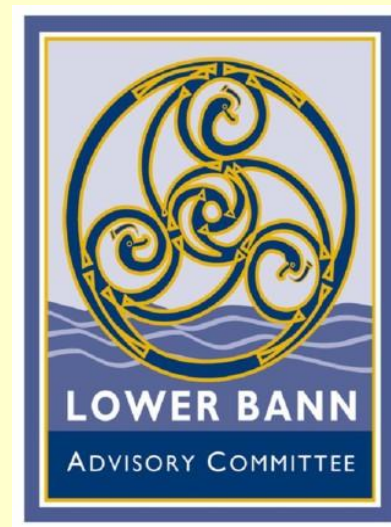
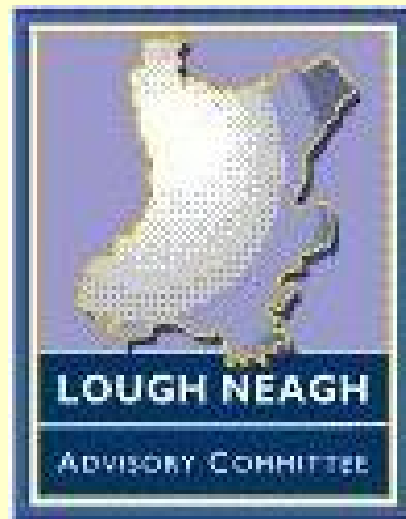


Lough Neagh & Lower Bann Advisory Committees



Caroline Marshall

Function of Advisory Committees

To provide advice to central and local government on

- “ conservation of the natural and man made heritage
- “ drainage and navigation
- “ management and development of land and water based recreation



LOUGH NEAGH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

“Inform members

“Site visits, best practice

“Open discussions

“Consensus

“Make recommendations



Organisations

- " Antrim Borough Council
- " Ballymena Borough Council
- " Ballymoney Borough Council
- " Bann System Ltd
- " Canoe Association of Northern Ireland
- " CNCC
- " Coleraine Borough Council
- " Coleraine Harbour Commissioners
- " Historic Monuments Council
- " Irish Amateur Rowing Union Ltd
- " Irish Water Ski Association
- " IWAI
- " Lough Neagh Fisherman's Co-Operative Society Ltd
- " Magherafelt District Council
- " NIAPA
- " NIEL
- " River Bann & Lough Neagh Association
- "RSPB
- "Rural Development Council
- "The Honourable the Irish Society
- "Ulster Angling Federation
- "Ulster Coarse Fishing Federation
- "Ulster Farmer's Union
- "Cookstown District Council
- "Craigavon Borough Council
- "Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council
- "Federation of Lough Neagh & Lough Beg Wildfowlers
- "Lisburn City Council
- "Lough Neagh Partnership
- "Lough Neagh Rescue
- "Lough Neagh Sand Traders Association (NI) Ltd
- "Shaftesbury Estate Ltd
- "Royal Yachting Association

Management Committee

- “ Environment & Heritage Service
- “ Department of Cultural Arts & Leisure
- “ Waterways Ireland
- “ Sports Council
- “ Countryside Access & Activities Net work
- “ Fisheries Conservancy Board
- “ Officers from Local Authorities

The Area



Advisory Committee Staff

1 Liaison Officer

1 Biodiversity Officer

½ Admin Officer

(1 Invasive Species Officer)

Core Funding

- “ EHS
- “ DCAL
- “ 9 Local Authorities

Project Funding

- “ EHS
- “ Landfill
- “ Partnerships / DARD
- “ Others

North Coast WWTW

- “ Reported concerns
- “ Advised
- “ Commented on design & standards
- “ Practical considerations
- “ Site Visits
- “ Spills & CSOs
- “ Rest of River



Operation Regime of Sluice Gates

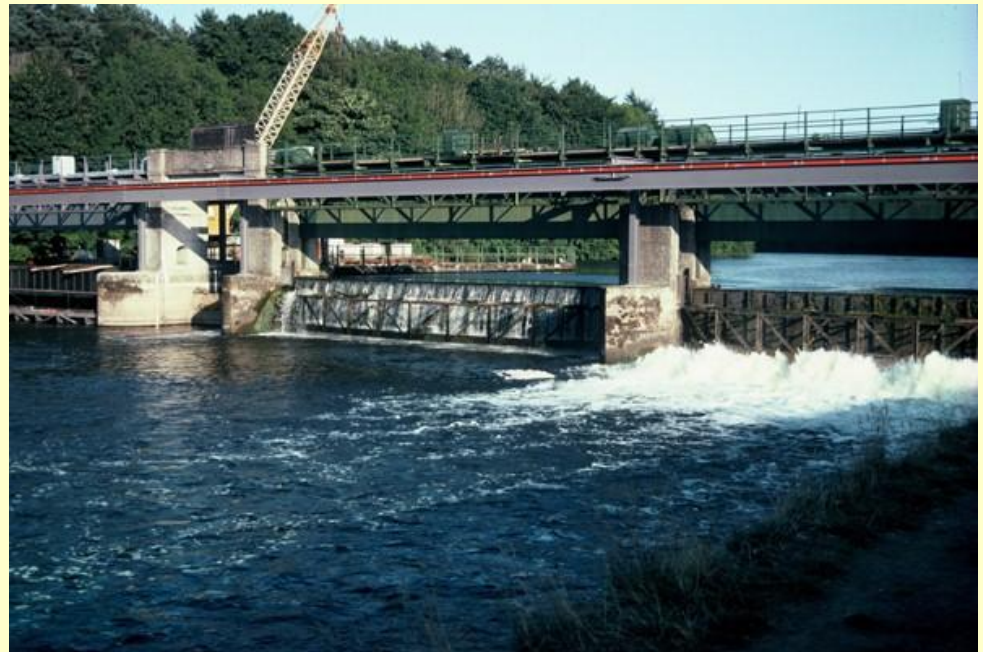
“Water Quantity

“Fish & Elver passage

“Reported concerns

“DCAL produced report

“Revised Gate Regime



Dredging / Habitat creation

- “ Dredging for navigation
- “ Improve Biodiversity (SPA Features)
- “ Habitat creation from spoil
- “ Article 6
- “ Practicalities



Lough Neagh Navigation Authority

- “ Develop and maintain navigation
- “ Safety . commercial and recreational
- “ Co-ordinate activities
- “ On water zoning
- “ Marketing

- “ Sewage pump out
- “ Fuel bunding



Lough Neagh Wetlands Local Biodiversity Action Plan

Lough Neagh Wetlands Local Biodiversity Action Plan

Wet Grassland <i>(lapwing)</i>	Lowland Raised Bog <i>(Irish lady's tresses orchid)</i>	Hedgerow <i>(bullfinch)</i>	Meadow <i>(meadow brown butterfly)</i>
			
<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mow over wetland areas such as hea, flaxseed growing marsh and purple moor grass and rush pasture and report illegal dumping or infilling to your local Council. • Control water levels in wet grassland to ensure that green habitats remain wet. Set up conservation grazing projects to remove appropriate levels of ground for plants such as hea, hea, Trinius, Cladonia and for birds such as lapwing, railbirds and snipe. • Monitor wet grassland sites for rare plants such as hea lady's tresses orchid, and breeding wetlands such as hea, hea and snipe, and report all records to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDAR) at the Ulster Museum. • Re-profile the edges of drains to create gentle muddy slopes that provide opportunities for lapwing and railbirds to feed in summer. 	<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mow over hea and report illegal dumping or infilling to your local Council. • Survey local hea for rare plants such as hea lady's tresses orchid, and for rare breeding birds such as hea, and for species of damselfly, dragonfly and butterfly. Report all records to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDAR) at the Ulster Museum. • Manage hea to prevent acidic accumulation and to prevent sites from drying out due to drainage. • Create bog pools for damselfly and dragonfly. 	<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant the hedgerows in your area that contain some woody plants such as hazel, holly, blackthorn, hawthorn, ash and oak, or berries such as privet, wild rose, hawthorn and holly and supply the information to your local biodiversity officer or local nature centre. • If you see hedgerow being removed in the countryside, contact your local (DARD) office. • Plant new hedgerow using plants of local origin. • Repair existing mature trees and encourage some saplings to grow into hedgerow trees by leaving them. • Record hedgerow species such as bullfinch, sparrow, yellowhammer, whinchat, dunnock, snipe, hedge-sparrow and hea's woodcock and report these to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDAR) at the Ulster Museum. 	<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new hea/meadow habitat using seed of local origin, which ensures that the habitat contains a rich mix of native plants. • Apply conservation grazing programmes for meadows to ensure that these do not become overgrown. Ask a contractor to cut the grass annually, or have plants cut because of overgrowth from every grazing animal. • Record meadow species such as meadow brown butterfly, flycatcher, common bird's-foot-trefoil and other water and report these to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDAR) at the Ulster Museum.
			
<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep a local watch over wet woodland sites and report illegal dumping or infilling to your local Council. • Plant new areas of wet woodland, using trees that have been grown from local seed. Where possible, when sites are in existing wet woodland or where wet woodland sites existed. • Record new woodland species such as marsh marigold and report these to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDAR) at the Ulster Museum. 	<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible, create, manage to prevent acidic accumulation. • Prevent disturbance around reedbeds as these are important for nesting birds such as great crested grebe. • Create new reedbeds on sites where water levels can be maintained at or above ground level, and other areas where this can be achieved. • Consider the use of local reed in traditional thatching, and create and manage reedbeds to provide material. • Record reedbed species such as great crested grebe, water rail and reed bedwing and report these to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDAR) at the Ulster Museum. 	<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove spawning areas in local rivers and streams for fish such as brown trout, dollyfish and salmon, by growing large areas of grass and sedge within the habitat. • Remove fish obstructions along rivers to ensure fish can migrate to their spawning grounds. • Report pollution incidents to the Water Pollution Helpline - (0800 80 70 60). • Record river and stream species such as water, longfin, alper, river lamprey, brook lamprey, chalkstream, fat white stream crayfish, Atlantic salmon, Atlantic trout and brown trout, and report these to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDAR) at the Ulster Museum. 	<p>Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and manage breeding habitat for duck in summer, and set up winter feeding refuge areas for waterfowl such as goldeneye, pintail, tufted duck, widgeon, mallard, grebe, teal, shoveler and mallard. • Create and restore ponds in suitable habitats and as systems to help improve water quality. • Carry out litter clean-ups along the shores of Lough Neagh and Lough Beg. • Record species of open standing water such as goldeneye, pintail, tufted duck, widgeon, mallard, grebe, teal, shoveler, grebe, Atlantic salmon, dollyfish trout and sea, and report these to the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDAR) at the Ulster Museum.

Find out more at: www.loughneagh.com

Supported by






Lough Neagh Wetlands
Local Biodiversity Action Plan



Coppies River Project

Aim – to reinstate the river as a brown trout spawning habitat

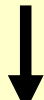
Coppies



Moyola



Lough Neagh



Lower Bann

Water quality improvement
Habitat creation / improvement
Practical local action

Local Biodiversity Action & WFD



Partnership approach

- “ Working groups, partnerships, steering groups, limited companies
- “ Advisory Committee structure
- “ Lough Neagh and Lower Bann Partnerships
- “ £3.2m & £.75m
- “ DARD's Rural Development Programme

Way Forward re WFD

Advisory Committees will continue to:

- “ provide strategic & co-ordinated advice
- “ stimulate and advise on projects
- “ co-ordinate action
- “ source & direct funding
- “ liaise with stakeholders & statutory agencies on implementation of WFD . quality and quantity

Issues / Thoughts

- “ Whole RBMP
- “ Timescale . draft RBMP by end 2008!
- “ Stakeholder and Local ownership
- “ Existing structures
- “ Cross Departmental
- “ Implementation - funding