

# Castletown WMU

# Castletown Water Management Unit Action Plan



**Legend**

- Towns and Villages
- Wastewater Treatment Plants
- EPA Licensed Facility (IPPC)
- ◆ Local Authority Licensed Discharge
- Water Treatment Plants
- NI Boundary

**River Status**

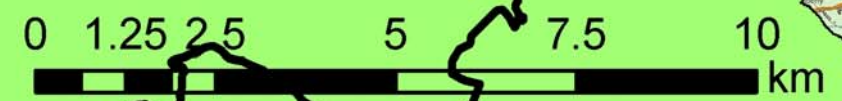
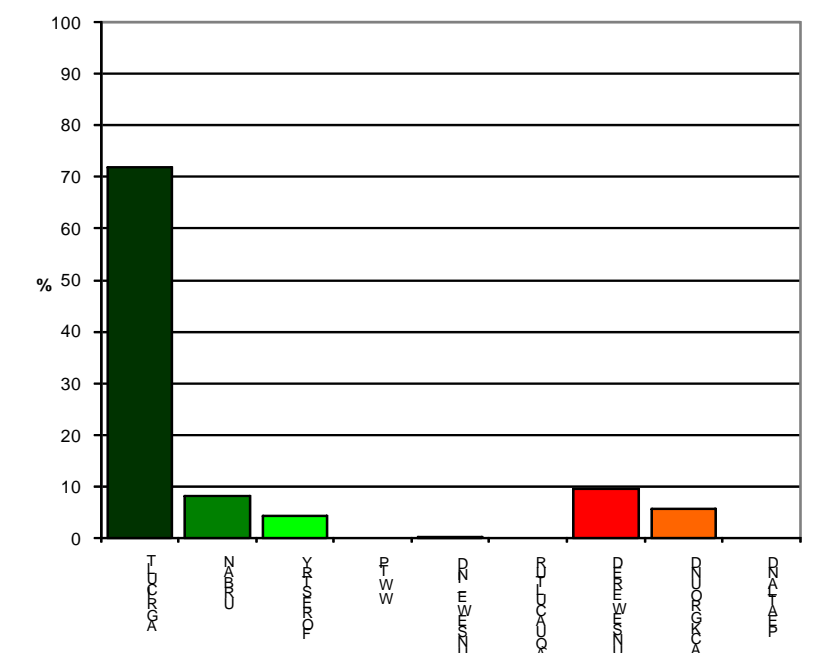
- High
- Good
- Moderate
- Poor
- Bad

**Lake Status**

- High
- Good
- Moderate
- Poor
- Bad

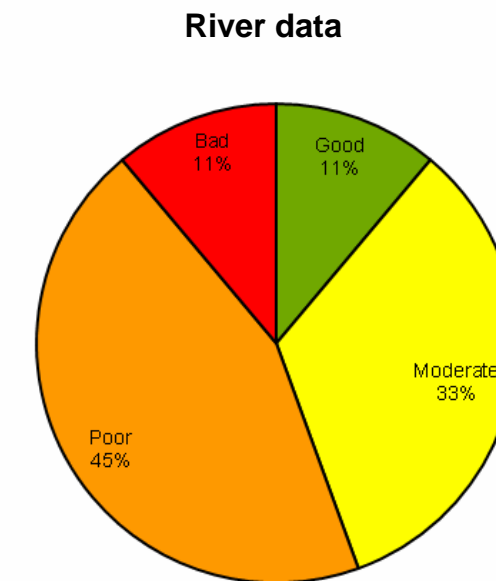
Name	Castletown Water Management Unit
Area	299 km <sup>2</sup>
River Basin District	Neagh Bann IRBD
Main Counties	Louth
Protected Areas	2 SAC (Carlingford Mtn and Dundalk Bay), 1 SPA (Dundalk Bay), 1 UWWTD sensitive water (Castletown Estuary) no bathing or drinking waters, 1 Shellfish Water (Dundalk Bay)

**Sectoral Total Phosphorus Source**  
(This does not imply impact)



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STATUS/IMPACTS	
Overall status	Predominantly moderate/poor status (9 water bodies in WMU) with 1 water body at good status, 3 water bodies at moderate status, 4 at poor status and one at bad status. No lakes within WMU.
Status elements	Northern Ireland monitoring data dictates the status for the Cully Water and Kilcurry rivers, both moderate. Q values dictate status for the remaining waterbodies with the exception of 2 rivers where status is based on the physical chemical monitoring data.
Possible Impacts - EPA Water Quality Reports	<p>BALLYMASCANLAN – (XB_06_2, Status 2009 – Bad) Oil pollution suspected source of bad water quality but because of insufficient biological data an assessment was not possible at Ballymascanlan where the river is heavily shaded, flow is very sluggish and the inhospitable and substrate is unsuited to the more important macroinvertebrate indicator species.</p> <p>CASTLETOWN – (XB_06_7, Status 2009 – Poor) A major deterioration was recorded at Ballybinaby Bridge where the river was assessed as moderately polluted previously: the cause of this was not immediately apparent.</p> <p>FLURRY - (XB_06_1, Status 2009 –Poor) Sensitive macroinvertebrates were not observed. Situation typical of rivers subject to considerable ecological stress. Therefore moderately polluted, an unsatisfactory condition and one which has not changed since 2000. Louth County Council have identified this waterbody as problematic due to septic tanks, agriculture and storm water discharges.</p> <p>RASKEAGH – (XB_06_3, Status 2009) Heavily silted at both locations and sensitive macroinvertebrates were not observed. Unsatisfactory.</p>



**There are no Lakes within the WMU**

PRESSURES/RISKS	
Nutrient sources	23% of the nutrient load originates from diffuse sources with Agriculture representing the largest contributor. 77% resulting from the WWTP at Dundalk.
Point pressures	Dundalk WWTP discharges to transitional waters downstream of the WMU. 1 EPA licenced (IPPC) discharges - Brewery which has a discharge to surface waters. There are no section 4 licenced facilities within WMU.
Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP) and Industrial Discharges	Dundalk WWTP discharges to a nutrient sensitive transitional waters downstream of the WMU and has a population equivalent of >10,000.
Quarries, Mines & Landfills	No water bodies at risk
Agriculture	1 water body at risk : (NB_06_913)
On-site systems	There are 3457 septic tanks in this WMU, none have been assessed as a risk to water quality. No water bodies at risk from septic tanks
Forestry	No water bodies at risk
Dangerous substances	No water bodies at risk
Morphology	1 water body at risk from channelisation: (XB_06_2)
Abstractions	No waterbodies at risk
Other	N/A

SELECTED ACTION PROGRAMME	
<i>NB All relevant basic measures, general supplementary measures and SEA mitigation measures apply</i>	
Point Sources	<p>Measures applicable to Dundalk WWTP include the implementation of requirements of the Shellfish Pollution Reduction Programme for Dundalk Bay and a Performance Management System.</p> <p>Examine the terms of discharge authorisations to determine whether they require review for the purpose of compliance with water body objectives including protected area objectives and environmental quality standards.</p>
Diffuse Sources	<p>Full implementation of relevant basic measures and in particular the Good Agricultural Practices Regulations inspections and enforcement. Diffuse pressures from urban areas and in particular storm water discharges need to be investigated.</p> <p>Septic tanks - There are no at risk septic tanks to be prioritised for inspections.</p>
Other	<p>Morphology measures proposed for this WMU relate to the investigation of channelisation impacts particularly in the Ballymascanlan River.</p> <p>Extensive liaison with Northern Ireland authorities required for this WMU due to cross border risks and pressures.</p>
Future Developments	Throughout the river basin management cycle future pressures and developments will need to be managed to ensure compliance with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive and the Programme of Measures will need to be developed to ensure issues associated with these new pressures are addressed.

OBJECTIVES	
Good status 2015	One river water body is currently at satisfactory quality and must be retained at good status. Two river water bodies have a 2015 objective to achieve good status
Alternative Objectives	<p><b>Heavily Modified Waterbodies</b> – none</p> <p><b>Extended Timescales</b> – Extended timelines proposed within WMU to 2021 for 6 river water bodies.</p>

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## WWTP Measures

Point Source Discharge	County	Priority	Measure (Plants requiring the Implementation of Recommendations of Pollution Reduction Plans for Shellfish waters)	Date	WMU
Dundalk WWTP	Louth	1	Implementation of PRP for Shellfish Waters	2010	Fane
Point Source Discharge	County	Priority	Measure (Plants requiring the Implementation of Performance Management System [PMS])	Date	WMU
Dundalk WWTP	Louth	1	Implementation of PMS	2012	Fane

## River Data

IE_NB_Castletown																		
Member State Code	Monitored Y (Extrapolated N)	Donor Waterbody	Biological Elements			Supporting Elements				Protected Areas				Objective	Date objective to be achieved			
			Macroinvertebrates (O)	Freshwater Pearl Mussel	Fish	Phytobenthos (Diatoms)	Morphology	Specific Pollutants	Physio-chemical	Ecological Status	Chemical Status	Special Area of Conservation	Special Protection Area			Nutrient Sensitive Waters	Drinking Water	
NB_06_821	N	NB_06_642									G		Y	Y			GES	2009
NB_06_913	N	NB_06_229									P						GES	2021
XB_06_1	Y		P							H	P		Y	Y			GES	2021
XB_06_2	Y		P							G	B						GES	2021
XB_06_3	Y		P								P						GES	2021
XB_06_4	Y										M				Y		GES	2021
XB_06_5	Y		H		G					M	M						GES	2015
XB_06_6	Y		G							M	M						GES	2015
XB_06_7	Y		P							G	P						GES	2021