



Connecting Communities,
Valuing Our Waters & Wildlife

Inishowen Rivers Trust:

Community Engagement & Water Education

By Dr. Trish Murphy

A presentation for Environment Ireland Conference

15 October 2020

Rivers Trusts in Ireland

19 rivers trusts & catchment
associations

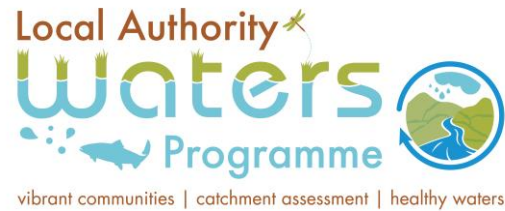


About the IRT

- Inishowen Peninsula in Co. Donegal
- Journey began in October 2013
- Established first board in Oct 2015
- Established as a CLG in August 2016
- Became a charity in March 2018
- Nine directors on board
- One staff member since July 2020



Funded & Supported by





Riverfly Monitoring



River Clean Ups

Agricultural Shows, Tree Planting

Inishowen
Rivers Trust
Connecting Communities,
Valuing Our Waters & Wildlife

WHO'S WHO?

on Inishowen Rivers

Wednesday 22nd February 2017 | 6pm - 9pm
An Grianán Hotel, Burt, Co. Donegal

A great opportunity to meet groups, individuals and agencies with an interest or role in the protection, monitoring and promotion of the lakes, rivers and coastal areas of the Inishowen Municipal District.

Short Presentations | Visit stalls | Discussions | Light refreshments

Presentations by:
Bernie O'Flaherty LAWCO Co-ordinator (Border Region)
Jimmy McVeigh Donegal Community Water Officer
Mark Horton Director All-Ireland of the Rivers Trust

MEET SHARE LEARN

Register on Eventbrite for free: <https://inishowenrivertrust.eventbrite.ie>

To find out more:
 Email: inishowenrivertrust@gmail.com or Call: 087 647 8183 or 087 644 6993

Find us on Facebook /InishowenRiversTrust

Waters & communities
The RIVERS TRUST
Protecting our water, improving our lives



Who's Who event 2017

An evening of discussion on flooding and the use of
Natural Flood Management techniques
Hosted by Eco Eye presenter and ecologist ANJA MURRAY

Slow the Flow

MANAGING FLOOD WATERS NATURALLY

DATE:
Monday February 19th 2018 6pm-9pm

VENUE:
The Áras, Carndonagh Community School, Inishowen

Presentations by each of the panelists
followed by an open floor discussion

- Dan Turner Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust
- Dr. Mary Bourke Trinity College Dublin
- Conor Galvin OPW
- Gerry McCafferty & Brendan Maguire Inland Fisheries Ireland

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OPW

Waters & communities
Healthy, vibrant, supporting vibrant communities



Slow the Flow event 2018

Community Water Development Fund 2018

- LAWPRO grant of €10,000
- Two events
- Demonstration model
- Information leaflets



Inishowen Rivers Trust **Waters & communities** **ballinderry rivers trust**

Restoring Rivers

Flood management and eco-hydromorphology

Colgan Hall, Carndonagh, Inishowen, Co. Donegal
Saturday 29th September 2018 @ 11am-1pm

A practical look at how natural water retention measures can be used to alleviate flooding

A presentation by
Dr. Barry Walls
Consultant Engineer & Environmental Planner
followed by an open discussion

Ballinderry Rivers Trust will demonstrate 'River in a Box' model - experiment with flow rates, erosion and more!

A light lunch will be provided after the event.
This event is free and open to all.

For more info:
Visit FB/InishowenRiversTrust or www.inishowenriverstrust.com
Email: inishowenriverstrust@gmail.com
Call: 087 647 8183

Kindly supported by the Waters & Communities Office Community Water Development Fund 2018



 www.inishowenriverstrust.com



Inishowen Rivers Trust **Waters & communities**

Woodlands for Water

The use of trees and riparian planting in flood management

Colgan Hall, Carndonagh, Inishowen, Co. Donegal
Saturday 27th October 2018 @ 11am-1pm

How trees can be used to hold back flood waters and improve water quality

A presentation by
Ken Bucke, Forestry Inspector, Dept. Of Agriculture, Food & the Marine, followed by an open discussion

Ballinderry Rivers Trust will demonstrate the 'River in a Box' model. View the SuDS HOUSE to see how you can help to slow the flow

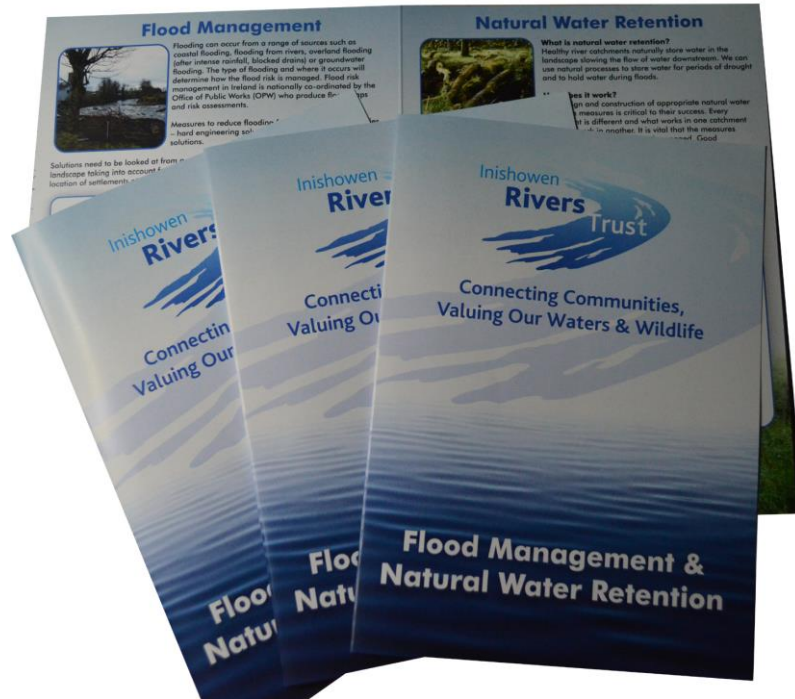
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July – October 2018

CWDF 2018



July – October 2018

Natural Water Retention Measures

Bourke, M.C., Halpin, R & Brady, F. (2019)
The Opportunity for Natural Water
Retention Measures in Inishowen



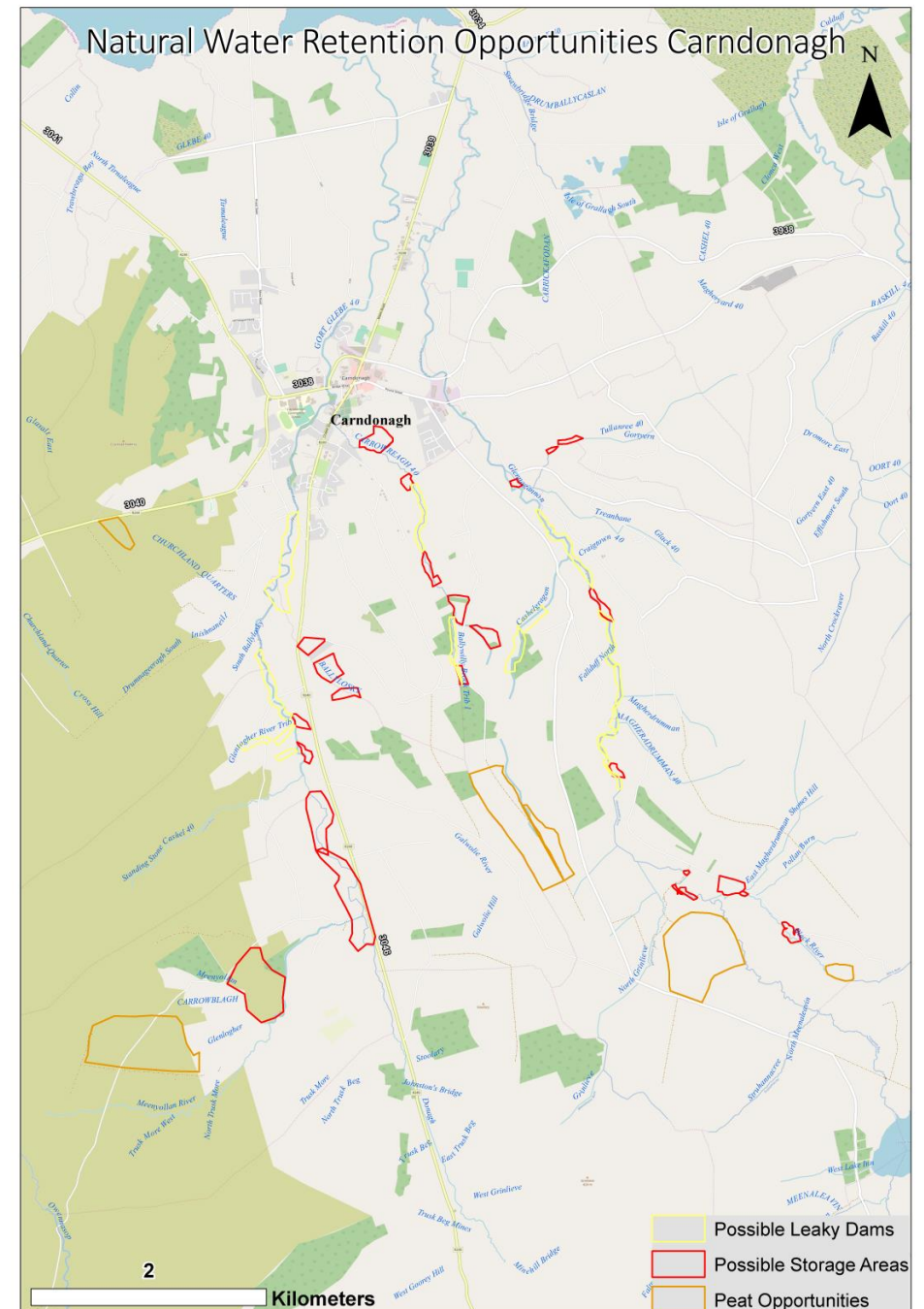
OPW

Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

APPLYING WORLD-CLASS ACADEMIC EXPERTISE

CONSULT Trinity

Feb 2019 – January 2020



Launch of NWRM Study

- Public Launch Feb 2020
- Opportunity to gauge interest of community in implementing a project

★ community permission



Nature-based solutions to
flood management in Inishowen



February 2020

Volunteers

- What do volunteers want?
- Casual volunteers / Trained volunteers
- Create opportunities to engage
- Increase awareness & knowledge
- Provide employment opportunities



Meet - Share - Learn

- Social Learning
- Training / Volunteer events
- Discussion / talks / consultations
- Co-design & co-production
- Collaborations
- Attending other events



Make it social



Benefits of Community Engagement

- Environmental – habitats, biodiversity, climate
- Health & well-being
- Improves communication
- Identify the right solutions
- Increases acceptance
- Increases ownership
- Increases resilience
- Long term benefits for success



Inishowen River Guardians

EU LEADER grant of €32,305

Specialised training for volunteers



Dec 2018 – October 2019

Inishowen River Guardians

- Mapping (Survey 123)
- Riverfly monitoring
- SSCS
- Electrofishing
- Bank Erosion Control
- Hydromorphology
- Chainsaw Use
- Invasive Species Control



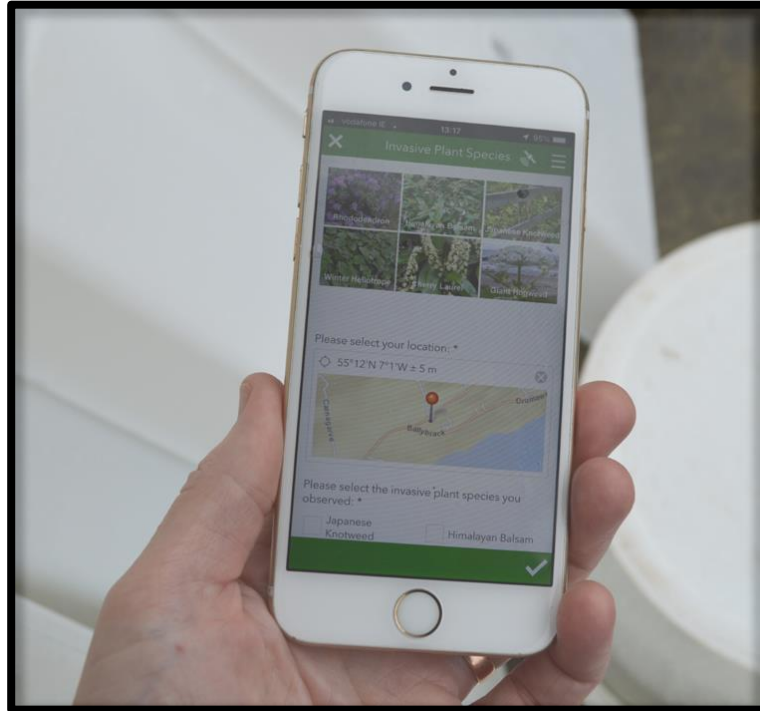


IRG Training



IRG Training

Certification



New skills

Utilising our skills

- Practical experience utilising skills in projects
- **River restoration** project using natural materials to build revetment
- 13 volunteers, 2 contractors, 7 days
- 150m bank works including 78m bank revetment, 120m fencing, planting, pasture pumps, baffles for fish passage



River Restoration





Glennagannon River



Opportunities

- Expand River Guardians training programme
- Nature Based Solutions
- Biodiversity Action Plans

& Challenges

- Funding - insurance, the Tea!
- Maintaining momentum
- Compliance



iCatch Network



Summary

- **Seek community permission**
- Increase capacity through education
- Increase educational impact through practical experience
- Collaboration between all stakeholders
- Support to ensure viability & compliance



Thank You | Go raibh maith agaibh

guardianship
clean waters
donegal **rivers**
restoration community
conservation
training