

# Salmon Watch Ireland

08 February

## TEGOS Report

Report of the Technical Expert Group on Salmon  
to the  
North-South Standing Scientific Committee for  
Inland Fisheries

The Status of Irish Salmon Stocks in 2024  
with Catch Advice for 2025

January 2025

## Individual Rivers Data

Report of the Technical Expert Group on Salmon  
to the  
North-South Standing Scientific Committee for Inland  
Fisheries

Appendix V

River / stock specific information used in the  
salmon catch advice process for 2025 advice.

January 2025

## Update 08 February 25

### Catch Advice for Atlantic salmon 2025

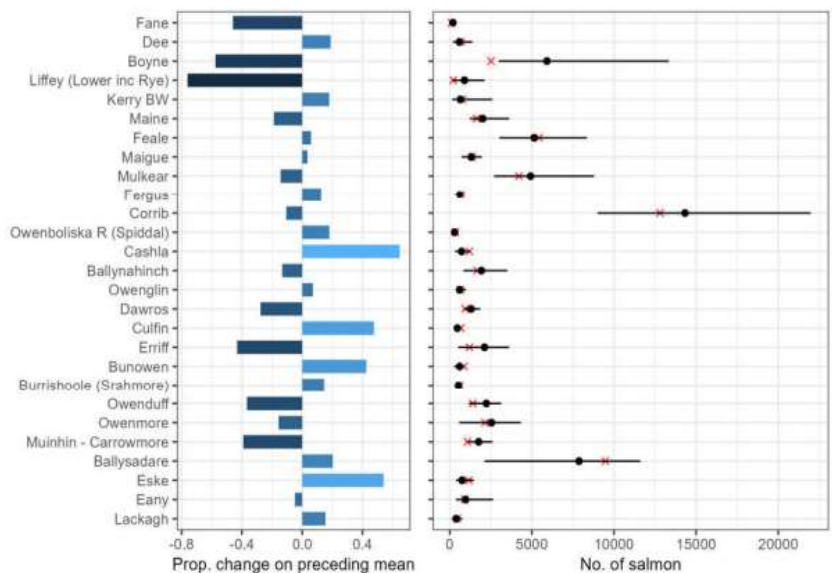
The annual Technical Expert Group on Salmon report to the North South Standing Scientific Committee for Inland Fisheries Ireland was published this week.

The report is complex and comprises an enormous level of data concerning the status of Atlantic salmon in Ireland.

While a limited recovery is noted principally by reference to some of the fish counter data it is and continues to be a highly volatile and low abundance index.

When one looks at the counter data it is obvious that some catchments have improved in 2024, but this is from a very disappointing low in 2023 and indeed a stubborn low survival at sea index over a much longer period.

We will not repeat the many threats to salmon but we in Ireland are certainly reflective of a very poor stock abundance throughout the North Atlantic.



**Figure 6** The proportional change in the salmon count in 2024 compared to the preceding multi-annual mean count per fish counter (left panel); Mean salmon count and associated range (min, max) of the preceding time series (indicated by black circle and bar, respectively) in comparison to the most recent year's count (indicated by red X) (right panel).

The above table and especially the right-hand section demonstrates the alarming decline over a long period.

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It is also worthwhile examining the overall picture of stocks and the forecast until 2027. The data is compiled by ICES and strongly forecasts that Irish salmon will be below national conservation limits up to 2027.

*“As regard the Irish national stock, for both maturing and non-maturing stocks, the median estimate of PFA is forecast to decline to the lowest estimates in the time-series and be below the SER for the years 2024 to 2027 (ICES 2024). This modelled projection essentially predicts that there will not be enough Irish one-sea-winter or multi-sea-winter salmon present in the ocean to meet our national CL during this period.”*

This essentially means that we will not have enough salmon to produce the next generation at a national level, but some rivers may on an individual basis achieve their conservation limit.

We suggest that the angling and commercial exploitation of stocks on individual rivers which have a surplus be dramatically reduced to give these fish a fair chance to produce the next generation.

The angling community has a choice to limit exploitation by reducing their catch and engaging with an active conservation mind. We also suggest that commercial fishermen accept that their continued exploitation of wild salmon is not sustainable.

Voluntary release of fish from commercial engines is achievable if the will exists to protect the last remaining stocks.



**THINK CONSERVATION AND DO NOT IGNORE SCIENCE**