



National Hydrometric Monitoring Programme

2018-2021

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for protecting and improving the environment as a valuable asset for the people of Ireland. We are committed to protecting people and the environment from the harmful effects of radiation and pollution.

The work of the EPA can be divided into three main areas:

Regulation: *We implement effective regulation and environmental compliance systems to deliver good environmental outcomes and target those who don't comply.*

Knowledge: *We provide high quality, targeted and timely environmental data, information and assessment to inform decision making at all levels.*

Advocacy: *We work with others to advocate for a clean, productive and well protected environment and for sustainable environmental behaviour.*

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Licensing

We regulate the following activities so that they do not endanger human health or harm the environment:

- waste facilities (e.g. landfills, incinerators, waste transfer stations);
- large scale industrial activities (e.g. pharmaceutical, cement manufacturing, power plants);
- intensive agriculture (e.g. pigs, poultry);
- the contained use and controlled release of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs);
- sources of ionising radiation (e.g. x-ray and radiotherapy equipment, industrial sources);
- large petrol storage facilities;
- waste water discharges;
- dumping at sea activities.

National Environmental Enforcement

- Conducting an annual programme of audits and inspections of EPA licensed facilities.
- Overseeing local authorities' environmental protection responsibilities.
- Supervising the supply of drinking water by public water suppliers.
- Working with local authorities and other agencies to tackle environmental crime by co-ordinating a national enforcement network, targeting offenders and overseeing remediation.
- Enforcing Regulations such as Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and substances that deplete the ozone layer.
- Prosecuting those who flout environmental law and damage the environment.

Water Management

- Monitoring and reporting on the quality of rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters of Ireland and groundwaters; measuring water levels and river flows.
- National coordination and oversight of the Water Framework Directive.
- Monitoring and reporting on Bathing Water Quality.

Monitoring, Analysing and Reporting on the Environment

- Monitoring air quality and implementing the EU Clean Air for Europe (CAFÉ) Directive.
- Independent reporting to inform decision making by national and local government (e.g. *periodic reporting on the State of Ireland's Environment and Indicator Reports*).

Regulating Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Preparing Ireland's greenhouse gas inventories and projections.
- Implementing the Emissions Trading Directive, for over 100 of the largest producers of carbon dioxide in Ireland.

Environmental Research and Development

- Funding environmental research to identify pressures, inform policy and provide solutions in the areas of climate, water and sustainability.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- Assessing the impact of proposed plans and programmes on the Irish environment (e.g. *major development plans*).

Radiological Protection

- Monitoring radiation levels, assessing exposure of people in Ireland to ionising radiation.
- Assisting in developing national plans for emergencies arising from nuclear accidents.
- Monitoring developments abroad relating to nuclear installations and radiological safety.
- Providing, or overseeing the provision of, specialist radiation protection services.

Guidance, Accessible Information and Education

- Providing advice and guidance to industry and the public on environmental and radiological protection topics.
- Providing timely and easily accessible environmental information to encourage public participation in environmental decision-making (e.g. *My Local Environment, Radon Maps*).
- Advising Government on matters relating to radiological safety and emergency response.
- Developing a National Hazardous Waste Management Plan to prevent and manage hazardous waste.

Awareness Raising and Behavioural Change

- Generating greater environmental awareness and influencing positive behavioural change by supporting businesses, communities and householders to become more resource efficient.
- Promoting radon testing in homes and workplaces and encouraging remediation where necessary.

Management and structure of the EPA

- The EPA is managed by a full time Board, consisting of a Director General and five Directors. The work is carried out across five Offices:
- Office of Environmental Sustainability
- Office of Environmental Enforcement
- Office of Evidence and Assessment
- Office of Radiation Protection and Environmental Monitoring
- Office of Communications and Corporate Services
- The EPA is assisted by an Advisory Committee of twelve members who meet regularly to discuss issues of concern and provide advice to the Board.

In memory of...

The authors and EPA wish to dedicate this National Hydrometric Monitoring Programme Review to the memory of our colleague and friend Matt Morgan (1953-2018).

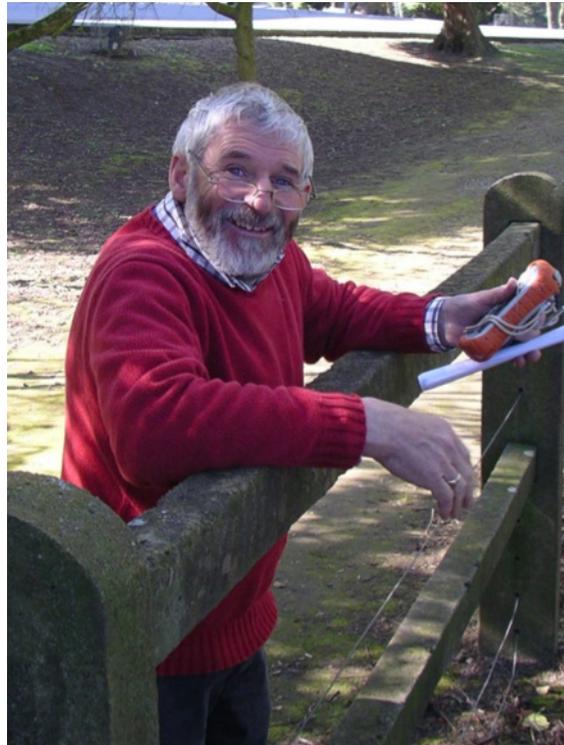
Matt was born and raised in Cavan, and worked for most of his life as a hydrometric technician, latterly a scientific officer, in the Irish midlands, based out of the Athlone office. Matt's primary duties related to the measurement of river flows and river, lake and groundwater levels for An Foras Forbartha and then for the Environmental Protection Agency. He also supported the work of the Ecology Team on the Shannon Lakes and his Enforcement colleagues, as well as the work of the local authorities, the Office of Public Works and Inland Fisheries.

Matt took great pride in his work and recognised the importance of collaborating with staff in other public authorities to deliver the best possible results. So much so that he could have been working for any public authority with an interest in water. He was charming and witty, and was very much respected by all who knew him.

The legacy of the hydrometric work undertaken by Matt, alongside his colleague Donal Quinn, will serve Ireland well in relation to the future management of water resources and environmental protection in the midlands region.

Matt's presence and contribution to the work of the Environmental Protection Agency will be greatly missed. May he Rest in Peace.

Matthew Craig, Manager Hydrometric and Groundwater Programme, EPA



Matt Morgan

on the banks of the Bunow River, Roscrea.

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Introduction

Hydrometric programmes are a critical component of water management practices internationally. Uses of hydrometric data and information include:

- Informing decision making on abstraction and use;
- Informing decision making for flood risk protection;
- Informing emission limit values for discharge consents;
- Providing a mechanism for verification that activities and development are or are not having a negative impact on the environment;
- Informing decisions on infrastructural development e.g. roads, urban planning, flood alleviation schemes and small scale hydroelectric schemes;
- Supporting the development of flow standards and modelling of ungauged catchments; and
- Informing the decision making for climate change adaptation and mitigation actions in response to rising sea levels and changes in rainfall patterns.

There has been a national hydrometric monitoring programme in place in Ireland for decades to address these requirements. A number of agencies of the State and organisations are involved in the collection and analysis of hydrometric information in Ireland. Each of these organisations has an interest in hydrometric data and information for their own purposes. Within this context, the EPA is given a specific responsibility under Section 64 of the Environmental Protection Agency Act to prepare **“a national programme for the collection, analysis and publication of information on the levels, volumes and flows of water in rivers, lakes and groundwaters in the State”** (Appendix C). The Act also requires the EPA to review this programme every five years and ensure that the programme is implemented. Since the Environmental Protection Agency Act was put in place in 1992, the implementation of the Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive has brought more legislative drivers on the quantitative aspects of water management and catchment management assessments. This document sets out the actions taken to arrive at the proposed national hydrometric monitoring network and sets out the proposed programme until 2021.

National Hydrometric Working Group

Several agencies of the State and organisations are involved in the collection, analysis and publication of hydrometric information in Ireland. These organisations coordinate their hydrometric activities in Ireland via the National Hydrometric Working Group. Membership of the Group currently consists of; EPA, OPW, Marine Institute, Inland Fisheries Ireland, NPWS, ESBI, City and County Management Association, Waterways Ireland, Teagasc, Rivers Agency Northern Ireland, Met Éireann and Irish Water. A National Hydrometric Register is maintained by the EPA and contains details of all active and inactive hydrometric stations maintained by members of the National Hydrometric Working Group (Appendix D). The Group, which meets bi-annually, continues to develop its role and plays a central part in the future management of hydrometric data collection in Ireland.

During the period of this programme, the National Hydrometric Working Group will continue to consider strategic, operational and technical issues within its remit. The National Hydrometric Working Group will facilitate strong governance of hydrometrics in Ireland, including; maintenance of the national hydrometric register, data quality standards, station classification, development of a national, multi-organisational approach to station installation and closure processes, and the adoption of new technology and software as appropriate.

Appendix E highlights the process for activation and deactivation of stations within the national programme.

Reviewing the Hydrometric Network

The EPA's Hydrometric Review in 2010 led to twelve flow monitoring sites and 137 water level only sites being dropped from the national hydrometric monitoring programme. In 2016, a fresh assessment of the adequacy and representativeness of the surface water network was undertaken. As part of this review process, an international comparison of hydrometric data collection in Ireland, Scotland, Wales and New Zealand was completed by consultants (Appendix A). The international review compared network configuration, network resourcing and network management and governance. Results from the review of international practice showed that the existing hydrometric network configuration and organisational framework has been shown to be broadly in-line with international norms. The

international review also recommended areas for improvement including having processes in place for the activation and deactivation of stations within the national programme. This process has been developed as part of the review (Appendix E).

The technical review of the national network was done using the hydrometric area as the spatial unit for assessment (Appendix B). Hydrometric areas were chosen as they are delineated by catchment and provide the basis for the WFD implementation e.g. Suir catchment or Liffey catchment. Within each hydrometric area the existing hydrometric network was assessed, along with an assessment of the main pressures, and receptors including surface water abstractions, discharges to surface water, protected areas and hydrometric data requirements. The overall objective of the review was to identify and assess the suitability of the existing national hydrometric network to fulfil the requirement of the EPA and other stakeholders. Based on an assessment of each Hydrometric Area, conclusions regarding the existing network and recommendations for future have been developed. In summary, the proposed changes to the existing network were:

- The closure of eight existing EPA/LA stations (3% of the total existing EPA/LA network);
- 21 suspended EPA/LA stations in Munster were identified which should be reactivated as soon as possible;
- Two locations have been identified where new EPA/LA stations are required for long term flow-rating development. Initially these will start as project stations;
- 20 additional locations have been identified where EPA/LA project stations should be established for a minimum of two years. Whilst less critical than the two stations in the previous bullet point, these project stations initially will be used to gather data and fill knowledge gaps, and provide validation to hydrological model outputs. However, depending on the quality of data obtained from them, there is potential for some of the project stations to become permanent stations for hydrological model calibration.
- All stations were classified as either strategic, operational or project stations. This classification will assist with the management of the network via the National Hydrometric Working Group by ensuring that strategic stations are not deactivated without the group being consulted; and

- Stations were identified where an assessment is needed to determine if flow-ratings can be improved that currently do not have high quality flow-ratings.



Figure 1: Map of Hydrometric Areas in Ireland

Station Classification

Following discussion with the National Hydrometric Working Group, all stations have been assigned to one of the three sub-categories as detailed in Table 1. It is important to note that stations can be designated in any of the three categories based on their importance to individual organisations, even if they are not fully rated across all flows. As such at some strategic sites there may be a requirement for high or low flow only. The rationale behind the classification process is set out in the 2017 EPA Hydrometric Review documentation (Appendix B). Stations that have been identified for rating improvement have been flagged for development where technically feasible. This classification does not denote the overall data quality at a site but rather the importance of data collection at that site. Its main value is to provide a framework to manage the network into the future in such a way that data collection is not discontinued at important sites without an appropriate review being undertaken.

SUB-CATEGORY	DEFINITION	EXISTING NO OF STATIONS	PROPOSED NO. OF STATIONS
STRATEGIC	Permanent stations that are strategically important to provide data for multiple uses and overall provide data required for the understanding of the hydrology of Ireland. Such stations are particularly important for modelling and statutory reporting requirements.	367	367
OPERATIONAL	Long-term stations installed to provide data for ongoing use such as flow at major waste water treatment plants, abstractions etc. (typically operated for >10 years).	421 (+173 in Northern Ireland)	416 (+173 in Northern Ireland)
PROJECT	Temporary stations installed for a defined project to provide data for a specific use (including modelling). Projects may last for extended periods.	12	31
TOTALS		973 (800 in ROI)	987 (814 in ROI)

Table 1: Proposed Hydrometric Station Categories

Rationale and approach

Programme network structure

The proposed national hydrometric monitoring programme will consist of a network of hydrometric stations operated by the EPA/local authorities, the OPW and the ESB. The network is managed within the framework of the national hydrometric areas, of which there are 40 (Figure 1). The stations will record time series data of river flows, levels and lake levels around the country. Station upgrades or new station requirements which were identified from the review process will be progressed during the implementation period of this national programme i.e. by 2021. This static network will provide a representative, long-term flow and water level dataset at a national scale. Operational requirements for licencing or WFD related work (investigative monitoring) will be accommodated by the inclusion of a targeted spot flow measurement programme and temporary project stations as required. Locations where these operational requirements have been tentatively identified from the review process stakeholder consultation include the River Brickey near Dungarvan, the Allow River near Kanturk, rivers flowing into Kenmare Bay, Lough Bunny in County Clare, Lough Talt in County Sligo, and several marl lakes. The outputs of the WFD characterisation process will provide further locations

for assessment. Such spot flow and temporary station activities will provide a resource efficient and dynamic means of providing the required range of hydrometric data, from strategic, fixed, long-term locations to tactical, mobile, short-term locations.

Hydrological estimation in ungauged catchments

It is not possible to monitor flows everywhere. The EPA HydroTool model estimates hydrological statistics for ungauged catchments in Ireland using the collected data as a basis. The EPA will continue to maintain a publicly available hydrological model capable of estimating flow statistics in ungauged catchments through the upgraded Wallingford Hydro Solutions Qube application. The model will be supported and refined using data obtained through the national hydrometric monitoring programme.

Configuration of the proposed National Hydrometric Monitoring Programme

The proposed National Hydrometric Monitoring Programme comprises a subset of stations from the National Hydrometric Register. The National Hydrometric Register is maintained by the EPA and contains details of all active and inactive hydrometric stations maintained by members of the National

Hydrometric Working Group. The Register currently contains a total of 2,072 active and inactive stations (Table 2) (excluding the stations located in Northern Ireland). Of these there will be 537 active flow-rated or lake level stations included in the proposed national hydrometric programme. There will also be an additional 22 new flow-rated monitoring stations. The EPA national hydrometric monitoring programme is focused on gathering river flow and lake level data, and therefore the 253 active tidal and river level-only stations contained in the National Register have been excluded from the national programme. The Marine Institute and Waterways Ireland are also developing flow ratings for a small number of their stations. The EPA will progress discussions with the local authorities, the OPW, Marine Institute and Waterways Ireland during the period of this plan to identify how these tidal and newly flow rated stations can be brought into the subsequent plan to supplement the existing station network and to enable climate change impacts to be monitored. These nascent flow rated, tidal or river level only stations have been excluded from the totals presented in Table 3 and Appendix F.

Tables 2 and 3 indicate that the planned national hydrometric programme is to include 559 river flow or lake stations; 484 are flow-rated stations, of which 346 have acceptable quality flow-ratings and 138 have been flagged for rating improvement (where technically feasible). The remaining stations are 22 new stations (2 new permanent stations and 20 project stations) and 53 lake level monitoring stations. Stations flagged for rating improvement are maintained by the OPW, EPA/LAs and the ESB; rating improvement will be progressed where the station is suitable for rating improvement and as data requirement priorities dictate. A summary of the stations within each Hydrometric Area is provided in Appendix F and an example of a hydrometric area map showing their locations is provided in Appendix G.

Table 2: Summary of stations contained in the National Hydrometric Station Register

NUMBER OF HYDROMETRIC STATIONS	LEVEL AND FLOW	LAKE LEVEL	SPOT FLOWS ONLY	WATER LEVEL ONLY	TOTAL
TOTAL EXISTING*^	556	119	970	427	2,072
INACTIVE HYDROMETRIC STATIONS CURRENTLY*	72	66	970	174	1,282
CURRENT ACTIVE HYDROMETRIC STATIONS*^	484	53	0	253	790
PLANNED ACTIVE HYDROMETRIC STATIONS*	506	53	0	253	812

* includes currently suspended stations and excludes stations in Northern Ireland

^ The currently active stations scheduled for closure, arising from this review, are excluded from these figures.

Table 3: Summary of monitoring stations contained in the national hydrometric monitoring Programme

HYDROMETRIC AREA	TOTAL EXISTING FLOW-RATED STATIONS	TOTAL EXISTING LAKE LEVEL STATIONS	ADDITIONAL PLANNED EPA/LA STATIONS	TOTAL STATIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN NHMP (EPA/LA AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS)
FOYLE (01)	6	1	1	8
LOUGH FOYLE (02)		0	-	-
LOUGH NEAGH AND LOWER BANN (03)	3	1	1	5
BUSH AND NORTH EAST COAST (04)		0	-	-
BELFAST LOUGH AND EAST DOWN (05)		0	-	-
NEWRY, FANE, GLYDE AND DEE (06)	11	0	0	11
BOYNE (07)	20	6	0	26
NANNY-DELVIN (08)	6	0	0	6
LIFFEY AND DUBLIN BAY (09)	22	0	1	23
OVOCA-VARTRY (10)	7	1	1	9
OWENAVORRAGH (11)	2	0	0	2
SLANEY AND WEXFORD HB'R (12)	11	0	0	11
BALLYTEIGUE-BANNOW (13)	3	2	0	5
BARROW (14)	25	0	0	25
NORE (15)	18	0	0	18
SUIR (16)	30	0	0	30
COLLIGAN-MAHON (17)	3	1	0	4
BLACKWATER (MUNSTER) (18)	18	0	0	18
LEE, CORK HB'R AND YOUGHAL BAY (19)	19	2	0	21

BANDON-ILEN (20)	4	0	1	5
DUNMANUS-BANTRY-KENMARE (21)	6	1	2	9
LAUNE-MINE-DINGLE BAY (22)	11	3	0	14
TRALEE BAY-FEALE (23)	7	0	1	8
SHANNON ESTUARY SOUTH (24)	22	0	0	22
LOWER SHANNON (25)	45	5	0	50
UPPER SHANNON (26)	49	9	0	58
SHANNON ESTUARY NORTH (27)	8	2	3	13
MAL BAY (28)	4	0	0	4
GALWAY BAY SOUTH EAST (29)	11	0	0	11
CORRIB (30)	22	3	0	25
GALWAY BAY NORTH (31)	3	3	0	6
ERRIFF-CLEW BAY (32)	10	1	1	12
BLACKSOD-BROADHAVEN (33)	5	1	1	7
MOY AND KILLALA BAY (34)	20	2	0	22
SLIGO BAY AND DROWSE (35)	15	3	4	22
ERNE (36)	23	6	0	29
DONEGAL BAY NORTH (37)	3	0	3	6
GWEEBARRA-SHEEPHAVEN (38)	5	0	0	5
LOUGH SWILLY (39)	6	0	1	7
DONEGAL-MOVILLE (40)	1	0	1	2
TOTAL	484	53	22	559

Note: These totals exclude stations identified for closure based on the review and are contingent on the technical feasibility of improving flow-ratings at several existing sites.

Future reviews of the National Hydrometric Monitoring Programme

The national hydrometric monitoring programme should be reviewed periodically as per Section 64 of the EPA Act. During the coming years there will be developments in data drivers as there is increasing awareness of the hydrological requirements to support good ecological status in surface waters and as Irish Water progresses its investment and rationalisation programme. There are also likely to be changes in the hydrometric networks operated by other public organisations such as the OPW as Floods Directive related work is completed, particularly in the locations identified for further assessment under the CFRAMs work.

The OPW and Marine Institute monitor several tidal locations and it may be advantageous to include these stations in any subsequent review under a climate change impact monitoring heading.

The EPA operates a network of groundwater level monitoring stations to support WFD implementation. These stations were excluded from the hydrometric review as they are being assessed as part of an ongoing WFD Monitoring review. The Geological Survey of Ireland have also commenced a turlough monitoring project which may result in the establishment of 20 or so turlough level monitoring stations. The EPA and Geological Survey of Ireland stations may be included in future hydrometric reviews to provide a holistic and joined-up assessment of surface water and groundwater hydrometric monitoring in Ireland. Dr. Conor Murphy of NUI

Maynooth has indicated that the HydroDetect climate change monitoring network is likely to be reviewed in 2018. The outputs of such a review may lead to the re-designation of several operational stations as strategic stations.

In the context of these ongoing developments, the next scheduled review of the national hydrometric monitoring programme should commence in 2021.

Publication of Information

As set out above, Section 64 requires that the National Monitoring Programme provide for the “publication of information on the levels, volumes and flows of water in rivers, lakes and groundwaters in the State”. To this end, in conjunction with the other hydrometric monitoring bodies, the EPA has put in place the HydroNet website (Figure 2). The website contains all active and inactive (historic) hydrometric stations contained in the national hydrometric register including EPA/LA, OPW, ESB, Marine Institute, and Waterways Ireland stations. The HydroNet site contains both access to surface water level and water flow volume data and groundwater level data. The website can be accessed at <http://www.epa.ie/hydronet>. The site does not provide access to all hydrometric data but provides links to hydrometric data sets for stations operated by external agencies including the OPW via links contained on the station information pages. The OPW operates its own site <http://www.waterlevel.ie> (Figure 3) which can be accessed via HydroNet.

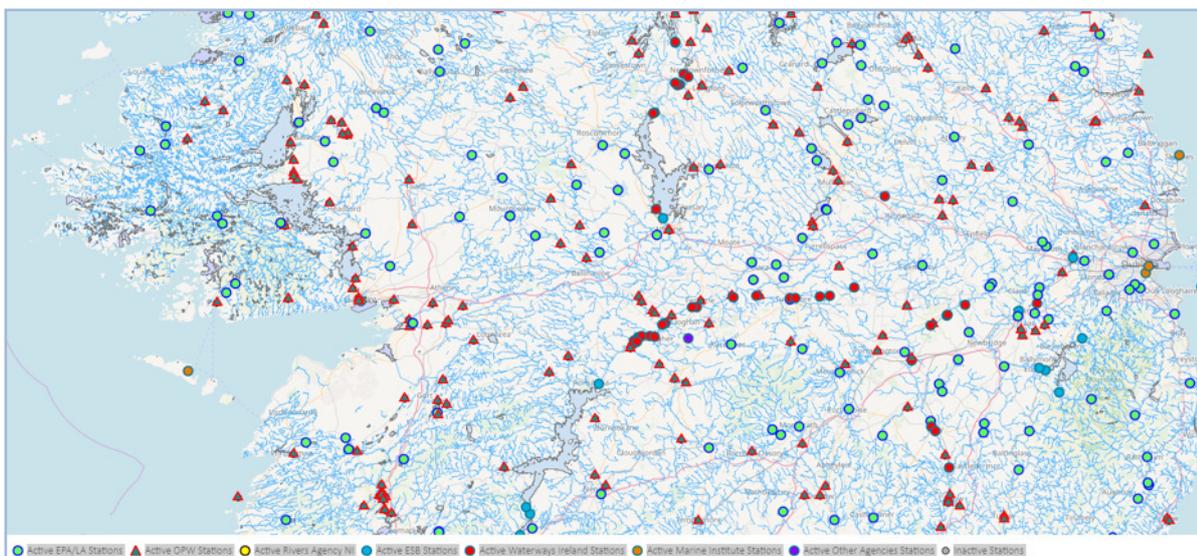


Figure 2: HydroNet

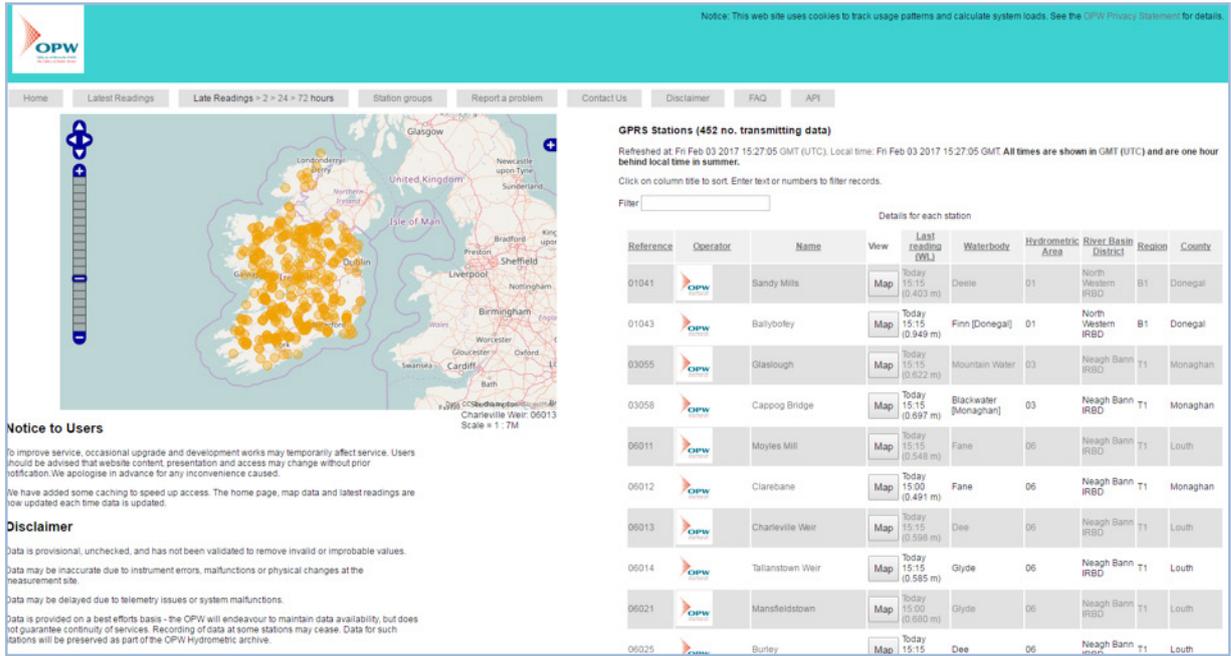


Figure 3: Waterlevel.ie

AN GHNÍOMHAIREACTH UM CHAOMHNÚ COMHSHAOIL

Tá an Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (GCC) freagrach as an gcomhshaoil a chaomhnú agus a fheabhsú mar shócmhainn luachmhar do mhuintir na hÉireann. Táimid tiomanta do dhaoine agus don chomhshaoil a chosaint ó éifeachtaí díobhálacha na radaíochta agus an truaillithe.

Is féidir obair na Gníomhaireachta a roinnt ina trí phríomhréimse:

Rialú: Déanaimid córais éifeachtacha rialaithe agus comhlíonta comhshaoil a chur i bhfeidhm chun torthaí maíthe comhshaoil a sholáthar agus chun díriú orthu siúd nach gcloíonn leis na córais sin.

Eolas: Soláthraimid sonraí, faisnéis agus measúnú comhshaoil atá ar ardchaighdeán, spriocdhírthe agus tráthúil chun bonn eolais a chur faoin gcinnnteoireacht ar gach leibhéal.

Tacaíocht: *Bimid ag saothrú i gcomhar le grúpaí eile chun tacú le comhshaoil atá glan, táirgiúil agus cosanta go maíthe, agus le hiompar a chuirfidh le comhshaoil inbhuanaithe.*

ÁR BHFREAGRACHTAÍ

Ceadúnú

Déanaimid na gníomhaíochtaí seo a leanas a rialú ionas nach ndéanann siad dochar do shláinte an phobail ná don chomhshaoil:

- saoráidí dramhaíola (*m.sh. láithreáin líonta talún, loisceoirí, stáisiúin aistrithe dramhaíola*);
- gníomhaíochtaí tionsclaíoch ar scála mór (*m.sh. déantúsaíocht cógaisíochta, déantúsaíocht stroighne, stáisiúin chumhachta*);
- an diantalmhaíocht (*m.sh. muca, éanlaith*);
- úsáid shrianta agus scaoileadh rialaithe Orgánach Géinmhodhnaithe (*OGM*);
- foinsí radaíochta ianúcháin (*m.sh. trealamh x-gha agus radaiteiripe, foinsí tionsclaíochta*);
- áiseanna móra stórála peitрил;
- scardadh dramhuisce;
- gníomhaíochtaí dumpála ar farraige.

Forfheidhmiú Náisiúnta i leith Cúrsaí Comhshaoil

- Clár náisiúnta iniúchtaí agus cigireachtaí a dhéanamh gach bliain ar shaoráidí a bhfuil ceadúnas ón nGníomhaireacht acu.
- Maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar fhreagrachtaí cosanta comhshaoil na n-údarás áitiúil.
- Caighdeán an uisce óil, arna sholáthar ag soláthraithe uisce phoiblí, a mhaoirsiú.
- Obair le húdarás áitiúla agus le gníomhaireachtaí eile chun dul i ngleic le coireanna comhshaoil trí chomhordú a dhéanamh ar líonra forfheidhmiúcháin náisiúnta, trí dhírí ar chiontóirí, agus trí mhaoirsiú a dhéanamh ar leasúcháin.
- Cur i bhfeidhm rialachán ar nós na Rialachán um Dhramh-threalamh Leictreach agus Leictreonach (DTLL), um Shrian ar Shubstaintí Guaiseacha agus na Rialachán um rialú ar shubstaintí a ídionn an ciseal ózóin.
- An dlí a chur orthu siúd a bhriseann dlí an chomhshaoil agus a dhéanann dochar don chomhshaoil.

Bainistíocht Uisce

- Monatóireacht agus tuairiscíú a dhéanamh ar cháilíocht aibhneacha, lochanna, uisce idirchríosacha agus cósta na hÉireann, agus screamhuiscí; leibhéil uisce agus sruthanna aibhneacha a thomhas.
- Comhordú náisiúnta agus maoirsiú a dhéanamh ar an gCreat-Treoir Uisce.
- Monatóireacht agus tuairiscíú a dhéanamh ar Cháilíocht an Uisce Snámha.

Monatóireacht, Anailís agus Tuairiscíú ar an gComhshaoil

- Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar cháilíocht an aeir agus Treoir an AE maidir le hAer Glan don Eoraip (CAFÉ) a chur chun feidhme.
- Tuairiscíú neamhspleách le cabhrú le cinnnteoireacht an rialtais náisiúnta agus na n-údarás áitiúil (*m.sh. tuairiscíú tréimhsiúil ar staid Chomhshaoil na hÉireann agus Tuarascálacha ar Tháscairí*).

Rialú Astaíochtaí na nGás Ceaptha Teasa in Éirinn

- Fardail agus réamh-mheastacháin na hÉireann maidir le gás ceaptha teasa a ullmhú.
- An Treoir maidir le Trádáil Astaíochtaí a chur chun feidhme i gcomhair breis agus 100 de na táirgeoirí dé-ocsaíde carbóin is mó in Éirinn.

Taighde agus Forbairt Comhshaoil

- Taighde comhshaoil a chistiú chun brúnna a shainaithe, bonn eolais a chur faoi bheartais, agus réitigh a sholáthar i réimsí na haeráide, an uisce agus na hinbhuanaitheachta.

Measúnacht Straitéiseach Timpeallachta

- Measúnacht a dhéanamh ar thionchar pleananna agus clár beartaithe ar an gcomhshaoil in Éirinn (*m.sh. mórphleananna forbartha*).

Cosaint Raideolaíoch

- Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar leibhéil radaíochta, measúnacht a dhéanamh ar nochtadh mhuintir na hÉireann don radaíocht ianúcháin.
- Cabhrú le pleananna náisiúnta a fhorbairt le haghaidh éigeandálaí agus eascairt as tasmí núicléacha.
- Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar fhorbairtí thar lear a bhaineann le saoráidí núicléacha agus leis an tsábháilteacht raideolaíochta.
- Sainseirbhísí cosanta ar an radaíocht a sholáthar, nó maoirsiú a dhéanamh ar sholáthar na seirbhísí sin.

Treoir, Faisnéis Inrochtana agus Oideachas

- Comhairle agus treoir a chur ar fáil d'earnáil na tionsclaíochta agus don phobal maidir le hábhair a bhaineann le caomhnú an chomhshaoil agus leis an gcosaint raideolaíoch.
- Faisnéis thráthúil ar an gcomhshaoil ar a bhfuil fáil éasca a chur ar fáil chun rannpháirtíocht an phobail a spreagadh sa chinnnteoireacht i ndáil leis an gcomhshaoil (*m.sh. Timpeall an Tí, léarscáileanna radóin*).
- Comhairle a chur ar fáil don Rialtas maidir le hábhair a bhaineann leis an tsábháilteacht raideolaíoch agus le cúrsaí práinnfhreagartha.
- Plean Náisiúnta Bainistíochta Dramhaíola Guaisí a fhorbairt chun dramhall ghuaiseach a chosc agus a bhainistiú.

Múscailt Feasachta agus Athrú Iompraíochta

- Feasacht chomhshaoil níos fearr a ghiniúint agus dul i bhfeidhm ar athrú iompraíochta dearfach trí thacú le gnóthais, le pobail agus le teaghlaigh a bheith níos éifeachtúla ar acmhainní.
- Tástáil le haghaidh radóin a chur chun cinn i dtithe agus in ionaid oibre, agus gníomhartha leasúcháin a spreagadh nuair is gá.

Bainistíocht agus struchtúr na Gníomhaireachta um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil

Tá an ghníomhaíocht á bainistiú ag Bord Iánnaimseartha, ar a bhfuil Ard-Stiúrthóir agus cúigear Stiúrthóirí. Déantar an obair ar fud cúig cinn d'Oifigí:

- An Oifig um Inmharthanacht Comhshaoil
- An Oifig Forfheidhmithe i leith cúrsaí Comhshaoil
- An Oifig um Fianaise is Measúnú
- Oifig um Chosaint Radaíochta agus Monatóireachta Comhshaoil
- An Oifig Cumarsáide agus Seirbhísí Corparáideacha

Tá Coiste Comhairleach ag an nGníomhaireacht le cabhrú léi. Tá dáréag comhaltaí air agus tagann siad le chéile go rialta le plé a dhéanamh ar ábhair inní agus le comhairle a chur ar an mBord.



National Hydrometric Monitoring Programme

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