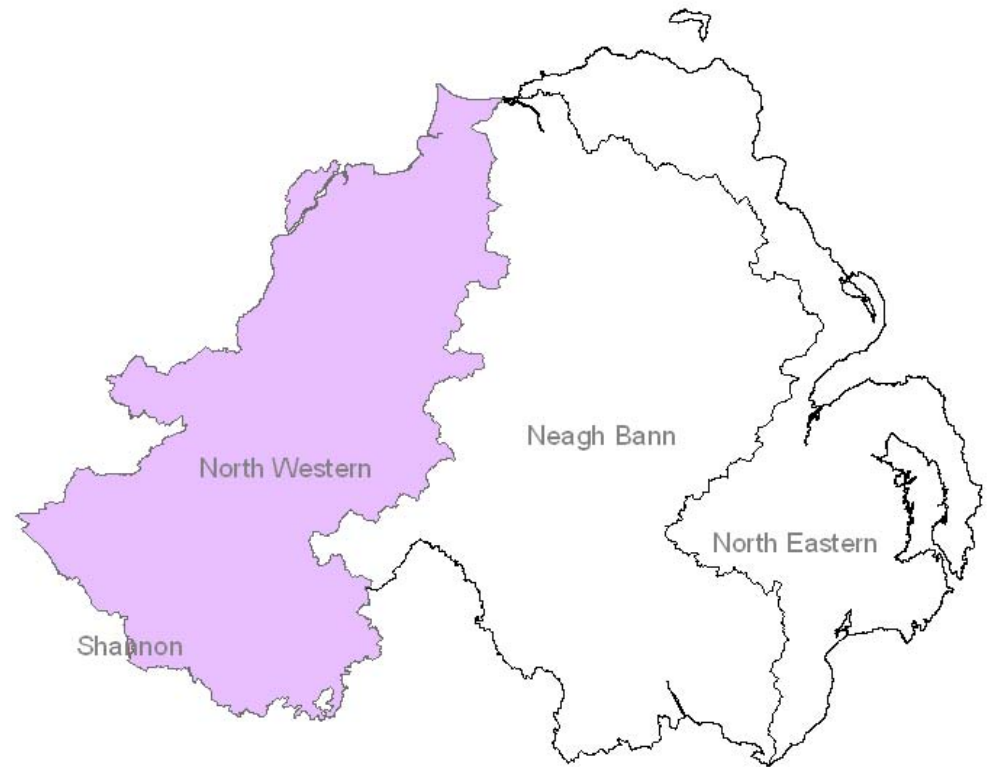


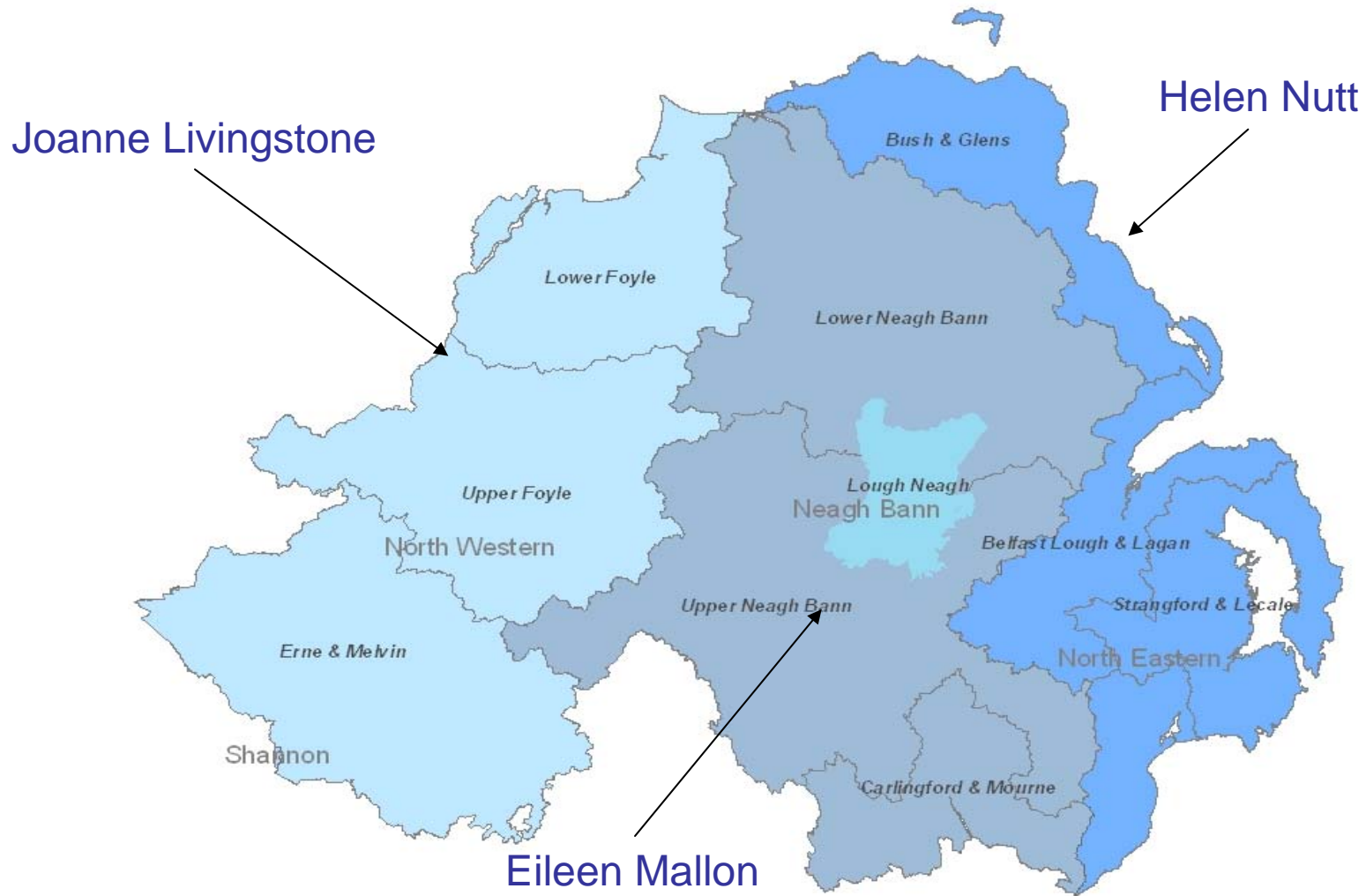
The role of the Catchment Officer and the way forward for the group

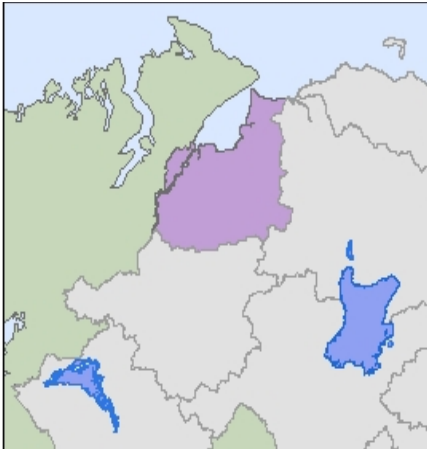
Joanne Livingstone
North West RBD
Catchment Officer

Joanne.Livingstone@doeni.gov.uk

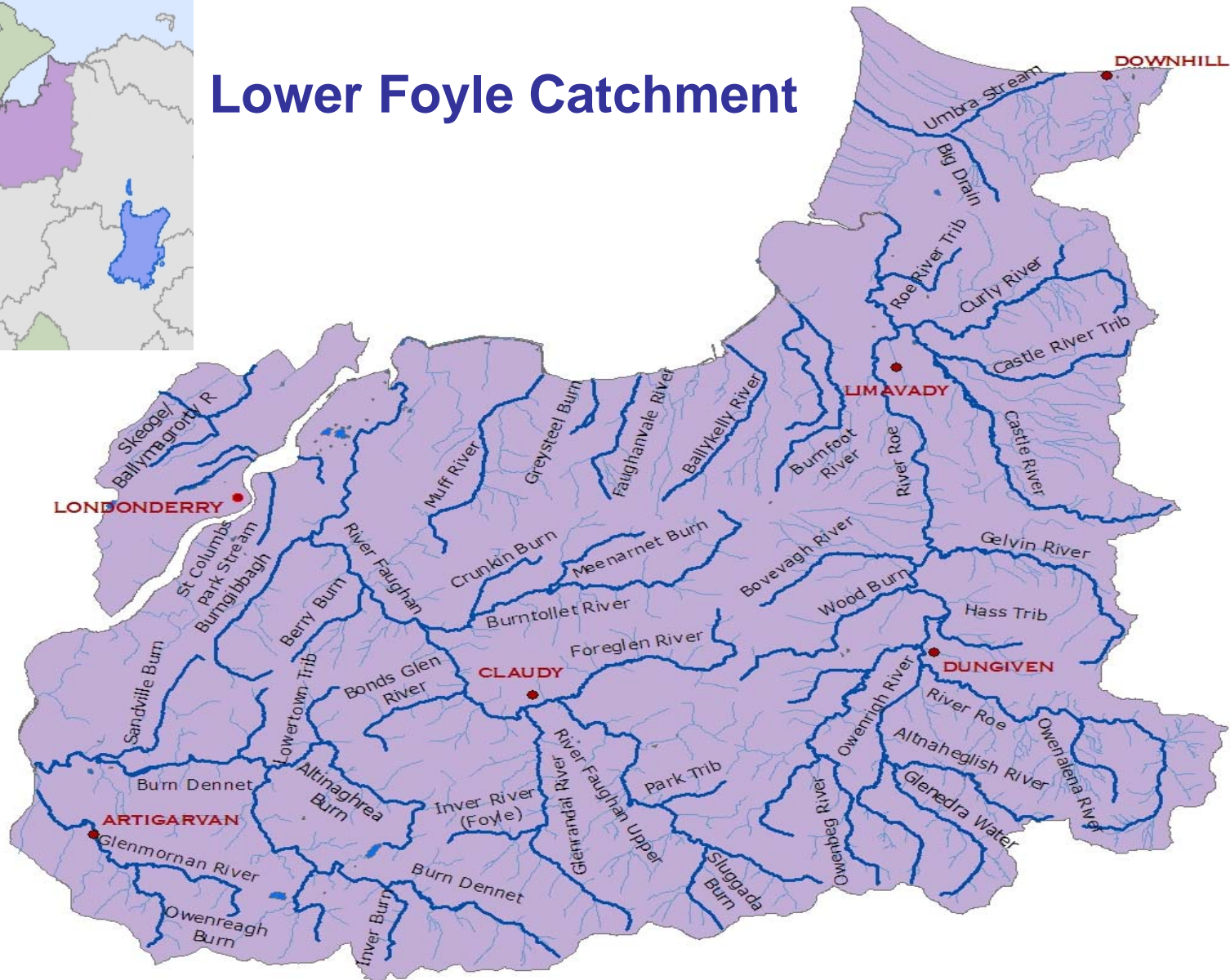


River Basin Districts





Lower Foyle Catchment



Catchment Officer role

- Coordinate Catchment Stakeholder Group meetings.
- Highlight stakeholder concerns to relevant bodies.
- Encourage information exchange and raise awareness.
- Ensure stakeholder input into River Basin Management Plans.
- Facilitate stakeholder engagement.
- Encourage water quality protection and enhancement projects.
- Support water management committees/ working groups.
- Coordinate Targeted Catchment Action Plans.

Working with....

- Interested parties
- Community groups
- Local Biodiversity Officers
- NGOs
- Government Departments/ Companies
- Environmental experts
- Local Angling Clubs & Ulster Angling Federation Ltd
- Farmers, Ulster Farmers Union & NIAPA
- Industries – Quarries, Hydropower, Aquaculture
- Recreational water users
- Etc.

Working aims

- Develop strong links with interested parties.
- Exchange information, advice and knowledge.
- Address local water quality issues.
- Work together towards a common goal.

Targeted Catchment Action Plans

E.g. The Six Mile Water

- Historical problems
- Local interest
- Number of users and pressures
- Met with stakeholders to develop an issues log
- All issues delegated for action

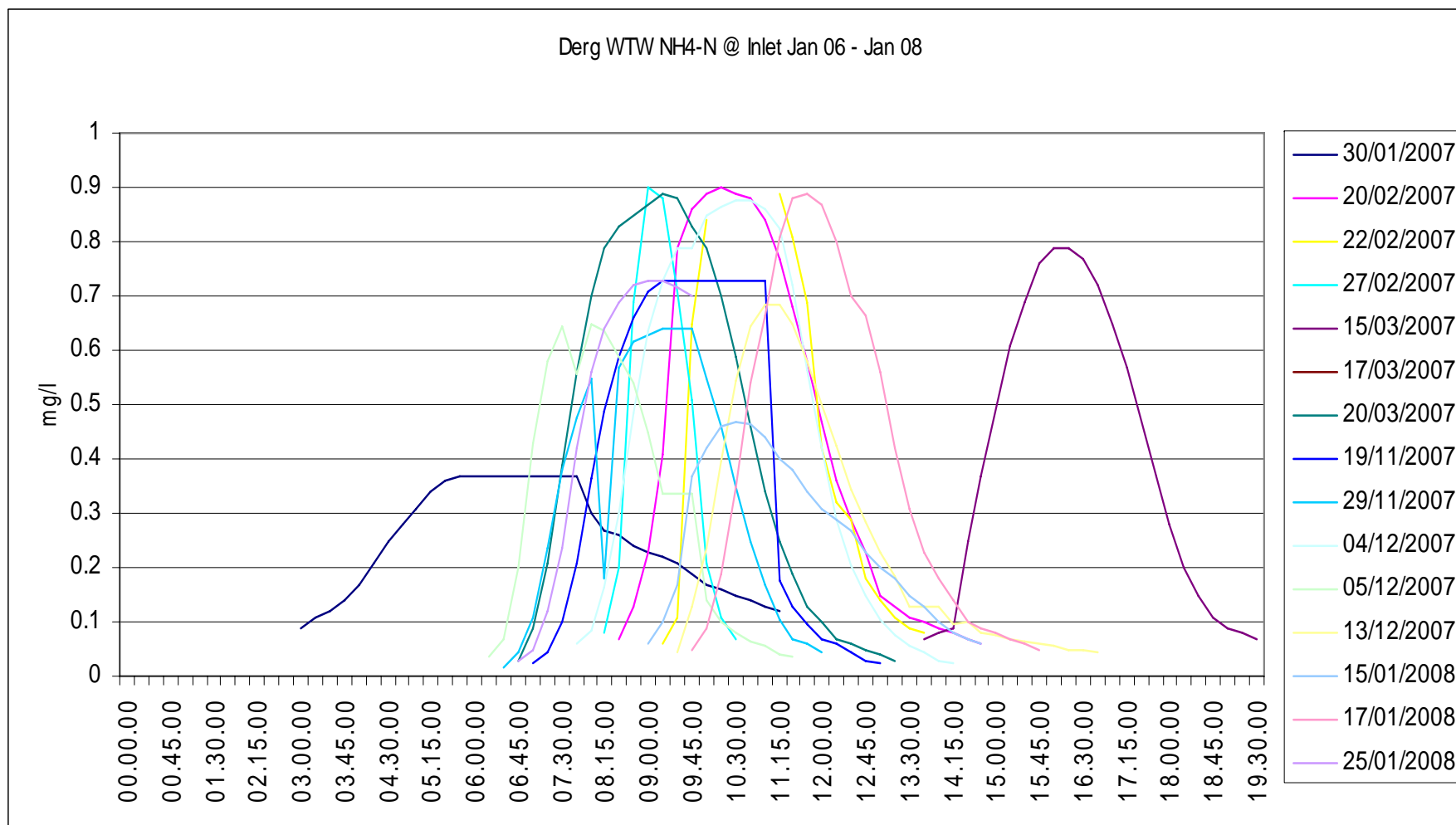


Category	Issues	Comments
WWTW	Sewage discharge - sewage debris on river bed	Latest: 27/12/07 ~ stat sample taken
WWTW	Pumping station at XXX causes problems	Details of severity/number of reports of pollution incidents to be checked. Obtain NIW info. Visit to be conducted.
Industrial	LHS bank upstream from old mart - culvert with oil & effluent.	'Wheeled' camera survey to be arranged
Industrial	XXXX Ltd.- oil discharge.	Pre-notice served 12/12/07
Septic Tanks	XXX road, septic tanks & washing machines discharging to the river.	River walks required, and subsequent dye testing, then a consents issue.
Agriculture	XXXX Road - farm - overflowing slurry tanks and slurry dumping at dark.	Stat sample taken
Misc.	Sentry Lane Biodiversity Officer working on project on Sentry Lane.	Meeting on 18/12/07 - Local Residents and Rivers Agency and LBO planning to clean and realign the waterway. Copy of plans to be obtained.
Abstraction	Small turbine at XXX has been operating without grills	DCAL contacted for response

High Ammonia problem in the Derg

- NI Water abstraction plant automatically shuts down when ammonia levels reach 0.3mg/l.
- Ammonia peaks of 0.9mg/l – 1.0mg/l.
- Baseline 0.01 - 0.03mg/l.
- On-going for years.
- 10 incidents between Nov 07 – March 08.
- No increase in pH, BOD, DO, Suspended Solids.

Data at the inlet at NI Water abstraction plant



Trends in data from NI Water inlet

- Seasonal: November – March.
- Early morning: 6am – 9am.
- Tuesday or Thursday.
- After heavy rain in high flow.
- Very high concentrations of ammonia but nothing else.
- Point source.
- Linked to a process.

Action taken

- ..within EHS – Industrial Consents Team, River Basin Planning Team, Groundwater Hydrology Team, Water Utilities Regulation Group Team, Regional Operations.
- ..outside EHS – Rivers Agency, NI Water.
- Modelling of river profile, calculated loadings and flow, estimated entry point of pollutant.
- River walk to identify potential entry points.
- Initial pollution risk assessment on sites.
- Detailed pollution investigation on one site.

Pesticide problem in the Derg

- Met with UFU to discuss the information available and the 'Voluntary Initiative'.
- Meeting with Water UK, DARD, NI Water and UFU to agree a way forward.
- Possible pilot study in the Derg.
- Educational campaign, flyers, workshops....

PAIRS

Projects Aiming to Improve aquatic ResourceS

- Register of projects
- Increase awareness of local projects
- Sharing information and successes
- Learning from the experiences of others
- Building partnerships between complimentary projects

http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/water/wfd/public_partic/pairs.htm

Way forward for the group

- Your views and priorities
- Future meetings
 - chair,
 - format,
 - venues,
 - speakers,
 - agenda items
- Ideas and actions for the future...

If you have any issues you'd like to
discuss
please contact me on:

028 92 623248

Joanne.Livingstone@doeni.gov.uk