

## **PROJECT DETAILS**

### **B1 Describe the purpose of the project in detail supported by maps, plans or drawings of the site**

#### **Background**

The Association was formed in 1996 with the objective of restoring the Three Mile Water as a game fishery from Mossley Hill to Whiteabbey. It is the Association's stated intention to develop what was essentially a derelict water into a usable facility. The "Conservation" aspect was added to include the general ecology of the river corridor in relation to a wider range of flora and fauna.

We feel that this will enhance the spirit of friendship between the people of Monkstown, Whiteabbey, Mossley and surrounding areas. In addition it is hoped that local schools will be able to use the river corridor for programmes of wildlife education and enviromental awareness.

The Association immediately set about a major clean up of the river corridor through the removal of obstructions, bush cutting and general tidying. These efforts have recieved recognition from the local council, from Rivers Agency and in the local press. The Association have also negotiated a lease of the fishing rights to the river from Newtownabbey Borough Council. A re-stocking programme was initiated in 1996 and a steady improvement in fish stocks has since been observed.

#### **The Project**

This project has been designed to enable the Associaton to fulfill its objective of restoring the river as a natural asset with self-sustaining populations of sea trout and brown trout. Initial efforts by the Association have halted this decline and produced encouraging results. However this project is needed to successfully complete this programme of rehabilitation and to establish the river as a sea trout fishery.

The project includes a range of initiatives in relation to:

- Habitat development
- Improvements in fish passage
- Improvements in access for angling
  - Re-stocking programme
  - promotion & development

These measures are described in detail in the Project Outline appended to this application.

### **B2 How does the project meet the main area and objectives of the programme/measure from which funding is being sought?**

This will be achieved by:

- Restoration of fish stocks and development of angling facilities on a river within the greater Belfast area
- Provision of day tickets for visiting anglers ( a link has been established with a local Hotel )
- Promotion of the Project to all regardless of religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, etc.
- Stimulation of economic activity through local hospitality and associated service providers
  - Targeting social need in a deprived and disadvantaged area
  - Ensuring that development is sensitive to natural habitats and wildlife thereby ensuring environmental sustainability

**B3 have you established a need for the project? Provide measurable targets and quantifiable outputs**

The objectives of the project are outlined in b1. Without a programme of restoration for the river it will not be possible to fulfill these objectives - there is therefore a clear need for the project.

Measurable targets and quantifiable outputs will be:

- Increasing populations of fish - target will be to achieve a satisfactory spawning stock of sea trout. This will be monitored through annual redd counts and juvenile fish stock surveys during the investment period.
- Increasing usage of the river by members of the local community - target will be to double club membership within 2 years of completing the project and to encourage non-members to take up angling and make use of the river.
- Promotion of river to visitors / tourists - target will be to sell up to 4 tickets per day to non-club members, particularly tourists or visitors.
- The rod catch of fish - target will be to increase rod catch as a measure of improved angling but to insure a high rate of catch and release to ensure sustainability of stocks.

The Association will be the primary beneficiary from the project but the local community in general will also benefit from the development of a "rural" asset within an "urban" area. Primary schools will be encouraged to participate in the project by utilising the river corridor for programmes of wildlife education and environmental awareness. In addition local providers of hospitality and related services will benefit to some degree from the project.

**B4 Please provide details of the relevant function/activities in the area that are similar to those offered by the project. How will your project complement them?**

The Three Mile Water, Conservation & Angling Association is the only angling development organization within this locality. There are other small rivers entering Belfast Lough on the Northern

shore but organised angling is not available and fish stocks appear to be poor. The nearest rivers to offer game angling are the Six Mile Water and the Lagan which offer fishing for dollaghan and brown trout.

This project is unique in that it seeks to develop sea trout angling on a river within the greater Belfast area and has established a link with a local Hotel which will offer angling to residents. It is unlikely that any other hotel in the Belfast area can offer this facility. It is possible that the regeneration of sea trout stocks will increase the potential for saltwater sea trout fishing in Belfast Lough.

This project will complement the angling product of the wider area and enhance its image as a tourist region.

**B5 What are the specific objectives of the project. Provide measurable quantitative outputs.**

The specific objectives are as described in the attached proposal - targets and outputs are included in the proposed schedule of works as detailed in the project Outline appended to this application.

**B6 Have you considered alternative options to the proposal and if so what are they?**

Alternative options:

**1. OPTION: "do nothing"**

- river will revert to derelict condition
- fish stocks will be insufficient to sustain angling.

**2. OPTION: implement stock enhancement measures only**

- Fish stocks will improve
- Without promotion local residents and visitors will be unaware of angling opportunities

**3. OPTION promote angling as it stands**

- fish stocks will be insufficient to sustain angling
- angling will be unproductive and repeat visits by visitors will be unlikely

**B7 How will the project provide added value? Would the project be scaled down or delayed without the award of the E.U Grant?**

The project will provide added value in a number of ways:

- To the recreation and tourism product of the Newtownabbey Borough Council area

- By supporting existing hospitality and service outlets
- By providing opportunity for new hospitality outlets
- Provides entrepreneurs an opportunity to target niche markets and create new service

Without an EU Grant the project would be delayed and scaled down.

**B8 What are the anticipated benefits of the project? Who will be its primary beneficiaries?**

The anticipated benefits are:

- the development of a natural resource and facilities which can be used by all, young, old, disabled, able, protestant, catholic, male, female, etc.
  - It will promote recreation & tourism based on a natural resource.
  - It will stimulate an interest in angling and the natural development.
    - It will stimulate regeneration in a disadvantaged area

The primary beneficiaries will be:

The people who use it

- members of the Angling Association
  - non members
  - visiting anglers
- The economic base targeting the user e.g local hospitality/service outlets. tackle shops, ghillie services,etc.
  - The local council as they can promote this natural tourism resource
  - The Association which will increase membership and day ticket sales.

**B9 Which of the following best describes your organisation?**

- **Non profit YES**
- **Profit Making NO**
- **Non profit Taking YES**

**B10 Do you produce audited accounts? if yes please provide the last audited accounts.**

- **NO**

**B11 Are you registered for vat?, if yes supply number.**

- **NO**

## **B12 Provide Bank Details**

*(Supplied within.)*

**B13 All projects must contribute to at least one of the Programme objectives, namely:**

**(a) Addressing the legacy of the conflict**

**YES**

**(B) Taking opportunities arising from peace**

**YES**

*By this we mean projects, which focus on opportunities, which are now possible as a result of peace*

*You must complete at least one of the following sections on areas, groups or sectors. However, if your project target areas, groups and sectors please complete all the relevant sections. This will maximise the potential points you will receive in the assessment process.*

*All applicants must complete the reconciliation question*

### **SECTORS**

**Does your project target any of the following Sectors?**

- Tourism **YES**
- Entrepreneurship including ICT and business services **YES**
  - The arts and sport **YES**
- **Focusing on those target sectors answered yes please explain how your project will address the Legacy of the conflict and/or Taking opportunities arising from Peace.**

*The following paragraphs outline how the project will address the legacy of the conflict in these sectors, and how it will take opportunities arising from peace.*

### **TOURISM**

The development of tourism in the greater Belfast area has been greatly inhibited during the "Troubles" and more recently due to the persistence of riots and paramilitary violence. This major **legacy of the conflict will be addressed** through the restoration of a natural resource which will facilitate the development of tourism based on angling. The Three Mile Water is located in the Newtownabbey LGD

and flows through the suburban areas of Mossley, Monkstown and Whiteabbey. The area in general has suffered significantly from paramilitary activity, a lack of community interaction and other factors connected to the "Troubles". These factors have inhibited development, particularly in the area of tourism, which could assist the local economy and improve the image of the area for tourists and visitors.

This project will **take advantage of the opportunities arising from peace** through the development of natural resource rural tourism based on angling. The project presents a modest opportunity for a novel development close to Belfast City Centre. It is unlikely that the Three Mile Water will become a specialist destination in its own right - it is more likely to feature as part of an itinerary or as a venue for casual anglers whose main holiday purpose is not angling. However the project could be the catalyst for a more extensive development of saltwater fishing for sea trout in Belfast Lough, a venture which would have much greater scope for long term tourism development.

## **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

A major **legacy of the conflict** in the province is the weakness of the private sector due to a lack of investment and a relative shortage of local entrepreneurship. Economic development has therefore been stifled for a considerable period.

This project could be described as an example of entrepreneurship in which the Association is undertaking to restore a natural asset which will have the potential to support a modest level of tourist angling. The project will therefore **take advantage of the opportunities arising from peace** to:

- restoring the Three Mile Water for angling development
- attracting additional visitors to the area which should help to sustain local businesses in the area of hospitality and related services
- stimulating individuals to consider new business opportunities e.g. fishing tackle, ghillie/guide services
  - encouraging additional tourist projects.

These factors will together contribute to the overall regeneration of the area by helping the local economy and perhaps creating new employment opportunities.

## **THE ARTS AND SPORTS**

The project is aimed directly at helping to develop the sport of angling which has tremendous potential throughout the province. It is conceivable that participation in angling has been restricted to some degree as a legacy of the conflict. when people were reluctant to move around alone or in small groups in areas where they could be at risk from paramilitary activity.

This project will **address this legacy of the conflict** by encouraging and facilitating participation in angling. Similarly it will **take advantage of the opportunities arising from peace** by creating easier

access to the river with better facilities for anglers, and by promoting the activities of the Association in regenerating the river for use by both visitors and local people.

## AREAS

### Does your project target any of the following areas?

- Disadvantaged areas experiencing or have experienced Relatively high levels of violence.....**YES**
- Disadvantaged areas whose image has effected by local violence or community tension.....**YES**
  - Areas suffering from physical dereliction.....**YES**
  - Areas where social and economic development has been effected by the conflict.....**YES**
  - Areas with high concentrations of displaced persons.....**YES**

### Focusing on those target areas answered yes, please explain how your project will address the Legacy of the conflict and/or Taking the Opportunities arising from peace.

The project is located along the course of the Three Mile Water which passes through seven different wards; Mossley, Hawthorn, Braden, Burnthill, Coole, Glengormley, Dunanney, Valley and Whitehouse - five of these wards were listed by NISRA (2001) within the top quarter of the most deprived wards in the province (Braden, Dunannet, Coole, Whitehouse & Valley).

### Disadvantaged areas experiencing or have experienced relatively high levels of violence

The river is located in the most densely populated part of Newtownabbey LGD to the south-east of the area. Over the years Newtownabbey has experienced relatively high levels of sectarian violence including bombings, murders, "paramilitary punishments" and more recently public disorder during the marching season. Different housing areas have become almost exclusively identified as either nationalist/republican or unionist/loyalist and a significant number of lives have been lost, particularly as a result of sectarian murder. Indeed, some members of the Association have lost close family relatives.

Details of all deaths occurring as a result of the conflict have been recorded in "Lost Lives" (McKittrick *et al*, 1999) and the following list has been compiled to include all deaths indexed under Newtownabbey. This may not be an inclusive list of all the deaths in the area and it should be noted that it does not include attempted murder or those who suffered serious injury during the conflict.

#### Number of deaths:

Protestant Civilians	17
Catholic Civilians	26

UDR	3
RUC	1

Clearly this is a disadvantaged area which has suffered significantly which has experienced relatively high levels of violence.

### **Disadvantaged areas whose image has been effected by local violence or community tension**

While the previous paragraphs provide a graphic account of the fatalities in the area and of persons from the area, "image" and "community tensions" are less easy to measure in quantitative terms. The Newtownabbey area has suffered greatly over the last thirty years, with high levels of paramilitary and security activity being ever present in local peoples lives. As a result the overall image of area has not been conducive to attracting inward investment or tourism development. In addition, its close location to Belfast has contributed to its poor image over the years.

According to the Industria Development Board (IDB), the principal factor for Foreign Direct Investment ( after return investment ) is political stability. Due to high levels of violence and community tension, Newtownabbey has been viewed as an unattractive locations for inward investment.

Community tensions and sectarian interfaces have has a serious impact on community relations and there is a tendency for each community to "keep to themselves". However, tensions rise during particular times of the year or in response to particular incidents. For example, the marching season provokes tensions between the two communities and leads to sporadic outbreaks of violence and disorder. Memorials and the anniversaries of events associated with the troubles also provoke tensions in the area.

Therefore, it can be concluded that the image of the area has been negatively affected by the local violence and community tensions - this is clearly a serious legacy of the conflict.

### **Areas suffering from physical dereliction**

The area has suffered from physical dereliction in terms of run-down housing, factory closures and damage to local infrastructure. However, in recent years there has been considerable improvements.

### **Areas with high concentrations of displaced persons**

During the "Troubles" in Northern Ireland a high percentage of persons ( both Protestants and Catholics ) were forced to flee from their home areas, either because of their involvement in terrorist activity, intimidation, fear for their lives or being "on the run" from security forces. Many people moved to ROI, while others moved further a field to England, America or mainland Europe. More locally, people of one identity or the other tended to accumulate in the particular localities where they felt safe or secure. This is particularly noticeable in local housing estates which become almost exclusively

identified with one identity or the other.

It is hoped that through time, those who left the area as a result of the conflict will feel more confident to return because of the more peaceful situation and will be attracted by improving social and economic situation. Similarly people who have moved into the area or a particular housing location may feel more confident to return to their original home areas. The project aims to bring about better relations between the two communities and thereby to foster a return to a more normal stable situation.

### **Areas where social and economic development has been effected by the conflict.**

The report entitled "Measures of Deprivation in Northern Ireland" (NISRA, 2001) evaluates the level of deprivation of the 566 wards in Northern Ireland in relation to six domains of deprivation:

- Income
- Employment
- Health Deprivation and Disability
- Education Access to Services
- Housing Stress

The "Cost of the Troubles" research by Smith *et al*, found a high correlation between deprived areas and high levels of political unrest and violence as a result of the "Troubles"

There are 25 wards within Newtownabbey LGD and the average scores in the 6 domains examined for each ward indicates that it is one of the least deprived of the 26 LGDs in the province. However, within the 25 wards, there are a number of wards which stand out as being particularly deprived as defined under the Multiple Deprivation Measure. Braden, Dunanney, Coole, and Whitehouse (through which the Three Mile Water flows) are all ranked within the most deprived 106 wards out of a total of 566 in the province, and the most deprived 14 wards out of a total of 127 in County Antrim excluding Belfast.

The complete list of wards in which the project will be located, and surrounding wards is as follows:

	<b>Multiple Deprivation Measure Score (MDM)</b>	<b>Rank of Multiple Deprivation Measure (NI)</b>	<b>Rank of Multiple Deprivation Measure (Co.Antrim)</b>
Braden	43.47	56	4
Dunanney	42.75	60	5
Coole	36.52	90	11
Whitehouse	33.23	106	14
Valley	30.16	136	23

Monkstown	25.13	185	31
Mossley	16.74	313	55
Cloughfern	16.57	317	57
Hawthorne	11.87	408	78
Glengormley	11.69	409	79
Carnmoney	10.48	427	85
Ballyduff	8.94	446	88
Abbey	8.88	447	89
Ballyhenry	6.63	488	106
Jordanstown	4.92	520	119
Burnthill	4.73	525	120
Rostulla	3.37	540	123

It is clear that, although Newtownabbey emerges favourably as an overall district, there are at least 4 wards in which deprivation is a more serious problem within the LGD, County Antrim, and Northern Ireland.

### **ADDRESSING THE LEGACY OF THE CONFLICT**

The above paragraphs demonstrate that the area has been significantly affected by the "Troubles". The project will help address the legacy of the conflict as follows:

- It will improve the natural environment in a heavily populated and socially disadvantaged area.
- It will contribute to the overall regeneration of the river corridor for the benefit of residents and visitors to the area.
  - It will promote community involvement in the project and participation in angling
    - It will improve the image and perception of the area.
- It will seek to attract visiting anglers to avail of a novel angling product close to the center of Belfast.
  - It will contribute to improved social and economic conditions in the area.

### **TAKING OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM PEACE**

- The Association will take advantage of the current, relatively peaceful situation to promote the project and the river as an angling destination to the wider angling public in Northern Ireland and further a field.
- Niche tourist products and special interest holidays are the fastest growing segment within the tourist sector. The project will take this opportunity to develop sea trout angling as a niche product to capitalise upon this growth. Previously, visitors/ tourists were reluctant to stray into

areas perceived as being dangerous - the improved security situation has helped to improve this constraint.

- New visitors / tourists coming to the area will contribute to the local economy in availing of local hospitality and related service outlets.

## **GROUPS**

### **Does your project target any of the following Groups and Communities?**

- Victims of conflict, i.e. the surviving injured and/or disabled - either physically or psychologically - of violent, conflict - related to them, along with close relatives who mourn the dead....**YES**
- Ex-prisoners and their families, i.e. qualifying prisoners who were or would have been released under the terms of the Good Friday Agreement....**YES**
  - Displaced persons.....**YES**
  - Former members of the security and ancillary services....**YES**
    - Young people, women and older workers.....**YES**

**Focusing on those target Communities and Groups answered yes please explain how your project will address the legacy of the conflict and/or taking the opportunities arising from Peace.**

### **Victims of Conflict**

As the project is sited in an area which has suffered high levels of violence, there are many victims of the conflict living locally, some of whom are members of the Association. The project will improve social and environmental conditions in the locality and should have a modest impact upon the local economy, to the benefit of many groups including victims.

### **Displaced persons**

It is hoped that this development will act as an incentive to displaced persons in attracting them back to where they most likely have their families and friends, by demonstrating that each area is moving forward and developing.

### **Former members of the security and ancillary services.**

The Association will encourage use of the river and participation in the project throughout the community. It is hoped that, with the development of a more peaceful situation, former members of the security and ancillary services will become more confident in revealing their previous employment, interacting in the community and moving around more freely.

### **Young people, women and older workers.**

**Young People:** The improving economic situation in the province will create/sustain employment opportunities, better social conditions and recreational facilities for young people giving a better future in their own locality.

**Women:** The tourism and hospitality industry has a predominance of females in the workforce. The project will help to support the local hospitality and service sector, sustaining jobs for women.

**Older workers:** Angling is a traditional sport, of which the older generation tends to have a greater knowledge. Therefore, their skills, expertise and knowledge will be drawn upon in the development of the project.

The Association will encourage participation in the project and use of the river by all members of the community, particularly these three groups.

### **ADDRESSING THE LEGACY OF THE CONFLICT**

The above groups have each been disadvantaged as a result of the conflict. The project will help address this situation by creating a united purpose within the community in general, enabling people to work together to improve the natural environment and to develop a recreational facility for the benefit of all, including the above target groups.

### **TAKING OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM PEACE**

The project will take opportunities arising from peace to develop a novel angling product based on natural resource rural tourism. This will contribute to the improving social and economic situation which will benefit the above groups in the immediate area.

**B14 Projects must demonstrate how they will "Pave the Way to Reconciliation",**

**Does your project promote/ encourage reconciliation, mutual understanding and respect between and within communities and tradition?**

- Actions promoting Cross-community links....**YES**
- Actions promoting reconciliation through single identity communities....**YES**

**Please demonstrate in relation to the areas answered yes above how your project contributes to fostering reconciliation in this manner.**

The project is located in an area which has been subject to polarisation and segregation with single identity communities of opposite persuasions evolving throughout the period of conflict.

- The Association has endeavoured to promote inclusive membership but is currently almost exclusively drawn from the protestant/unionist community.
- It is hoped that the project will raise the profile of the Association and the river, and that further members of the catholic / nationalist community will be attracted to use the river for recreational purposes and perhaps to join the Association.
  - If this does happen, it should contribute to a better understanding between single identity communities, a reduction in inter-community conflict and perhaps lead to cross-community partnerships on future projects.
- To this end the Association is considering a link with Families at the Waterworks, a community group from the Cliftonville area with fishing at the old Belfast Waterworks site.
- The Association has also established a cross-border link with the Bunnoe Angling Association, County Cavan and joint competitions are held annually

**B15 Please indicate any other impacts or benefits deriving from the project?**

The project will:

- Develop an amenity for the local population to use, thus improving quality of life.
- Provide an educational facility which can be used by both the local schools and schools visiting the area.
  - It will sustain and enhance the natural environment.
  - Provide new skills for people working on the project.
- Provide alternatives for people who otherwise would not have had the opportunity to use a facility i.e. young offenders, disabled people, and disadvantaged youth groups.
  - Provide the opportunity to promote Peace and Reconciliation.
- Provide a platform where people who would not interact now can interact.

**B16 Will there be revenue generated by this project? YES**

**If "yes" provide details of the revenue forecast**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1	500
2	550
3	625
4	750
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,425</b>

**B17 How will this revenue be generated and how will it be used?**

This modest level of revenue will be generated through sales of day tickets for angling on the river

All revenue will be re-cycled in maintenance of fish habitats and angling facilities, or purchase of eggs/fry.

**B18 What is the estimated TOTAL cost of the project? 49,800**

**B19 Supply a detailed breakdown of the costs as follows (excluding vat):**

<b>Description of Cost e.g. Capital, staff.</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Anticipated year of Expenditure</b>
Habitat development	11,500	2004/05
Improvements in fish passage	9,200	2004
Improvements in access for angling	17,000	2004/05
Promotion & development	5,600	2004/07
Restocking	6,500	2004/07
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49,800</b>	
<b>FULL DETAILS IN APPENDIX 1</b>		

**B26 Have you any experience in managing similar projects?.....YES**

- 2,000 received in 2000 from Groundwork (NI) towards survey of river. Chairman and Secretary held regular meetings with consultants to review progress
- 4,700 received in 2003 from Awards for All (National Lottery) towards habitat rehabilitation, works overseen by Development Sub-Committee

**B27 Please give details of the management structure which will be put in place for this project.**

- The project will be managed by the Development Sub-Committee which will appoint a Project Officer.
- The Sub-Committee will report to the Association Committee at monthly meetings

**B28 Please state if a partnership with any other organisation has been created to develop the proposed project and provide names of the other organisations involved in the partnership.**

There is no formal partnership with anyone, but the Association has worked closely with Newtownabbey Borough Council which secured the fishing rights from Shaftesbury Estates for lease to the Association

The Association has an informal cross-border link with the Bunnoe Angling Association, County Cavan. Joint competitions held annually.

**B29 What risks are attached to successful delivery of the project? How will they be managed?**

- A major pollution incident resulting in a serious fish loss would be a set back. An incident of this type would not effect the implementation of the project but might delay the recovery of fish-stocks and the development of angling. This could be managed by concentrating re-stocking efforts in the locations affected.
- An outbreak of fish disease could have a similar impact - this would be managed through a combination of re-stocking and a rigorous adherence to government guidelines for disease control.

On a wider scale the project could be effected by:

- A return to violence and collapse of the Peace Process
  - An outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease.

In which case the project would be scaled back until a return to normality

**B30 Please indicate what internal arrangements are in place to insure the scheme runs to time/cost.**

**How often will the scheme be monitored internally? What action will be taken if slippage is discovered?**

The project will be managed by a Development Sub Committee set up to oversee the project.

The Project Officer will monitor the project on a weekly basis to ensure that the schedule of works runs to time and cost, and that no slippage will occur.

If slippage does occur the implementing body (DCAL) will be notified immediately and consulted on how to proceed

**B31 Have you developed an exit strategy for the project?.**

Exit Strategy:

- The Association is committed to a long term programme of management and maintenance for the river.
- Management based on conservation principles will ensure long term sustainability of the project.
- The Development of sea trout close to the heart of Belfast will raise public awareness and will establish the Three Mile Water as an angling river.
- Revenues from ticket sales will be recycled into the delivery of maintenance requirements.

**The project will have completed the task for which it was funded and should not require further funding.**

**B32 Please indicate how you will meet the requirements to hold management meetings as deemed necessary by funders and submit regular (monthly/quarterly) financial and performance monitoring information?**

- During the investment period monthly meetings to review progress and spending will be held.
- These meetings will be minuted and financial and performance information will be available on a monthly or quarterly basis if required.

**B33 What are the proposed arrangements for evaluating the project? What factors will be evaluated?**

#### **Investment Period**

During this period the Development Sub Committee will hold monthly meetings to evaluate the project in relation to:

- Adhere to Plans
- Progress on Timescale
- Quality of Materials as per Schedule to Works
  - Quality of in-river and bank works
  - Costs as per Schedule

#### **Post Works**

After completion of the works programme, the success of the project will be evaluated in terms of:

- Uptake of available day tickets for fishing
- Distribution and abundance of fish stocks
- Effects on other environmental indicators e.g. birds, flora

In relation to the overall objectives of the Programme we will monitor:

- Demographic usage of the river corridor for angling or other natural resource activities
  - Impact on local hospitality and service outlets
- Level of effectiveness in relation to Peace and Reconciliation.

**B34 Please describe any positive environmental impacts your project will have. If there will be no positive environmental impact, please state that this is the case and provide a brief explanation, to include a description of the principle focus of the project and its main activities.**

The main focus of the project is on restoring the river as a natural habitat for fish and other varieties of flora and fauna. It should therefore have significant positive environmental impacts on the river in general. In-river and bank works will be undertaken with sensitivity to the requirements of wildlife in general e.g. bird nesting sites, rare plants.

The development of angling will be based on conservation principles such as:

- Careful handling of fish
- Promoting the practice of catch and release for when fishing.

**B35 Please describe any negative environmental impacts your project will have. If no negative environmental impacts are envisaged, please state that this is the case and provide a brief explanation, including a description of the principle focus of the project and its main activities.**

There is a potential for some disturbance of wildlife habitats and negative impacts on fish stocks. However we feel that our strong emphasis on conservation and sustainability should minimise the likelihood of any significant impacts

(see B34)

**B36 If there is a negative impact, please provide details of any offsetting or reduction measures - including those required under existing environmental regulations - which you propose to undertake to counter any potential adverse impact on the environment as outlined above.**

(See measures listed under B34)

Sensitive sites with respect to flora and fauna will be avoided.

**B38 Please describe how your project will contribute to any improvement of tourist angling in the province**

This project is unlikely to make a major contribution to tourist angling in the province as it is located on a small river which is located within a recognised tourist area.

However there is the potential for a significant recovery of fish stocks based on sea trout, which should sustain a modest level of angling by both local residents and visitors to the area. The main attraction will be the opportunity to fish for sea trout, a highly regarded species, at a pleasant location close to the center of Belfast. In this sense the project is probably unique and could be regarded as a novel development in relation to fisheries development activities in other parts of the province.

There is also the possibility that the project could lead to an improvement in saltwater angling for sea trout in Belfast Lough. This type of fishing has become very popular in recent years with the Funen project in Denmark leading the way. A similar project is proposed for Strangford Lough, and there seems little reason why the Three Mile Water initiative could not provide the stimulus for a sea trout development in Belfast Lough. We believe that the productive capacity of the rivers entering Belfast Lough may be greater than those entering Strangford Lough. In other words the potential for establishing a self-sustaining sea trout stock may be greater in Belfast Lough.

## **PUBLICITY**

**B40 There is a requirement to publicise the role of the PEACE2 Programme in your project.**

**(a) Please state below how this will be met throughout the duration of the project and thereafter?**

The Association will actively promote the project:

- Public evening will be held to launch the project
- Signs and promotional literature will be branded with the EU Peace 2 Logo's and motos.
- A website will be designed to promote the activities of the Association and to publicise the availability of angling. Progress of project will be posted on this site. This will have links to the funders we sites and other relevant organization.
- During the project estate personnel will be prepared to appear in the media to promote the role of Peace 2 in the development.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**B41 Please provide any other information, which you will consider relevant to your application and list any reports etc relating to your organisation and/or the project, which you have inclosed.**

- In 2000 the Association commissioned a comprehensive survey and development plan for the river - report inclosed
- The Association has an informal cross-border link with the Bunnoe Angling Association, County Cavan. Joint competitions are held annually - press cutting enclosed.....

- A local cross community link with Families at the Waterworks is currently under consideration.
- The Association has reached the Final of the Wild Trout Trust Conservation Awards 2003 and has recently recieved a visit from the judging panel - information inclosed..