

# Erne/Melvin Catchment Stakeholder Group

19<sup>th</sup> February 2008



WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE (0800 80 70 60)


## Pollution Incidents & Investigations in the Erne Melvin Catchment




WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)

### Our Aim


- EHS policy in the field of water quality is:
- "To maintain or improve quality in surface waters and waters in underground strata as required by national policy, EC Directives and international agreements, and to generally manage river, estuarine, and coastal waters to be at least "Good" under the adopted classification schemes with no downward movement between classes."



WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)

### Visits/Inspections carried out since last Stakeholder Meeting on 24th April 2007

Consent Applications	417
Surface Water Samples	945
Trade effluent Samples	277
Sewage Treatment Works Inspections	61
Agricultural Cross Compliance Visits	40
<b>Pollution Incidents Investigated</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Total 1,867</b>	



WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)


### Responding to water pollution reports

High or Medium Severity, within 2 hrs  
(reported during normal working hours)

High or Medium Severity, within 4 hrs  
(reported outside normal working hours)

Low Severity incidents, within 1 working day.

97% compliance with response time




WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)


### Brief overview of Pollution Incidents

By Source

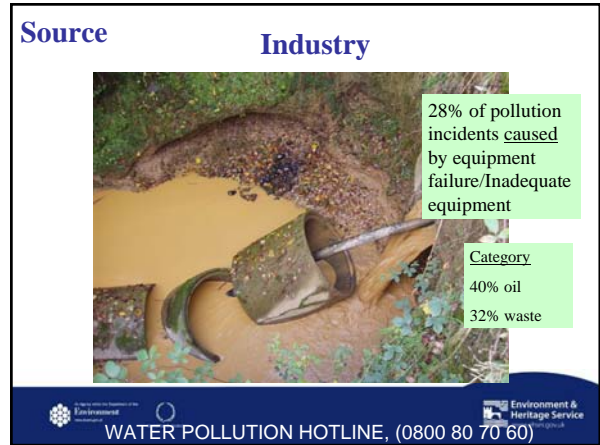
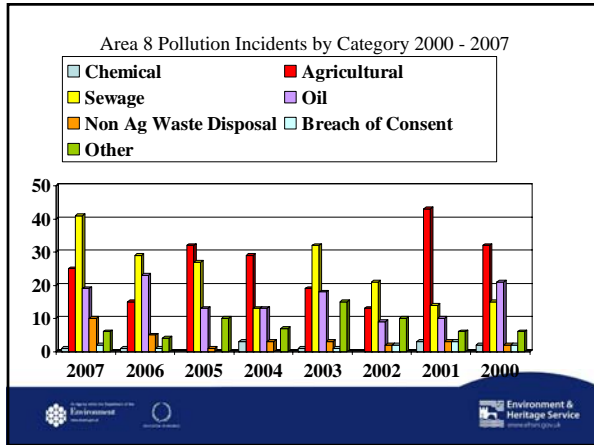
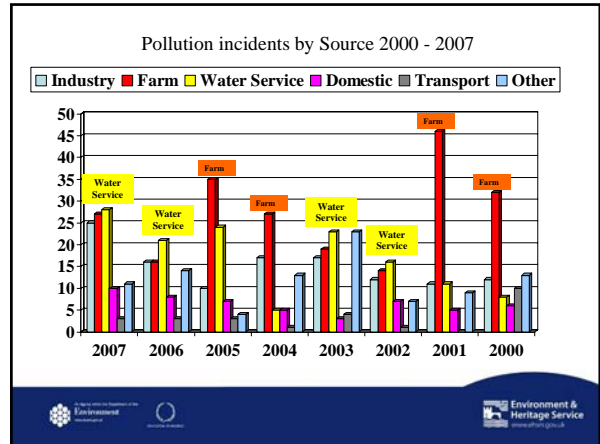
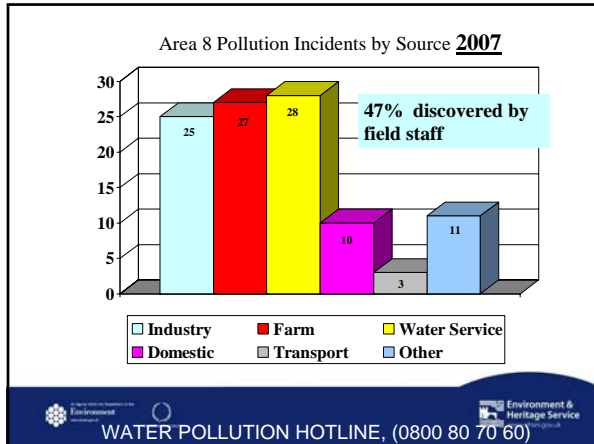
By Cause

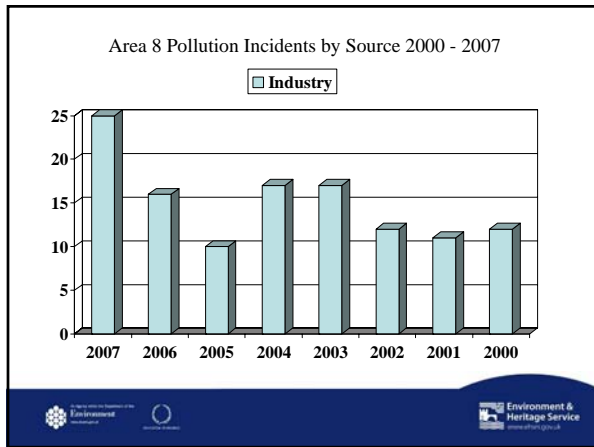
By Category





WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)





**Source Farm**

41% of incidents caused by Equipment Failure/Inadequate Equipment

33% of incidents caused by Poor Working Practice or Negligence

**Category**

- 93% Agricultural
- 4% oil
- 3% Other

WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)



Source

Farm



Environment & Heritage Service  
WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)

Farm



Environment & Heritage Service  
WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)

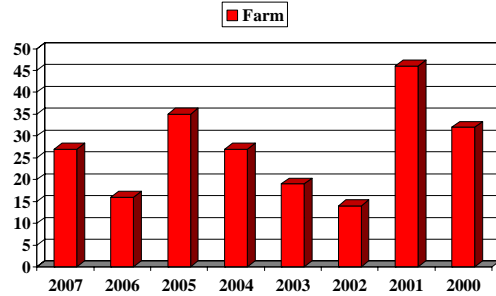
Farm



Poor weather for silage making

Environment & Heritage Service  
WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)

Area 8 Pollution incidents by Source 2000 - 2007



Environment & Heritage Service

Water Service / Northern Ireland Water

Source



78% of pollution incidents caused by equipment failure/Inadequate equipment

Category 100% Sewage

Environment & Heritage Service  
WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)

Water Service / Northern Ireland Water



Environment & Heritage Service  
WATER POLLUTION HOTLINE, (0800 80 70 60)

Water Service / Northern Ireland Water

Sewage Works Outfall

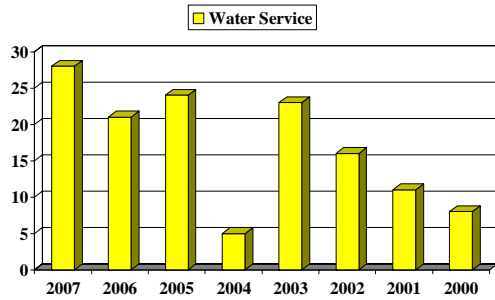


Water Service / Northern Ireland Water

New Membrane Filter Sewage Works



Area 8 Pollution Incidents by Source 2000 - 2007



Source

Domestic

60% incidents caused by Inadequate Equipment & Equipment Failure



Category  
60% Sewage  
30% Oil

Source

Domestic




Source


Domestic



**Source** **Domestic**



Pollution and Public Health Nuisance



**Source** **Domestic**



Package Sewage Treatment Works

Prefabricated Reed Beds



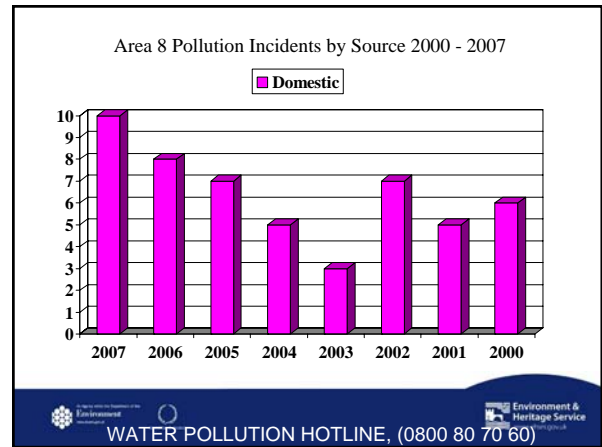
**Source** **Domestic**



Building Regulations 2000  
Domestic Oil Tanks

Control of oil pollution

5.6 Where Regulation L7 applies, the oil shall be stored in an integrally banded, prefabricated tank. The bund shall have a capacity of not less than 110% of the tank it contains.

**Source** **Transport**

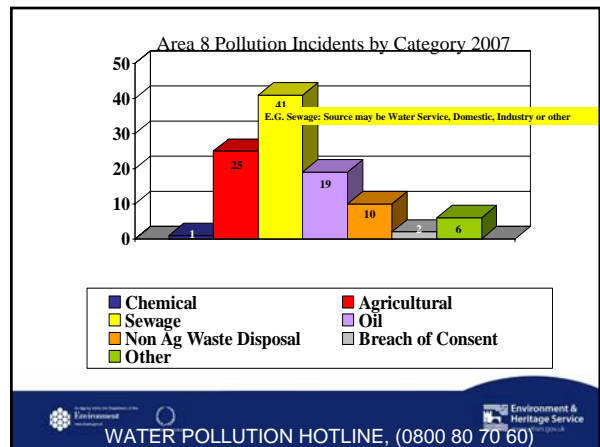
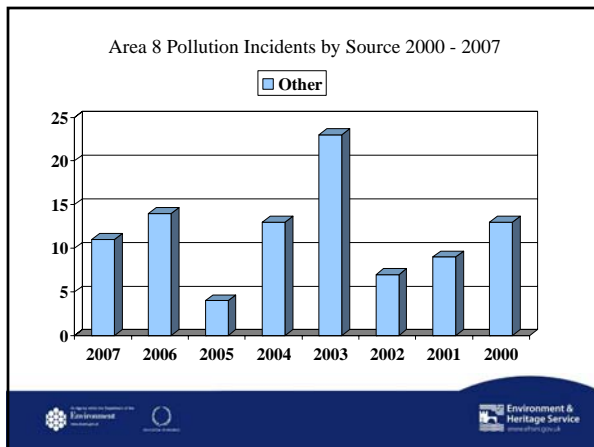
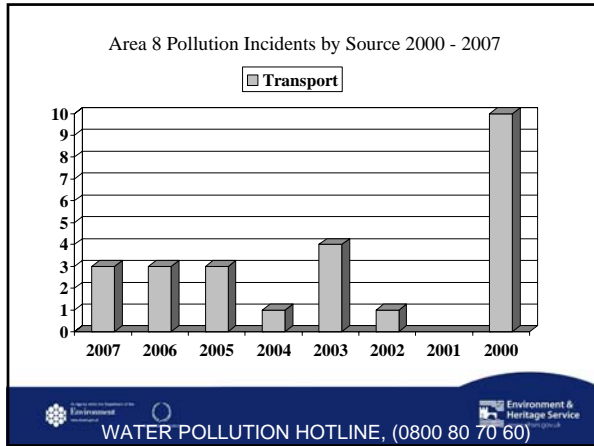


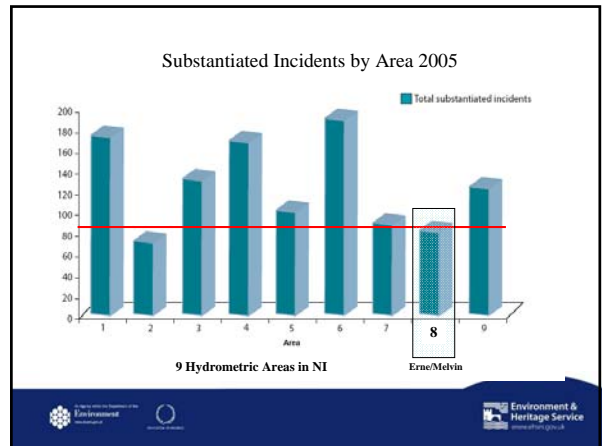
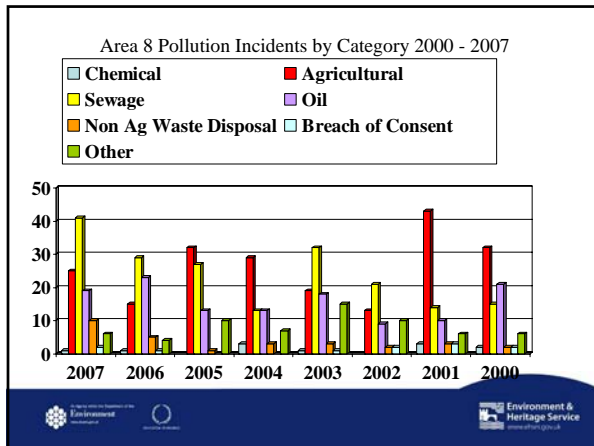
66% caused by Accident and Emergency

Category

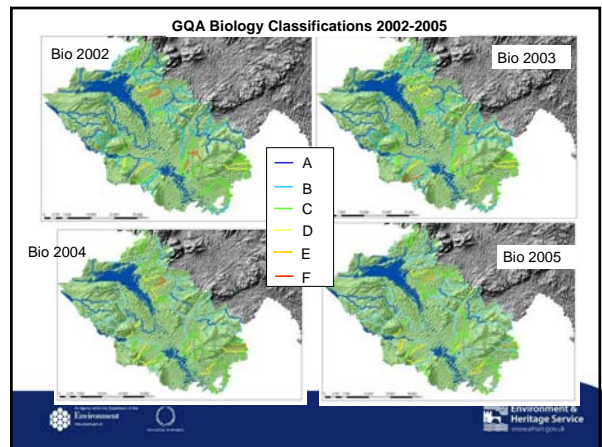
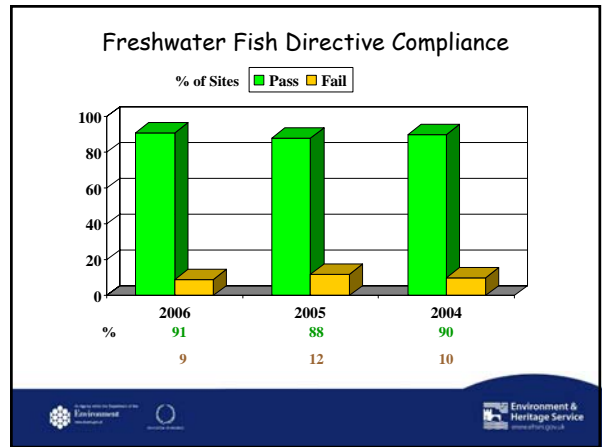
- 1 oil
- 1 Chemical
- 1 Waste





## River Classification



Advice and Education

**Know your Septic Tank**

Legislation

**Under the terms of the Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, it is an offence to cause pollution of a waterway or groundwater.**

In particular:

**Article 7 (1) of the Order deals with the main pollution offence and states that:**  
 'a person commits an offence if, whether knowingly or otherwise, he discharges or deposits any poisonous, noxious or polluting matter so that it enters a waterway or water contained in any underground strata:'

**Article 9 (1) states that:**  
 'no person shall, without the consent of the Department, make any discharge into a waterway or underground stratum: (a) of any trade or sewage effluent; or (b) of any poisonous, noxious or polluting matter.'

**Article 9 (4):**  
 Under this Article it is an offence for any person to contravene the conditions of any discharge consent.

Anyone who contravenes any of these Articles can, if convicted in a Magistrate's Court, be imprisoned for up to 3 months and / or be fined up to £20,000.

[Note, following the period to which this report refers, the Water (NI) Order 1999 was, in part, amended through articles contained in the Water and Sewerage Services (NI) Order 2006]

Thank You