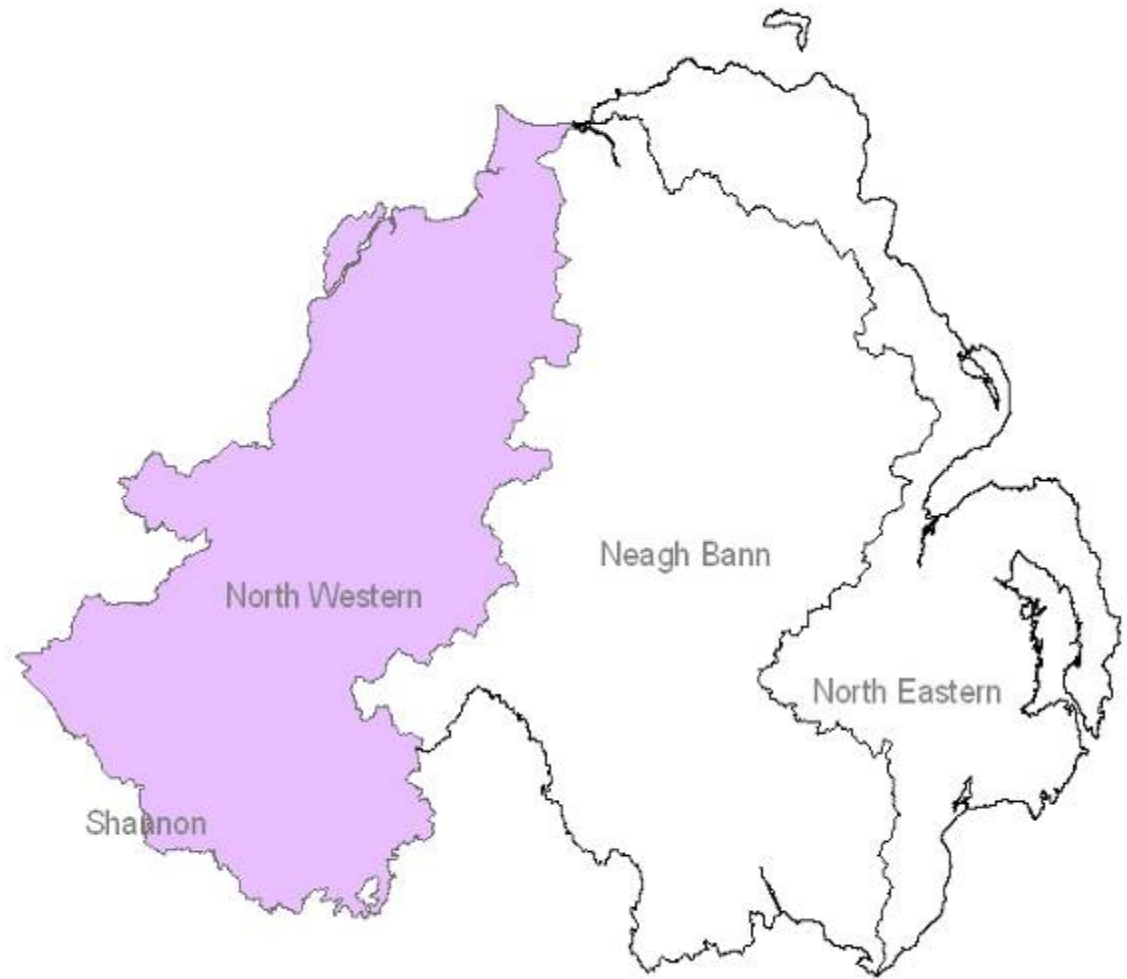


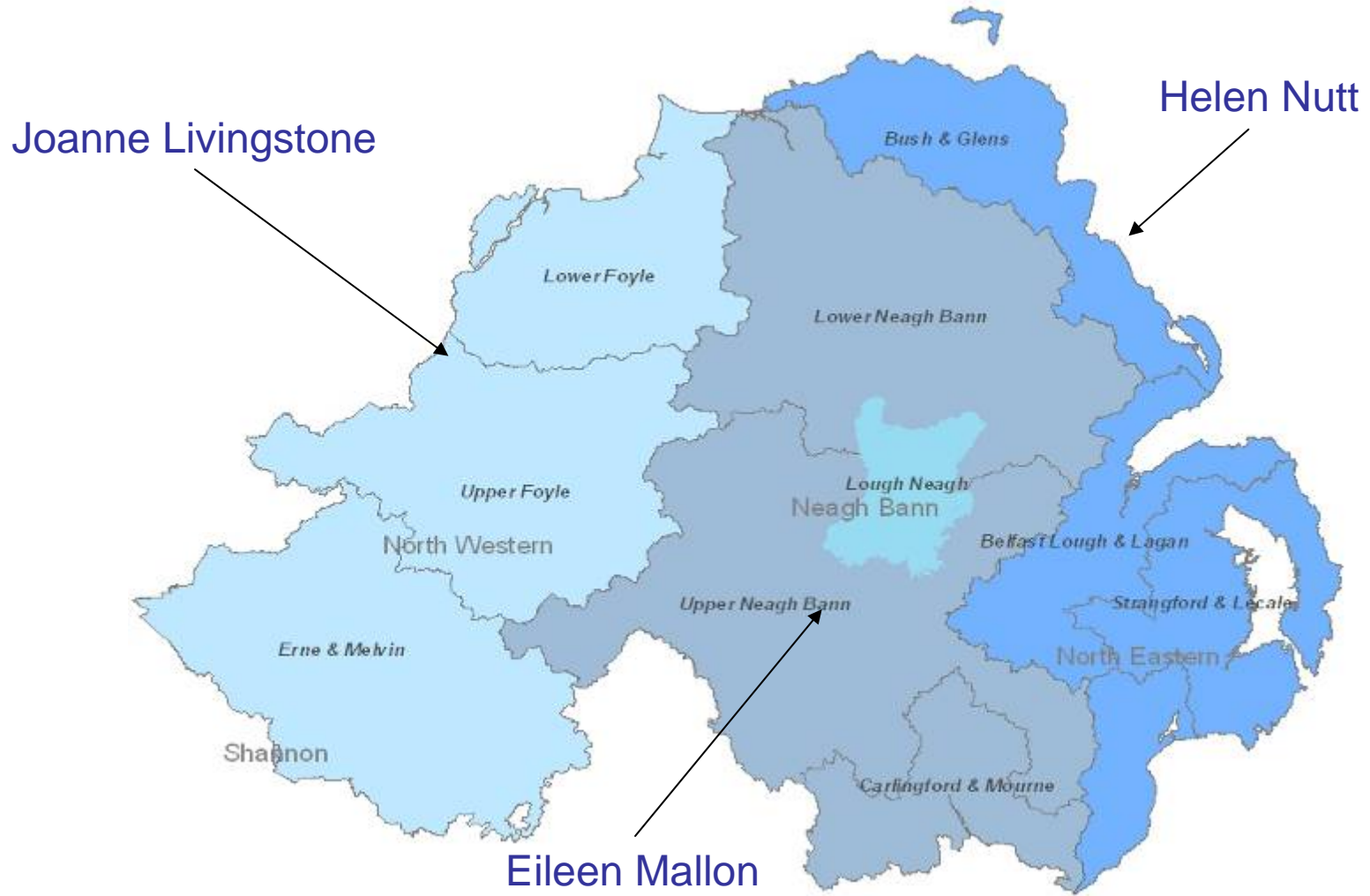
The role of the Catchment Officer

Joanne Livingstone
North West RBD
Catchment Officer



Joanne.Livingstone@doeni.gov.uk

River Basin Districts



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.
- Support water quality protection and enhancement projects/committees/working groups.
- PAIRS – Projects Aiming to Improve aquatic Resources.
- Develop 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
- Cross-border organisations
- Etc.

Working aims

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

Targeted Catchment Action Plans

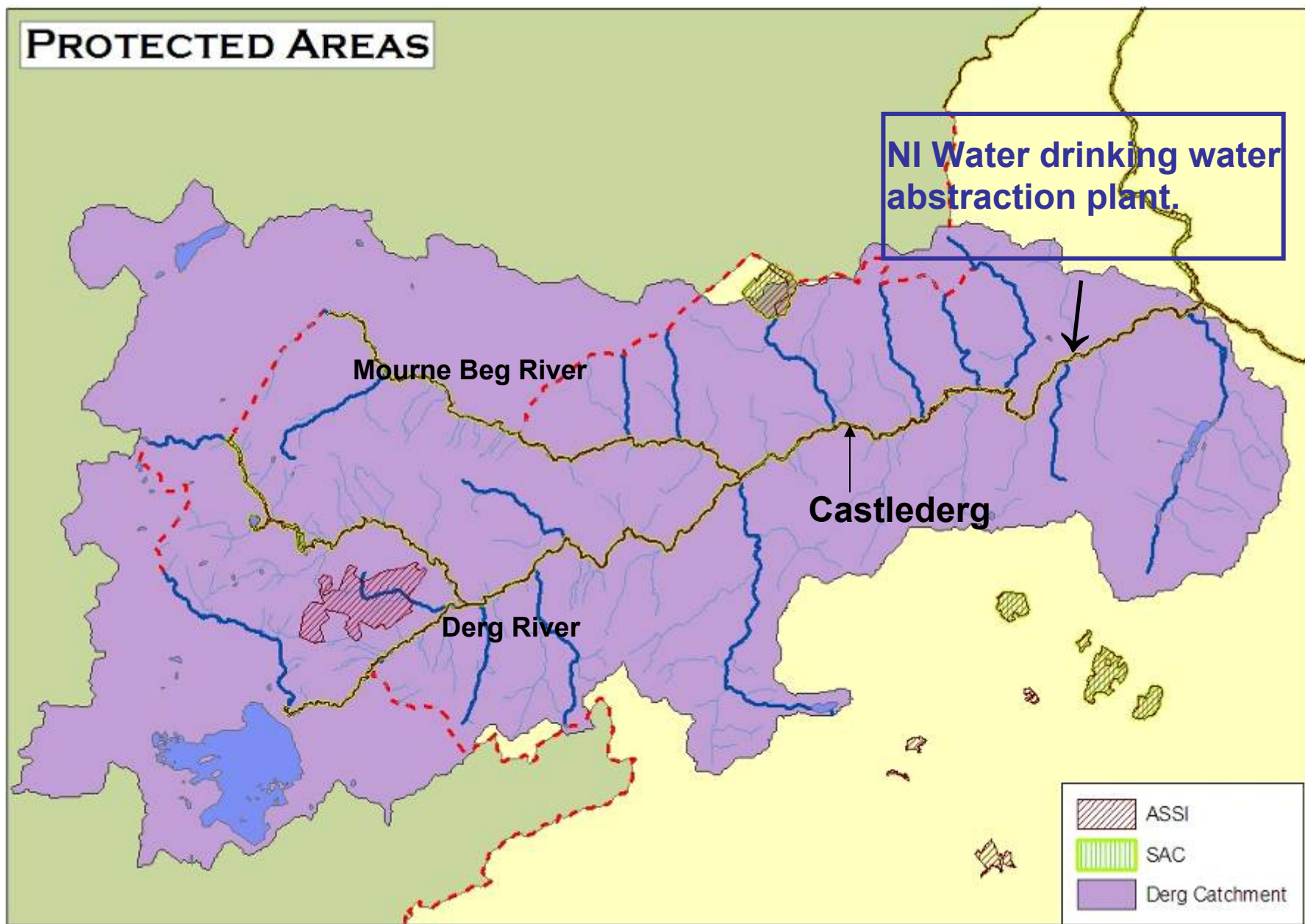
E.g. The Six Mile Water

- 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

PROTECTED AREAS



NI Water drinking water abstraction plant.

Mourne Beg River

Castledearg

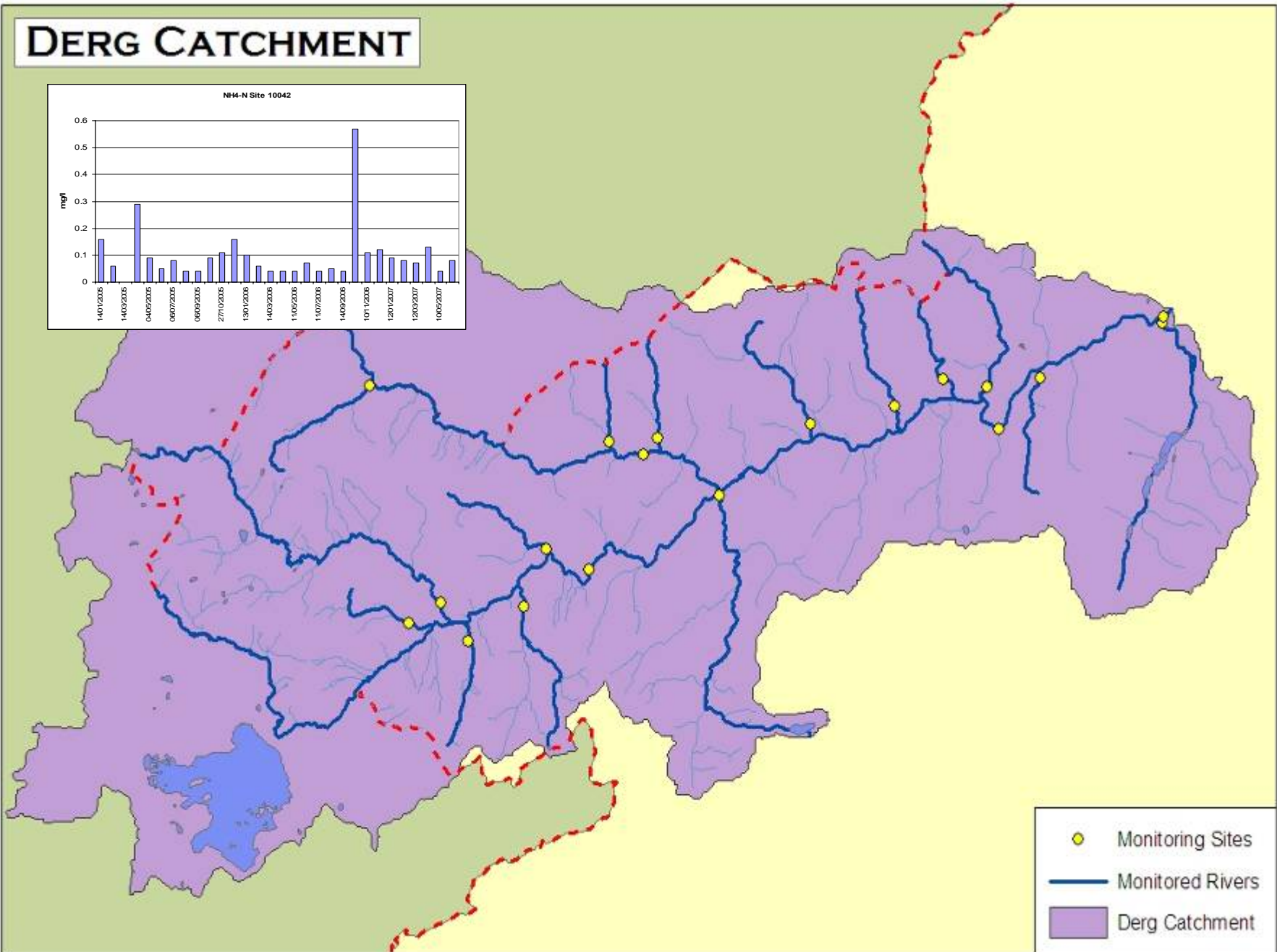
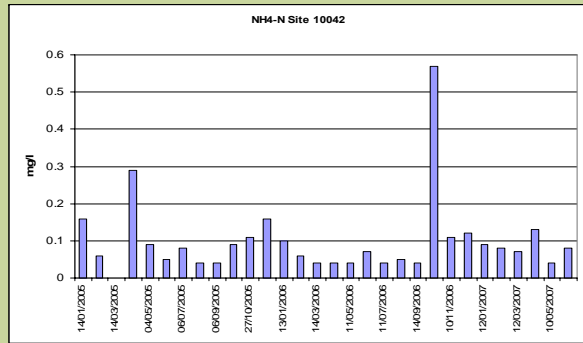
Derg River

- ASSI
- SAC
- Derg Catchment

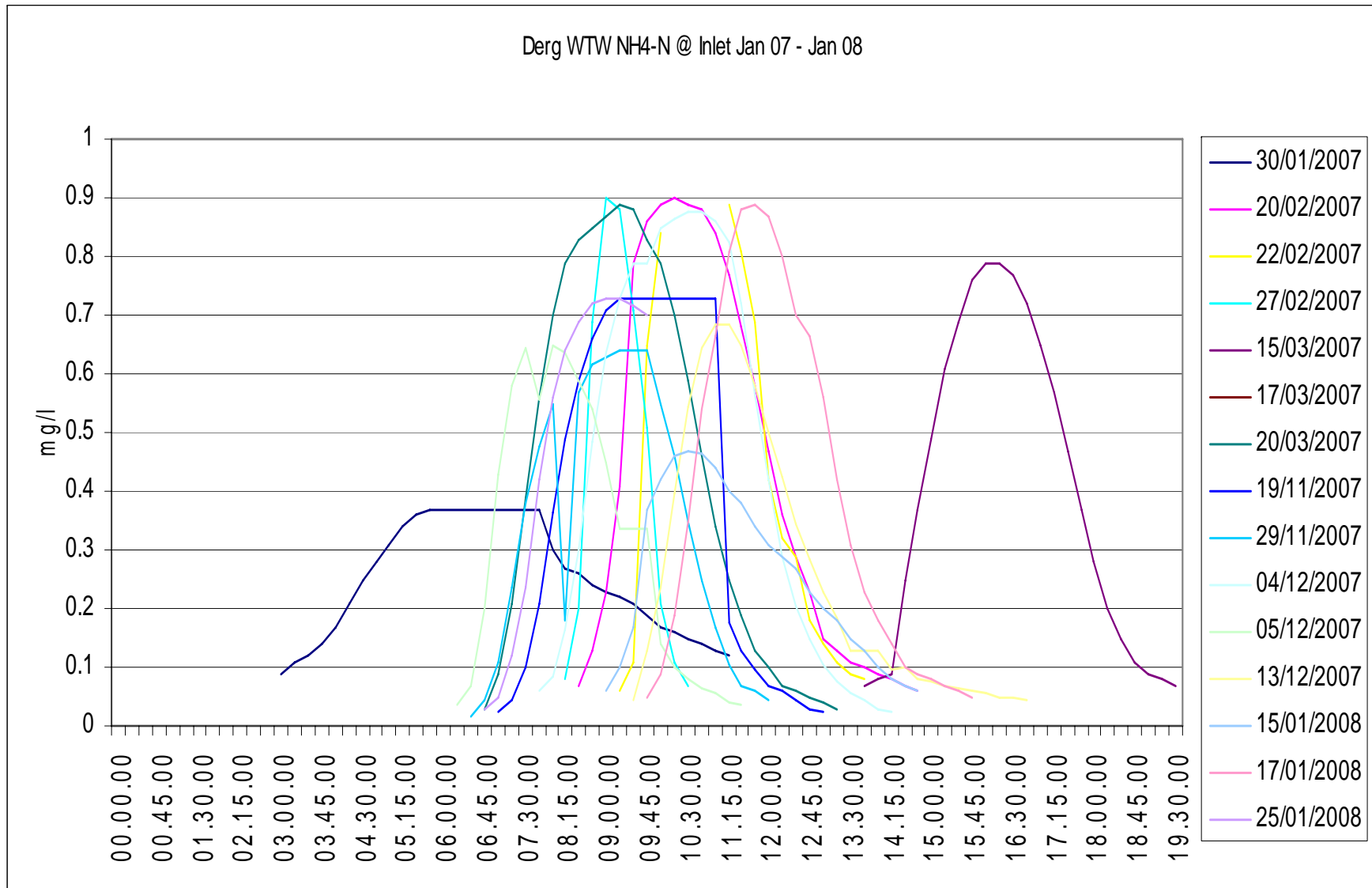
High Ammonia problem in the Derg

- 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.
- 12 incidents since Nov 07 – April 08.
- No increase in pH, BOD, DO, Suspended Solids.

DERG CATCHMENT



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

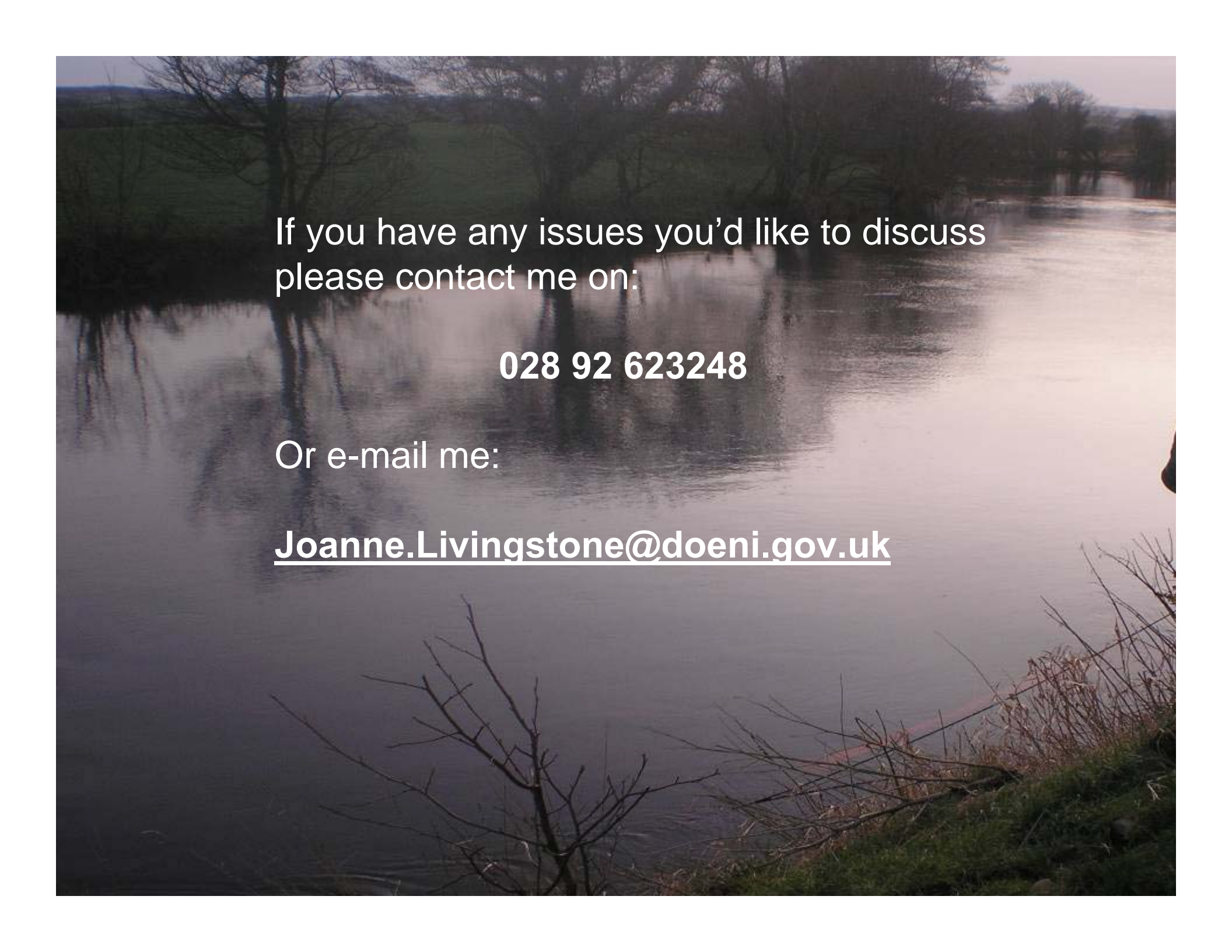
- ..within EHS – Industrial Consents Team, River Basin Planning Team, Groundwater Hydrology Team, Water Utilities Regulation Group Team, Regional Operations, Monitoring Team.
- ..outside EHS – Rivers Agency, NI Water.
- Modelling of river profile, calculated loadings and flow, estimated entry point of 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....

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

Or e-mail me:

Joanne.Livingstone@doeni.gov.uk