

# SLANEY RIVER TRUST

9<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Member,

The opening day this year is Patrick's day as I am sure most of you know already. Thanks to the continued pressure from the SRT board and all our members over the years, it seems IFI's policy makers finally agree it is better to have a presence of legitimate anglers on the banks rather than leaving the river open to the poachers. We will push further and continue our efforts to try and get the season open on the historical opening day of the 26th of February.

With regards to the poaching, there seems to have been less activity this year, probably due to the very low water levels which have prevailed during February rather than anything else. The water keepers appointed last year have been doing their part in preventing poaching, and the SRT intend to ramp this effort up further over the coming season. Our director Steven Orr has arranged water keeper jackets and has scheduled a meeting with IFI to discuss how we can work in a more coordinated fashion in an effort to curtail the poaching more effectively. Thank you Steven for your good work. The IFI bailiffs did make at least two successful prosecutions last year and hopefully that will deter some of the poaching.

Efforts with the tail race screen are ongoing. A preplanning meeting was organised by our director Kris Murphy who has undertaken this whole project. Kris, myself and minister Paul Kehoe were in attendance with the County Council chief planning officer and their environmental officer. The council are happy with the submission we are proposing along with all the detail requested by all parties. We are expecting planning submission to be in within the next few weeks. Again, well done Kris for all your time and work. Also thanks to Kris for sorting out the webcam at Clohamon. Storm damage had it not working.

LAWPRO local area water program, have recently chosen five catchment area's across the country to set up pilot schemes for water quality improvement. The river Slaney catchment area has been chosen for this initiative. The SRT were contacted by Ann Phelan CWO of LAWPRO to initially meet anyone who would like to help and or join a forum to oversee this project. Several SRT directors met with Ann recently in Ardattin Inn, Tullow, along with some of the Tullow fishing club, save mount Leinster group, save the river Derry group and save Moylisha from Lithium group. All the above groups are part of the Slaney catchment area. Councilor Charlie Murphy also attended. Our director Dr Ken Whelan was very informative at this meeting and thinks positively about the project. Ann Phelan will be following up with another meeting in May after she meets with others from the whole catchment area. The main objective is to reduce nitrates and phosphates in the water.

Office: Ballybawn Lane, Rathnure, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

Committee: R Burgess, (Chairman), B Connolly, D Dobbs (Treasurer & Deputy Chairman), R Harvey, K Murphy, S O'Brien, S Orr, D Ryan (Secretary) N Scott, K Whelan, P Wadding, C White

Slaney Rodfishers Association is affiliated with Slaney River Trust Ltd.

# SLANEY RIVER TRUST

The SRT is also readdressing the fish pass at Clohamon this year as there is a deadline for money to be used on this project.

I would like to thank all the directors of the board of SRT for their continued efforts over the last few years especially during the covid time. Thanks to our secretary Derry Ryan and our treasurer David Dobbs who keep all the necessary accounts (see 2022 accounts attached) and paperwork up to speed.

Finally, I once again invite you to our AGM which will be held on Friday 31st of March at 7.30 pm in Bunclody Golf Club. I hope as many as possible can make it. For those you can't attend in person a Zoom link will also be emailed shortly.

And don't forget, please do continue to support the SRT by joining in 2023 (see attachment on how to pay/join). By joining you will be covered under our Public Liability and Personal Accident Insurance cover, details of which can be found on our website. You will also be emailed a password for the River Cam. Please also note the annual Slaney River Trust and Slaney Rodfishers accounts have been prepared and are available to view on our website.

Many thanks again for your continued support and I hope to see you at the AGM.

Kind Regards

Richard Burgess BA. BAI.

Chairman

Office: Ballybawn Lane, Rathnure, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.  
Committee: R Burgess, (Chairman), B Connolly, D Dobbs (Treasurer & Deputy Chairman), R Harvey, K Murphy, S O'Brien, S Orr, D Ryan (Secretary) N Scott, K Whelan, P Wadding, C White

Slaney Rodfishers Association is affiliated with Slaney River Trust Ltd.