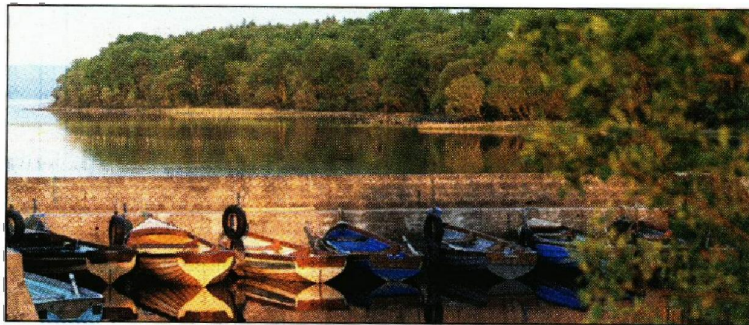




App launched to fight invasion

MINISTER Fergus O'Dowd launched a smartphone app to help fight the war against invasive aquatic species and pathogens in Ireland at the famous Galway Weir yesterday, along with a disinfection facility for salmon anglers at the Inland Fisheries Ireland fishery. Launching the initiatives, Minister O'Dowd said: "Unfortunately, the number of invasive species recorded in Ireland is continuing to expand.

"It is important that all technologies available to us to combat these potentially disastrous invasions are utilised. I am delighted, therefore, that we are able to harness the power of smartphone technology in our on-going campaigns to help prevent their spread.



■ **UNWANTED VISITORS:** Pristine waters like Lough Melvin are at increasing risk from invasive species.

"I would urge all anglers and water users to help us by downloading and using the app". The 'Habitats - Invasive Species' app, developed in conjunction with

MAC (the National Microelectronics Application Centre) as part of the EU Inspired Habitats Project, is available for free download from Google Play.