

WFD Objective setting process

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Outline

- Overview of the objective setting process
- How the programme of measures fits in
- Costs and benefits

Problems

**Evidence of Priority Substance/
Biological failure**

**GW tests / Risk of
Deterioration /
Protected Areas**

Evidence of cause

**Potential
Solutions**

Availability of Mechanisms

Effectiveness of Measures

**Appraise
Solutions**

Justification of Measures

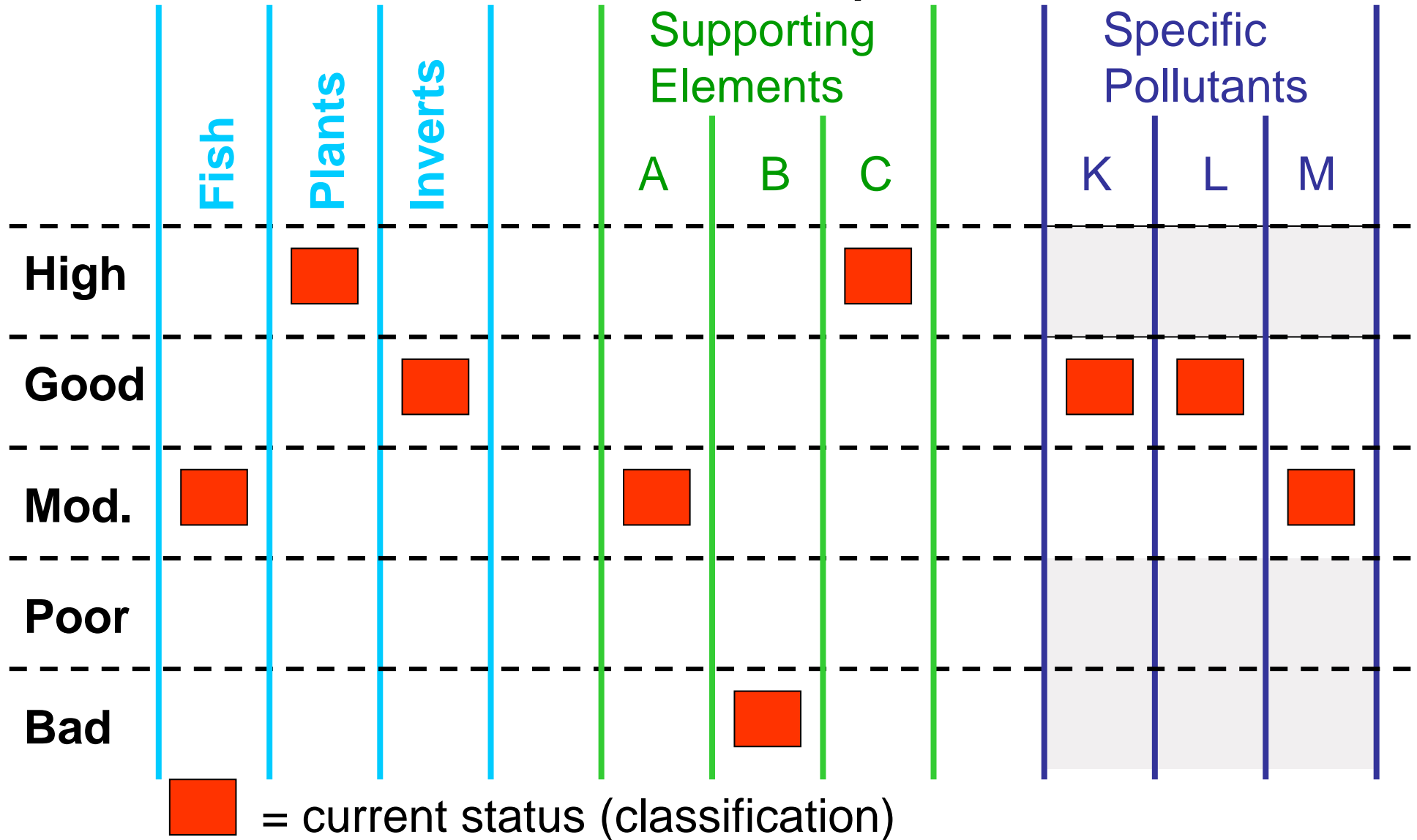
**Funding for measures
(affordability/distributional)**

Reporting

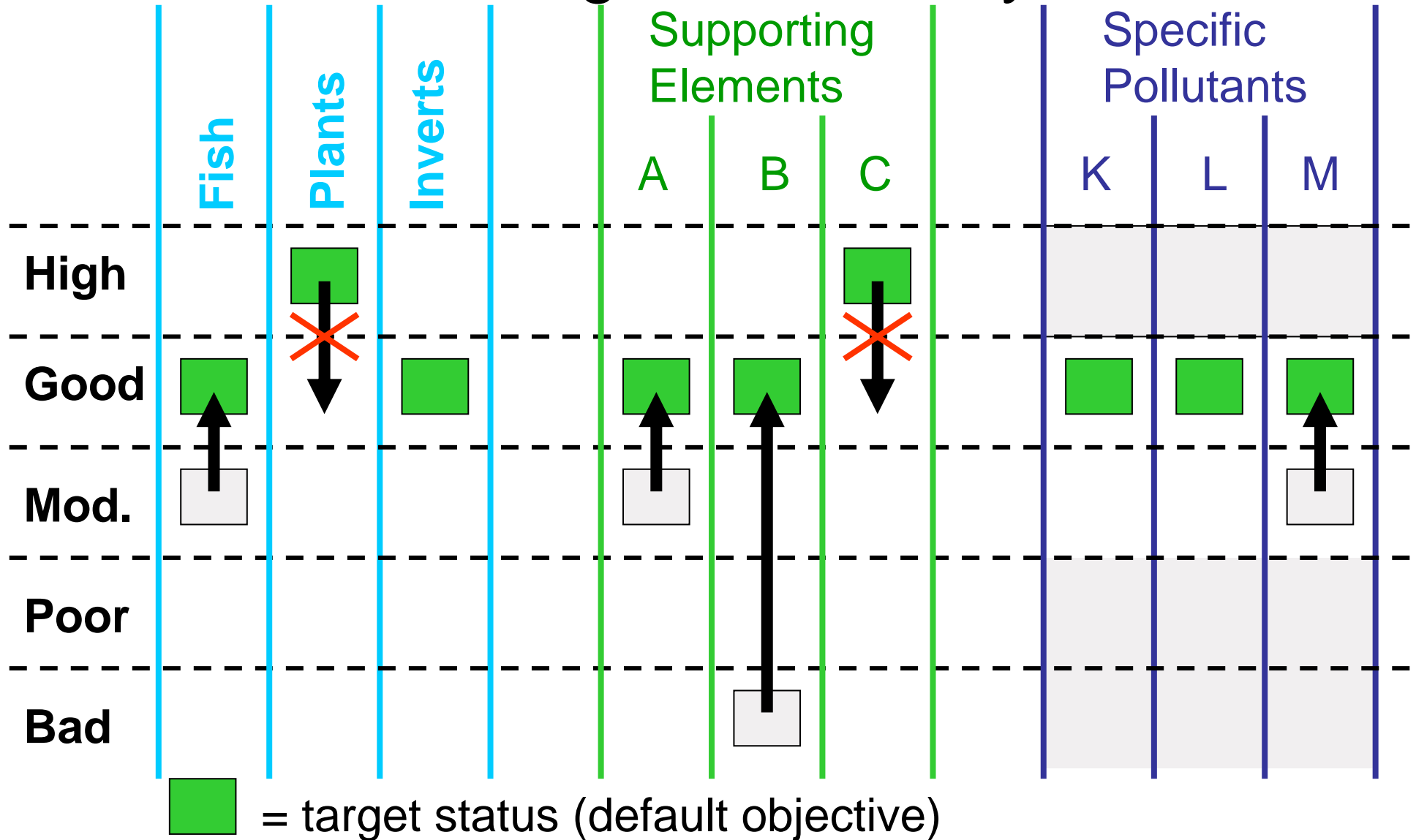
**Predicted effectiveness of
funded justified measures**

**OBJECTIVE
MEASURES**

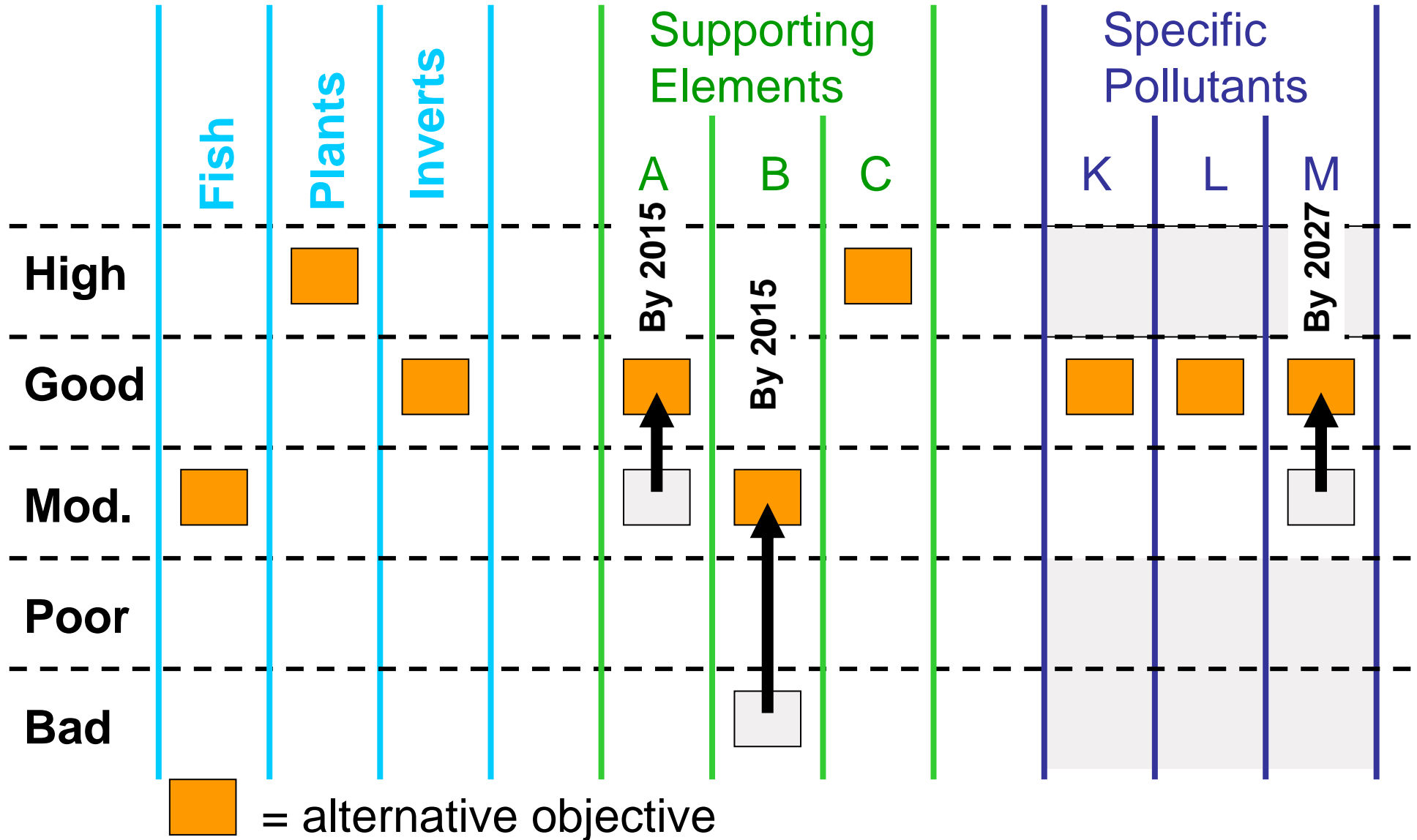
Ecological Status Objectives consist of a number of components



Default Objective - aim to achieve Good Ecological Status by 2015



But WFD allows us to set Alternative Objectives



Overall Status Objective

- One out all out rule
- Classification – current assessed status (**Bad**)
- Default Objective – target status (**Good by 2015** + no deterioration of status components currently at High)
- Alternative Objective (**Moderate by 2015**)



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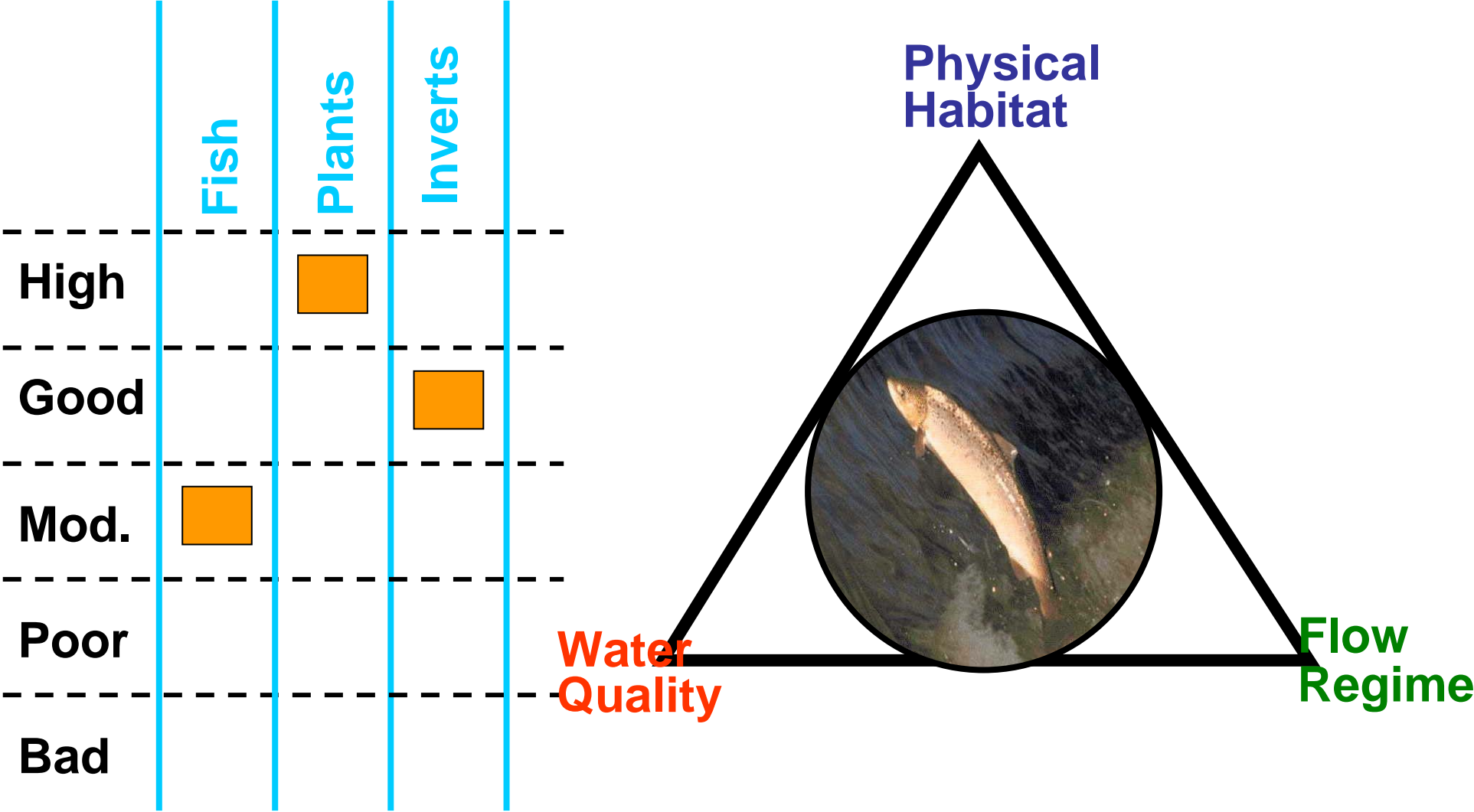


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Pressure Management – not just substances with standards



Process of filling the gap between current status and target status

For each pressure

- Predict effect of measures and trends we know **will** happen
- Identify additional cost effective measures that are technically feasible and not disproportionately expensive that **may** happen
- Predict effect of the measures on pressure. This will let you know if you need to set an alternative objective

For all pressures

- Check across measures and pressure to ensure your proposals are sensible
- Predict biological outcomes



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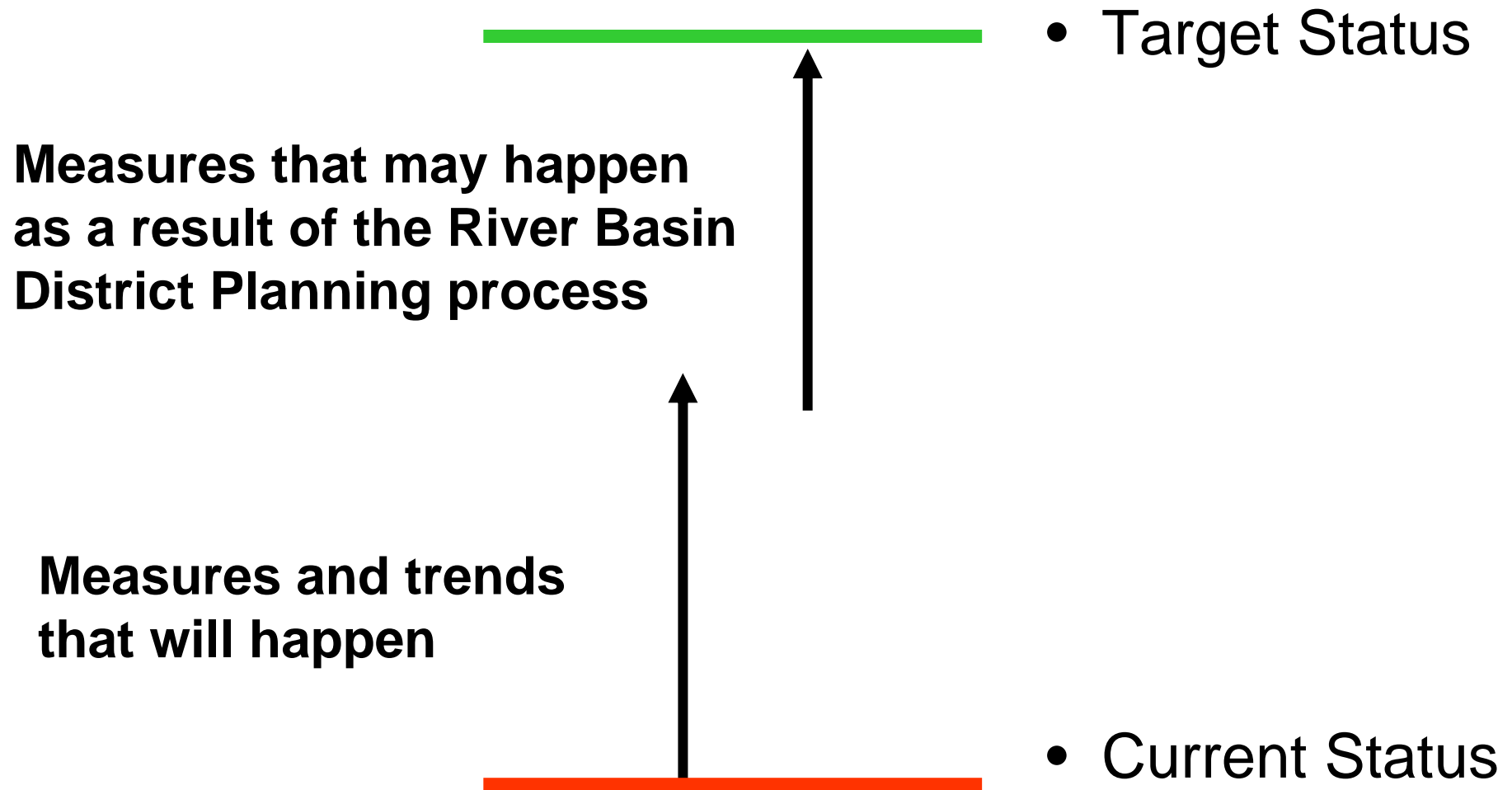
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Types of Measures

| | |
|--------|--|
| Type 1 | Current actions that are happening |
| Type 2 | Planned and funded new national/local actions that will happen |
| Type 3 | Additional actions required– not funded |



Process of filling the gap between current status and target status for each pressure/status component



Measures that are happening – Type 1

1. Actions already agreed and funded which may contribute to meet the objectives of the Water Framework Directive
 - NI Water Capital Works Programme
 - Agri-environment scheme
 - Nitrates Action Programme
 - ongoing local initiatives and partnerships etc.



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New measures that will happen –

Type 2

2. Actions that will happen irrespective of Water Framework Directive (usually under other Directives) but which may contribute to meeting the objectives of the Water Framework Directive
 - For example new action for Directives on Freshwater Fish, Urban Waste Water Treatment, Habitats, current and revised Bathing Water, and Shellfish Waters
 - Fishery restoration programmes



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New Measures for the Water Framework Directive – Type 2

- Planned and Funded New actions that will happen at a national/local scale to implement the Directive
 - controls on chemicals, fertilisers, and the formulation of other products (e.g. detergents)
 - national general binding rules and codes of practice that apply to specific activities
 - prohibit direct discharges to groundwater
 - local partnership to create a new wetland
 - new river restoration initiatives
 - a local awareness/education campaign.



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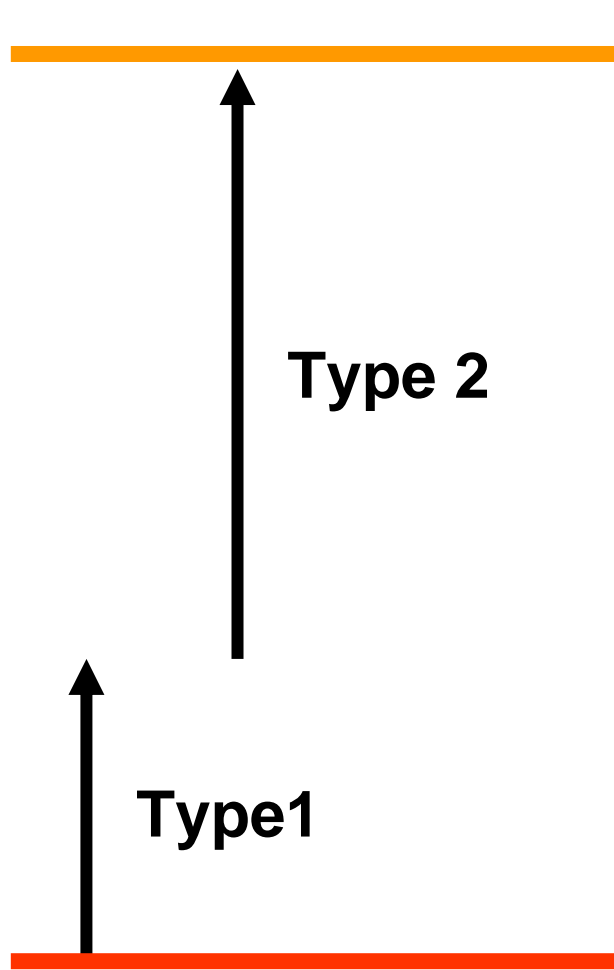


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Planning baseline



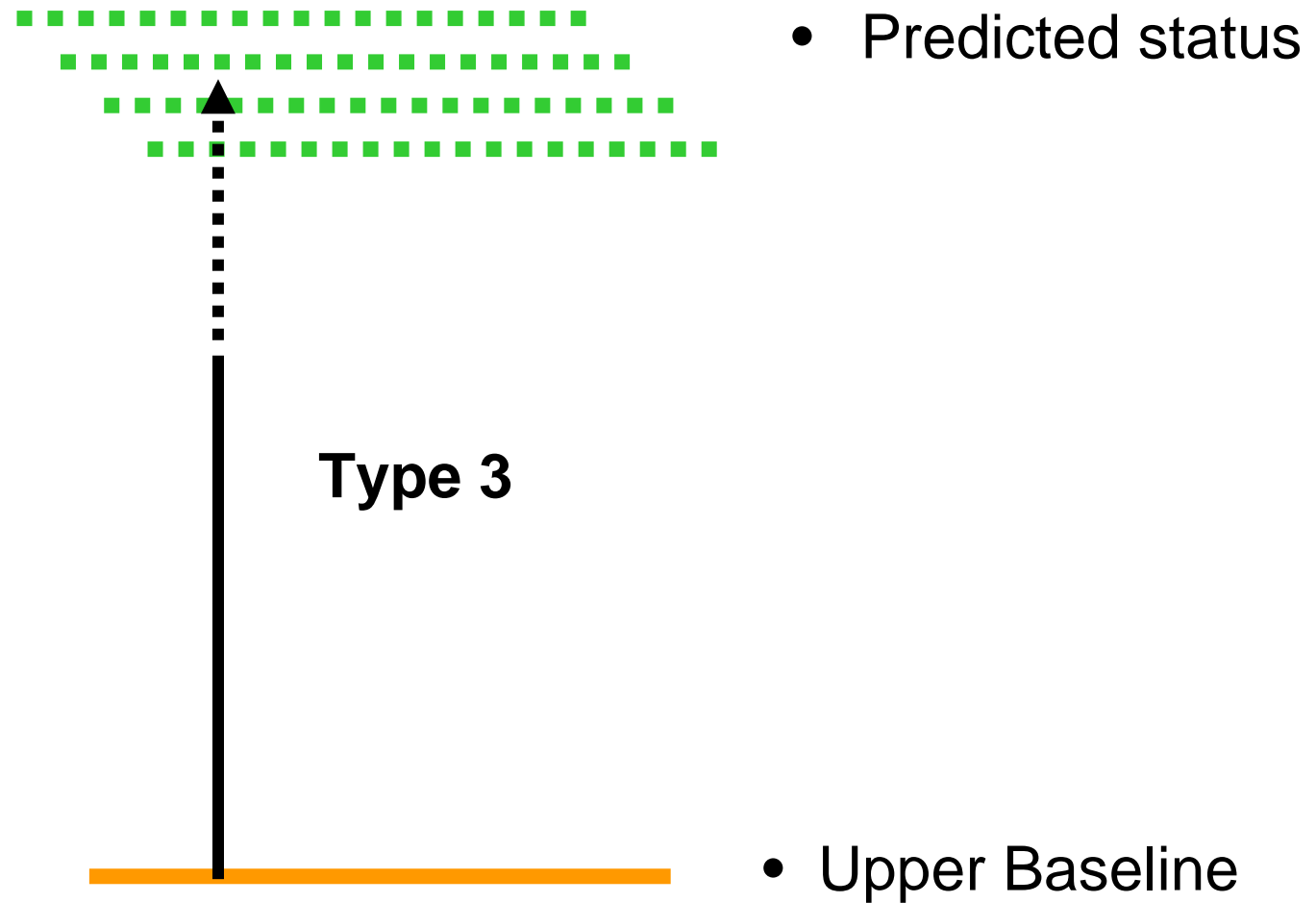
- **Upper Baseline**

- Status if we do nothing more
- Baseline for planning at the RBD level

- **Lower Baseline**

- Current Status
- Starting point for reporting the benefits of the WFD

Planning at the RBD level



Type 3 measures

- NI Price Review – measures that require benefits justification
- National diffuse pollution measures
- Water Order consent review
- Morphology restoration initiative
- PPC reviews (now or as part of normal review)
- Groundwater Authorisation reviews



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Type 3 measures appraisal

- Cost effective, technically feasible and not disproportionately expensive
- Much appraisal has already been carried out by national initiatives and normal functional planning activity
- This has resulted in numerous ‘Planning Assumptions’ about what measures can be used and when
- More appraisal still required....



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Disproportionately expensive

- Disproportionately expensive has 2 elements
- Consideration of costs and benefits – *is the measure worthwhile?*
- Consideration of distributional impacts – *is the measure affordable by the sectors*



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Disproportionately expensive

Funding probably available

Funding probably not available

No cost effective delivery mechanism

Benefits
> Costs
(worthwhile
schemes)

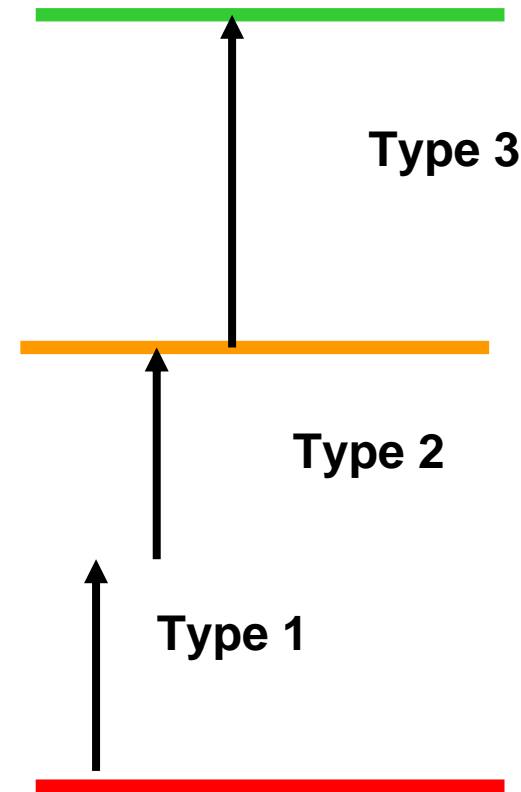
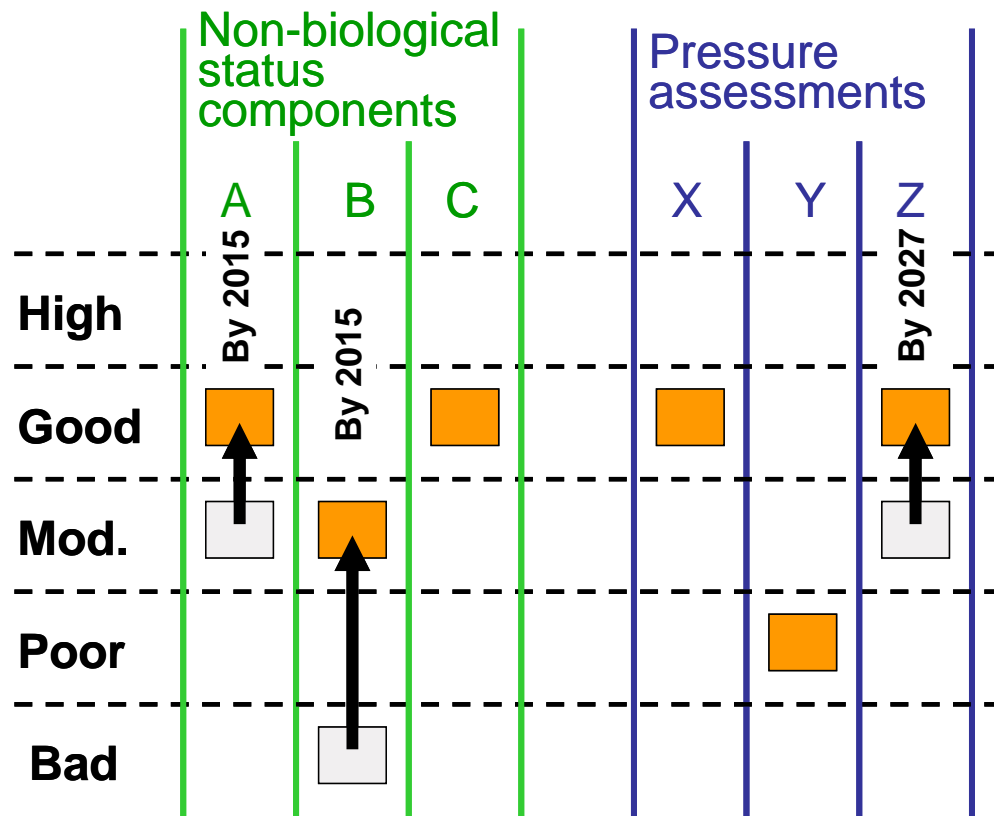
Implement
measure

Promote
funding

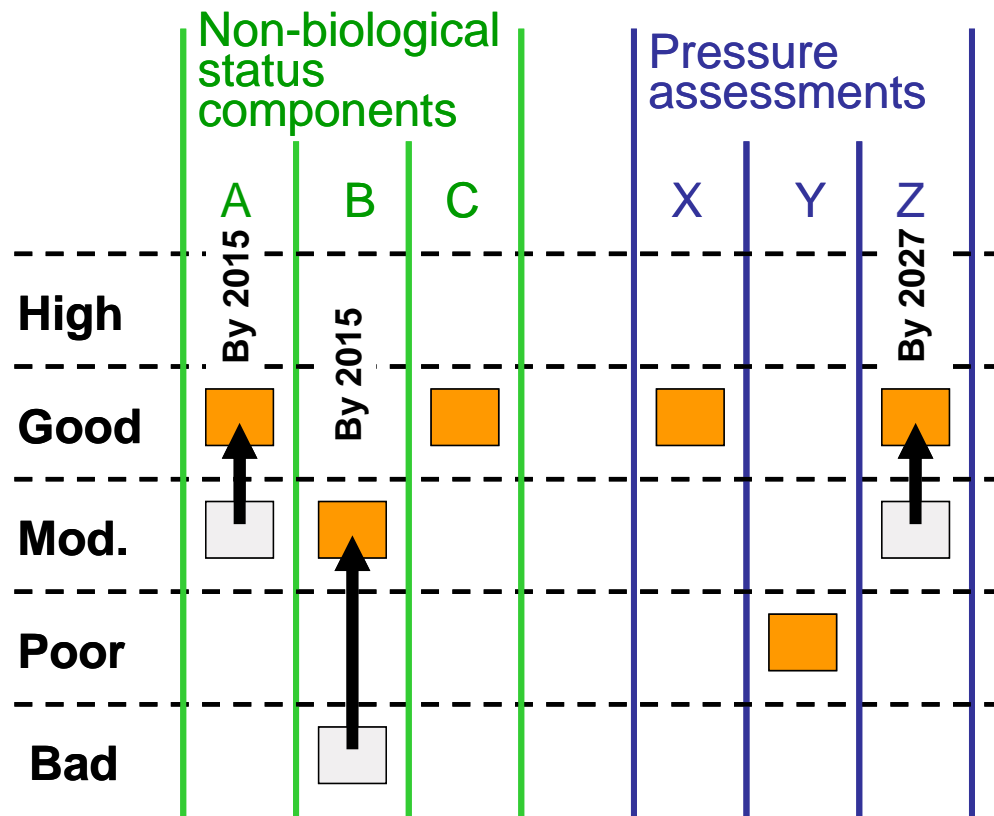
Benefits
< costs

Don't implement
disproportionate measure

Predict effect of measures for each pressure

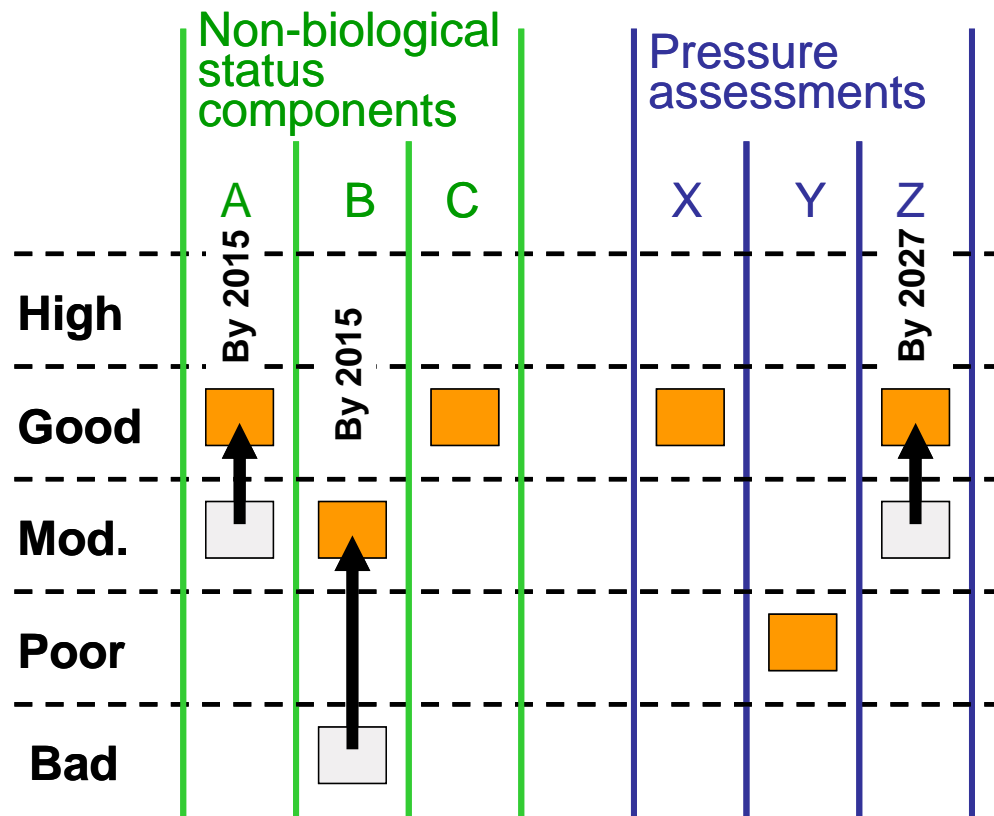


Cross pressure check



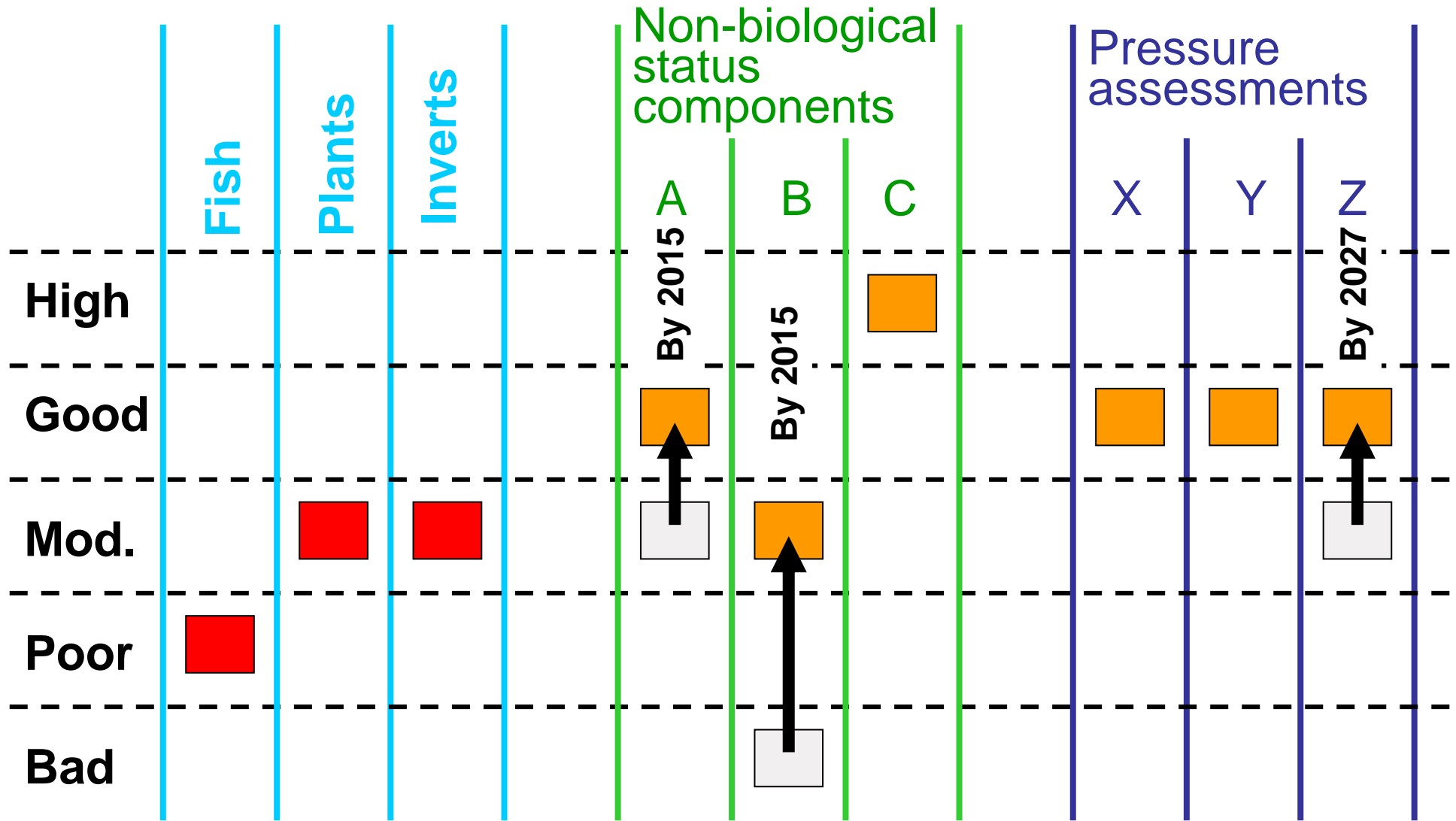
- Is it still worthwhile implementing measures for A, B and Z if we can't improve Y?
- *In most cases yes.*

Cross pressure check

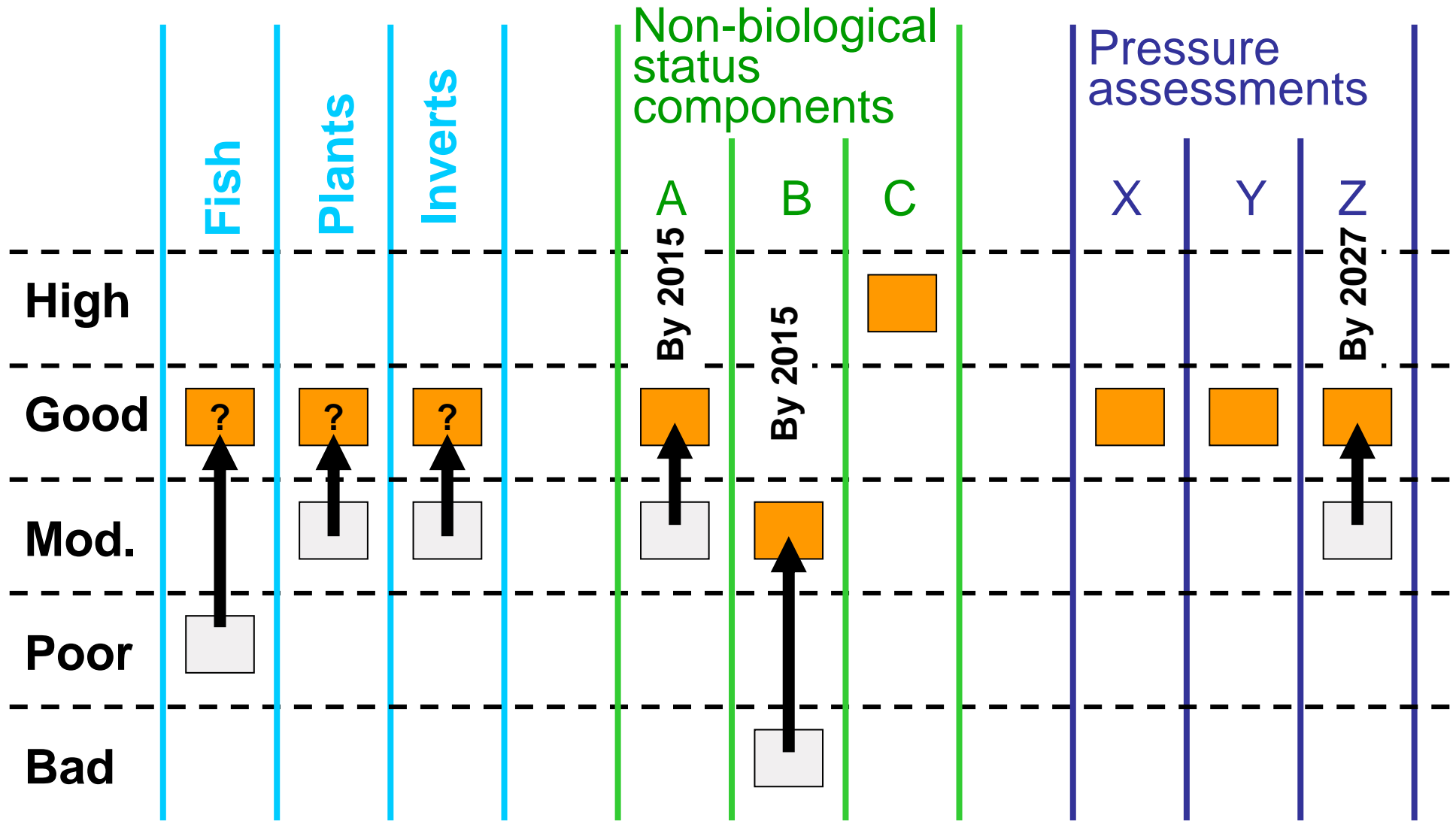


- Will my measure help improve your pressure?

Predict biological outcomes



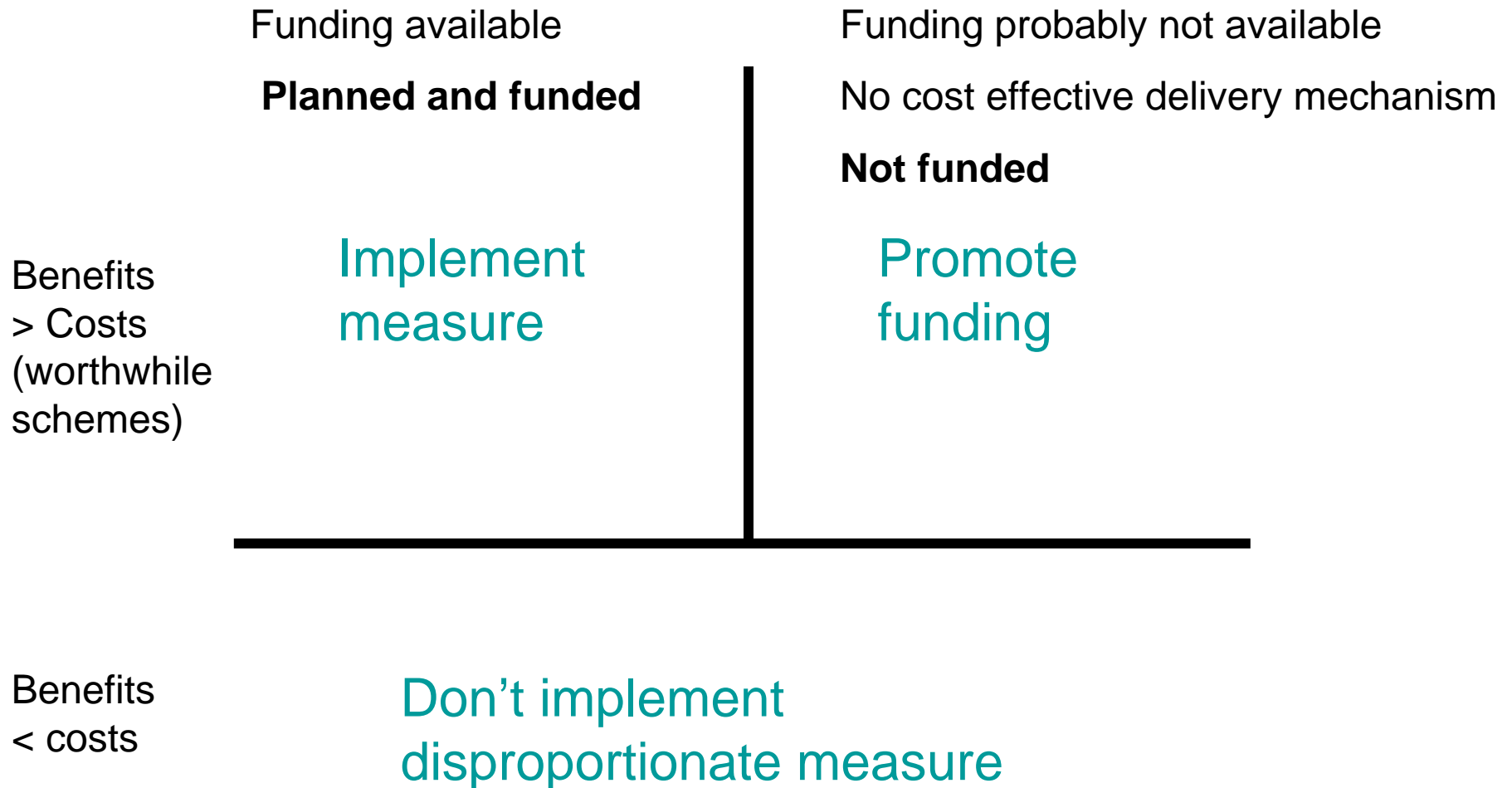
Predict biological outcomes



Scenarios

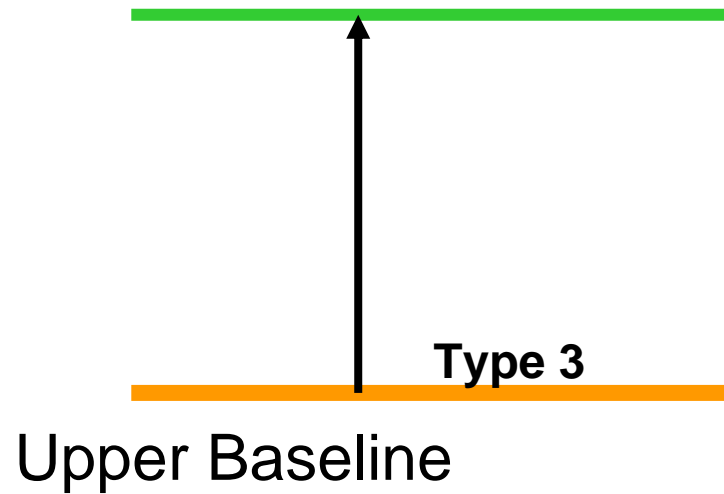
- Two main considerations:
 - how far?
 - how fast?
- Need to inform policy decisions
- 2 scenarios – funded/not funded

Disproportionately expensive



Planning at the RBD level

RBMP Scenario



What Objective will be set?

- Where Good Status is not currently achieved, or can't be achieved as a result of type 1 and 2 measures, need to consider whether an alternative objective can be justified
- Alternative Objectives
 - Extended Deadline, 2021, 2027 (3 cycles only)
 - Less stringent objective, moderate, poor, bad



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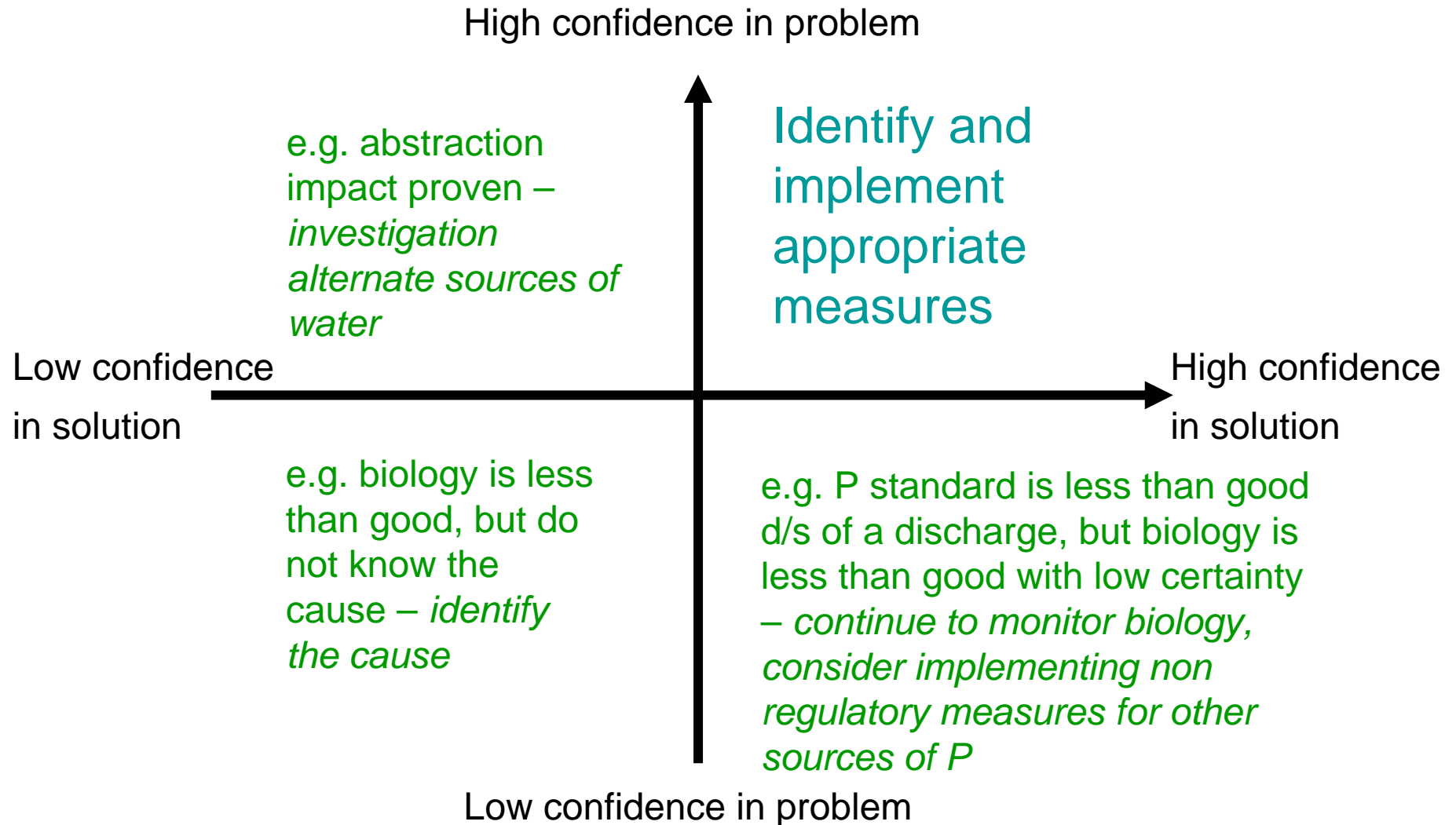


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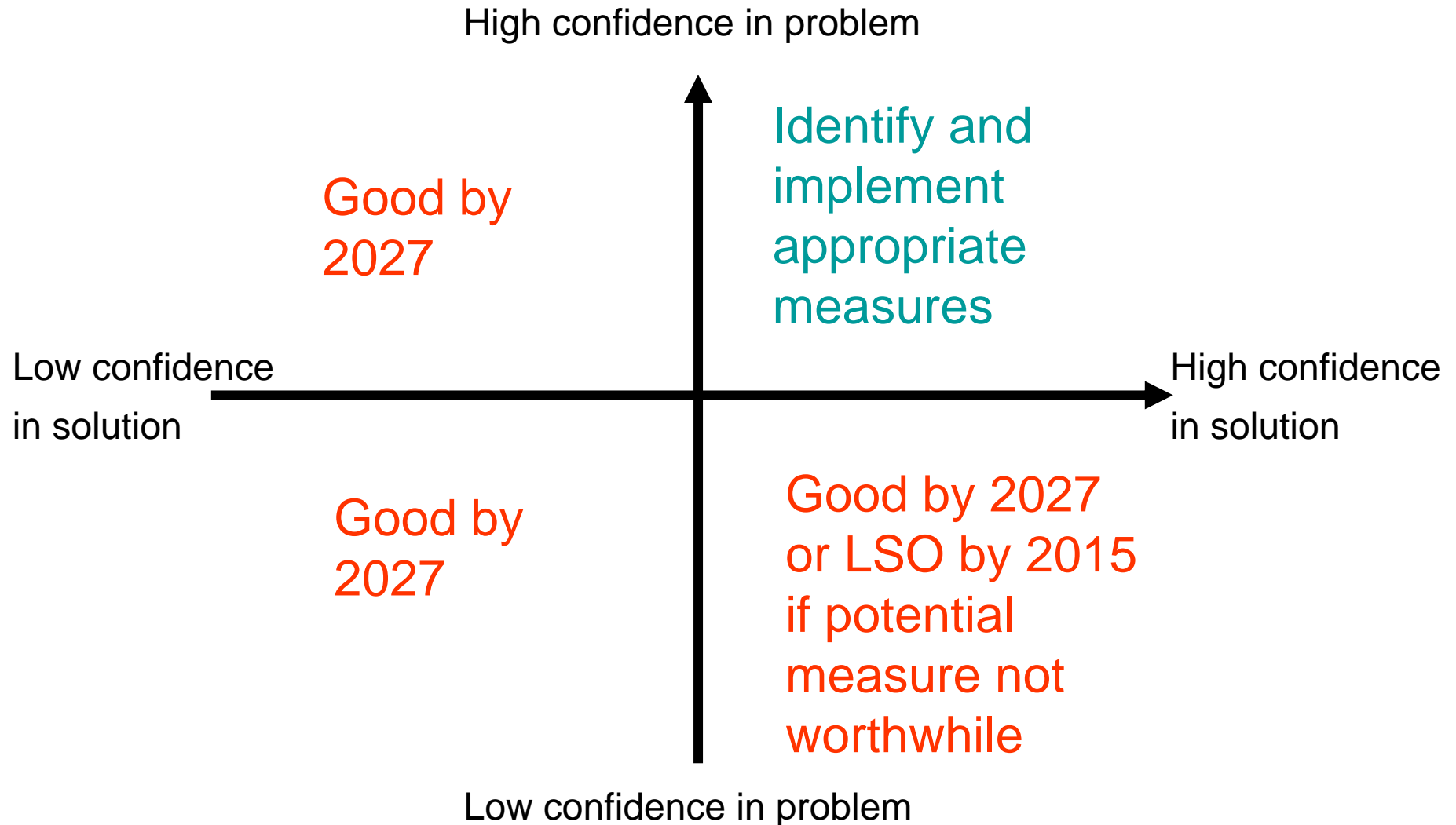


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Dealing with uncertainty



Dealing with uncertainty



Disproportionately expensive

Funding available

Funding not available

No cost effective delivery mechanism

Benefits
> Costs
*worthwhile
measures*

Good by 2015
(or 2021/2027
if funding
available over
extended time)

Good by 2027
Review in
2015 and 2021

Benefits
< Costs

Less stringent objective by 2015
Review in 2015 and 2021

Thank you

- Any questions?



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