



## Shournagh Demonstration Catchment

Water Quality and Assessment

Mairead Shore

10<sup>th</sup> October 2022



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage



# Presentation Contents

- Introduction to Catchments
- The Shournagh Catchment
- Water Quality Measurements
- Water Quality in the Shournagh Catchment
- Next Steps – field work



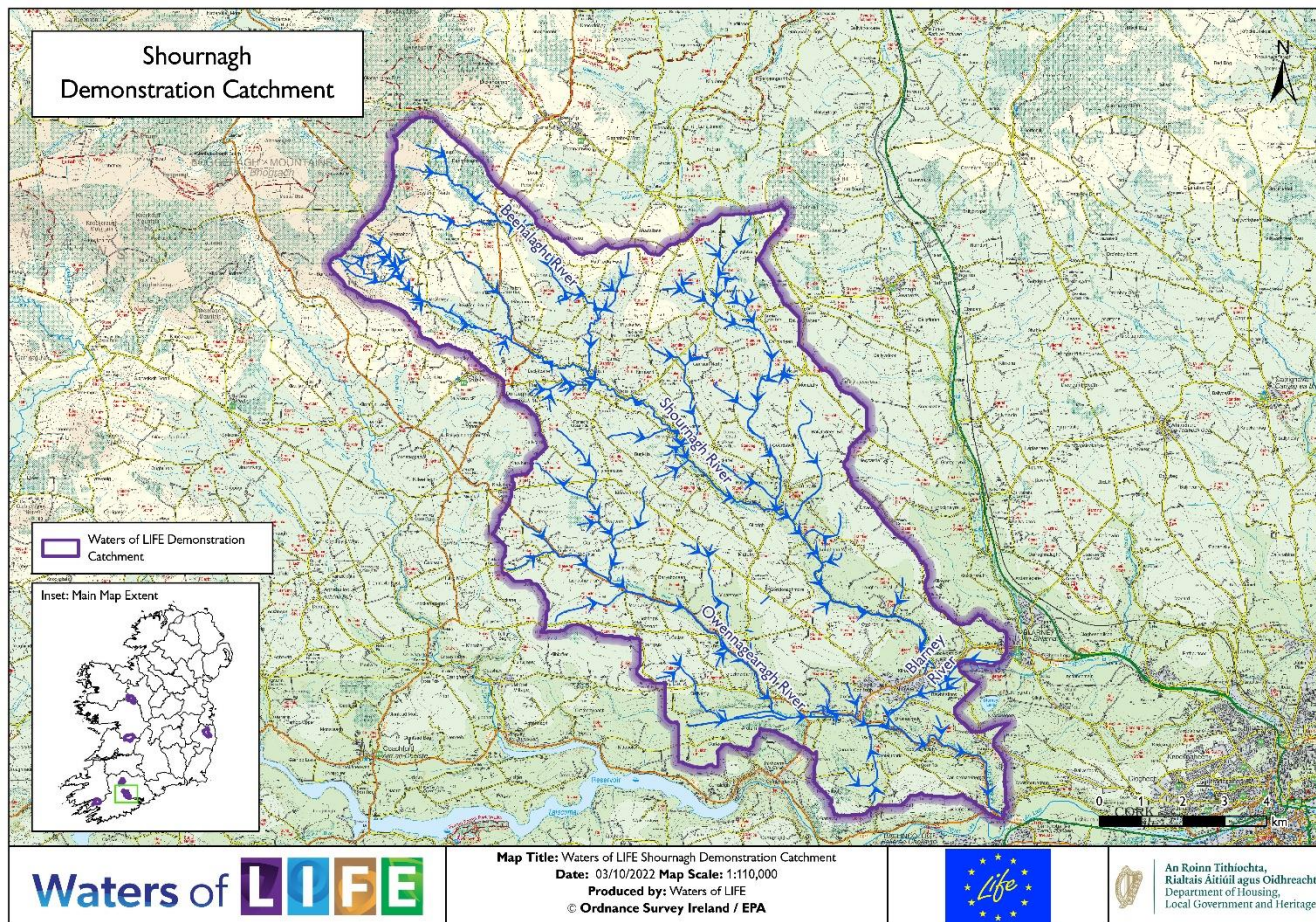
© Google maps street view on 04/04/2022 at Bannow Br on Shournagh\_40



# Catchments

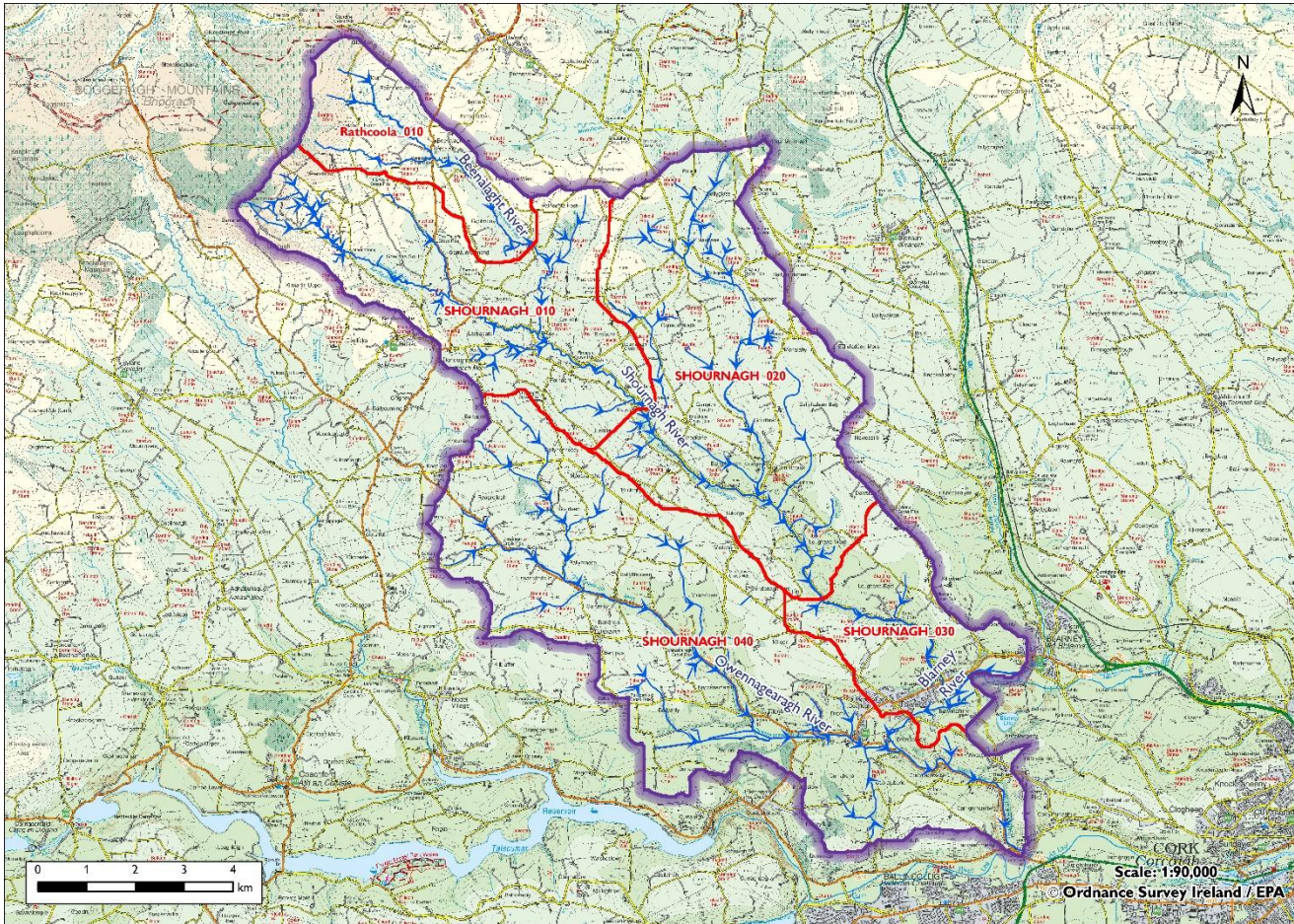
A catchment is a specific area of the landscape that collects rainfall and allows it to flow through rivers, lakes and groundwater to reach the sea.

The health of water within a catchment reflects both the natural attributes and the human activities occurring within that specific area.





# Shournagh Demonstration Catchment



- Shournagh sub-catchment is 119km<sup>2</sup>
- It consists of five river waterbodies:
  - Rathcoola\_010
  - Shournagh\_010
  - Shournagh\_020
  - Shournagh\_030
  - Shournagh\_040

# Desk Study

- Background
- Receptor information – water quality data
- Pressure – EPA information
- Pathways – how pollutants move from land to the river

## Shournagh Waters of Life Demonstration Catchment Desk Study Report



Picture taken from Google maps street view on 04/04/2022 at [Barracrow, Br](#) on Shournagh\_40.

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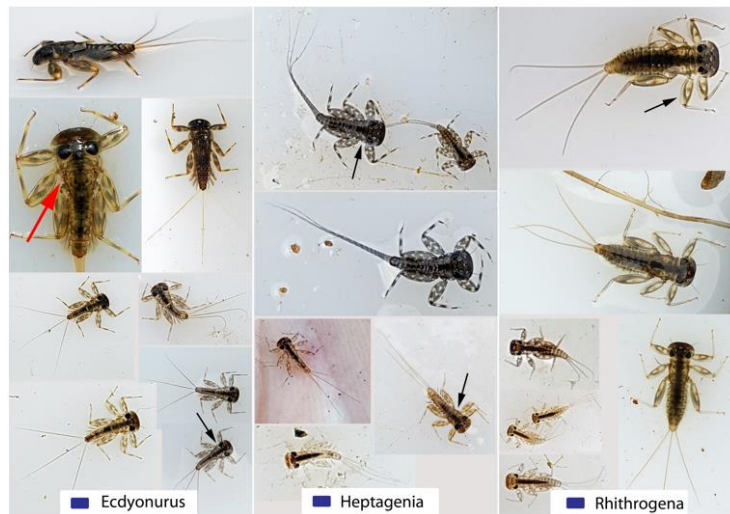
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# Measuring Water Quality

## The Biological Indicators (INV)

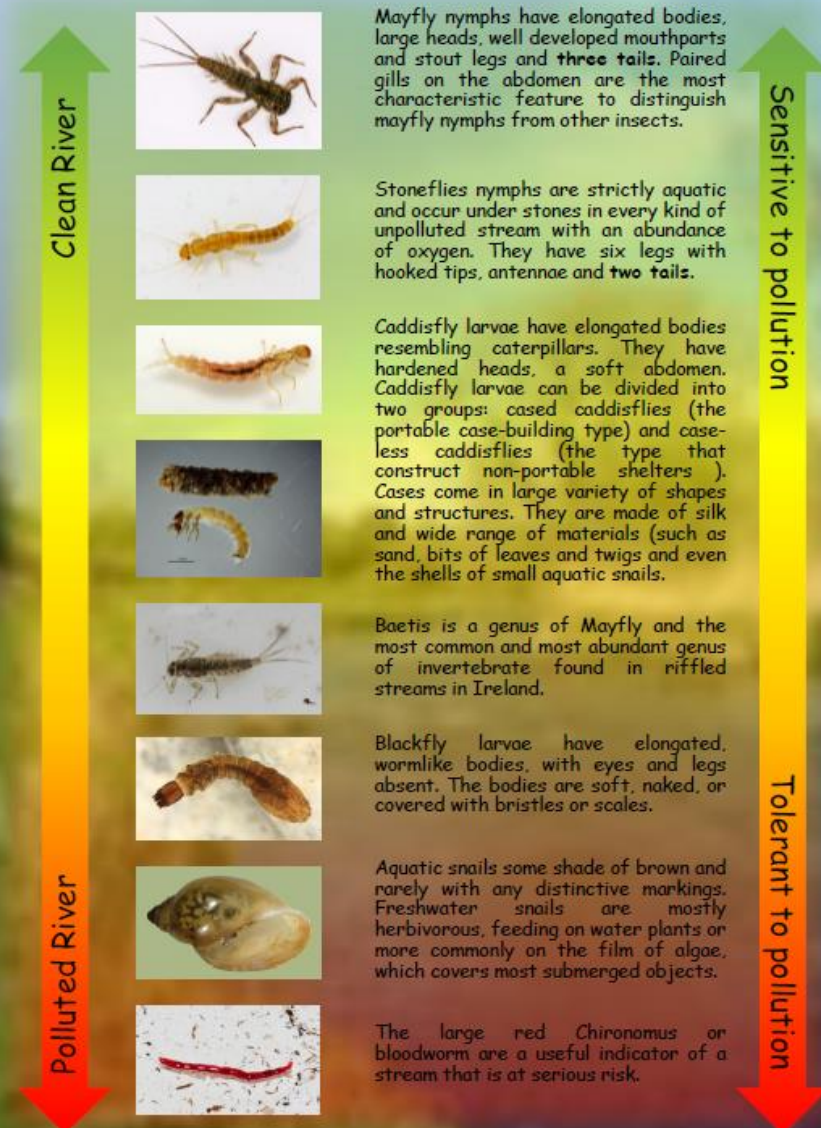


One out all out!!!!

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Images courtesy of LAWPRO

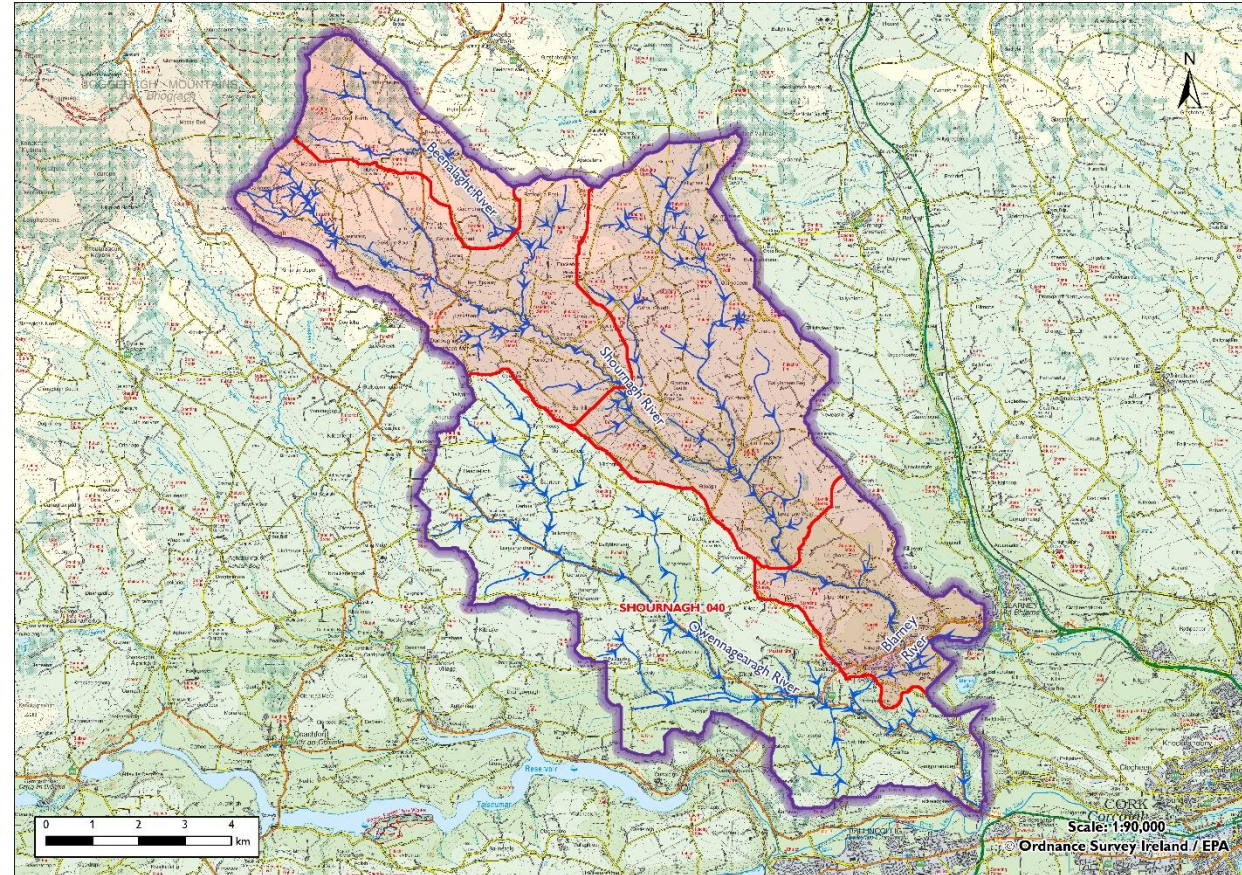
## Aquatic insects can be Indicators of Clean Rivers





# Water Quality in Shournagh

WB name	High status obj.	Ecological Status				Significant Pressures
		2009	2012	2015	2018	
Rathcoola_010	No	G	P	M	G	Agriculture
Shournagh_010	No	H	M	G	G	
Shournagh_020	Yes	H	H	H	G	Hymo
Shournagh_030	Yes	G	H	H	M	UWWTP Run Off
Shournagh_040	Yes	G	H	H	M	Agriculture UWWTP DWWTP





# Immediate Next Steps

- You will see us in the catchment
- Assessment of the catchment
  - Commence October 2022
  - Identify all issue that may affect water quality
- Plan further detailed assessment
  - Catchment walks



© Shournagh River at Cloghphilip - (David Hegarty/ Paul O'Callaghan - LAWPRO)

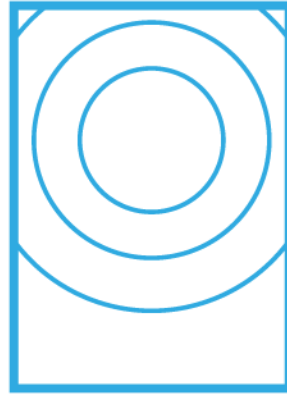


# Thank you for listening

## Questions?



**protect**



**restore**



**respect**



**sustain**