

## Aims of the IRT

1. To conserve, protect and enhance the rivers, and natural water bodies of the Inishowen Municipal District.
2. To raise awareness and understanding of rivers, river corridors and river catchments, including their fauna, flora, biodiversity, economic or social activity, and river catchment management.
3. To engage communities with their local rivers and provide opportunities for networking, collaboration and sharing of knowledge.
4. To support community groups, farmers and land owners with projects that aim to protect local rivers and to share the knowledge and experience gained through such projects.



## About Inishowen Rivers Trust

The IRT is an Inishowen-wide community charity which aims to educate and engage communities in caring for our rivers, advancing environmental protection, and improving our water for the benefit of all.

Everyone is welcome to get involved whether your interests lie in farming, angling, walking, wildlife watching or citizen science. Call us today to register your interest.

The Resilience pilot Project is funded through the Local Authority Waters Programme by the Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and is managed by The Rivers Trust



# Inishowen Rivers Trust

Connecting Communities,  
Valuing Our Waters & Wildlife

Call: 087 647 8183

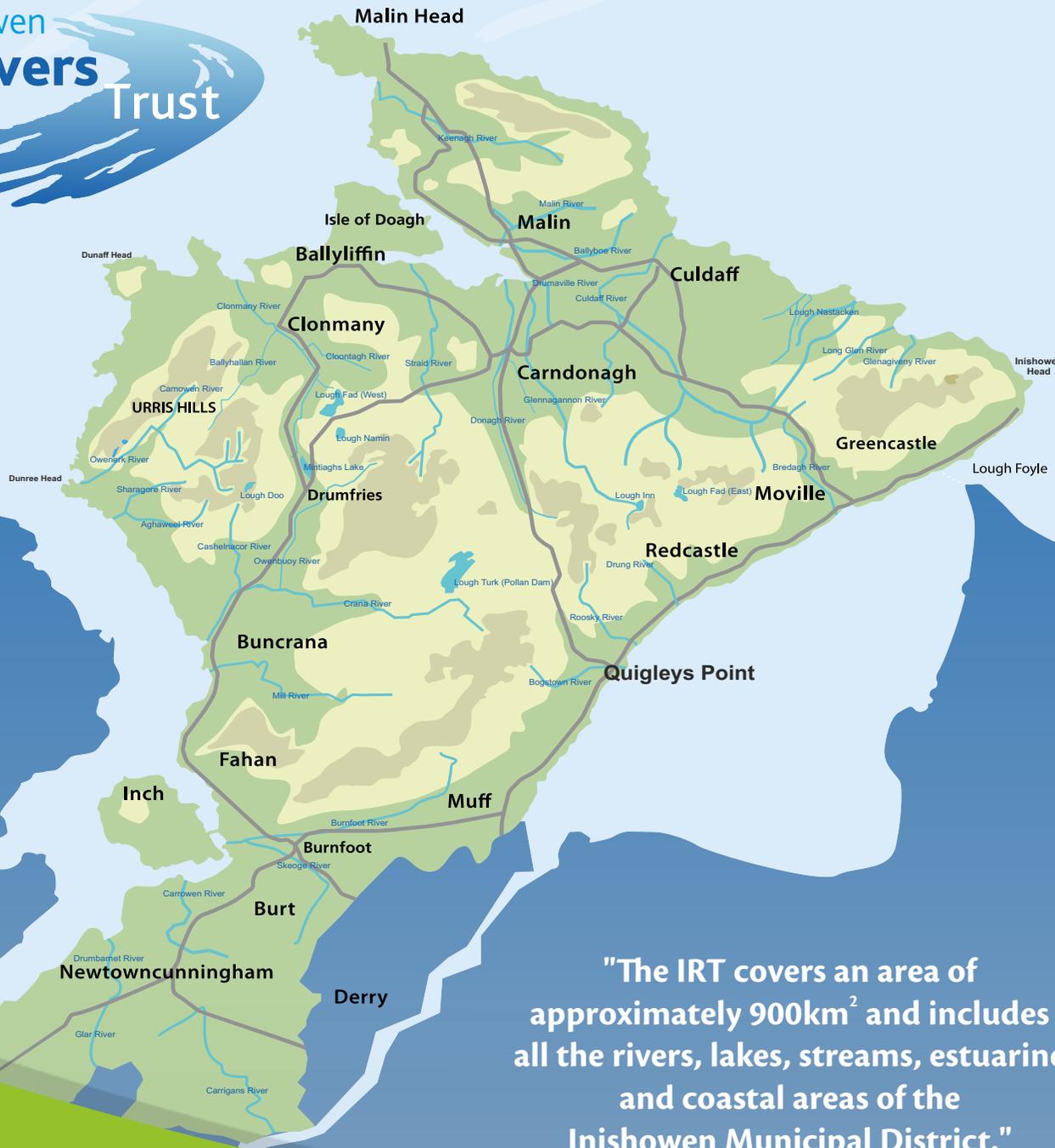
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guardianship  
clean waters  
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training



[www.inishowenriverstrust.com](http://www.inishowenriverstrust.com)



**"The IRT covers an area of approximately 900km<sup>2</sup> and includes all the rivers, lakes, streams, estuarine and coastal areas of the Inishowen Municipal District."**

## GET INVOLVED



### Inishowen River Guardians

River Guardians are volunteers trained on a variety of techniques that are used to survey, monitor and restore our rivers. Training covers a range of skills such as riverfly identification, bank erosion control, invasive species management, habitat assessment, chainsaw use, water chemistry, aquatic plant identification etc. Training is provided by expert facilitators and accreditation can be provided for some modules. Volunteers are invited to get involved in regular **citizen science programmes**, and anyone can get involved. The information returned to us is used to assess the health of the river and helps us as a community to design projects that enhance our watercourses.

### Riverbank Surveys

Walkover surveys are carried out by walking along the bank of a river and looking out for features such as erosion, invasive species, barriers, biodiversity indicators etc. All surveys are carried out in conjunction with landowners. Volunteers can assist with recording information.

### Supporting Communities

The IRT engages with community groups who care for their local river and supports their work through training, advice, open meetings, help with clean-ups, etc. Raising awareness of the wealth of our natural water resources, supporting water related heritage and tourism projects and increasing knowledge of water management issues will help communities to understand how we can care for our catchments and create a healthier environment for all.

### Nature Based Solutions

The Inishowen Rivers Trust support the use of nature based solutions to tackle the challenges our rivers and landscape face for the future. Nature based solutions are inspired by nature and can provide cost-effective solutions to flooding, erosion and diffuse pollution. Projects include natural bank revetments, tree planting, river enhancement and slowing the flow. Communities can work together to design the right solutions for the right place.

