

Fish in Rivers Factsheet

ERBD

River Dodder Catchment

Factsheet: 2018/2

The River Dodder catchment is located in the Eastern River Basin District and covers an area of approximately 113km². The River Dodder flows in a north easterly direction through south Co. Dublin, reaching the River Liffey at Grand Canal Dock in Dublin city. The geology of this catchment is mixed between granite, limestone and slate. This catchment consists mainly of scrubland in the upper catchment, with agriculture lower down towards the two reservoirs.

The River Dodder becomes a very urban channel from Oldbawn downstream. The most upper parts of this catchment, including the Glenasmole Reservoirs and their feeder streams fall within the Wicklow Mountains Special Area of Conservation.

Nine sites were surveyed on the Dodder River catchment between the 12th of July and 5th of September 2018.



The Dodder River at Bohernabreena, Co. Dublin (site 2)



Fig 1. Map of River Dodder Catchment survey sites, 2018

Site survey details, River Dodder, 2018

No.	River	Site	Method	WFD	Date
1	Dodder, River	d/s of Lower Reservoir	TEF (Handset)	-	05/09/2018
2	Dodder, River	Bohernabreena	ADEF (Handset)	-	05/09/2017
3	Dodder, River	Friarstown	TEF (Handset)	-	05/09/2018
4	Dodder, River	Oldbawn	TEF (Handset)	-	12/07/2018
5	Dodder, River	Firhouse	TEF (Handset)	-	12/07/2018
6	Dodder, River	Knocklyon	TEF (Handset)	-	05/09/2018
7	Dodder, River	Templeogue car park	TEF (Handset)	-	05/09/2018
8	Dodder, River	Bushy Park	TEF (Handset)	-	12/07/2018
9	Dodder, River	Mount Carmel Hospital	TEF (Handset)	-	12/07/2018

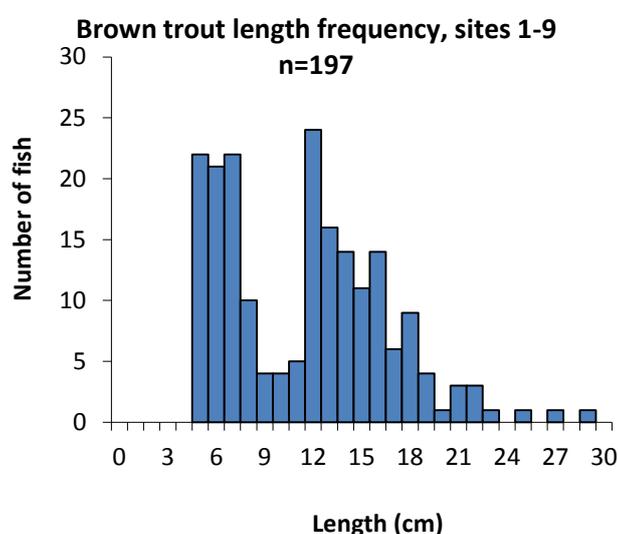
TEF (Ten-minute electrofishing), ADEF (Area delimited electro-fishing)

Minimum density estimates (no. fish/m²), River Dodder 2018 (previous results are shown where applicable)

Site no.	1			2			3	4			
Species	2018	2016	2017	2018	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Brown Trout	0.020	0.131	0.102	0.104	0.237	0.188	0.125	0.044			
0+ brown trout	-	0.039	0.028	0.032	0.024	0.103	0.063	0.010			
1+ & older brown trout	0.020	0.092	0.074	0.072	0.213	0.084	0.063	0.034			
European eel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Lamprey sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Minnow	0.020	-	-	0.009	-	-	-	-			
Stone loach	0.010	0.007	-	0.005	-	0.029	0.023	0.007			
Three-spined stickleback	0.597	-	-	-	-	0.006	0.007	-			
All Fish	0.646	0.138	0.102	0.117	0.237	0.223	0.155	0.050			
Site no.	5			6			7				
Species	2015	2016	2018	2015	2016	2018	2018				
Brown Trout	0.249	0.187	0.305	0.449	0.255	0.207	0.277				
0+ brown trout	0.224	0.068	0.161	0.382	0.071	0.097	0.088				
1+ & older brown trout	0.025	0.119	0.144	0.067	0.184	0.110	0.188				
European eel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Lamprey sp.	0.004	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Minnow	-	-	-	0.004	0.004	0.022	-				
Stone loach	0.008	0.004	0.023	0.033	0.018	0.035	-				
Three-spined stickleback	-	-	-	-	-	0.026	-				
All Fish	0.262	0.191	0.328	0.486	0.276	0.291	0.277				
Site no.	8			9							
Species	2015	2016	2018	2015	2016	2018					
Brown Trout	0.269	0.220	0.217	0.350	0.242	0.150					
0+ brown trout	0.174	0.104	0.039	0.307	0.206	0.102					
1+ & older brown trout	0.095	0.116	0.178	0.043	0.036	0.048					
European eel	0.006	0.003	-	0.006	-	0.018					
Lamprey sp.	0.003	0.003	-	-	-	-					
Minnow	0.064	0.087	0.055	0.116	-	0.015					
Stone loach	0.070	0.017	0.116	0.021	-	0.033					
Three-spined stickleback	0.086	0.006	0.019	-	-	-					
All Fish	0.499	0.336	0.407	0.493	0.242	0.216					

Brown trout age class structure River Dodder, 2018

Species	Site No.	% of catch			
		0+	1+	2+	3+
Brown trout	1	-	100	-	-
	2	30	52	13	4
	3	11	37	53	-
	4	23	54	23	-
	5	59	17	17	7
	6	48	17	9	26
	7	32	55	14	-
	8	21	67	12	-
	9	73	21	3	3



below. There are a number of artificial barriers in the River Dodder catchment which prevent or limit the migration of salmonids to their spawning sites.

Fish ecological status (P=Poor, M=Moderate, G = Good)

Site No.	2011	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1							G
2	G	M	M	M	M	M	M
3							G
4		M	M	M	M	M	P
5		M	M	M	M		M
6		G	G	G	M		M
7							M
8		G	G	G	M		M
9	M	M	M	M	M		M

Summary

Five fish species were recorded at nine sites surveyed on the Dodder River Catchment in 2018. Brown trout was the most abundant species captured and ranged in length from 6 to 29.4cm. Four age classes, 0+, 1+, 2+ and 3+, were present with 1+ being the most abundant cohort. European eel was recorded at just one site (Site 9). Minnow, stone loach and three-spined stickleback were also present.

Two sites were assigned Good fish ecological status, however, the remaining did not not achieve the minimum acceptable ecological status level of 'Good' in 2018, as required by the the Water Framework Directive. Seven were assigned Moderate status or

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