

# 'Progress and challenges in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive in North Wales'

Mark Charlesworth

Water Framework Directive Senior Advisor (Marine)  
Natural Resources Wales

# WFD in a nutshell

Unit = Water Bodies (Estuaries and Coastal)

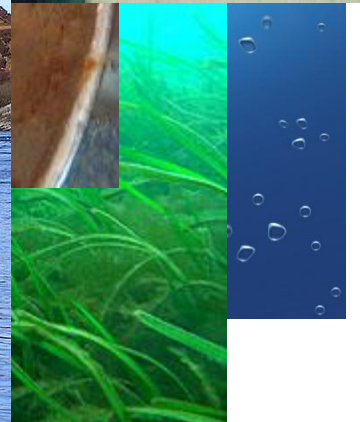
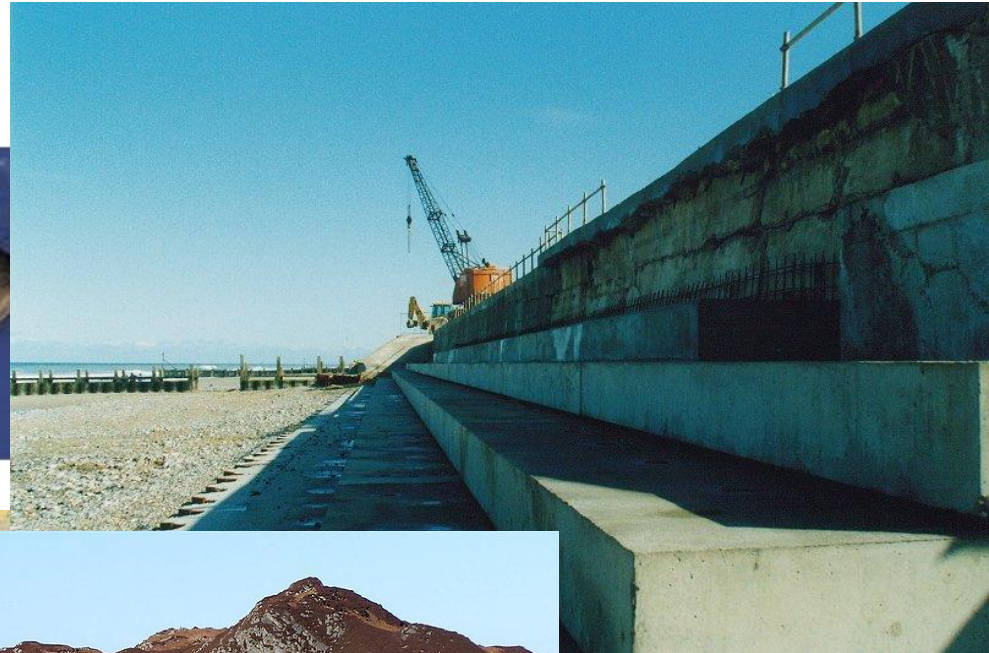
Monitoring: Surveillance; Operational, Investigative

Reporting Structure: 6 year River Basin Management Plans

Protected Areas

Aim – Good Chemical & Ecological Status (or Potential) & No Deterioration

# What do we monitor?



# Progress to date

Assessment tool development,

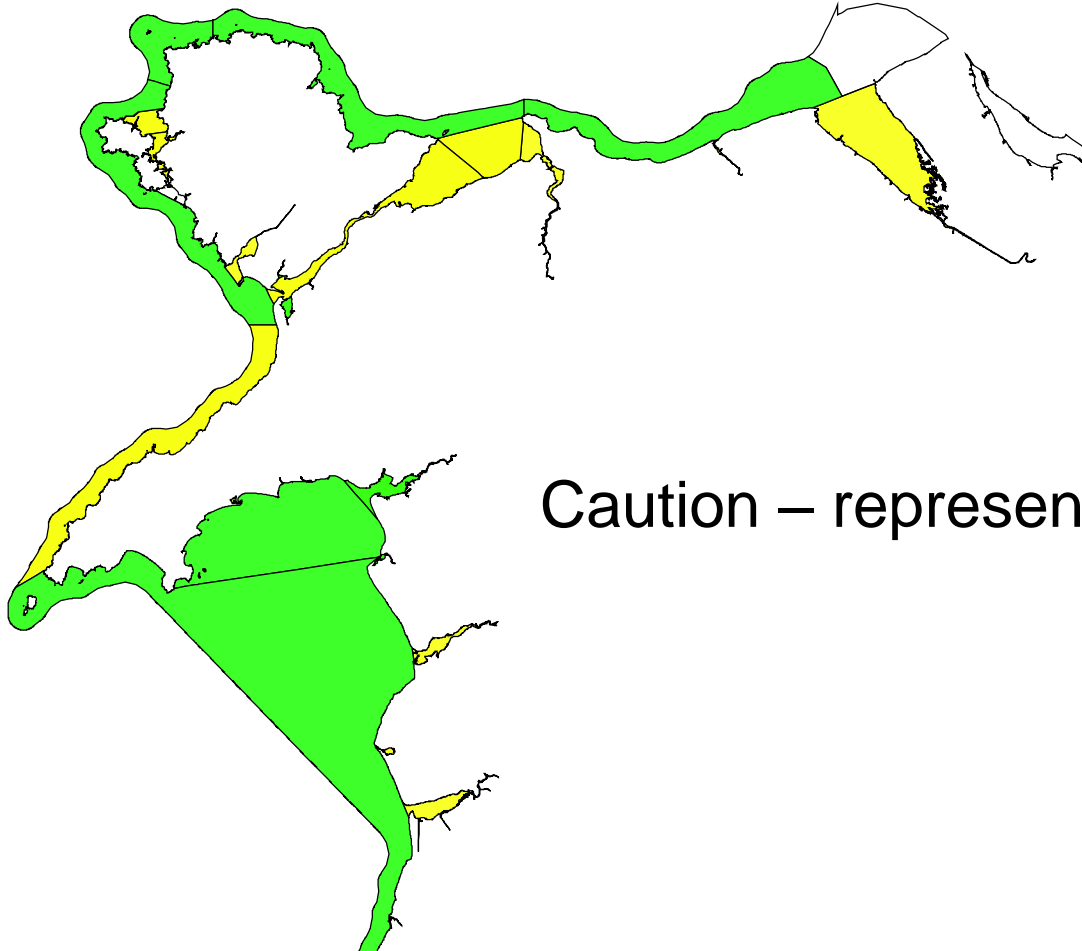
Monitoring programmes with little extra resource

Reuse of tools and chemical standards for Marine  
Strategy Framework Directive



Cyfoeth  
Naturiol  
Cymru  
Natural  
Resources  
Wales

# Where are we now?



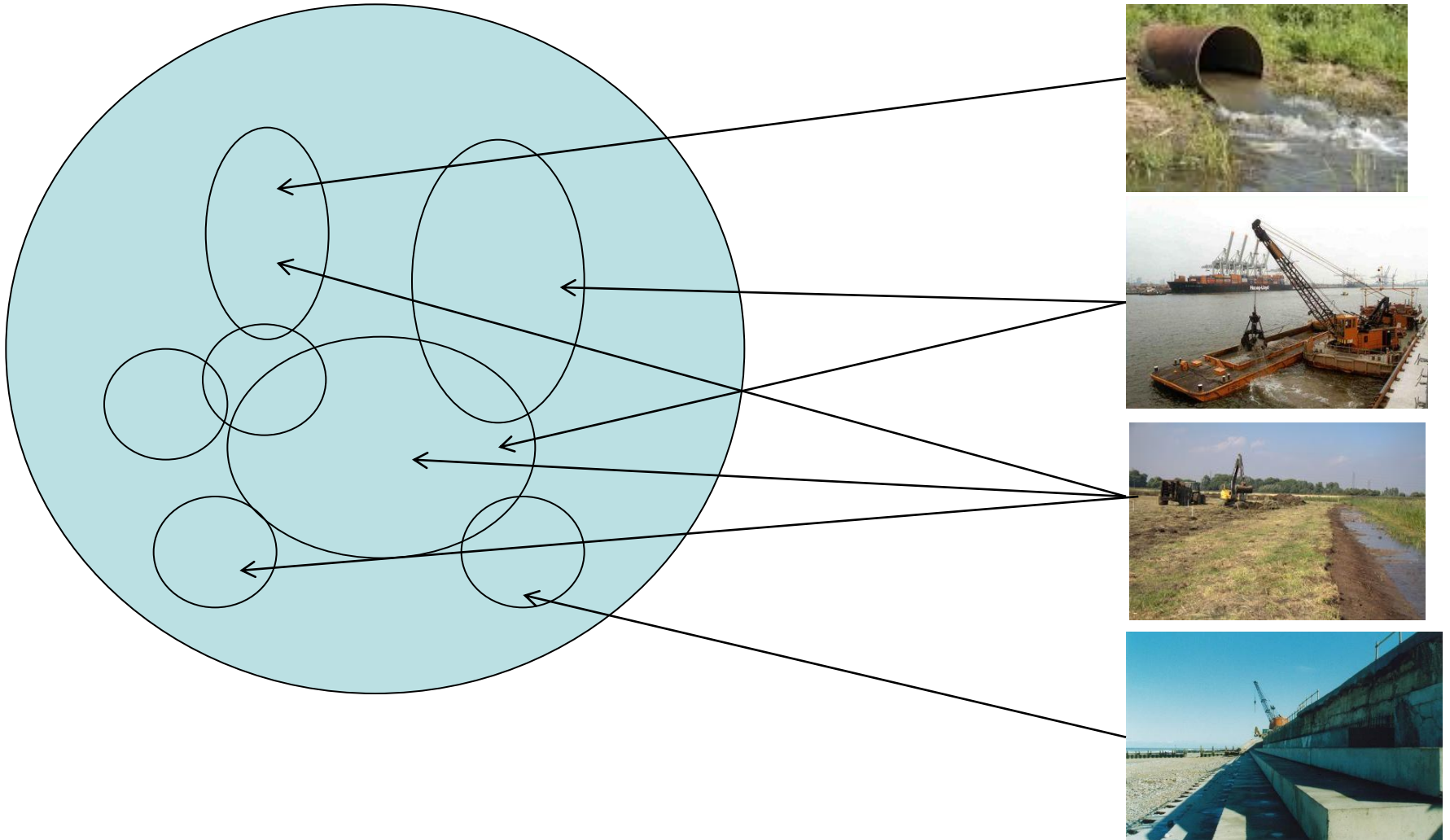
Caution – representative results?

	North +Mid Wales	Wales	England
Good or High	14	24	42
Moderate or lower	14	30	134

# What are the failures?

	North and Mid	Wales
Chemicals	4	12
Physiochemical	6	14
Biology	4	10
Hydromorph	9	13

# Limitations of monitoring and expectation of a pressure/response relationship



## DIN and algae discrepancies (all Wales)

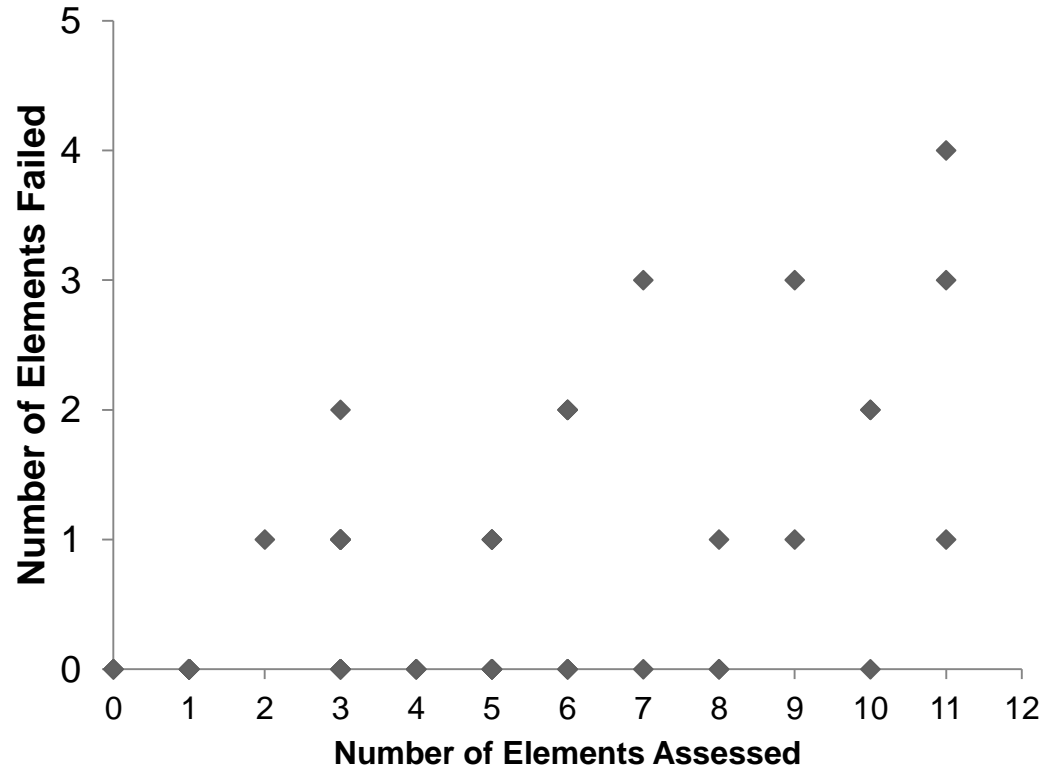
DIN pass; algae pass = 15  
 DIN fail; algae fail = 3  
 DIN fail; algae pass = 9  
 DIN pass; algae fail = 0

Phytoplankton	Macroalgae
High	High
High	Good
High	High
Good	Good
High	High
Good	Good
High	Good
High	High
Bad	High
Good	High
High	Moderate
High	Good
High	Good
Good	High
High	Good
Bad	High

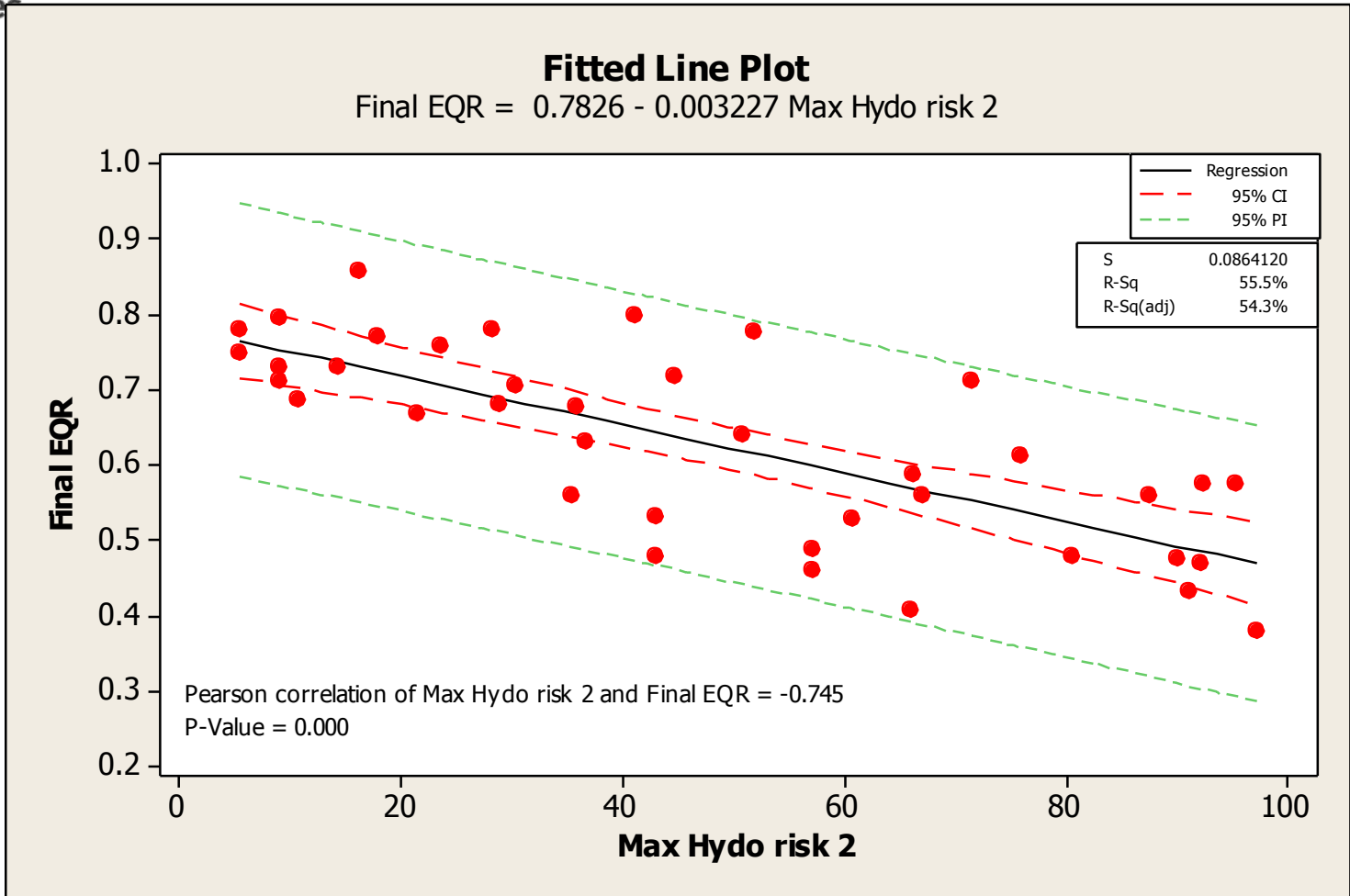
## Does 1 out, all out, work?

DIN failure but no ecological response – WFD measures?

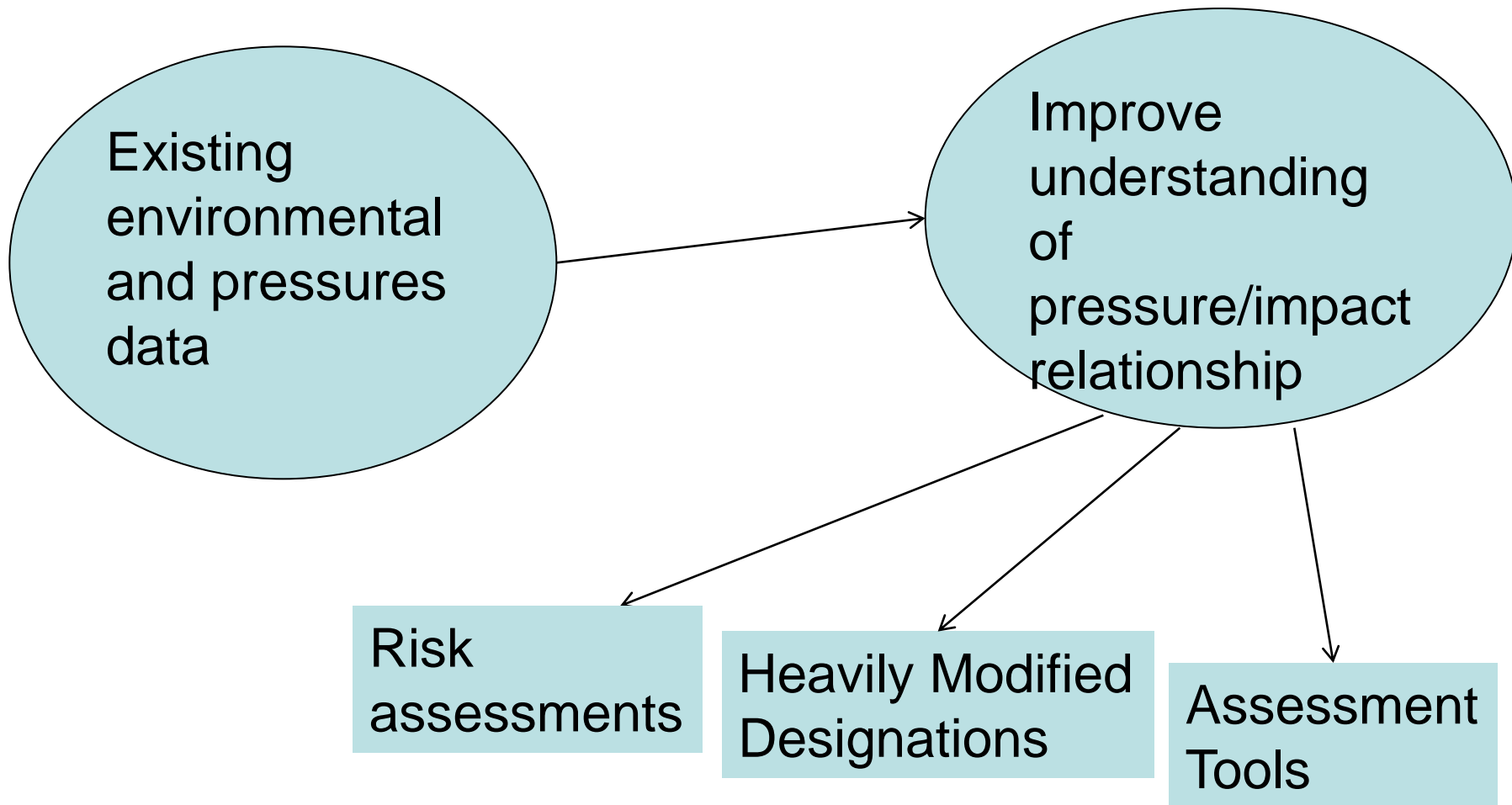
TBT failures possible, but no imposex in dog whelks – WFD measures? TBT banned since 2008!!



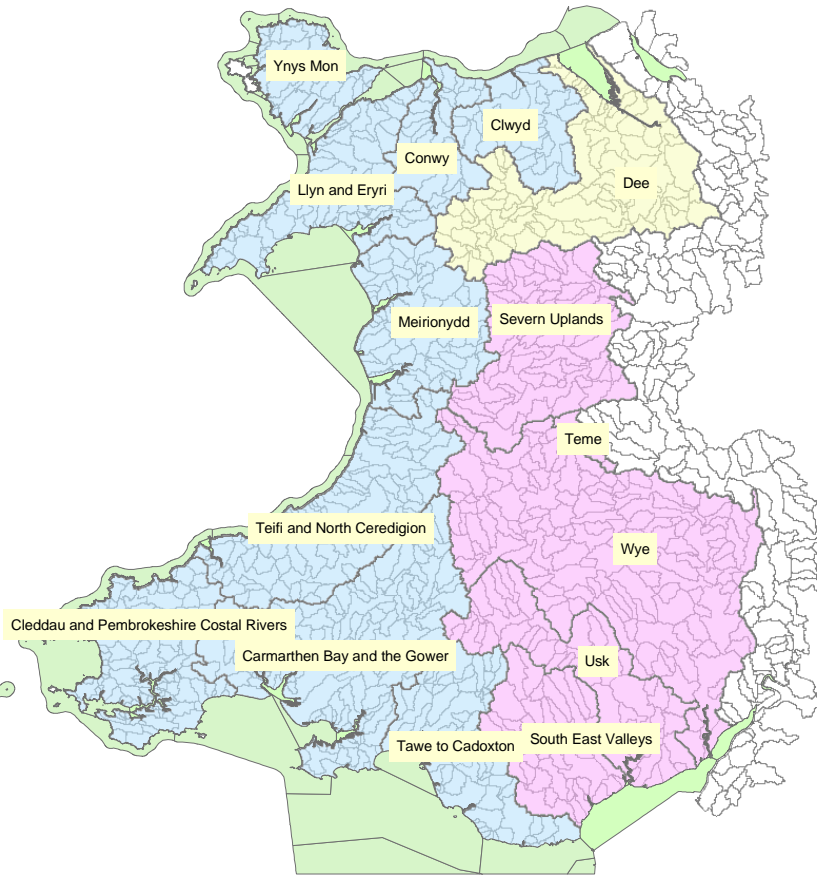
# But there is hope! E.g. Saltmarsh



# Refinement!

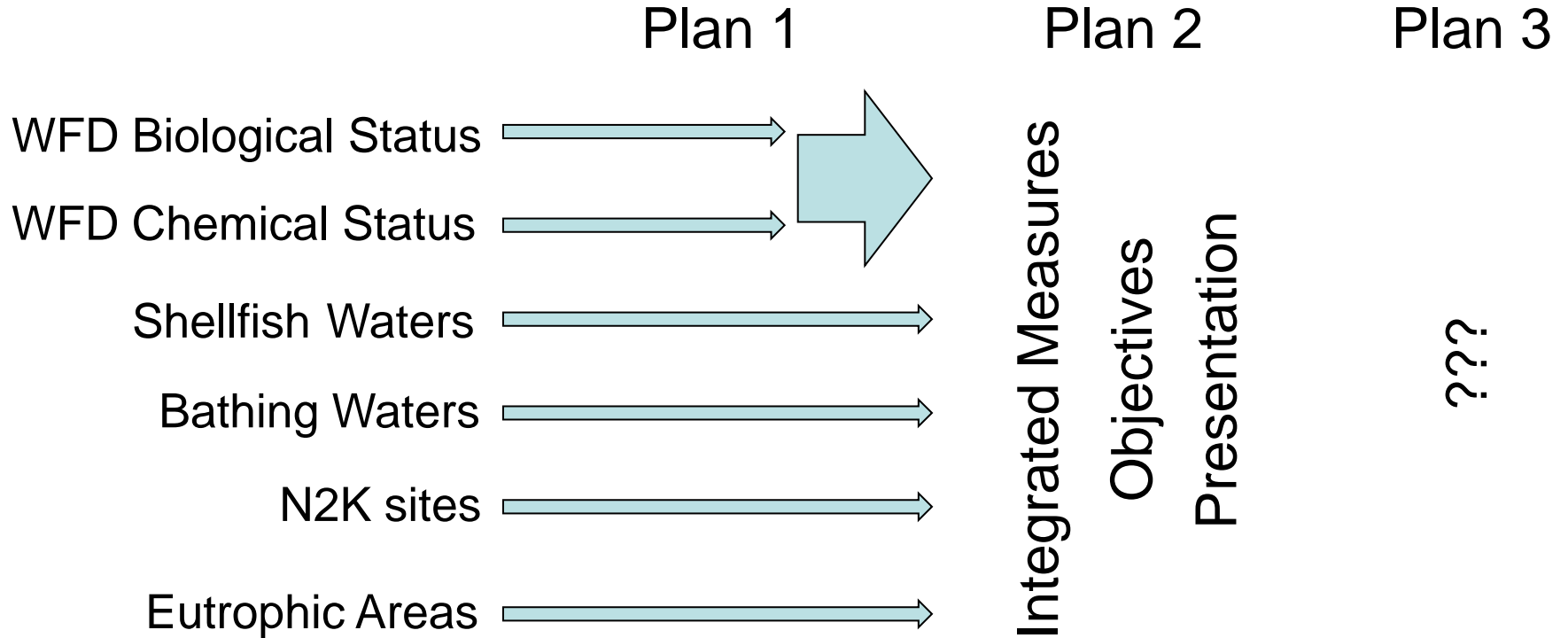


# Developing the second River Basin Management Plans



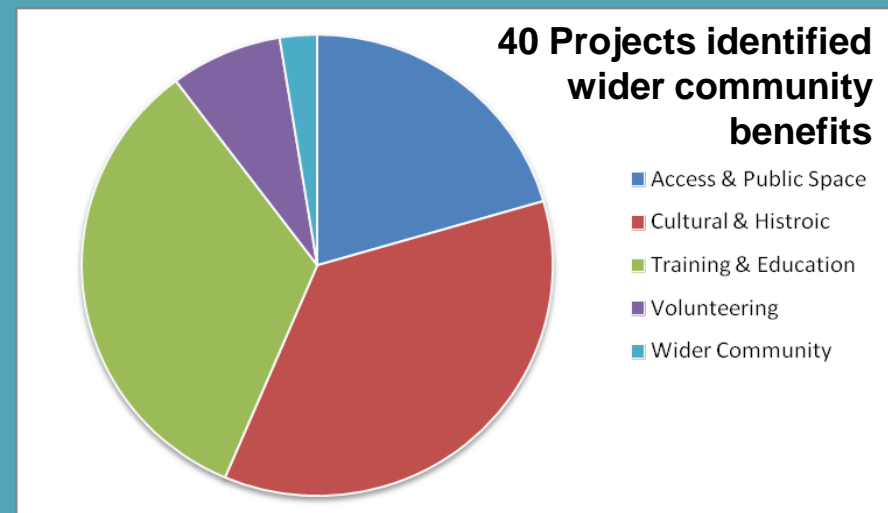
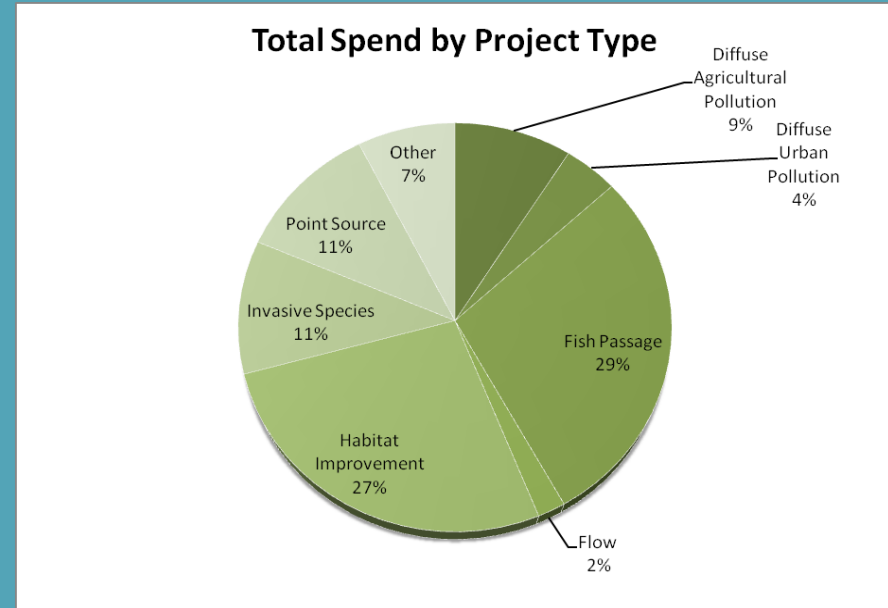
- 14 catchment workshops to March 2014
- Draft RBMPs consultation opens 22 September 2014
- Second RBMPs published 22 December 2015
- Catchment Summaries
- Water Watch Wales website

# How much of a framework directive is it?



# Partnership delivery

- 2011/12 to 2012/13  
= 144 projects
- 100 partners
- £4.4m of funding, 1/3 from partners/funders
- 400ha of habitat created or restored
- 370km of river enhanced or protected



# Summary

- A lot of progress made already!
- Inherited some approaches that may not be fit for Wales
- Significant improvement in assessments and fit for purpose measures in next 6 years
- Honest approach – looking to use expertise and local knowledge
- Showing progress and that rules of the directive have been followed is critical

**Diolch am wrando**

**Thank you for listening**

[Mark.Charlesworth@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:Mark.Charlesworth@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)



# Development of Guidance for Developers and Regulators

Expanding and improving 'Clearing the Waters'

Aim : Logical easy to use framework that's Biological element relevant

Steering group comprising : EA, NRW, MMO, NE