to operate on a catch-and-release basis where feasible. Other species may be considered for inclusion as length-based specimens in the future.

Length (cm) threshold values for Spur Dogfish, Smooth Hound & Tope		
Spur Dogfish	105 cm	Smooth-Hound 100 cm
		Tope 160 cm

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 DVD, CD and email. For greater efficiency please tag all photographs, DVDs, CDs and emailed photographs with relevant details. DVDs and 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.

NOTABLE FISH

Two exceptionally large fish were returned to the water unweighed during 2013.

Species	Angler	Location	Date	Total length	Wingspan	Girth
Blue Shark	Richie Hanna	Mullaghmore	13/9/2013	230 cm	–	83 cm
Common Skate	Eddie Corry	Baltimore	5/9/2013	187 cm	198 cm	–



Roach/Bream being measured on Inland Fisheries Ireland Fish Conservation Mat (courtesy of Darragh Long)



Shark being measured on IGFA measuring mat

PRESENTATION OF 2012 AWARDS

Minister Fergus O'Dowd, Dept. of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and Derek Davis, Chairman of the National Inland Fisheries Forum, broadcaster and angler, made the Annual Presentation of Awards to successful anglers at Bewleys Airport Hotel on 16th February 2013. Mike Thrussell presented a short talk on some of his memorable angling exploits over the years.

In March 2013, Dutch and Belgian anglers were presented with their awards by Peter Dohmen, renowned angling journalist and Micheál Hennessy, Inland Fisheries Ireland, 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 but photograph quality will determine the likelihood of publication. The Committee is extremely grateful to anglers, staff, charter skippers and other supporters who submitted photographs. Gordon Thornes (Angling Journalist *Sea Angler Magazine*), Mike Dobson (Photographer Bauer media) and Mike Thrussell are gratefully acknowledged for supplying several high quality images.

Special acknowledgements: Charter skippers, club members, guesthouse owners, tackle dealers and the many staff from 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 2013, Marion Barry for the website redesign and Des Chew 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 Dr Steven Beggs and Dr Robert Rosell.

Special thanks are due to the extremely cooperative staff of the National Metrology Laboratory NSAI for certification of anglers' scales.

The genetic fingerprinting work undertaken by Dr Stefano Mariani (up to 2011) and Dr Jens Carlsson and their team at UCD has significantly advanced ISFC fish identification procedures and the Committee is very grateful to everyone involved in this important activity.

Inland Fisheries Ireland provides unstinting administrative support and other services to the ISFC and is sincerely acknowledged. Bridie Fleming supports 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	Netherlands (NL)	United Kingdom (UK)	Germany (D)	Belgium (B)	France (F)	Other	TOTAL
1985	443	25	90	15	3	2	n/d	578
1986	349	21	93	16	3	7	n/d	489
1987	300	36	59	8	1	4	n/d	408
1988	259	14	60	5	4	4	n/d	346
1989	261	18	48	10	0	0	n/d	337
1990	286	21	45	23	4	1	n/d	380
1991	332	30	46	19	1	3	n/d	431
1992	336	32	56	9	1	3	n/d	437
1993	352	30	45	16	3	4	n/d	450
1994	282	33	39	13	1	2	n/d	370
1995	295	35	55	18	7	1	n/d	411
1996	307	27	69	6	4	2	n/d	415
1997	449	28	57	9	5	4	n/d	552
1998	344	46	53	6	5	4	n/d	458
1999	310	33	35	3	1	1	1	384
2000	403	41	48	13	1	0	2	508
2001	427	28	37	5	4	3	4	508
2002	471	23	43	7	6	2	7	559
2003	384	63	41	11	13	4	5	521
2004	412	48	38	3	9	4	4	518
2005	432	62	52	10	7	4	1	568
2006	351	44	42	2	10	0	2	449
2007	424	56	28	6	12	2	2	530
2008	429	46	23	1	3	0	0	502
2009	470	39	15	5	0	0	2	531
2010	521	45	26	6	5	1	3	607
2011	519	50	14	0	3	0	1	587
2012	578	40	18	2	1	0	1	640
2013	536	41	11	5	1	0	1	595

n/d = not determined

Irish Specimen Fish Committee

Expenditure and Revenue Accounts - 1st January to 31st December 2012

2011	Expenditure	2012	2011	Revenue	2012
€		€	€		€
				Balance b/f	24938.44
				Grants	
5819.25	Printing	4668.41	5000.00	IFI	4500.00
596.04	Award Medals / Trophies	596.35	4688.55	Loughs Agency	–
659.14	Miscellaneous / Postage	350.00	–	Failte Ireland	5000.00
74.75	ISFC meeting expenses	–	400.00	TAFI	–
998.00	Awards Day costs	1018.35	108.89	ICSA/Clubs	108.89
8.98	Bank charges	13.27			
–	Genetic identification	4000.00			
	Total	10646.38			
	Balance c/d	24308.43	469.93	Donations	
		34954.81		Anglers	407.48
					34954.81
				Balance b/d	24308.43

“The ISFC has prepared a revenue and expenditure account for 12 months ending 31st December 2012 based on the movements in the bank. Upon review of the financial records provided we are satisfied that this Income and Expenditure 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 2013 were:

Inland Fisheries Ireland, Failte Ireland; Loughs Agency; Irish Charters Skippers Association; Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland (TAFI); Delphi Fishery Ltd.; Val Atkins, 4 Abbey Park, Ferrybank, Waterford; **Maurice Cott**, 5 Thornton Park, Whitegate, Co. Cork; **Jim Dooley**, 6 Bawnleigh Court, Banduff, Cork; **Eric Gosnell**, 52 Marian Park, Church Road, Blackrock, Cork; **Thomas Grogan**, 9-10 Granby Row, Dublin 1; **Christy Lane**, 10 Harrington's Square, Dillons Cross, Cork City; **Noel Lane**, 65 Silverheights Avenue, Mayfield, Cork; **Joseph Marsella**, Ballyda, Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny, **Nicholas McEvoy**, 6 Francis Crescent, Grange Heights, Waterford City; **Bert McGregor**, 34 Rivermead Park, St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin; **Vincent McKernan**, 19 Drummaul Park, Randalstown, Co. Armagh, BT41 3AR; **W. F. McLaughlin**, 27 Castle Gardens, Limavady, Co. Londonderry, BT49 OSD; **Chris Neill**, 7 Glencarrig 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; **Frank Prendergast**, Avoca, Caherciveen, Co. Kerry; **Jim Sloan**, 7 Shane Park, Lurgan, Craigavon, Co. Armagh, BT 66 7 HD, **Dan Smith**, 11 Kilmashogue Grove, Green Park, Walkinstown, Dublin 12; **Wicklow Boat Charters (Kit Dunne)**, 10C Wicklow Heights, Wicklow.



A September Golden Grey Mullet for Conor Hennessy

IRISH RECORD FISH

FRESHWATER SPECIES

Species	Weight lbs ozs	Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
Bream	6.07 kg	24.6.2012	Ballywillan Lough Fishery, Co. Down	Bryan Robinson
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	3.376 kg	3.5.2013	Monalty Lake, Co. Monaghan	Jason Dingle
Roach/Rudd Hybrid	2.1 kg	5.5.2009	River Lagan, Co. Antrim	Terry Jackson
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 lbs ozs	Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
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 (UK)
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 (UK)
Blackmouthed Dogfish	1.33 kg	10.8.2011	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	Jan Vrieswijk (NL)
Spur Dogfish	10.6 kg	25.7.2011	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	Albert Koawenhoun (NL)
Greater Spotted Dogfish	23 13	17.09.2003	Kenmare Bay	Perry Dumay (NL)
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	4 4	26.7.1982	Valentia	Cor Heinis (NL)
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 (NL)
Gilthead Bream	3.505 kg	17.8.2013	Dingle, Co. Kerry	Jeremy Coleman (UK)

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	0.48 kg	17.9.2011	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	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 (D)
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 (D)
Golden Grey Mullet	1.191 kg	24.6.2006	Cork Harbour	Noel Lane
Thin Lipped Mullet	2.83 kg	14.9.2011	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 (DK)
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 (UK)
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 (UK)
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 (NL)
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 (F)
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>)	6.07	kg	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	3.376	kg	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					
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>Spondylusoma 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>)	3.505	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)
Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>)	5.39	kg	3.175	7.0	—

SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS – *contd.*

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs	
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>)	0.48 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	2.205	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 - Thin Lipped (<i>Liza ramada</i>)	2.83 kg		1.5	3.31	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 microocellata</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		suspended from listings		
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>Polypriion 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		suspended from listings		
Turbot (<i>Scophthalmus maximus</i>)	34		7	15.44	–
Whiting (<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>)	4	14.5	1.361	3	–
Wrasse Ballan (<i>Labrus bergylta</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 calibration certificate from an appropriate service provider (e.g. NML). 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, THIN-LIPPED 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, RAYS, BLUEMOUTH, 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**.

RECORD FISH: Claim must be supported by a series of clear photographs showing relevant features for positive identification and an indication of fish length (preferably a ruler/fish measurement mat). Records will be weight based only.

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). Detailed photographs 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: bridie.fleming@fisheriesireland.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. Specially commissioned awards are made to anglers for cumulative specimen fish captures of 20 species, 10 species, 50 specimens or 10 specimens. Other special awards are the Dr. Micheal Kennedy Award (Mullet of the year), the Dr. Arthur Went Award (Young Specimen Angler of the Year), the Minister's Award (Fish of a Lifetime) and the Failte Ireland's Best International Specimen Fish Award (for the best overseas angler specimen).

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 15th November each year. Where required for identification purposes (see Rule 4) fish should be sent to the same address. Scales from shad and cyprinid hybrids for genetic analysis must be forwarded to ISFC before 15th October.

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

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

APPRECIATION / OBITUARY

TREVOR CHAMP



Following a brief illness ISFC Chairman Trevor Champ sadly passed away on 12th January 2013. He became Chairman of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee (ISFC) in 2002 and served with relish in this voluntary group until his untimely death. He was proud of the contribution of the ISFC's annual report to the promotion of quality Irish angling and the collection of data about angler-caught specimen fish. Under his stewardship the ISFC advanced and improved its operations by developing its website, introducing genetic identification for several species, guiding the introduction of additional species to the Specimen Species List and reviewing all species and their specimen weights. The review entailed collating details for over 20,000 individual specimen fish and determining species' angling status. As Chair, Trevor's fair-mindedness came to the fore and everybody got a hearing. His immense integrity underpinned his decision making and lengthy meetings were likely to ensure that all aspects were considered. His role as Chair did not prevent him from contributing in many other ways. He was generous and good humoured about giving his time.

Managing water quality in Ireland's freshwater fisheries formed the core of Trevor Champ's long career in the inland fisheries sector. He was passionate about his work and contributed very significantly to understanding the extent of fisheries habitat issues in many parts of the country.

It was not surprising that Trevor followed a career path in the aquatic environment given his childhood in Co. Kerry where he fished the River Laune for salmon and sea trout. After secondary school he went to UCD and obtained his B.Sc. in Zoology and Biochemistry in 1966 and an MSc in 1968.

He joined the Inland Fisheries Trust (IFT) in 1968 where he worked on the biology of brown trout, bass and mullet. In 1971, following the extreme enrichment of L. Sheelin, he commenced his research on eutrophication. Endless hours of detection work with stakeholders that straddled Sheelin, took a long time to bear fruit.

His compendious knowledge of lake baseline conditions was of great help when he worked with the National Parks and Wildlife Service in drawing up lists of Special Areas of Conservation for qualifying fish species for the newly-emerging EU Habitats and Species Directive of 1992. Here was an environmental scientist trying to get his point across to administrators in an era when the environmental perspective did not enjoy the credence it

now does. He became the key strategic environmental player in the Central and Regional Fisheries Boards service, flying the flag for water quality, for habitat and for fish. During his career he served on advisory committees of An Foras Forbartha, National Board of Science and Technology, EPA and Teagasc.

When discussion on the proposed EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) began in the mid-1990s, Trevor prophetically recognised its potential significance emphasising that WFD was going to be a key driver in advancing water quality and policy.

Trevor retired from the Central Fisheries Board in November 2008 after 40 dedicated years. A little known fact about Trevor was that he was an accomplished artist. Many invertebrate identification keys in the office library are adorned with these high quality pencil drawings.

Trevor was a member of Balbriggan Golf Club with a very respectable handicap, and also very proud of his Church of Ireland upbringing and very active in the parish of St. Columba's Church in Swords.

At his funeral the church was full to overflowing with family, friends and colleagues from all over the country. Trevor, who lived in Malahide, is survived by his wife Sheila and their five children, Erica, Gordon, Andrew, Neville and Norman; his brother Eric and two granddaughters Eloise and Annabel.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Des Chew, co-ordinator of the Dublin Angling Initiative since it was established in 1995, has been an angler since he was a child. Working closely with his Inland Fisheries Ireland colleague Josie Mahon and a dedicated group of adult angling volunteers they have engaged through angling with over 10,000 teenagers, mainly from the Dublin area, who have come through the DAI programme. The principle aims of the DAI, which is sponsored by IFI, are to promote, develop and improve angling in the Dublin and Greater Dublin area. From an early age Des was fascinated by specimen fish and the ISFC annual report – he started to claim specimens in 2008 and will collect his 10 ISFC species award in 2013.

It's a great honour to be asked to write an article for the 2013 specimen report. As always many fine specimen fish are recorded in this year's ISFC report and some of the finest anglers I have ever met feature with their catches. There is little I can write that would assist readers to catch their next specimen but I would like to use this opportunity to address a growing concern I have for angling.



Eric Cahill with his Lough Ramor specimen Brown Trout with Des Chew

I began my fishing journey about 30 years ago on the banks of the River Dodder, which flows through Dublin city. At this time my friends and I would get the bus into the city centre nearly every Saturday morning to buy hooks, weights, floats and pieces of terminal tackle we needed to catch the next fish. There were plenty of fishing tackle shops to visit, although sadly some of these are now gone. The tackle shops were buzzing with anglers and we often had to battle our way to get to the counter. There were lots of kids of my age there with equally limited budgets, but we usually left the shop with extra goodies that had been thrown in and that meant a lot to us. But we left with more than just fishing gear. The knowledge, experience and stories we picked from the adults in the shop were invaluable.

These men always had the time to pass on their tips, advice and encouragement.

During my teenage years I was taken fishing around the country by anglers my father was friendly with. These were fantastic experiences and set me up with a hobby for life. Teenage years flew by and gradually I became more independent and began to travel to these remote angling locations with my own friends.

Now through my work with the DAI I frequently visit tackle shops, attend fishing club AGM's and go to many fishing competitions. It is becoming more apparent to me and many of my fellow anglers that there is a distinct lack of youngsters taking up angling. Where are they gone? Some people believe that it's because angling is not what it used to be. Reading through the pages of the specimen reports would indicate that there is still plenty of top quality fishing in Ireland. It may not seem like our problem to take this on but we as anglers (coarse, game, pike, and sea and specimen hunters) are important custodians of our rivers, lakes and coastline. We are a powerful lobby with a strong voice that ultimately contributes hugely to protecting our fish species. If the number of anglers continues to decline into the future, who will protect our angling resource? Bringing children into our sport is an insurance policy for the future of angling. Reading this you may be wondering what can I do about this problem?

There are a number of ways that we can sow the seed of interest in angling in our communities. Don't fall into the trap of believing that you need a qualification in angling to pass on the love of angling and the many skills attached to it. Some of my thoughts are:

- Parents and grandparents can visit their children's and grandchildren's schools and show the contents of their tackle boxes, including flies, baits and rods and reels and most of all share their angling stories with the children
- If the children in your neighbourhood ask you to bring them angling just say yes – but make sure you bring one of their parents or guardians too!
- If you are a member of a club put pressure on the committee to hold open days for families and children so as they can all come and learn about angling from the members

People can contact me through the Dublin Angling Initiative (<http://www.fisheriesireland.ie>) and I would be happy to offer my experience in this area.

The benefits to young people who become involved in angling are enormous. Youngsters who take up angling will learn about the geography of rivers, lakes and the coast. They will learn about fish identification and natural biology. Hand in hand they will develop a respect and eventually a deep understanding of the natural environment as well as participating in a healthy, exciting and hugely enjoyable outdoor hobby. Some day one of these children may go on to record a specimen or indeed an Irish record fish which will contribute to preserving the integrity of that species while contributing to its survival. There are no losers with this approach and in time these youngsters will grow up and hopefully pass on what they have learned to the next generation.

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A night Carp from The Lough for Terry Jackson

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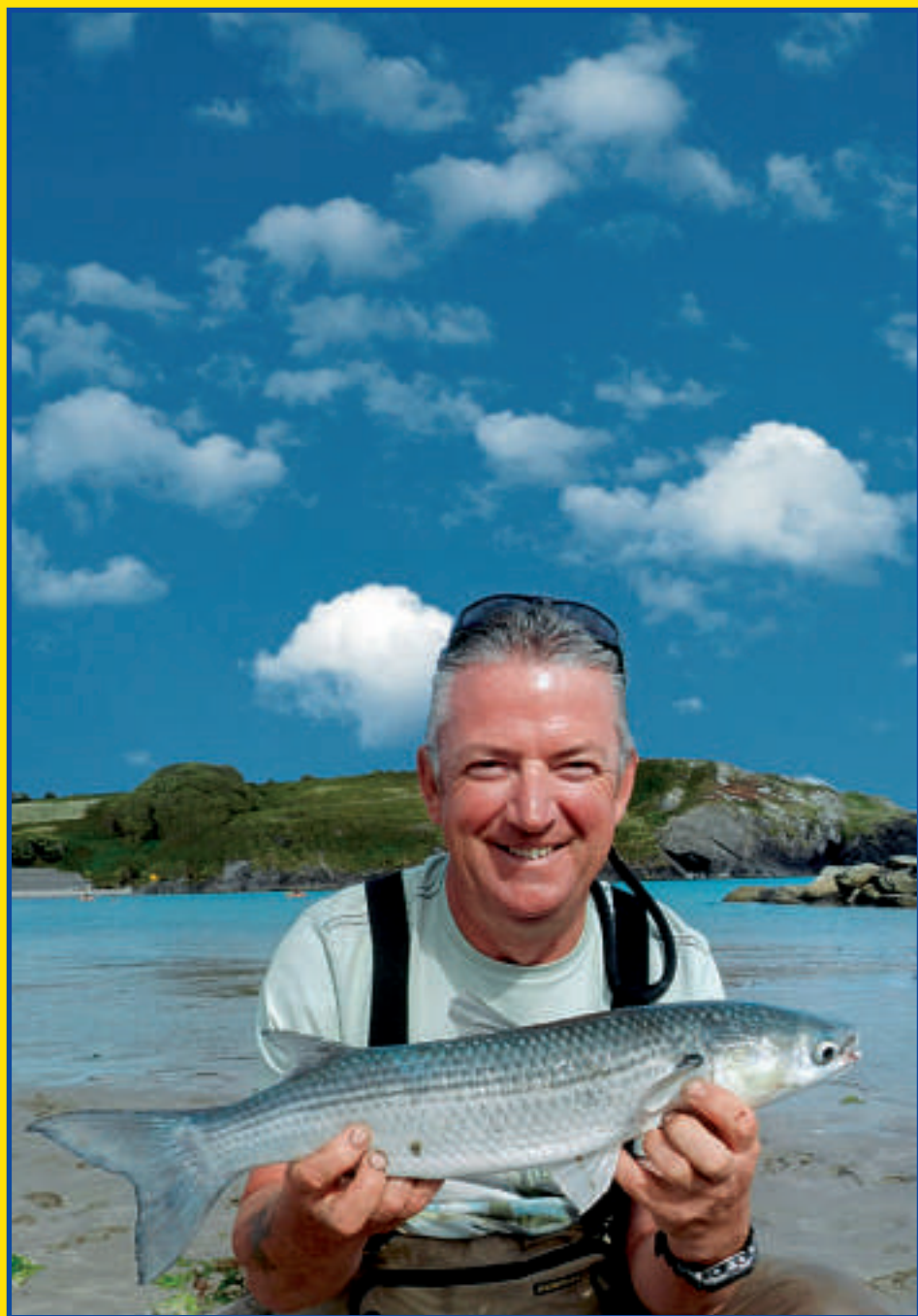
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IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE

Some important points for claiming specimen fish:

1. Use official ISFC claim form and complete **ALL** relevant sections fully.
2. **Print** your name, address (including country) and telephone number in block capitals in Section 2.
3. **Weighing:** Fish **MUST** be weighed (on land) on **CERTIFIED** club scales etc. or alternatively, on a shop scales. If in doubt, use a shop scales. Fish must not be weighed on board a boat.
4. **Scales must be certified annually** by a competent independent authority and the certificate of accuracy must be current at time of weighing. Certificate must accompany each claim.
5. **Fish scales, actual bodies or photographs** of some species are required (See Section 4 of the Rules for details).
6. You **MUST** sign and date Section 6 of the Claim Form. Ensure witnesses sign the Claim Form.

Back Cover: Thomas Lynch with a Thin Lipped Mullet from Rosscarbery



Designed and Printed by: Turner Print Group • Longford • 043 - 3346275
ISSN 1649-6841