OWENEA FISHERY
NEWSLETTER 2008

2007 Season Report
Top Rods & Catches
River Gauge & Catch Data
Best Salmon of the Season

OWENEA ANGLING CENTRE
The Owenea River drains Lough Ea running for some 13 miles through Glenties and emptying into Loughrosmore Bay at Ardara. The Owenea is primarily a spate river taking from 1 to 2 days to run off, depending on the size of the flood.

When in condition, the river is one of the best in the country for salmon. The river has runs of spring salmon, grilse, sea trout and a resident stock of small brown trout. July is the best month for grilse closely followed by June and August. Spring salmon can be caught from April onwards and indeed towards the end of the season a few autumn salmon are frequently caught.

The sea trout have been making something of a comeback in recent years though numbers still remain low. The fishery still requests that sea trout are returned where possible, to help conserve stocks.

There are 9 beats on the bottom 8 miles of river with good pools spread throughout the system and plenty of lovely ‘fly water’. Both banks can be fished with the beats catering for 3, 4 or 5 rods depending on the beat. Access to the fishery and along banks is good with adequate numbers of stiles and footbridges. There are bridges over the river between beats and one in the middle of beat 7. Disabled access and hospitality facilities have been provided for disabled anglers on a section of Beat 3 adjacent to the Fishery Office.

Fly-fishing is the most popular method used followed by spinning and worm. Shrimp and prawn are banned. Most shrimp flies fish well. Popular flies are Stoats Tail, Foxford Shrimp, Black Shrimp, Curry’s Red Shrimp, John Anthony Shrimp Claret Shrimp and Cascade’s.
**BEAT 1:** Beat 1 is the longest beat at around 6 miles. It runs from Lough Ea to Meenhalla Bridge. Only the more adventurous cover the full beat. The lower pools, being the more productive, are most often fished.

**BEAT 2:** Beat 2 runs from the Meenhalla to Mullenierin Bridge. The most productive pools are Garry’s and the Priest pool. The river is fairly narrow, so maintain a cautious approach.

**BEAT 3:** Beat 3 runs from Mullenierin Bridge to Mullantiboyle Bridge and includes the lower reaches of the Stracastle River. The Crambam, Rock Pool and Friel’s Battery are the most productive pools while the section from Friel’s Battery to the Short Stream can fish well for sea trout.

**BEAT 4:** Beat 4 runs from Mullantiboyle Bridge to the metal footbridge below Hugh Hanlon’s pool. All the pools on this beat are equally productive and in nice water, with fish showing all over, it should be fished down the whole of its length.

**BEAT 5:** Beat 5 runs from the metal footbridge to the new footbridge below the Gubbin. The beat includes 2 major holding pools in the Gubbin and the Mullindaragh. The Gubbin is a productive pool to the spinner and fishes to the fly if there is good water. The ‘Car’ Pool can also fish well. There is no worming permitted from the neck of Ward’s pool to the tail of Archie’s Pool on beat 6.

**BEAT 6:** Beat 6 runs from the New Bridge below the Gubbin to the Turf Bridge below Carry Pool. The Carry Pool is a popular pool with local worm fishermen. Archie’s Pool produces a lot of fish each year. Other prolific pools include the Yellow Banks and the Battery.

**BEAT 7:** Beat 7 runs from the Turf Bridge down to the metal footbridge downstream of the ‘Trees’. There is a fair amount of slow & deep water towards the bottom of beat 7 which needs fairly high water levels to fish to the fly. There is some nice fly water at the head of the beat and around the Coarse Stream and Sally’s Pool. Kelly’s is a deep pool and always holds some big fish. The Lugguog and the big stones that can be seen below it can fish well in fairly high water.

**BEAT 8:** Beat 8 runs from the metal footbridge at the bottom of 7 to the metal footbridge at the car park below Whingarden Pool. It is a very popular beat and has some very productive pools. There is some lovely fly water on this beat. The most famous pool is probably Bryan's Pool. It is a deep holding pool that is always full of fish. Other productive pools include Gavigan’s, Billy’s, Sandy and McGill’s Long Pool.

**BEAT 9:** Beat 9 runs from Poul-a-Tuarn (below metal footbridge) to the Owenea Road Bridge at the tail of Finn’s Pool. Beat 9 has good fly water also interspersed with some deeper pools. Finn’s Pool at the bottom of the beat, backs up with a high tide and can fish well as fish come in on the tide. Other productive pools include Boyle’s and Boyle’s Small pool. At the top of the beat Poul-a-Tuarn can fish well and is popular with worm fishermen. Also Ferny Pool & Holly Bush down to Boyle’s are worthy of close attention.
April

The fishery opened as normal on the 1st April. The month was virtually a write-off however. The river ran at very low summer levels with only one flood occurring for the whole month on the 25th. The gauge average for the month read only 0.14 metres. The fishery was understandably quiet with only 18 visiting rods fishing for the month and we have no record of any salmon caught for the month.

May

The first and the last weeks of the month were dry giving low water conditions but during the middle two weeks we received some good floods. The gauge average for the month read 0.22 metres. 33 visiting rods attended the fishery this month. There were 4 salmon recorded for the month. The best was P.J. McNelis’s 12lb salmon caught on the fly from beat 9. Frank Senior recorded a 10lb salmon caught on the fly from the Gubbin on beat 3. Average size of salmon for the month was 8.37lb although this was based on only the 4 salmon recorded.

June

There was a good flood (0.60 metres) on the third of the month but the river then ran at very low summer levels all month except for two minor floods on the 13th & 29th of the month. The gauge average for the month read a disappointing 0.17 metres. Understandably, only 30 visiting rods fished for the month. There was however, a number of salmon recorded. Best fish of the month was Alan Watson’s 12lb salmon caught and released on the fly from Bryan’s Pool on beat 8 on the 29th. The same day T. Ervine caught & released 2 grilse from beat 8 on the spinner. P.J. McNelis, John Breslin, Maurice Kennedy, Michael Redmond and Andrew McMenamin all recorded grilse caught weighing from 4½lb to 7lb. The average size of salmon was 5.75lb.

July

Thank goodness there was a big change in the weather and we received a lot of rainfall at the start of this month. This gave numerous floods and there was good water right up to the 21st. The latter half of the month was dry except for a good flood on the 26th which gave 2 days of good water. The gauge average for the month read 0.28 metres. The fishery was a little busier with 170 visiting rods fishing for the month. There were fair numbers of salmon caught over the month and the average size of salmon was good at 5.66lb. It was pleasing to see this average well above previous seasons and in fact it was the highest recorded since 1996. This could well be attributable to the lack of Drift Nets operating at sea. Given here are some of the rod catches. On the 4th, Paddy O’Donnell and Frankie Campbell both recorded an 8lb salmon apiece caught from The Rock Pool on Beat 3 on the fly. Carson McElrath had a good day on the 7th with 4 salmon recorded from beats 5 & 6. The fish weighed 3, 3, 8 & 10lb and were caught on worm, spinner and Fly. The following day, Bobby Gillespie recorded two 4lb grilse caught on the fly from beat 9 and Davy Sullivan recorded fish of 3½ & 7lb caught from beats 8 & 9 on the spinner. On the 11th, regular angler, Billy Blair accounted for two fish weighing 2½ & 10lb caught on the fly from beat 8. On the 14th Adrian Devine accounted for an 11½lb salmon caught on the spinner from beat 5. On the 19th, Davy Sullivan recorded a 10lb salmon caught from beat 9 on the spinner. Numerous anglers recorded one salmon for their days fishing.

August

The month was wet which gave plenty of good floods and consequently some good angling conditions. 246 visiting rods fished for the month and there were good numbers of salmon caught, as would be expected for August, when we receive the biggest run of salmon. The average size of fish was 4.87lb which was up on last season’s average of 4.33lb and on a par with the normal average. Given here are some of the more notable catches. On the 4th, Davy Arbruckle recorded grilse of 4 & 5lb caught from beat 8 on the fly. The following day, Mick McCole accounted for 3 grilse caught on the spinner from Archie’s Pool & the Battery on beat 6. He also recorded 2 further fish over the next 2 days weighing 7½ & 8lb caught on the fly from beats 5 & 9 respectively. Regular visiting French angler Denis Bonnet fishing between the 7th and 23rd recorded 13 salmon to 8lb caught mainly on the fly from various beats releasing most of these. His best day was on the 9th when he recorded 4 grilse (2 released) to 5lb caught on the fly from beat 9. His angling partner Pierre Rumeau recorded 12 grilse to 6lb for his visit caught (except for one fish) on the fly from various beats. He releasing a number of these. On the 11th, Carson McElrath recorded grilse of 4 & 6½lb caught on fly & worm from beat 5. P.J. McNelis accounted for grilse of 5 & 7lb caught on spinner from beats 5 & 8. On the 12th, Michael Wilson and J. Northridge both recorded 2 grilse each to 6lb caught on the fly from beats 5 & 4 respectively. On the 13th, Alan Watson recorded grilse of 5 & 7½lb caught on the spinner from beat 7. On the 16th he recorded another 2 grilse of 5lb each caught from beat 5 on fly & spinner. On the same day, Vincent Hatton recorded a 12lb salmon caught on the fly from beat 5 and Father Daly accounted for grilse of 3 & 6lb caught on the spinner from beat 4. Gordon Young registered 3 grilse from 4½ to 6lb caught on the spinner from beat 8 and Billy Blair recorded 3 grilse to 4lb caught on fly & spinner from beat 5. On the 17th, Gordon recorded 2 more grilse of 4½ & 5½lb caught on the fly from beat 9. Niall Hosey accounted for 3 grilse to 6½lb caught on the worm from beat 8. On the 21st, Kevin O’Neill recorded fish of 5½ & 10lb caught on the fly from the Car Pool & Wards on beat 5. On the 25th, Davy Arbruckle accounted for 2 grilse to 6½lb on the fly from beat 8. There were many records of single fish caught too numerous to mention here.

September

The second week of the month was dry giving low water conditions but the rest of the month was wet. This meant we had some good and some big floods which gave good angling conditions at times. The gauge average for the month read a high 0.29 metres. 154 visiting rods fished for the month. This was somewhat lower than we would expect especially given the favourable conditions overall. There were only fair numbers of fish caught and the salmon seemed to be very dour for the whole month and consequently difficult to hook. The average size of salmon for the month was good at 5.44lb, up on the last 2 season’s average and on par with the overall average. There were a number of salmon caught for the month and given here are some of the catches. On the 4th, Pat Cowley recorded an 8lb grilse caught on the fly from the tail of Wards Pool on beat 5. On the 17th, regular visitor, Bill Murray recorded 3 salmon caught weighing 5, 6 & 10lb caught on the fly from beat 5, returning the 6 & 10lb fish. On the same day, Michael Wilson recorded 2 salmon weighing 6 & 14lb caught on the fly from beat 6 returning both of fish. Neil Black recorded 2 grilse weighing 3 & 6lb caught on the fly from beat 5 releasing both these fish. There were only fair numbers of single fish recorded not given here.

And so yet another season passed us by. This season seemed to pass faster than any other I remember. Was it all the good floods or my age? Certainly a lot of people expressed the same sentiment this season. The run of fish was as expected with the main run coming in August as is normally the case nowadays. We did not seem to have particularly more fish with the drift nets gone but the average size of fish was slightly higher this season. We await the coming season with anticipation and look forward to the new season and meeting all our piscatorial friends and anglers once again for more fishing, tales and the ‘Craic’.

OWENEA ANGLING CENTRE
SALMON of 10LB PLUS CAUGHT IN 2007

Best fish of the season weighed 14lb and was caught on a Fly by Michael Wilson on the 17th September from beat 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Beat</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Gauge</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Wilson</td>
<td>17th September</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Fly</td>
<td>0.42 metres</td>
<td>14lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Watson</td>
<td>29th June</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Fly</td>
<td>0.25 metres</td>
<td>12lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vincent Hatton</td>
<td>16th August</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fly</td>
<td>0.35 metres</td>
<td>12lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrian Devine</td>
<td>14th July</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Spinner</td>
<td>0.36 metres</td>
<td>11¼lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Senior</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fly</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>10lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carson McElrath</td>
<td>7th July</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Spinner</td>
<td>0.35 metres</td>
<td>10lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy Blair</td>
<td>11th July</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Fly</td>
<td>0.25 metres</td>
<td>10lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davy Sullivan</td>
<td>19th July</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Spinner</td>
<td>0.32 metres</td>
<td>10lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin O’Neill</td>
<td>21st August</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fly</td>
<td>0.20 metres</td>
<td>10lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Murray</td>
<td>17th September</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Fly</td>
<td>0.38 metres</td>
<td>10lb</td>
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AVERAGE SALMON SIZES OVER THE SEASONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUNE</th>
<th>JULY</th>
<th>AUGUST</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>YEARLY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8.00lb</td>
<td>4.00lb</td>
<td>4.55lb</td>
<td>5.73lb</td>
<td>4.66lb</td>
<td>4.74lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7.00lb</td>
<td>4.72lb</td>
<td>4.19lb</td>
<td>6.72lb</td>
<td>5.57lb</td>
<td>5.30lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>8.62lb</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4.69lb</td>
<td>4.37lb</td>
<td>5.52lb</td>
<td>6.10lb</td>
<td>5.17lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>8.50lb</td>
<td>8.62lb</td>
<td>5.22lb</td>
<td>4.29lb</td>
<td>4.35lb</td>
<td>5.05lb</td>
<td>4.73lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10.00lb</td>
<td>5.67lb</td>
<td>3.99lb</td>
<td>4.84lb</td>
<td>5.48lb</td>
<td>5.00lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5.43lb</td>
<td>4.68lb</td>
<td>5.40lb</td>
<td>4.33lb</td>
<td>4.96lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8.44lb</td>
<td>4.77lb</td>
<td>4.75lb</td>
<td>5.42lb</td>
<td>6.52lb</td>
<td>5.98lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9.33lb</td>
<td>7.51lb</td>
<td>4.25lb</td>
<td>4.16lb</td>
<td>5.10lb</td>
<td>6.07lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9.75lb</td>
<td>7.40lb</td>
<td>4.48lb</td>
<td>4.93lb</td>
<td>5.83lb</td>
<td>5.66lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10.00lb</td>
<td>3.50lb</td>
<td>4.38lb</td>
<td>4.62lb</td>
<td>4.85lb</td>
<td>4.62lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>9.75lb</td>
<td>6.67lb</td>
<td>11lb</td>
<td>4.65lb</td>
<td>4.33lb</td>
<td>4.30lb</td>
<td>4.43lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8.37lb</td>
<td>5.75lb</td>
<td>5.66lb</td>
<td>4.87lb</td>
<td>5.44lb</td>
<td>5.43lb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No. = Not included in Yearly average due to small statistical sample.

OWENEA AVERAGE FISH SIZE BY SEASON
JUNE 2007 WATER LEVEL, VISITOR NoS & ROD CATCHES

JULY 2007 WATER LEVEL, VISITOR NoS & ROD CATCHES

AUGUST 2007 WATER LEVEL, VISITOR NoS & ROD CATCHES

SEPTEMBER 2007 WATER LEVELS, VISITOR NoS & ROD CATCHES
As usual fly fishing was by far the most popular and successful method last season with 64.2% of salmon taken using this method. Where patterns were stated, shrimp flies were by far the most popular flies. The most productive flies were Ally’s (Orange) shrimp, Foxford shrimp, Curry’s Red shrimp, Bann Special and the Stoat’s Tail. Second most popular method was spinning, accounting for 27.8% of the catch. The most popular lure was the Flying ‘C’, with various colours all being successful. The remaining 8% of the fish were caught on the worm. These figures are virtually identical to last season’s percentages. I would have expected spinning to figure more prominently given the numerous floods. This shows the popularity of the fishery with fly anglers.

**ILLEGAL METHODS**

Anglers are reminded that shrimp, prawn and roe baits are illegal. Any angler found using illegal baits will be fined or prosecuted.

**BEATS THAT FISHED BEST IN 2007**

The figures given below are calculated from fully recorded salmon caught by visiting / associate anglers. (Many more fish were caught on each beat by local anglers or the beat not recorded). This allows us to assess how each beat fished relative to each other and also lets us calculate the C.P.U.E., which gives a truer indication of the productivity of a beat. The C.P.U.E. is the Catch per Unit Effort. This is calculated by dividing the number of Salmon caught by visiting & associate anglers, by the number of those anglers fishing the beat, over the months of April to September inclusive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beat</th>
<th>No. Salmon Fully Recorded 2007</th>
<th>% Of Total Catch</th>
<th>No. Visiting Anglers</th>
<th>% Visiting Anglers</th>
<th>C.P.U.E.</th>
<th>C.P.U.E. rating (productivity)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.73%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.06%</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.73%</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2.58%</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>29.09%</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>15.20%</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10.91%</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>7.75%</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.45%</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>7.45%</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>37.27%</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>36.93%</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11.82%</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>28.88%</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table makes interesting reading this season with a total turnabout on some beats. Beat 9 is amazingly nearly the least productive beat by far! It’s hard to really comment on beat 2 in last place since there was only 1 rod day. It’s never been rated so low. Did the wet year that give plenty of floods let fish straight up the river? Also, the most popular beat, 8 was ranked very low in 5th place, usually being far higher in the ratings! In first place came beat 3, though the statistical sample is very small and may explain its high rating. Beat 5 came high up the rankings in second place and is always a productive beat as is beat 6.

**CATCH RETURNS**

Catch returns are central to the successful operation and long-term stock management of the fishery and records of every fish caught, even if returned alive, are essential. Local Anglers and visiting anglers alike are asked to contribute to the management of their fishery by giving details of catches to the Fishery Office by phone or in person, whichever is more convenient. All anglers are of course, welcome to personally fill out their catch details on the day in the catch register at the Fishery Office. In these days of conservation limits, fishery closures etc, it is paramount that we have accurate information on fish stocks in rivers.

OWEENA ANGLING CENTRE
TOP RODS FOR THE 2007 SEASON

This is calculated based on salmon officially recorded in the Owenea Fishery Catch Register at the Angling Centre.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>No. Salmon</th>
<th>Total Weight</th>
<th>Av. Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denis Bonnet</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>52.5lb</td>
<td>4.04lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pierre Rumeau</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>45.5lb</td>
<td>4.14lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy Blair</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>45lb</td>
<td>4.09lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Arbuckle</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>39.5lb</td>
<td>4.39lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin O’Neill</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>44.5lb</td>
<td>5.56lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Watson</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>44.5lb</td>
<td>5.56lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.J. McNelis</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>40lb</td>
<td>6.67lb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carson McElrath</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>34.5lb</td>
<td>5.75lb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SALMON TAGGING SCHEME

All anglers are legally required to tag and record all salmon and any sea trout over 40cm in length. Each angler will be issued with plastic gill tags and a logbook when they purchase a salmon & sea trout rod licence. All salmon and any sea trout over 40cm in length caught and killed, must be tagged immediately and recorded in the logbook. Any farmed salmon caught by an angler is considered to be a “wild Fish” and should be tagged. It is an offence to be in possession of an untagged salmon (or sea trout over 40cm) on the riverbank or elsewhere. Tags must be inserted through the gills and mouth and securely fixed. It is an offence to be in possession of a salmon or sea trout over 40cm that is untagged. The tag number, size of fish and catch location must be entered into the logbook. Logbooks must be made available to authorised fisheries officers on request. Extra tags are issued when an angler produces their logbook detailing their catch & usage of Tags. If a logbook or tags are lost or damaged this must be reported to an authorised distributor.

Anglers found with untagged fish or failing to produce a logbook or licence on request will be issued with an on the spot fine or prosecuted. Logbooks and unused tags must be returned to the N.R.F.B. within a period of 21 days from the date of the expiry of the license.

CONSERVATION of SALMON / SEA TROUT STOCKS & ROD ANGLING QUOTAS

There is an angling bag limit of 10 fish per angler of salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per season.

Subject to the maximum annual bag limit of 10 fish an angler may take:
- A total of 3 salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) from the start of the season to May 11th and the Daily Bag Limit for this period is 1 fish per day.
- 3 salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per day from May 12th to August 31st.
- 1 salmon (any size) or sea trout (over 40cm) per day from the September 1st to the end of the season on 30th September.

After the daily bag limit has been taken, anglers are permitted to fish catch and release using single, barbless hooks and there is a ban on the use of worms.

This basically means that anglers are limited to killing 10 salmon per year or less if sea trout of more than 40cm are killed since these are included in the 10 fish allowed per year.
**SALMON RED COUNTS**

These figures are indicative only, since taking redd counts depends wholly on weather conditions. When the river is in flood, redds cannot always be seen or counted. It follows that a wet winter generally means lower redd counts. The 2004/05, 2005/06 and 2006/7 counts were not ideal counts due to high water conditions prohibiting a full count of all the spawning areas. Also, even in ideal conditions, not all redds are observed due to a number of fish spawning in small pockets of gravel all over the fishery.

Spawning counts remain at a fair level. The winter of 2007/2008 and was fairly wet and was not ideal for redd counting so redd numbers could be expected to be on the low side.

The last 13 years counts are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>94/95</th>
<th>95/96</th>
<th>96/97</th>
<th>97/98</th>
<th>98/99</th>
<th>99/00</th>
<th>00/01</th>
<th>01/02</th>
<th>02/03</th>
<th>03/04</th>
<th>04/05</th>
<th>05/06</th>
<th>06/07</th>
<th>07/08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REDD COUNT</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>749</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>338</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DISABLED ANGLING**

Since the end of 2001 we have been able to provide disabled angling adjacent to the Angling Centre in Glenties. This includes 500m of wheelchair accessible riverbank with safety rails and fishing stands along a section of Beat 3 with wheelchair accessible office and toilet facilities. These facilities will hopefully prove to be invaluable to our less able bodied brethren who often struggle to find locations where it is possible for them to fish in safety. If any information on the same is required, please do not hesitate to contact us (details below).

**RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE**

The infrastructure currently in place on the fishery is as follows:

- 175 footbridges and walkways
- 6 river bridges
- 131 steps and stiles
- 25 signs
- 2 weirs
- 1 anglers hut
- 1 Picnic Bench
- 5 reinforced areas of riverbank
- Disabled angling section, allowing wheelchair access along a section of beat 3 at the Angling Centre.
BOOKINGS / FURTHER INFORMATION

Permits available: 1-Day Permit – Adult, Juvenile. Weekly Permit (7 Day) - Adult.

Off season Information & Bookings (1st October – 31st March) contact:
Northern Regional Fisheries Board,
Station Road,
Ballyshannon,
Co. Donegal.
Phone (071) 9851435. Fax (071) 9851816. Email: info@nrfb.ie Website: www.nrfb.ie

In Season Information & Bookings (1st April – 30th September) contact:
Owenea Angling Centre,
Glenties Fishery Office,
Glenties,
Co. Donegal.
Phone (074) 9551141. Fax (074) 9551444.

The Fishery Office at Glenties hatchery opening times are:
9.00am to 1.00pm every day from 1st April – 31st May
7.00am to 1.00pm every day from 1st June – 30th September.

Bookings can be taken in advance on full payment of permit. Rods will be assigned beats on a first come first served basis and will be rotated through beats thereafter if demand is high.
Visa and MasterCard accepted and debit cards.

ACCOMMODATION

BED & BREAKFAST

- Mrs. T. O’Donnell, Oakdale Farmhouse, Derries, Glenties, Co. Donegal Tel: (074) 9551262.
- Mrs. M. Ragan, Ardlann, Mill Road, Glenties, Co. Donegal. Tel: (074) 9551271.
- Mrs. Jean Ballingsley, Mullantiboyle, Glenties, Co.Donegal. Tel: (074) 9551295.
- Mrs. M.McLoone, Marquerrite’s, Lr. Main St. Glenties, Co.Donegal. Tel: (074) 9551699.
- Ms. Rosaleen Campbell, Lisdanar, Mill Road, Glenties, Co.Donegal Tel: (074) 9551800.
- Mrs. M. Bennett, Bayview Country House, Portnoo Rd. Ardara, Co.Donegal. Tel: (074) 9541145.
- Kathleen Slowey, Portnoo Rd. Ardara, Co.Donegal. Tel: (074) 9541204.
- Ms. Dina Gallagher, Portnoo Rd. Ardara, Co.Donegal. Tel (074) 9541239.
- Joseph Gallagher, Portnoo Road Ardara, Co DONEgal Tel (074) 9541472.
- Mrs. M. Goodall, Cranriogh Cottage, c/o Doherty’s Bar, Front St. Ardara, Co.Donegal. Tel: (074) 9541304.
- Bernadette Showlin, Beagh Cottage, Beagh, Ardara, Co.Donegal Tel (074) 9541444.
- Susan MacNeill, Rosewood Country House, Killybegs Road, Ardara. Co. Donegal. Tel: (074) 9541168.
- Kathleen Slowey, Portnoo Rd. Ardara, Co.Donegal. Tel: (074) 9541204.
- Ms. Dina Gallagher, Portnoo Rd. Ardara, Co.Donegal. Tel (074) 9541239.
- Joseph Gallagher, Portnoo Road Ardara, Co DONEgal Tel (074) 9541472.
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- Bernadette Showlin, Beagh Cottage, Beagh, Ardara, Co.Donegal Tel (074) 9541444.
- Peter McNelis, Hollybrook, Killybegs Road, Ardara, Co. Donegal. Tel: (074) 9541596.

HOTELS

- Highlands Hotel, Glenties, Co. Donegal. Tel: (074) 9551111.
- Nesbitt Arms Hotel, Main Street, Ardara, Co. Donegal. Tel: (074) 9541103.

TIGHT LINES!