

IRISH SPECIMEN FISH 2024



**ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE IRISH SPECIMEN
FISH COMMITTEE**



**Ioscoch Iníre Éireann
Ireland Fisheries Ireland**



DAERA
Department of Agriculture,
Environment and Rural Affairs
www.dairea.gov.ie

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 recognise 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 2024. Over 33,000 claims have been received by the ISFC over the past 69 years.

Irish Specimen Fish Committee Members 2024

Dr. Robert Rosell (formerly AFBI), Chairman, Dr. William Roche, Secretary, Shane O'Reilly, Treasurer, Myles Kelly and Micheál Hennessy (*all Inland Fisheries Ireland*), Alan McGurdy, Glenda Powell, Stewart McGrane (*Game Angling*), Dr. Edward Fahy, Der Casey (*Coarse Angling*), Brian Cooke (*Sea Angling*) and Dr Richard Kennedy (*AFBI*).

Awards Presentation

*Anglers due awards for 2024
are invited to attend the
Presentation of Specimen Awards at the
Clayton Hotel Leopardstown, Dublin
at 2.30pm on 15th February 2025*



Irish Specimen Fish Committee



In Association with
Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Cover: Rosscarbery Thick Lipped Mullet for Conor Ward

Contents

Chairperson’s Review 2024	2	Megrin	33
New Irish Records	3	Thick Lipped Mullet.....	34
Special Awards Categories 2024		Golden Grey Mullet.....	37
20 Species Award	4	Red Mullet.....	39
10 Species Award	5	Plaice	39
50 Specimens Award	6	Pollack	39
10 Specimens Award	7	Painted Ray	40
Dr. Michael Kennedy Award.....	8	Sting Ray.....	41
Dr. A.E.J. Went Award.....	8	Undulate Ray.....	43
Fish of a Lifetime Award.....	8	Shore Rockling.....	43
Best Length Specimen Award.....	8	Three Bearded Rockling	45
Best International Fish Award.....	8	Twaite Shad.....	46
Specimen Fish Claims ratified in 2024	9	Blue Shark	47
Coarse Fish and Pike 2024		Porbeagle Shark.....	47
Bream	9	Flapper Skate	47
Carp.....	10	Smooth Hound	51
Dace.....	10	Tope.....	53
Gudgeon.....	12	Ballan Wrasse	57
Perch.....	13	Corkwing Wrasse.....	58
Pike (Lake).....	13	Cuckoo Wrasse	60
Pike (River).....	14	Special Notices	
Roach/Bream Hybrid	15	Closing Date for Specimen Claims	61
Rudd	15	New Species, Specimen Weight &	
Rudd/Bream Hybrid.....	17	Length Revisions.....	61
Tench	17	Notable Fish	61
Game Fish 2024		Geographical Limit for Claims	62
Brown Trout (Lake).....	19	Weight Based Specimens	62
Brown Trout (River).....	19	Length-Based Specimens	62
Sea Trout	20	New Record Claims.....	63
Marine Fish 2024		Fish Species Identification	63
Angel Shark.....	21	Other Requirements.....	66
Bass	21	Administration.....	66
Bluemouth.....	22	Establishing A New Specimen Fish Category....	66
Coalfish.....	22	Presentation of 2023 Awards	67
Conger Eel.....	23	Acknowledgements	67
Lesser Spotted Dogfish.....	23	Distribution of Specimen Awards	68
Greater Spotted Dogfish	24	Irish Specimen Fish Committee Accounts	69
Spur Dogfish.....	24	Donations.....	70
Flounder.....	28	Irish Record Fish	
Gilthead Bream	30	Freshwater Species, Marine Species.....	71
Ling.....	32	Schedule of Specimen Weights.....	73
Mackerel	33	ISFC Rules.....	76

ISFC Chairman's Report 2024



Welcome to the ISFC annual report for 2024. With the weather dependent nature of angling, we see variation year on year and given the poor summer weather, we were expecting fewer claims than usual, particularly as the August weather kept many charter boats off the water. Yet, by the time of the annual detailed check on returns in November, we had received over 500 reports of large fish, spread over 50 species. The specimen hunting angler is clearly an adaptable and hardy type. The recent trend of large numbers of shark and ray species being caught, recorded and released continues – particularly tope, spurdog and smooth-hound. Over 40 specimen tope were reported, despite upward adjustment in the threshold from the previous year. It is good to see spurdog still present in numbers following their

removal from the ICES zero commercial quota list following stock recovery. ISFC did not raise the spurdog length threshold to enable detection of impact of this resumed commercial fishery. Flapper Skate reports exceeded 60 specimens; very encouraging evidence of the continuing recovery in this spectacular long-lived species and further demonstrating the value of angling and specimen reporting as important monitoring data for otherwise unseen species. In freshwater, tench had a good showing with 36 reports.

Length reporting (without the need for weighing) continues to have significant benefits and works well with mobile phone photography and a measuring mat. Over 75% of claims this year were length based rather than weight based, reflecting easier recording this way. Those measuring small fish should note that it could be advantageous to use a millimeter delineated mat, as we have to round larger intervals down to the nearest marked gradation. Newly added accessible smaller species – Gudgeon, Shore Rockling and Corkwing Wrasse also feature, with a new length based record for Shore Rockling. Maximum sizes for these newly added species may rise further as new marks are found and the record gradually becomes less attainable. There is also a new record for Gilthead Bream, another species climbing the charts as it continues its northward spread into warming Irish waters.

The dominance of length-based claims shows that the change has achieved its purpose and we are adding length thresholds for yet more species as time and available data on length-weight relationships for the species permit. We are also reconsidering special awards for length-based specimens, initially set up to encourage this reporting. We will not take away any special awards, but these will have to evolve to reflect changing practice. The elephant in the room, of when to establish a “longest ever” record for species with a current weight record continues to grow and we are looking at possible future solutions. For the time being, however, any fish of a species with a weight based existing record needs to be accurately weighed on certified scales to qualify for a new record. Further advances and options on reporting are coming with the ISFC App to allow reporting from a mobile phone. This has been under development for the last two years and is going through final trials.

If there is inconsistency or ambiguity in our rules, we can be sure that someone will find it. One example this year was the capture of a specimen fish, between the end of year reporting deadline (end October), and the later publishing of an upward adjustment (February) for the following year, which might rule it out. If this occurs, we will accept the fish as a specimen up to the publication of the new minimum size in the annual report. While all awards and ratification are ultimately at the committee's discretion, in this competitive world we do our best to be scrupulously fair. For example, a fish that is clearly of sufficient length but not clearly enough recorded can result in a specimen record as simply “greater than specimen threshold”. Note also that the witnessing of capture, weighing and or measuring of a fish is essential to the specimen reporting. The option still exists for solo anglers to report with credentials verified and signed by a Peace Commissioner or Justice of the Peace. For those who fish together, reporting specimens is a lot easier, with the added bonus of the peculiar and unique combination of camaraderie and competition.

On behalf of the ISFC committee, thanks to all our supporters and those who give time, staff time and the operating funds to run the ISFC, its awards and publications. IFI, host and fund the committee, AFBI and DAERA for Northern Ireland also contribute, as do angling bodies and individual anglers. We look forward to 2025, another year, and more memorable fish. Tight lines to all for 2025.

Dr Robert Rosell, Chair, ISFC

January, 2025

Report of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee 2024

In 2024 the ISFC processed 509 claims. A total of 15 were rejected for non-compliance with ISFC rules and a further 6 will be queried further. This report presents details of special awards and ratified specimen fish for 2024.

New Irish Record Fish 2024



Gilthead Bream 4.37 kg, Clonakilty Bay, 22 April 2024, Patrick Lombard, Co. Cork



Shore Rockling 38 cm, Arklow, 1 February 2024, Ronan Doherty, Co. Dublin

SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORIES 2024

20 SPECIES AWARD

EVAN McGOVERN, CO. CORK

2016	Spurdog	2021	Ling
2016	Ray – Sting	2021	Corkwing Wrasse
2017	Pollack	2023	Lesser Spotted Dogfish
2017	Smooth-hound	2023	Gilthead Bream
2017	Tope	2023	Mullet – Thick-Lipped
2017	Ballan Wrasse	2023	Mullet – Golden Grey
2018	Skate – Flapper	2023	Pouting
2019	Ray – Thornback	2023	Shore Rockling
2020	Ray – Painted	2023	Twaiite Shad
2020	Conger Eel	2024	Ray – Undulate

10 SPECIES AWARD

JASON CONVERY, CO. CORK

2016	Mullet – Thick-Lipped	2024	Smooth-hound
2016	Gilthead Bream	2024	Ray – Sting
2016	Mullet – Golden Grey	2024	Ray – Undulate
2018	Lesser Spotted Dogfish	2024	Spurdog
2019	Skate – Flapper	2024	Ballan Wrasse
2020	Flounder	2024	Corkwing Wrasse
2024	Ray – Painted		

JOHN HIGGINS, CO. CORK

2001	Pouting	2021	Bluemouth
2007	Ray – Painted	2023	Ling
2009	Coalfish (Saithe)	2023	Megrim
2010	Haddock	2024	Skate – Flapper
2010	Gurnard – Red	2024	Cuckoo Wrasse

10 SPECIES AWARD

JEREMY POWER, CO. TIPPERARY

2003	Pollack	2011	Flounder
2004	Cod	2012	Gurnard – Red
2006	Pouting	2014	Gurnard – Grey
2006	Coalfish (Saithe)	2024	Smooth-hound
2009	Ballan Wrasse	2024	Shark – Blue
2011	Megrim		

DARREN RYAN, CO. WICKLOW

2016	Spurdog	2023	Gilthead Bream
2017	Flounder	2024	Shore Rockling
2018	Ray – Undulate	2024	Ray – Painted
2018	Tope	2024	Corkwing Wrasse
2018	Smooth-hound	2024	Ballan Wrasse
2020	Ray – Sting		

PAUL TWOMEY, CO. CORK

2015	Brill	2021	Lesser Spotted Dogfish
2018	Black Sea Bream	2021	Twaite Shad
2019	Ray – Painted	2022	Corkwing Wrasse
2020	Tope	2023	Shore Rockling
2020	Spurdog	2024	Ballan Wrasse

50 SPECIMENS AWARD

JASON CONVERY, CO. CORK

2016-2024	Gilthead Bream	19	2024	Corkwing Wrasse	2
2016-2024	Mullet – Golden Grey	5	2024	Ray – Painted	1
2016-2024	Mullet – Thick-Lipped	21	2024	Ray – Sting	1
2018	Lesser Spotted Dogfish	1	2024	Ray – Undulate	1
2019	Skate – Flapper	1	2024	Smooth-hound	3
2020	Flounder	1	2024	Spurdog	1
2024	Ballan Wrasse	1			

50 SPECIMENS AWARD

NOEL DARCY, CO. KILKENNY

2012-2022	Twaite Shad	19	2017	Bream	2
2012-2024	Dace	13	2018	Roach x Bream Hybrid	1
2013, 2015	Carp	5	2018	Rudd x Bream Hybrid	3
2015, 2016	Smooth-hound	3	2021	Tench	1
2015	Brown Trout (River)	1	2022	Ballan Wrasse	1
2015	Gilthead Bream	1	2022	Mullet – Thick-Lipped	1
2015	Pike (River)	1			

DONAL DOMENEY, CO. CORK

1984	Angler Fish	1	2015	Ray – Homelyn	1
1993-2019	European Seabass	4	2015-2021	Bluemouth	3
1997-2023	Ray – Painted	4	2018	Plaice	1
2003	Pouting	1	2020	Red Mullet	1
2004	Whiting	1	2020, 2021	Mullet – Golden Grey	4
2005	Megrim	1	2020-2024	Smooth-hound	5
2005	Ray – Blonde	1	2021-2024	Corkwing Wrasse	3
2005, 2010	Coalfish (Saithe)	3	2022, 2024	Shore Rockling	6
2005-2011	Gurnard – Red	4	2022	Lesser Spotted Dogfish	2
2009	Cuckoo Wrasse	1	2023	Ray – Undulate	1
2009-2020	Flounder	3	2024	Mullet – Thick-lipped	2
2010, 2024	Ballan Wrasse	2	2024	Ray – Sting	1

JIM GREGG, CO. ANTRIM

1989	Lesser Spotted Dogfish	1	2017-2024	Carp	5
1993	Ballan Wrasse	1	2018	Roach x Rudd Hybrid	1
2001	Three-Bearded Rockling	1	2021, 2022	Flounder	2
2006	Trigger Fish	1	2022	Brown Trout (Lake)	1
2007	Pike (River)	1	2023	Corkwing Wrasse	1
2010-2024	Brown Trout (River)	26	2023	Tope	1
2016	Mullet – Thick-Lipped	1	2024	Plaice	1
2016-2024	Twaite Shad	10	2024	Shore Rockling	1

50 SPECIMENS AWARD

BERT MCGREGOR, CO. DUBLIN

1970	Ray – Thornback	1	2013-2023	Tope	11
2003-2010	Ballan Wrasse	3	2013-2024	Smooth-hound	22
2008	Ray – Sting	2	2014	Rudd x Bream Hybrid	1
2010	Cuckoo Wrasse	1	2019-2024	Spurdog	3
2011	Bull Huss	2	2021	Ling	1
2012	Flounder	1	2024	Coalfish (Saithe)	1
2013	Lesser Spotted Dogfish	1			



*Specimen Mullet of the Year winner, Alan Tealan,
with his 3.29 kg Thick Lipped from Rosscarbery*

10 SPECIMENS AWARD

2022-2024	David Bird	2013-2024	Joshua Higginson
2005-2024	Paul Ross	2019-2024	Jason Phillips
2001-2024	John Higgins	2020-2024	Barry Healy
2008-2024	Michael McGimpsey	2021-2024	Carl Owens

DR MICHAEL KENNEDY AWARD

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.

Alan Teelan, Co. Dublin

3.29 kg **Thick Lipped Mullet** at Rosscarbery, 1 June 2024

DR A.E.J. WENT AWARD

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 or length) taken by an angler aged 13 years or younger.

Amy O'Brien, Cork

9.07 kg **Carp** from The Lough (Cork), 3 July 2024

FISH OF A LIFETIME AWARD 2024

This ISFC award is for the best specimen fish of the year (other than a new record), and is presented to the angler who catches an outstanding fish.

Clinton Rachman, Cork

38 cm **Shore Rockling** from Ballycotton Bay, 15 September 2024

BEST LENGTH SPECIMEN AWARD 2024

Length specimens were introduced by ISFC in 2011 and this award is for the longest length-based specimen of the year (% of the threshold length)

Martin Carey, Meath

63 cm **Gilthead Bream** from Clonakilty, 13 April 2024

BEST INTERNATIONAL FISH AWARD 2024

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

Alan George Willavise, Wales

217 cm **Flapper Skate** taken at Courtmacsherry Bay, 3 July 2024

**SPECIMEN FISH CLAIMS RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE IN 2024
FRESHWATER FISH 2024**

Coarse Fish & Pike 2024

BREAM

Record 6.07 kg (13.38 lbs); Specimen Weight, 3.402 kg (7.5 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
4.03	8.88	–	Lough Oughter	S	14-Sep	Clyde McElwaine	Worm
3.91	8.63	–	Lough Oughter	S	14-Sep	Clyde McElwaine	Worm
3.80	8.38	–	Lough Oughter	S	14-Sep	Clyde McElwaine	Worm



3.8 kg Bream for Clyde McElwaine

Year of capture is 2024 unless otherwise stated. **Length (L)** is forlength (FL) (cm) for freshwater species, blue and porbeagle shark. Total Length (TL) for all other marine species. **S** = Shore & **B** = Boat. **Country of residence** of international angler denoted by relevant letter after surname. **(J)** after surname denotes juvenile angler.

CARP

Record 14.24 kg (31.39 lbs); Specimen Weight 5.9 kg (13 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
10.89	24.00	72	The Lough, Cork	S	02-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
10.89	24.00	72	The Lough, Cork	S	02-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
9.81	21.63	71	Inniscarra Dam	S	01-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
9.07	20.00	68	The Lough, Cork	S	03-Jul	Amy O'Brien (J)	Boilie
6.92	15.26	70	Horsetail Lake	S	16-May	Jim Gregg	Biscuit fly
6.86	15.13	65	Inniscarra Dam	S	05-Jan	Amy O'Brien (J)	Boilie
6.70	14.77	68	Horsetail Lake	S	29-Apr	Jim Gregg	Biscuit fly
6.69	14.75	68	The Lough, Cork	S	01-Jul	Amy O'Brien (J)	Boilie



Sidney Kennedy with the largest specimen carp of 2024

DACE

**Record 1 lb 2 ozs (0.51 kg); Specimen Weight 0.3 kg (0.66 lbs)
Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 27.5 cm FL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
0.34	0.75	28	R Nore, Thomastown	S	01-Apr	Noel Darcy	Worms
0.32	0.71	28	Thomastown	S	01-Apr	Noel Darcy	Worms
0.32	0.71	27.5	Thomastown	S	02-Apr	Noel Darcy	Worms

DACE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
0.30	0.66	27.5	Thomastown	S	01-Apr	Leah Darcy (J)	Worms
0.30	0.66	27.5	R. Nore, Inistioge	S	12-May	Terry Jackson	Bread flake



Leah Darcy admires her 27.5 cm Dace



Alan Teelan's 27.5 cm Dace



Thomastown Dace for Derek Greene



28 cm Dace for Dan Smith

DACE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
0.30	0.66	27.5	Inistioge	S	12-May	Terry Jackson	Bread flake
0.30	0.66	27.5	Inistioge	S	12-May	Terry Jackson	Bread flake
–	–	30	Thomastown	S	31-Mar	John Millerick	Worms
–	–	28.5	Thomastown	S	31-Mar	John Millerick	Worms
–	–	28	Thomastown	S	18-Apr	Dan Smith	Sweetcorn
–	–	27.5	Thomastown	S	31-Mar	Derek Greene	Sweetcorn
–	–	27.5	Thomastown	S	18-Apr	Ken Garry	Bread flake
–	–	27.5	Thomastown	S	05-Apr	Alan Teelan	Worm



Specimen Gudgeon for Sidney Kennedy

GUDGEON

**Record 16 cm; Specimen Weight 35 g (1.23 ozs)
Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 14 cm FL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	14	The Lough, Cork	S	09-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Maggots
–	–	14	Lower Bann, Portna	S	13-Nov-23	David Craig	Maggot and caster

PERCH

**Record 5 lbs 8 ozs (2.495 kg); Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.646 lbs)
Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 40 cm FL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	40	R Barrow, Athy	S	11-Mar	Anthony Kelly	Worm



Anthony Kelly's Perch



Impressive Pike from Emy Lough for Francis McNeilly

PIKE (LAKE)

**Record 42 lbs 12 ozs (19.39 kg); Specimen Weight 13.608 kg (30 lbs)
Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 115 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
16.13	35.56	112	Emy Lough	B	29-Dec-23	Francis McNeilly	Bluey



Eimear O'Sullivan's 103 cm Pike from the River Suck



114 cm Pike for John Millerick in December 2023



Jamestown Pike for Brian Lowth

PIKE (RIVER)

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

Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 100 cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
12.81	28.25	111	River Shannon, Jamestown	S	07-Jan	Derek Greene	Sardine
12.70	28.00	114	R Shannon, Roosky	B	15-Dec-23	John Millerick	Sardines
–	–	108	R Barrow, Athy	S	25-Feb	David Kopczynski	Maggot
–	–	105	R Barrow, Athy	S	03-Feb	David Kopczynski	Maggots
–	–	104	Jamestown	S	04-Feb	Brian Lowth	Smelt
–	–	103	R Suck, Ballyforan	S	03-Dec-23	Éimear O'Sullivan	Mackerel

ROACH/BREAM HYBRID

Record 3.376 kg (7.44 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.6 kg (3.528 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.81	4.00	48.5	R Barrow, Athy	S	22-Mar	Des Chew	Sweetcorn
1.77	3.90	48	Athy	S	05-Apr	Brian Cooke	Sweetcorn
1.70	3.75	41	Athy	S	01-Feb	Carl Owens	Sweetcorn
1.68	3.70	45	Athy	S	03-Apr	Dan Smith	Sweetcorn
1.68	3.70	42.5	Athy	S	28-Mar	Dan Smith	Sweetcorn
1.68	3.70	44	Athy	S	14-Apr	Carl Owens	Sweetcorn
1.68	3.70	44	Athy	S	14-Apr	Carl Owens	Sweetcorn
1.63	3.60	45	Athy	S	31-Mar	Des Chew	Sweetcorn
1.63	3.60	–	Athy	S	05-Apr	Brian Cooke	Sweetcorn
1.63	3.60	44.5	Athy	S	21-Mar	Des Chew	Sweetcorn
1.62	3.56	–	Lough Oughter	S	01-Oct	Clyde McElwaine	Worm
1.61	3.56	43	Athy	S	12-Apr	Brian Cooke	Sweetcorn
1.61	3.55	42.5	Athy	S	28-Mar	Dan Smith	Sweetcorn

RUDD

Record 4 lbs 8 ozs (2.041 kg); Specimen Weight 0.8 kg (1.76 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
0.91	2.00	34	Coney Lake	B	05-May	David Flynn	Sweetcorn
0.82	1.81	31	Coney Lake	B	01-Jun	David Flynn	Sweetcorn



Beautifully coloured Rudd from Coney Lake for David Flynn



Sean McDonnell with his Tench from Ballyhoe Lake



Shannon Tench for Darren Lynch



52 cm Tench for Dean Fitzpatrick



Thomas Lynch with a Shannon Tench



Zoe Tully with one of her three Tully South Lough Tench

RUDD/BREAM HYBRID

Record 7 lbs 10 ozs (3.46 kg); Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.64 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.44	5.38	48.5	Belle Lake	S	28-Apr	Anthony Kelly	Maggots

TENCH

Record 8.15 lbs (3.697 kg); Specimen Weight 2.722 kg (6 lbs)
Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 52 cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
3.24	7.15	52.5	Drumbad L	S	31-May	Craig Murphy	Maggots
3.22	7.10	–	Lough Ree	S	17-Jun	Des Chew	Red Maggot
3.18	7.00	–	Lough Ree	S	17-Jun	Des Chew	Red Maggot
3.18	7.00	54	Drumbad L	S	31-May	Craig Murphy	Maggots
3.12	6.88	–	Lough Ree	S	16-Jun	Des Chew	Red Maggot
3.11	6.85	52	Ballyhoe Lake	S	19-Jun	Sean McDonnell	Wafer
2.98	6.56	-	R. Shannon, Lanesborough	S	16-Jun	Clyde McElwaine	Worm
2.95	6.50	-	Lanesborough	S	15-Jun	Clyde McElwaine	Worm
2.89	6.38	-	Lanesborough	S	16-Jun	Clyde McElwaine	Worm
2.79	6.15	49.5	Drumbad L	S	31-May	Craig Murphy	Maggots
2.72	6.00	52	Lough Rahan, Carrickmacross	S	19-Jun	Des Frazer	Maggots
–	–	56.5	Ballyhoe Lake	S	24-May	Sean McDonnell	Wafer
–	–	56	Tully South Lough	B	28-Jul	Dean Fitzpatrick	Maggots
–	–	55	Tully South Lough	B	22-Aug	Clare Maurer	Maggots
–	–	55	Tully South Lough	B	28-Jul	Liam Tully	Maggots
–	–	55	Tully South Lough	B	28-Jul	David Tully	Maggots
–	–	54	Tully South Lough	B	28-Jul	David Tully	Maggots
–	–	54	Tully South Lough	B	28-Jul	David Tully	Maggots

TENCH CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	54	Tully South Lough	B	28-Jul	Clare Maurer	Maggots
–	–	54	Tully South Lough	B	28-Jul	Clare Maurer	Maggots
–	–	54	Tully South Lough	B	30-Jul	Zoe Tully	Maggots
–	–	54	Lough Kinale	B	13-Aug	Philip Connolly	Maggots
–	–	54	Glastry	S	26-May	Terry Jackson	Worm & Corn
–	–	54	Glastry	S	01-Jul	Terry Jackson	Bread & Worm
–	–	53	Tully South Lough	B	29-Jul	Liam Tully	Maggots
–	–	53	Tully South Lough	B	29-Jul	Logan Tully (J)	Maggots
–	–	53	Tully South Lough	B	30-Jul	Liam Tully	Maggots
	–	53	R Shannon, Meadows	S	29-May	Darren Lynch	Worms
–	–	52	Tully South Lough	B	29-Jul	Zoe Tully	Maggots
–	–	52	Tully South Lough	B	30-Jul	Zoe Tully	Maggots
–	–	52	Tully South Lough	B	30-Jul	Dean Fitzpatrick	Maggots
–	–	52	Tully South Lough	B	30-Jul	Logan Tully (J)	Maggots
–	–	52	Lough Kinale	B	13-Aug	Philip Connolly	Maggots
–	–	52	Glastry	S	25-May	Terry Jackson	Maggot
	–	52	R Shannon, Meadows	S	08-Jun	Thomas Lynch	Worms
	–	52	R Shannon, Meadows	S	29-May	Thomas Lynch	Worms



Craig Murphy with the Heaviest Tench of the year



Second heaviest Tench of 2024 fell to Des Chew

Game Fish 2024

BROWN TROUT (LAKE)

Record 26 lbs 2 ozs (11.85 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 75 cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
4.99	11.00	73	Lough Ree	B	24-Feb	David Brennan	Roach
4.76	10.50	78	Lough Ree	B	24-Mar	Anthony Kelly	Herring
–	–	76	Lough Corrib	B	24-Mar	Seán Ward	Roach



Lough Ree March Trout for Anthony Kelly



Well conditioned Lough Ree Trout for David Brennan

BROWN TROUT (RIVER)

Record 20 lbs (9.071 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 57 cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
3.12	6.88	63	Sixmilewater	S	30-Aug	Jim Gregg	Fly
3.02	6.66	63	Sixmilewater	S	20-Sep	Jim Gregg	Fly
2.62	5.78	58	Sixmilewater	S	10-Jul	Neal Hewitt	Nymph

BROWN TROUT (RIVER) CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.44	5.38	58	Sixmilewater	S	14-Sep	Jim Gregg	Fly
2.44	5.38	57.5	Sixmilewater	S	19-Sep	Michael Martin	Nymph
2.32	5.12	56	Sixmilewater	S	04-Oct	Andrew McGall	Nymph

SEA TROUT

**Record 16 lbs 6 ozs (7.428 kg); Specimen Weight 2.722 kg
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 64 cm FL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	65	Blacksod, Co. Mayo	S	05-Apr	John Cunningham	Mackerel
	–	65	Morriscastle	S	12-May	Robbie Porter	Mackerel



Mayo Sea Trout for John Cunningham, just before release

Marine Fish 2024

ANGEL SHARK

Record 73 lbs; Specimen Weight N/A
 Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 125 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	128.5	Fenit	B	19-May	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel



Angel Shark for Sidney Kennedy just before release

Youghal Bass for Darol O'Donovan



Best specimen Bass of 2024 fell to Myles Kelly

BASS

Record 17 lbs 13 ozs (8.08 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)
 Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 75 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	80	Youghal	B	07-Sep	Myles Kelly	Hard lure
–	–	76	Dungarvan Harbour	S	24-Aug	Adam Crowe	Crab
–	–	75	Youghal	B	07-Sep	Darol O'Donovan	Lure

BLUEMOUTH

Record 1.32 kg (2.91 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.9 kg (1.98 lbs)
 Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 38 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	40	Cahersiveen	B	16-Jul	Tony Tait	Mackerel

COALFISH

Record 15.1 kg (33.29 lbs); Specimen Weight 6 kg (13.23 lbs)
 Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 86 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	94	Courtmacsherry	B	12-Jun	Bert McGregor	Mackerel



Bert McGregor with the only specimen Coalfish of 2024



Shore caught Conger for Mark Noble

CONGER EEL

Record 72 lbs (32.658 kg); Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 165 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	190	Cork Harbour Outer	B	27-May	Ian Murphy	Mackerel flapper
–	–	178	Reenmore	S	02-Jul	Mark Noble	Mackerel
–	–	167	Crosshaven	B	04-May	Robert Vaughan	Herring
–	–	167	Howth	B	04-Apr	Martin Kennedy	Crab
–	–	166	Cork Harbour Outer	B	28-Jul	Ian Murphy	Mackerel flapper

LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH

Record 4 lbs 4 ozs (1.928 kg); Specimen Weight 1.474 kg (3.25 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.50	3.31	76.5	Cork Harbour Outer	B	29-Oct-23	Tony O'Brien	Mackerel
1.50	3.31	78	Cork Harbour Outer	B	14-Jan	Evan McGovern	Whiting strips
1.47	3.25	74	Cork Harbour Outer	B	01-Oct	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Mackerel



Lesser Spotted Dogfish for Ailbhe O'Sullivan

GREATER SPOTTED DOGFISH

Record 23.813 lbs (10.8 kg); Specimen Weight 7.257 kg (16 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 115 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	122	Kilmore Quay	B	13-Sep	Tony Tait	Mackerel
–	–	119	Kenmare Bay	S	07-Jan	Martin Fitzgerald	Sandeel



Cork Spurdog for Dan Lynch



May Spurdog from Cork for Ian Murphy

SPUR DOGFISH

Record 11.06 kg (24.38 lbs); Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 105 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
6.48	14.29	106	Tralee Bay	B	17-Jul	Philip Barry	Mackerel
5.67	12.50	105	Kenmare Bay	S	06-Feb	Jason Convery	Mackerel
–	–	115	Islandmagee	B	19-Jun	Peter Ross	Mackerel

SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	115	Larne	B	16-Feb	Glenn Drennan	Coalfish
–	–	114.5	Islandmagee	B	10-Aug	Mark Todd	Mackerel
–	–	114	Wicklow	B	04-Jan	Derek Greene	Mackerel/squid
–	–	114	Wlcklow	B	06-Jan	Bert McGregor	Herring
–	–	113.5	Ballycastle	B	08-Jul	William F McLaughlin	Mackerel
–	–	113	Islandmagee	B	19-Jun	David Bird	Mackerel
–	–	113	Islandmagee	B	16-Feb	Terry Jackson	Mackerel fillet



Wicklow Spurdog of 112 cm for Adam Teelan



Shore caught Spurdog for Jason Convery in Kenmare Bay in February



Jacob Kiernan Spurdog taken in October

SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	112.5	Dunmore East	B	23-Jun	Alex Murphy	Mackerel
–	–	112.5	Wicklow	B	04-Jan	Adam Teelan	Mackerel
–	–	112	Wicklow	B	06-Jan	Clyde McElwaine	Herring
–	–	112	Cork Harbour Outer	B	27-May	Ian Murphy	Mackerel flapper
–	–	112	Wicklow	B	03-Feb	Kit Dunne	Herring



Wicklow Spurdog for Marcel Aalbrecht from the Netherlands



Richard Kennedy with a Glenarm Bay Spurdog



Cork Spurdog for Tony O'Brien

SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	110	Cork Harbour Outer	B	04-Jan	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
–	–	110	Cork Harbour Outer	B	11-Oct	Tony O'Brien	Mackerel
–	–	110	Wicklow	B	02-Mar	Thomas Lynch	Herring
–	–	110	Wicklow	B	02-Mar	Thomas Lynch	Herring
–	–	110	Wicklow	B	19-Oct	Jacob Kiernan (J)	Mackerel
–	–	110	Larne	B	16-Feb	Glenn Drennan	Mackerel
–	–	109	Downings	B	29-Jun	Rinus Hage (NL)	Mackerel strip
–	–	109	Wicklow	B	06-Jan	Brian Cooke	Mackerel
–	–	109	Larne	B	08-Jul	Michael McGimpsey	Coalfish
–	–	108.5	Ballycastle	B	22-Jun	William F McLaughlin	Mackerel
–	–	108	Islandmagee	B	10-Aug	Mark Todd	Mackerel
–	–	108	Islandmagee	B	03-Mar	David Craig	Coalfish
–	–	108	Islandmagee	B	14-Jul	Peter Ross	Mackerel
–	–	108	Islandmagee	B	19-Jun	David Bird	Mackerel
–	–	108	Larne	B	08-Jul	Michael McGimpsey	Coalfish
–	–	107.5	Wicklow	B	04-Jan	Alan Teelan	Mackerel
–	–	107	Glenarm Bay	B	29-Jun	Richard Kennedy	Mackerel
–	–	107	Downings	B	29-Jun	Rinus Hage (NL)	Mackerel strip
–	–	107	Islandmagee	B	14-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
–	–	107	Islandmagee	B	14-Jul	Peter Ross	Mackerel
–	–	107	Islandmagee	B	10-Aug	David Bird	Mackerel
–	–	107	Wicklow	B	03-Feb	Kit Dunne	Herring
–	–	107	Wicklow	B	08-Aug	Marcel Aalbrecht (NL)	Mackerel

SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	107	Islandmagee	B	16-Feb	Terry Jackson	Mackerel fillet
–	–	107	Larne	B	08-Jul	Michael McGimpsey	Coalfish
–	–	107	Larne	B	08-Jul	Glenn Drennan	Coalfish
–	–	106	Islandmagee	B	14-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
–	–	105.5	Cork Harbour Outer	B	28-Sep	Paul Ross	Mackerel flapper
–	–	105.5	Wicklow	B	06-Jan	Clyde McElwaine	Herring
–	–	105.5	Islandmagee	B	28-Jul	Mark Todd	Mackerel
–	–	105.5	Wicklow	B	02-Mar	Thomas Lynch	Herring

FLOUNDER

**Record 4.91 lbs (2.227 kg); Specimen Weight 1.1 kg (2.426 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 45 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.14	2.52	44	Youghal	S	06-Nov-23	Barry Healy	Peeler crab
1.12	2.46	42	Youghal	S	21-Nov-23	Barry Healy	Peeler crab
1.11	2.44	41.5	Youghal	S	07-Nov-23	Barry Healy	Peeler crab
–	–	46.5	Youghal	S	20-Apr	Sean Bannon	Lugworm
–	–	46.5	Youghal	S	30-Apr-23	Martin Fitzgerald	Crab
–	–	45	Clonakilty	S	19-Jun	Sean Bannon	Lugworm
–	–	45	Youghal	S	03-May	Pat O'Shea	Crab



Youghal produced most of the specimen Flounder in 2024 including this one for Sean Bannon

GILTHEAD BREAM

**New Record 4.37 kg (9.624 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.4 kg (3.08 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 42 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
4.37	9.63	63	Clonakilty Bay	S	22-Apr	Patrick Lombard	Lugworm
3.35	7.38	61	Clonakilty Bay	S	07-Jun	Jason Convery	Lugworm
3.23	7.13	58	Clonakilty Bay	S	02-May	Jason Convery	Lugworm
2.98	6.56	57	Clonakilty Bay	S	11-May	Brian Lombard	Lugworm
2.64	5.81	54	Clonakilty Bay	S	14-Apr	Jason Convery	Lugworm
2.47	5.44	56.5	Clonakilty Bay	S	10-May	Patrick Lombard	Lugworm
1.93	4.25	53	Clonakilty Bay	S	10-May	Patrick Lombard	Lugworm
–	–	63	Clonakilty Bay	S	13-Apr	Martin Carey	Ragworm



44.5 cm Gilthead Bream for Jack Lowth



Brian Lowth's 45 cm Gilthead

GILTHEAD BREAM CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	58.5	Clonakilty Bay	S	16-Jul	Darren Ryan	Lugworm
–	–	50.5	Rosscarbery	S	12-May	Alan O'Dowling	Peeler Crab
–	–	49	Clonakilty Bay	S	25-May	Ronan Doherty	Lugworm
–	–	48	Warren Strand	S	01-Jul	John Millerick	Lugworm
–	–	46.5	Rosscarbery	S	12-May	Alan O'Dowling	Peeler Crab



July Gilthead for John Millerick



58.5 cm Gilthead Bream for Darren Ryan



Gilthead Bream from Ring for Fiona Ryan

GILTHEAD BREAM CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	46.1	Clonakilty Bay	S	20-May	Brian Lowth	Lugworm
–	–	46	Ring	S	11-May	Fiona Ryan	Lugworm
–	–	45	Clonakilty Bay	S	20-May	Brian Lowth	Lugworm
–	–	44.5	Clonakilty Bay	S	19-May	Jack Lowth	Lugworm
–	–	44.5	Clonakilty Bay	S	20-May	Jack Lowth	Lugworm
	–	>42	Courtmacsherry	S	14-Aug	Maurice Buckley	Lugworm

LING

**Record 55 lbs (24.95 kg); Specimen Weight 11.34 kg (25 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 125 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	133	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	31-Jul	Laurence Hughes	Mackerel
	–	132	Cork Harbour Outer	B	18-Aug	Ian Murphy	Herring
–	–	126	Kinsale	B	01-Jun	Pat Mostyn	Mackerel



133 cm Ling for Laurence Hughes



Ling for Ian Murphy

MACKEREL

Record 1.87 kg (4.125 lbs); Specimen Weight 1 kg (2.205 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 44 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	44.5	Cork Harbour Outer	B	10-Aug	Aaron Murphy	Mackerel



Aaron Murphy with his specimen Mackerel



The only specimen Megrim of 2024 fell to Pat Mostyn

MEGRIM

Record 1.85 kg (4.08 lbs); Specimen Weight 794 g (1.75 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 49 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	59	Kinsale	B	11-May	Pat Mostyn	Mackerel

THICK LIPPED MULLET

**Record 9.1 lbs (4.128 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)
Length -specimen ≥ 55 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
3.29	7.25	66.5	Rosscarbery	S	01-Jun	Alan Teelan	Bread flake
3.20	7.06	63	Rosscarbery	S	01-Apr	Tony O'Brien	Bread
2.83	6.25	65	Rosscarbery	B	04-Aug	Kenneth Murphy	Bread flake
2.83	6.25	60	Clonakilty Bay	S	04-Mar	Jason Convery	Bread
2.68	5.90	60	Rosscarbery	S	11-Mar	Francis McNeilly	Bread
2.55	5.63	62	Rosscarbery	S	26-May	Derek Greene	Bread



One of Donal Domey's Cork Harbour Thick Lipped Mullet



56 cm Thick Lipped Mullet for Luca Studds



Specimen Thick Lipped Mullet for Mick Hosey

THICK LIPPED MULLET CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.55	5.63	60	Rosscarbery	S	29-Jun	Derek Greene	Bread
2.49	5.50	59	Rosscarbery	S	11-Mar	Evan McGovern	Maddies
2.49	5.50	59	Rosscarbery	S	17-Sep	Francis McNeilly	Bread
2.40	5.29	55.5	Rosscarbery	S	14-Jul	Noel Lane	Bread
2.35	5.19	57	Rosscarbery	S	25-Dec-23	Jason Convery	Bread
2.35	5.19	59	Rosscarbery	S	07-Mar	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm
2.32	5.13	58.2	Rosscarbery	S	25-May	Sidney Kennedy	Bread



Arklow Mullet for Craig Murphy



David Kopczyński with an Arklow Mullet



Thick Lipped for Ian Mulligan



Jason Hamilton-Foott with a Rosscarbery Thick Lipped Mullet

THICK LIPPED MULLET CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.30	5.06	59.5	Rosscarbery	S	23-May	Sidney Kennedy	Bread
2.28	5.03	53.5	Ballyheigue	S	15-Aug	Philip Barry	Ragworm
–	–	62	Rosscarbery	S	26-May	Ian Mulligan	Bread flake
–	–	61	Rosscarbery	S	26-May	Ian Mulligan	Bread flake
–	–	60	Ballylickey	S	20-Mar	Evan McGovern	Bread
–	–	60	Cork Harbour	S	24-Apr	Evan McGovern	Bread
–	–	59	R Avoca, Arklow	S	08-Oct-23	David Kopczynski	Bread flake
–	–	59	Rosscarbery	S	26-May	John Millerick	Bread
–	–	58	Cork Harbour	S	03-May	Donal Domoney	Bread
–	–	58	Rosscarbery	S	05-Jun	Conor Ward	Bread
–	–	57.5	Rosscarbery	S	12-May	Jason Hamilton-Foott	Maddies
–	–	57	Cork Harbour	S	03-May	Donal Domoney	Bread
–	–	57	R Avoca, Arklow	S	22-Jun	David Kopczynski	Bread flake
–	–	57	Arklow	S	23-Jun	Craig Murphy	Bread flake
–	–	57	Strangford Lough	S	06-Aug	Terry Jackson	Bread
–	–	56.5	Rosscarbery	S	13-Oct	Mick Hosey	Maddies
–	–	56	R Lee Estuary	S	21-Sep	Sean Bannon	Bread flake
–	–	56	Rosscarbery	S	06-Jun	Luca Sludds	Bread
–	–	56	Strangford Lough	S	08-Aug	Terry Jackson	Bread
–	–	55.5	Rosscarbery	S	30-Mar	Noel Lane	Bread
–	–	55	Rosscarbery	S	05-Jun	Conor Ward	Bread
–	–	55	Rosscarbery	S	12-Oct	Jack Lowth	Maddies
–	–	55	Rosscarbery	S	03-Jun	Mick Hosey	Maddies
–	–	55	Clonakilty	S	13-Apr	Martin Carey	Bread



Ken Murphy with a 2.83 kg Thick Lipped Mullet from August



One of Derek Greene's Mullet



Noel Lane admires his Thick Lipped Mullet



Jack Lowth with his October Mullet

GOLDEN GREY MULLET

Record 1.52 kg (3.351 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.68 kg (1.5 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.02	2.25	44	Clonakilty Bay	S	06-Jun	Jason Convery	Maddies
1.02	2.25	42	Clonakilty Bay	S	04-Jun	Jason Convery	Maddies
0.79	1.75	42	Rosscarbery	S	03-Sep	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm

GOLDEN GREY MULLET CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
0.79	1.75	43	Cork Harbour	S	16-Sep	Evan McGovern	Maddies
0.79	1.75	42	Rosscarbery	S	30-Jun	John Millerick	Maddies
0.69	1.53	43.5	Ballybrannigan	S	28-Nov-23	Pat O'Shea	Maddies
0.68	1.50	40.5	Rosscarbery	S	03-Sep	Amy O'Brien (J)	Maddies
0.68	1.50	40.5	Rosscarbery	S	04-Sep	Amy O'Brien (J)	Maddies
0.68	1.50	40.5	Rosscarbery	S	04-Sep	Amy O'Brien (J)	Maddies
0.68	1.50	40.5	Rosscarbery	S	03-Sep	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm
0.68	1.50	40.5	Rosscarbery	S	03-Sep	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm
0.68	1.50	38.5	Cork Harbour	S	12-Sep	Evan McGovern	Maddies



Cork Harbour Golden Grey Mullet for Evan McGovern



One of Sidney Kennedy's Golden Grey Mullet



Golden Grey Mullet for Amy O'Brien

RED MULLET

Record 0.82 kg (1.808 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.4 kg (0.88 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
0.52	1.14	35	Kilmore Quay	B	08-Aug	Dan Lynch	Ragworm

PLAICE

Record 8.23 lbs (3.73 kg); Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.65 lbs)
Length-specimen \geq 48 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.28	2.82	49	Waterfoot	S	26-Sep	Jim Gregg	Lugworm/Squid

POLLACK

Record 19.186 lbs (8.7 kg); Specimen Weight 5 kg (11.02 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) \geq 80 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	82.5	Kilmore Quay	B	23-Jul	Brian Duffy	Lance



*Kilmore Quay
specimen Pollack
for Brian Duffy*



Painted Ray for Evan McGovern



Youghal Painted Ray for Sidney Kennedy

PAINTED RAY

**Record 17.21 lbs (7.806 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 80 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
4.54	10.01	80.5	Ardmore	S	22-Oct	Philip Barry	Ragworm
–	–	83	Rossnowlagh Beach	S	13-Sep	Shane Cunningham	Sandeel
–	–	83	Cork Harbour Outer	B	07-Sep	Evan McGovern	Mackerel
–	–	83	Rossnowlagh Beach	S	13-Sep	Shane Cunningham	Sandeel
–	–	83	Donegal Bay	S	30-Sep	John Cunningham	Mackerel
–	–	83	Ballycotton Bay	S	15-Oct-23	Jason Hamilton-Foott	Mackerel
–	–	82.5	Youghal	S	01-Oct	Sidney Kennedy	Sandeel

PAINTED RAY CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	82.5	Garryvoe Beach	S	09-Nov-23	Tom McGowran	Sandeel
–	–	82	Garryvoe Beach	S	26-Sep-23	Paul O'Leary	Sandeel
–	–	81.5	Cork Harbour Outer	S	16-Nov-23	Aaron Murphy	Crab/Sandeel
–	–	81	Brandon Bay	S	05-Sep	Darren Ryan	Sandeel
–	–	81	Garryvoe Beach	S	03-Nov-23	Alex Denby	Sandeel
–	–	81	Ballinwilling Beach	S	08-Oct	Barry Healy	Sandeel
–	–	80.5	Stradbally, Brandon	S	03-Aug	Darren Ryan	Sandeel
–	–	80.5	Ballinwilling Beach	S	26-Dec-23	Barry Healy	Sandeel
–	–	80.5	Ballinwilling Beach	S	26-Oct	Barry Healy	Sandeel
–	–	80	Waterville	S	17-Aug	Ronan Doherty	Sandeel
–	–	80	Donegal Bay	S	11-Jul	John Cunningham	Sandeel
–	–	80	Kilcummin	S	12-Aug	Joe Aylward	Sandeel
–	–	80	Ballycotton Bay	S	31-Oct	Clinton Rachman	Sandeel
–	–	80	Youghal	S	20-Oct	Jason Convery	Sandeel

STING RAY

**Record 33.2 kg (73.19 lbs); Specimen Weight 13 kg (28.66 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 90 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
14.35	31.64	94	Tralee Bay	S	23-May	Philip Barry	Crab
–	–	128	Tralee Bay	S	20-Apr	Jason Convery	Mackerel
–	–	127	Fenit	B	04-May	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
–	–	125	Tralee Bay	S	24-Apr	Donal Domoney	Crab

STINGRAY CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	116	Dungarvan Bay	S	01-Sep	Adam Crowe	Crab
–	–	112	Tralee Bay	S	24-Jul	Darren Ryan	Mackerel
–	–	102.5	Fenit	B	03-Jun	Amy O'Brien (J)	Mackerel



Darren Ryan's Sting Ray



Sting Ray for Amy O'Brien



Tralee Bay Sting Ray for Jason Convery



Dan Lynch's Sting Ray



Donal Domeney, Sting Ray



Undulate Ray for Joseph Chambers

UNDULATE RAY

Record 18 lbs (8.165 kg); Specimen Weight N/A
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 85 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	86	Fenit	S	12-Jul	Joseph Chambers	Mackerel
–	–	85	Tralee Bay	B	26-May	Evan McGovern	Mackerel
–	–	85	Tralee Bay	S	20-Apr	Jason Convery	Mackerel

SHORE ROCKLING

New Record 38 cm TL
Length specimen ≥ 30 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	38	Arklow	S	01-Feb	Ronan Doherty	Black Lug
–	–	38	Ballycotton Bay	S	15-Sep	Clinton Rachman	Crab
–	–	36.5	Arklow	S	18-Jan	Darren Ryan	Mackerel
–	–	36	Arklow	S	07-Feb	David Kopczynski	Mackerel fillet
–	–	36	Arklow	S	19-Jan	Brian Cooke	Mackerel



John Hughes admires his Shore Rockling



An Ardmore Shore Rockling for Paul Twomey

SHORE ROCKLING CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
	–	36	Ardmore	S	30-Mar	Donal Domeneay	Crab
–	–	35.5	Cahore Pier	S	30-Mar	Michael Byrne	Sandeel/ Ragworm
–	–	35.5	Tinnaberna Beach	S	09-Apr	David Kopczynski	Ragworm
–	–	35	Dalkey	S	06-Feb	Martin Kennedy	Crab
–	–	34	Ardmore	S	31-Mar	Donal Domeneay	Crab
–	–	33.5	Arklow Pier	S	29-Feb	John Pritchard	Crab
–	–	33.5	Ardmore	S	30-Jan	Paul Twomey	Mackerel
–	–	33	Caliso Bay	S	10-Aug	Stan Ryan	Mackerel
–	–	33	Ballycotton Bay	S	18-Sep	Jason Phillips	Crab
–	–	33	Ballycotton Bay	S	30-Sep	Clinton Rachman	Crab
–	–	32.5	Wicklow Harbour	S	07-Feb	John Pritchard	Crab
–	–	32.5	Arklow	S	06-Jan	Darren Ryan	Mackerel
–	–	32	Arklow	S	15-Nov-23	David Kopczynski	Mackerel fillet
–	–	32	Garretstown	S	04-Mar	Josh Hamilton-Foott	Maddies
–	–	32	Garretstown	S	20-Dec-23	Jason Hamilton-Foott	Maddies
–	–	31.5	Arklow Pier	S	19-Mar	John Pritchard	Crab
–	–	31.5	Dalkey	S	08-Nov-23	John Hughes	Mackerel
–	–	31	Ardmore	S	12-Jan	Paul Twomey	Mackerel
–	–	31	Ardmore	S	30-Mar	Donal Domeneay	Crab
–	–	31	Arklow	S	26-Dec-23	Darren Ryan	Mackerel
–	–	31	Waterfoot	S	23-Jun	Jim Gregg	Ragworm
–	–	31	Youghal	S	14-Dec-23	Martin Fitzgerald	Mackerel
–	–	30.5	Ardmore	S	21-Feb	Paul Twomey	Mackerel
–	–	30.5	Waterfoot	S	30-Jun	Neal Hewitt	Ragworm
–	–	30	Arklow	S	13-Jan	Ronan Doherty	Black Wraps

SHORE ROCKLING CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	30	Arklow	S	16-Feb	Ronan Doherty	Mackerel
–	–	30	Ballycotton Bay	S	18-Sep	Jason Phillips	Crab
–	–	30	Ballycotton Bay	S	18-Sep	Jason Phillips	Crab
–	–	30	Ballycotton Bay	S	17-Sep	Clinton Rachman	Crab
–	–	30	Arklow	S	30-Oct	Josie Mahon	Lugworm

THREE BEARDED ROCKLING

**Record 3 lbs 1 ozs (1.389 kg); Specimen Weight 0.794 kg (1.75 lbs)
Length – specimen ≥ 40 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	50	Hook Lighthouse	B	03-Sep	Philip Connolly	Mackerel
–	–	46	Arklow	S	28-Dec-23	David Kopczynski	Mackerel fillet



David Kopczynski with his Three Bearded Rockling



Dunmore East was the venue for Brian O'Neill's fish



Mark Noble's Three Bearded Rockling

THREE BEARDED ROCKLING CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	44	Arklow	S	07-Jan	David Kopczynski	Mackerel fillet
–	–	41.5	Dunmore East	B	04-May	Brian O'Neill	Mackerel
–	–	40	Allihies	B	18-Sep	Mark Noble	Mackerel

TWAITE SHAD

**Record 1.64 kg (3.616 lbs); Specimen Weight N/A
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 50 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	52.5	R. Barrow, St. Mullins	S	10-May	Terry Jackson	Metal jig lure
–	–	51	St. Mullins	S	25-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Spinner
–	–	51	St. Mullins	S	10-May	Amy O'Brien (J)	Spinner
–	–	51	St. Mullins	S	23-May	Jim Gregg	Blue silver sprat
–	–	50.5	St. Mullins	S	05-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Spinner



Twaité Shad for Amy O'Brien



Paul Ross and friends with Blue Shark just before release

BLUE SHARK

Record 206 lbs (93.44 kg); Specimen Weight 45.359 kg (100 lbs)
Length – based specimen (L-S) ≥ 185 cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	195	Cork Harbour Outer	B	18-Jul	Paul Ross	Mackerel (whole)
–	–	186	South of Cork Harbour	B	11-Oct	Jer Power	Mackerel

PORBEAGLE SHARK

Record 365 lbs (165.56 kg); Specimen Weight N/A
Length – based specimen ≥ 180 cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	>180	Malin Head	B	29-Mar	David Flynn	Coalfish
–	–	>180	Downings	B	29-Mar	Nicholas Ward	Coalfish

FLAPPER SKATE

Record 221 lbs (100.24 kg); Specimen Weight - NA
Length – specimen ≥ 180 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	217	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	03-Jul	Alan George Willavise (UK)	Mackerel strip
–	–	215	Clew Bay	B	31-Oct	Martin Carey	Mackerel flapper
–	–	214.5	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	24-May	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
–	–	214	Ballycastle	B	28-Oct	William F McLaughlin	Mackerel
–	–	212	Cork Harbour Outer	B	24-May	Paul Ross	Mackerel
–	–	211	Islandmagee	B	19-Jun	Mark Todd	Coalfish

FLAPPER SKATE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	209	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	24-Jun	John O'Connell	Mackerel strip
–	–	208	Clew Bay	B	11-Jul	Catherine Waters	Mackerel
–	–	204	Cork Harbour Outer	B	24-May	Ian Murphy	Pollack flapper
–	–	204	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	24-Jun	Luc Moris	Mackerel strip
–	–	204	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	22-Jun	Jelle Deckers (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	203	Cork Harbour Outer	B	03-Jun	Maurice Cott	Coalfish
–	–	202	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	24-Jul	Danny Van Dinteren (NL)	Mackerel strip
–	–	202	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	22-Jun	Stefan Soetewy (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	201	Islandmagee	B	17-Mar	Peter Ross	Mackerel
–	–	201	Islandmagee	B	17-Mar	David Bird	Coalfish
–	–	200	Cork Harbour Outer	B	01-Jun	Paul Ross	Herring
–	–	200	Ballycastle	B	28-Sep	William F McLaughlin	Scad
–	–	200	Clew Bay	B	31-Oct	Norman Dunlop	Mackerel
–	–	200	Islandmagee	B	03-Mar	Terry Jackson	Coalfish
–	–	199	Islandmagee	B	17-Mar	David Bird	Mackerel
–	–	199	Crosshaven	B	24-May	John Higgins	Coalfish
–	–	199	Islandmagee	B	03-Mar	David Craig	Coalfish
–	–	199	Islandmagee	B	18-Feb	Mark Todd	Coalfish
–	–	199	Cork Harbour Outer	B	24-May	Aaron Murphy	Coalfish
–	–	199	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	29-Jul	Sean Maxwell	Mackerel strip
–	–	199	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	03-Jul	Marco Bouman (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	198	Cork Harbour Outer	B	01-Jun	Philip Barry	Pollack
–	–	198	Islandmagee	B	03-Mar	Terry Jackson	Coalfish/ Mackerel
–	–	197	Larne	B	16-Feb	Glenn Drennan	Coalfish

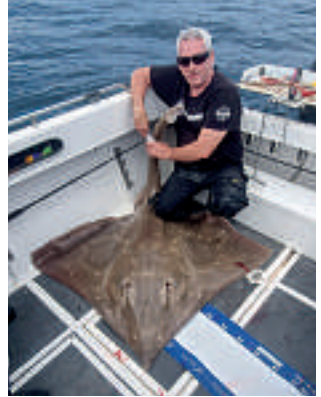
FLAPPER SKATE GALLERY



Barry Healy



Norman Dunlop



Maurice Cott



Ghiel Deckers



Jelle Deckers



Freddy Clerens



Ken Murphy



Dirk Crauwels



John Higgins

FLAPPER SKATE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	196	Islandmagee	B	31-Jul	David Craig	Coalfish
–	–	196	Larne	B	07-Jan	Michael McGimpsey	Coalfish
–	–	195	Cork Harbour Outer	B	03-Jun	Maurice Cott	Mackerel
–	–	195	Courtmacsherry	B	03-Jul	Barry Healy	Pollack
–	–	195	Larne	B	02-Dec-23	Terry Jackson	Coalfish/ Pollack
–	–	195	Larne	B	08-Jul	Terry Jackson	Coalfish
–	–	194	Cork Harbour Outer	B	24-May	Aaron Murphy	Coalfish
–	–	194	Cork Harbour Outer	B	24-May	Ian Murphy	Pollack flapper
–	–	194	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	23-Jun	Ghiel Deckers (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	194	Larne	B	02-Dec-23	Aaron Hutchman	Coalfish
–	–	192	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	03-Jul	Ghiel Deckers (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	191	Courtmacsherry	B	03-Jun	Evan McGovern	Coalfish
–	–	190	Islandmagee	B	31-Jul	Peter Ross	Coalfish
–	–	190	Islandmagee	B	07-Jan	Mark Todd	Coalfish
–	–	190	Cork Harbour Outer	B	24-May	Aaron Murphy	Mackerel flapper
–	–	190	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	07-Jun	Ronan O'Sullivan	Mackerel strip
–	–	190	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	03-Jul	Marco Bouman (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	190	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	03-Jul	Dirk Crauwels (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	189	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	23-Jun	Freddy Clerens (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	188	Cork Harbour Outer	B	01-Jun	Paul Ross	Mackerel/ Herring
–	–	187	Islandmagee	B	31-Jul	David Craig	Coalfish
–	–	185	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	22-Jun	Dirk Crauwels (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	184	Cork Harbour Outer	B	03-Jun	Maurice Cott	Pollack

FLAPPER SKATE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	184	Courtmacsherry	B	16-Jul	Alan Teelan	Mackerel
–	–	183.5	Courtmacsherry	B	23-May-23	Wilko Van Amelsfort (NL)	Mackerel
–	–	183	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	03-Jul	Stefan Soetewy (BE)	Mackerel strip
–	–	182	Courtmacsherry	B	16-Feb	John Millerick	Pollack
–	–	182	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	24-Jun	Ronan O'Sullivan	Mackerel strip
–	–	181	Courtmacsherry Bay	B	23-Jun	Ghiel Deckers (BE)	Mackerel strip

*Luc Moris**Ronan O'Sullivan***SMOOTH HOUND**

Record 12.02 kg (26.89 lbs); Specimen Weight 4.5 kg (9.92 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 103 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
7.26	16.00	120	Cork Harbour	S	26-Aug	Tom McGowran	Crab
6.35	14.00	115	Cork Harbour	S	02-Sep	Tom McGowran	Crab
6.18	13.63	–	Dungarvan	S	06-May	Jason Convery	Crab
6.18	13.63	111	Tralee Bay	S	06-May	Jason Convery	Mackerel
5.56	12.25	112.5	Cork Harbour	S	17-Aug	Pat O'Shea	Crab

SMOOTHOUND GALLERY



Evan McGovern



Jer Power



Oisin MacDomhnaill



Stephen O'Neill



Pat O'Shea

SMOOTH HOUND CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
5.13	11.31	101	Greystones	B	18-Jun	Francis Duffy	Crab
4.93	10.88	102	Greystones	B	18-Jun	Evan McGovern	Crab
4.69	10.35	107.5	Cork Harbour	S	28-Aug	Pat O'Shea	Peeler crab
4.59	10.13	101	Greystones	B	02-Feb	Bert McGregor	Crab
4.51	9.95	103.5	Cork Harbour	S	02-Sep	Pat O'Shea	Peeler crab
–	–	114	South Beach Arklow	S	03-May	Robbie Porter	Ragworm
–	–	111	Clonakilty Bay	S	06-Jul	Jason Convery	Crab
–	–	109	Cork Harbour	S	09-May	Donal Domeney	Crab
–	–	108	Wicklow	B	08-Jun	Stephen O'Neill	Crab
–	–	107	Roney Point	S	07-Jul	Oisín MacDomhnaill	Peeler crab/ ragworm
–	–	106	Wicklow	B	22-Jun	Stephen O'Reilly	Crab
–	–	105	Courtmacsherry	S	24-Aug	Alan O'Dowling	Ragworm
–	–	104	Greystones	B	08-Jun	Ronan Doherty	Peeler Crab
–	–	104	Cork Harbour	B	15-Sep	Jer Power	Crab
–	–	103	Tramore	S	01-Jun	Ronan Doherty	Peeler Crab
–	–	103	Malahide	S	18-Sep	Philip Kelly	Peeler

TOPE

Record 34.02 kg (75 lbs); Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 158 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
19.96	44.01	155	Kilmore Quay	B	07-Jul	Amy O'Brien (J)	Mackerel
–	–	172	Greystones	B	08-Aug-23	Francis Duffy	Mackerel
–	–	171.5	Greystones	B	25-Nov-23	Clyde McElwaine	Mackerel

TOPE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	171	Greystones	B	08-Jun	Clyde McElwaine	Mackerel
–	–	170	Killiney	B	30-Jul	Rob Millard	Mackerel
–	–	167	Greystones	B	17-Oct	Rob McClean	Mackerel

TOPE GALLERY



Brian Patterson



Darren Maxwell



John Smyth



John Geoghegan



Tom Fanning



Ian Murphy

TOPE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	167	Greystones	B	20-Jul	John Geoghegan	Mackerel
–	–	166.5	Greystones	B	23-Jul	Clyde McElwaine	Mackerel
–	–	165	Greystones	B	24-Aug	Sean Byrne	Mackerel
–	–	165	Greystones	B	20-Jul	Pat Kirwan	Mackerel
–	–	165	Greystones	B	29-Jun	Rob Millard	Mackerel
–	–	164.5	Greystones	B	21-Jul	Tom Fanning	Mackerel
–	–	164	Greystones	B	21-Jul	Stephen Hanway	Mackerel
–	–	163	Tusker Lighthouse	B	23-Jun	Andrew Ironside	Pollack flapper
–	–	163	Wicklow	B	17-May	Joe Beacom	Mackerel
–	–	162.5	Greystones	B	06-May	Stephen Hanway	Mackerel
–	–	162	Dublin Bay	B	10-Aug	John Smith	Mackerel flapper
–	–	162	Greystones	B	19-Oct	Stephen Hanway	Mackerel
–	–	162	Greystones	B	10-Aug	Rob McClean	Mackerel
–	–	161	Kilmore Quay	B	09-Sep	Mark Rogan (UK)	Mackerel
–	–	161	Greystones	B	25-Nov-23	Tom Fanning	Mackerel
–	–	161	Tinnaberna Beach	S	20-Jul-23	Joseph Brady	Mackerel
–	–	160.5	Greystones	B	24-Aug	Craig Murphy	Mackerel
–	–	160	Kilmore Quay	B	08-Sep	Ross Gunton (UK)	Ragworm/ Mackerel
–	–	160	Greystones	B	16-Jun	Sean Byrne	Mackerel
–	–	160	Wicklow	B	27-Jul	Wayne Condron	Mackerel
–	–	160	Wicklow	B	10-Aug	Kevin Rooney	Mackerel
–	–	160	Larne	B	03-Mar	Michael McGimpsey	Coalfish
–	–	160	Wicklow	B	17-May	Ian Murphy	Mackerel
–	–	159.5	Greystones	B	24-Aug-24	Craig Murphy	Mackerel
–	–	159	Greystones	B	28-Nov-23	Tom Fanning	Mackerel

TOPE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	159	Islandmagee	B	16-Feb	Terry Jackson	Coalfish
	–	159	Tinnaberna Beach	S	20-Jul-23	Joseph Brady	Mackerel
	–	159	Wicklow	B	15-Jun	Brian Patterson	Mackerel
–	–	158	Wicklow	B	17-Jul	William Roche	Mackerel

TOPE GALLERY 2



Rob McClean



Rob Millard



Joe Beacon



Wayne Condron



Stephen Hanway



Joseph Brady

TOPE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	158	Greystones	B	03-Aug	Rob McClean	Mackerel
–	–	158	Kilmore Quay	B	28-Jul	Martin Kennedy	Mackerel
–	–	158	Greystones	B	11-Oct	Martin Kennedy	Mackerel
–	–	156	Wicklow	B	03-Dec-23	Darren Maxwell	Mackerel
–	–	155	Greystones	B	07-Oct-23	Francis Duffy	Mackerel



Amy O'Brien with her Kilmore Quay Tope



50 cm Ballan Wrasse for Duncan Cole



Joshua Higginson admiring one of his three specimen Ballan Wrasse from 2024

BALLAN WRASSE

**Record 4.3 kg (9.47 lbs); Specimen Weight 2.154 kg (4.75 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 48 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	53.5	Union Hall	B	30-Jun	Paul Twomey	Ragworm
–	–	52	Fanad Head	S	13-Jul	Joshua Higginson	Zman Minnows

BALLAN WRASSE CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	51	Slea Head	S	14-Jun	Darren Ryan	Crab
–	–	50	Fanad Head	S	26-Jul	Duncan Cole	Minnow lure
–	–	49	Allihies	S	08-Sep	Mark Noble	Hardback Crab
–	–	49	Clonakilty Bay	S	08-Aug	Jason Convery	Ragworm
–	–	48.5	Clifden	S	07-Jul	Paddy Kirby	Lugworm
–	–	48.5	Fanad Head	S	26-May	Joshua Higginson	Lugworm
–	–	48.5	Fanad Head	S	22-Jun	Joshua Higginson	Zman Minnows
–	–	48	Cork Harbour	S	07-May	Donal Domenev	Crab
–	–	48	Galway Bay, Spiddal	B	31-Aug	Conor Ward	Crab

CORKWING WRASSE

Record 26 cm; Specimen Weight 200 g
Length – specimen ≥ 24 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
0.23	0.51	21	Ardgroom	S	26-Oct	Conor Ward	Ragworm
0.23	0.50	22.5	Slea Head	S	13-Jul	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm
0.22	0.49	22.5	Slea Head	S	13-Jul	Amy O'Brien (J)	Ragworm
0.21	0.47	22	Waterfoot	S	02-Nov-23	Jim Gregg	Ragworm
0.21	0.46	24	Allihies	S	18-Sep	Francis McNeilly	Ragworm
0.21	0.46	22	Ardgroom	S	14-Sep	David Flynn	Ragworm
0.20	0.44	22	Ardgroom	S	14-Sep	Seán Ward	Ragworm
0.20	0.44	21	Ardgroom	S	15-Sep	David Flynn	Ragworm
–	–	26	Dunquin	S	11-Sep	Joe Aylward	Ragworm
–	–	25	Clonakilty Bay	S	06-Aug	Jason Convery	Ragworm
–	–	24.75	Youghal	S	12-Oct	Christy Lane	Crab

CORKWING WRASSE CONTINUED....

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
–	–	24.7	Fanad Head	S	18-Aug	Joshua Higginson	Lugworm
–	–	24.6	Fanad Head	S	18-Aug	Duncan Cole	Lugworm
–	–	24.5	Dingle	S	08-Sep	Darren Ryan	Ragworm
–	–	24.5	Dingle	S	05-Sep	Darren Ryan	Ragworm
–	–	24.5	Slea Head	S	12-Oct	Darren Ryan	Ragworm
–	–	24.4	Fanad Head	S	28-Jul	Duncan Cole	Lugworm
–	–	24.2	Fanad Head	S	28-Jul	Duncan Cole	Lugworm
–	–	24	Youghal	S	28-Sep	Donal Domeney	Ragworm
–	–	24	Donegal Bay	S	25-Sep	John Cunningham	Lugworm
–	–	24	Donegal Bay	S	18-Sep	John Cunningham	Lugworm
–	–	24	Fanad Head	S	27-Jul	Joshua Higginson	Lugworm
–	–	24	Fanad Head	S	18-Aug	Joshua Higginson	Lugworm
–	–	24	Dunquin	S	10-Sep	Joe Aylward	Ragworm
–	–	24	Allihies	S	11-Oct	Jason Phillips	Crab
–	–	24	Clonakilty Bay	S	06-Sep	Jason Convery	Ragworm



Joe Aylward with his 26 cm Corkwing Wrasse



Corkwing Wrasse for Darren Ryan

CUCKOO WRASSE

**Record 2.438 lbs (1.105 kg); Specimen Weight 0.567 kg (1.25 lbs)
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 35 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
0.68	1.50	36	Castletownbere	B	09-Jul	David Flynn	Crab
–	–	40	Ballycastle	B	27-Jul	Joe McBride	Mackerel
–	–	36.5	Muckross, Donegal	B	21-Sep	John Higgins	Ragworm
–	–	36	Maiden's Reef	B	15-Jul	Richard Kennedy	Mackerel Strip
–	–	36	Ballycastle	B	14-Jul	William F McLaughlin	Mackerel
–	–	36	Larne	B	08-Jul	Terry Jackson	Mackerel strip
–	–	36	Larne	B	08-Jul	Terry Jackson	Mackerel strip
–	–	35	Ballycastle	B	31-Aug	William F McLaughlin	Ragworm
–	–	35	Islandmagee	B	07-Jan	Terry Jackson	Mackerel fillet



Stunning Cuckoo Wrasse for David Flynn

Special Notices

CLOSING DATE FOR SPECIMEN CLAIMS

Fully completed claims must be submitted by **31st October** each year. A charge of €10 applies for each claim (only Cyprinids) submitted for genetic analysis.

Shad scales: ongoing research into shad speciation indicates substantial inter-species complexity. For this reason genetic analysis of shad scales will not be undertaken for positive identification from 2022 onwards. Anglers are required to collect a scale sample which will be used for further research

NEW SPECIES, SPECIMEN WEIGHT & LENGTH REVISIONS

Rules/species listed below were reviewed in 2024 - details of changes for 2025 in Table below. FL refers to Fork Length; TL refers to Total Length.

Species	Current weight and/or length threshold	Revised	2025 Status
Blue Whiting	30 cm TL	≥ 30 cm TL	Inviting claims for fish ≥ 30 cm TL for species review
Tub Gurnard	> 2.0 kg	≥ 1.9 kg	Reduced weight threshold and added length specimen threshold ≥ 58 cm TL
John Dory	1.814 kg	1.4 kg	Reduced weight threshold and added length specimen threshold ≥ 45 cm TL
Red Mullet	N/A	≥ 30 cm TL	Added length specimen threshold
Pouting	N/A	≥ 48 cm TL	Added length specimen threshold
Shore Rockling	30 cm TL	≥ 32 cm TL	Increased length specimen threshold
Stone Basse	N/A	≥ 58 cm TL	Added length specimen threshold
Corkwing Wrasse	200 g	≥ 24 cm TL	No change

NOTABLE FISH



Porbeagle, estimated length > 200 cm FL, taken at Malin Head on 2 April 2024, by Thomas Lynch

GEOGRAPHICAL LIMIT FOR 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.

WEIGHT BASED SPECIMENS

All fish must be weighed on scales which are verified for accuracy. Weigh and claim in grammes (g) and length in centimetres (m) for all smaller species (fish ≤ 1 kg or ≤ 40 cm FL or TL). **ALL elasmobranch (Dogfish, Sharks, Skates and Rays) claims (weight or length based), except Porbeagle require submission of a photograph showing the whole fish, measured on a measuring mat (with an end stop) or equivalent, with its length clearly discernible.** Photographs of whole fish on a measure is likely to be a requirement for all claims in the future. Porbeagle to be measured and photographed in water alongside vessel, with 180 cm mark clearly visible on measuring device in image presented.

Weighing instruments and certification: Retail outlet scales are checked regularly by officers of the Legal Metrology Service (National Standards Authority of Ireland) or their equivalent 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 by a reputable agency/company, are acceptable to the Committee. Certification will be valid for one year from the date of issue of the certificate of accuracy. The manufacturer's 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. 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.

Weighing scales and minimum weight: Scales must be appropriate to the size of fish being weighed. **The minimum weight permitted is 10 times the scale interval (or weighing division) to ensure that fish are weighed on appropriate scales.** This means that for scales with a 50g interval (or scale division) fish being weighed have to exceed 500g (1 lb 2 ozs) in weight. For a 2 oz interval a minimum weight of 20 ozs applies.

LENGTH-BASED SPECIMENS

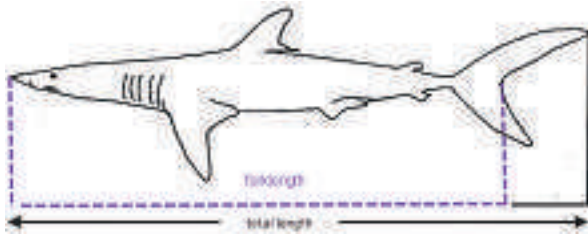
Fish must be measured on a recognised measuring device with an end stop and suitable graduations. All measures must be made on fully stretched with no folds. Length is to be rounded down to the lowest visible marked interval on the device.

Length-based claim procedure: Claims must be made on current form and angler MUST specify if length-based.

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

- (a) Photograph(s) showing fish placed belly down (elasmobranchs) or side down (all other species) on a properly extended measuring device with snout against perpendicular bar or plate with the actual recorded length (cm) visible. The snout tip will index the 0 cm measurement accurately. Dorsal caudal lobe to be 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.
- (b) 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.

Suitable devices (measuring mats) are available from IFI, IGFA or tackle manufacturers.



Threshold values for all length based specimens (and wingspan measurements for ray and skate) are shown. Wingspan to be measured by placing fish on measuring mat. All freshwater species should be measured to forklength (FL). All marine species must be given as total length (TL) except Blue and Porbeagle Shark (both FL)

Angel Shark, Flapper Skate, Porbeagle Shark, Undulate Ray and White Skate have been re-listed as length-based specimens only. The primary reasons for their re-listing are to (a) collect data on their distribution and status which is scientifically valuable and (b) to provide additional species for anglers to target as specimens. In re-listing these species, which have an exceptionally high conservation value, the ISFC requires that anglers handle them with the utmost care and that best practise is adopted for lifting and returning to the water. Fish slings or similar are recommended. Detail on exact capture locations (Latitude/Longitude) would contribute further to refining species distribution information but will not be published by ISFC.

NEW RECORD CLAIMS

Records will be weight based but, for new species, or species without a record weight, can be length based. The record fish is the first fish, by date of capture in the year, to exceed the existing record by weight (or by length where it applies).

Photographic evidence for new records: A series of clear photographs must accompany all **record** fish claims, except in the few cases where a body (or presentation of the fish) is required for species identification. Photographs must show the whole fish lying on a flat surface and include a measure of scale (measurement mat, ruler). Preferably it should be photographed on a measuring mat or similar. Supplementary photographs showing the fish being weighed and the recorded weight would assist in further claim substantiation.

FISH SPECIES IDENTIFICATION

Genetic fingerprinting of certain cyprinids: To support claims for Roach, Rudd and their hybrids, anglers must submit 3 scales from a fish 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 (full detail in table on the next page).

As genetic analysis of scales requires considerable time to process samples, anglers are requested to submit scale samples before 15th October.

Sample requirements for genetic analysis of selected cyprinids 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

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.

Guidance for anglers taking photographs for fish identification purposes:

Photographs are acceptable for claim verification **if they provide conclusive evidence of the identification of a fish species** (Rule 4). A list of some external identification features for particular species identification are presented below.

Photographs, which should be taken as soon as possible after the fish is captured, must be in focus, clear and in colour, printed on good quality paper and show the relevant identification features. Photographs 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.

Digital images submitted by DVD, CD or email must be tagged with angler name, fish species, weight, length and date of capture.

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)	Whole body; 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	Whole body; head area showing head appendages upright
Brill	Whole body; close up of skin
Cuckoo Wrasse	Whole body; lateral view, close up of head
Dab	Whole body; close up of skin and lateral line
Flounder	Whole body; close up of lateral line scales close to head
Golden Grey Mullet Thin-Lipped Mullet	Whole body and close ups of: (a) head including pectoral fin (lying flat) (b) mouth showing upper lip (c) underside of head

Species	Features to photograph (a) the whole body (lateral view) must be photographed for all species AND (b) the specific features detailed below
Grey Gurnard	Whole body; close up of lateral line and head
Thick Lipped Mullet	Whole body; close up of head showing upper lip (head-on), underside of head to back of gills
Herring	Whole body; keel of fish
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	Whole body; underside of head
Mackerel	Whole body; close up of stripes on back
Megrim	Whole body; head
Ray's Bream	Whole body; close up of head
All Gurnards	Whole body; detail of lateral line, head with pectoral fin fully expanded
Red Mullet	Whole body; close up of head
Scad	Whole body; close up of entire lateral line
Shad - Allis, Twaite & Hybrid	Whole body; three scales to be taken
Smooth-hound	Whole body and close ups of: (a) tail fin (b) underside of head showing mouth (c) back in region of dorsal fin
Three Bearded Rockling	Whole body; close up of head and lower jaw area, and close up of area in front of dorsal fin
Torsk	Whole body; close up of skin and dorsal and tail fin area

Additional details of important features are detailed in IFI's Fish Identification Guide
<http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Angling/angling-publications.html>



**Greystones
Tope for
Sean Byrne**

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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.

Metriification: Claims will be accepted under the metric and imperial systems unless legislation dictates otherwise. From 2023 onwards, ALL SPECIES ≤ 1 kg or ≤ 40 cm TL or FL, should be weighed and claimed in grammes (g) and cm. Since 2006, fish weights have been presented in kilogrammes in the Annual Report. Many anglers continue to use imperial measurements for fish and in 2010 ISFC decided to report in both metric (SI) and imperial metric systems.

Length measurements on claim form: A length measurement provides informative data about the species being claimed and additional verification information, and is requested for all species. Considerable length variation is evident for many species due to natural variability (time of year, sex, location, feeding etc) but it is likely that fish length measurement techniques are inconsistent also. Measurement mats are recommended to provide standardized measurements of specimen fish.

Closed seasons: Closed seasons apply to several species (e.g. brown trout, salmon, 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 any single species in any one year. If an angler achieves this target and subsequently captures a larger fish within the year, this fish can be claimed but the final number of awards for any species in a single year will not be more than three.

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

ADMINISTRATION

Captors Addresses: Because of difficulties in establishing eligibility for the 20 Species, 10 Species, 50 Specimen and 10 Specimen Awards, anglers are requested to inform the Committee of any changes in their address.

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 (*Spondyliosoma 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 to 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.

PRESENTATION OF 2023 AWARDS

The ISFC Awards Day Presentation was held on 17 February 2024 in a Dublin hotel.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special acknowledgements: Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) continues to support and provide other services to the ISFC and is sincerely acknowledged. Sincere thanks to Myles Kelly and Shane O'Reilly, IFI, who manage the ISFC website, and ISFC auditor Jennifer Dowling (IFI). Dr Richard Kennedy and Dr Steven Beggs (both AFBI) provide a specimen fish identification service for anglers in the northern part of Ireland and are thanked for their efforts. Bridie Fleming's (formerly IFI) support of ISFC activity is very much appreciated. Thanks to Eoin Leonard (IFI) for his time also. Joshua Higginson is acknowledged for his ongoing work on refining the ISFC claims app.

Charter skippers, club members, guesthouse owners, tackle dealers and IFI staff who follow up claims and ensure that the necessary paperwork is attended to are gratefully acknowledged.

Special thanks are due to Rory Hanrahan, National Metrology Laboratory NSAI for his advice over many years. DNA analysis, undertaken by Dr. Jens Carlsson and Dr. Nettan Carlsson at UCD, has significantly advanced ISFC fish identification procedures for several cyprinid species and their hybrids.

Photographs: Many photographs in this report are taken by anglers. They, along with charter skippers, fisheries staff and journalists, are acknowledged for these.

DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIMEN AWARDS

Nationalities of anglers whose claims were ratified:

Year	Ireland	The Netherlands	United Kingdom	Germany	Belgium	France	Other	TOTAL
		(NL)	(UK)	(D)	(B)	(F)		
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
2014	476	23	15	1	7	2	2	526
2015	422	12	8	0	4	0	1	447
2016	416	45	10	2	9	0	3	485
2017	346	22	8	–	2	–	4	382
2018	374	10	6	1	–	1	1	393
2019	480	22	6	4	–	–	1	513
2020	307	–	–	–	–	–	–	307
2021	471	3	–	–	1	–	–	475
2022	412	20	1	1	–	–	–	436
2023	546	9	11	1	–	2	2	571
2024	469	5	3	–	11	–	–	488

IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE ACCOUNTS

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023		2022	
	€	€	€	€
Income				
Test Payment (Stripe)	3.02			
Paypal Revenue	1,738.00			
DAERA Grant	–		2,350.45	
DNA Payment	100.00		257.99	
Donation	1,230.84		1,311.69	
IFI Grant	4,500.00		4,500.00	
Total Income		7,571.86		8,420.13
Expenditure				
Awards Day Expenses	1,334.85		1,358.25	
Bank Fees & Stamp Duty	127.12		30.99	
DNA Sampling	–		2,000.00	
Medals & Awards	2,050.43		331.45	
Print/Design	5,996.76		4,568.34	
Admin/Postage	900.57			
Total Expenditure		10,409.73		8,289.03
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year		-2,827.87		131.10
Balance Brought Forward at 01 January		27,950.02		27,818.92
Balance Carried Forward at 31 December		<u>25,112.15</u>		<u>27,950.02</u>

Reviewed by Jennifer Dowling. 19/12/2024.

J Dowling

DONATIONS

The ISFC is a voluntary body and all of its activities are funded by grants/donations from diverse sources. All funders are gratefully acknowledged.

Benefactors in 2024 were:

Inland Fisheries Ireland, 3044 Lake Drive, Citywest Business Campus, D24 CK66; DAERA, Marine & Fisheries Group, Level 1, Klondyke Building, Cormac Avenue, Gasworks Business Park, BT7 2JA, Northern Ireland; Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland; Delphi Lodge, Leenane, Co. Galway.

Philip Barry, Ballyvolane, Cork; **Noel Darcy**, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny; **Ronan Doherty**, Glenageary, Co. Dublin; **Donal Domenev**, Cork City; **John Gaynor**, Galway; **John Geoghegan**, Greenhills Dublin; **Eric Gosnell**, Church Road, Blackrock, Cork, Co. Cork; **Christy Lane**, Dillons Cross, Cork; **Noel Lane**, Mayfield, Cork; **Dan Lynch**, Halfway Angling Centre, Halfway, Ballinassig, Co. Cork; **Thomas Lynch**, Rush, Co. Dublin; **Evan McGovern**, Blarney, Co. Cork; **Bert McGregor**, St. Margarets, Co. Dublin; **WF McLoughlin**, Limavady; **Pat Mostyn**, Cork City; **Joe Mulholland**, Feede Cross, Dundalk, Co. Louth; **Karl O'Leary**, Raheen, Limerick; **Joey O'Neill**, Magherafelt, Derry; **Pat O'Shea**, Cobh, Co. Cork; **Jim Walsh**, Glencullen, Co. Dublin.



Shannon Pike for Derek Greene



Flapper Skate for John Millerick



Ballan Wrasse for Conor Ward



Clyde McElwaine's 2.98 kg Tench

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	14.24 kg	26.10.2014	Loughgall, Armagh	Aaron Cummins
Dace	1 2	8.8.1966	River Blackwater, Cappoquin	John T. Henry
Eel	6 15	12.6.1979	Lough Droumenisa, Bantry	J. Murnane
Gudgeon	16 cm FL	23.10.2023	Movanagher Canal	Terry Jackson
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	Ballyeighter 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 Bream	1.46 kg	17.9.2008	Kilmore Quay	Gordon Thornes
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	11.06 kg	3.6.2013	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	Tom Walsh
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 (B. belone)	1.729 kg	28.5.2007	Cork Harbour	Stephen O'Neill
Garfish (B. svetovidovi)	1.11	5.8.1994	Courtmacsherry	Eric Leijten (NL)
Gilthead Bream	4.37 kg	22.4.2024	Clonakilty Bay	Patrick Lombard

MARINE SPECIES (Contd.)

Species	Weight		Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
	lbs	ozs			
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 Plessmann (D)
Megrim	1.85	kg	26.7.1987	Killala	Paul Hennigan
Angel Shark (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	1.52		15.8.2018	Cork Harbour	Stephen O'Neill
Thin Lipped Mullet	2.95		15.7.2018	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	1.64	kg	15.5.2015	St. Mullins	Thomas Lynch
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
Flapper 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	12.02	kg	25.7.2020	Wicklow	John Hughes
Stone Basse	6.07	kg	12.10.2021	Outer Cork Harbour	Jim Clohessy
Shore Rockling	38 cm TL		1.2.2024	Arklow	Ronan Doherty
Three Bearded Rockling	3	1	1.5.1990	Arklow	Maurice Laurent
Tope	34.02		3.10.2018	Greystones	Stephen Hanway
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)
Corkwing Wrasse	26	cm TL	1.10.23	Fanad Head	Duncan Cole
Cuckoo Wrasse	2	7	15.9.1998	Causeway Coast	Brian McLoughlin

SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS AND LENGTHS

(revisions for 2025 in bold)

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		LENGTH BASED SPECIMEN	SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs		
FRESHWATER FISH						
Bream (<i>Abramis brama</i>)	6.07 kg		3.402	7.5		–
Carp (<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>)	14.24 kg		5.9	13		–
Dace (<i>Leuciscus leuciscus</i>)	1	2	0.3	0.66	27.5 cm Fork Length	Scales & photos
Eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)	6	15	suspended from ISFC listing			
Gudgeon (<i>Gobo gobo</i>)	16 cm TL		35g	1.23 ozs	≥14cm Fork Length	Photograph on mat
Perch (<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>)	5	8	1.2	2.646	≥40 cm Fork Length	Photograph on mat
Pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>) (Lake)	42	12	13.608	30	≥115cm Fork Length	–
Pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>) (River)	42		9.072	20	≥100cm Fork Length	–
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	2.1 kg		0.9	1.98		Scales* & photos
Rudd (<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>)	4	8	0.8	1.76		Scales* & photos
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	7	10	1.2	2.64		Scales* & photos
Tench (<i>Tinca tinca</i>)	8.15		2.722	6	≥52cm Fork Length	–
Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	57		9.072	20	≥90cm Fork Length	Scales
Brown Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>) (Lake)	26	2	4.536	10	≥75cm Fork Length	Scales
Brown Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>) (River)	20		2.268	5	≥57cm Fork Length	Scales
Sea Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	16	6	2.722	6	≥64cm Fork Length	Scales
Slob Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	–		4.536	10		Scales
* for genetic profiling						
SEA FISH						
Angel Shark (aka Monkfish) (<i>Squatina squatina</i>)	73		No Specimen Weight		≥125cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Angler Fish (<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>)	42.985 kg		8.0	17.64		Photos or Body
Bass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>)	17	13	4.536	10	≥75cm Total Length	–
Black Sole (<i>Solea solea</i>)	6.32		0.6	1.32		–
Black Bream (<i>Spondyllosoma cantharus</i>)	1.46 kg		0.79	1.75	≥36cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Bluemouth (<i>Helicolenus dactylopterus</i>)	1.32 kg		0.9	1.98	≥38cm Total Length	Photo
Brill (<i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>)	9	8	1.6	3.53		Photos or Body
Coalfish (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)	15.1 kg		6.0	13.23	≥86cm Total Length	Photo
Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)	42		7.0	15.43	≥88cm Total Length	–

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		LENGTH BASED SPECIMEN	SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs		
Conger eel (<i>Conger conger</i>)	72		18.144	40	≥165cm Total Length	–
Dab (<i>Limanda limanda</i>)	2	5.5	0.6	1.32	≥37cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Dogfish – Blackmouthed (<i>Galeus melastomus</i>)	1.33 kg		1.0	2.205	≥67cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Dogfish – Lesser Spotted (<i>Scyliorhinus caniculus</i>)	4	4	1.474	3.25		Photo on measuring mat
Dogfish – Greater Spotted (<i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i>)	23	13	7.257	16	≥115cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Dogfish – Spur (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)	11.06 kg		5.443	12	≥105cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Flounder (<i>Platichthys flesus</i>)	4.91		1.1	2.426	≥45cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Garfish (<i>Belone belone</i>)	1.729 kg		1.0	2.205	≥89cm Total Length	Head and gills
Garfish (<i>Belone svetovidovi</i>)	1.11		0.3	0.66		Head and gills
Gilthead bream (<i>Sparus aurata</i>)	4.37 kg		1.4	3.08	≥42cm Total Length	Photo (whole body, head shot showing mouth & eyes)
Gurnard – Grey (<i>Eutrigla gurnardus</i>)	3	1	0.6	1.32	≥40cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Gurnard – Red (<i>Aspitrigla cuculus</i>)	3	9.5	0.907	2	≥45 cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Gurnard – Tub (<i>Trigla lucerna</i>)	12	3.5	1.9	4.19	≥58 cm Total Length	Photo (pectoral fins must be fully expanded)
Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>)	5.39 kg		2.5	5.51	≥63cm Total Length	–
Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>)	25	5.5	2.2	4.85	≥68cm Total Length	–
Halibut (<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>)	156		12.0	26.46		–
Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)	0.48 kg		0.34	0.75		Photos or Body
John Dory (<i>Zeus faber</i>)	7	8	1.4	3.086	≥45 cm Total Length	–
Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	55		11.34	25	≥125cm Total Length	–
Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)	4	2	1.0	2.205	≥44 cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Megrim (<i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i>)	1.85 kg		0.794	1.75	≥49cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Mullet – Grey, thick lipped (<i>Chelon labrosus</i>)	9.1		2.268	5	≥55 cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Mullet – Golden Grey (<i>Liza aurata</i>)	1.52 kg		0.68	1.5		Photos or Body
Mullet – Thin Lipped (<i>Liza ramada</i>)	2.95 kg		1.5	3.31		Photos or Body
Mullet – Red (<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>)	0.82 kg		0.4	0.88	≥30 cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)	8.23		1.2	2.65	≥48cm Total Length	–
Pollack (<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>)	19	3	5.0	11.02	≥80cm Total Length	Photo
Pouting (<i>Trisopterus luscus</i>)	4	13.5	1.361	3	≥48 cm Total Length	–
Ray – Blonde (<i>Raja brachyura</i>)	37		11.34	25	≥100cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Cuckoo (<i>Raja naevus</i>)	5	11	1.6	3.53	≥63cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		LENGTH BASED SPECIMEN	SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs		
Ray – Electric (<i>Torpedo nobiliana</i>)	40 kg		9.072	20		Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Homelyn (<i>Raja montagui</i>)	8.28		2.268	5	≥65 cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Painted (<i>Raja microcellata</i>)	17.21		4.536	10	≥80 cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Sting (<i>Dasyatis pastinaca</i>)	33.2 kg		13.0	28.66	≥90 cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Thornback (<i>Raja clavata</i>)	37		7.0	15.43	≥100 cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Undulate (<i>Raja undulata</i>)	18		No Specimen Weight		≥85cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray's Bream (<i>Brama brama</i>)	6	4.25	2.0	4.41		Photos or Body
Red Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>)	9	6	1.0	2.205		–
Short-spined Sea Scorpion† (<i>Myoxocephalus scorpius</i>)					≥25cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Shore Rockling (<i>Gaidropsarus mediterraneus</i>)	38 cm TL				≥32cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Rockling, Three Bearded (<i>Gaidropsarus vulgaris</i>)	3	1	0.794	1.75	≥40 cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Scad (<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>)	1.97		0.680	1.5	≥44cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Shad – Allis (<i>Alosa alosa</i>)	–		1.814	4		Scales
Shad – Twaite (<i>Alosa fallax</i>)	1.64 kg				No Specimen Weight ≥50cm Total Length	Scales
Shark – Blue (<i>Prionace glauca</i>)	206		45.359	100	≥185cm Fork Length	Photo on measuring mat
Shark – Mako (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>)	–		90.718	200		Photo on measuring mat
Shark – Porbeagle (<i>Lamna nasus</i>)	365		No Specimen Weight		≥180cm Fork Length	Photo on measuring mat
Shark – Six-Gilled (<i>Hexanchus griseus</i>)	480 kg		45.359	100		Photo on measuring mat
Shark – Thresher (<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>)	–		54.431	120		Photo on measuring mat
Skate – Flapper (<i>Dipturus intermedius</i>)	221		No Specimen Weight		≥180cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Skate – Long Nosed (<i>Raja oxyrinchus</i>)	–		36.287	80		Photo on measuring mat
Skate – White (<i>Raja alba</i>)	165		No Specimen Weight		≥180cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Smooth–Hound (<i>Mustelas asterias</i>)	12.02 kg		4.5	9.92	≥103cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Stone Basse (<i>Polyprion americanus</i>)	6.07 kg		3.628	8	≥58cm Total Length	–
Tope (<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>)	34.02 kg		18.144	40	≥158cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Torsk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	4.858 kg		2.0	4.409	≥40 cm Total Length	Photos or Body
Trigger Fish (<i>Balistes carolinensis</i>)	2.54 kg		1.474	3.25		Photo
Tuna – Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	29.96 kg		12.0	26.46		Photo
Tuna – Bluefin (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>)	440 kg		suspended from ISFC listing			
Turbot (<i>Scophthalmus maximus</i>)	34		5.0	11.02		–
Whiting (<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>)	4	14.5	1.361	3	≥54 cm Total Length	–
Wrasse, Ballan (<i>Labrus bergylta</i>)	4.3 kg		2.154	4.75	≥48 cm Total Length	Photo
Wrasse, Corkwing (<i>Symphodus melops</i>)	26 cm TL		200 g		≥24 cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat & head shots
Wrasse, Cuckoo (<i>Labrus mixtus</i>)	2	7	0.567	1.25	≥35 cm Total Length	Photo

† Claims invited for this species in order to set specimen thresholds. N.B. Where species identification states body required, high quality photographs showing relevant identification features (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. Length-based specimens can be claimed for certain species (check listing). 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 landed 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. Fish must be taken in accordance with national and local legislation pertaining to any species.
- (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). A weighing scales must be appropriate to the size of fish being weighed. **The minimum weight will be 10 times the scale interval (or weighing division).** 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.

For a length based specimen a photograph of the fish on a measuring mat or similar device must accompany the claim.



- (4) IDENTIFICATION:** The identification of a fish must be fully documented where there is a possibility of confusion with another (and particularly larger) species. For this reason scales from the fish, high quality photographs (incl. close ups) or the actual body must be forwarded as actual proof of identification.

FISH SCALES must be submitted in respect of claims for **SALMON, SEA TROUT, BROWN TROUT (including SLOB TROUT), RUDD, ROACH, and their hybrids, DACE 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 gently removed from one shoulder of the fish should be sent with each salmonid claim. 3 scales are required from Roach and Rudd and their hybrids for genetic identification. Genetic identification is subject to a charge of €10 per claim to cover the analysis, and payment can be made on the ISFC website.

CLEAR, SHARP, CLOSE-UP PHOTOGRAPHS, showing the entire fish with its fins and other features easily seen, and not foreshortened or obscured by shadows or bystanders must be provided in the case of **ALL CYPRINIDS, ALL ELASMOBRANCHS, BLUEMOUTH, ANGEL SHARK, POLLACK, BALLAN WRASSE, TRIGGERFISH, COALFISH, ALBACORE, TUB GURNARD (pectoral fins of gurnard must be fully expanded) GILTHEAD BREAM (whole body and head shot showing mouth and eyes).**

WHERE PHOTOGRAPHS ARE OF SUFFICIENT QUALITY TO PROVIDE CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE (i.e. key identification features clearly visible) to identify the following species: ANGLER FISH, BRILL, DAB, LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH, FLOUNDER, GREY & RED GURNARDS, HERRING, MEGRIM, MACKEREL, GREY MULLET, GOLDEN GREY MULLET, THIN-LIPPED MULLET and RED MULLET, RAYS BREAM, THREE BEARDED ROCKLING, SCAD, TORSK, CUCKOO WRASSE and BLACK BREAM, the body is not required. If the angler is in doubt about image quality the body can be presented. Body (head and gills only) required for **GARFISH.**

> 99.5% of specimens requiring supporting material for identification are identified by scales, genetics or photographic evidence.

RECORD FISH: Claim must be supported by a series of clear photographs showing relevant features for positive identification and a clear indication of fish length (i.e. whole fish on a measurement mat or similar). New records for established species will continue to be weight based; however, for newly listed species, or species without a record weight, the committee will accept length-based record claims.

(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. If 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 exceed three. 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:

Identification is mainly based on scale or photographic evidence but if a body is being forwarded please

(1) notify the Committee when a fish is being sent in for identification.

Telephone: 01-884 2600.

E-mail: isfc@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) 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) do not send fish 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), Best Length Specimen and the Best International Specimen Fish Award (for the best overseas angler specimen).

CLAIM FORM SUBMISSION – Completed claim forms should be sent to: The Irish Specimen Fish Committee, Inland Fisheries Ireland, 3044 Lake Drive, Citywest Business Campus, Dublin 24, Rep. of Ireland (Tel. 00-353-1-884 2600) before 31st October every 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. Richard Kennedy, AFBI, River Bush
Salmon Station, 21 Church Street, Bushmills, BT57 8QJ.
Tel: 028 9151 3101
Email: richard.kennedy@afbini.gov.uk



*Young Specimen Angler of 2024 Amy O'Brien
with her award winning 9.07 kg Carp from The Lough (Cork)*

IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE

Some important points for claiming specimen fish:

1. Use official ISFC claim form and complete **ALL** relevant sections fully.
2. **Tick box** to specify any length based claim.
3. **ALL** record fish, **ALL** length based claims and **ALL** skates, rays, sharks and dogfish **MUST** include a good quality photograph of the fish length (nose to tail) on a measuring mat or similar.
4. **Weighing:** Fish **MUST** be weighed (on land) on **CERTIFIED** scales or on a shop scales. Fish cannot be weighed on board a boat.
5. **Weighing scales must be certified annually** by a competent independent authority and the calibration certificate must be current at time of weighing.
6. **Check ISFC claim rules Section 4** for inclusions for some species (e.g. fish scales, additional photographs etc).
7. Fish capture, and measuring or weighing **MUST** be witnessed and signed.

