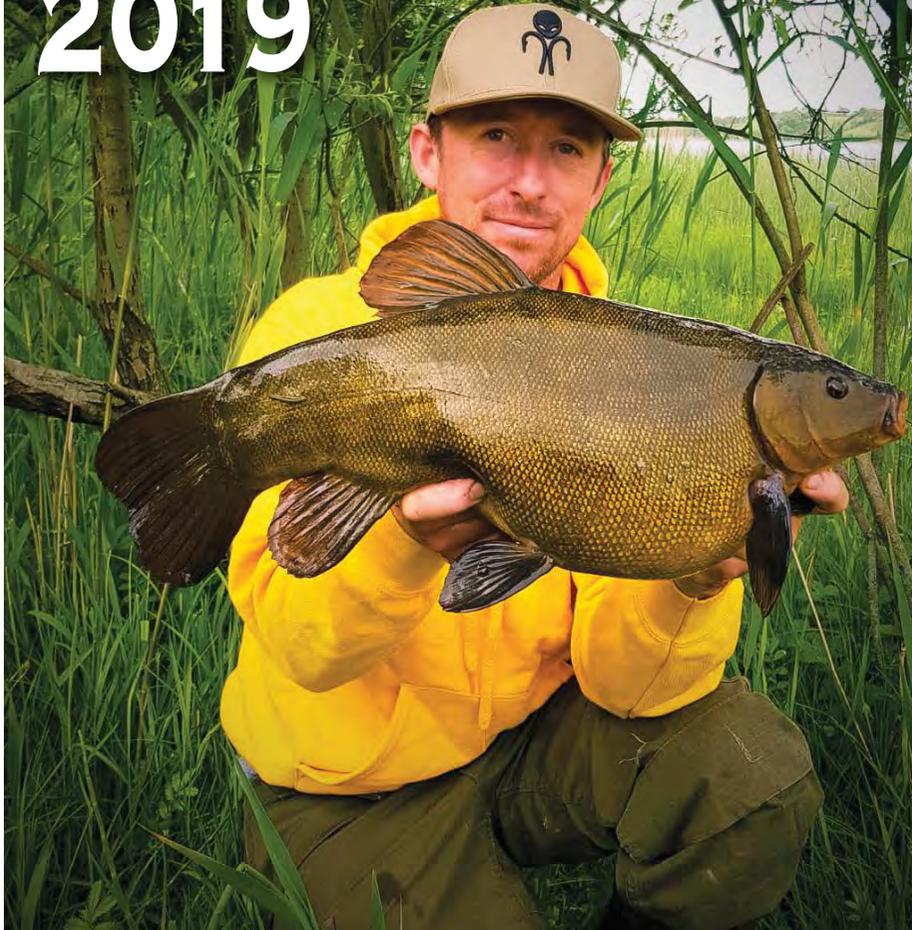


IRISH SPECIMEN FISH 2019



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



**Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland**



DAERA

Department of Agriculture,
Environment and Rural Affairs
www.daera.ie/gov.uk

Website: www.irish-trophy-fish.com

Coiste Éisc Mór na hÉirinn

The Irish Specimen Fish Committee

Founded in 1955, the ISFC is an independent voluntary body, representative of angling interests in Ireland, whose principal function is to verify, record and publicise the capture of large (i.e. specimen) fish caught on rod and line by anglers in Ireland, both in freshwater and marine waters. The Committee also ratifies Irish record rod caught fish. The ISFC coordinates and administers the unique specimen awards scheme which is designed to 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 2019. Over 31,000 claims have been received by the ISFC over the past 64 years. This dataset is one of the most valuable and long-running time-series of its type.

Irish Specimen Fish Committee Members 2019

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

Awards Presentation

*The Annual Presentation of Specimen Awards
to anglers whose claims were accepted during 2019*

will be held in

*Clayton Hotel Dublin Airport
Swords, Co. Dublin at 2.30pm sharp*

on Saturday 15th February 2020

All anglers who are due awards are invited to attend



Irish Specimen Fish Committee



In Association with
Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Cover: Quality Tench for David Flynn in June

| | | | |
|--|----------|---|-----------|
| Chairman's Review 2019 | 2 | Thornback Ray..... | 29 |
| Special Awards Categories | | Undulate Ray..... | 29 |
| 10 Species Award..... | 4 | Scad..... | 30 |
| 50 Specimens Award..... | 4 | Twaiite Shad..... | 30 |
| 10 Specimens Award..... | 5 | Blue Shark..... | 35 |
| Dr. Michael Kennedy Award..... | 6 | Porbeagle Shark..... | 35 |
| Dr. A.E.J. Went Award..... | 6 | Common Skate..... | 36 |
| The Minister's Award..... | 6 | Smooth-Hound..... | 38 |
| Best International Specimen Fish Award..... | 6 | Stone Basse..... | 45 |
| Specimen Fish Claims ratified in 2019 | 7 | Tope..... | 46 |
| Freshwater Fish 2019 | | Trigger Fish..... | 47 |
| <i>Coarse Fish and Pike</i> | | Ballan Wrasse..... | 49 |
| Bream..... | 7 | Cuckoo Wrasse..... | 49 |
| Perch..... | 9 | Special Notices | |
| Pike (River)..... | 9 | Closing Date for Specimen Claims..... | 51 |
| Roach/Bream Hybrid..... | 11 | New Award..... | 51 |
| Rudd/Bream Hybrid..... | 12 | Specimen Weight & Length Revision..... | 51 |
| Tench..... | 13 | Geographical Limit for Claims..... | 51 |
| <i>Game Fish</i> | | Weight-Based Specimens..... | 52 |
| Brown Trout (Lake)..... | 14 | Length-Based Specimens..... | 52 |
| Brown Trout (River)..... | 15 | New Record Claims..... | 53 |
| Sea Trout..... | 15 | Fish Species Identification..... | 53 |
| Marine Fish 2019 | | Other Requirements..... | 56 |
| Bass..... | 16 | Administration..... | 57 |
| Bluemouth..... | 16 | Establishing a new Specimen Fish Category.. | 57 |
| Conger Eel..... | 17 | Notable Fish..... | 57 |
| Blackmouthed Dogfish..... | 17 | Presentation of 2018 Awards..... | 58 |
| Lesser Spotted Dogfish..... | 17 | Acknowledgements..... | 58 |
| Spur Dogfish..... | 18 | Distribution of Specimen Awards..... | 59 |
| Flounder..... | 22 | Irish Specimen Fish Committee Accounts..... | 60 |
| Gilthead Bream..... | 23 | Donations..... | 61 |
| Red Gurnard..... | 24 | Irish Record Fish | |
| Tub Gurnard..... | 24 | Freshwater Species, Marine Species..... | 62 |
| Hake..... | 24 | Schedule of Specimen Weights..... | 64 |
| Megrim..... | 25 | ISFC Rules..... | 67 |
| Thick Lipped Mullet..... | 27 | Length based specimens | |
| Golden Grey Mullet..... | 27 | by Alan McGurdy..... | 70 |
| Thin Lipped Mullet..... | 27 | | |
| Red Mullet..... | 27 | | |
| Homelyn Ray..... | 28 | | |
| Painted Ray..... | 28 | | |
| Sting Ray..... | 29 | | |

ISFC Chairman's Review 2019



Welcome to the Irish Specimen Fish Committee Report for 2019. The committee held three meetings in 2019 to discuss ISFC business and review claims for the year. It's been a good specimen year with 578 claims received; 513 of these were ratified. No new records were established but there were a few near misses. Smoothound, Spurdog and Twaite Shad dominated claims and Common Skate were prominent also.

The stand-out message coming to me as Chair is that we are going through changing times, and having to adapt our approach as new issues emerge.

Changes in fish populations and distribution seem to be accelerating, in nature, driven by weather and climate, water quality, the water environment, or new and sometimes potentially invasive species arriving on our shores. There are also changes that do not have immediate and obvious causes, and science is constantly playing catch-up with events.

Trends in angling and human behavior also change (and yes, for the avoidance of doubt, we definitely count anglers as normal humans). Anglers, including those on the committee, are getting older. Angling groups need to find ways of enthusing younger folk to discover the benefits of fishing as a leisure pursuit, and the fun in recording specimens. Having an internet page is no longer enough, and among ideas under discussion is a Smartphone App which would serve as an instant one stop shop for fish photographing, claim recording and submission.

Human activity directly influences the fish we try to catch, particularly commercially important species. While these are managed in attempts to sustain maximum crops for food, protecting populations for optimum harvest does nothing to leave large individuals for anglers to catch. Science shows that under sustained commercial pressure some species are adopting a "live fast, breed early, and die young" strategy. This acts against the combination of faster than average growth coupled with longer than average life that make for the possibility of a record or specimen fish. To keep a flow of claims for some species, particularly commercially harvested species, we may need to reflect these biological changes in lower specimen thresholds, however small some modern specimens would have seemed to our grandfathers. Recent committee discussions have centred on adjusting thresholds to maintain an even a flow of recording over as broad a range of species as possible, with new length based measurement where data permits the addition of length. Getting length thresholds right is both science and art- for example, while congratulating those receiving length based specimen certificates for shad this year, we have increased the shad threshold length for 2020.

There is also change in the ISFC's own objectives. It all started as a means for scientists, offering recognition to anglers to obtain more data on fish at the upper end of size ranges and better knowledge of length and weight at age. Showcasing the specimens and advertising the resource available for local and tourism angling was and is also an important function. The current colourful report, in glossy print or internet access, clearly does this even better than ever. The growing list of locations of specimen captures feeds the specimen fish atlas, continuing towards publication, a database of biological recording in its own right.

The shift from weight to length based recording proceeds apace and is clearly popular. A fish photographed on a clear scale or measuring mat gets away from the need for calibrated scale certification, and can speed up the process of claim. We cannot solve, however, the problem of not being able to establish a new record for any species based on length. Just like people, the longest fish is not necessarily the heaviest, and vice versa. Fish condition changes with season, location, breeding cycle, competition with other species and many more factors. Specimen hunters have learnt to go to the right place at the right time for the largest and heaviest fish. We seek to introduce new species award categories based on accurately recorded lengths as opportunity arises, and for the foreseeable future weight, recorded and witnessed, on land with a calibrated and certified set of scales, remains the only way to establish a new record.

Committee finances remained stable in 2019. We do need to consider some re-building of funds to cover further initiatives and the costs of adapting to the use of new technology. Thanks are due to our IFI and DAERA government sponsors who provide the core of the funding and staff time for the committee, and to the increasing number of anglers who have taken up the donation option on the website. Thanks also to IFI for hosting the work of the committee, providing meeting space and staff time, and to AFBI and DAERA for permitting me to act as Chair.

I have to reiterate, on behalf of the committee, to all specimen claimants to pay attention to the detail of our requirements for accurate identification, evidence of weight and/or length, legibly filled in forms, and clear accurate and dependable photographs.

Thanks again to committee for hard work and making the chair's role fun, and to all the anglers, specimen hunting specialists and lucky punters alike, who make the whole exercise worthwhile.

Dr Robert Rosell, Chairman ISFC

Report of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee 2019

In 2019 the ISFC processed 578 claims. A total of 48 was rejected for non-compliance with ISFC rules and a further 17 will be queried further. This report presents details of special awards and ratified specimen fish for 2019.



An evening Sting Ray from Tralee Bay for James Raymond

SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORIES 2019

10 SPECIES AWARD

EAMON POWER, DUBLIN

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1997: | Gurnard - Grey | 2007: | Tench, Ling, Pollack |
| 2002: | Ballan Wrasse | 2009: | Mullet - Thick-Lipped |
| 2005: | Bass | 2012: | Smooth-hound |
| 2006: | Spurdog | 2019: | Gilthead Bream |

AMY O'BRIEN, CORK

| | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------|--|
| 2015: | Carp, Mullet - Thick-Lipped | 2018: | Ray – Painted, Ray – Undulate, Twaite Shad, Smooth-hound |
| 2017: | Roach x Bream Hybrid, Bream, Mullet - Golden Grey | 2019: | Sting Ray, Common Skate |

ROBERT REID, DUBLIN

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1991: | Torsk | 2015: | Brown Trout (River) |
| 2006: | Spurdog | 2016: | Mullet - Golden Grey |
| 2009: | Coalfish (Saithe) | 2017: | Mullet - Thick-Lipped |
| 2012: | Smooth-hound, Gilthead Bream | 2018: | Pike (River) |
| 2013: | Roach x Rudd Hybrid, Flounder | | |

50 SPECIMENS AWARD

JAMES DIGNAM, CO. MEATH

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|----|------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 2001-2019 | Bream | 25 | 2015-2019 | Tench | 5 |
| 2011-2019 | Roach x Bream Hybrid | 18 | 2015 | Carp | 1 |
| 2012-2017 | Roach x Rudd Hybrid | 2 | 2015 | Mullet - Thick-Lipped | 1 |
| 2013-2015 | Rudd x Bream Hybrid | 3 | 2016 | Tope | 1 |
| 2014 | Smooth-hound | 1 | | | |

THOMAS LYNCH, CO. DUBLIN

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|----|------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1998 | Pike (River) | 1 | 2014 | Brown Trout (River) | 1 |
| 2012-2019 | Twaite Shad | 7 | 2014-2018 | Mullet - Golden Grey | 6 |
| 2013 | Gilthead Bream | 1 | 2014-2018 | Mullet - Thick-Lipped | 6 |
| 2013-2014 | Mullet - Thin-Lipped | 2 | 2017 | Rudd x Bream Hybrid | 6 |
| 2013-2014 | Tope | 3 | 2018 | Roach x Bream Hybrid | 1 |
| 2013-2019 | Flounder | 5 | 2018 | Tench | 1 |
| 2013-2019 | Smooth Hound | 11 | 2018-2019 | Spurdog | 2 |

50 SPECIMENS AWARD (continued)**FRANCIS MCNEILLY, CO. DOWN**

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|----|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| 2012 | Dab | 3 | 2016-2018 | Carp | 9 |
| 2012-2015 | Twaite Shad | 5 | 2017 | Mullet - Golden Grey | 2 |
| 2013-2015 | Smooth-hound | 2 | 2016 | Spurdog | 2 |
| 2012-2015 | Ray - Painted | 4 | 2017, 2018 | Ballan Wrasse | 2 |
| 2015 | Flounder | 1 | 2017-2019 | Pike (River) | 6 |
| 2015-2019 | Mullet - Thick-Lipped | 11 | 2019 | Rudd/Bream Hybrid | 1 |
| 2016-2019 | Gilthead Bream | 4 | | | |

DANIEL SMITH, DUBLIN

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1985-2019 | Twaite Shad | 3 | 2000 | Rudd x Bream Hybrid | 2 |
| 1985-2005 | Tench | 8 | 2000-2014 | Pike (River) | 4 |
| 1990 | Bull Huss | 1 | 2001-2019 | Mullet - Thick-Lipped | 5 |
| 1992-2019 | Smooth-hound | 8 | 2002-2005 | Perch | 9 |
| 1998, 2001 | Bream | 2 | 2010 | Bass | 1 |
| 1998-1999 | Roach x Bream Hybrid | 3 | 2017 | Mullet - Golden Grey | 1 |
| 1999 | Carp | 1 | 2019 | Spurdog | 3 |

10 SPECIMENS AWARD

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Gerard McKeogh, Tipperary | 2000-2019 | Peter Ross, Antrim | 2017-2019 |
| Anthony Kelly, Dublin | 2015-2019 | Gavin Moran, Wicklow | 2012-2019 |
| Barry Murphy, Waterford | 1977-2019 | John Hughes, Dublin | 1997-2019 |
| John Smyth, Dublin | 2000-2019 | | |

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.

Ian Mulligan, Dublin

3.63 kg **Thick Lipped Mullet** at Rosscarbery, Co. Cork, 24 April 2019

DR AEJ 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) taken by an angler aged 13 years or younger.

Evan Collins, Cork

1.06 kg **Megrim** fishing out of Union Hall, Co. Cork, 13 October 2019

THE MINISTER'S AWARD

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

James Dignam, Meath

3.69 kg **Tench** at Lough Garadice, Co. Leitrim, 9 June 2019

BEST INTERNATIONAL FISH AWARD

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

Arthur Beechey, Wales

0.54 kg **Red Mullet** fishing out of Kimore Quay, 3 September 2019.

SPECIMEN FISH CLAIMS RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE IN 2019

FRESHWATER FISH 2019

Coarse Fish and Pike

BREAM

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|
| 5.16 | 11.37 | 62 | R Erne, Belturbet | 06-May | David Flynn | Boilie |
| 4.65 | 10.25 | 63 | Lough Oughter | 18-Aug | James Dignam | Maggots |
| 4.48 | 9.87 | – | Lough Oughter | 11-Aug | Paul Lacey | Fake Corn |
| 4.31 | 9.50 | 61.5 | R Erne, Belturbet | 11-May | Seamus Smith | Corn |
| 4.17 | 9.20 | – | Bawn Lake | 23-Jul | Clyde McElwaine | Maggots |
| 4.08 | 9.00 | – | Bolganard Lough | 19-Aug | James Dignam | Maggots |
| 4.08 | 9.00 | 60 | Lough Oughter | 02-Oct | James Dignam | Corn/Caster |
| 3.90 | 8.60 | 62 | Tully Lough | 12-Aug | Liam Tully | Maggots |
| 3.83 | 8.44 | – | Drumlaheen L | 15-Jul-18 | James Dignam | Maggots |
| 3.74 | 8.25 | 62 | R Erne, Belturbet | 05-May | David Flynn | Corn |



The heaviest Bream of 2019 fell to David Flynn

Conor McElwaine with one of his Bawn Lake Bream

Year of capture is 2019 unless otherwise stated.

Length (L) is forklength (FL) (cm) for freshwater species, blue and porbeagle shark. Total Length (TL) for all other marine species.

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

(J) after surname denotes juvenile angler.

BREAM CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| 3.72 | 8.20 | – | Bawn Lake | 23-Jul | Conor McElwaine | Maggots |
| 3.72 | 8.20 | – | Bawn Lake | 23-Jul | Clyde McElwaine | Maggots |
| 3.63 | 8.00 | – | Drumlaheen L | 15-Jul-18 | James Dignam | Maggots |
| 3.58 | 7.90 | – | Bawn Lake | 02-Jul | Conor McElwaine | Maggots |
| 3.54 | 7.81 | 61 | R Erne, Belturbet | 18-May | David Flynn | Corn |
| 3.54 | 7.81 | – | Lough Oughter | 11-Aug | Paul Lacey | Fake Corn |
| 3.49 | 7.70 | – | Bawn Lake | 23-Jul | Conor McElwaine | Maggots |
| 3.43 | 7.56 | 58 | Lough Na Blahy | 18-May | Nicholas Ward | Maggot |
| 3.43 | 7.56 | 58 | R. Erne, Belturbet | 3-May | Anthony Kelly | Corn |



3.54 kg Lough Oughter Bream for Paul Lacey



James Dignam had the second heaviest Bream of 2019



4.31 kg Bream for Seamus Smith from the River Erne in May

PERCH

Record 5 lbs 8 ozs (2.495 kg); Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.646 lbs)

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| 1.25 | 2.75 | 46 | Lough Erne | 19-Apr | Andrew Wolsey | Shad |



The only specimen Perch of 2019 fell to Andrew Wolsey



John Flynn with his 9.3 kg Pike from the River Erne

PIKE (RIVER)

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

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 100 cm FL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------|
| 10.70 | 23.60 | 108.5 | R Suck, Athleague | 12-Feb | Patrick Fagan | Mackerel |
| 10.43 | 23.00 | – | R Shannon, Rooskey | 07-Jan | Derek Greene | Shadteez |
| 9.53 | 21.00 | – | R Shannon, Rooskey | 09-Feb | Derek Greene | Sardine |
| 9.30 | 20.50 | 106 | R Erne, Belturbet | 27-Dec-18 | John Flynn | Mackerel |
| 9.24 | 20.37 | – | R Shannon, Lanesborough | 12-Jan | John Millerick | Mackerel |

PIKE (RIVER) CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------|
| 9.19 | 20.25 | 97 | Blackwater River, NI | 27-Dec-18 | Francis McNeilly | Pollan |
| 9.16 | 20.20 | 106 | River Inny, Ballycorkey | 22-Feb | Des Chew | Dead roach |
| 9.13 | 20.12 | 99 | R Erne, Belturbet | 28-Dec-18 | David Flynn | Roach |
| L-BS | – | 108 | Blackwater River, NI | 24-Dec-18 | Francis McNeilly | Pollan |
| L-BS | – | 104 | R Shannon, Athlone | 29-Nov-18 | Oisín MacDomhnaill | Lamprey |
| L-BS | – | 103 | R Shannon, Athlone | 27-Jan | Oisín MacDomhnaill | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 101 | R Shannon, Athlone | 15-Nov-18 | Oisín MacDomhnaill | Mackerel |



10.7 kg Pike for Patrick Fagan from the River Suck



Des Chew with his Inny Pike

ROACH/BREAM HYBRID

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|
| 3.23 | 7.12 | 55 | Lough Oughter | 11-Sep | James Dignam | Maggots |
| 3.09 | 6.81 | 55 | Drumlaheen L | 23-Apr-18 | James Dignam | Maggots |
| 2.98 | 6.56 | – | Lough Oughter | 29-Sep | Paul Lacey | Corn/Maggots |
| 2.50 | 5.51 | 53 | L. Derravaragh - Mullingar | 17-Jun-18 | Kim Tully | Maggots |
| 2.44 | 5.38 | 53 | Lough Derravaragh | 06-Jul | Philip Connolly | Maggots |
| 2.30 | 5.06 | 52.5 | R Erne, Belturbet | 08-May | David Flynn | Corn |
| 2.27 | 5.00 | 51 | R Erne, Belturbet | 11-May | Seamus Smith | Corn |
| 2.20 | 4.85 | 53 | L. Derravaragh - Mullingar | 17-Jun-18 | Liam Tully | Maggots |
| 2.20 | 4.85 | 51 | L. Derravaragh - Mullingar | 16-Jun-18 | Clare Maurer | Maggots |
| 2.00 | 4.41 | 49 | L. Derravaragh - Mullingar | 16-Jun-18 | Zoe Tully | Maggots |
| 2.00 | 4.41 | 50 | L. Derravaragh - Mullingar | 17-Jun-18 | Clare Maurer | Maggots |



Roach/Bream Hybrid



Rudd/Bream Hybrid

| | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|-----------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| 1.93 | 4.25 | 47.5 | R Erne, Belturbet | 05-May | Anthony Kelly | Corn |
| 1.87 | 4.12 | 47 | Lough Na Blahy, Strokestown | 18-May | Sean Ward (J) | Maggot/Castor |
| 1.81 | 4.00 | 45.5 | R Erne, Belturbet | 14-Apr | Anthony Kelly | Corn |
| 1.76 | 3.87 | – | R Erne, Belturbet | 19-May | David Flynn | Corn |

ROACH/BREAM HYBRID CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------------|--------|-------------|---------|
| 1.70 | 3.75 | 47.5 | R Erne, Belturbet | 11-May | David Flynn | Corn |
| 1.70 | 3.75 | 44 | Lough Derravaragh | 30-Jul | Zoe Tully | Maggots |
| 1.63 | 3.60 | 44 | R Barrow, Athy | 15-Mar | Brian Cooke | Corn |



Sean Ward with his Lough Na Blahy Hybrid



1.7 kg Roach/Bream for Zoe Tully

RUDD/BREAM HYBRID

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|------------------|--------------|
| 1.62 | 3.58 | 41 | Willan Lough | 29-May | Francis McNeilly | Maggots/Corn |



Tench of 2.9 kg from Tully Lake for Philip Connolly



Near record equalling Tench for James Dignam in June

TENCH

Record 8.15 lbs (3.697 kg); Specimen Weight 2.722 kg (6 lbs)

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|
| 3.69 | 8.12 | – | Lough Garadice | 09-Jun | James Dignam | Maggots |
| 3.40 | 7.50 | – | Lough Garadice | 08-Jun | James Dignam | Maggots |
| 3.32 | 7.31 | – | Lough Garadice | 02-Jun | James Dignam | Corn |
| 3.26 | 7.19 | – | Lough Garadice | 09-Jun | Paul Lacey | Corn |
| 3.20 | 7.06 | – | Lough Garadice | 09-Jun | Paul Lacey | Worm |
| 3.09 | 6.81 | – | Lough Garadice | 08-Jun | Paul Lacey | Corn/Maggot |
| 2.95 | 6.50 | 52.5 | R Erne, Belturbet | 02-Jun | David Flynn | Corn |
| 2.95 | 6.50 | 52 | R Erne, Belturbet | 02-Jun | David Flynn | Corn |
| 2.92 | 6.44 | 55 | Bawn Lake | 23-Jun-18 | David Brennan | Corn |
| 2.92 | 6.44 | 49 | R Erne, Belturbet | 01-Jun | David Flynn | Corn |
| 2.90 | 6.40 | – | R. Shannon, Lanesborough | 10-Jun | Clyde McElwaine | Corn |
| 2.90 | 6.39 | 52.5 | Tully Lake | 30-Jul | Philip Connolly | Corn |
| 2.86 | 6.30 | 51 | Drimmon Lough | 08-Aug | Oisin MacDomhnaill | Red Pellet |
| 2.78 | 6.12 | 54 | R Erne, Belturbet | 02-Jun | Anthony Kelly | Corn |
| 2.72 | 6.00 | – | Drimmon Lough | 25-Jul | Oisin MacDomhnaill | Maggots |

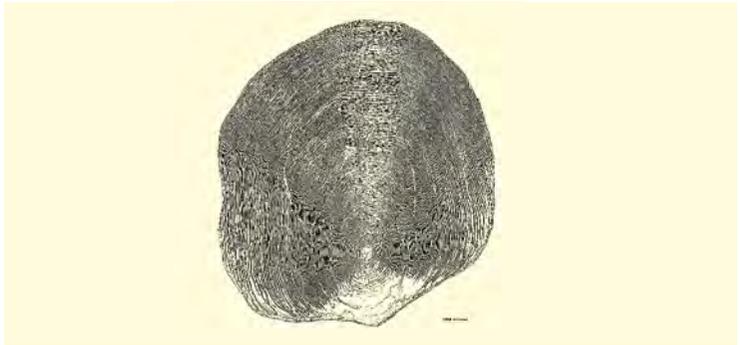
Game Fish 2019

BROWN TROUT (LAKE)

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

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 75 cm FL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| 7.00 | 15.43 | 88.9 | Lough Corrib | 20-Jul | Robin Syme | Fly |
| 6.97 | 15.36 | 78 | Lough Leane, Killarney | 03-Aug | Werner Heinrich | Minnow |
| 5.70 | 12.56 | 78.7 | Lough Derg, Killaloe | 31-Mar | Gerard McKeogh | Roach |



Magnified image of scale from Robin Syme's Corrib Brown Trout



A 2.72 kg Brown Trout from Lanesborough for John Millerick

BROWN TROUT (RIVER)

Record 20 lbs (9.071 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold \geq 57 cm FL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------------------|--------|----------------|-----------------|
| 5.48 | 12.08 | 68.5 | Six Mile Water | 13-Jul | Glenn Allen | Fly |
| 3.64 | 8.02 | 64.5 | Six Mile Water | 03-Sep | John Ashe | Apachis Fly |
| 3.62 | 7.98 | 64 | Six Mile Water | 23-Aug | Glenn Allen | Fly |
| 3.26 | 7.19 | 62.5 | Six Mile Water | 31-Jul | Michael Martin | Coco head Nymph |
| 3.22 | 7.10 | 63 | Six Mile Water | 27-Aug | Jim Gregg | Fly |
| 3.20 | 7.05 | 62 | Six Mile Water | 02-Sep | John Ashe | Apachis Fly |
| 2.94 | 6.48 | 62.5 | Six Mile Water | 28-Jul | Jim Gregg | Fly |
| 2.78 | 6.13 | 57 | Six Mile Water | 26-Sep | John Ashe | Archale Fly |
| 2.76 | 6.08 | 58.5 | Six Mile Water | 04-Aug | Jim Gregg | Fly |
| 2.72 | 6.00 | 61 | R Shannon, Lanesborough | 18-Mar | John Millerick | Mackerel |

SEA TROUT

Record 16 lbs 6 ozs (7.427 kg); Specimen Weight 2.722 kg (6 lbs)

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold \geq 64 cm FL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|---------------|--------|------------|--------|
| 3.06 | 6.74 | 67 | Lough Currane | 08-Apr | Eric Jouen | Rapala |

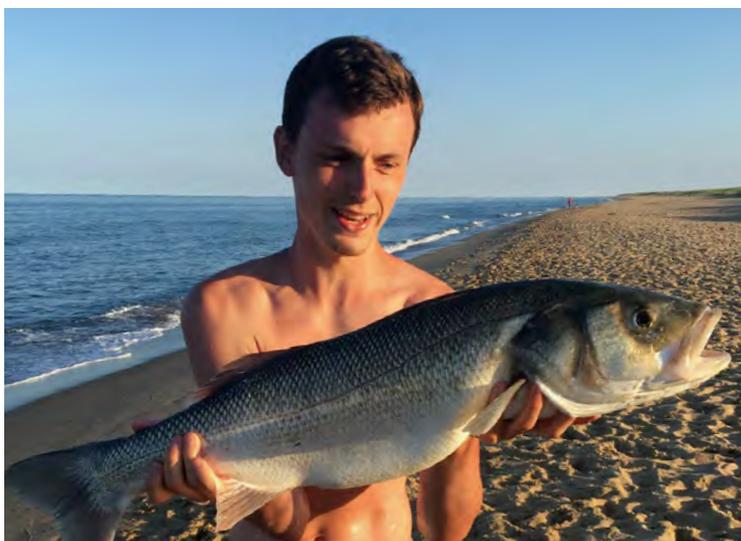
Marine Fish 2019

BASS

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

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 75 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| 4.76 | 10.50 | 87 | Youghal Bay | 19-Oct | Donal Domenev | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 85 | Old Bawn Beach, Cahore | 13-Jul | Andrew Dempsey | Mackerel Strip |
| L-BS | – | 82 | Garryvoe | 10-Dec-18 | James Raymond | Large Sandeel |



Cahore Bass for Andrew Dempsey

BLUEMOUTH

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

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 38 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------|--------|-----------|----------|
| 0.94 | 2.07 | 40 | Cahersiveen | 09-Jul | Tony Tait | Mackerel |

CONGER EEL

Record 72 lbs (32.658 kg); Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs)

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 165 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|----------------|------------------|
| L-BS | – | 169 | Union Hall | 08-Jun | Stephen Hurley | Baited Pirk |
| L-BS | – | 168 | Cork Harbour | 04-Jul | Ken Murphy | Mackerel Flapper |
| L-BS | – | 166 | Union Hall | 08-Jun | Stephen Hurley | Baited Pirk |

BLACKMOUTHED DOGFISH

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

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 67 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|---------------|----------|
| L-BS | – | 69 | Islandmagee | 27-Feb | Terry Jackson | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 68 | Ballylumford | 29-Jul | David Craig | Mackerel |

LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.64 | 3.62 | 73 | Crosshaven | 14-Sep | Aidan Lyons (J) | Mackerel |
| 1.47 | 3.25 | 77 | Cork Harbour | 06-Aug-18 | Kenneth Murphy | Mackerel Strip |



*Lesser Spotted Dogfish
for Aidan Lyons*

SPUR DOGFISH

**Record 11.06 kg; Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)
Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 105 cm TL**

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 10.42 | 22.97 | 122.5 | Kerry Head | 22-Jun | Philip Barry | Mackerel Fillet |
| 8.85 | 19.50 | 120.5 | Wicklow | 23-Feb | Des Chew | Mackerel |
| 7.89 | 17.40 | 116 | Wicklow | 28-Feb | Dan Smith | Mackerel/Squid |
| 7.71 | 17.00 | 115 | Galway Bay | 06-May | Liam Millerick | Mackerel |
| 7.71 | 17.00 | 105.5 | Wicklow | 30-Dec-18 | Kit Dunne | Mackerel |
| 6.99 | 15.40 | 111 | Wicklow | 28-Feb | Dan Smith | Mackerel/Squid |
| 6.97 | 15.37 | 110 | Kenmare Bay | 23-Mar | Nicholas Ward | Mackerel |
| 6.90 | 15.21 | 106 | Tralee Bay | 03-Jul | Ailbhe O'Sullivan | Mackerel |



Dan Smith



Tom Lynch



Shore caught Spurdog for Chris O'Sullivan



112 cm Downings Spurdog for Joost Spreeuw from the Netherlands

SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 6.90 | 15.21 | 108 | Tralee Bay | 03-Jul | Ailbhe O'Sullivan | Mackerel |
| 6.86 | 15.12 | 107 | Kenmare Bay | 23-Mar | Nichola Ward (J) | Mackerel |
| 6.80 | 14.99 | 110 | Kerry Head | 14-Jul | David O'Connor | Mackerel Strip |
| 6.62 | 14.59 | 108 | Tralee Bay | 18-Jun | Philip Barry | Mackerel Fillet |
| 6.53 | 14.40 | 111 | Wicklow | 28-Feb | Ken Garry | Mackerel |
| 6.34 | 13.98 | 106 | Tralee Bay | 22-Jun | Joseph Donnelly | Mackerel |
| 6.22 | 13.71 | 106 | Tralee Bay | 18-Jun | Phillip Barry | Mackerel Fillet |
| 6.10 | 13.45 | 113.5 | Tralee Bay | 03-Jul | Ailbhe O'Sullivan | Mackerel |
| 5.90 | 13.00 | 106 | Kenmare Bay | 23-Mar | David Flynn | Squid |
| 5.90 | 13.00 | 106 | Wicklow | 30-Dec-18 | John Millerick | Mackerel |
| 5.85 | 12.90 | 109 | Wicklow | 30-Dec-18 | Mike Sherwood | Mackerel |
| 5.67 | 12.50 | 108 | Wicklow | 28-Feb | Dan Smith | Mackerel/Squid |
| 5.67 | 12.50 | 111 | Wicklow | 23-Feb | Des Chew | Mackerel |
| 5.44 | 12.00 | 108 | Wicklow | 31-Dec-18 | Niall Burke | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 114 | Galway Bay | 05-Sep | Henk Theulings (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 113.5 | Dunmore East | 24-Jun | Paul Hoyle | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 113.3 | Hook Head | 24-Jun | Trevor Hylands | Baited Muppet |
| L-BS | – | 113 | Dunmore East | 24-Jun | Bill Coulter | Baited Feather |
| L-BS | – | 113 | Dunmore East | 24-Jun | Dario Oliveira | Baited Feather |
| L-BS | – | 113 | Off Hook Head | 07-Jul | John O'Connor | Baited Muppet |
| L-BS | – | 112.5 | Dunmore East | 24-Jun | Paul Hoyle | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 112 | Downings | 16-Jun | Joost Spreeuw (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 112 | Islandmagee | 08-Aug | David Craig | Coalfish |
| L-BS | – | 112 | Galway Bay | 01-May | Nick Tinnemans (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 111 | Galway Bay | 06-May | Thomas Lynch | Mackerel |

SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------------|
| L-BS | – | 111 | Kenmare Bay | 12-Mar | Chris O'Sullivan | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Downings | 22-Jun | Bernard McKeaveney | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Islandmagee | 29-Jul | David Craig | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Islandmagee | 27-Feb | David Craig | Coalfish |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Islandmagee | 27-Feb | Mark Todd | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Galway Bay | 20-Apr | Darren Kelly | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Wicklow | 27-Mar | Anthony Kelly | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Wicklow | 30-Dec-18 | Kit Dunne | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Wicklow | 23-Feb | Des Chew | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Wicklow | 25-Mar-18 | Rob Millard | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 109.5 | Dunmore East | 26-Jun | Manuel Albrecht (D) | Baited Feather |
| L-BS | – | 109 | Dunmore East | 24-Jun | Dario Oliveira | Baited Muppet |
| L-BS | – | 109 | Islandmagee | 27-Feb | Terry Jackson | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 109 | Wicklow | 27-Mar | Anthony Kelly | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 109 | Galway Bay | 08-Jul | Rinus Hage (NL) | Mackerel/Squid |
| L-BS | – | 109 | South of Hook Head | 05-Jul | Barry Murphy | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 108.5 | Downings | 28-Jun | Hans Dijke (NL) | Mackerel |



105.5 cm Spurdog for Igor Chpak fishing out of Wicklow



Nichola Ward with her 6.86 kg Spurdog from Kenmare Bay



Galway Bay Spurdog for Rinus Hage



Spurdog of 106 cm for Gary Philips

SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------------|--------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| L-BS | – | 108.5 | Waterford | 05-Jul | Eddie Butler | Mackerel Strips |
| L-BS | – | 108 | Dunmore East | 24-Jun | Cecil Kelly | Baited Feather |
| L-BS | – | 108 | Dunmore East | 24-Jun | Eamon Deery | Baited Feather |
| L-BS | – | 108 | Downings | 27-Jun | Robert McMillan | Mackerel Head |
| L-BS | – | 108 | Galway Bay | 01-May | Nick Tinnemans (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 108 | Wicklow | 26-Mar | Johnny Foulis | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 108 | Galway Bay | 05-Sep | Maikel Van der Meerakker (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 108 | Ballycastle | 30-Jun | Paul Smith | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 107.5 | Dunmore East | 26-Jun | John O'Connor | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 107.5 | Dunmore East | 26-Jun | Jakob Blosch (D) | Baited Feather |
| L-BS | – | 107 | Dunmore East | 26-Jun | John O'Connor | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 107 | Brandon Bay | 01-Aug | Denis Horgan | Mackerel Strip |
| L-BS | – | 107 | Galway Bay | 01-May | Antoine Romeijnders (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 107 | Galway Bay | 01-May | Jules Welter (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 107 | South of Hook Head | 29-May | Barry Murphy | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 107 | South of Hook Head | 05-Jul | Barry Murphy | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 106.5 | Dunmore East | 24-Jun | Bill Coulter | Mackerel |

SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|
| L-BS | – | 106 | Wicklow | 30-Dec-18 | Gary J Philips | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 106 | Achill | 25-Aug | Danny Sweeney | Feathers |
| L-BS | – | 105.5 | Downings | 16-Jun | Gert Simmons (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 105.5 | Dunmore East | 24-Jun | Trevor Hylands | Baited feather |
| L-BS | – | 105.5 | Downings | 26-Jun | Hans Dijke (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 105.5 | Wicklow | 30-Dec-18 | Igor Chpak | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 105 | Wicklow | 14-Mar | Bert McGregor | Mackerel |

FLOUNDER

Record 4.91 lbs (2.227 kg); Specimen Weight 1.1 kg (2.426 lbs)

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 45 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| 1.45 | 3.20 | 48 | Ballyteigue | 18-Nov-18 | Sean Ivory | Crab |
| 1.22 | 2.70 | 44 | Ballyteigue | 18-Nov-18 | Sean Ivory | Crab |
| 1.11 | 2.45 | 44 | Youghal | 28-Oct | Noel Lane | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 47 | Pilmore, Youghal | 14-Apr | Eric Gosnell | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 46 | Pilmore, Youghal | 25-May | James Bryan | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 46 | Bannow Bay | 15-Aug | Thomas Lynch | Peeler Crab |



Youghal Flounder for Noel Lane in late October



Albert Allan with his 3.17 kg Gilthead Bream from Clonakilty



Terry O'Donovan and his 1.9 kg Gilthead Bream



A Clonakilty Bay Gilthead for Nicky McEvoy



Eamon Power had three specimen Gilthead Bream in 2018 including this 2.18 kg fish

GILTHEAD BREAM

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|----------------|-----------|------------------|-------------|
| 3.17 | 6.98 | 46 | Clonakilty Bay | 25-May | Albert Allan | Lugworm |
| 2.92 | 6.44 | 56 | Clonakilty Bay | 12-May | Jason Convery | Lugworm |
| 2.83 | 6.25 | 55 | Clonakilty Bay | 12-May | Jason Convery | Lugworm |
| 2.81 | 6.19 | 57 | Clonakilty Bay | 23-Jun | Jason Convery | Lugworm |
| 2.72 | 6.00 | 55 | Clonakilty Bay | 02-Jul | Desmond Frazer | Lugworm |
| 2.58 | 5.69 | 56 | Clonakilty Bay | 05-Jun-18 | Eamon Power | Ragworm |
| 2.57 | 5.66 | 54 | Courtmacsherry | 09-Jul | Francis McNeilly | Lugworm |
| 2.55 | 5.62 | 53 | Clonakilty Bay | 15-Sep | Ian Mulligan | Lugworm |
| 2.18 | 4.81 | 52 | Clonakilty Bay | 05-Jun-18 | Eamon Power | Ragworm |
| 1.90 | 4.18 | 48 | Clonakilty Bay | 09-Jul | Terry O'Donovan | Peeler Crab |
| 1.79 | 3.94 | 50.5 | Clonakilty Bay | 05-Jun-18 | Eamon Power | Ragworm |
| 1.59 | 3.50 | 48 | Clonakilty Bay | 01-Jul | Nicky McEvoy | Lugworm |



Ken Murphy had the only specimen Red Gurnard in 2019



Downings was the venue for Menno Dubbeld's Tub Gurnard

RED GURNARD

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|------------|----------------|
| 1.19 | 2.62 | 47.5 | Cork Harbour | 25-Jun | Ken Murphy | Mackerel Strip |

TUB GURNARD

Record 12 lbs 3.5 ozs (5.542 kg); Specimen Weight 2 kg (4.41 lbs)

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|----------|--------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 2.06 | 4.54 | 59 | Downings | 14-Jun | Menno Dubbeld (NL) | Mackerel Fillet |

HAKE

Record 25 lbs 5.5 ozs (11.495 kg); Specimen Weight 2.5 kg (5.51 lbs)

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|-----------|--------------|----------|
| 4.33 | 9.55 | 86.4 | Cork Harbour | 01-Sep-18 | Robert Melia | Mackerel |

MEGRIM

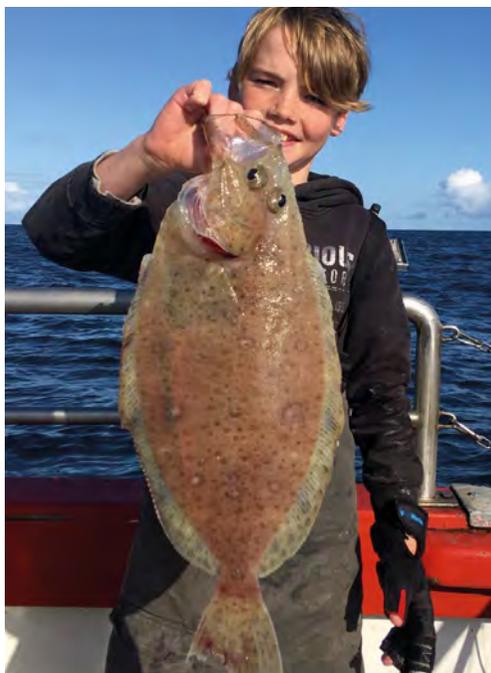
Record 1.85 kg (4.078 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.794 kg (1.75 lbs)

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------|--------|------------------|----------|
| 1.06 | 2.34 | 49 | Union Hall | 13-Oct | Evan Collins (J) | Mackerel |

THICK LIPPED MULLET

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|-----------------|-------------|
| 3.63 | 8.00 | 63 | Rosscarbery | 24-Apr | Ian Mulligan | Bread Flake |
| 3.42 | 7.55 | 66 | Cork Harbour | 07-Aug | Jason Phillips | Bread Flake |
| 3.36 | 7.40 | 65 | Cork Harbour | 01-Apr | Stephen O'Neill | Bread Flake |



The only specimen Megrime of 2019 fell to Evan Collins



A cracking 2.27 kg Thick Lipped Mullet for Amy O'Brien



Thick Lipped Mullet for Derick O'Brien

THICK LIPPED MULLET CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|----------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|
| 3.33 | 7.35 | 61 | Cork Harbour | 30-Mar | Stephen O'Neill | Bread |
| 3.26 | 7.19 | 67 | Rosscarbery | 26-Mar | Jason Convery | Bread |
| 3.12 | 6.87 | 60 | Rosscarbery | 11-May | Ian Mulligan | Bread Flake |
| 3.06 | 6.75 | 57 | Rosscarbery | 03-Aug | Ian Mulligan | Bread Flake |
| 2.86 | 6.31 | 59 | Rosscarbery | 05-Jul | Jason Convery | Bread |
| 2.70 | 5.95 | 63 | Cork Harbour | 18-Jul | Stephen O'Neill | Bread Flake |
| 2.61 | 5.75 | 61 | Cork Harbour | 04-Jul-18 | Joseph Marsella | Bread Flake |
| 2.59 | 5.72 | 61 | Rosscarbery | 22-Apr | Francis McNeilly | Bread |
| 2.55 | 5.62 | 61 | Rosscarbery | 24-Mar | Sidney Kennedy | Bread |
| 2.55 | 5.62 | 59 | Rosscarbery | 22-Feb | Jason Convery | Bread |
| 2.53 | 5.58 | 58 | Rosscarbery | 20-Mar | Francis McNeilly | Bread |
| 2.47 | 5.44 | 60.5 | Rosscarbery | 19-Sep | Terry Jackson | Bread Flake |
| 2.47 | 5.44 | 58.5 | Rosscarbery | 24-Mar | Sidney Kennedy | Bread |
| 2.45 | 5.40 | 56 | Vartry Estuary | 14-Jul | Des Chew | Bread Flake |
| 2.39 | 5.28 | 55 | Rosscarbery | 27-Mar | Francis McNeilly | Bread |
| 2.38 | 5.25 | 56.8 | Rosscarbery | 19-Sep | Terry Jackson | Bread Flake |
| 2.38 | 5.25 | 54 | Kerry Head | 17-Sep | Peter Bolger | Mackerel |
| 2.32 | 5.12 | 56.5 | Rosscarbery | 24-Mar | Sidney Kennedy | Bread |
| 2.32 | 5.12 | 58 | Rosscarbery | 30-Apr | Amy O'Brien (J) | Bread |
| 2.30 | 5.06 | 58 | Rosscarbery | 24-May | Gary Blake | Bread |
| 2.30 | 5.06 | 55 | Wicklow | 21-Sep | Dan Smith | Floating Bread |
| 2.29 | 5.05 | 57 | Wicklow | 15-Jul | Brian Cooke | Bread Flake |
| 2.27 | 5.00 | 58.8 | Rosscarbery | 19-Sep | Terry Jackson | Bread Flake |
| 2.27 | 5.00 | 57.5 | Rosscarbery | 20-Sep | Derick O'Brien | Bread |
| 2.27 | 5.00 | 59 | Rosscarbery | 21-Sep | Amy O'Brien (J) | Bread |



*41 cm Golden Grey Mullet
for Sidney Kennedy*

GOLDEN GREY MULLET

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------|--------|----------------|---------|
| 0.79 | 1.75 | 42.5 | Rosscarbery | 24-Jul | Sidney Kennedy | Maddies |
| 0.71 | 1.56 | 41 | Rosscarbery | 24-Jul | Sidney Kennedy | Maddies |
| 0.71 | 1.56 | 40 | Rosscarbery | 24-Jul | Sidney Kennedy | Maddies |

THIN LIPPED MULLET

Record 2.95 kg (6.5 kg); Specimen Weight 1.5 kg (3.31 lbs)

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|----------------|---------|
| 2.36 | 5.20 | 65.5 | Cork Harbour | 15-Sep | Jason Phillips | Maddies |

RED MULLET

Record 0.82 kg (1.807 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.4 kg (0.88 lbs)

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|---------------------|---------|
| 0.54 | 1.19 | – | Kilmore Quay | 13-Sep | Arthur Beechey (UK) | Bait |
| 0.40 | 0.88 | 31.5 | Cobh | 13-Oct | Shay McDonnell | Ragworm |

HOMELYN RAY

Record 8.28 lbs (3.756 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)
 Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 65 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|-------------|----------|
| L-BS | – | 68 | Killybegs | 19-Jul | David Jolly | Mackerel |

PAINTED RAY

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|----------|
| 4.81 | 10.60 | 81 | Ardmore | 19-Oct | Peter Bolger | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 81.5 | Cork Harbour | 27-Aug | Paul Twomey | Mackerel |



The largest Sting Ray in 2019 was caught by Sidney Kennedy



Undulate Ray



Dan Lynch with his Donegal Bay Scad

STING RAY

Record 33.2 kg (73.19 lbs); Specimen Weight 13 kg (28.66 lbs)

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 90 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------------------------|--------|-----------------|---------|
| 22.79 | 50.25 | 131 | Fenit | 25-May | Sidney Kennedy | Crab |
| 13.55 | 29.87 | 103 | Fenit | 20-May | Amy O'Brien (J) | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 126 | Tralee Bay | 21-Apr | Gary Lowe | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 122 | Tralee Bay | 15-Jun | James Raymond | Garfish |
| L-BS | – | 102.5 | Fenit | 24-May | Sidney Kennedy | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 102 | Derrymore Strand, Tralee Bay | 18-May | Peter Bolger | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 90.5 | Fenit | 11-May | Sidney Kennedy | Crab |

THORNBACK RAY

Record 37 lbs (16.782 kg); Specimen Weight 7 kg (15.43 lbs)

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 100 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|---------------|----------|
| 7.26 | 16.00 | 95 | Cork Harbour | 22-Oct | Evan McGovern | Mackerel |

UNDULATE RAY

Record 18 lbs (8.165 kg); Specimen Weight: L-BS only

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 85 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------|--------|-----------------|----------|
| L-BS | – | 87.5 | Fenit | 26-May | Amy O'Brien (J) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 87 | Fenit | 26-May | Sidney Kennedy | Mackerel |

SCAD

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|----------|
| 0.74 | 1.62 | 44 | Killybegs | 20-Jul | Dan Lynch | Feathers |

TWAITE SHAD

Record 1.64 kg; Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.65 lbs)
Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 46 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------------------|--------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1.30 | 2.87 | 50 | R. Barrow, St. Mullins | 04-May | Amy O'Brien (J) | Spinner |
| 1.30 | 2.87 | 49 | St Mullins | 02-May | Jim Gregg | Tasmanian Devil |
| 1.28 | 2.82 | 50 | St Mullins | 04-May | Neal Hewitt | Tasmanian Devil |
| 1.25 | 2.75 | – | St Mullins | 05-May | Stephehane Hartnett | Spinner |
| 1.24 | 2.73 | 47 | St Mullins | 03-May | Jim Gregg | Tasmanian Devil |
| 1.22 | 2.69 | 46 | St Mullins | 02-May | Neal Hewitt | Tasmanian Devil |
| 1.22 | 2.69 | 47 | St Mullins | 04-May | Jim Gregg | Tasmanian Devil |
| 1.20 | 2.65 | 48 | St Mullins | 02-May | Neal Hewitt | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 53 | St Mullins | 16-May | John Millerick | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 52.5 | St Mullins | 23-May | Oisín MacDomhnaill | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 52 | St Mullins | 12-May | Nicky McEvoy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 51.5 | St Mullins | 06-May | Noel Darcy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 49.5 | St Mullins | 06-May | Christy Lane | Lure |
| L-BS | – | 49 | St Mullins | 04-May | Derek Greene | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 49 | St Mullins | 04-May | Derek Greene | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 49 | St Mullins | 25-May | John Smyth | Tasmanian Devil |



One of the heaviest Twaite Shad of 2019 fell to Stephane Hartnett



Derek Greene with his 49 cm Twaite Shad

TWAITE SHAD CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------|--------|---------------|-----------------|
| L-BS | – | 49 | St Mullins | 21-May | Chris McEavey | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 49 | St Mullins | 08-May | David Craig | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 49 | St Mullins | 17-May | Ken Murphy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 49 | St Mullins | 18-May | Thomas Lynch | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 49 | St Mullins | 14-May | Liam Tully | Lure |
| L-BS | – | 49 | St Mullins | 22-May | Eoin Leonard | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | St Mullins | 06-May | Barry Murphy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | St Mullins | 20-May | Chris McEavey | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | St Mullins | 08-May | David Craig | Tasmanian Devil |



Twaite Shad for Christy Lane



Ronan Doherty and his Twaite Shad

TWAITE SHAD CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------|--------|--------------------|-----------------|
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | St Mullins | 08-May | Philip Connolly | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | St Mullins | 17-May | John O’Sullivan | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | St Mullins | 17-May | Ken Murphy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | St Mullins | 18-May | Thomas Lynch | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | St Mullins | 05-May | Sidney Kennedy | Spinner |
| L-BS | – | 48 | St Mullins | 13-May | Harold Bailey | Sprat Lure |
| L-BS | – | 48 | St Mullins | 22-Apr | Duncan Cole | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48 | St Mullins | 25-May | Ronan Doherty | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48 | St Mullins | 06-Apr | Eddie Butler | Lure |
| L-BS | – | 48 | St Mullins | 17-May | Gavin McNeill | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48 | St Mullins | 05-May | Derick O’Brien | Spinner |
| L-BS | – | 48 | St Mullins | 16-May | Oisín MacDomhnaill | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48 | St Mullins | 18-May | Sofia Marsella (J) | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 48 | St Mullins | 16-May | Joseph Marsella | Psycho Sprat |
| L-BS | – | 47.5 | St Mullins | 21-May | Patrick Foster | Lure |
| L-BS | – | 47.5 | St Mullins | 15-May | Philip Barry | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47.5 | St Mullins | 20-May | Eric Gosnell | Tasmanian Devil |

**Harold Bailey****Shad for Eoin Leonard****Sofia Marsella with one of her two Shad in 2019**

**Ken Murphy****Oisín MacDomhnaill****John O'Sullivan****TWAITE SHAD CONTINUED...**

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|
| L-BS | – | 47.5 | St Mullins | 20-May | Eric Gosnell | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47.5 | St Mullins | 16-May | Terry Jackson | Lure |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 06-May | Keith Buckley | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 06-May | Pat Foster | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 04-May | Derek Greene | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 20-May | Eric Gosnell | Lure |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 22-Apr | Duncan Cole | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 21-Apr | Duncan Cole | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 17-May | Colin Albert (UK) | Lure |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 20-May | Chris McEleavy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 17-May | David Craig | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 17-May | Gavin McNeill | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 21-May | Brian Cooke | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 22-May | Philip Connolly | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 17-May | Ken Murphy | Tasmanian devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 04-May | John O'Donoghue | Spinner |

TWAITE SHAD CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 11-May | Derick O'Brien | Spinner |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 05-May | Amy O'Brien (J) | Spinner |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 03-May | Craig Murphy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 22-May | Eoin Leonard | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 22-May | Oisín MacDomhnaill | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 22-May | Sofia Marsella (J) | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 47 | St Mullins | 16-May | Joseph Marsella | Psycho Sprat |
| L-BS | – | 46.5 | St Mullins | 06-May | Barry Murphy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46.5 | St Mullins | 21-May | Dan Smith | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46.5 | St Mullins | 04-Jun | Eddie Butler | Lure |
| L-BS | – | 46.5 | St Mullins | 17-May | Gavin McNeill | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46.5 | St Mullins | 21-May | Brian Cooke | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46.5 | St Mullins | 13-May | Philip Connolly | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46.5 | St Mullins | 17-May | John O'Sullivan | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46.5 | St Mullins | 15-May | Thomas Lynch | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46.5 | St Mullins | 22-May | Eoin Leonard | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46 | St Mullins | 20-May | Harold Bailey | Sprat Lure |
| L-BS | – | 46 | St Mullins | 14-May | Dan Smith | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46 | St Mullins | 25-May | John Smyth | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46 | St Mullins | 04-May | Noel Darcy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46 | St Mullins | 04-May | Noel Darcy | Tasmanian Devil |
| L-BS | – | 46 | St Mullins | 05-May | Sidney Kennedy | Spinner |
| L-BS | – | 46 | St Mullins | 05-May | Derick O'Brien | Spinner |
| L-BS | – | 46 | St Mullins | 16-May | John Millerick | Tasmanian Devil |



Impressive south-east coast Porbeagle Shark for Gary Blake

BLUE SHARK

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|---------------------------|--------|----------------|----------|
| L-BS | – | 186 | Galway Bay | 07-Sep | John Ebbs | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 190 | Kilmore Quay - 20nm South | 24-Aug | John Stevenson | Mackerel |

PORBEAGLE SHARK

**Record 365 lbs (93.44 kg); Specimen Weight: L-BS only
Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 180 cm FL**

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------|--------|------------|---------|
| L-BS | – | 190.5 | Union Hall | 08-Sep | Gary Blake | Whiting |



Colin Benson with his 213 cm Common Skate fishing out of Union Hall



September Common Skate for Evan Collins

COMMON SKATE

Record 221 lbs (100.24 kg); Specimen Weight: L-BS only
Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 180 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|----------------|--------|---------------------|----------------|
| L-BS | - | 222.5 | Baltimore | 07-Jul | Amy O'Brien (J) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 216 | Union Hall | 24-May | Karl O'Donovan | Pollack |
| L-BS | - | 215 | Union Hall | 21-Jun | David Flynn | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 215 | Islandmagee | 14-Jul | David Craig | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 214 | Union Hall | 01-Jun | Gary Blake | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 214 | Portrush | 12-Sep | Carlo Driessen (NL) | Coalfish |
| L-BS | - | 213 | Union Hall | 11-Sep | Colin Benson (UK) | Ling |
| L-BS | - | 212 | Union Hall | 14-Jul | Ab Kouwenhoven (NL) | Coalfish |
| L-BS | - | 210 | Union Hall | 07-Sep | Evan Collins (J) | Ling |
| L-BS | - | 209 | Portrush | 27-Apr | Andy Knox | Whiting |
| L-BS | - | 207 | Union Hall | 06-Jun | Matthew Gardiner | Ling |
| L-BS | - | 204 | Courtmacsherry | 13-Jan | Rob Millard | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 203.5 | Belfast Lough | 24-Aug | Terry Jackson | Mackerel Strip |

COMMON SKATE CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| L-BS | - | 202 | Crosshaven | 05-Jul-18 | John O'Sullivan | Mackerel Flapper |
| L-BS | - | 201.5 | Downings | 28-Jun | Rinus Hage (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 200 | Union Hall | 26-Jul | Jason Convery | Mackerel Fillet |
| L-BS | - | 198 | Islandmagee | 10-Jul | David Craig | Coalfish |
| L-BS | - | 198 | Belfast Lough | 14-Jul | Terry Jackson | Mackerel/Coalfish |
| L-BS | - | 197 | Union Hall | 30-Jun | Raynor Van Schaill (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 196 | Islandmagee | 27-Feb | Mark Todd | Coalfish |
| L-BS | - | 194 | Union Hall | 03-Jun | Evan Collins (J) | Pollack |
| L-BS | - | 194 | Cork Harbour | 25-Aug | Paul Ross | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 193.5 | Cork Harbour | 13-Sep | Ailbhe O'Sullivan | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 193 | Cork Harbour | 25-Aug | Robert Vaughan | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 192 | Union Hall | 06-Jun | Cian Collins | Pollack |
| L-BS | - | 192 | Union Hall | 20-Jun | Conor Ward | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 190 | Larne Lough | 26-Aug | Derick O'Brien | Mackerel |
| L-BS | - | 188 | Union Hall | 14-Jul | Evan McGovern | Mackerel |



Maurice Cott and his Union Hall Common Skate



Terry Jackson had three specimen Common Skate from Belfast Lough

COMMON SKATE CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| L-BS | – | 186 | Islandmagee | 10-Jun | Mark Todd | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 186 | Islandmagee | 29-Jul | Peter Ross | Coalfish |
| L-BS | – | 186 | North Channel | 27-Feb | David McCormick | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 185 | Crosshaven | 05-Jul-18 | Kenneth Murphy | Mackerel Flapper |
| L-BS | – | 183 | Islandmagee | 27-Feb | Peter Ross | Coalfish |
| L-BS | – | 183 | Union Hall | 17-Jun | Maurice Cott | Mackerel/Pollack |
| L-BS | – | 181 | Union Hall | 03-Jun | Clinton Rachman | Pollack |
| L-BS | – | 180 | Union Hall | 17-Jun | Evan McGovern | Mackerel/Coalfish |
| L-BS | – | 180 | Union Hall | 30-Jun | Robin Van der Meer (NL) | Pollack & Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | >180 | Ballylumford | 09-Jan | Peter Ross | Coalfish |
| L-BS | – | >180 | Islandmagee | 14-Jul | David Craig | Coalfish |
| L-BS | – | >180 | Islandmagee | 12-May | Mark Todd | Coalfish |
| L-BS | – | >180 | Belfast Lough | 14-Jul | Terry Jackson | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | >180 | Portrush | 22-Jun | Joanne Knox | Coalfish |

SMOOTH-HOUND

**Record 11.27 kg (24.846 kg); Specimen Weight 4 kg (8.82 lbs)
Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥100 cm TL**

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|---------|--------|---------------|-------------|
| 9.97 | 21.98 | 122 | Wicklow | 23-Jun | William Roche | Crab |
| 8.79 | 19.37 | 118 | Wicklow | 13-Jul | Darren Kelly | Crab |
| 8.16 | 18.00 | 128 | Wicklow | 30-Jun | Dan Smith | Crab |
| 7.17 | 15.80 | 110 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Thomas Lynch | Peeler Crab |
| 7.17 | 15.80 | 106 | Wicklow | 22-Jun | Evan McGovern | Crab |



110 cm Smooth Hound for Robert Millard



6.27 kg Smooth Hound for Terry Jackson

SMOOTH-HOUND CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|---------|--------|-----------------|---------------|
| 7.03 | 15.50 | 113 | Wicklow | 01-Jun | Brian Cooke | Peeler Crab |
| 6.99 | 15.40 | 116 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Kit Dunne | Crab |
| 6.58 | 14.50 | 105 | Wicklow | 20-Jul | Robert Reynolds | Crab |
| 6.44 | 14.20 | 109 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Des Chew | Crab |
| 6.41 | 14.12 | 105.5 | Wickow | 04-Jul | Sean Byrne | Hardback Crab |
| 6.35 | 14.00 | 106 | Wicklow | 22-Jun | Shane Flynn | Crab |
| 6.27 | 13.81 | 107.5 | Wicklow | 04-Jul | Terry Jackson | Crab |
| 6.17 | 13.60 | 110 | Wicklow | 24-Jun | John Millerick | Crab |
| 6.01 | 13.25 | 109 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Belinda Kennedy | Crab |
| 5.84 | 12.87 | 110 | Wicklow | 23-Jun | Terry Jackson | Crab |



Samantha Savage with her 4.04 kg Smooth Hound



118 cm Smooth Hound for John Hughes from Dublin Bay

SMOOTH HOUND CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|---------|--------|----------------|-------------|
| 5.67 | 12.50 | 104 | Wicklow | 06-Jun | Des Chew | Crab |
| 5.67 | 12.50 | 105 | Wicklow | 07-Jul | Ian Mulligan | Peeler Crab |
| 5.62 | 12.40 | 107 | Wicklow | 08-Jul | Dan Smith | Crab |
| 5.44 | 12.00 | 103 | Wicklow | 08-Jun | Fionn Doyle | Squid |
| 5.44 | 12.00 | 105.5 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Kit Dunne | Crab |
| 5.44 | 11.99 | 102.5 | Wicklow | 19-Jun | Stephen Hanway | Crab |
| 5.17 | 11.40 | 98 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Kit Dunne | Crab |
| 5.16 | 11.38 | 102 | Wicklow | 24-Jun | David Craig | Crab |
| 5.08 | 11.20 | 107 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Patrick Fagan | Crab |
| 5.03 | 11.10 | 102 | Wicklow | 10-Jun | Mike Wheeler | Crab |
| 5.00 | 11.02 | 103.5 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Thomas Lynch | Peeler Crab |
| 4.99 | 11.00 | 101.5 | Wicklow | 19-Jun | Stephen Hanway | Crab |
| 4.76 | 10.50 | 103 | Wicklow | 07-Jul | Ian Mulligan | Crab |
| 4.67 | 10.30 | 107 | Wicklow | 16-Jun | Collie Ennis | Peeler Crab |
| 4.65 | 10.25 | 102 | Wicklow | 23-Jun | Terry Jackson | Crab |
| 4.65 | 10.25 | 110 | Wicklow | 05-Jul | Derick O'Brien | Crab |
| 4.63 | 10.20 | 100 | Wicklow | 08-Jul | Dan Smith | Crab |
| 4.54 | 10.00 | 106 | Wicklow | 24-Jun | John Millerick | Crab |
| 4.42 | 9.75 | 100 | Wicklow | 05-Jul | Sidney Kennedy | Crab |



Jiri Bednar from the Czech Republic with a Wicklow Smooth Hound



Robbie Coughlan with a 101 cm Smooth Hound



Shane Callaghan



Gary Mulvaney - 101 cm Smooth Hound



Alan Buckley, Kit Dunne & Pat Shortt at Wicklow



4.31 kg Smooth Hound for Thomas Mc Eleron



Laurence Rogers with his 102 cm fish



Kevin McClean



9.97 kg Smooth Hound, just before release, for William Roche from Wicklow in June



Nigel Mc Bride with his 117 cm Smooth Hound



DUBLINER ALEX KELLY WITH HIS 106 CM SMOOTH HOUND A 113 CM FISH FOR JESSICA MCBRIDE

SMOOTH HOUND CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 4.37 | 9.62 | 98 | Wicklow | 18-Jun | Robert Reid | Peeler Crab |
| 4.31 | 9.50 | 102 | Wicklow | 24-Jun | John Millerick | Crab |
| 4.31 | 9.50 | 95 | Wicklow | 16-Jun | Thomas McEleron | Crab |
| 4.30 | 9.48 | 96 | Wicklow | 03-Jul | Philip Connolly | Crab |
| 4.13 | 9.10 | 98 | Wicklow | 02-Jun | Brian Byrne | Peeler Crab |
| 4.08 | 9.00 | 98 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Thomas Lynch | Crab |
| 4.08 | 9.00 | 94.5 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Amy O'Brien (J) | Mackerel |
| 4.08 | 9.00 | 96 | Wicklow | 10-Jun | Peter Schiffer (D) | Crab |
| 4.06 | 8.95 | 98.5 | Wicklow | 07-Jun | Brian Cooke | Peeler Crab |
| 4.04 | 8.90 | 93 | Wicklow | 24-Jun | Samantha Savage | Crab |
| 4.01 | 8.85 | 97 | Wicklow | 07-Jun | Brian Cooke | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 128 | Wicklow | 23-Jun | Peter Flahive | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 127 | Wicklow | 03-Jul | David Tully | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 122 | Tramore | 04-May | Joe Aylward | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 118 | Greystones | 08-Jun | John Hughes | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 117 | Wicklow | 09-Jun | Nigel McBride | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 115 | Wicklow | 09-Jun | Jessica McBride | Crab |

SMOOTH HOUND CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------|
| L-BS | – | 114 | Wicklow | 09-Jun | Frank Hall | Hard Crab |
| L-BS | – | 113 | Wicklow | 28-May | Craig Murphy | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 113 | Wicklow | 15-Jun | Allard Van Dijk (NL) | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 113 | Wicklow | 09-Jun | Jessica McBride | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 112.5 | Wicklow | 13-Jun | Craig Murphy | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 112 | Wicklow | 09-Jun | Desmond Frazer | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 111 | Wicklow | 13-Jun | Allard Van Dijk (NL) | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Greystones | 09-Jun | Rob Millard | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Bert McGregor | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Wicklow | 08-Jun | J.J. Ryan | Squid |
| L-BS | – | 110 | Wicklow | 08-Jun | Hughie Meehan | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 106 | Wicklow | 25-Jun | David Craig | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 106 | Wicklow | 24-Jun | Alex Kelly (J) | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 106 | Greystones | 29-Jun | David Flood | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 106 | Wicklow | 08-Jun | Alan Buckley | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 106 | Wicklow | 25-Jun | Desmond Frazer | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 106 | Wicklow | 18-Jun | Eamon Power | Hard crab |
| L-BS | – | 105 | Wicklow | 21-Jun | Bert McGregor | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 105 | Wicklow | 09-Jun | Craig Murphy | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 105 | Tramore | 04-Jun | Jimmy Kelly | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 105 | Wicklow | 01-Jun | Jiri Bednar (CZ) | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 105 | Wicklow | 08-Jun | Pat Shortt | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 105 | Wicklow | 08-Jun | Pat Shortt | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 105 | Wicklow | 18-Jun | Robert Reid | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 105 | Wicklow | 23-Jun | Stephen Hurley | Crab |

SMOOTH HOUND CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|----------------------|-------------|
| L-BS | – | 104 | Wicklow | 6-Jul | Rob McClean | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 104 | Wicklow | 20-Jul | Peter Flahive | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 104 | Wicklow | 01-Jun | Dave Cashen | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 103.5 | Bray Head | 08-Jun | John Hughes | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 103.5 | Wicklow | 10-Jun | Allard Van Dijk (NL) | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 103 | Wicklow | 24-Jun | Darren Kelly | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 103 | Wicklow | 22-Jun | Evan McGovern | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 103 | Wicklow | 15-Jun | Gavin Moran | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 103 | Wicklow | 3-Jul | Rob McClean | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 103 | Wicklow | 23-Jun | Kevin McClean | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 102.5 | Wicklow | 13-Jul | Gary McGee | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 102.5 | Bray Head | 08-Jun | John Hughes | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 102.5 | Wicklow | 06-Jul | Gavin Moran | Peeler Crab |



The second heaviest Smooth Hound of 2019 fell to Darren Kelly

SMOOTH HOUND CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------|--------|---------------------|-------------|
| L-BS | – | 102 | Wicklow | 12-May | Rob McClean | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 102 | Tramore Bay | 04-Jun | Jimmy Kelly | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 102 | Wicklow | 05-Jun | Shane Callaghan | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 102 | Wicklow | 10-Jun | Anne Hooijenga (NL) | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 102 | Wicklow | 23-Jun | Laurence Rogers | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 102 | Wicklow | 23-Jun | Kevin McClean | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 101 | Greystones | 15-Jun | Pat Kirwan | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 101 | Wicklow | 06-Jun | Bert McGregor | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 101 | Wicklow | 01-Jun | Craig Dunne | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 101 | Wicklow | 09-Jun | Robbie Coughlan | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 101 | Wicklow | 05-Jun | Gary Mulvany | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 101 | Wicklow | 22-Jun | Evan McGovern | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 100.5 | Wicklow | 24-Jun | James Kelly | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 100.5 | Wicklow | 11-May | Robert Carcoba | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 100.5 | Wicklow | 03-Jul | Gavin Moran | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 100.5 | Wicklow | 18-Jun | Desmond Frazer | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 100 | Wicklow | 03-Jul | Liam Tully | Crab |

STONE BASSE**Record 11.72 lbs (5.316kg); Specimen Weight 3.628 kg (8 lbs)**

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|-----------------|----------|
| 3.70 | 8.15 | 56 | Cork Harbour | 24-Sep | Stephen O'Neill | Mackerel |



161 cm Tope from Wicklow for Mike Wheeler



Greystones Tope for Rob Millard

TOPE

**Record 34.019 kg (75 lbs); Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs)
Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 160 cm TL**

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|----------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 23.59 | 52.00 | 167 | Kilmore Quay | 14-Jul | Dan Lynch | Mackerel |
| 21.77 | 48.00 | 160 | Greystones | 25-Sep | Stephen Hanway | Mackerel |
| 20.41 | 45.00 | 156 | Greystones | 13-Sep | Stephen Hanway | Mackerel |
| 20.38 | 44.93 | 158 | Islandmagee | 01-Dec-18 | David Craig | Coalfish |
| 20.18 | 44.50 | 159 | Greystones | 25-Sep | Gerard Kelly | Mackerel |
| 19.50 | 43.00 | 161 | Greystones | 08-Aug | Sean Byrne | Mackerel |
| 19.32 | 42.59 | 156 | Islandmagee | 25-Sep | Peter Ross | Coalfish |
| 19.05 | 42.00 | 156 | Wicklow | 12-Jul | Gary Blake | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 166 | Saltees Sound | 24-Jun | Steve Adams (UK) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 166 | Saltee Islands | 25-Jul | Henk Theulings (NL) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 166 | Greystones | 25-Sep | Pat Kirwan | Mackerel Fillet |
| L-BS | – | 166 | Greystones | 29-Jun | Clyde McElwaine | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 164 | Greystones | 07-Aug | Rob Millard | Mackerel |

TOPE CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------|--------|------------------|-----------------|
| L-BS | – | 164 | Greystones | 15-Sep | Conor McElwaine | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 163 | Greystones | 04-Jul | Pat Kirwan | Mackerel Fillet |
| L-BS | – | 162 | Bray | 29-Jul | Basim Duval | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 161 | Greystones | 06-Jul | Pat Kirwan | Mackerel Fillet |
| L-BS | – | 161 | Wicklow | 14-Jun | Mike Wheeler (D) | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 160 | Howth | 09-Jul | Shay McDonnell | Mackerel |



Basim Duval with his 162 cm Tope from Bray



1.62 kg Trigger Fish for Sarah Lynch in August

TRIGGER FISH

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

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| 2.04 | 4.50 | 56 | Bantry Bay | 22-Aug | Dan Lynch | Crab |
| 1.62 | 3.56 | 48 | Bantry Bay | 22-Aug | Sarah Lynch | Crab |

Ballan Wrasse Specimen Gallery



Sidney Kennedy



Ronan Doherty



Gary Blake



Terry Jackson at Slea Head in September



John O'Sullivan at Kinsale

BALLAN WRASSE

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

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 48 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------|
| 2.81 | 6.20 | 55 | Slea Head, Dingle | 06-Jul | Gary Blake | Crab |
| 2.55 | 5.62 | 52 | Slea Head | 15-Sep | Sidney Kennedy | Crab |
| 2.38 | 5.25 | 50 | Slea Head | 18-Sep | Terry Jackson | Crab |
| 2.38 | 5.25 | 51 | Slea Head | 15-Sep | Sidney Kennedy | Crab |
| 2.32 | 5.12 | 49 | Slea Head | 30-Jul | Ronan Doherty | Peeler Crab |
| 2.18 | 4.81 | 48 | Sligo Bay | 06-Jul | Ronan Doherty | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 50 | Galway Bay | 20-Oct | Ger Heenan | Ragworm |
| L-BS | – | 49.5 | Slea Head | 01-Aug | Ronan Doherty | Peeler Crab |
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | Kinsale | 28-Jul | John O’Sullivan | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 48.5 | Slea Head | 15-Sep | Sidney Kennedy | Crab |
| L-BS | – | 48 | Kinsale | 28-Jul | John O’Sullivan | Crab |

CUCKOO WRASSE

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

Length – based specimen (L-BS) threshold ≥ 35 cm TL

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|-------------|--------|----------------|----------------|
| 0.74 | 1.62 | 37.5 | Larne Lough | 25-Aug | Derick O’Brien | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 37 | Islandmagee | 08-Sep | David Craig | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 37 | Larne Lough | 25-Aug | Terry Jackson | Mackerel Strip |
| L-BS | – | 36.5 | Larne Lough | 25-Aug | Derick O’Brien | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 36.4 | Islandmagee | 21-Oct | David Craig | Mackerel |

CUCKOO WRASSE CONTINUED...

| WT (KG) | WT (LBS) | L (CM) | VENUE | DATE | CAPTOR | METHOD |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|--------|----------------|----------------|
| L-BS | – | 36 | Larne Lough | 25-Aug | Terry Jackson | Mackerel Strip |
| L-BS | – | 36 | Larne Lough | 25-Aug | Derick O'Brien | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 36 | Islandmagee | 21-Oct | David Craig | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 36 | Cork Harbour | 15-Jun | Robert Vaughan | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 35 | Larne Lough | 08-Aug | Terry Jackson | Mackerel Strip |
| L-BS | – | 35 | Larne Lough | 25-Aug | Sidney Kennedy | Mackerel |
| L-BS | – | 35 | Larne Lough | 25-Aug | Sidney Kennedy | Mackerel |



A 36cm Cuckoo Wrasse for Robert Vaughan

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 (Shad and Cyprinids) submitted for genetic analysis.

NEW AWARD

New Award from 2020 onwards – Best Length-based Specimen – for the fish which represents the greatest percentage of the threshold length for all eligible length-only species.

SPECIMEN WEIGHT & LENGTH REVISIONS

All listed species were reviewed in 2019 - details of changes for 2020 in table below. FL refers to Fork Length; TL refers to Total Length.

| Species | Current Threshold | Revised | Status |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Coalfish | 6.804 kg | 6 kg ≥ 86 cm TL | Reduced weight & added length based option |
| Cod | 8.0 kg | 7 kg ≥ 88 cm TL | Reduced weight & added length based option |
| Dab | - | ≥ 37 cm TL | Added length based option |
| Haddock | - | ≥ 63 cm TL | Added length based option |
| Hake | 2.5 kg | 2.2 kg ≥ 68 cm TL | Reduced weight & added length based option |
| Plaice | - | ≥ 48 cm TL | Added length based option |
| Pollack | - | ≥ 82 cm TL | Added length based option |
| Smoothound | 4.0 kg | 4.5 kg ≥ 103 cm TL | Increased weight & threshold length |
| Tope | ≥ 160 cm TL | ≥ 155 cm TL | Reduced threshold length |
| Twaite Shad | ≥ 46 cm TL | ≥ 48 cm TL | Increased threshold length |

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. **ALL elasmobranch (Dogfish, Sharks, Skates and Rays) claims (weight or length based) 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.

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.**

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

Contact details:

NSAI National Metrology Laboratory (Rory Hanrahan)
Griffith Avenue Extension
Glasnevin
Dublin 9
Tel: 01 8082609

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

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.

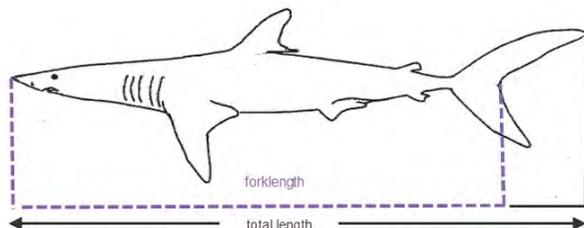
Length-based claim procedure: Claims must be made on current form and angler **MUST** specify if length-based.

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, Common 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 only.

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 and Shad species: To support claims for Roach, Rudd and their hybrids, or any Shad species claim, 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).

Only three claims may be submitted for any combination of Shad (i.e. Shad or suspected Shad Hybrids).

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 and shads for species/hybrid determination

| Species | Sample required | Storage | Additional information |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|---|--|
| Roach, Rudd and their hybrids | 3 scales | In an envelope with fish details and date | Good quality photographs required |
| Shad species | 3 scales | In an envelope with fish details and date | Ensure fish is retained in water as much as is feasible when taking scale sample |

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 |
| 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 |
| Megrin | 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>



Examples of close-up images required for cyprinid identification. Photograph of fish on measuring mat (or similar) which show general shape, position of fins and other features also required.

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.

Metrification: Claims will be accepted under the metric and imperial systems unless legislation dictates otherwise. 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. bass, 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.

NOTABLE FISH

Streaked Gurnard *Chelidonichthys lastoviza* (Bonnaterre, 1788), measuring 34.6 cm (TL) and weighing 548 g captured by Joe Cooney on 20 September 2019 within the confines of Cork Harbour, near Roches Point, Co. Cork. Considered a rare species north of the English Channel (Maitland & Herdson, undated) this species has been recorded occasionally by anglers in recent years in Irish waters, particularly in the south-east. The current British record is 637 g (1971, L Goil, Scotland).



Reference: Maitland, P.S. & Herdson, D., Key to the Marine and Freshwater Fishes of Britain and Ireland: (480 pp, Environment Agency).

PRESENTATION OF 2018 AWARDS

Glenda Powell, one of the world's leading fly casting instructors and a global angling guide based on the River Blackwater (Munster), made the Annual Presentation of Specimen Awards at the Clayton Hotel Dublin Airport on 16 February 2019.

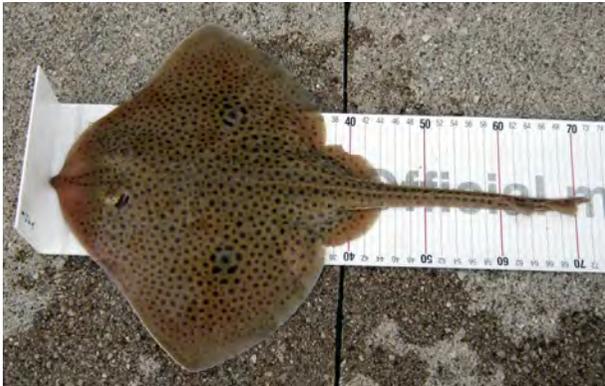
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special acknowledgements: Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) continues to support and provide other services to the ISFC and is sincerely acknowledged. Bridie Fleming, who has retired from IFI, continues to support ISFC activity and her contribution continues to be very valuable. Sincere thanks to Myles Kelly, IFI and ISFC web manager, for his input throughout 2019 and ISFC auditors Michael Martin (IFI) and Hugh O'Rorke. AFBINI continues to provide a specimen fish identification service for anglers in the northern part of Ireland and the ISFC is indebted to Dr Steven Beggs and ISFC Chairman, Dr Robert Rosell.

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 the extremely cooperative staff of the National Metrology Laboratory NSAI for certification of anglers' scales. DNA analysis undertaken by Dr. Jens Carlsson and his team at UCD has significantly advanced ISFC fish identification procedures. Alan McGurdy kindly wrote an article for this report and is gratefully acknowledged for his contribution.

Photographs: The majority of photographs in this report are taken by anglers. Anglers, charter skippers, fisheries staff and journalists are acknowledged for their photographs.



Homelyn Ray Total Length



Smooth Hound on IFI measuring mat

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) | | |
| 2000 | 403 | 41 | 48 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 508 |
| 2001 | 427 | 28 | 37 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 508 |
| 2002 | 471 | 23 | 43 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 559 |
| 2003 | 384 | 63 | 41 | 11 | 13 | 4 | 5 | 521 |
| 2004 | 412 | 48 | 38 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 4 | 518 |
| 2005 | 432 | 62 | 52 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 568 |
| 2006 | 351 | 44 | 42 | 2 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 449 |
| 2007 | 424 | 56 | 28 | 6 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 530 |
| 2008 | 429 | 46 | 23 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 502 |
| 2009 | 470 | 39 | 15 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 531 |
| 2010 | 521 | 45 | 26 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 607 |
| 2011 | 519 | 50 | 14 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 587 |
| 2012 | 578 | 40 | 18 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 640 |
| 2013 | 536 | 41 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 595 |
| 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 |

IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE ACCOUNTS

ISFC Expenditure & Revenue Account 1/1/2018 – 31/12/2018

| 2017 | Expenditure | 2018 | 2017 | Revenue | | 2018 |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------|--------|------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| € | | € | € | Balance b/f from 2017 | € | € |
| | | | | | | 18071.51 |
| | Administration Cost | 1400.00 | | Grants | | |
| 788.08 | Awards | 323.97 | 4500 | IFI Donation | 4500.00 | |
| 293.09 | Awards Day Expenses | 440.00 | | Government Contribution | 3500.00 | |
| 34.71 | Fees & Stamp Duty | 34.18 | | Payments | | |
| 75.05 | Meeting Expenses | 92.00 | | DNA Payment | 170.00 | |
| | Miscellaneous | 98.90 | | Donations | | |
| 3588.29 | Printing | 4655.68 | 875.77 | Angler Donation | 1223.37 | |
| | | | | Angler Donation (Paypal) | 1074.57 | |
| | Total | 7044.73 | | | 10467.94 | 10467.94 |
| | Balance c/d | 21494.72 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | 28539.45 | | | | 28539.45 |
| | | | | Balance b/d | | 21494.72 |

“The ISFC has prepared a revenue and expenditure account for 12 months ended 31st December 2018 based on the movements in the bank. Upon review of the financial records provided we are satisfied that this income and expenditure account accurately reflects the underlying transactions”

Signed:

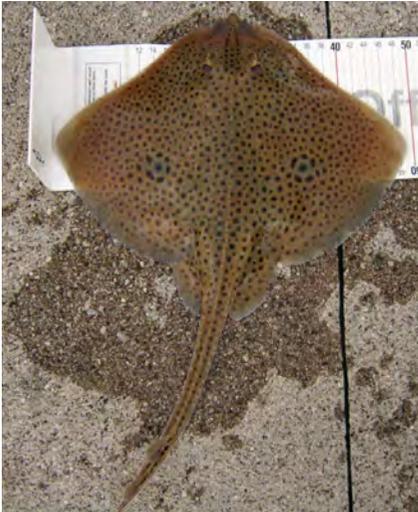
M. Martin & H. O'Rourke (Auditors)

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 2019 were:

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI); Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA); Delphi Fishery; **Peter Bolger**, Coolock, Dublin 17; **Ronan Doherty**, Glenageary, Co. Dublin; **Donal Domeney**, Cork City; **Kit Dunne**, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow; **Patrick Fagan**, Crumlin, Dublin 12; **Eric Gosnell**, Blackrock, Cork; **Jim Gregg**, Antrim, BT41 1EY; **Edward Howard**, Ballinacurra, Co Cork; **Terry Jackson**, Kircubbin, BT22 2SQ, Co Down; **Christy Lane**, Dillons Cross, Cork City; **Noel Lane**, Mayfield, Cork; **Thomas Lynch**, Rush, Co. Dublin; **Nicholas McEvoy**, Waterford City; **Bert McGregor**, St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin; **W. F. McLaughlin**, Limavady, Co. Londonderry, BT49 OSD; **Francis McNeilly**, Downpatrick, Co. Down BT309BS; **Karl O'Leary**, Raheen, Limerick; **Joey O'Neill**, Maherafelt, Derry; **Stephen O'Neill**, Ferndale, Carrigaline, Co. Cork; **Jason Philips**, Whitegate, Co. Cork; **Paul Philips**, B 2811 Hombeek-Mechelen, Belgium; **Frank Prendergast**, Caherciveen, Co. Kerry; **Dan Smith**, Walkinstown, D12R8K6.



Measuring Rudd/Bream Hybrid

Measuring Homelyn Ray disc width

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 |
| 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 | 3.505 kg | 17.8.2013 | Dingle, Co. Kerry | Jeremy Coleman (UK) |

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 Plassmann (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 | Tralea 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 |
| Twaité 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 |
| Common Skate | 221 | | 1913 | Ballycotton | T. Tucker |
| White Skate | 165 | | 7.8.1966 | Clew Bay | Jack Stack |
| Scad | 1.97 | | 6.9.1986 | Clonakilty | Master R. McCarthy |
| Smooth-Hound | 11.27 | kg | 10.6.2016 | South Wexford | Dean Quigley |
| Stone Basse | 11.72 | | 14.7.2005 | Baltimore | Tony Rainer (UK) |
| 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) |
| Cuckoo Wrasse | 2 | 7 | 15.9.1998 | Causeway Coast | Brian McLoughlin |

SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS AND LENGTHS

(revisions for 2019 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 | | Scales & photos |
| Eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>) | 6 | 15 | suspended from ISFC listing | | | |
| Perch (<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>) | 5 | 8 | 1.2 | 2.646 | | – |
| 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 | | – |
| 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 (<i>aka Monkfish</i>) (<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 | | 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>Spondyliosoma cantharus</i>) | 1.46 kg | | 0.79 | 1.75 | ≥36cm Total Length | Body† |
| Bluemouth (<i>Helicolenus dactylopterus</i>) | 1.32 kg | | 0.9 | 1.98 | ≥38 m Total Length | Photo |
| Brill (<i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>) | 9 | 8 | 1.6 | 3.53 | | 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 | – |
| Conger eel (<i>Conger conger</i>) | 72 | | 18.144 | 40 | ≥165cm Total Length | – |

| | IRISH RECORD WEIGHT | | SPECIMEN WEIGHT | | LENGTH BASED SPECIMEN | SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS |
|---|---------------------|------|-----------------|-------|-----------------------|--|
| | lbs | ozs | kg | lbs | | |
| Dab (<i>Limanda limanda</i>) | 2 | 5.5 | 0.6 | 1.32 | ≥37cm Total Length | 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 | ≥125cm 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 | 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>) | 3.505 kg | | 1.4 | 3.08 | | Photo (whole body, head shot showing mouth & eyes) |
| Gurnard – Grey (<i>Eutrigla gurnardus</i>) | 3 | 1 | 0.68 | 1.5 | | Body† |
| Gurnard – Red (<i>Aspitrigla cuculus</i>) | 3 | 9.5 | 0.907 | 2 | | Body† |
| Gurnard – Tub (<i>Trigla lucerna</i>) | 12 | 3.5 | 2.0 | 4.41 | | 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 | | Body† |
| John Dory (<i>Zeus faber</i>) | 7 | 8 | 1.814 | 4 | | – |
| Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>) | 55 | | 11.34 | 25 | | – |
| Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) | 4 | 2 | 1.0 | 2.205 | | Body† |
| Megrim (<i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i>) | 1.85 kg | | 0.794 | 1.75 | | Body† |
| Mullet – Grey, thick lipped (<i>Chelon labrosus</i>) | 9.1 | | 2.268 | 5 | | Body† |
| Mullet – Golden Grey (<i>Liza aurata</i>) | 1.52 kg | | 0.68 | 1.5 | | Body† |
| Mullet – Thin Lipped (<i>Liza ramada</i>) | 2.95 kg | | 1.5 | 3.31 | | Body† |
| Mullet – Red (<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>) | 0.82 kg | | 0.4 | 0.88 | | Body† |
| Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) | 8.23 | | 1.2 | 2.65 | ≥48cm Total Length | – |
| Pollack (<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>) | 19 | 3 | 5.443 | 12 | ≥82cm Total Length | Photo |
| Pouting (<i>Trisopterus luscus</i>) | 4 | 13.5 | 1.361 | 3 | | – |
| 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 |
| Ray – Electric (<i>Torpedo nobiliana</i>) | 40 kg | | 9.072 | 20 | | Photo on measuring mat |

| | IRISH RECORD WEIGHT | | SPECIMEN WEIGHT | | LENGTH BASED SPECIMEN | SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS |
|--|---------------------|------|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | lbs | ozs | kg | lbs | | |
| Ray – Homelyn (<i>Raja montagui</i>) | 8.28 | | 2.268 | 5 | ≥65 cm Total Length | Photo on measuring mat |
| Ray – Painted (<i>Raja microocellata</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 | | Body† |
| Red Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>) | 9 | 6 | 1.0 | 2.205 | | – |
| Rockling, Three Bearded (<i>Gaidropsarus vulgaris</i>) | 3 | 1 | 0.794 | 1.75 | | Body† |
| Scad (<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>) | 1.97 | | 0.680 | 1.5 | | Body† |
| Shad – Allis (<i>Alosa alosa</i>) | – | | 1.814 | 4 | | Scales |
| Shad – Twaiter (<i>Alosa fallax</i>) | 1.64 kg | | 1.2 | 2.65 | ≥48 cm TL | 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 – Common (<i>Raja batis</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>) | 11.27 kg | | 4.5 | 9.92 | ≥103cm Total Length | Photo on measuring mat |
| Stone Basse (<i>Polyprion americanus</i>) | 11.72 | | 3.628 | 8 | | – |
| Tope (<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>) | 34.02 kg | | 18.144 | 40 | ≥155cm Total Length | Photo on measuring mat |
| Torsk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>) | 4.858 kg | | 2.5 | 5.51 | | 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 | | – |
| Wrasse Ballan (<i>Labrus bergylta</i>) | 4.3 kg | | 2.154 | 4.75 | ≥48 cm TL | Photo |
| Wrasse Cuckoo (<i>Labrus mixtus</i>) | 2 | 7 | 0.567 | 1.25 | ≥35 cm TL | Photo |

† 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 brought to gaff or net by the angler **UNAIDED**, though the fish may be gaffed or netted by another, and it is permissible for the person using the gaff to take hold of the trace or doubled line (in the case of big game fishing) to steady the fish when it has been played out and brought within reach. If a fixed rod holder is in use while boat fishing, and a fish strikes, the rod must be removed from the holder as quickly as possible. This is to ensure that the angler hooks and plays the fish with rod in hand. Where a fighting chair is employed, it must not have any mechanically driven device which aids the angler in playing a fish. Body harnesses (which attach the rod to the body) are permissible but must not be fixed to the chair. Gimbals must be free swinging including those which move in the vertical plane. Gimbals which permit the angler to rest or reduce strain while playing a fish are prohibited. Breakage of rod, reel or line, or alteration or substitution of tackle, while a fish is being played, disqualify it for claim or record purposes. A fish may not be shot, lanced, clubbed or harpooned before landing. Claims for fish caught during the statutory close season for the species (where this applies) cannot be accepted.
- (3) WEIGHING:** Fish must be weighed in the presence of independent, reliable witnesses on a properly certified scales, e.g., a shop scales or an official club scales which is covered by a calibration certificate from an appropriate service provider (e.g. NML). 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, and shad for genetic identification.

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).

THE ACTUAL BODY must be forwarded for identification in the case of the following species: ANGLER FISH, BRILL, DAB, GARFISH (head and gills only), LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH, FLOUNDER, GREY & RED GURNARDS, HERRING, MEGRIM, MACKEREL, GREY MULLET, GOLDEN GREY MULLET and RED MULLET, RAYS BREAM, THREE BEARDED ROCKLING, SCAD, TORSK, CUCKOO WRASSE and BLACK BREAM.

NB – Claims will be ratified where a photograph is of sufficient quality to provide conclusive evidence (i.e. key identification features clearly visible) to identify a fish, to the satisfaction of the Committee.

>99.5% of fish 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). Record will be weight based only.

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

(5) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF CLAIMS: A maximum of three (3) awards will be made to any particular claimant for a single species in any one year. 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) 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. Robert Rosell, AFBINI, Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX. Tel: +44 (0) 28 9025 5236,
Fax: +44 (0) 28 9025 5004.
Email: robert.rosell@afbini.gov.uk

Length Based Specimens

Alan McGurdy

Alan McGurdy, an ISFC member since 2005, has worked in the fisheries sector for over five decades, mainly in management. He retired as manager of the Eastern Regional Fisheries Board in 2005 but continues to contribute to the sector in an advisory capacity whenever he gets time. Angling is one of his many interests and he is an all-round angler with excellent fly-fishing, coarse and pike angling skills as well as being a very accomplished boat angler, and has several specimen fish to his name. Having witnessed many changes in angling since he started working in the sector he provides very considered and balanced views relating to specimen fish matters.

65 years ago

The founding fathers of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee (Went, Kennedy and Brennan) aimed to provide an accredited list of specimen fish which would be valued by all. The committee was set up to be an independent and impartial body to record not only record fish but exceptional fish of each species taken by fair angling on the island of Ireland including its seas. They were charged with overseeing a recording process that ensured that a fish was properly identified, weighed, measured, fairly caught, and witnessed. It is unlikely that anglers would appreciate a system that did not have integrity at its core. One of their early tasks was to validate as far as possible the existing Irish record list. Some of the most notable adjustments to the list included the disqualification of the long standing brown trout record which had been the accepted Irish Record since 1861. Fortunately, the remains of this fish had come into the hands of the Natural History Museum and on examination it proved to be a salmon. In a later review the long standing 53 lb pike record was also removed from the record list.

The annual specimen fish list have become a barometer of fish stocks targeted by anglers. Global warming has assisted in adding a few new species to the list and the unplanned spread of certain freshwater species are also reflected in the report. Conversely, some once plentiful species have become scarce.

The application and advantage of applying new technology

On many occasions anglers, who were both specimen hunters and conservationists, delivered live roach x bream hybrids (in an aerated barrel) for identification by the Inland Fisheries Trust scientists in Dublin. It has been a challenge to match a reliable verifiable system which is also convenient for the angler. Thankfully this is no longer necessary due to the advent of DNA analysis. Now the claimant takes 2-3 scales from the specimen and submits them with the claim form for analysis, for species including shad and bream x roach or bream x rudd or roach x rudd hybrids.

The advances in camera technology have resulted in anglers being able to submit high quality images capturing the required identification features necessary to positively identify fish to species level. This has been a significant advance on previous requirements to provide a fish body for identification.

A specimen fish is no less a fish when it is recorded by its length

Traditionally anglers described exceptional fish in terms of weight. However, increasingly anglers are beginning to note their best fish by length and internationally this has been the approach for some time. In the angling press large fish are often defined by their length.

It is more convenient for the shore-based sea and freshwater angler to weigh their fish, particularly with the availability of a certified digital scales. Accurate certified weight has been the corner stone of the specimen fish list but it has always created a problem for those anglers fishing off shore especially when no one wishes to kill fish unnecessarily. The requirement to bring the fish on land for weighing has endangered the welfare of some species particularly the larger species such as sharks and rays although many anglers are well prepared to do this.

Up to 2019 the committee has introduced a specimen length for 15 species equivalent to the corresponding weight based specimens. Additional species are being added to the list of length based specimens for 2020 and this process will continue. There has been a significant uptake of this option by anglers and we expect it to increase.

The achievement of catching a specimen is not devalued by it being recorded by its measurement rather than its weight.

The measuring mat

The importance of conserving fish species while preserving the integrity of the weighing process has been a challenge on the committee. In response, the committee, working with Inland Fisheries Ireland, contributed to developing a measuring mat for use on land or at sea. This mat features regularly in a specimen hunters kit and is the backdrop for thousands of fish photographs from Irish waters. In addition there is a range of commercially produced products which are also used. Dedicated anglers are anxious not to put the finest fish of a species at risk!

The future

Smart technology creates the opportunity to streamline the recording of specimen fish. It is the aim of the ISFC to see this develop in the years ahead. It will be our intention to have a process available to the angler which allows them to electronically record the capture of a specimen fish, measure, photograph, provide the location, check the identity, complete an application, have it witnessed and submit it.

Conservation underpins all of this and the ISFC will continue to progress this key aspect of its function which is being achieved by documenting specimen fish and also by adopting conservation oriented recording processes.



Terry Jackson admiring his specimen Thick Lipped Mullet from Rosscarbery



David Tully with his 127 Smooth hound



Twaite Shad for Noel Darcy



105 cm Smooth Hound for Bert McGregor



104 cm Smooth Hound for Rob McClean in July

Use of information contained in this report for press articles and publicity is encouraged. It may be quoted without charge, provided the source is acknowledged.

The report is copyright and prior permission to reproduce the data for any purpose other than reasonable review or analysis must be obtained in writing from the Irish Specimen Fish Committee.

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. Claim form **MUST** be signed and witnessed.

Back Cover: Close up of Terry Jackson's Wicklow Smooth Hound



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