

From: [Kate Walsh](#)
Sent: Thursday 1 August 2024 12:45
To: [Rossa Ó'Briain](#); [Fergal Caffrey](#)
Subject: Fw: sea trout pools, Devils Glen Wicklow
Attachments: [IMG_6850.jpg](#)
[IMG_6852.jpg](#)
[743678945.jpg](#)

I have received an additional call from Mr Glover, and the attached photos.

Many thanks,

Kate

Kate Walsh

Administrative Assistant

✉ Kate.Walsh@fisheriesireland.ie • 📞 0873430469 • 📠 01 8842618 • 🌐 www.fisheriesireland.ie • 🏠 D24 CK66



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From: Matthew Carroll <Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie>
Sent: Thursday 1 August 2024 12:42
To: Ashley Glover <aglover@gmail.com>
Cc: Kate Walsh <Kate.Walsh@fisheriesireland.ie>; Konrad Jay <konradjay@gmail.com>; stephen.sheridan@agriculture.gov.ie <stephen.sheridan@agriculture.gov.ie>; WildlifeEnforcement@npws.gov.ie <WildlifeEnforcement@npws.gov.ie>; hokelly@wicklowcoco.ie <hokelly@wicklowcoco.ie>
Subject: RE: sea trout pools, Devils Glen Wicklow

Thank you, Ashley,

Kate has passed on your most recent email to relevant IFI persons who will hopefully be able to clarify all matters.

Regards
Matt .

Matthew Carroll
Fisheries Environmental Officer

✉ Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie • 📞 0874216528 • 📠 01 8842667 • 🌐 www.fisheriesireland.ie • 🏠 D24 CK66



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From: Ashley Glover <aglover@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2024 12:34 PM
To: Matthew Carroll <Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie>
Cc: Kate Walsh <Kate.Walsh@fisheriesireland.ie>; Konrad Jay <konradjay@gmail.com>; stephen.sheridan@agriculture.gov.ie; WildlifeEnforcement@npws.gov.ie; hokelly@wicklowcoco.ie
Subject: Re: sea trout pools, Devils Glen Wicklow

Thanks Matthew

What I am trying to establish is if there is an AA or related screening for the forest road building operations currently underway in Devils Glen

The site is hydrologically connected to SAC, so my understanding is it needs an AA.

The new forest road and associated drainage works on the pools does not appear to be licenced. It is not on Forestry Licence Viewer, so I have reported to DAFM FS as it looks like a forest road with no buffer to the sea trout pools

This is potentially an issue for IFI and NPWS as the new road runs directly into otter, bat and kingfisher habitats

I appreciate that IFI have bigger concerns this week, but we're only a few weeks from sea trout running up into the pools in Devils Glen

I would like an IFI staff member to document the ongoing works, and if there is no AA, to request a pause on the road development until there is a DAFM FS ruling, and an AA (if there is none).

Due to the risk of human disturbance to the sea trout, I would like IFI to consider remediation measures (blocking new roads with brash, removing aggregate, blocking drains, pausing the construction of new drains). Nothing about the road looks temporary, and continuing works means more disturbance if it transpires this is an unlicensed forest road

Regards

Ashley
0851583724

On Thu, Aug 1, 2024 at 12:06 PM Matthew Carroll <Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie> wrote:

Hi Ashley,

Please see responses below that I have received from colleagues following your request for information and my subsequent requests to colleagues to attend to same.

Kake has informed me of further correspondence today 01/08/2024 and I have requested that she send to both Fergal and Rossa for their attention.

My apologies for delays in response, however I am fully consumed with a serious pollution event now, which ongoing and very fluid and which requires my full attention at this time and have to prioritise.

I hope this is of some assistance to you.

Regards
Matt

Hi Matt,

I can only speculate based on the picture.

Firstly, Coillte have an ongoing control programme targeting Cherry Laurel and the longer-term plan is to restore the site to native woodland cover, include native riparian woodland. Again, I am speculating, but some of that will require clearance to facilitate regeneration and associated removal/mulching of large laurel stands requires some access for machinery (best to contact Coillte for confirmation).

Secondly, IFI in collaboration with Coillte are undertaking have habitat restoration in the Devils Glen. This includes gravel augmentation (for salmonid spawning) and large wood addition to create deeper holding areas for adult fish. Both measures require access for machinery and a semi-temporary trackway was planned to facilitate access for the works and stock piling of gravel for a future top up. The new track may be for that purpose as the works are intended to take place in Aug-September. My understanding is the longer-term plan is for establishment of broadleaf riparian cover alongside the channel (Coillte are better placed to confirm) and this will be complimentary to the instream works in terms of more holistic habitat approach.

Fergal, as the ERBD are the lead applicant on this SCF project (I know Josie is on leave), do you want to add something to the above?

Regards

Rossa
Rossa Ó'Briain
Research Officer

Matt

As Rossa stated Coillte Nature are working on a project restoring biodiversity in Devil's Glen with several objectives, one is the introduction of spawning gravels & large woody debris in conjunction with IFI, we recently had a site visit with 4 members of the local angling club.

To the best of my knowledge Coillte Nature are working on other aspects of the project independently such as installation of river side walk and control of invasive species which IFI have no difficulty with.

Judging from the following you tube clip, I think Coillte Nature may have carried out a public awareness campaign.

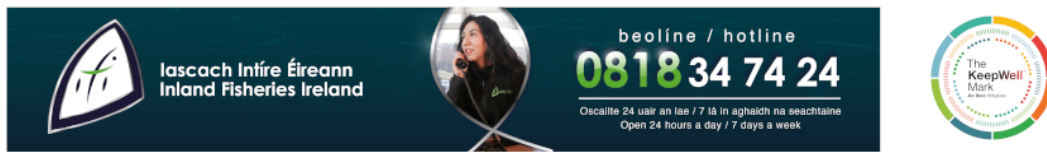
<https://youtu.be/tXaq-cSx8kU?si=RuLLBSd9oHcuyXeB>

Fergal

Fergal Caffrey
Assistant Fisheries Inspector

Matthew Carroll
Fisheries Environmental Officer

✉ Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie • ☎ +353 (0)1 8842 600 • 🌐 www.fisheriesireland.ie • 🏠 D24 CK66



The banner is a dark blue horizontal strip. On the left is the IFI logo, a stylized fish. Next to it is the text 'Iascach Iníre Éireann' and 'Inland Fisheries Ireland'. In the center is a circular inset photo of a woman with long dark hair talking on a mobile phone. To the right of the photo is the text 'beolíne / hotline' above the large number '0818 34 74 24'. Below the number is the text 'Oscailte 24 uair an lae / 7 lá in aghaidh na seachtaine' and 'Open 24 hours a day / 7 days a week'. On the far right is the 'The KeepWell Mark' logo, a circular seal with various icons around the perimeter.

Help us protect Ireland's rivers, lakes and coastlines by reporting illegal fishing, water pollution or invasive species.
Our confidential phone number is 0818 34 74 24, which is open 24 hours a day / 7 days a week.
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From: [Matthew Carroll](#)
Sent: Friday 26 July 2024 18:00
To: [Josie Mahon](#); [Rossa Ó'Briain](#); [Fergal Caffrey](#)
Subject: Fwd: Sea trout pools, Devils Glen Wicklow

Hi lads and ladies,
Please see attached email. Is this part of the project you are working on with Coilte and NPWS ?
Out of the loop on this one, so perhaps someone can get back to Mr Glover.
Thanks,
Matt.

Matthew Carroll
Fisheries Environmental Officer
✉ Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie • 📞 0874216528 • 📠 01 8842667 • 🌐 www.fisheriesireland.ie • 🏠 D24 CK66



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From: Ashley Glover <aglover@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2024 2:39:39 PM
To: Matthew Carroll <Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie>
Subject: Re: Sea trout pools, Devils Glen Wicklow









On Fri 26 Jul 2024 at 14:31, Ashley Glover <aglover@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Matt

I understand you might be a point of contact for me. I have concerns about a potentially unlicensed forestry road construction project as part of a cherry laurel removal project

The road is right into some of the most vulnerable sea trout pools

Regards

Ashley Glover
0851583724

From: [Matthew Carroll](#)
Sent: Wednesday 31 July 2024 11:47
To: [Rossa Ó'Briain](#); [Fergal Caffrey](#); [Josie Mahon](#)
Subject: RE: ea trout pools, Devils Glen Wicklow

Many thanks Rossa,

Fergal if you wish to add anything do so, otherwise I will send Rossa's response on to Mr glover.

Thanks
Matt

Matthew Carroll
Fisheries Environmental Officer
✉ Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie • 📞 0874216528 • 📠 01 8842667 • 🌐 www.fisheriesireland.ie • 🏠 D24 CK66



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From: Rossa Ó'Briain <Rossa.O'Briain@fisheriesireland.ie>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2024 11:33 AM
To: Matthew Carroll <Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie>; Fergal Caffrey <Fergal.Caffrey@fisheriesireland.ie>; Josie Mahon <Josie.Mahon@fisheriesireland.ie>
Subject: RE: ea trout pools, Devils Glen Wicklow

Hi Matt,

I can only speculate based on the picture.

Firstly, Coillte have an ongoing control programme targeting Cherry Laurel and the longer-term plan is to restore the site to native woodland cover, include native riparian woodland. Again, I am speculating, but some of that will require clearance to facilitate regeneration and associated removal/mulching of large laurel stands requires some access for machinery (best to contact Coillte for confirmation).

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Fergal, as the ERBD are the lead applicant on this SCF project (I know Josie is on leave), do you want to add something to the above?

Regards

Rossa

Rossa Ó'Briain
Research Officer
✉ Rossa.O'Briain@fisheriesireland.ie • 📞 087 2438882 • 📠 01 8842625 • 🌐 www.fisheriesireland.ie • 🏠 D24 CK66



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From: Matthew Carroll <Matthew.Carroll@fisheriesireland.ie>

Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2024 9:38 PM

To: Rossa Ó'Briain <Rossa.O'Briain@fisheriesireland.ie>; Fergal Caffrey <Fergal.Caffrey@fisheriesireland.ie>; Josie Mahon <Josie.Mahon@fisheriesireland.ie>

Subject: ea trout pools, Devils Glen Wicklow

Lads,

Please see below, copy of correspondence to date from Mr Glover.

I have informed Mr Glover that I have not been involved, other than the original meet and greet meeting way back (end 2022 I think) following a request from Declan Little to meet to discuss invasive removal, and that I have not been actively involved in any further meetings, agreements (if any) etc, in relation to the Devils Glen.

Could someone respond to Mr. Glover as I am not in any position to do so.

I have also informed Mr Glover that I have passed on his original mail (below) to relevant persons in IFI and requested that one of them contact you to see if they can help and I would follow up if no response received.

There may be no involvement from an IFI perspective in relation to what he is asking and that may all that need to be said to him.

Could you consider above and revert to Mr Glover.

Thanks

Matt

Hi Matt

I understand you might be a point of contact for me. I have concerns about a potentially unlicensed forestry road construction project as part of a cherry laurel removal project

The road is right into some of the most vulnerable sea trout pools

Regards

Ashley Glover
0851583724

Thanks

Ideally we'd get the drains off the new forestry road blocked and an agreement with the contractors to pause works.

I've asked DAFM FS to look at the forest road construction. If that's unlicensed (it would not be licensed in that location for reasons), then works could be paused.

The buffer zone remaining is small. Under 10m.

If the (potentially) unlicensed road can be blocked off with brush from the site clearing works then maybe we can say it never happened.

We do not want to highlight that the track makes access to previously hidden sea trout pools public as lads will pull them out like mackerel

cc'ing in Stephen as DAFM FS would have oversight of licensing for forest roads and mitigation measures like silt traps, and NPWS as it's not just a sea trout issue (kingfisher, otter, heron)

thanks again ..., reporting riparian works is a challenge

Ash

Hi Matthew

I'm trying to locate any AA or screening related to the construction, upgrade and reopening of forest roads along the main area of sea trout pools

Coillte say there was a consultation with IFI but there's nothing on Forest Licence Viewer and I can't locate any paperwork.

It appears that the road drains will go directly into the main pools behind my house. If these tracks are surfaced with aggregate and there's no buffer then obviously would require AA

Regards

Ashley

Matthew Carroll
Fisheries Environmental Officer

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