

South Western River Basin District Eel Management Plan

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Introduction

This chapter has been prepared in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No. 1100/2007 to describe measures to be carried out within Ireland's South Western River Basin District (SWRBD) for the recovery of the stock of European eel. The chapter will give an overview of the physical characteristics of the SWRBD. The state of the current eel stock and the eel fishery will be described and analysed. Local stocks and fisheries will be analysed to estimate the current level of escapement at the catchment level. The quality of the eel habitat will be assessed and pressures or risk factors will be identified. Finally, we will describe current and future monitoring and management actions that will ensure that target levels of escapement will be achieved.

The SWRBD is managed as three fisheries districts, the Lismore District managed by the Southern Regional Fisheries Board (SRFB) and the Cork and Kerry Districts controlled by the South Western Regional Fisheries Board (SWRFB). The SRFB and SWRFB are statutory bodies, established under the Fisheries Act 1980, operating under the aegis of the DCENR. They are responsible for maintaining and improving environmental quality and developing and protecting the fisheries resource within their respective regions. Eel fishing licences and authorizations are issued on a Regional basis.

Lead organisation: South Western Regional Fisheries Board (with Southern Regional Fisheries Board)

Area Covered: South Western River Basin District

Contact details: The South Western Regional Fisheries Board Sunnyside House Macroom Co Cork 02641221

1. Description of Management Unit

The SWRBD includes an area of 8,617 km² that is drained into the Atlantic Ocean and Celtic Sea by 3,428 km of river channel (figure 1.1). There are 20 lakes greater than 50 hectares in the SWRBD, the largest of which are Lough Leane (1,952 hectares) in County Kerry and Carrigadrohid (586 hectares) in County Cork. Overall the SWRBD contains 10,667 ha of surface waters, approximately 71% of which occurs in lakes. The RBD accounts for approximately 8% of the Republic of Ireland's wetted area, but just 3% of productive (calcareous) eel waters. It has a coastline of over 1,800 km.

The principal river catchments are the Blackwater, the Lee, the Bandon, the Ilen, the Inny, the Maine and the Laune. In the western half of the SWRBD the landscape is dominated by mountains, natural grasslands and peatlands. Agriculture and tourism are the most important activities. In the eastern part of the RBD there is a more cultivated landscape. Industrial activity is concentrated in Cork City and its hinterland, particularly at Little Island and Ringaskiddy which also supports important port facilities.

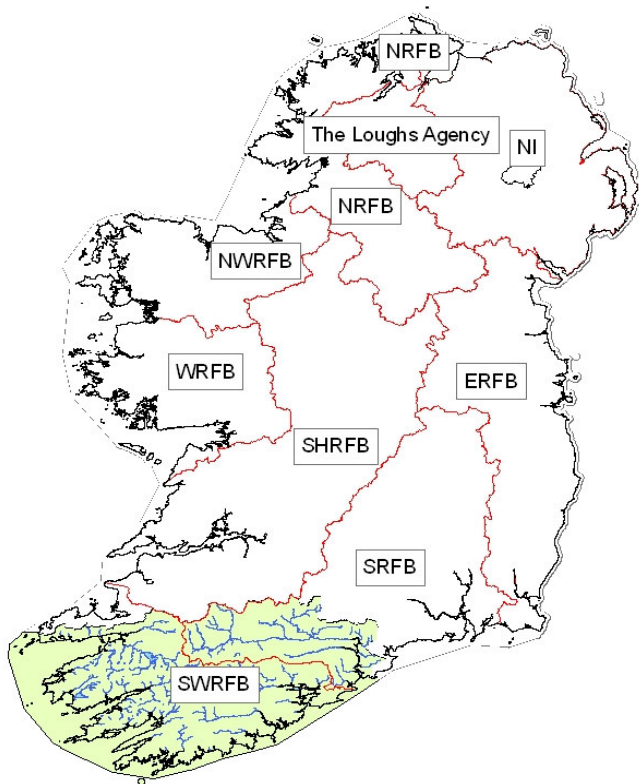


Figure 1.1. The South Western River Basin District (green) and the boundaries of the relevant Regional Fisheries Boards (red).

1.1. List of Catchments

The SWRBD comprises three fisheries districts, the Lismore District controlled by the Southern RFB, and the Kerry and Cork districts controlled by the South Western RFB (figure 1.2).

The Lismore district is dominated by the Munster Blackwater, comprising 997 ha of fluvial habitat and 10 ha of lakes. The other catchment in the Lismore district is the Womonagh containing just 26 ha of fluvial habitat. The Cork district is essentially the Lee, Bandon and Ilven river catchments, while the Kerry district comprises a large number of small catchments with a relatively high proportion of lakes. See Appendix 1 for a full list of catchments and their associated freshwater wetted areas.

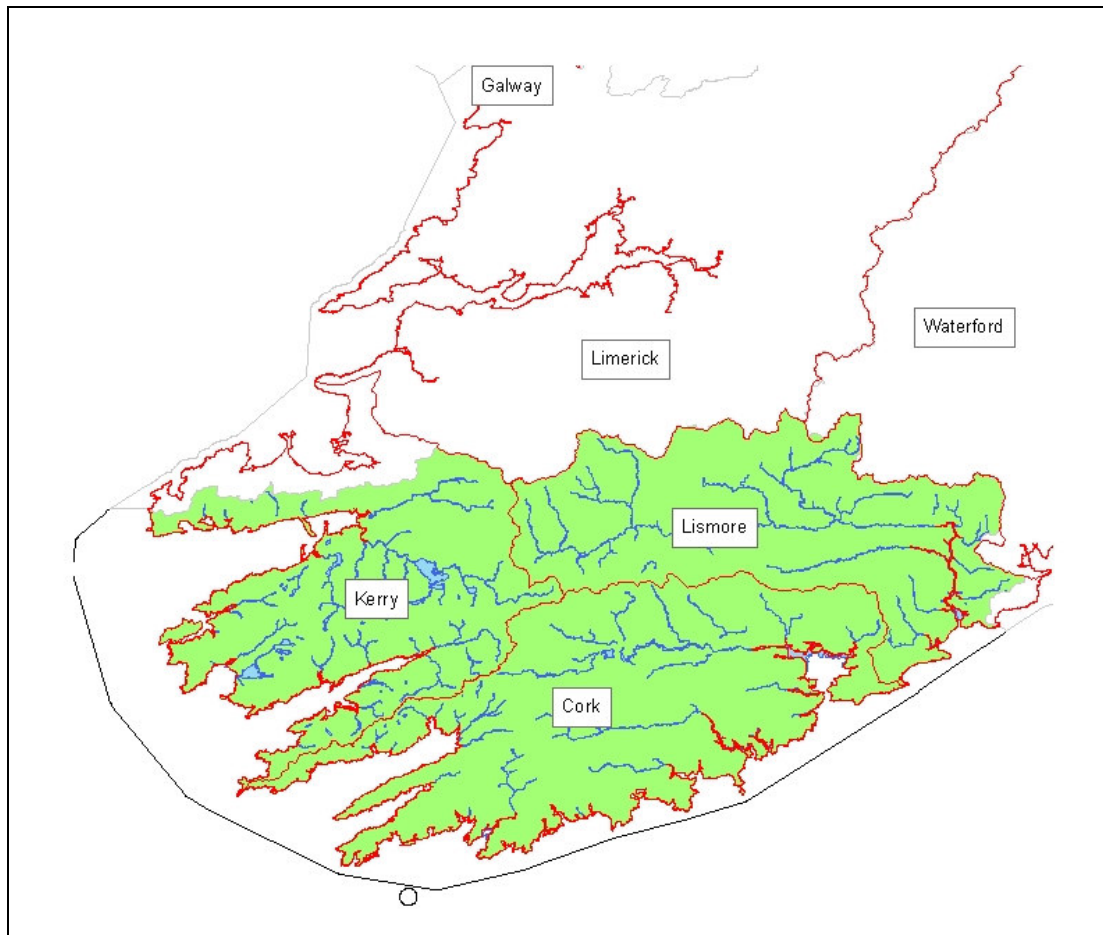


Figure 1.2. The South Western River Basin District (green) and the relevant Fisheries Districts.

1.2. Habitat breakdown within Catchments

Quantification and classification of the available freshwaters within each RBD were calculated with a GIS based on 1:50,000 Ordnance Survey of Ireland mapping. A statistical model relating river reach characteristics (catchment area upstream and the stream link magnitude) to river width measurements from a large number of sites across Ireland was used to estimate fluvial wetted areas. Finally, the Geological Survey of Ireland related the water chemistry of ground-waters to bedrock type so that the nature of waters could be estimated based on the underlying bedrock. See section 3.2 of the national report for details.

The Lismore District is dominated by the R. Blackwater that comprises approximately 997 km of river channels and its associated tributaries such as the Bride and Finisk comprising approximately 105 and 32 km respectively. The district contains few lakes with just 10 ha on the Blackwater. Overall the wetted area of the Lismore district (1,205 ha) accounts for a relatively minor proportion of the wetted area of the SWRBD (approximately 12%) (figure 1.3 and table 1.1). Roughly half the water in the Lismore district is calcareous. The most important transitional water body is the Blackwater estuary (Youghal Harbour), covering an area of 1,200 ha.

The Cork District is dominated by the Lee, Bandon and Illen catchments containing 372 km, 197 km and 96 km of river channel respectively. Other significant catchments in the district include Coomhola, Owvane, Glashaboy and Ardigeen each containing approximately 30 km of river channel each. The most common type of river water body in the SWRBD is soft water with medium slope (29.2%). The Lee, Bandon and Inny river basins which overlie sandstone are typical

areas where such water bodies are found. Lake area in the district is almost exclusively concentrated within the Lee catchment which holds 1,278 ha. The Cork district contains 24% of the freshwater wetted area of the SWRBD and approximately 30% of its waters are calcareous (figure 1.3 and table 1.1). Significant transitional water bodies include Lough Mahon (1,200 ha), Inner Bantry Bay, Ilen Estuary, North Channel Great Island, Lower Bandon Estuary and Argideen Estuary, all of which are above 500 ha in size.

The Kerry District is dominated by the Laune that contains approximately 310 km of river channel. Other important catchments include the Maine (108 km), Roughty (96 km), Carragh (67 km), Sheen (48) and Inny (47). Lakes are common in the Kerry District and the most important concentrations are on the Laune (2,900 ha), Currane (1,577 ha), Clonee (246 ha) and Behy (169 ha) catchments. The Kerry district is by far the most significant district in the SWRBD accounting for 64% of its freshwater wetted area. The most significant transitional water body is at Cromane (5,087 ha) with other important bodies at Ardroom, Castlemaine and Kilmakilloge, all of which are above 500 ha in size.

Table 1.1. Summary statistics for the Fisheries Districts in the South Western River Basin District.

| | Surface-area Catchment (ha) | Wetted area estimated to be Non calcareous (%) | Wetted area (ha) | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|--|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| | | | Lacustrine | > 1st order fluvial | 1st order fluvial |
| Cork | 2939 | 94 | 1549 | 833 | 137 |
| Kerry | 2479 | 74 | 5974 | 807 | 162 |
| Lismore | 3199 | 46 | 10 | 1075 | 120 |
| SWRBD | 8617 | 70 | 7534 | 2714 | 419 |

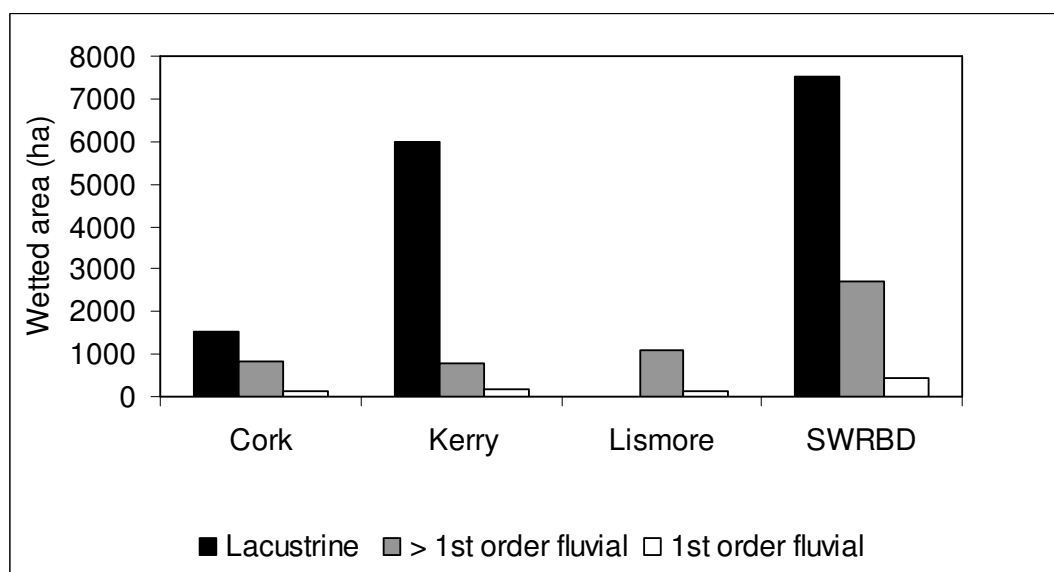


Figure 1.3. The distribution of the wetted area between the relevant Fisheries Districts and habitats of the South Western River Basin District.

2. Description & Analysis of Present Eel stocks

Data within the RBD as a whole is not sufficient for any firm conclusions regarding the status of the stock to be drawn at this time. The status of the stock is estimated using a national model as outlined in Section 5 of the National Report. The results of this analysis are shown in section 4 of this chapter.

Historical data collection is ongoing in the NDP Project (section 1.1 of National Report) and this may facilitate some assessment of the stock to be made. It is intended to undertake eel specific surveys in the first 3 years of the plan (section 7 of National Report).

Elvers are not captured or monitored within the SWRBD and there is no quantitative information on their present or historic level (Appendix 1).

A limited level of fishing for brown and silver eel does occur, but returns are provided for only 32% of the licences issued since 2001 (see section 3.2). Catch for brown eels shows a declining trend, although the poor number of returns involved has introduced high variability and uncertainty and makes interpretation of this trend difficult. Information on silver eel stocks are only from fyke-nets from 2004-2006 when catches ranged from 22-250 kg. This information is not sufficient to calculate either total escapement or trends in stock. The status of the stock in non-tidal areas is estimated using a national model as outlined in Section 5 of the National Report. Information on stock levels within transitional waters is not currently available and so no estimate is provided of the impact of fisheries in these areas on the stock. The results of this analysis are shown in section 4 of this chapter.

Historical data collection is ongoing in the NDP Project (section 1.1 of National Report) and this may facilitate some assessment of the stock to be made. It is intended to undertake eel specific surveys in the first 3 years of the plan (section 7 of National Report).

Two hydropower dams are present on the Lee survey below Carrigadrohid and Iniscarra. Catch per unit effort in the Lee survey (McCarthy et al. 2006) indicate a greater density of eels in Iniscarra Reservoir than in the Carrigadrohid Reservoir. This was observed on all sampling dates and for both fykes and longlines. However it is clear that the eels in Carrigadrohid Reservoir were significantly larger than those in Iniscarra Reservoir. The CPUE values for these waterbodies were higher than anticipated, when compared with results from the exploited River Shannon lakes. All eel caught at Carrigadrohid were female, as reflected in their size, while <5% of eels caught at Iniscarra were indeterminate sex and possibly be male. This low percentage of males in the Lee reservoirs will have implications for management of the eel stocks in the river system. The large size of the eels, especially in the Carrigadrohid reservoir, and their potential contribution to the declining European eel spawning stock, suggest that further study on the escapement of migratory silver stage eels through the River Lee generating station dams will be needed. Likewise, upstream migrations of juvenile eels will need to be investigated.

3. The SWRBD Commercial Eel Fishery

3.1. Commercial capacity and effort

Fishing within the SWRBD is limited to methods principally directed at brown eel with a modest take of silver eels (figure 3.1). The principle method is the standard fyke, with a small number of baited pots and longlines up to 2003. The freshwater fishery is limited to the Lee, Bandon and Blackwater catchments. Transitional water fisheries occur in Castlemaine Harbour, Lough Mahon, North Channel Great Island and in the estuaries of the Lee, the Bandon and the Kenmare. The most significant fishery is the Lee estuary where most or all fishing occurs depending on the year. Longline licences were not issued post-2003 and there has been a declining trend in the capacity of the fishery since 2001. However, there has also been a decline in the proportion of licences for which catch information were returned (figure 3.2). Furthermore, a relatively small proportion of the licences that have delivered returns have actively fished. Given the paucity of returns, it is extremely difficult to determine the actual effort employed in the SWRBD fishery.

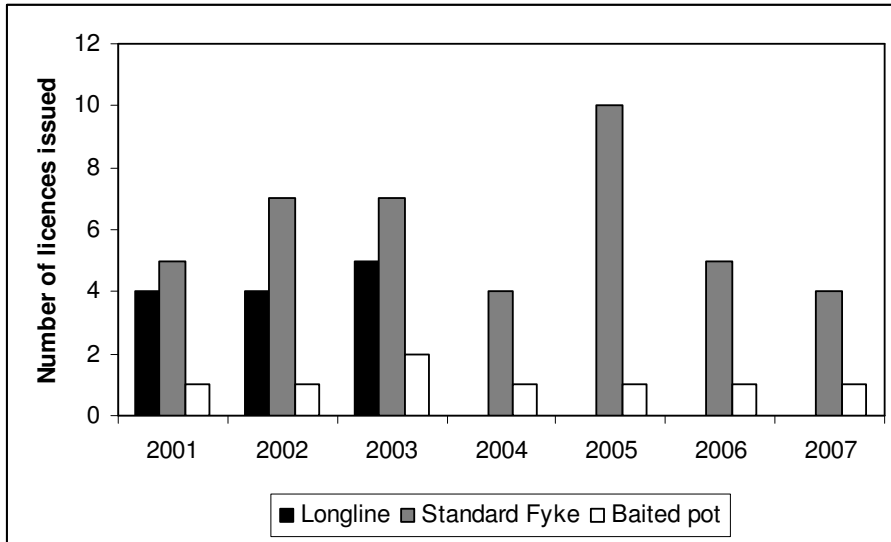


Figure 3.1. Capacity of the SWRBD fishery (black), the level of reporting of catch (grey) and the reported effort (white).

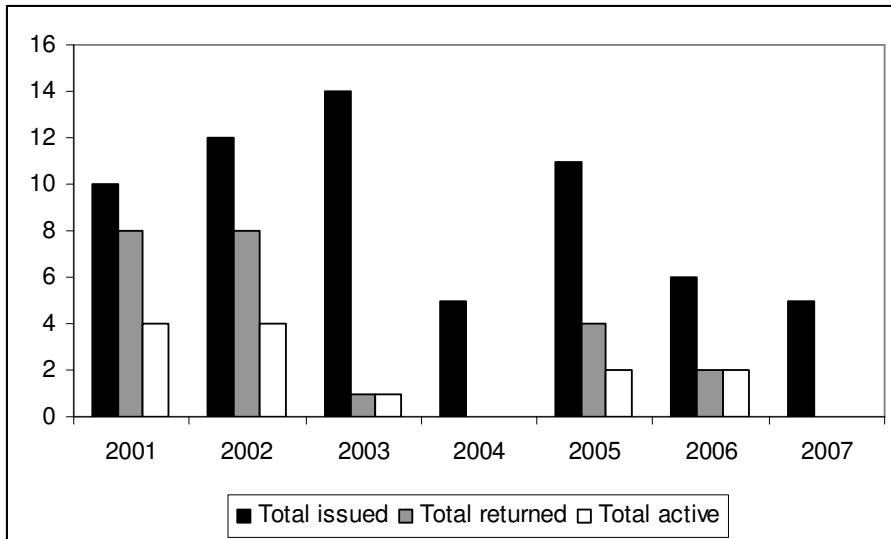


Figure 3.2. Capacity and effort of the eel fishery within the South Western River Basin District.

3.2. Commercial catch

3.2.1 – Glass eel / elver

Glass Eel and Elvers are currently not exploited in the SWRBD.

3.2.2 – Brown eel

The brown eel catch is predominantly taken in tidal estuarine waters. Given the under-reporting of catch statistics for the licences issued, the catch estimates are almost certainly under-estimated. The reported brown eel catch is relatively low compared with other RBDs, ranging from 22 to 960 kg since 2001 and averaging just 270 kg (figure 3.3). This represents just 0.5% of the reported Irish catch.

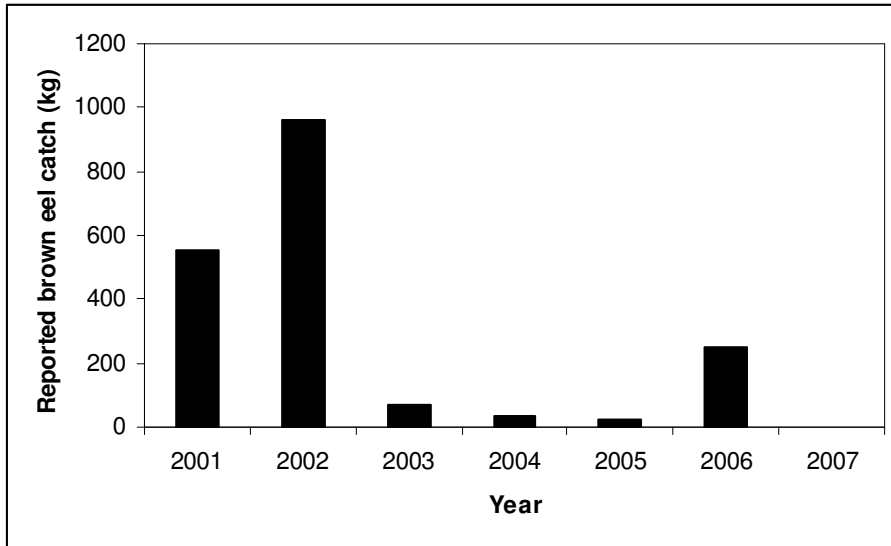


Figure 3.3. Reported brown eel catch in the South Western River Basin District 2001-2007.

3.2.3 – Silver eel

The silver eel catch derives from methods targeting brown eels. Records of catches are absent for most years and highly variable for the remainder, ranging from 22-250 kg/annum (figure 3.4). Even at the highest level reported, this fishery accounts for under 0.6% of the average national catch from 2001-2007.

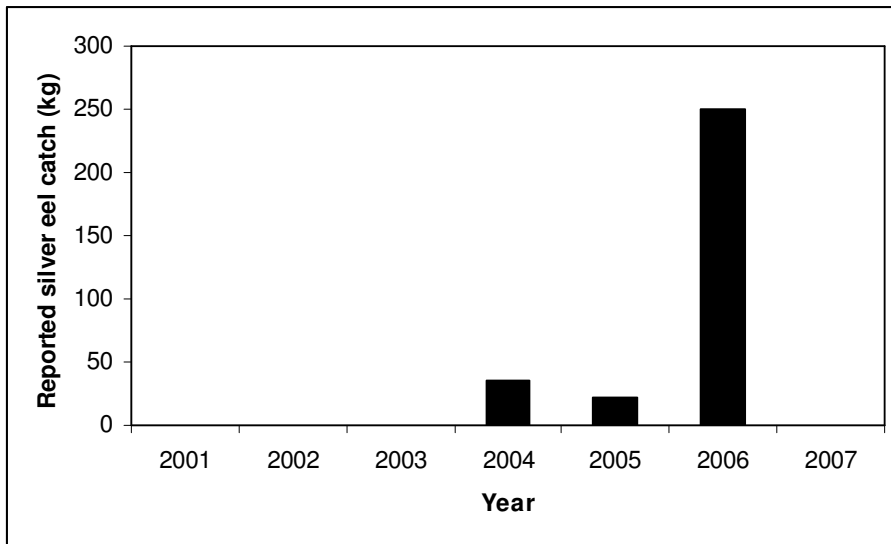


Figure 3.4. Reported silver eel catch in the South Western River Basin District 2001-2007.

3.3. Recreational Fishery

There is no targeted recreational fishery for eel in the SWRBD. Recreational eel fishing is only carried out by a minority of anglers and there is no legal, or voluntary, declaration of catch which is probably small. Some "recreational" fishing using fyke nets and baited pots takes place and this is authorized and reported under the commercial legislation. The eel is a minor interest species in this region although some German tourists target the Lee Reservoirs for specimens

The Lough in Cork city is the most productive specimen eel fishery in Ireland. The Lough is a carp fishery which is heavily angled. Groundbaiting for carp and the high productivity of the lake, due to its urban situation, where feeding of the resident duck population also occurs, enhance production for all biota including eels. The Lee catchment, including Inniscarra Reservoir and the River Lee, is the most productive catchment for specimen eel.

4. Escapement - local stock modelling

The Eel Regulation requires that each Eel Management Plan reduce anthropogenic mortalities so as to permit with high probability the escapement to the sea of at least 40 % of the silver eel biomass relative to the best estimate of escapement that would have existed if no anthropogenic influences had impacted the stock. In the absence of sufficient information and methodologies, estimation of escapement from transitional waters is not considered currently possible. Thus, the potential production of silver eels (in biomass terms) was estimated for the freshwater areas of the SWRBD prior to the decline in recruitment following 1982. The biomass of silver eels currently escaping from the RBD was also estimated. Both of these estimates required a habitat based extrapolation of productivity information from index catchments not necessarily within the RBD. RBD specific impacts were then imposed on this potential productivity to derive an approximate estimate of current escapement. See sections 5 and 9 of the National Report for details.

Pristine escapement for the freshwater areas of the SWRBD is estimated at 26 tonnes, whereas current escapement is estimated to be approximately 17 tonnes i.e. 64% of pristine (Fig. 4.1). The SWRBD is currently achieving the 40% escapement target. However, if no management action is taken, escapement will fall steadily until 2020, dropping to approximately 12%. The fishery is largely irrelevant to this analysis given that it is miniscule in freshwater areas of the SWRBD. Note that this refers exclusively to the freshwater areas within the SWRBD.

Achievement of the 40% target will require a recovery of recruitment, which in turn requires concerted action across Europe through the implementation of the Eel Regulation. It will not be possible for the SERBD to define realistic management actions that will achieve and maintain 40% escapement in the long term. Instead, interim measures are required, aiming at recovering recruitment sufficiently so that management measures can be defined that achieve 40% escapement. These interim measures involve setting target levels of anthropogenic mortality that would achieve recovery of the stock within a given time frame provided the same low level of pressure was achieved across Europe (see Section 5.3 of the National Report). These interim target can be linked to management measures within freshwater areas, whereas in light of the scientific uncertainties, transitional waters will have to be managed on a precautionary basis.

The impact of the proposed management measures on anthropogenic mortality in freshwater areas and the timeframe for recovery of the recruitment are presented in Chapter 8 (i.e. the Management Measures section).

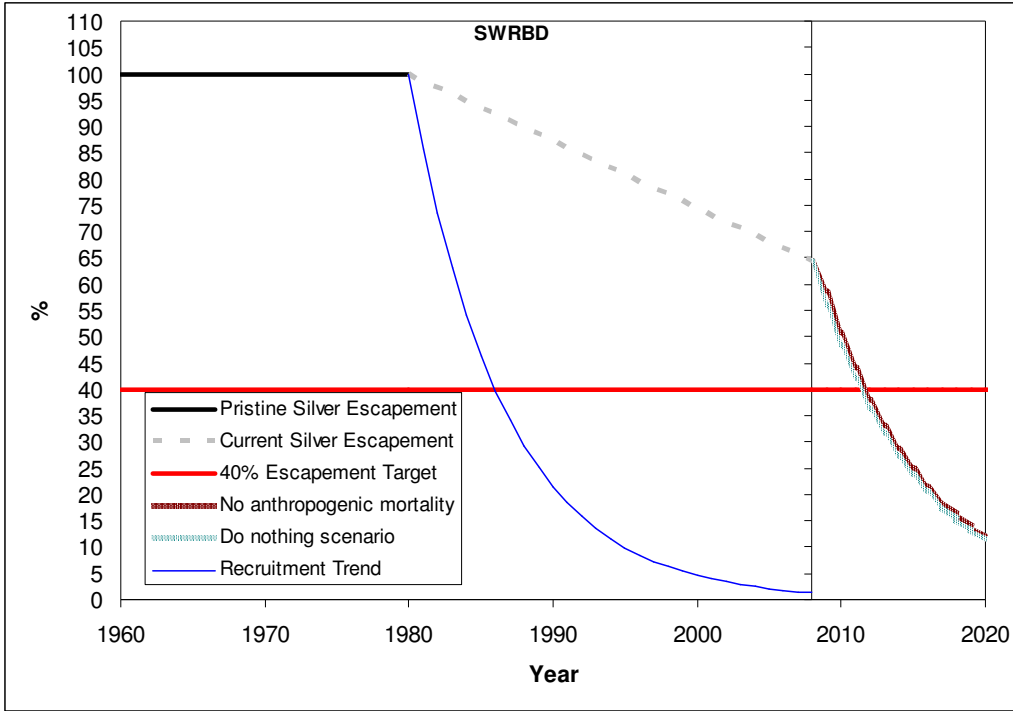


Figure 4.1. The proportion of pristine escapement estimated to leave Irish waters currently and in the future under various management scenarios.

5. Environmental quality assessment

Hydropower

A hydro-electric dam exists on the River Lee. Escapement from 1651 ha of wetted area or over 18% of the area within the SWRBD is impacted by this dam (figure 5.1).

There are two hydroelectric dams in the SWRBD, one at Iniscarra and another Carrigadrohid. A substantial portion of the RBD’s wetted area is impacted by these dams.

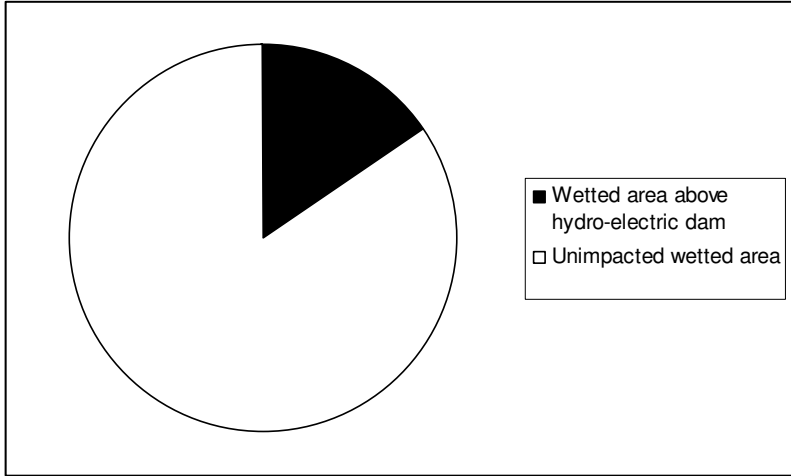


Figure 5.1. The proportion of the wetted area of the South Western River Basin District that lies upstream of a hydroelectric dam.

Water quality

There are 885 river water bodies in the SWRBD. Of these, 181 river water bodies were determined to be at risk and 235 to be probably at risk of not achieving good ecological status by 2015 as required under the Water Framework Directive. These vulnerable waters cover 60% of the catchment area of the RBD. The most frequent cause of water bodies being “at risk” or “probably at risk” are the diffuse pressures and pressures caused by structural changes to the water bodies. Point pressures played a less significant role while abstraction pressures were the least widespread resulting in a relatively small number of river water bodies being classified as at risk. The majority of river water bodies at risk are located in the eastern half of the RBD. The catchments of the Blackwater, Lee and Bandon rivers in particular show a high proportion of at risk water bodies.

When risk assessments were applied to 90 lake water bodies in the SWRBD, 24 lake water bodies were classified “at risk” and 14 lake water bodies were classified “probably at risk”. These represent 42% of the lake water bodies in the SWRBD. Lake water bodies designated as “at risk” were as a result of abstraction and structural alteration. Those designated as “probably at risk” were as a result of structural alterations but also for diffuse and abstraction pressures to a lesser extent. In the case of Lough Leane expert opinion deemed that the impact of diffuse pressures placed it at risk. The lakes at risk include Carrigadrohid and Inniscarra reservoirs in County Cork and Lough Leane, Cloonaghlin Lough and Inchiquin Lough in County Kerry.

There are 43 estuarine water bodies identified within the SWRBD. Of these 13 were considered to be at risk and 13 to be “probably at risk. Significant pressures are point pressures and structural alteration pressures. Estuaries at risk include the Lower Blackwater Estuary and Youghal Harbour, the estuarine waters in Cork Harbour, the Lower Bandon Estuary and Inner Bantry Bay.

6. Stocking

6.1. Previous Stocking

There is no history of stocking in the SWRBD.

6.2. Stocking as Part of the EMP

Stocking is currently being considered as a potential management option (see Section 7.5 in the National Report). However, this option requires further investigation and feasibility assessment, which will be guided by the Eel Scientific Committee (see chapter 6 National Report).

7. Monitoring

7.1. Escapement Monitoring

The national approach to escapement monitoring has been outlined in chapter 7 of the National Report.

7.2. Sampling of Catch & Effort, present & future

Given the proposed closure of the fishery, sampling of catch and effort will not be required.

7.3. Catch Sales/Dealers/Export

This section is dealt with in the National Report under Section 4.3.

8. Management Measures

8.1. Management Actions

Scientific advice has indicated that the SWRBD silver eel escapement from freshwaters is currently approximately 64% of pristine production (EU target = 40%). However, the escapement will decline as a consequence of poor and declining recruitment over the last 18+ years, falling to 12% by 2020. The current level of mortality incurred by the estuarine fisheries within the RBD cannot be quantified because of methodological difficulties with stock estimation in these habitats. International stock assessment has related the likelihood and time-frame of recovering recruitment to levels of anthropogenic mortality. Recovering recruitment will allow Ireland to define management measures that ensure 40% escapement. In the interim, recovery of recruitment is an appropriate alternative target that can be directly linked to management actions (see section 5.3 of the National Plan). Anthropogenic (human) mortality must be reduced across Europe by 85%, on average, just to halt the decline in the extremely low level of current recruitment. Merely halting the decline is scientifically inadvisable and management actions must aim above this level. The closer to zero that mortality is reduced, the more assured we are of achieving a recovery and the quicker the recovery will occur. It is a priority to increase our understanding of stocks in estuarine waters and be aim to be in a position to manage these based on quantified scientific advice by 2012.

Management Action No. 1: Reduction of fishery to achieve EU target

Action 1a: Cease fishery and close eel market

Timescale: 2009

Review: 2012, 2015, 2018

Given the absence of appropriate methods for estimating eel stock densities in transitional waters, the implications of the scientific advice on the general status of the stock, the consideration of practical management implications and the need to conserve and recover the stock in the shortest possible timeframe (contingent upon equivalent actions across Europe), the precautionary approach is being adopted in accordance with the recommendations of the National Eel Working Group and the eel fishery in transitional and tidal waters will also be ceased and the market closed. Consequently, there will be a need for an increase in targeted eel protection and patrols for eels.

Action 1b: Recreational fishery

The proposed legislation will prohibit the possession of eels and this will therefore prohibit angler anthropogenic impact.

Action 1c: Diversification of fishery

CFB and eel fishermen will be engaged in investigating possible diversification for the former commercial fishermen. Former eel fishermen and other service providers who meet the tender criteria will be eligible to compete for the “trap and transport” operations which ESB has committed to undertake under the plan.

Management Action No. 2: Mitigation of hydropower

Develop best practice document on the safe passage of eels through hydro-electric power stations and other barriers including water abstraction points.

Action 2a: Trap & Transport – 500kg on the Lee

Timescale: 2009

Review: 2012, 2015, 2018 and annual review of quantity trapped and transported as a proportion of escapement

Table 8.1. Trap and transport target levels for the Lee catchment within the SWRBD.

| | catch target (t) | % of expected silver eel run | Proportion of EU H achieved – fishery closed | Approx. timeframe to recovery (y) |
|------|------------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 2009 | 0.5 | 34 | 0.007 | 80 |
| 2010 | 0.5 | 34 | 0.007 | 80 |
| 2011 | 0.5 | 34 | 0.007 | 80 |

The survey plan for monitoring the proportion of the silver eel run transported around turbines will be reviewed by the Eel Scientific Committee. The Committee will also review the trap and transport protocol.

Action 2b: *Quantify Turbine Mortality and morbidity*

Timescale: 2009-2011 with precision estimate
Review: 2012, 2015, 2018

Estimates of mortality and morbidity are required for the hydropower facility on the Lee. A standard methodology will be developed by the Eel Scientific Committee to enable reasonably precise estimates of turbine mortality and morbidity to be calculated. This information will allow an estimate of the requirement of trap and transport to be calculated.

Action 2c: *Engineered solutions*

A longterm strategy involving turbine design and modification. Trap and transport will be employed until the efficacy of engineered solutions has been demonstrated (see section 3.5.1 of the National Report).

Action 2d: *Other solutions (e.g. Migromat™)*

Aids to increase the efficiency of mitigation measures will be evaluated on an on-going basis as appropriate.

Action 2e: *New turbine Installations*

Ensure that all new installations should include an evaluation of all direct and indirect impacts on eels and that measures are undertaken so as to negate these impacts. The efficacy of screens should be monitored for at least the first 3 years following installation (see section 3.5.2.2 of the National Report).

Management Action No. 3: *Ensure upstream migration at barriers*

Action 3a: *Existing barriers (including small weirs etc.)*

It is not currently known to what extent existing barriers impede upstream migration of eels in Ireland. This will be dealt with through the monitoring programme described in Chapter 7 of the National Report. Following this evaluation, management measures will be considered as appropriate with a view to improving accessibility and negating any current impact.

Action 3b: *New potential barriers*

Ensure that all new installations should include an evaluation of all direct and indirect impacts on eels and that measures are undertaken so as to negate these impacts (see section 3.5.2.2 of the National Report).

Action 3c: *Assisted migration and stocking*

In the event of a stocking programme being shown to be likely to yield a net benefit to the stock, this will be carried out in accordance with Chapter 6 of the National Report.

Management Action No. 4: *Improve water quality*

Action 4a: *Ensure compliance with the Water Framework Directive*

Timescale: 2015

Review: 2012, 2015, 2018

Action 4b: *Fish health and bio-security issues*

Timescale 2009

Review: continuous

Refer to Chapter 8 of the National Report.

8.2. Projected impact of management actions

The management actions proposed for the SWRBD will result in no fishing and limited turbine related mortality. According to the stock assessment of Astrom and Dekker (2007), the levels of anthropogenic mortality are consistent with a recovery time of 80 years (assuming equivalent EU wide action).

8.3. Raising awareness of the state of the stock

Raising public awareness among the wider public on eels as a species in serious decline through educational and awareness raising programmes.

Ensure that consideration of eels is included in Environmental Impact Assessment, Water Framework Directive Programme of Measures, and relevant land and foreshore management (e.g. drainage and dredging operations).

9. Post EMP monitoring

The national approach to post EMP monitoring has been outlined in chapter 7 of the National Report.

Appendix I – Water bodies in the SWRBD and their estimated productivity

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Catchment surface area (km ²) | Cat. (km ²) |
| Fluvial wetted area (ha) | Fluv. (ha) |
| Lake wetted area (ha) | Lake (ha) |
| Non-calcareous geology (%) | N.-calc. (%) |
| Estimated pristine production (kg) | Prist. Pot. (kg) |
| Estimated current potential production (kg) | Curr. Pot. (kg) |
| Estimated current escapement (kg) | Curr. Esc. (kg) |

Note: there are no freshwater fisheries in the SWRBD

| | | Cat. (km ²) | Fluv. (ha) | Lake (ha) | N.-calc. (%) | Prist. Pot. (kg) | Curr. Pot. (kg) | Curr. Esc. (kg) | |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Ardigeen (River) | Cork | 134.016 | 36.30 | 0.00 | 70.54 | 103 | 63 | - | |
| Ardrigole (River) | Cork | 28.018 | 14.20 | 41.58 | 100.00 | 108 | 61 | - | |
| Bandon (River) | Cork | 513.305 | 197.05 | 69.51 | 73.19 | 732 | 449 | - | |
| Bawnaknockane (River) | Cork | 40.798 | 11.27 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 22 | 12 | - | |
| Coomhola (River) | Cork | 65.766 | 31.94 | 21.11 | 100.00 | 103 | 58 | - | |
| Dungourney (River) | Cork | 52.559 | 10.85 | 21.32 | 70.61 | 91 | 20 | - | |
| Four Mile (Water) | Cork | 32.560 | 13.05 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 25 | 39 | - | |
| Glashaboy (River) | Cork | 142.489 | 34.35 | 0.64 | 99.86 | 68 | 89 | - | |
| Glengarriff (River) | Cork | 42.335 | 18.02 | 63.26 | 100.00 | 157 | 13 | - | |
| Ilen (River) | Cork | 240.088 | 95.78 | 8.00 | 99.27 | 203 | 56 | - | |
| Keal (Stream) | Cork | 7.503 | 1.36 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 3 | 11 | - | |
| Leamawaddra (River) | Cork | 20.685 | 4.84 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 9 | 1920 | - | |
| Lee (River) | Cork | 1185.053 | 372.79 | 1277.98 | 97.11 | <u>753</u> | 12 | - | |
| Mealagh (River) | Cork | 55.528 | 24.26 | 22.29 | 100.00 | 90 | 7 | - | |
| Owenboy (River) | Cork | 116.415 | 30.94 | 0.00 | 71.92 | 86 | 28 | - | |
| Owennacurra (River) | Cork | 105.951 | 22.90 | 0.00 | 95.35 | 47 | 28 | - | |
| Owvane (River) | Cork | 78.266 | 32.46 | 5.79 | 100.00 | 74 | 135 | - | |
| Roury (River) | Cork | 36.631 | 8.29 | 16.97 | 100.00 | 49 | 54 | - | |
| Stick (River) | Cork | 41.133 | 8.74 | 0.17 | 55.56 | 29 | 18 | - | |
| Behy (River) | Kerry | 45.988 | 12.07 | 169.18 | 99.86 | 351 | 200 | - | |
| Blackwater (River) | Kerry | 88.291 | 35.87 | 45.95 | 100.00 | 158 | 90 | - | |
| Caol | Kerry | 3.453 | 0.52 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 1 | 1 | - | |
| Caragh (River) | Kerry | 165.528 | 67.22 | 720.65 | 96.48 | 1607 | 927 | - | |
| Carhan (River) | Kerry | 27.176 | 7.06 | 1.00 | 100.00 | 16 | 9 | - | |
| Cloonee (River) | Kerry | 28.537 | 7.92 | 245.81 | 100.00 | 490 | 279 | - | |
| Coomnahorna (River) | Kerry | 9.306 | 4.15 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 8 | 82 | - | |
| Cottoners (River) | Kerry | 33.637 | 14.01 | 42.67 | 83.82 | 137 | 92 | - | |
| Croanshagh (River) | Kerry | 38.485 | 21.28 | 62.28 | 100.00 | 161 | 1772 | - | |
| Currane (River) | Kerry | 116.833 | 32.99 | 1577.11 | 100.00 | 3112 | 56 | - | |
| Emlagh (River) | Kerry | 21.928 | 9.81 | 0.00 | 56.83 | 32 | 6 | - | |
| Emlaghmore (River) | Kerry | 20.144 | 5.40 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 10 | 19 | - | |
| Ferta (River) | Kerry | 53.361 | 16.97 | 0.48 | 100.00 | 34 | 47 | - | |
| Finnihey (River) | Kerry | 31.843 | 11.04 | 19.72 | 92.16 | 67 | 14 | - | |
| Gowla (River) | Kerry | 4.864 | 2.07 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 4 | 116 | - | |
| Inny (River) | Kerry | 121.391 | 47.34 | 3.18 | 100.00 | 98 | 1 | - | |
| Kealincha (River) | Kerry | 21.022 | 9.80 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 19 | 7100 | - | |
| Laune (River) | Kerry | 779.434 | 309.70 | 2906.35 | 49.20 | 11182 | 5 | - | |
| Lough Fadda (Stream) | Kerry | 22.192 | 9.30 | 76.74 | 100.00 | 166 | 341 | - | |
| Maine (River) | Kerry | 317.448 | 108.53 | 0.43 | 6.75 | 519 | 51 | - | |
| Milltown (River) | Kerry | 28.852 | 6.29 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 12 | 14 | - | |

| | | Cat. (km ²) | Fluv. (ha) | Lake (ha) | N.-calc. (%) | Prist. Pot. (kg) | Curr. Pot. (kg) | Curr. Esc. (kg) |
|----------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Owenalondrig (River) | Kerry | 26.038 | 6.94 | 5.83 | 100.00 | 25 | 60 | - |
| Owenascaul (River) | Kerry | 39.102 | 13.44 | 27.92 | 83.48 | 101 | 53 | - |
| Owenshagh (River) | Kerry | 31.284 | 23.46 | 2.18 | 100.00 | 50 | 12 | - |
| Owreagh (River) | Kerry | 19.083 | 7.90 | 2.73 | 100.00 | 21 | 42 | - |
| Roughly (River) | Kerry | 202.338 | 95.93 | 21.66 | 97.63 | 236 | 28 | - |
| Sheen (River) | Kerry | 93.348 | 48.05 | 0.96 | 100.00 | 95 | 74 | - |
| Sneem (River) | Kerry | 62.751 | 26.15 | 40.76 | 100.00 | 129 | 3 | - |
| Staigue (River) | Kerry | 8.402 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 5 | 6 | - |
| Tahilla (River) | Kerry | 17.273 | 4.91 | 0.88 | 100.00 | 11 | 2463 | - |
| Blackwater (River) | Lismore | 2435.778 | 997.25 | 10.48 | 38.34 | 3836 | 152 | - |
| Bride (River) | Lismore | 370.620 | 104.44 | 0.00 | 83.87 | 253 | 39 | - |
| Finisk (River) | Lismore | 104.200 | 32.81 | 0.00 | 84.28 | 79 | 7 | - |
| Glenshelane (River) | Lismore | 43.358 | 11.11 | 0.00 | 96.55 | 23 | 2 | - |
| Goish (River) | Lismore | 24.075 | 5.22 | 0.00 | 92.87 | 11 | 95 | - |
| Licky (River) | Lismore | 44.531 | 9.83 | 0.00 | 95.63 | 20 | 11 | - |
| Tourig (River) | Lismore | 42.444 | 8.32 | 0.00 | 91.43 | 18 | 47 | - |
| Womanagh (River) | Lismore | 133.829 | 25.80 | 0.00 | 67.60 | 75 | 48 | - |
| SWRBD | | 8617 | 3133 | 7534 | 70 | 25924 | 17396 | 14700 |

| Transitional waters | Exploited for | | | | Eel survey | Wetted area (ha) |
|---|---------------|--------|-------|-------|---------------|---------------------|
| | Brown | Silver | Glass | Elver | | |
| Upper Blackwater M Estuary | N | N | N | N | N | 70 |
| Womanagh Estuary | N | N | N | N | N | 129 |
| Reen Point Pool | N | N | N | N | N | 1 |
| Lough Beg / Curraghbinny | N | N | N | N | N | 1 |
| Slatty Bridge, Fota Island | N | N | N | N | N | 2 |
| Oysterhaven Lake, Clashroe | N | N | N | N | N | 2 |
| Cuskinny Lake | N | N | N | N | N | 4 |
| Farranamagh Lough | N | N | N | N | N | 4 |
| Kilmore Lake, Whiddy Island | N | N | N | N | N | 6 |
| Glashaboy Estuary | N | N | N | N | N | 12 |
| Ardgroom | N | N | N | N | N | 539 |
| Blackwater K Estuary | N | N | N | N | N | 11 |
| Sneem Harbour | N | N | N | N | N | 75 |
| Castlemaine Harbour | Y | Y | N | N | N | 636 |
| Rostellan Lake | N | N | N | N | N | 15 |
| Kilmakilloge Harbour | N | N | N | N | N | 585 |
| Inner Kenmare River | Y | Y | N | N | N | 379 |
| Ferta | N | N | N | N | N | 241 |
| Cromane | N | N | N | N | N | 5087 |
| Lower Blackwater M Estuary / Youghal Harbour | N | N | N | N | N | 1207 |
| Lissagriffin Lake | N | N | N | N | N | 16 |
| Kilkeran Lake | N | N | N | N | N | 18 |
| Reenydonagan Lough | N | N | N | N | N | 24 |
| Lee (Cork) Estuary Upper | Y | Y | N | N | N | 25 |
| Rosscarbery Harbour | N | N | N | N | N | 26 |
| Upper Bandon Estuary | N | N | N | N | N | 35 |
| Lee (Cork) Estuary Lower | Y | Y | N | N | N | 89 |
| Owenacurra Estuary | N | N | N | N | N | 112 |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|------|
| Clonakilty Harbour | N | N | N | N | N | 180 |
| Adrigole Harbour | N | N | N | N | N | 181 |
| Drongawn Lough, Sneem | N | N | N | N | N | 12 |
| Lackaroe (Glendine Estuary) | N | N | N | N | N | 4 |
| Lough Mahon (Harper's Island) | N | N | N | N | N | 205 |
| Owenboy Estuary | N | N | N | N | N | 242 |
| Oysterhaven | N | N | N | N | N | 360 |
| Glengarriff Harbour | N | N | N | N | N | 366 |
| Glandore Harbour | N | N | N | N | N | 449 |
| Argideen Estuary | N | N | N | N | N | 492 |
| Lower Bandon Estuary | Y | Y | N | N | N | 679 |
| North Channel Great Island | Y | Y | N | N | N | 796 |
| Ilen Estuary | N | N | N | N | N | 966 |
| Inner Bantry Bay | N | N | N | N | N | 1174 |
| Lough Mahon | Y | Y | N | N | N | 1223 |