



Cycle 3

HA 01 Foyle Catchment Report, May 2024

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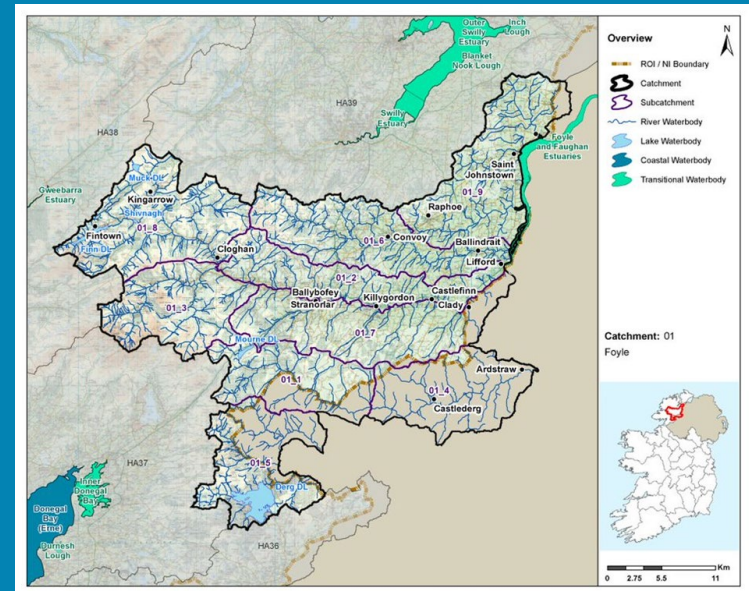
Summary Information

This report provides an overview of the water quality in the Foyle Catchment and the pressures impacting on water quality. This report is based on data up to 2021. The latest water quality data, dashboards and maps throughout this report are available on catchments.ie and [EPA Water Map](https://epa.maps.ie).

The Foyle Catchment includes the area drained by the River Finn and by all streams entering tidal water between Culmore Point, Co. Derry and Coolkeeragh, Co. Derry. This is a cross border catchment with a surface area of 2,919km², 914km² of which is located within the Republic of Ireland. The largest urban centres in the catchment are Ballybofey and Stranorlar.

The Foyle Catchment is divided into nine subcatchments with 41 river waterbodies, five lakes, one transitional waterbody and 14 groundwater bodies.

[View the Foyle Catchment on the EPA Water Map](https://epa.maps.ie)



Overview of Subcatchments in the Foyle Catchment

Previous Catchment Assessments

Previous catchment assessments, which provide additional historic context and information, are archived on catchments.ie:

- [Cycle 2 Catchment Assessments – published September 2018](#)
- [Cycle 3 Draft Catchment Assessments – published September 2021](#)

Online Dashboards

Links to online dashboards are provided in this report – these numbers may vary from those in this document as time progress and the online dashboards are updated based on the latest data and scientific assessments.

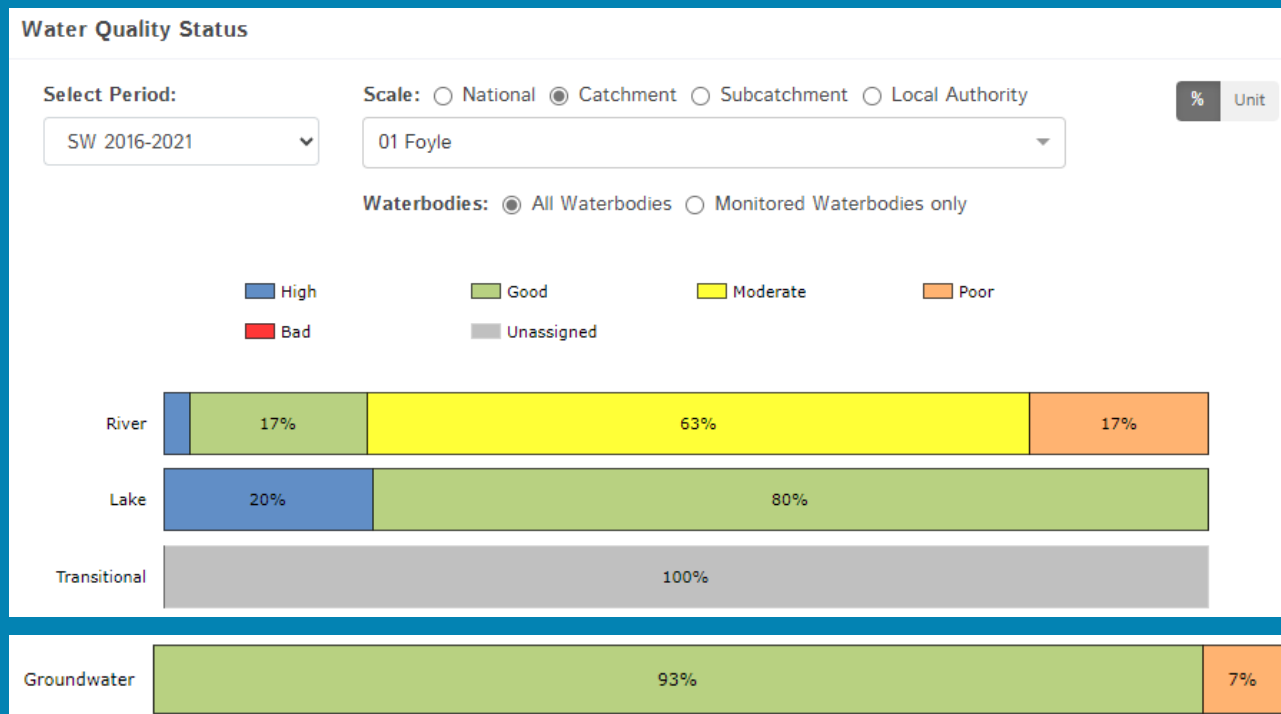
Water Quality Summary

The dashboard below provides a breakdown of water quality status for surface and groundwater bodies in the Foyle Catchment.

A total of 28% of surface waterbodies were at Good or High Ecological Status in the 2016-2021 monitoring period. Ninety-three percent of groundwater bodies were at Good status.

**Go to EPA Water Maps
for WFD Status**

[EPA Water Map](#)



Water quality status 2016-2021 for the Foyle Catchment.

View Online Dashboard: <https://www.catchments.ie/data/#/dashboard/waterquality>

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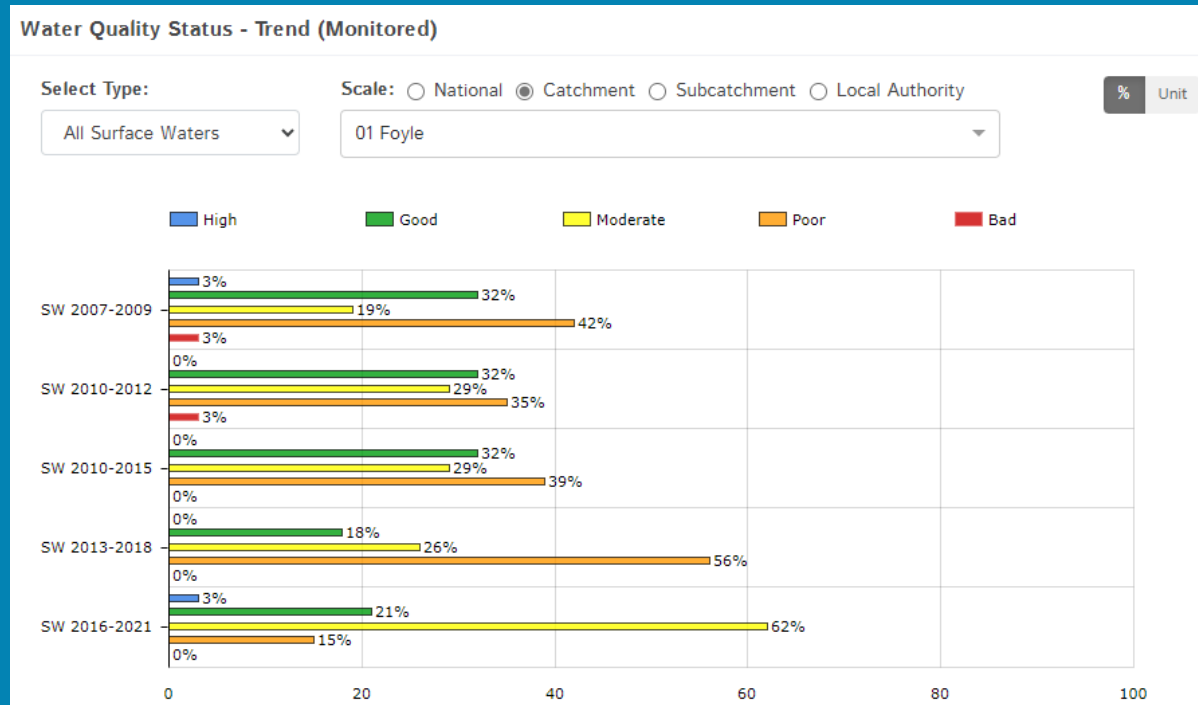
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Water Quality Changes

Below illustrates the changes in ecological status in monitored surface waterbodies over the last five monitoring cycles in the Foyle Catchment. Nationally while there have been improvements in some waterbodies, these have been offset by declines elsewhere.



Ecological status trends for monitored surface waterbodies over the last five monitoring cycles in the Foyle Catchment.

View online dashboard: <https://www.catchments.ie/data/#/dashboard/waterquality>

A total of 26 (43%) waterbodies are currently meeting their environmental objective of Good.

	Total	Achieving Environmental Objectives (2016-2021)	High Status Environmental Objectives Waterbodies	Achieving High Status Environmental Objectives (2016-2021)
Rivers	41	8 (20%)	0	0 (0%)
Canals	-	-	-	-
Lakes	5	5 (100%)	0	0 (0%)
Transitional	1	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)
Coastal	-	-	-	-
Groundwater	14	13 (93%)	0	0 (0%)

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WFD Risk

A total of 29 (48%) waterbodies are *At Risk* of not meeting their environmental objective in the Foyle Catchment, while 13 (21%) are under *Review* and 19 (31%) are *Not At Risk*.

Go to [EPA Water Map](#) to see *WFD Risk for this catchment*

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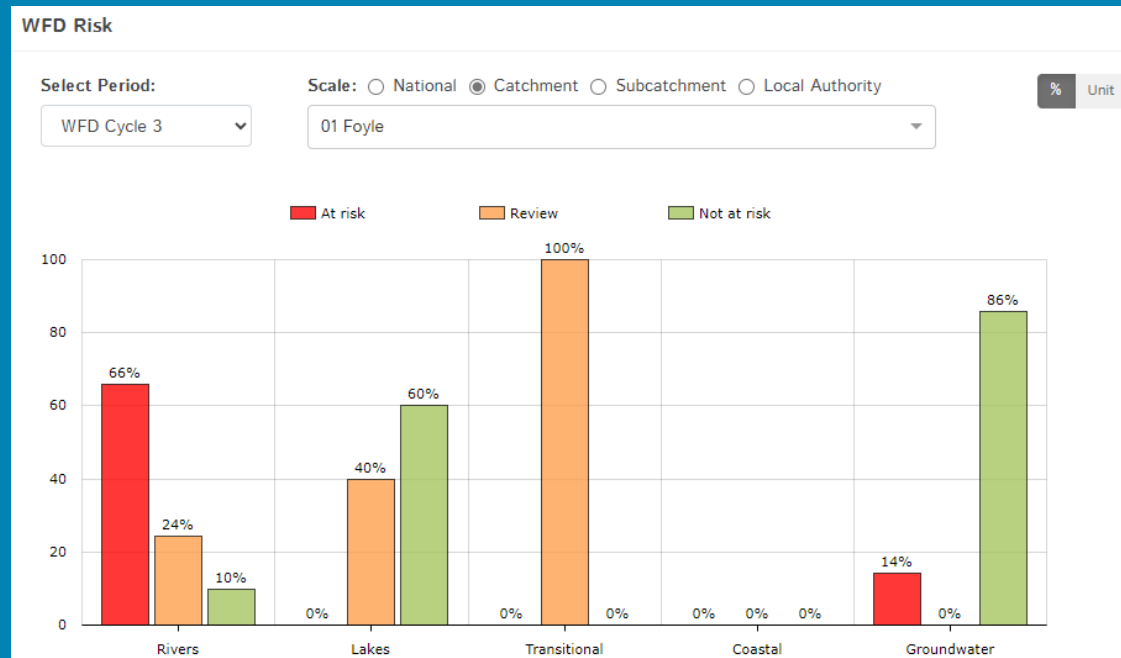
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WFD Risk for the Foyle Catchment based on 2016-2021 data.

View Online Dashboard: <https://www.catchments.ie/data/#/dashboard/waterquality>

There is currently one heavily modified waterbody (HMWB) in the Foyle catchment (Foyle and Faughan Estuaries). It is under *Review*.

There are no artificial waterbodies in the Foyle Catchment.

The [EPA's characterisation outcome report](#) has more information on WFD Risk

Significant Pressures driving risk

Click [here](#) for more information on significant pressures

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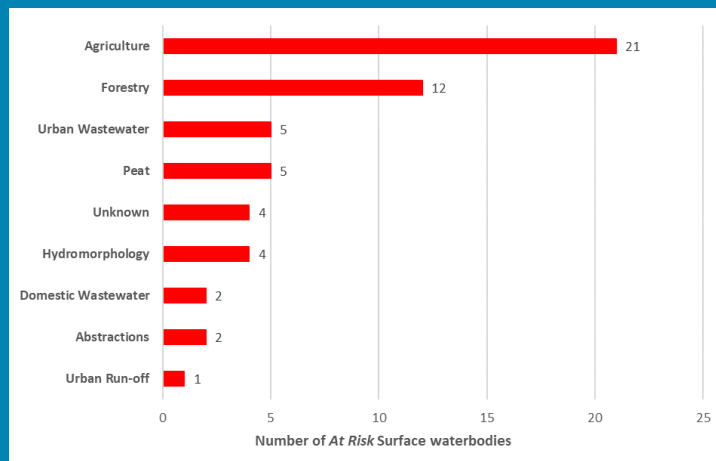
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Significant pressure types impacting the 27 *At Risk* surface waterbodies and two groundwater bodies are broken down in the figures below.

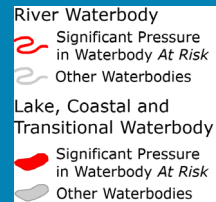


The issues driven by these pressures are mainly nutrient pollution, chemical pollution and altered morphological condition (habitat) impacts for surface water, and nutrient pollution for groundwaters. For more information, see <https://www.catchments.ie/data/#/dashboard/pressure?k=i351zs>.

Go to the Summary Information section to get significant pressure and issue data for At Risk waterbodies within the Foyle Catchment.

Significant Pressures

Agriculture is the top significant pressure impacting 72% of the 29 *At Risk* waterbodies within the Foyle Catchment, followed by 41% impacted by forestry and 17% by peat and urban wastewater.



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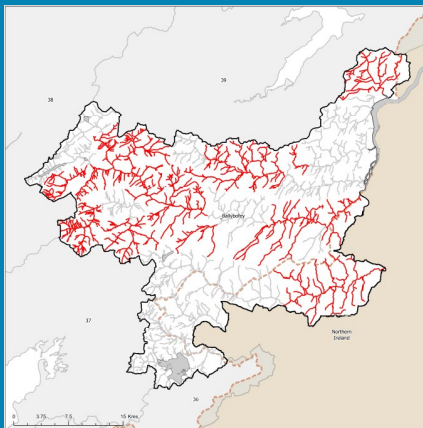
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The catchments.ie dashboards will show all significant pressures identified for this catchment.

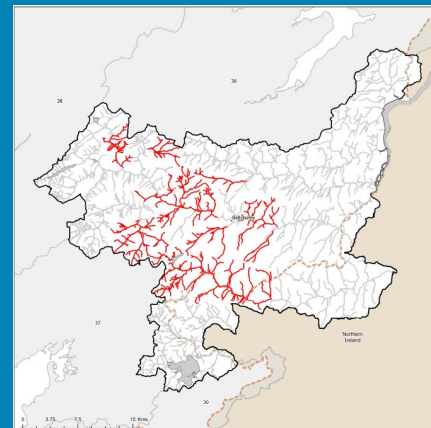
www.catchments.ie/data/#/dashboard/pressure

Go to the [EPA Water Maps](#) for the locations of all significant pressure types identified for this catchment

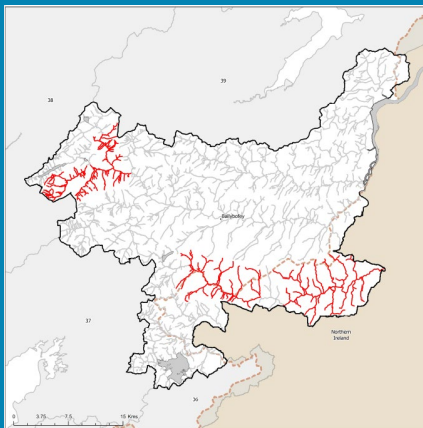
i



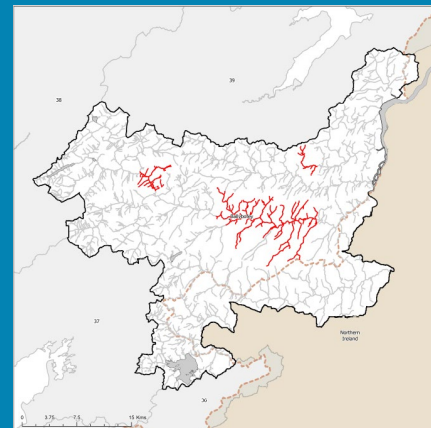
ii



iii



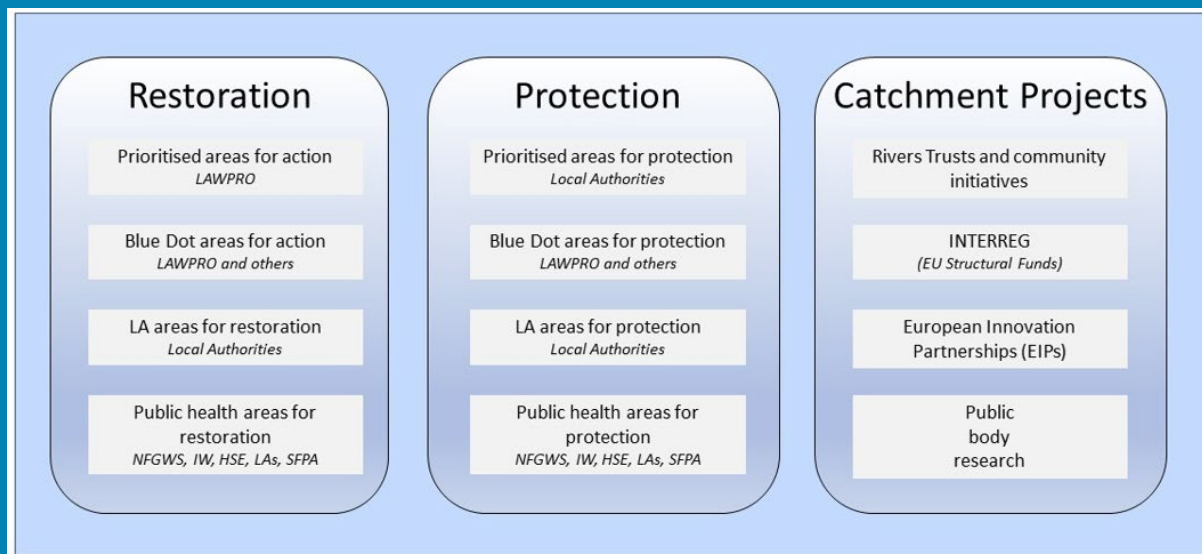
iv



Locations of At Risk surface waterbodies impacted by i) Agriculture, ii) Forestry, iii) Peat and iv) Urban Wastewater.

Priority Areas for Action

A number of waterbodies have been prioritised through the selection of Areas for Action. There were two Priority Areas for Action identified for the second river basin management planning cycle in the Foyle Catchment. This has increased to a total of four Areas for Restoration, one Area for Protection and one Catchment Project for the third cycle. ***Go to the summary information section to get Area for Action information for waterbodies within the Foyle Catchment.***



Types of Areas for Action under the third cycle River Basin Management Plan

- View the current progress of Areas for Action and Summary Reports completed by LAWPRO, on catchments.ie and the EPA Water Map:
 - <https://www.catchments.ie/data/#/areaforaction>
 - https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?easting=?&northing=?&lid=EPA:WFD_AreasForAction
- LAWPRO have also published detailed desktop studies on Prioritised Areas for Action (PAAs) which are available their website: <https://lawaters.ie/desktop-studies/>
- Information on Areas for Action for the second cycle is available in Cycle 2 Catchment Assessments which have been archived on catchments.ie: <https://www.catchments.ie/download/cycle-2-catchment-assessments-published-september-2018/>

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Summary information for all waterbodies in the Foyle Catchment

The next page provides a table with a breakdown of key information for all waterbodies in this catchment. The key is provided below. Additional information for each waterbody is available on <https://www.catchments.ie/data>, including a breakdown of status, a monitoring schedule for monitored waterbodies and downloadable chemistry results, where available.

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Protected Area categories	BW: Bathing Water DW: Drinking Water Fish: Salmonid Waters NSA: Nutrient Sensitive Areas SAC: Special Area of Conservation, Natura 2000 (water dependent habitats and species) SF: Shellfish Area SPA: Special Area of Protection, Natura 2000 (water dependent habitat and species)
Significant pressure* types categories <i>* For At Risk waterbodies only</i>	Ab: Abstractions Ag: Agriculture Aq: Aquaculture At: Atmospheric DWW: Domestic Wastewater For: Forestry HPS: Historically polluted sites HYMO: Hydromorphology Ind: Industry IS: Invasive Species M+Q: Mines and Quarries Peat: Peat Drainage and Extraction UR: Urban Run-Off UWW: Urban Wastewater Was: Waste WT: Water Treatment

Catchment Code	Waterbody (WB) Code	WB Name	WB Type	Local Authority	Protected Area	Status 10-15	Status 13-18	Status 16-21	Environmental Objective	Environmental Objective Date	WFD Risk 16-21	Significant Issue(s)	Significant Pressure(s)	Area for Action (AFA)	AFA (lead, type)	Link to WB page on catchments.ie	Link to WB on EPA Water Map
1	GBNI4NW003	Claudy	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA	Good	Good	Poor	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Nutrients	Unknown			View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 36, 37, 38	IE_NW_G_047	Donegal South	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 37, 38, 39	IE_NW_G_049	Northwest Donegal	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 39	IE_NW_G_052	Manor Cunningham	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 39	IE_NW_G_054	Raphoe	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_G_056	Killygordon	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 39	IE_NW_G_058	Upper Deelee	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_G_075	Foyle Gravels	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_G_085	Waste Facility (W0062-01)	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Poor	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	At risk	Nutrients	Was			View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 36, 37	IEGBNI_NW_G_005	Castlederg	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 36, 37	IEGBNI_NW_G_011	Ballyshannon East	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 37, 38, 39	IEGBNI_NW_G_048	Ballybofey	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 39, 40	IEGBNI_NW_G_051	River Foyle	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 38, 39, 40	IEGBNI_NW_G_059	Lough Swilly	Groundwater	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01_102	Finn DL	Lake	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish; SPA;	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk			Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01_104	Mourne DL	Lake	Donegal County Council	DWPA; SAC;	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01_109	Muck DL	Lake	Donegal County Council	SAC; SPA;	Unassigned	High	High	Good	2021 or earlier	Review			Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01_111	Shivnagh	Lake	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish;	Unassigned	Moderate	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Review			Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01_115	Derg DL	Lake	Donegal County Council	SAC; SPA;	Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01B010100	BUNADAOWEN_010	River	Donegal County Council		Poor	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Acidification, Hydrological, Morphological, Nutrients	For			View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01B020200	BURN DAURNETT_010	River	Donegal County Council		Poor	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Acidification, Nutrients	Ag, For	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01C030100	CUMMIRK_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; SPA;	Poor	Good	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	Review			Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01C030300	CUMMIRK_020	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Poor	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical, Nutrients, Organic	Ag, For, Peat	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01C040500	CROSS ROADS STREAM_010	River	Donegal County Council		Good	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Nutrients	Ag, For	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01C050400	CLOGHROE_010	River	Donegal County Council		Good	Moderate	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Nutrients	Ag, For	Deelee (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01C060100	CLOGHER (FINN)_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical	Ag, For	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01D010040	DEELE (DONEGAL)_010	River	Donegal County Council		Good	Poor	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk			Deelee (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01D010200	DEELE (DONEGAL)_020	River	Donegal County Council		Good	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical	Ag	Deelee (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01D010500	DEELE (DONEGAL)_030	River	Donegal County Council		Poor	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Nutrients, Organic	DWTS, Ag	Deelee (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01D010600	DEELE (DONEGAL)_040	River	Donegal County Council		Good	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Review			Deelee (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01D010650	DEELE (DONEGAL)_050	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Unassigned	Good	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	Review			Deelee (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01D150930	DRESNAGH_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Unassigned	Poor	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Review			Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01D330890	Derg_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; SPA;	Unassigned	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01E020100	ELATAGH_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Poor	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical, UnknownImpactType	For, Ag	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01E020300	ELATAGH_020	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical	Ag	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01F010200	FINN (DONEGAL)_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish; SPA;	Moderate	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Review			Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01F010350	FINN (DONEGAL)_020	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish;	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical, UnknownImpactType	Ag, Peat	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01F010400	FINN (DONEGAL)_030	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish;	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical, Nutrients, Organic	Ag, UWW	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map

1	IE_NW_01F010500	FINN (DONEGAL)_040	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish;	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Morphological, Chemical, Nutrients	Ag, HYMO, For	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01F010600	FINN (DONEGAL)_050	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish;	Moderate	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Morphological, Chemical, Nutrients, Organic	Ag, For, HYMO	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01F010800	FINN (DONEGAL)_060	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish;	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Nutrients, Organic	UR, UWW	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01F010910	FINN (DONEGAL)_070	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish;	Unassigned	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Sediment, Nutrients	UWW, For	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01F011100	FINN (DONEGAL)_080	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish;	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Nutrients, Organic	Ag, DWTS, UWW	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01M010200	MOURNE BEG_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Poor	Poor	Poor	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Acidification, Hydrological, Nutrients	Ab, For			View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01R010200	REELAN_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Good	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical	Ag	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01R010500	REELAN_020	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Poor	Poor	High	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk			Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01R020200	ROUGH BURN_010	River	Donegal County Council		Good	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical	Ag	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01S010280	ST JOHNSTON_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Poor	Poor	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Not at risk			St Johnstons	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01S020200	STRANAGOPPOGE_010	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Poor	Moderate	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Morphological, Chemical	Ag, Peat	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01S030200	SWILLY BURN_010	River	Donegal County Council		Poor	Poor	Poor	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Hydrological, Morphological, Chemical, Nutrients, Organic	HYMO, Ag, UWW	Swilly Burn	Donegal County Council, Protection	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01S030250	SWILLY BURN_020	River	Donegal County Council		Unassigned	Poor	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	Review			Swilly Burn	Donegal County Council, Protection	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	IE_NW_01S030500	SWILLY BURN_030	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Unassigned	Poor	Poor	Good	2022-2027	Review			Swilly Burn	Donegal County Council, Protection	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	UKGBNI1NW010102064	Mourne Beg River (Lisnacloone)	River	Donegal County Council		Unassigned	Moderate	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical, Nutrients	Unknown	Mourne Beg - Derg	NIEA, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	UKGBNI1NW010102066	Mourne Beg River (Derrygoonan)	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Unassigned	Moderate	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Hydrological, Morphological, Chemical, Nutrients	Ab, Unknown, For, Peat	Mourne Beg - Derg	NIEA, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	UKGBNI1NW010102067	Glendergan River	River	Donegal County Council		Unassigned	Moderate	Poor	Good	2022-2027	Review					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	UKGBNI1NW010102095	Derg River (Millbrook)	River	Donegal County Council		Unassigned	Moderate	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical, Nutrients	Unknown, Ag, Peat	Mourne Beg - Derg	NIEA, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	UKGBNI1NW010103062	CARRIGANS_010	River	Donegal County Council		Poor	Poor	Poor	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Hydrological, Morphological, Nutrients	Ag, HYMO			View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	UKGBNI1NW010103065	Owenboy Burn	River	Donegal County Council		Unassigned	Moderate	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	Review					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	UKGBNI1NW010104068	Derg River (Crocknacunny)	River	Donegal County Council	SAC;	Unassigned	Good	Good	Good	2021 or earlier	Review					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1	UKGBNI1NW010104074	Finn River	River	Donegal County Council	SAC; Fish;	Unassigned	Moderate	Moderate	Good	2022-2027	At risk	Chemical	Ag, Unknown	Finn (Donegal)	LAWPRO, Restoration	View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map
1, 40	UKGBNISNW250010	Foyle and Faughan Estuaries	Transitional	N.A.	SAC; SPA;	Unassigned	Moderate	Unassigned	Good	Unknown	Review					View WB Page	View WB on EPA Water Map