

Fish in Rivers Factsheet

ERBD

White River Catchment

Factsheet: 2017/10

The White River Catchment is located within the Neagh-Bann International River Basin District and covers an area of approximately 58km². The White River flows in a northerly direction from Collon, Co. Louth, joining the River Dee, just north of Dunleer.

The geology of this catchment is a mixture of greywacke, sandstone and shale, with the main land use being agriculture.

One site was surveyed on the White River Catchment on the 12th of July 2017.



The White River at Coneyburrow Bridge



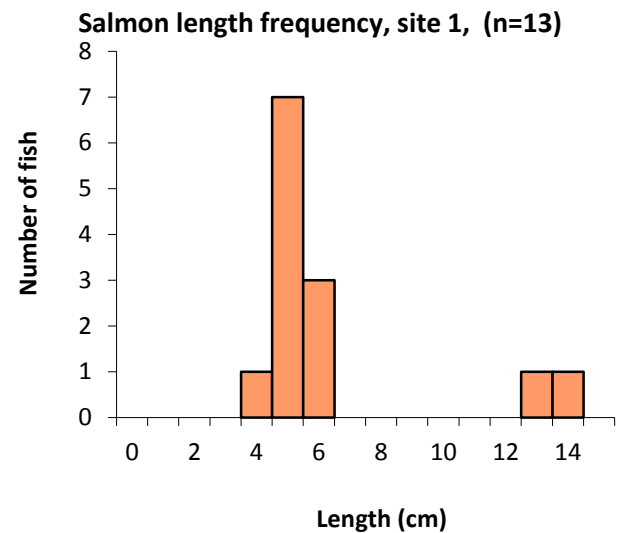
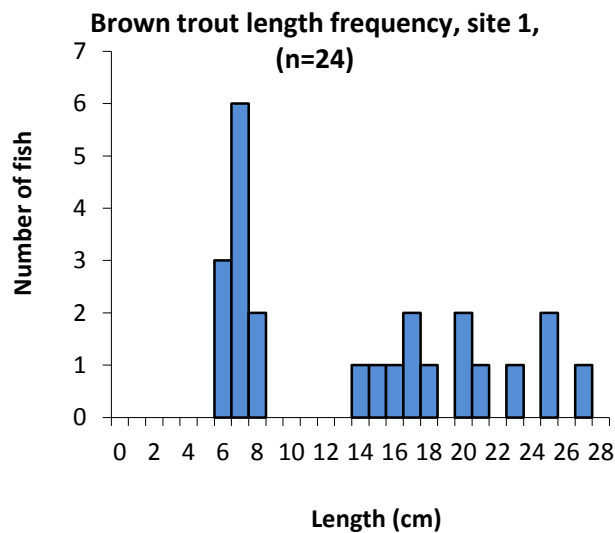
Fig 1. Map of White River Catchment electrofishing survey sites, 2017

Site survey details, White Catchment, 2017

No.	Catchment	Site	Method	WFD	Date
1	White (Louth)	Coneyburrow Br.	ADEF (Handset)	Yes	12/07/2017
ADEF (Area delimited electro-fishing)					

Minimum density estimates (no. fish/m²)

Site no.	1					
Species	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Brown trout	0.123	0.010	0.011	0.155	0.057	0.047
0+ brown trout	0.087	0.003	0.006	0.142	0.006	0.024
1+ & older brown trout	0.036	0.007	0.006	0.013	0.051	0.024
European eel	0.003	0.007	-	-	-	-
Lamprey sp.	0.008	-	0.011	0.006	0.003	0.007
Minnow	0.081	0.214	0.386	0.487	0.113	0.304
Salmon	0.025	0.014	0.003	0.019	0.006	0.024
0+ salmon	0.022	0.010	0.003	0.016	0.006	0.017
1+ & older salmon	0.003	0.003	-	0.003	-	0.007
Stone loach	0.006	0.160	0.059	0.065	0.026	0.017
Three-spined stickleback	0.008	1.760	0.112	0.245	0.045	0.162
All Fish	0.254	2.164	0.581	0.978	0.249	0.560



Salmonid age class structure, White Catchment, 2017

Species	Site No.	% of catch		
		0+	1+	2+
Brown trout	1	46	25	29
Salmon	1	85	15	-

Fish ecological status, White Catchment

Site No.	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	Mod	Poor	Poor	Mod	Mod	Mod

Summary

Six fish species were recorded at one site surveyed on the White River in 2017. Minnow was the most abundant species captured. Three age classes of brown trout (0+, 1+ and 2+) were present, with 0+ the most abundant cohort. The largest brown trout caught measured 27.7cm. Two age classes of salmon (0+ and 1+) were present with 0+, the most abundant cohort. Minnow and three-spined stickleback densities were much greater than when previously surveyed in 2016. Lamprey have been recorded for the last four years, while European eel has not been recorded since 2013.

The site was assigned a fish ecological status of moderate in 2017.

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