

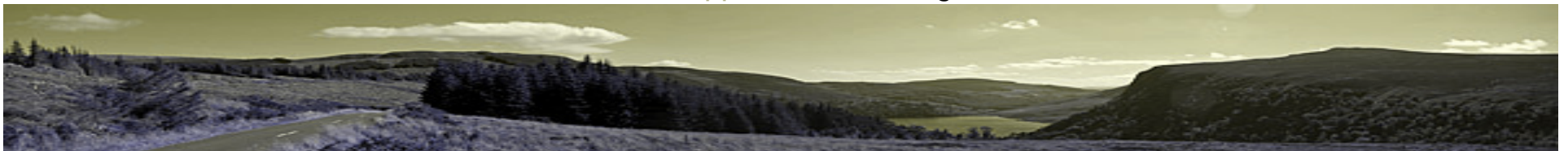
eastern
river basin district

Draft Programme of Measures

Athboy WMU

-
1. Water Framework Directive
 2. Overview of Water Management Unit
 3. Status of Water
 4. Objective
 5. Protected Areas
 6. What are the Problems to address?
 7. Programme of Measures
 8. Reason for Exemptions
 9. What happens next?
 10. What can you do?

Appendix 1&2: Programme of Measures



Document Control Sheet

Project	Eastern River Basin District			
Report	Draft Athboy - River and Lake Programme of Measures - for download			
Date	December 2008			
Project No: 39325		Document Reference: 39325/ERBD40/DG134 - S		
Version	Author	Reviewed	Checked	Date
Draft 1	AOC/AC	AGH	AOC	DEC 2008



Water Framework Directive

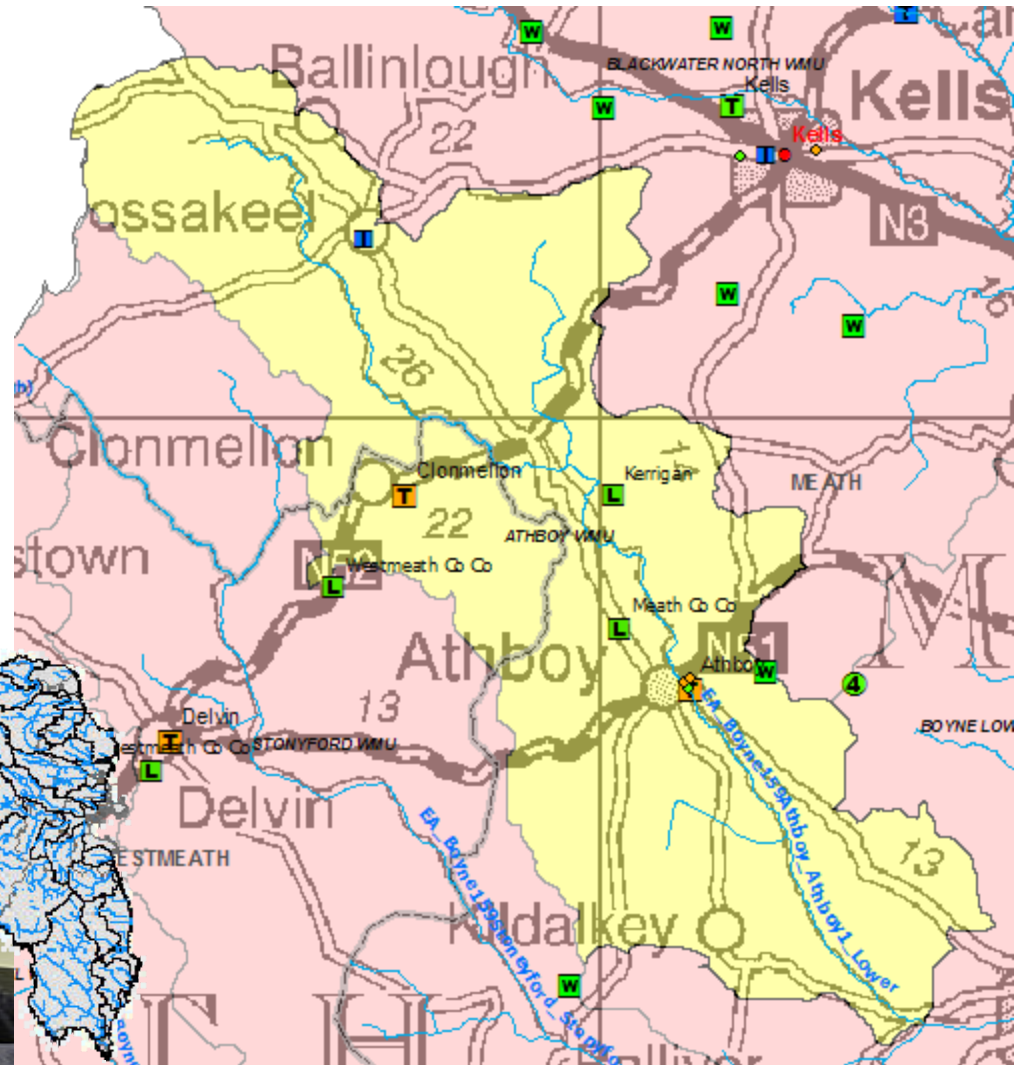
- ❑ The Draft River Basin Management Plan was published on the 22nd December 2008 for Public Consultation.
- ❑ This Programme of Measures accompanies the River Basin Management Plan created for the Eastern River Basin District.
- ❑ The River Basin Management Plan can be downloaded from the website, whilst more detail of the Programme of Measures is contained in the River Basin Management System which can be accessed through your Local Authority.
- ❑ The River Basin Management System is a web-based tool that assists Local Authorities to store information about the condition of their waters and the Programme of Measures for their improvement.
- ❑ For more information please visit www.erbd.ie



Overview of Water Management Unit

































Geography

- ❑ Local Authorities: 90% Meath, 10% Westmeath
- ❑ River Length: 43 km
- ❑ Land use: Predominantly land-use is for Agriculture
 - 60% pasture use
 - 18% arable
 - 10% of other Agricultural land
 - urban populations cover 0.5% of the area for example at Athboy, Kildalkey, Ossakeel and Clonmellon.



Risk Assessment Legend

See www.erbd.ie for more information on Article 5 Risk Assessment

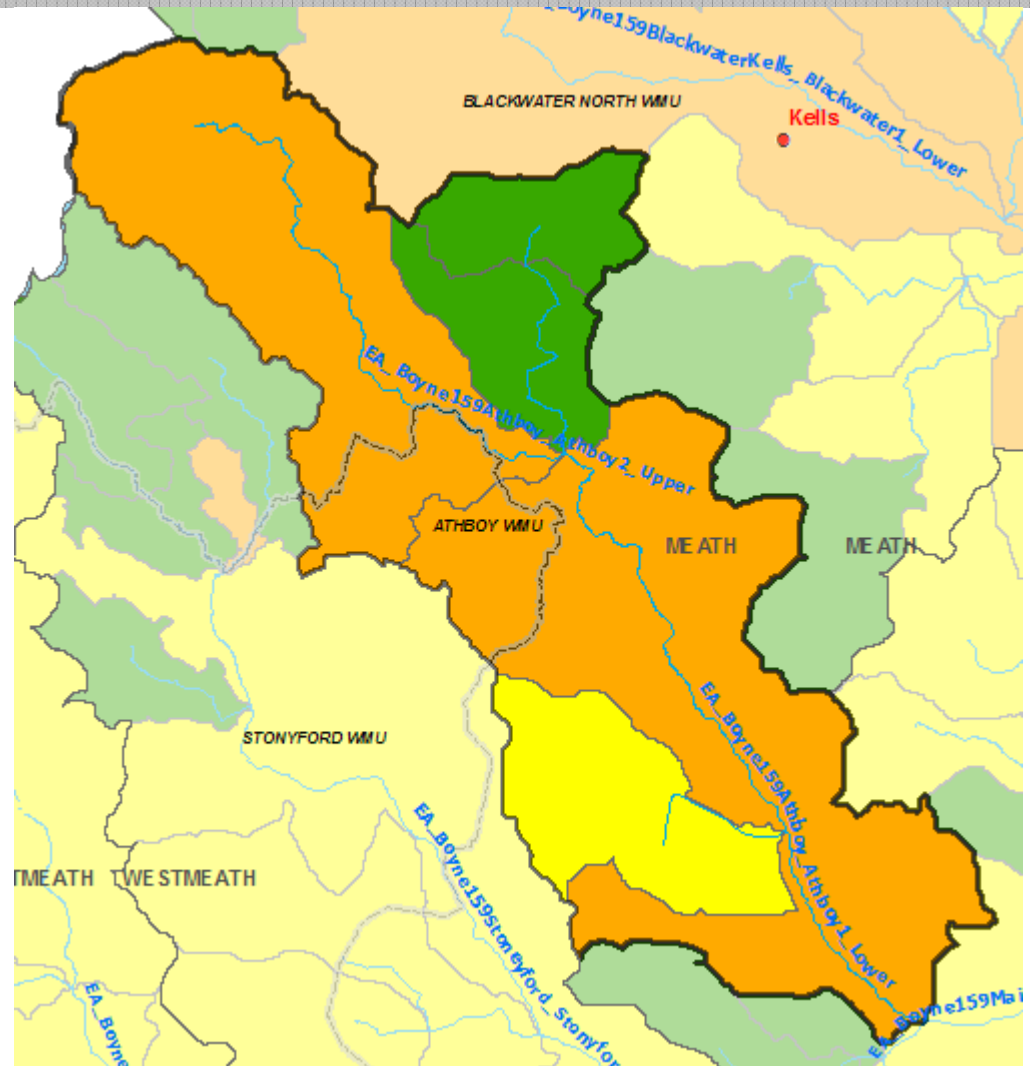
Risk	Symbol with Level of Risk	Risk	Symbol with Level of Risk
Abstraction			
CSO	 1a  1b  2a  2b	WWTPs	 1a  1b  2a  2b
Hydrometric Station	 ACTIVE  INACTIVE  OBSOLETE	WTPs	 2a
IPC Facilities	 1a  1b  2a  2b	Landfills	 1b  2a  2b
IPC Rivers	 1a  1b  2a  2b	Mines	 1a  1b  2a
Section 4	 1a  1b  2a  2b	Quarries	 2a
Based on Article 5 Risk Assessment: 1a : At risk, 1b : Probably at risk, 2a : Probably not at risk, 2b : Not at risk			

Status of Water

The existing condition of our waters was determined by the Environmental Protection Agency using water quality, ecology and morphology monitoring data.

River Status:

Good	40%
Moderate	20%
Poor	40%



The percentage status is determined by the number of reportable segments or subbasins. For this reason the percentage might not seem representative.

Objectives

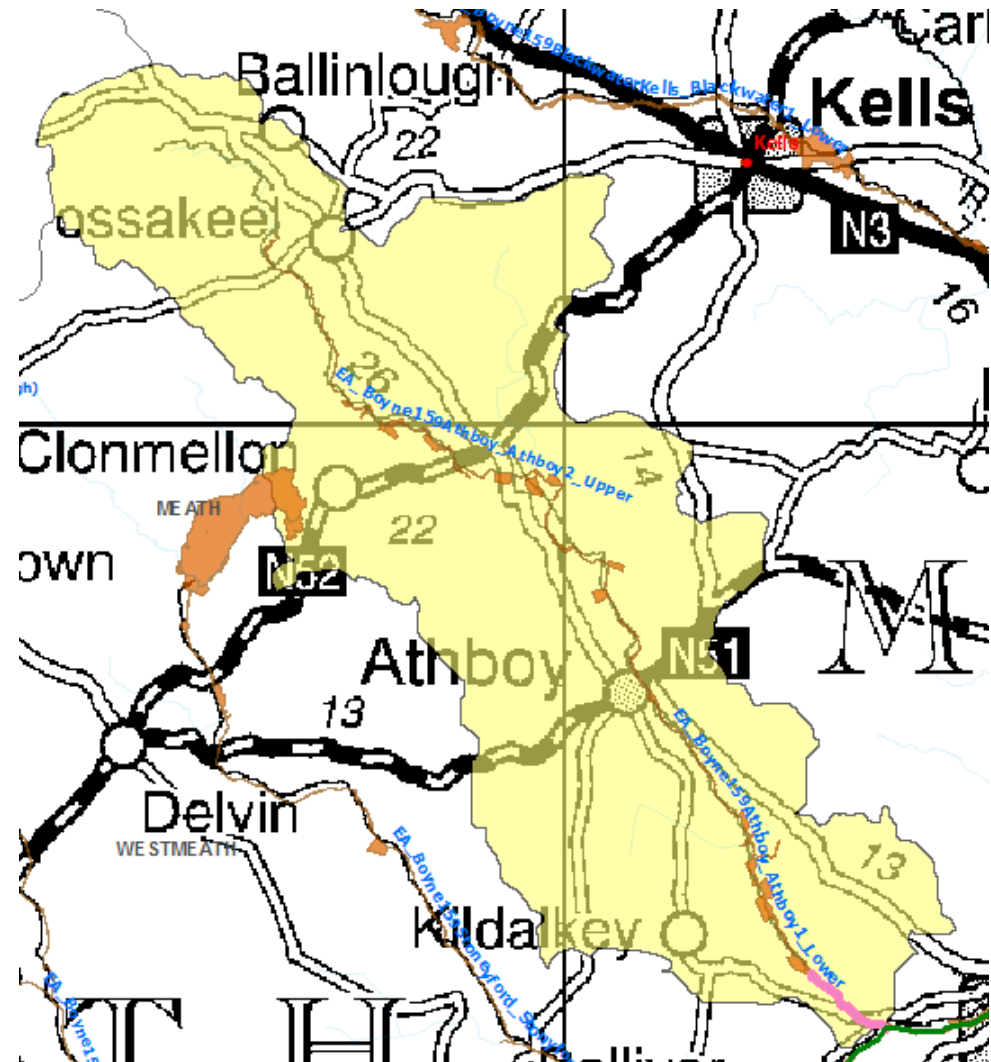
- ❑ Waters must be of satisfactory quality and sufficient quantity to protect the aquatic environment and its beneficial uses.
- ❑ We have four core objectives:
 1. Prevent deterioration and in particular maintain High or Good Status
 2. Improve waters to achieve Good Status where appropriate
 3. Progressively reduce chemical pollution
 4. Achieve our protected area objectives










Protected Areas








- Some areas require greater protection because they contain rare and vulnerable habitats or wildlife. Other protected areas are sensitive because of their beneficial use for humans, such as drinking water sources or shellfish areas.

Drinking Water (1)	✓	River Tremblestown
Special Areas of Conservation (Habitat) (2)	✓	River Boyne and River Blackwater
Natural Heritage Areas (2)	✓	Lough Shesk and Girley Bog



Protected Areas Legend

Type of Protected area	Symbol
Drinking water – Monitoring point	
Drinking Water – Rivers	
Drinking Water - Groundwater	
Drinking Water – Surface water	
Nutrient Sensitive rivers	
Nutrient Sensitive Areas	
National Heritage Areas	

Type of Protected area	Symbol
Special Protected Areas	
Special Areas of Conservation	
Beaches	
Recreational lakes	
Salmonid Waters	
Register protected Areas – Water Dependant Habitats	
Shellfish	

What are the problems to address?

In the Eastern River Basin District an online computer program allows local authorities to store, assess and make Programmes of Measures on all the information emerging relating to the Water Framework Directive.

The first step is to identify any issues that might prevent us from reaching the ultimate target of 'Good Status' (please see plan for a full definition of 'Good Status').

In Athboy:

- High Nutrients (Phosphorus, Ammonia)
- Oxygen Demand
- Low Ecological Rating ('Q Value' = 3)
- Dredging for Arterial Drainage

What could be causing these problems?

- ❑ The primary pressures causing the risk failures respectively for Westmeath and Meath have been assessed as agriculture (70% and 50%) wastewater and industrial discharges (20% and 40%) and wastewater from unsewered properties (5% and 10%).
- ❑ In Meath the main issue causing problems upstream of Athboy town is identified as farming whilst downstream of the town the Wastewater Treatment Plant is having a greater effect.
- ❑ Meath also identified some overuse of pesticide issues.

- ❑ The Eastern River Basin District the Mobile Monitoring Unit visited the Athboy River subcatchment in Westmeath in August 2008 found a 20% of farms and a large portion of septic tanks are not performing as efficiently as they could be.
- ❑ In Westmeath there is also some evidence of unauthorised channelisation of rivers, this could impact ecology.

All percentages are estimated based on available data, analysis and expert judgement.



Fig 1: Mobile Monitoring Unit

Programme of Measures

- Having assessed the current condition of our waters, the extent of areas to protect, and the risks and pressures affecting our waters, we can now determine the measures needed to bring them all back to good status.
- We must aim to achieve full implementation of all basic measures before 2015. If the implementation of all Basic Measures before 2015 will not get us to Good Status then we must select necessary Supplementary Measures.

<i>Basic Measures</i>	Measures required by law
<i>Supplementary Measures</i>	Non-statutory measures deemed necessary

- The following pages detail the proposed Programme of Measures. We have also proposed an Alternative Programme of Measures that, in light of the large number of measures to be taken, prioritises certain measures for the first cycle of the plan (2010 – 2015).
- ***Please see the Appendix for the full list of basic and supplementary measures selected in both the Proposed and Alternative Programme of Measures.***

Proposed Programme of Measures

This proposed Programme of Measures aims to achieve the 4 core objectives as described earlier by fully implementing all basic measures and also implementing supplementary measures where deemed necessary.

Basic Measures:

A full list of basic measures is listed in the Draft River Basin Management Plan. It includes the regulations enacted from the following 11 European Directives and also requires member states to create measures for 11 other issues:

11 European Directives

1. Bathing Water Directive
2. Habitats Directive
3. Birds Directive
4. Drinking Water Directive
5. Major Accidents (Seveso) Directive
6. Environmental Impact Assessment Directive
7. Sewage Sludge Directive
8. Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
9. Plant Protection Products Directive
10. Nitrates Directive
11. Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive

11 Other Basic Measures

1. Cost recovery for water use
2. Measures to promote efficient and sustainable use
3. Protection of drinking water sources
4. Control of abstraction and impoundment
5. Authorisation of discharges to groundwater
6. Control of point source discharges
7. Control of diffuse source pollution
8. Control of priority substances
9. Control of physical modifications of surface waters
10. Controls on other activities impacting water status
11. Prevention or reduction of the impact of accidental pollution incidents

Proposed Programme of Measures - Rivers

□ Supplementary Measures (In descending order of cost):

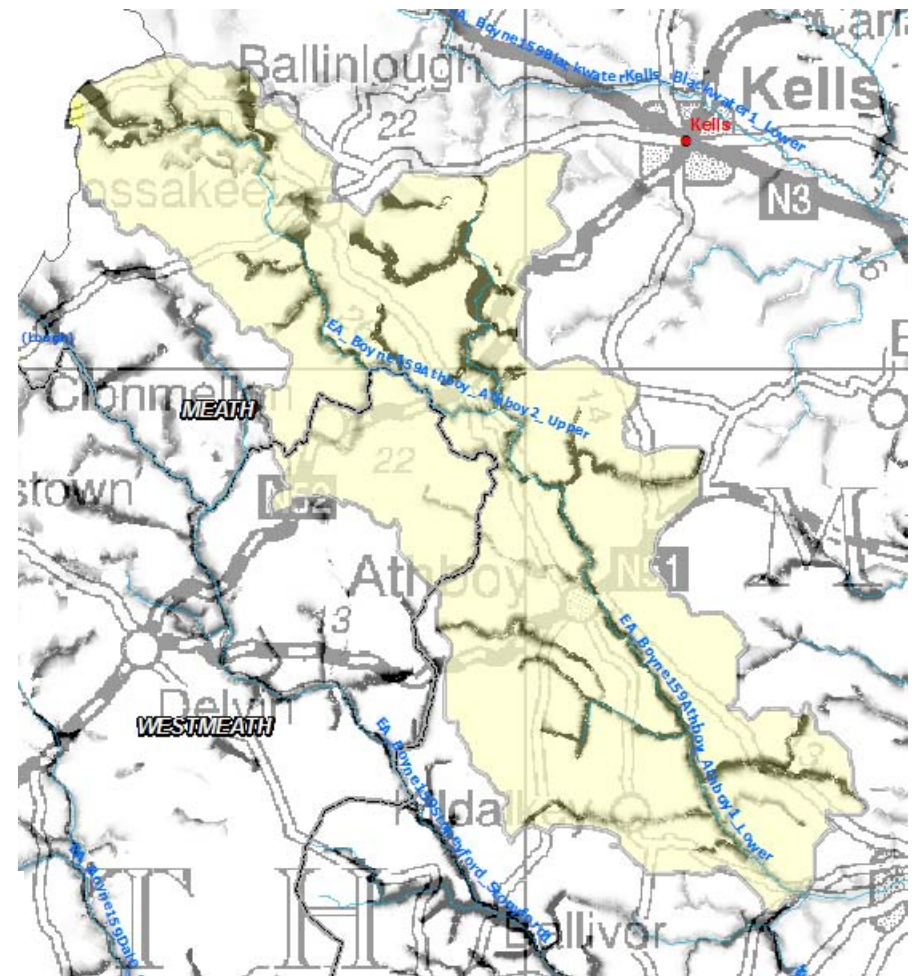
Top Ten Supplementary Measures - River Sub-catchment
Tertiary Treatment
Upgrade WWTW and Collecting Systems <2000 PE
Upgrade WWTW <2000 PE
Implement Community Digestors for Alternative Energy
Enforce Regulations on Septic Systems
Restrict Cattle Access to rivers - Create Cattle Drinking points
PCS - Principles for Good Plant Protection Practise
Department of Agriculture - Code of Good Practice and Guidelines on the use of biosolids in Agriculture, 1999
Emphasise linkage between Planning, Water Services, and Environmental Sections within Local Authorities for Planning Purposes
Conduct awareness campaign for sustainable domestic water use, including rainwater harvesting and domestic soakaways for stormwater

Alternative Programme of Measures – Basic Measures

We have prepared an Alternative Programme of Measures for comparison. This Programme of Measures selects the measures to prioritise for implementation during the first 6 year plan that are thought to be most effective, but still aims to achieve Good Status as early as possible

By prioritising the measures to be implemented in the first cycle, the Alternative Scenario aims to save time and money by focussing on the most effective measures first.

Phosphorus modelling by the ERBD project shows that of the entire Athboy Catchment only 21% of the Meath land area and 1% of the WestMeath are of high risk of causing direct runoff into the river.



What can you do?

You have your say!

- Now is your chance to have a say on the Programme of Measures:
 - Have all issues been addressed?
 - Do you have any measures to add to the proposed Programme of Measures?
 - What do you think about the Alternative Programme of Measures?
 - Would you spend more to achieve our goals faster?

- We can all help to implement this important legislation by thinking about our impact on the water environment in our everyday lives.



How to comment

Please *have your say* in any of the following ways:

1. Email your comments to comments@erbd.ie and include River Basin Management Plan Comments in the subject line

2. Write to:

River Basin Management Plan Comments

Project Co-ordinator

Eastern River Basin District Project Office

Dublin City Council

68-70 Marrowbone Lane, 4th Floor

Dublin 8



Appendix 1

Proposed Programme of Measures



Programme of Measures Key

ABS	Abstractions
AGR	Agricultural Point and Diffuse Sources
AGR-PS	Unlicensed Agricultural Point Sources
Chem	Chemical Fertiliser
CROSS	Planning, Development and other sources
DLRCC	Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
DS	Dangerous Substances
ECO	Poor Ecology
FOR	Forestry
IPPC	Industrial Sources
Manure	Manure Fertilisers
MORP	Intensive Land use
S4	Local Authority Licensed Discharges
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plants
DATA+	An Absence of sufficient data
HS	To Protect High Status Waters
Septic	Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems
U-DIFF	Urban Diffuse Pollution

Proposed Programme of Measures

– Basic Measures for Rivers

Local Authority	Parent ID Name	MeasureName	Source
MEATH	Quality of Surface Water intended for the Abstraction of Drinking Water (S.I. 294 of 1989)	Quality of Surface Water intended for the Abstraction of Drinking Water (S.I. 294 of 1989)	ABS
MEATH	National Water Pricing Policy Framework (1998)	National Water Pricing Policy Framework (1998)	ABS
MEATH	Water Supplies Act 1942	Water Supplies Act 1942	ABS
MEATH	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	AGR
MEATH	EC (Drinking Water) (No 2) Regulations (S.I. 278 of 2007)	EC (Drinking Water) (No 2) Regulations (S.I. 278 of 2007)	CROSS
MEATH	Planning Development Acts 2000 - 2006	Planning Development Acts 2000 - 2006	CROSS
MEATH	Planning and Development Regulations 2001 - 2007	Planning and Development Regulations 2001 - 2007	CROSS
MEATH	EC (Authorisation, Placing on the Market, Use and Control of Plant Protection Products), 2003 and amendments	EC (Authorisation, Placing on the Market, Use and Control of Plant Protection Products), 2003 and amendments	DS
MEATH	EC (Classification Packaging and Labelling of Plant Protection Products and Biocide Products) Regulations, 2001	EC (Classification Packaging and Labelling of Plant Protection Products and Biocide Products) Regulations, 2001	DS
MEATH	EPA (Licensing) Regulations, 1994 & 2004	EPA (Licensing) Regulations, 1994 & 2004	IPPC
MEATH	Forestry Act 1946 and 1988	Forestry Act 1946 and 1988	Manure
MEATH	Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1 of 1977 and amendments	Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1 of 1977 and amendments	S4
MEATH	Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001 - 2004	Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001 - 2004	WWTP
MEATH	Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations (S.I. 684 of 2007)	Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations (S.I. 684 of 2007)	WWTP
MEATH	Water Services Act 2007	Water Services Act 2007	WWTP
WESTMEATH	Quality of Surface Water intended for the Abstraction of Drinking Water (S.I. 294 of 1989)	Quality of Surface Water intended for the Abstraction of Drinking Water (S.I. 294 of 1989)	ABS
WESTMEATH	National Water Pricing Policy Framework (1998)	National Water Pricing Policy Framework (1998)	ABS
WESTMEATH	Water Supplies Act 1942	Water Supplies Act 1942	ABS

Proposed Programme of Measures

– Basic Measures for Rivers Continued

Local Authority	Parent ID Name	MeasureName	Source
WESTMEATH	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	AGR
WESTMEATH	Planning Development Acts 2000 - 2006	Planning Development Acts 2000 - 2006	CROSS
WESTMEATH	Planning and Development Regulations 2001 - 2007	Planning and Development Regulations 2001 - 2007	CROSS
WESTMEATH	EC (Authorisation, Placing on the Market, Use and Control of Plant Protection Products), 2003 and amendments	EC (Authorisation, Placing on the Market, Use and Control of Plant Protection Products), 2003 and amendments	DS
WESTMEATH	EC (Classification Packaging and Labelling of Plant Protection Products and Biocide Products) Regulations, 2001	EC (Classification Packaging and Labelling of Plant Protection Products and Biocide Products) Regulations, 2001	DS
WESTMEATH	EPA (Licensing) Regulations, 1994 & 2004	EPA (Licensing) Regulations, 1994 & 2004	IPPC
WESTMEATH	Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1 of 1977 and amendments	Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1 of 1977 and amendments	S4
WESTMEATH	Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001 - 2004	Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001 - 2004	WWTP
WESTMEATH	Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations (S.I. 684 of 2007)	Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations (S.I. 684 of 2007)	WWTP
WESTMEATH	Water Services Act 2007	Water Services Act 2007	WWTP

Proposed Programme of Measures – Supplementary Measures for Rivers

Local Authority	Measure Name	Measure Type	Source
MEATH	Department of Agriculture - Code of Good Practice and Guidelines on the use of biosolids in Agriculture, 1999	Guidance	Manure
MEATH	Emphasise linkage between Planning, Water Services, and Environmental Sections within Local Authorities for Planning Purposes	Proposed	CROSS
MEATH	Conduct awareness campaign for sustainable domestic water use, including rainwater harvesting and domestic soakaways for stormwater	Proposed	ABS
MEATH	LAs to adopt a common Register of approved Site Assessors and common Code of Practice for maintaining register	Proposed	Septic
MEATH	Modernise Abstraction Legislation, including a system for licensing surface water abstractions	Proposed	ABS
MEATH	OPW - Environmental Drainage Maintenance Guidance Notes	Proposed	MORP
MEATH	Tertiary Treatment	Supplementary	WWTP
MEATH	Upgrade WWTW and Collecting Systems <2000 PE	Supplementary	WWTP
MEATH	Upgrade WWTW <2000 PE	Supplementary	WWTP
MEATH	Enforce Regulations on Septic Systems	Supplementary	Septic
MEATH	Implement Community Digestors for Alternative Energy	Supplementary	WWTP
MEATH	Restrict Cattle Access to rivers - Create Cattle Drinking points	Supplementary	AGR-PS
MEATH	PCS - Principles for Good Plant Protection Practise	Supplementary	Chem
WESTMEATH	Emphasise linkage between Planning, Water Services, and Environmental Sections within Local Authorities for Planning Purposes	Proposed	CROSS
WESTMEATH	Conduct awareness campaign for sustainable domestic water use, including rainwater harvesting and domestic soakaways for stormwater	Proposed	ABS
WESTMEATH	Modernise Abstraction Legislation, including a system for licensing surface water abstractions	Proposed	ABS
WESTMEATH	Implement Community Digestors for Alternative Energy	Supplementary	WWTP

Appendix 2

Alternative Programme of Measures



Alternative Programme of Measures

– Basic Measures for Rivers

Local Authority	Measure Name	Sub-Measure Name	Source
MEATH	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	Conduct Farm Surveys	AGR
MEATH	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	Improve farmyard structure/operations to divert rainwater runoff	AGR-PS
MEATH	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	Soiled water generation minimisation practises	AGR-PS
MEATH	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	Fertiliser/manure/soiled water/effluent/slurry/silage storage facilities to prevent seepage to ground or surface water	AGR-PS
MEATH	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	Nutrient management	Manure
MEATH	Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1 of 1977 and amendments	Enforce Section 4s (discharges to waterbodies)	S4
MEATH	Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1 of 1977 and amendments	Enforce Section 16s	S4
MEATH	Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001 - 2004	Collecting systems for p.e.'s >2,000 (unless negligible benefits or excessive costs)	WWTP
WESTMEATH	EC (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations (S.I. 378 of 2006 and S.I. 526 of 2007)	Conduct Farm Surveys	AGR
WESTMEATH	Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1 of 1977 and amendments	Enforce Section 12s	S4
WESTMEATH	Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1 of 1977 and amendments	Enforce Section 4s (discharges to waterbodies)	S4
WESTMEATH	Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1 of 1977 and amendments	Enforce Section 16s	S4
WESTMEATH	Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001 - 2004	Ensure that a treatment plant provided in compliance with the requirements of these regulations is designed, constructed, operated and maintained to ensure sufficient performance under all normal local climatic conditions	WWTP

Alternative Programme of Measures – Supplementary Measures for Rivers

Local Authority	Measure Name	Measure Type	Source
MEATH	Modernise Abstraction Legislation, including a system for licensing surface water abstractions	Proposed	ABS
MEATH	Conduct awareness campaign for sustainable domestic water use, including rainwater harvesting and domestic soakaways for stormwater	Proposed	ABS
MEATH	Restrict Cattle Access to rivers - Create Cattle Drinking points	Supplementary	AGR-PS
MEATH	PCS - Principles for Good Plant Protection Practise	Guidance	Chem
MEATH	Emphasise linkage between Planning, Water Services, and Environmental Sections within Local Authorities for Planning Purposes	Supplementary	CROSS
MEATH	Department of Agriculture - Code of Good Practice and Guidelines on the use of biosolids in Agriculture, 1999	Guidance	Manure
MEATH	OPW - Environmental Drainage Maintenance Guidance Notes	Guidance	MORP
MEATH	LAs to adopt a common Register of approved Site Assessors and common Code of Practice for maintaining register	Proposed	Septic
MEATH	Enforce Regulations on Septic Systems	Supplementary	Septic
MEATH	Tertiary Treatment	Supplementary	WWTP
MEATH	Upgrade WWTW <2000 PE	Supplementary	WWTP
MEATH	Upgrade WWTW and Collecting Systems <2000 PE	Supplementary	WWTP
MEATH	Implement Community Digestors for Alternative Energy	Supplementary	WWTP
WESTMEATH	Modernise Abstraction Legislation, including a system for licensing surface water abstractions	Proposed	ABS
WESTMEATH	Conduct awareness campaign for sustainable domestic water use, including rainwater harvesting and domestic soakaways for stormwater	Proposed	ABS
WESTMEATH	Emphasise linkage between Planning, Water Services, and Environmental Sections within Local Authorities for Planning Purposes	Supplementary	CROSS
WESTMEATH	Implement Community Digestors for Alternative Energy	Supplementary	WWTP