

Treanor, Bronagh

From: Michaela Kirrane [Michaela.Kirrane@fisheriesireland.ie]
Sent: 25 May 2018 13:33
To: ldevplan
Cc: Ailish Keane
Subject: FW: Draft County Monaghan Development Plan
Attachments: Draft_Monaghan_CDP_2019-2025_(IFI).pdf

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To whom it concerns,

With attachment this time – my apologies!

Regards,
Michaela

From: Michaela Kirrane
Sent: 24 May 2018 16:54
To: 'devplan@monaghancoco.ie'
Cc: Ailish Keane
Subject: Draft County Monaghan Development Plan

To whom it concerns,

Attached please find our observations in relation to the Draft County Monaghan Development Plan.

Regards,
Michaela

Michaela Kirrane
Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer
Inland Fisheries Ireland - Dublin

Iascach Intíre Éireann
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Help Protect Ireland's Inland Fisheries

Call 1890 34 74 24 to report illegal fishing, water pollution or invasive species.

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D'fhéadfaí go bhfuil an ríomhphost seo agus ceangaltáin ar bith atá in éineacht leis faoi rún agus iad beartaithe d'úsáid an duine a bhfuil a s(h)eoladh air amháin. Dearcthaí nó tuairimí ar bith atá curtha in iúl ann, baineann siad leis an údar amháin, agus ní chaithfidh go n-aontaíonn Iascaigh Intíre Éireann leo. Mura tusa faighteoir beartaithe an ríomhphost seo, ná déan rud ar bith mar gheall ar an méid atá ann, ná é a chóipeáil ná é a thaispeáint do dhuine ar bith eile. Déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir, le do thoil, má chreideann tú go bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí earráid.



**Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland**

Monaghan County Council,
Forward Planning Team,
Planning Section,
County Offices,
The Glen,
Monaghan.

24th May, 2018

Re: Draft Monaghan County development Plan 2019-2025

Dear Sir/ Madam,

We refer to the Draft Monaghan County Development Plan 2019-2025, which includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Natura Impact Assessment.

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) is a Statutory Body established on the 1st July 2010. Under section 7(1) of the Inland Fisheries Act 2010 (No. 10 of 2010) *the principal function of IFI is the protection, management and conservation of the inland fisheries resource.*

"*Fisheries*" includes all inland fisheries recreational and commercial, sea angling and mollusc fisheries stipulated under the Fisheries Acts, the physical habitat upon which the fishery relies, the facilities and access, the quantity and quality of the water and the plant and animal life on which fish depend for shelter and food and the spawning areas where in fish deposit their eggs. The protective role of IFI relates to all aspects of the aquatic environment and all factors that influence the biotic communities within waters, which in any way relate to the propagation of fish stocks.

The many rivers and lakes in County Monaghan contain valuable fisheries habitats, which support a wide variety of fish species from salmonids (salmon and trout) to coarse fish and pike. It should be noted that while the many of the river systems in the county are not designated under the Habitats Directive, they hold species that are designated under that directive, i.e. Atlantic salmon, sea, river and brook lamprey (listed as Annex II Species under the European Habitats Directive).

These fisheries habitats contribute significantly to the natural heritage, amenity, recreational and tourism value of the county. The Development Plan provides the opportunity to protect the quality of the aquatic environment through policies addressing water quality, the physical environment, hydrological processes and biodiversity.

Having examined the draft plan and associated documents we have the following observations from a fisheries perspective:

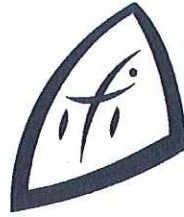
4.7.2 Tourism Policies

We welcome Policy TMP4 in particular, which supports the development of angling tourism initiatives in the county.

8.6 Development Management and Water Quality

We note the contents of this section and welcome the policies, in particular, Policy WPP5.

Please note our guidance documents have been updated and are now entitled 'Guidelines on Protection of Fisheries During Construction Works in and Adjacent to Waters', which can be accessed at <https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/extranet/fisheries-management-1/624-guidelines-on-protection-of-fisheries-during-construction-works-in-and-adjacent-to-waters.html>



**Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland**

IFI recommends that the Plan should include a policy on the prevention of river fragmentation and to encourage the connectivity or the re-connectivity where possible of fisheries waters and that IFI should be consulted on any such proposed developments.

Climate Change - Water Conservation

The Development Plan is an opportunity to promote policies and awareness of water conservation which may ultimately result in a reduction in water use. Water conservation and water use efficiency are central elements of any strategy to enhance water supply reliability, restore ecosystems, and respond to climate change and changing demographics. Significant increases in water conservation and water use efficiency will be required to ensure reliable water supplies in the future.

Best practice should be promoted in respect of water conservation in all developments through methods such as rain water harvesting. Another problem which is particular to summer months (when river/stream flows are often low) is wide scale unregulated water abstraction for crop irrigation. This practice may have significant ecological implications/impacts if large volumes of water are abstracted over a short period of time from small fish nursery or spawning streams. Such abstractions during dry weather or drought periods could have severe repercussions for aquatic habitats, fish stocks and accordingly the ecological status of watercourses in terms of the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

Yours faithfully,

Michaela Kirrane

Michaela Kirrane,
Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer

CC Ailish Keane, S.F.E.O., IFI Cavan