

Fish in Rivers Factsheet

SWRBD

Finisk River Catchment

Factsheet: 2017/21

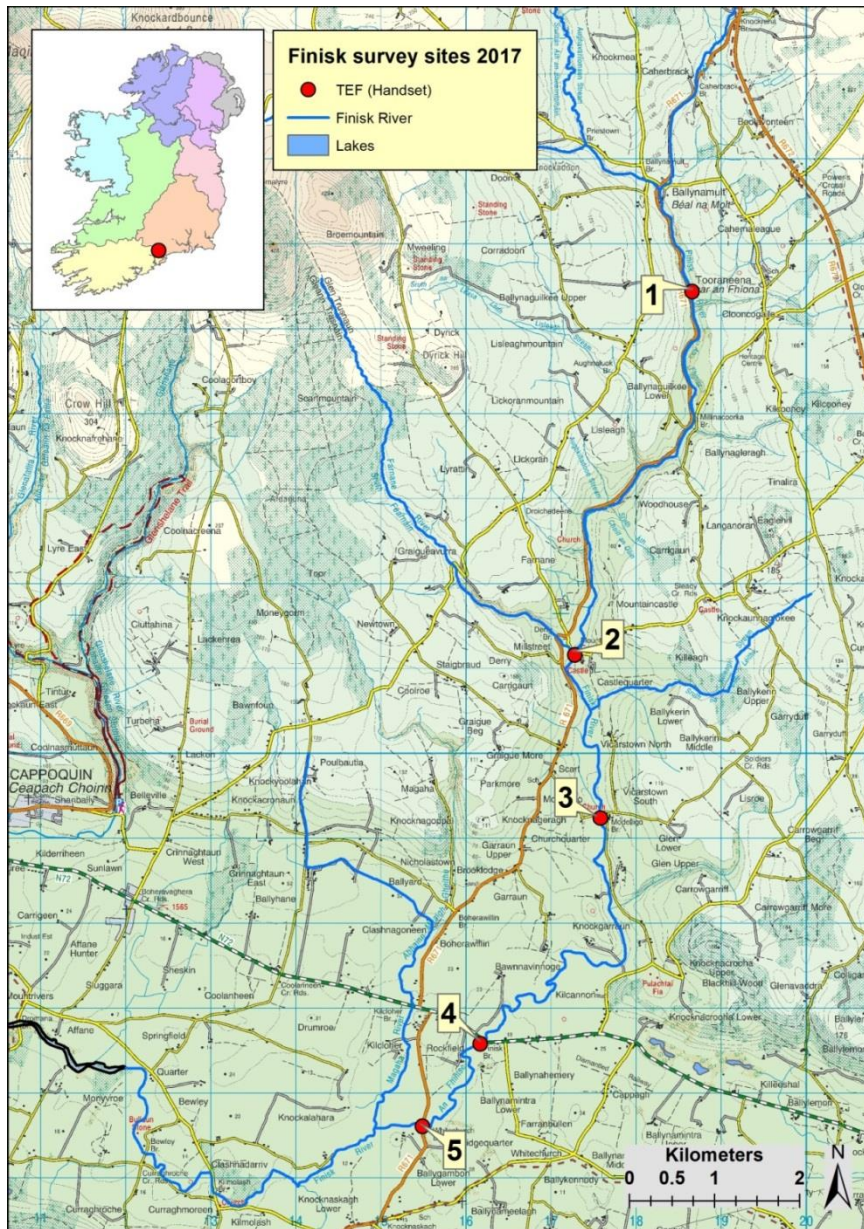
The Finisk River catchment is located in the South Western River Basin District and covers an area of approximately 128km². The Finisk River flows southwards between the Knockmealdown and Monavullagh Mountains, before heading westwards to join the River Blackwater (Munster), just south of Cappoquin, Co. Waterford. The geology of this

catchment is mostly sandstone, with the land used primarily for agriculture. The majority of this river's main channel falls within the River Blackwater (Cork/Waterford) Special Area of Conservation.

Five sites were surveyed on the Finisk River on the 30th of August 2017.



The Finisk River at Finisk Bridge (Site 4).



Map of Finisk River Catchment survey sites, 2017

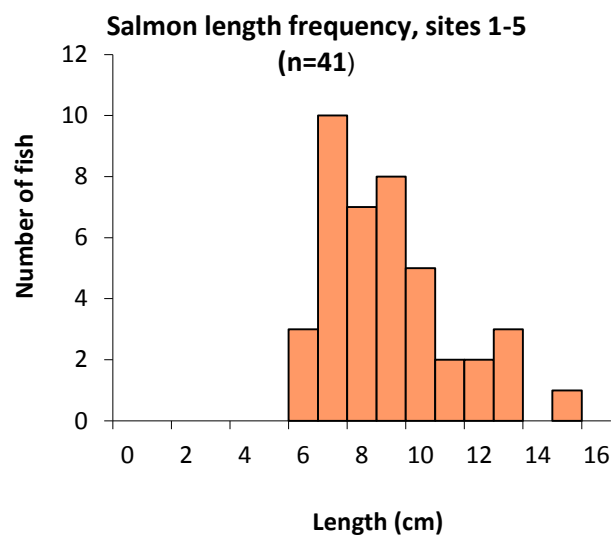
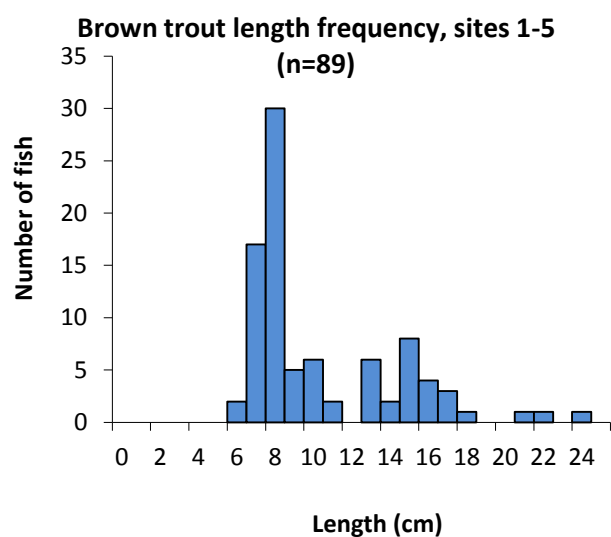
Site survey details, Finisk River Catchment, 2017

No.	River name	Site	Method	WFD	Date
1	Finisk River	Tooraneena	TEF (Handset)	-	30/08/2017
2	Finisk River	Mountain Castle Br.	Spot check	-	30/08/2017
3	Finisk River	Modelligo Br.	TEF (Handset)	Yes	30/08/2017
4	Finisk River	Finisk Br.	TEF (Handset)	-	30/08/2017
5	Finisk River	Whitechurch Br.	Spot check	-	30/08/2017

TEF (Ten-minute electrofishing), Spot check (presence/absence recorded)

Minimum density estimates (no. fish/m²)

Site no.	1	2	3			4	5
Species	2017	2017	2010	2014	2017	2017	2017
Brown trout	0.350	Yes	0.013	0.011	0.108	0.012	Yes
0+ brown trout	0.244	Yes	0.004	0.002	0.071	0.004	Yes
1+ & older brown trout	0.106	Yes	0.009	0.009	0.037	0.008	Yes
European eel	-	-	0.004	0.011	0.024	-	-
Lamprey sp.	-	-	0.002	-	-	-	-
Salmon	0.018	Yes	0.619	0.200	0.040	0.029	Yes
0+ salmon	-	Yes	0.439	0.173	0.040	0.025	Yes
1+ & older salmon	0.018	Yes	0.180	0.027	-	0.004	Yes
Stone loach	-	-	-	0.011	-	-	-
Three-spined stickleback	-	-	-	0.005	-	-	-
All Fish	0.369	Spot	0.637	0.239	0.172	0.041	Spot
Yes- Present (Spot check only)							



Salmonid age class structure, Finisk catchment, 2017

Species	Site No.	% of catch			
		0+	1+	2+	3+
Brown trout	1	69	28	3	-
	2	55	21	21	3
	3	67	33	-	-
	4	33	33	-	33
	5	67	33	-	-
Salmon	1	-	50	50	-
	2	60	40	-	-
	3	100	-	-	-
	4	86	14	-	-
	5	81	13	6	-

Fish ecological status, Finisk river catchment

Site No.	2010	2014	2017
1	-	-	Moderate
2	-	-	N/A
3	Good	Good	Moderate
4	-	-	Poor
5	-	-	N/A

Summary

Three fish species were recorded at five sites surveyed on the Finisk River in 2017. Brown trout and salmon were the most abundant species captured. Four age classes for brown trout (0+, 1+, 2+ and 3+) and three for salmon (0+, 1+ and 2+) were recorded. Site 3 was surveyed on two previous occasions. Brown trout density was higher in 2017, when compared with 2010 and 2014, however, the opposite was observed for salmon.

One site (4) was assigned a fish ecological status of poor. Two sites (1 & 3) were assigned moderate. And one site (2) was assigned good.

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CITATION: Matson, R., Delanty, K., Gordon, P., O'Briain, R., Garland, D., Cierpal, D., Connor, L., Corcoran, W., Coyne, J., McLoone, P., Morrissey-McCaffrey, E., Brett, T., Ní Dhonnabhain, L. and Kelly, F.L., (2018) Sampling Fish in Rivers 2017 – Finisk, Factsheet No. 21. National Research Survey Programme. Inland Fisheries Ireland.

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