The Water Framework Directive

Sharing experiences and meeting future challenges

Draft River Basin Management Plans – Focus on Public Participation

North Western and Neagh Bann River Basin Districts

Dr Tony McNally
RBD Coordinator
Donegal County Council
Ireland

River Basin Districts



Neagh Bann IRBD

North Western IRBD

Shannon IRBD

North Eastern RBD

Eastern RBD

South Eastern RBD

South Western RBD

Western RBD



Authorities

Monaghan CC / DOE NI

Donegal CC/ DOE NI

Limerick CC/ DOE NI

DOE NI

Dublin CC

Carlow CC

Cork CC

Galway CC

Implementation Structure

- 34 local authorities cooperate across 7 River Basin Districts
- Coordinating authority
- Consultancy support
- National coordination and technical committees to ensure consistency
- Ireland & Northern Ireland Coordination Group
 - NS SHARE Project (INTERREG IIIa)
- River Basin Advisory Councils (Art.14 public participation)
 - Representatives: Political, Environmental NGOs, Business, Agriculture, Recreation, Community and Academic
 - Role is to advise and make recommendations
 - Public authorities must take account of input from Advisory Councils

Participation Structures

Stakeholders

- Sectoral Groups represented through AC and various local/regional fora. Annual national AC meeting.
- Relevant Public Authorities listed in national legislation (SI 722) represented on RBD Public Authorities Forum and Management Groups

Includes: Rel Gov Depts, EPA, Local & Regional Authorities, Fisheries Boards, Geological Survey, Teagasc, RPII, Marine Institute, Electricity Supply Board, Waterways Ireland, Tourism Ireland, Heritage Council, HAS, LGCSB, Commissioners of Public Works

Public Consultation – draft RBMPs

• Dec 08 - Advertised in national media, RBD/LA/EPA/WFDIreland websites. Proactive circulation – email shots / hard copies to sectoral interest groups, Information Days. Mapping tools seen as a key element of consultation (*WaterMaps* in Ireland / **River Basin Plan Interactive Map** in Northern Ireland).

Overview of Draft Plan

(Consultation Document)



Working Together

Draft River Basin Management Plan



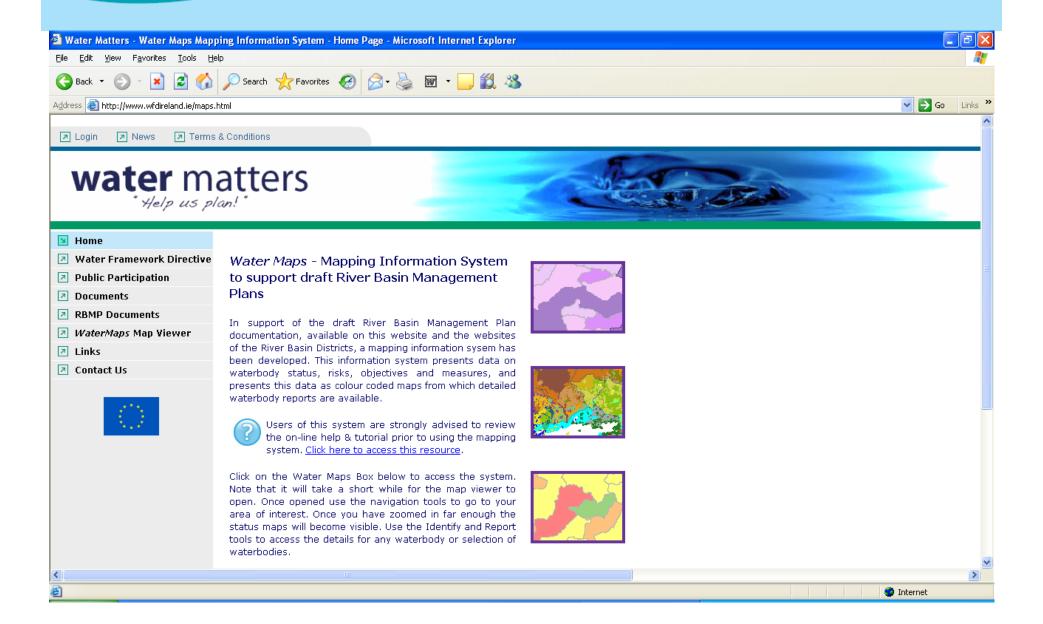


Plan Viewer (*WaterMaps*)

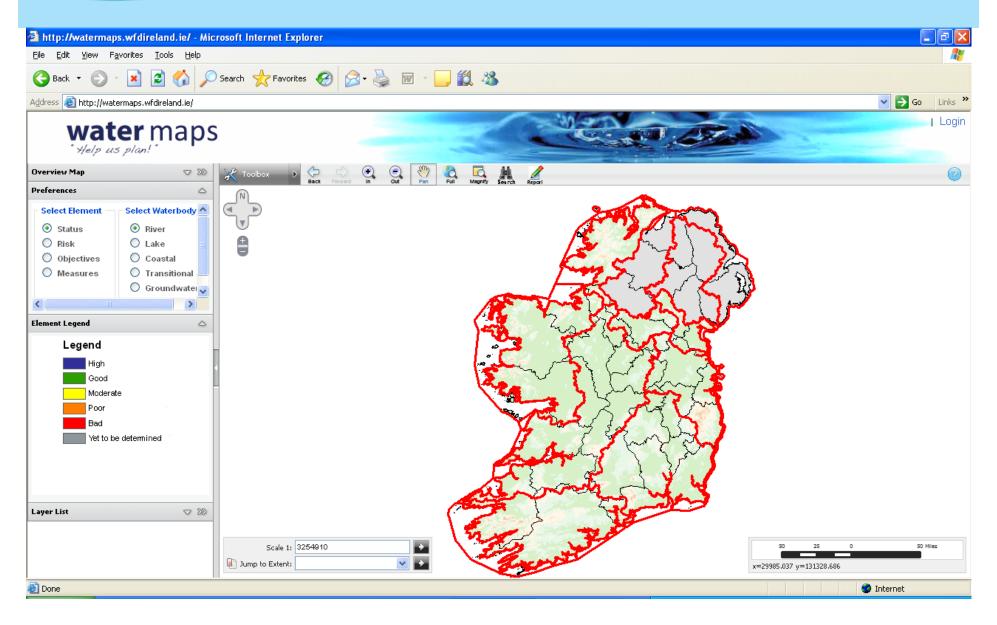
Background Documents (wfdireland.ie)



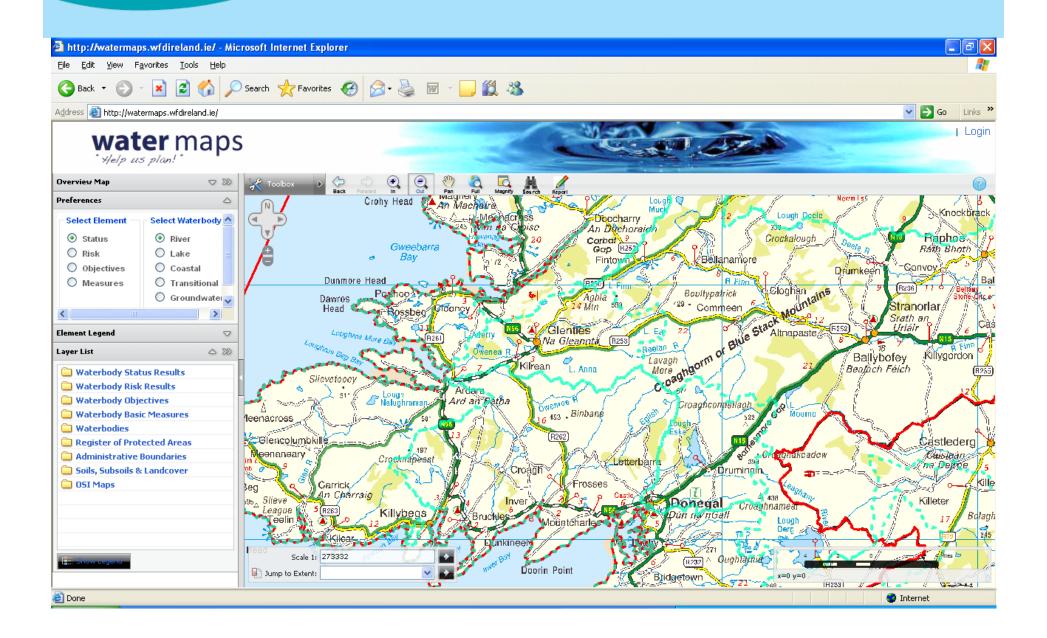
http://www.wfdireland.ie/



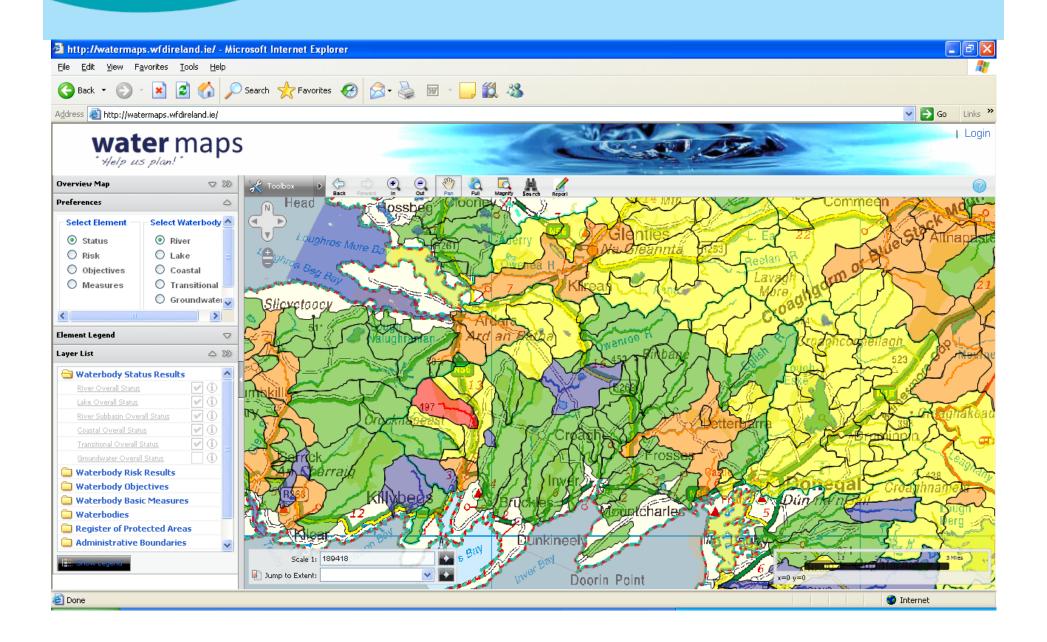
Waterbody status, risks, objectives and measures - waterbody reports



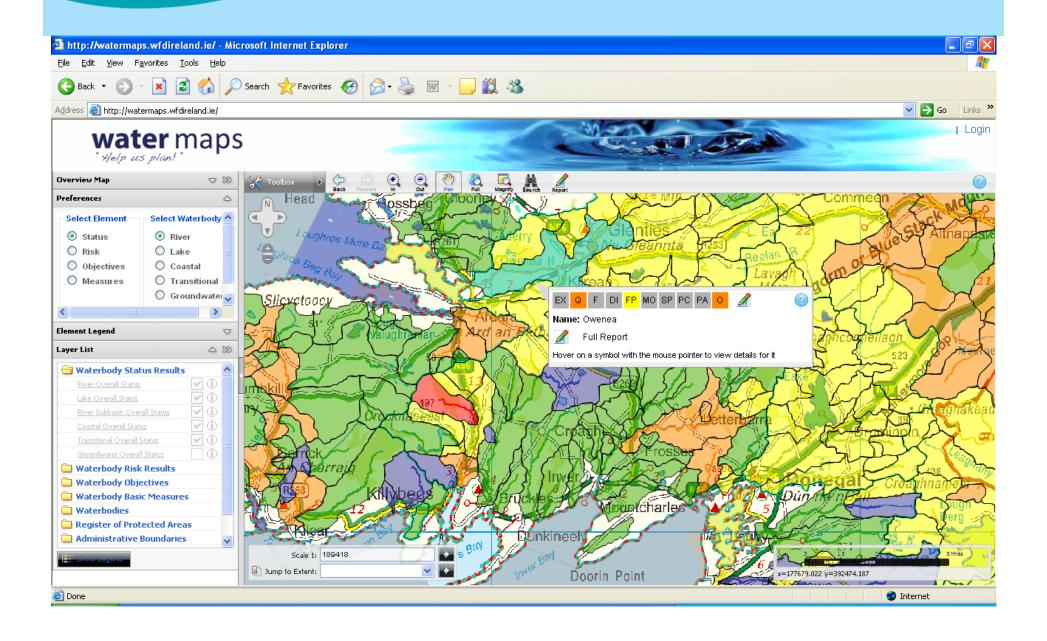
Zoom - Mapping Detail appropriate to scale



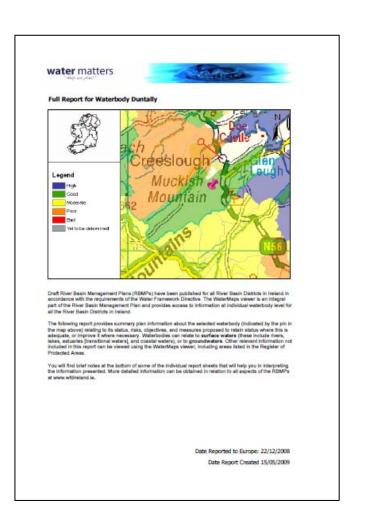
Waterbody reporting

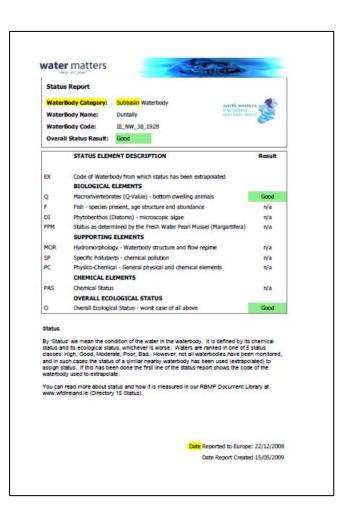


Waterbody reporting

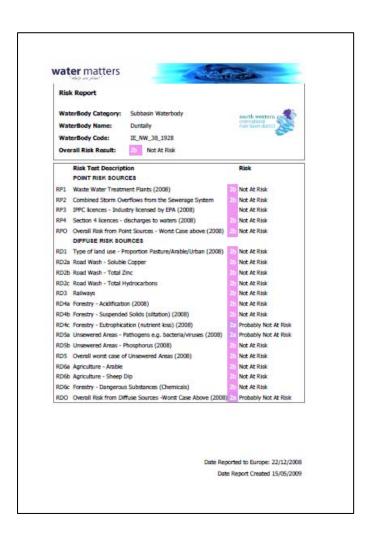


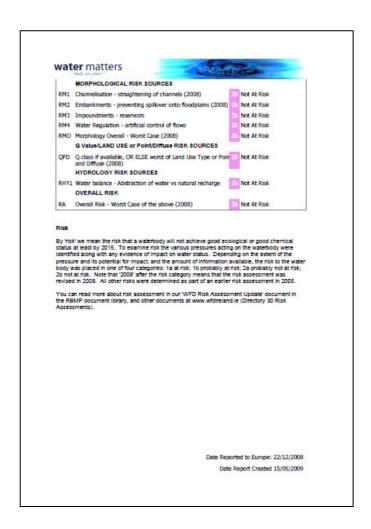
Waterbody reporting – Location and Status sheets



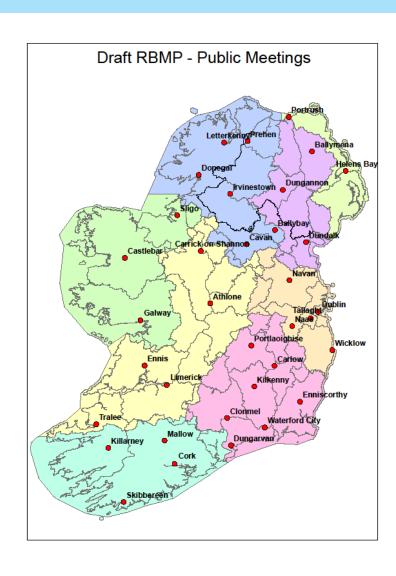


Waterbody reporting – Risk Sheets



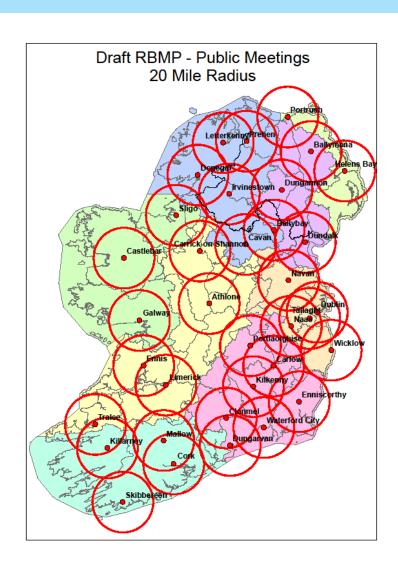


Public Information Meetings



Liaison North/South and cross-RBD to coordinate a series of public information events throughout all RBDs. Advertised in local and national media. Timing and location to facilitate public attendance. Cross representation by agency and project personnel at events North and South.

Public Information Meetings



Liaison North/South and cross-RBD to coordinate a series of public information events throughout all RBDs. Advertised in local and national media. Timing and location to facilitate public attendance. Cross representation by agency and project personnel at events North and South.

Most public within 30km of one or more events.

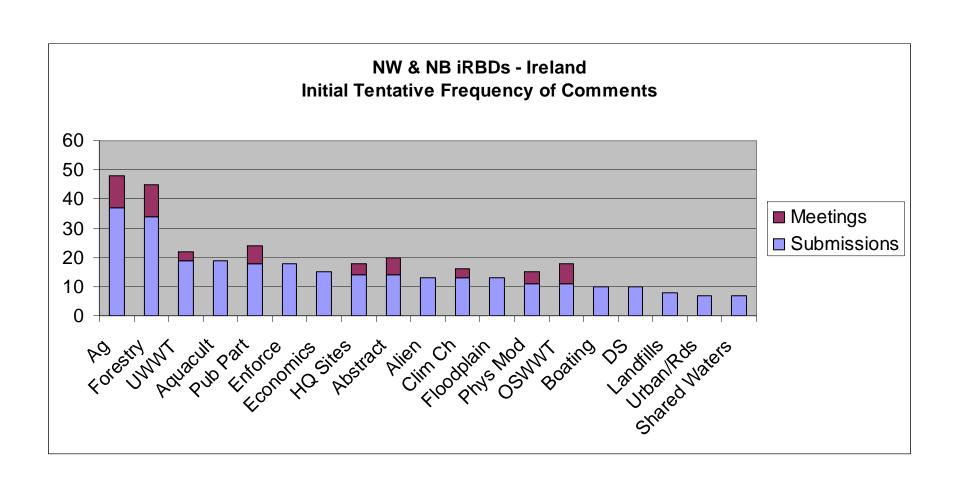
Public Information Meetings



Submissions received

- Substantial written submissions from public bodies, eNGOs and sectoral groups (In Ireland 400 nationally / 83 NW&NB)
- Few from individual members of Public Comments recorded at Information Events
- Many national cross-cutting issues with local inputs reflecting regional activities/pressures
- RBDs liaising to collate Issues for compilation into RBD digests

Submissions received (Caveat Emptor!)



Future Challenges

- Need stakeholder/public buy-in for success. Accessibility to complex geospatial information local level
- Facilitate input through mechanisms for feedback and engender an ethos of partnership and sense of ownership while managing expectations. TRUST
- DEHLG have commissioned Sustainable Water Network (SWAN umbrella network of national and local environmental groups) to produce a blueprint for a Public Awareness Campaign. SWAN have assessed baseline attitudes to Water and have used this to identify key sectors and appropriate messages. Also the mechanisms for msg delivery in each sector
- Economic constraints Difficult economic climate for securing future funding. Vital to ensure resources within public service are used efficiently commitment to achieving WFD objectives

Thank You Go raibh maith agaibh Tack så mycket

