

Freshwater Monitoring and Assessment
Water Regulation and Enforcement
Division



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn
**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department of
**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Our reference: DAERA/26-122

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Freshwater Monitoring and Assessment
17 Antrim Road
Tonagh
Lisburn
BT28 3AL

Tel:

Email: WMU.FOI@daera-ni.gov.uk

21 April 2026

Dear [REDACTED],

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Thank you for your request for information received by the NIEA Freshwater Monitoring and Assessment team on 17 April 2026 which sought:

to establish a baseline for aquatic ecology relating to the A5WTC project. I am looking at Section 1 of the project, so wondering if you would have any benthic macroinvertebrates data for the Foyle catchment?

Under Regulation 12(4)(c) the Department is excepted from the duty to disclose the information on the grounds that the request is formulated in too general a manner.

Any ecological invertebrate data held by NIEA relates to Water Environment Regulation monitoring (previously WFD). No ad hoc invertebrate investigations have been undertaken in relation to the A5WTC.

In accordance with regulation 9, to enable us to identify and retrieve any relevant information, the request must specify:

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

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1. The year(s) or date range of the data being requested.
2. The specificity of data required, i.e., BMWP scores, family level data, or RICT invertebrate WFD classification.
3. The geographic extent of the request, identified to waterbody level.
NOTE: The wider Foyle catchment includes many unconnected waterbodies and significant portions of the catchment are located within the Republic of Ireland (EPA), which fall outside NIEA's remit.

Family level invertebrate data is only available as scanned (pdf) field raw data sheets and is not held in digital form prior to 2025.

Yours sincerely,

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Freshwater Monitoring and Assessment Team

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