

Department of Culture Arts and Leisure,

Regulations for angling on Lough Erne, Co. Fermanagh

- **Fishery limits:** The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure exercise the fishing rights on all of Upper and Lower Lough Erne from the mouth of the River Erne in the town land of Lowery, near Belleek, up stream to the border between Co Fermanagh and Co Cavan, north of Belturbet. These rights end at the designated river mouths of the tributary rivers, there-after specific fishery owner permission must be obtained.
- **DCAL Angling Permits:** All persons require a DCAL game or coarse angling permit to legally fish on Lough Erne.
- **DCAL Angling Licences:** Persons of 12 years of age and over require a DCAL game or coarse angling licence to fish on Lough Erne. Annex 1 shows the designated areas of coarse and game angling.
- **Open Seasons for Angling:** The game angling season (trout and salmon) of any given year is 1st March to the 30th September, both days inclusive. There is no closed season for coarse fish (pike, perch, roach, bream, rudd and tench).
- **Size Limits:** Pike of 4kgs and heavier and brown trout of less than 30cms, must be returned unharmed to the water.
- **Bag Limits:** One pike per licence day. No more than four coarse fish per licence day. Six brown trout per licence day. Salmon: catch and release 1st March to 31st May then two salmon per licence day, from 1st June to 30th September. Salmon taken must be carcass tagged immediately after capture.
- **Methods and Restrictions:** All legal methods of angling with a rod and line are permitted, with the exception of the following restrictions:

The use of mechanical and non mechanical boats are permitted. When trolling, the number of rods in use at any one time must not exceed four rods when there are two or more anglers in the boat and two rods when there is only one angler in the boat.

When angling from a boat in the designated game angling area, a game licence and permit is required for each rod.

When angling from a boat in the designated coarse fishing area two rods per single coarse angling licence and permit are permitted at any one time. Any game fish caught must be returned unharmed to the water.

The use of ground bait and maggots is prohibited in that part of Lower Lough Erne west of an imaginary line from the nearest point of Pollaginnive on the east shore of Boa Island to Hare Island and from that point on the west shore of Hare Island to the most easterly part of Tully Point (See annex 1 for visual detail).

When using dead fish baits for pike angling, an angler is permitted to be in possession of a maximum of four coarse fish baits at any one time.

For further information, please contact the:

Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure, Inland Fisheries Group, Causeway Exchange, 1-7 Bedford Street, Belfast, BT2 7EG, Telephone no (028) 90515109 or email dcalangling@dcalni.gov.uk or visit our website www.dcal-fishingni.gov.uk

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Annex 1, Fishery byelaws and prohibitions of Lough Erne

