



## **Communication to ACI**

**January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) provides this communication on foot of requests from ACI membership relating to Board Members, and the Inland Fisheries Ireland Corporate Plan.

Following meetings with the various Angling Federations during the period July to December 2010 it is appropriate that a progress update is communicated at this time. In order to maximize the use of resources, IFI will communicate this and similar updates to ACI for distribution to its members.

### **Board Members**

All members have now been appointed to the Board of IFI, details are below:

The remaining positions on the Board of Inland Fisheries Ireland were filled following the election of the staff representative, Marcus MacMahon, and the appointment of Mr. John Carroll, Mr. John Geary, Mr. Michael McGreal and Ms Muireann A O'Neill.

Marcus MacMahon began his career with the fisheries service in 1981 with the newly formed Central Fisheries Board. Following the regionalisation of the fisheries service in 1984 he was based in the Mid Shannon area with the Shannon Regional Fisheries Board. He is part of the protection team on the Rivers Mulkear, Mague and Shannon, in the Limerick city area. Marcus is an active union member and has been an elected shop steward for over 10 years.

John Carroll is a solicitor in private practice in Clonmel, County Tipperary. He is the Principal of J.G. Skinner and Co. where he has worked since 1984. He has been the national Chairman of the Federation of Irish Salmon and Sea Trout Anglers (FISSTA) for the past three years and has served on its Executive Committee for five years.

John Geary established J.V. Geary Solicitors in Castlebar, Co. Mayo and Upper Pembroke Street, Dublin. He is founder and editor of "Hooked on the Moy" which showcases the River Moy as an angling tourism destination. He is an elected Council member of the Dublin Solicitors Bar Association Executive (DSBA) and was appointed to the Professional Conduct Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland in 2009.

Michael McGreal is a member of Roscommon County Council and the Western Regional Authority. He is a former Chairman of Roscommon County Council, Western Regional Authority and BMW Regional Assembly. Michael is involved in fishery development and promotion on Lake O'Flynn and the Upper River Suck system.

Muireann A O'Neill is a Fellow of The Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland. She is a Lecturer in Cork Institute of Technology and Chartered Accountants Ireland where she specialises in Auditing. Muireann was appointed as a member of The Advisory Forum on Financial legislation in 2007.

Ms Muireann O'Neill replaces Ms Lily Collison who has resigned for personal reasons.

Previously appointed members of Inland Fisheries Ireland:

Mr. Brendan O'Mahony is Chairperson of Inland Fisheries Ireland. Mr. O'Mahony is a former Vice President of the Irish Farmers Association, a member of the North Western Regional Fisheries Board and has previously worked with the Inland Fisheries Trust.

Mr. Andrew Duncan, self-employed auctioneer completed a BSc degree in property studies in 2006 with a thesis on water quality in the Midlands. Mr. Duncan is vice-chairman of the Lough Owel Trout Preservation Association and captain of the Irish Fly-fishing team in 2008.

Mr. Lal Faherty, was the Chairman of the Western Regional Fisheries Board and national representative of the National Angling Representatives Association. He has also served on the board of the Central Fisheries Board.

Dr. Frances E. Lucy, who is appointed on the nomination of the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government, is a member of the Department of Environmental Science at the Institute of Technology, Sligo. Dr. Lucy has significant research experience in the area of invasive species, and she also coordinates the Certificate Course on Fisheries Management which was established in conjunction with the Fisheries Service.

## Corporate Plan

S41(2)(a) of the Inland Fisheries Act 2010 specifies that 'a corporate plan must be submitted... within 6 months after the establishment day'. IFI have submitted its plan to the Minister who now has up to 3 months to approve the plan. Following approval, the plan must be laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas within 21 days.

As the plan has not yet been approved it cannot be made public, however, in the period from July to December 2010, CEO of IFI Dr Ciaran Byrne met with various angling federations and outlined the work that it is envisaged IFI will undertake, subject to resources and approval by the Minister. This work is in line with the objectives set out in the Act and in consideration of the many submissions made by the various groupings.

In broad terms it is the intention of IFI to build a new organisation and organisational culture, which encompasses all that is good about the fisheries sector and one which is a lean, effective, efficient, and fit for purpose, which staff associate with and which promotes creativity and innovation.

Following a comprehensive internal and external consultation process four key fisheries goals were identified these are:

To improve the protection, conservation and development of the resource.

To improve wild fish populations.

To increase the number of anglers.

To generate a better return for Ireland, from the inland fisheries and sea angling resource.

IFI will work with all stakeholders to achieve these goals, empowering and supporting organisations to protect, conserve, develop, promote, thereby deriving benefit from our wonderful inland fisheries and sea angling resources.

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