

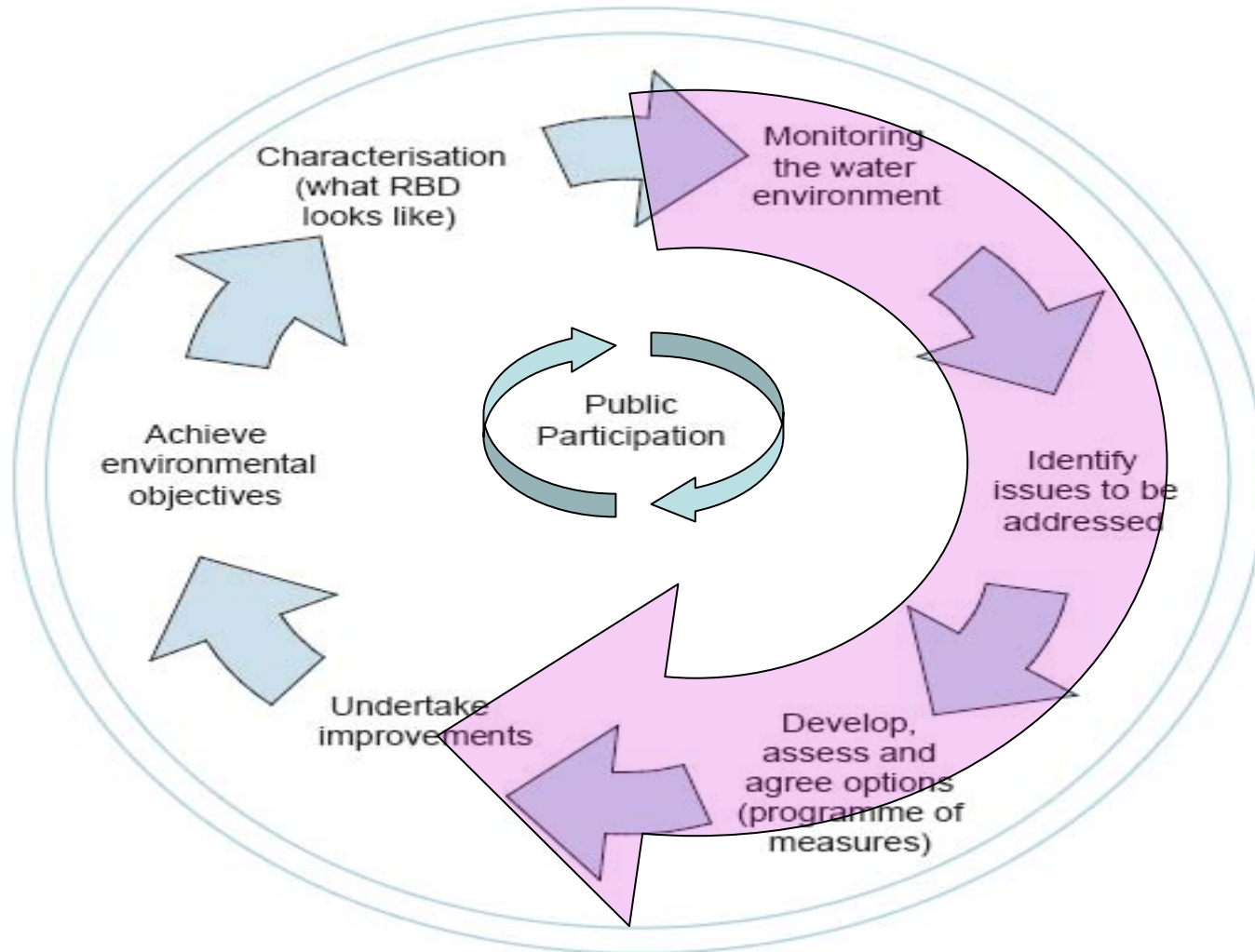
# Lower Lough Erne LMA

Deirdre Spillane

Catchment Management Officer



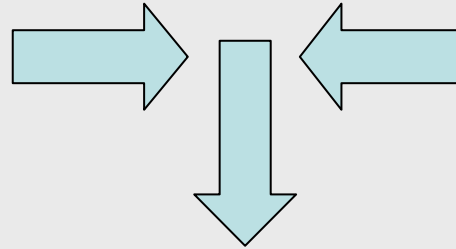
# The WFD / River Basin Planning Process



# River Basin Management Plan Implementation

## Stakeholder Engagement & Participation

- CSG meetings
- Bilateral meetings
- Other plans & programmes
- Gov Depts & agencies



Investigation and analysis

LMA Action Plan

WFD Objectives

## Evidence Base

- Classification data (2007-2009)
- LMA assessment (2010)
- Biological Data (2000 – 2010)
- Water body pressure maps
- WFD database
- Stakeholder data
- Gov depts & agencies

# Local Area Management Plans

Who's involved in producing and making these plans happen?

Research bodies,  
AFBI, Universities,  
etc

NGO's – FWTF, RSPB,  
WWF, NT etc

Government bodies:  
NIEA, DARD, DCAL etc

Angling clubs and  
organisations

NI Water

Farmers

General Public

Local Councils

Local Communities



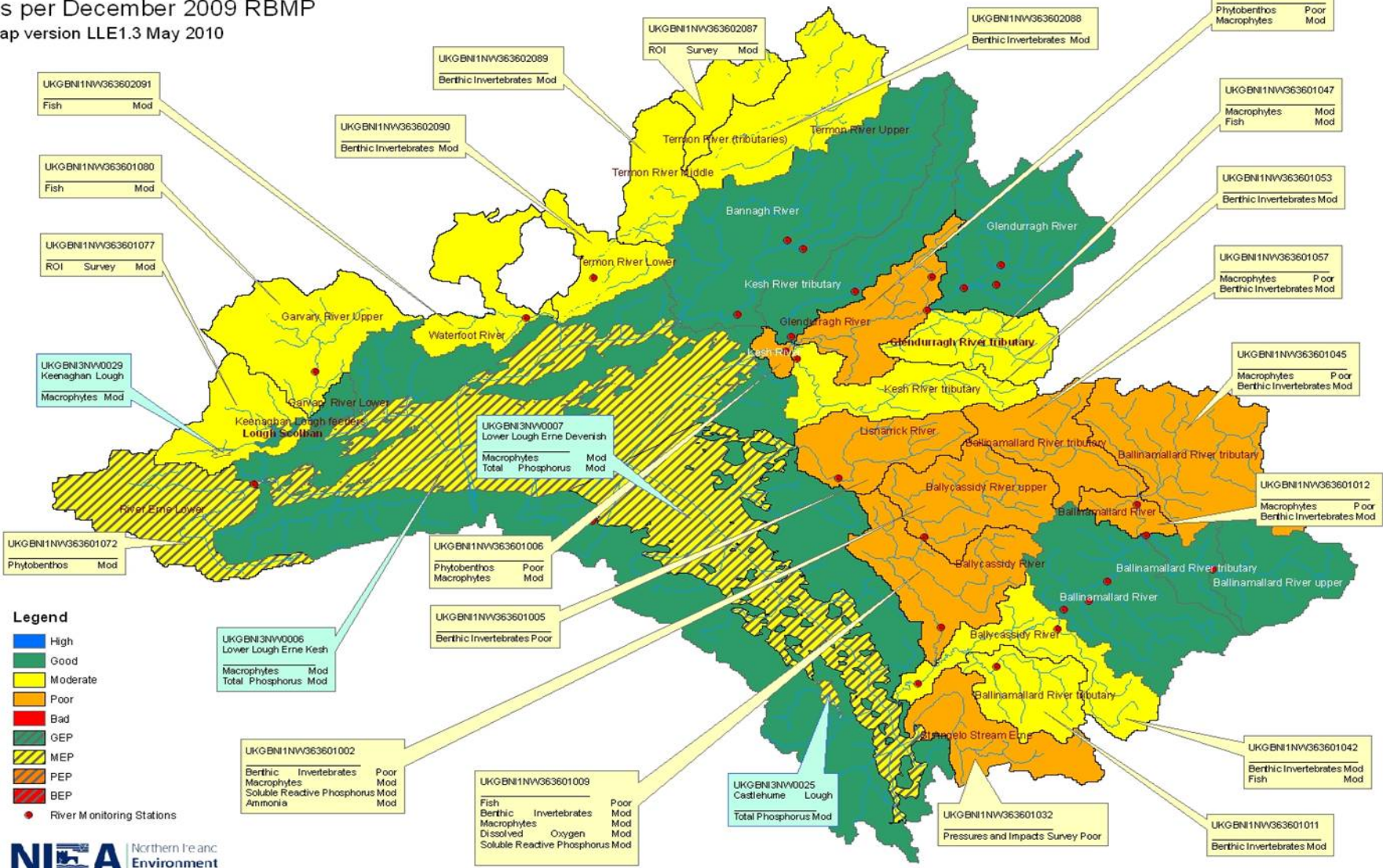
# How have you Influenced the Plan?

- You have indicated a more localised approach through LMAs and down to waterbody level.
- You have commented on the reasons for status and identified local issues that are affecting the quality of our water bodies and possible actions.
- You have identified initiatives that are already happening or are planned to improve the water environment.
- You have identified community groups and organisations that may be able to help.
- You have expressed an interest in creating River Trusts with community groups.

# Lower Lough Erne LMA Reasons for Status

as per December 2009 RBMP

Map version LLE1.3 May 2010



- Legend**
- High
  - Good
  - Moderate
  - Poor
  - Bad
  - GEP
  - MEP
  - PEP
  - BEP
  - River M monitoring Stations



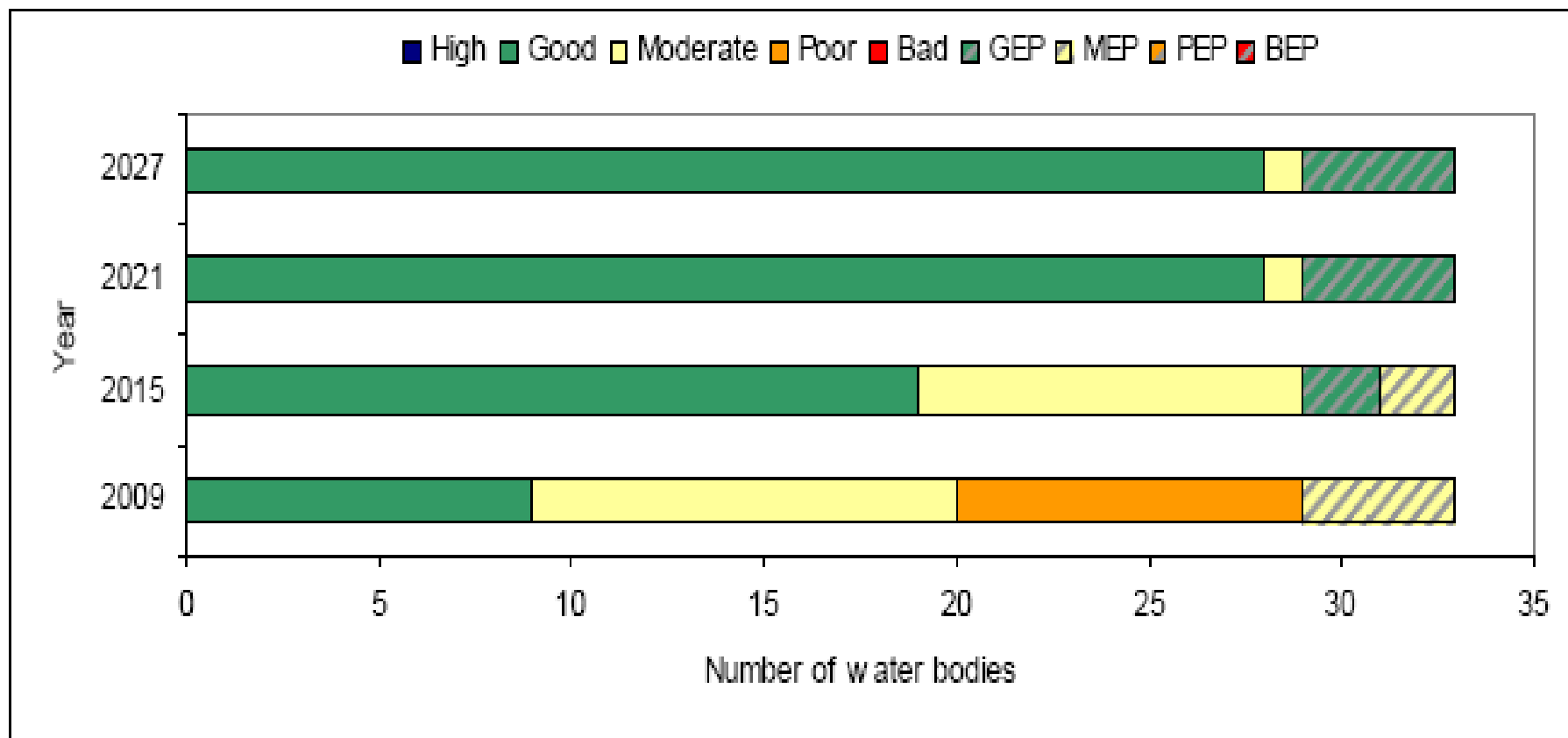
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Lower Lough Erne	Invertebrates, Macrophytes,	Fish	Phosphorus	Diatoms	Ammonia
LMA	36.4%	30.3%	15.2%	15.2%	3%

# What improvements do we plan to achieve?

- We have set environmental objectives to deliver improvements. For our surface waters we aim to achieve good quality or better in 64% by 2015. We also aim to maintain good status in 100% of our groundwaters.

# Current status and proposed objectives for surface waters in Lower Lough Erne LMA

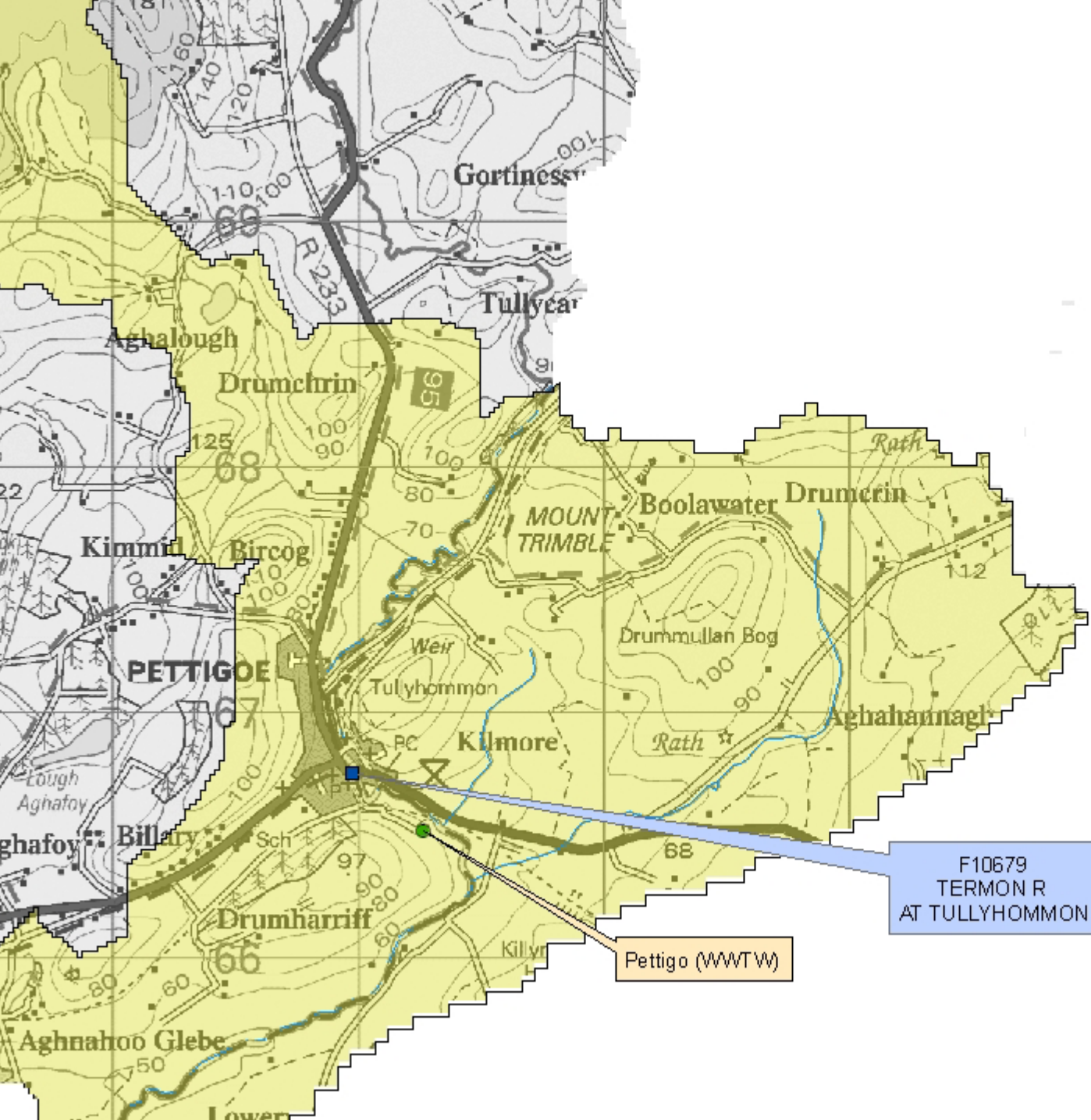


# Termon River Low

2009 Status: Moderate  
 2015 Objective: Good Status  
 2021 Objective: Good Status  
 2027 Objective: Good Status  
 The type of this water body is: Altitude  
 alkalinity 50-100 (as mg/l of CaCO<sub>3</sub>)

Failing elements:  
 Benthic invertebrates: Moderate  
 Morphological conditions: Moderate

Other elements:  
 Macrophytes: High  
 Fish: Good  
 Dissolved oxygen: High  
 Soluble reactive phosphorus: High  
 pH: High  
 BOD (not used in classification): High  
 Temp (not used in classification): High  
 Hydrological regime: High  
 Ammonia: High  
 Dissolved copper: Good  
 Total zinc: Good












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Pettigo (WWTW)

**Water body name:** Termon River Lower  
**Water body identification code:** UKGBN11NW363602090  
**Catchment stakeholder group:** Erne & Melvin  
**Local management area:** Lower Lough Erne  
**2015 Objective:** Good Status  
**2021 Objective:** Good Status  
**2027 Objective:** Good Status

**The type of this water body is:** Altitude <80m, alkalinity 50-100 (as mg/l of CaCO<sub>3</sub>)

**Current overall status:** Moderate   
 ( Confidence in overall status: Medium )

Benthic invertebrates:	Moderate	
Macrophytes:	High	
Fish:	Good	
Dissolved oxygen:	High	
Soluble reactive phosphorus:	High	
pH:	High	
Biochemical oxygen demand*:	High	
Temperature*:	High	

Hydrological regime:	High	
Morphological conditions:	Moderate	

Ammonia:	High	
Total copper:	Good	
Total zinc:	Good	

\* This element does not contribute to overall classification.

For more information on the classification process see:  
[http://www.ni-environment.gov.uk/water-home/wfd/north\\_western\\_rbp/nw-riverslakes.htm](http://www.ni-environment.gov.uk/water-home/wfd/north_western_rbp/nw-riverslakes.htm)

Problem	Solution			
Failing Element	Action to be taken	Action to be taken by	WMU Partners	Deadline for delivery
Invertebrates	Carry out a linear survey and river walk to determine sources of impact on benthic invertebrates. Additional sampling may be required.	NIEA WMU , NRFB	Freshwater Monitoring, River Basin Planning & local Regional Operation Teams	end Mar 2011
	Check compliance of WWTW.	NIEA WMU & Donegal County Council	WURG & local Regional Operation Teams	end Dec 2010
	Moderate morphological conditions. No specific action required as morphology is not a failing element. Actions to address morphology will be assessed for technical feasibility and cost effectiveness within the River Basin Plan (RBP).	NIEA WMU	Hydromorphology Team	end Mar 2011
	Investigate impact of forestry operations in the area, ascertain felling programme in the catchment and engage with technical field staff to ensure measures are in place to mitigate risks of felling.	NIEA WMU, Coillte RoI & DARD Forestry Service.	Fresh Freshwater Monitoring, River Basin Planning & Teams	Dec 2010

# Implementation of Action Plan

## 1. Government actions

- Industry
  - awareness
  - check compliance
- Agriculture
  - awareness
  - visits

## 2. Supporting River Trusts -

- Association of Rivers Trust partnership agreement

## 3. Supporting Stakeholders

- Projects - Signage project etc.
- Public Events

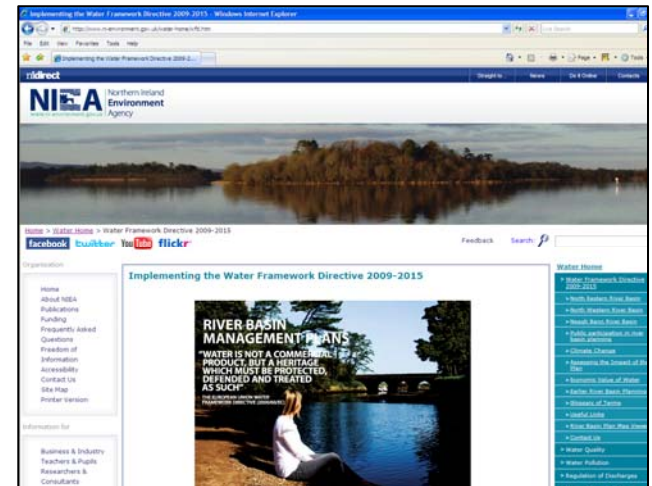
## 4. Raising Public Awareness

- Households, landowners, businesses
- Leaflet drops with LMA
- Identify LMA issues & what you can do to help



## 5. Commenting on the Action Plans

- Plans will be available on the website from November on
- Comments can be emailed via the website



# Proposed river restoration project

- NIEA WMU is currently working with DCAL Fisheries to carry out a pilot restoration project.
- Investigate the possibility of in-channel habitat enhancement.



# DARD Press Articles



**William Houston, beef and sheep farmer in the Burdennet and Foyle LMA**  
 "Although I now use injectables and pour-ons to control sheep scab, blowfly and ticks in the flock, I have kept my sheep dipper for possible future use. To retain this flexibility I am aware that the dipper must be kept fully maintained with no cracks or holes present in the dipper".



**Nigel Laughlin, beef and sheep farmer in the Owenkillew LMA**  
 "I regularly check my storm-water outfalls for signs of contamination and consider this to be an essential part of pollution prevention on the farm. I also find it useful to have a look at the water in the burn below outfalls as I know from training that I have been involved in that a constantly clean river should contain a wide range of aquatic invertebrates".



**Samuel and Ian McLean, cereal, beef and poultry farmers in the Bush LMA**  
 "Increased slurry storage capacity as the result of the new tank that we constructed under the DARD Farm Nutrient Management Scheme has undoubtedly helped in planning slurry spreading. This allows us to spread to take advantage of the best growing conditions and when risk of run-off is least".



**James Brown, dairy farmer in the Strangford LMA**  
 "Running an intensive dairy farm, I am always conscious of the need to manage nutrients carefully to achieve maximum efficiency from the livestock manure produced on the farm and to minimise the risk of run-off to waterways".

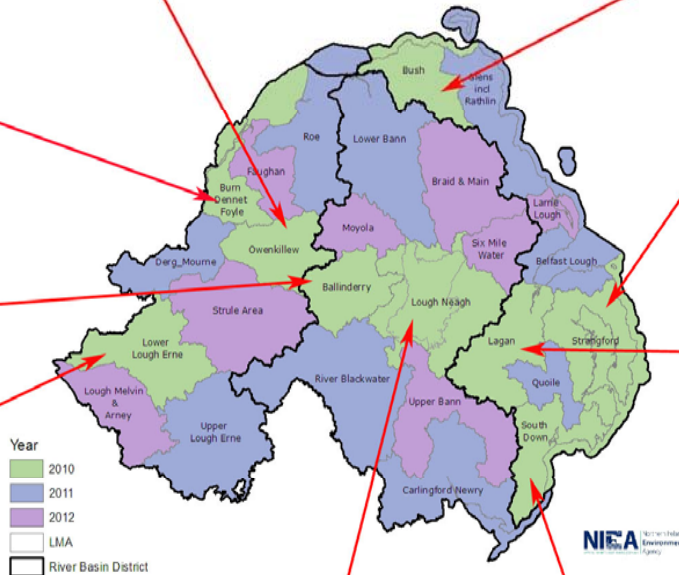


**Brian Henry, dairy farmer in the Ballinderry LMA**  
 "I have excluded livestock from the naturally occurring woodland along the banks of the tributary of the Ballinderry. This provides a buffer to reduce the risk of bank material entering the water which could have a bad effect on the Freshwater Pearl Mussels present".



**Alan Coalter - Ballinamallard dairy farmer in the Lower Lough Erne LMA**  
 "Whilst my farm is not on the banks of the river, the network of small streams and sheughs lead straight to the Ballinamallard River, so vigilance is required at all times. In recent years I have switched from conventional pit silage to big bale silage. After the grass is mowed it is spread out to improve drying before being baled; as a result high dry matter silage is achieved with little or no effluent".

## LMA IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2009



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**NIWA** Northern Ireland Environment Agency



**Francis Bateson, beef farmer in the Lough Neagh LMA**  
 "I am told that the nutrient phosphorus is causing water quality problems in Lough Neagh. I also know that it is the most expensive component of purchased fertiliser. For both these reasons it pays to apply slurry and fertiliser according to crop need and this must be based on the results of soil analysis".



**Robert Turner - Bryansford sheep and beef farmer in the South Down LMA**  
 "I reduced livestock numbers to match tank capacity and I now store my silage in bales. Both changes avoided building extra storage at significant cost. Careful application of slurry and manure enable me to maximise grass growth and reduce fertiliser use. As well as reducing costs, these measures ensure that my watercourses remain clean".

- Raise awareness amongst the agricultural sector



- Provide examples of good practice

# Pollution Hotline Signage

- Raise public awareness
- Improve coverage of incident reporting
- Act as deterrent to polluters



# Proposed sites for signage

- The Round 'O', Enniskillen
- The forum, Enniskillen
- Ely Lodge
- Maho jetty
- Camagh Bay
- Belleek jetty
- Garvary River- lough jetty
- Muckros jetty
- Keenaghan Lough
- Lough Scoblan
- Tom's Island, Old Castlearchdale
- Castle Archdale County Park
- Rossigh jetty
- Rossclare jetty
- Kilgortnaleague Bridge
- Devenish Island
- Ballycassidy Bridge

# Promotion of LMA work project

## E-Newsletters

- Promote the upcoming CSG meetings
- Highlight issues in the LMA
- Promote on going local events and projects



# CSG Community Project Award Scheme

- For a local group in your CSG an award of **£1000** will be available for the project which does the most to :
  - ❖ Encourage interest in protecting the water environment
  - ❖ Promote community involvement in caring for and enjoying our waterways.
  - ❖ Project proposal packs – November 2010
  - ❖ Applications submitted - end January 2011
  - ❖ Web-based promotion
  - ❖ Successful proposal - end February

# What About 2011?

- Action plan
  - Implement the 2010 actions & monitoring.
- Projects
  - Any other proposed or possible improvement projects for 2010/2011.
- Events
  - What local events are planned that could promote water quality issues, in current and next priority LMA.
- Data gathering
  - Assessing the monitoring information.
  - Evaluating the pressures for the next priority LMA Upper Lough Erne.
- Issues
  - Situations or problems that should be considered for examination.
- Involvement
  - How can we improve things, do things differently?

Our aim is to protect, conserve and promote our natural and built environment for the benefit of present and future generations.



**Any Questions?**