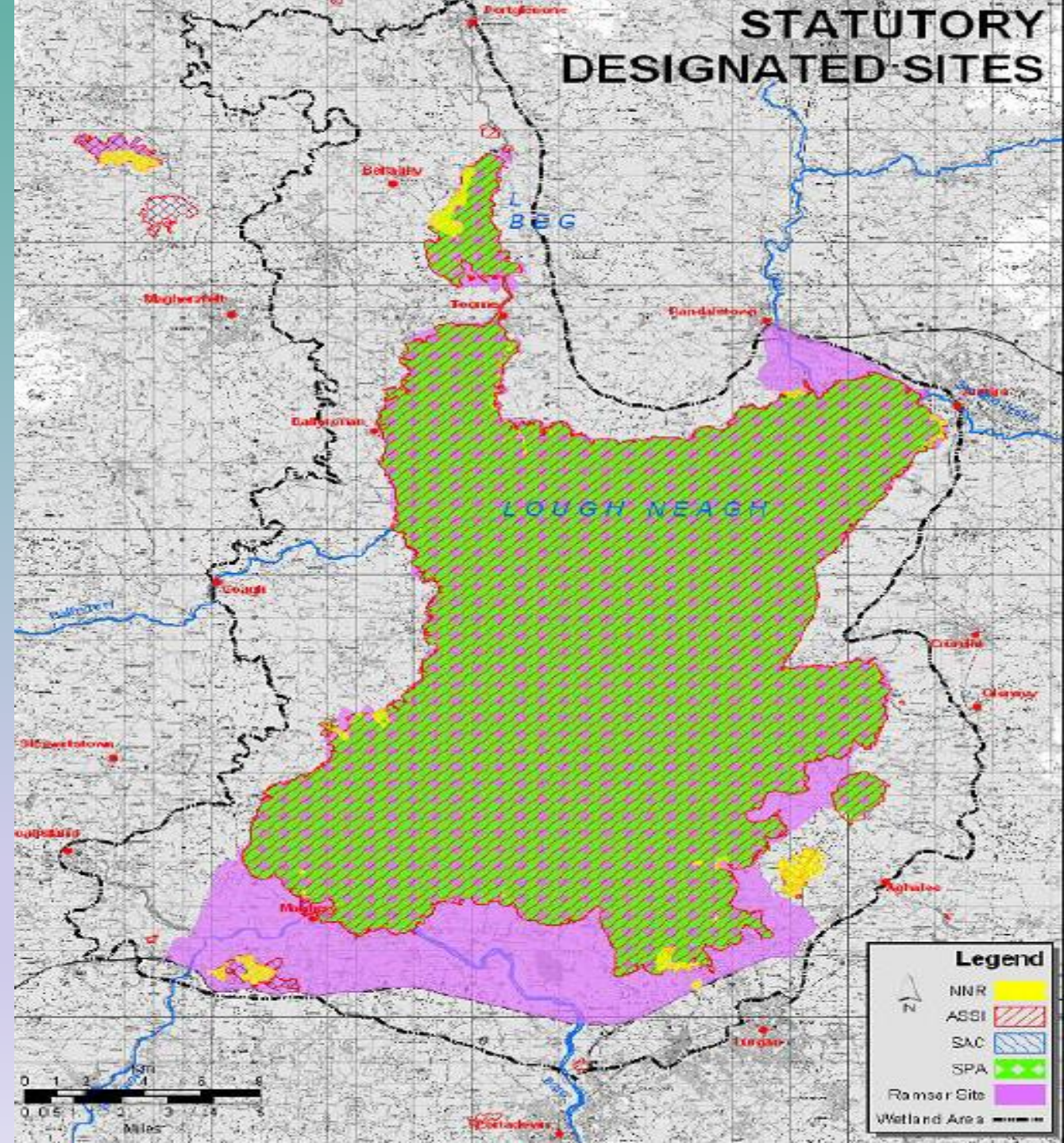
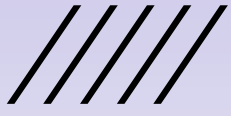


L O U G H N E A G H P A R T N E R S H I P F U T U R E S T R A T E G Y

2023 -2028
PRESENTATION TO ABCBC
COUNCILORS
SEP 2022



○ **Basic Facts about Lough**

- Largest Lake in Northern Ireland, UK and Ireland
- Biggest ASSI and Special Protected Area in Northern Ireland
- Holds 8 Billion gallon of Water
- Supplies 40% of NI water
- Supplies 1/3 of NI construction industry sand
- No Navigation Authority
- Until recently very little Tourism Development 

○ **Basic Facts about Lough Neagh Partnership**

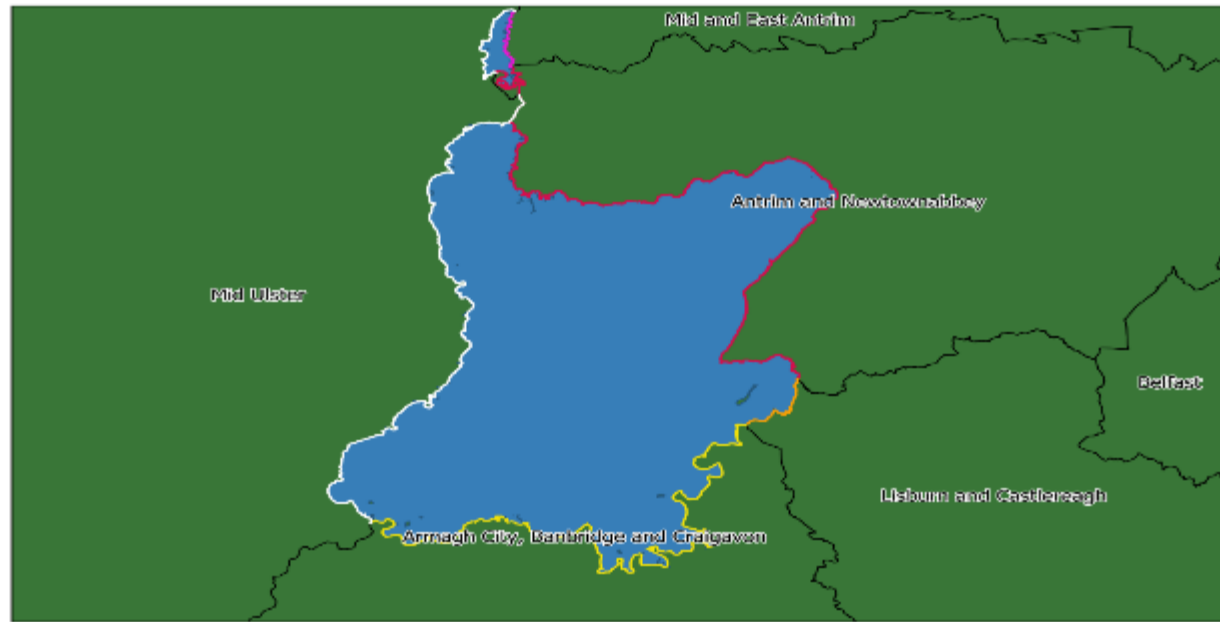
- Stakeholder Management body for Lough
- No statutory Responsibility
- 24 Directors representing sand, fishing and farming industry, community representation, and Council Representation. (None for ABCBC)
- De facto management body for Lough Neagh
- Manages ASSI and SPA on behalf of NIEA
- Co-ordinates funding applications and investment programmes
- Identifies needs and sets strategic priorities for the future of Lough
- Manages 8 staff and offices on £73,000 per annum
- Has Brought aprox £2,922,863 of investment into ABCBC



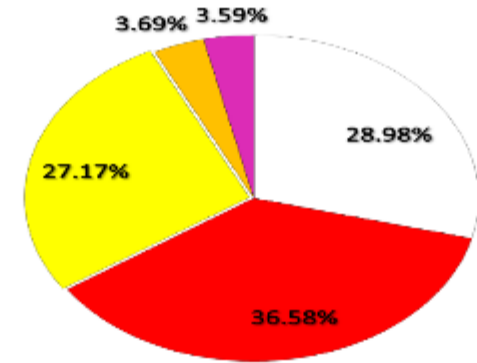


Council Breakdown of Shoreline

ABCBC 27%



Council Percentage of Shoreline



- Mid Ulster
- Antrim and Newtownabbey
- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon
- Lisburn and Castlereagh
- Mid and East Antrim





Programmes and Funding on Lough for last 5 years

Programmes	Grant Assistance	Total incl Matched Investment	Total incl Matched and Levered Funds
Lough Neagh Environment Protection	£429, 439.	£580,250	£614,750
Lough Neagh Landscape Scheme	£2,494,900	£3,536,556	£4,344,451
Waterpro Water Quality	£179,600	£179,600	£179,600
2 Environmental Farm Schemes	£401,899	£401,899	£4,962,718

Last 5 year Investm ent in Lough

Lough Neagh Artisan Food Programme	£29,550	£35,000	£35,000
Coalisland Industrial Heritage Project	£312,151	£344,151	£400,496
Marketing Grants for 3 festivals 32 Tour promotion	£30, 234	£41, 654	£78,404
Community Renewal Fund	£210,000	£210,000	£210,000
TOTAL			£10,825,419.00
Core funding from all 5 Councils over 5 yrs			£365,000
Over last 5 years for all 5 Councils every £1 spend on core an additional £29.6 levered			
Core funding 3 main councils (93% of shoreline) over 5 yrs			£392,473
Over last 5 years for all 3 main Councils every £1 spent on core funding £29.6 levered by LNP			
Assume 3 main Councils cover 93% of shoreline			

○ **Investment Brought into Whole Lough and ABCBC Portion By LNP 2016 - 2021**

- Total investment brought to Lough £10,825,419
- For every £1 main Council core funding to LNP Levered Investment was £29.6
- Total approx. Investment Brought into ABBC (27% shoreline) £2,922,863
- For every £1 ABBC core funding to LNP approx. £37.6 brought into area




○ **Farm investment in ABCBC as at Sep 2022**

- 148 farm agreements are in place
- This equates to an average of almost £17000 per farm.
- For environmental management we have 3528 ha under agreement.
- 523 ha woodland priority habitat
- 357 ha species richness grassland priority habitat
- 10 ha breeding wader habitat managed.
- 8 km of new hedgerows have been planted.
- 25 km of rivers/ditches fenced to protect habitat and improve water quality.
- Moiled Cattle Scheme introduced



- Map of Farms covered in Environmental Group Farm Scheme around Lough Neagh





Overall LNP Benefits to ABCBC

- Council ASSI SPA Shoreline Managed
- Greater investment brought into area
- Agriculture Economy boosted
- Tourism Development of Council Lough shores
- Council Lough shore made safer with potential marker system
- Other SEUPB/NHF/DFI/DAERA joint Council projects on Lough
- Ownership of Lough and Abandoned Land projects will stimulate new local economy
- Partner with ABC in shift to Carbon trading , Climate change and Agricultural Policy





LOUGH NEAGH PARTNERSHIP

Independent Strategic Review and Plan for 2023 - 2028

Goal 1: Lough Management: To establish a new model for the navigation, management and ownership of the Lough that can deliver on shared goals.

Goal 2: Resilience: To become a resilient and financially sustainable organisation; well governed with skilled staff who are secure in their posts and reserves to spend on our important work.

Goal 3: Support farming sector to adapt to new environmental and climate requirements





LOUGH

NEAGH PARTNERSHIP

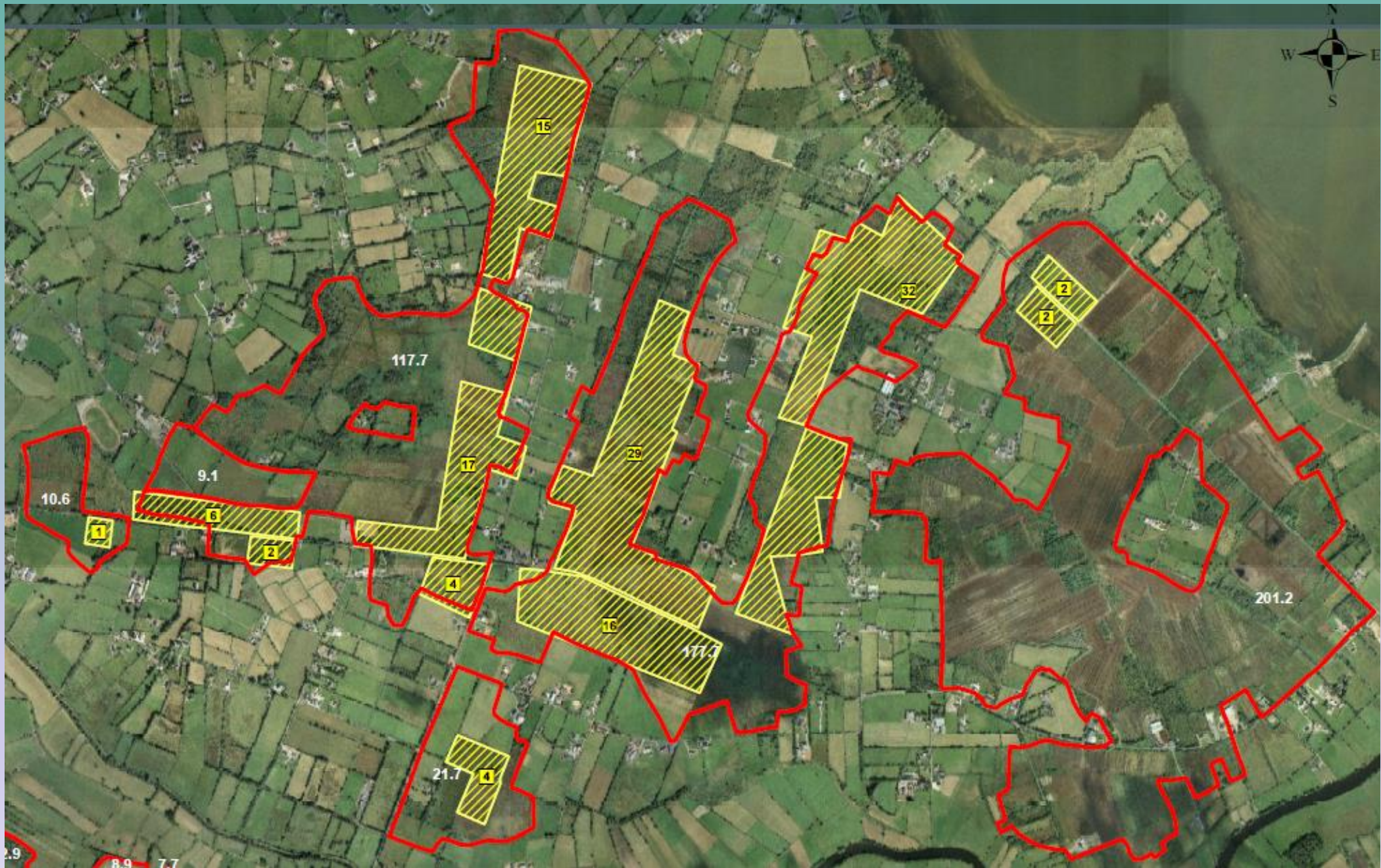
Independent Strategic Review and Plan for 2023 - 2028

- **Goal 4: Conservation and Green Economy: Protect this special place and it's cultural, built, and natural heritage and create new green economy business opportunities**
- **Goal 5: Visitors: To establish Lough Neagh and Navigable rivers as a common brand and work with private sector on food development and food experience branding**
- **Goal 6: Innovative approaches to land management, climate change and carbon capture**
- **Estimated new Investment for Lough 2023 – 28**

£17,380,575







Option 5: biodiversity

Manage as wet
grassland with wildlife
scrapes



New native woodland
on roadside
embankment



Build in biodiversity
features to house &
fruit / vegetable
garden



New traditional
hedgerows (2m width)



Use traditional
livestock breeds



New native woodland
& enrich existing
woodland layers



Renew and extend
traditional orchard



Build in biodiversity
features



Plant 'Pontbren
hedgerows'
throughout



Manage & enrich all
grasslands to maximise
species diversity

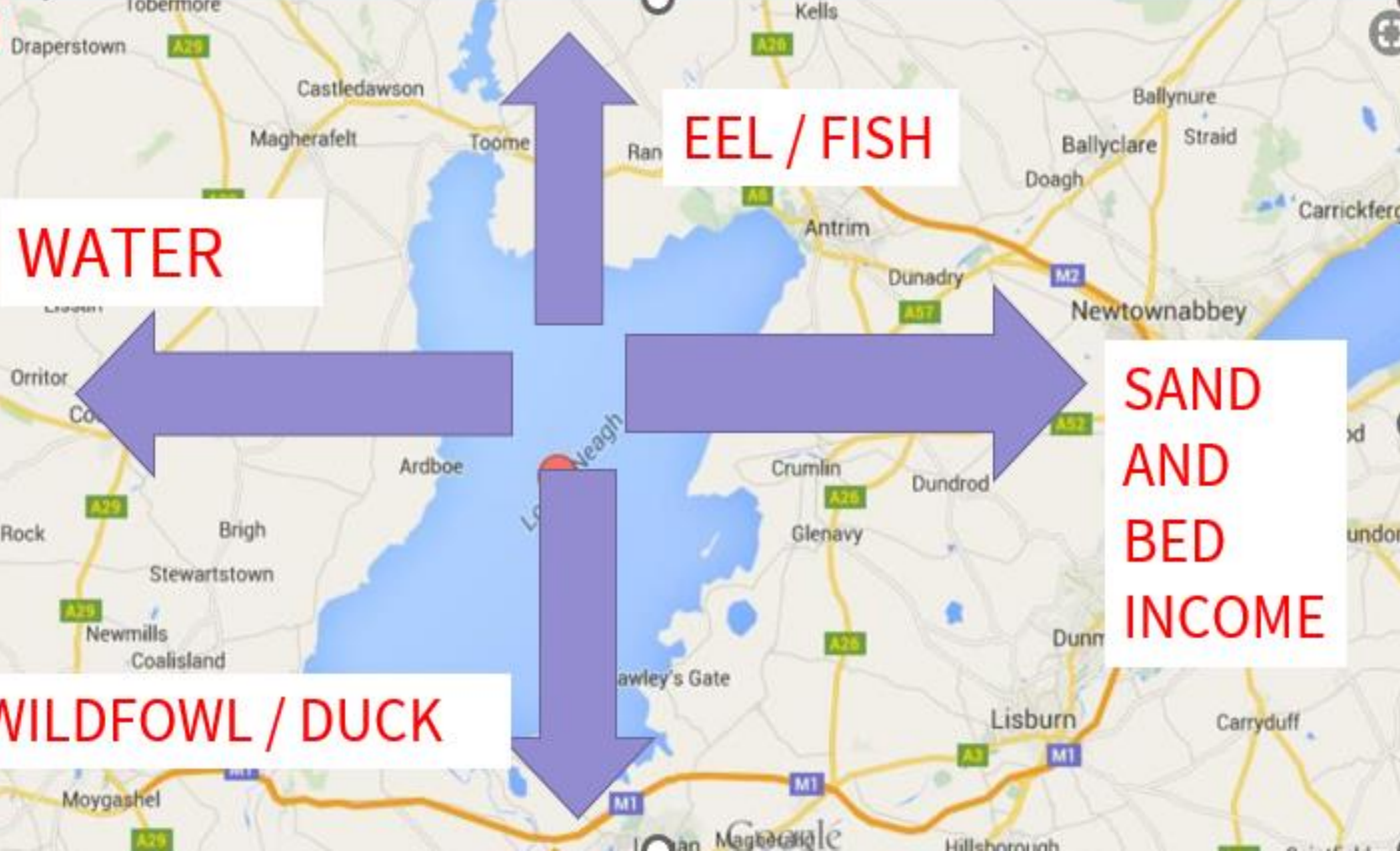


Create new wildlife
ponds (3 total)









WATER

EEL / FISH

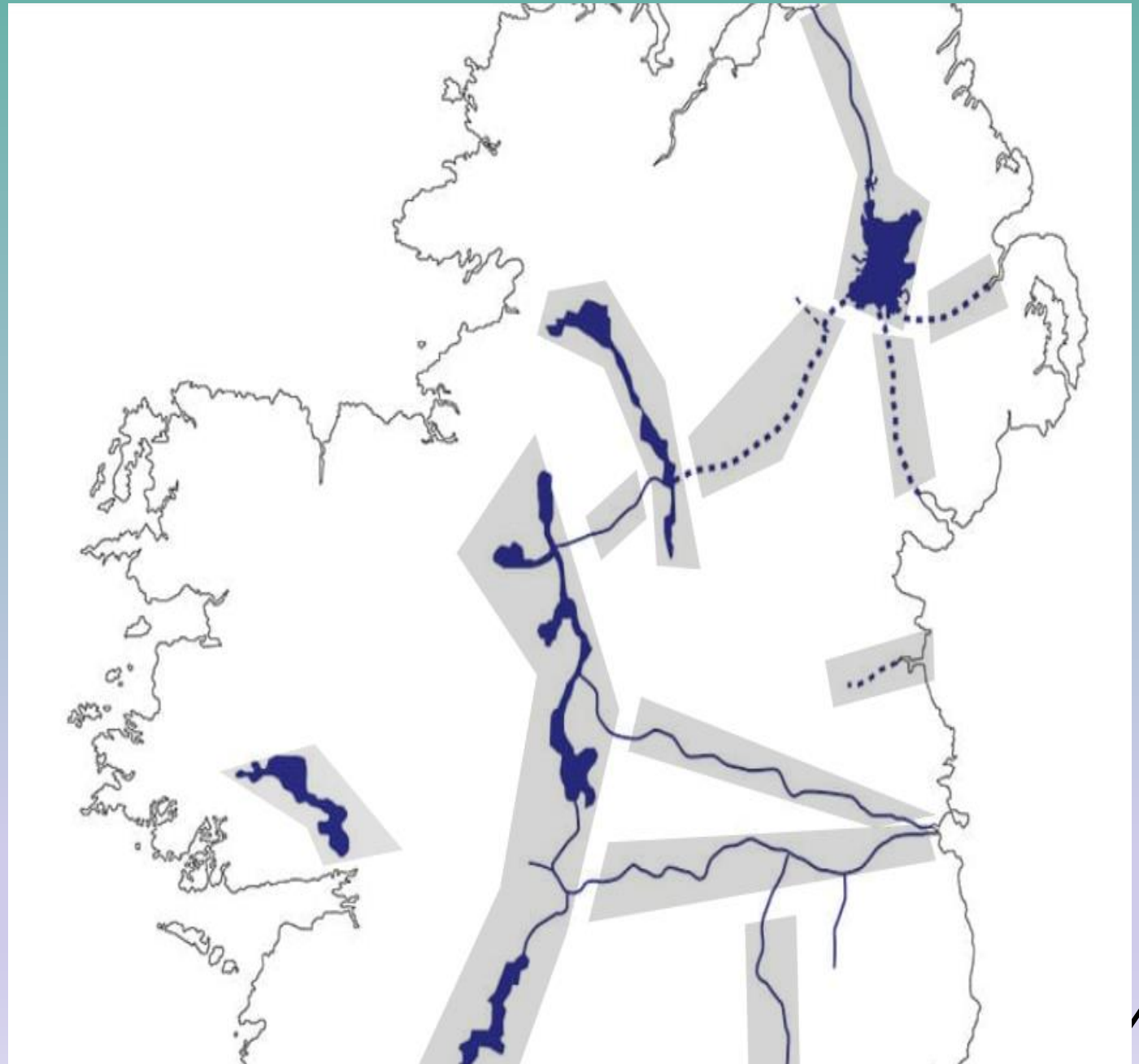
SAND
AND
BED
INCOME

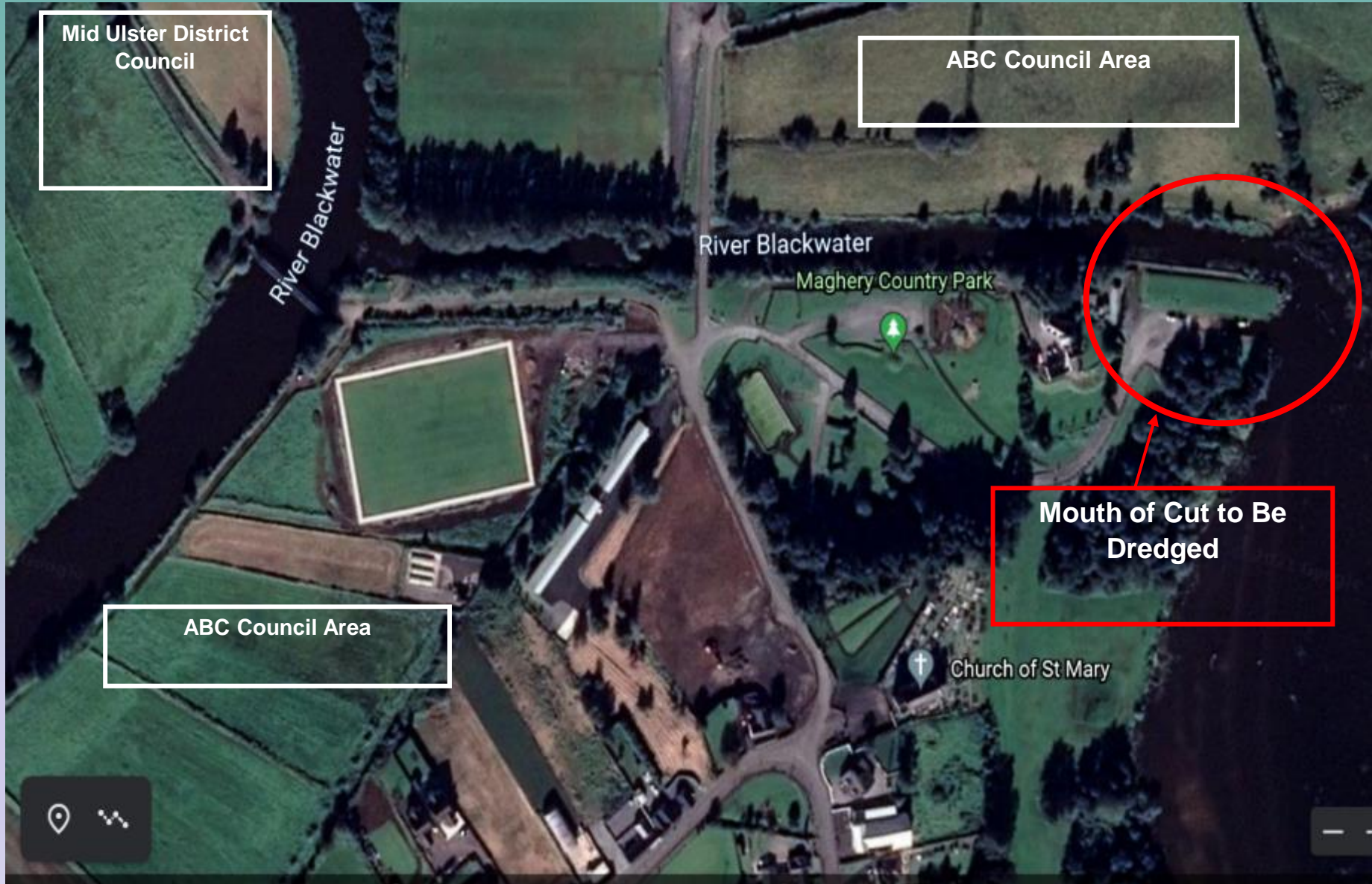
WILDFOWL / DUCK

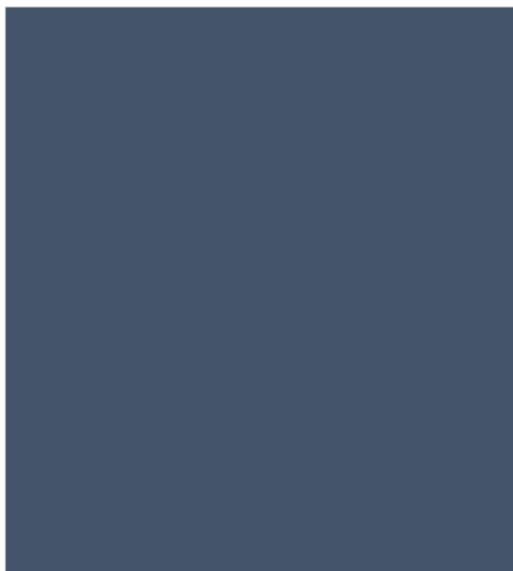


Where does
the Ulster
Canal start?

It all depends
where you
area
standing!

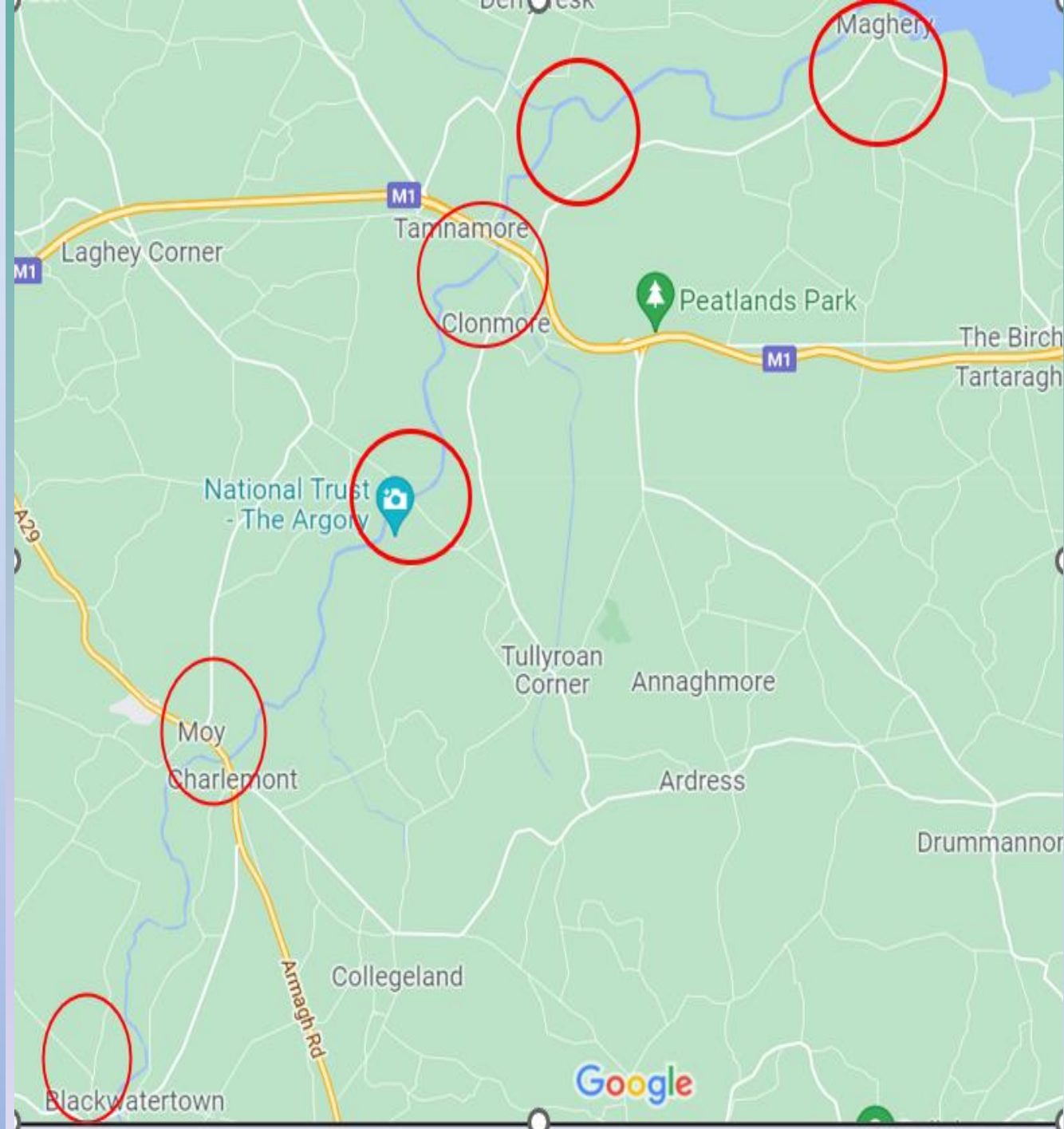






Draft River Blackwater Feasibility Study with Recommendations

Feb 2022







09 RECOMMENDATIONS FORM STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 28



- The Partnership should review and improve its governance, remit, and staffing structures to take on board future economic and political challenges and become more financially resilient in the long term.
- The Partnership should take lead with other partners and agree to set up a new management structure known as the Lough Neagh Management Body (LNMB) made up of senior director staff from the three main Councils, DFI, DAERA DFC and DFF to
- New body should meet twice a year to work to this strategic review and plan and monitor progress, integrating common goals and funding applications associated with this document. This strategic review and plan 2023 – 2028 should be used as a working tool for the LNMB. Main areas include, navigation, ownership, conservation and promotion.

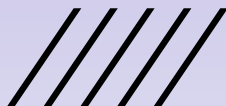


- The three main Councils should each increase the core funding levels to the Lough Neagh Partnership from £22,000 per annum to £49,378 per annum for the next five years. (2023 – 2028) to retain effective staff members, provide financial stability to the body and allow the Partnership to leverage increased value and investment. (This means an increase of £27,378 per annum for each of the three main Councils)
- The Lough Neagh Partnership should set up a formal linkage and partnership with cross border body Waterways Ireland and Border Council to allow it to apply for shared Island and SEUPB funding. This should be supported by the main Councils. Also recommend LNP sits on ICBAN and EBR bodies to make sure more integrated approach to cross border development.





- The three main Councils should endorse the nomination of political representatives to sit on the Lough Neagh Partnership Board to ensure political support and public transparency for the development of the Lough.
- The three main Councils should enter into a new five-year service level agreement with the Partnership from April 2023 – March 2028 based on the attraction of additional investment and addressing agreed strategic needs and outcomes. The SLA should be outcomes and not outputs/actions focussed, and the Partnership should provide an annual report to feed into new Lough Neagh Management Body structure
- Common Lough Neagh Marketing Destination Pot developed from three main Councils from existing City Deal, Tourism NI and Levelling Up Fund.





- Landfill Tax funds could be demarcated to Lough Neagh Area for match funding major conservation projects.
- Three main Councils and three main Departments in the new Lough Neagh Management Body should bid, budget, and provisionally allocate revenue and matching capital funds for the next 5 years specific for joint Lough Neagh Projects and funding applications.
- The Lough Neagh Partnership develop sponsorship programme with Lough Neagh private sector
- ABCBC should includes Cllrs on LNP board, Include strong reference in new tourism strategy and repair motorway sign.
- The report and its recommendations should build on Lough Neagh Motions and be approved by each of the three main Council relevant committees and used as a working tool.



Thanks to ABCBC
for all their help
and support

