



Presentation to WAgriCo launch

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UKWIR Director

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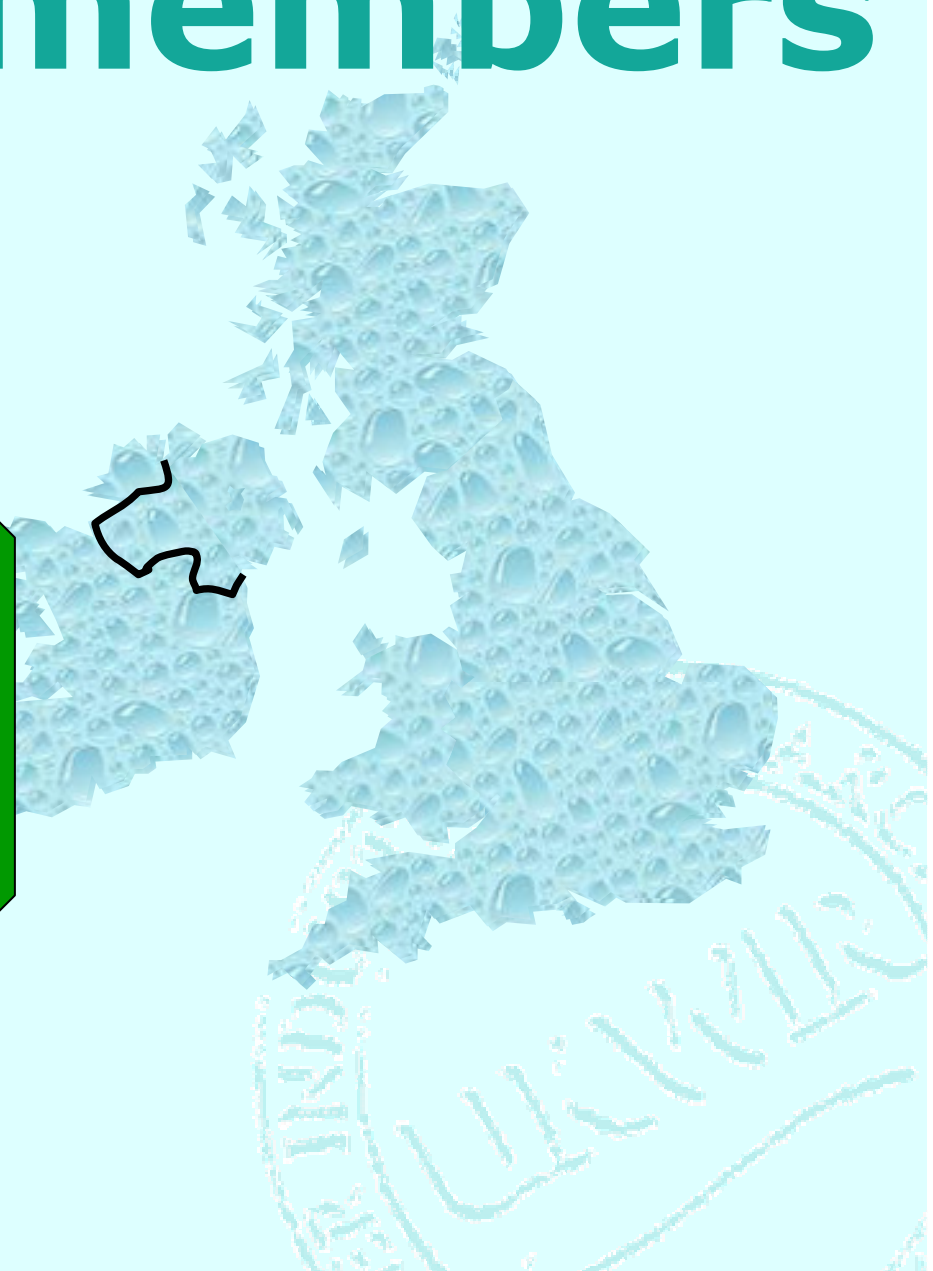
UK WIR



UKWIR members

**ALL
Water Service
operators in
Scotland,
Northern Ireland,
England and
Wales**

UK WIR





UKWIR aims to

**“establish sound
science for sound
regulation and
sound practice”**



UK WIR

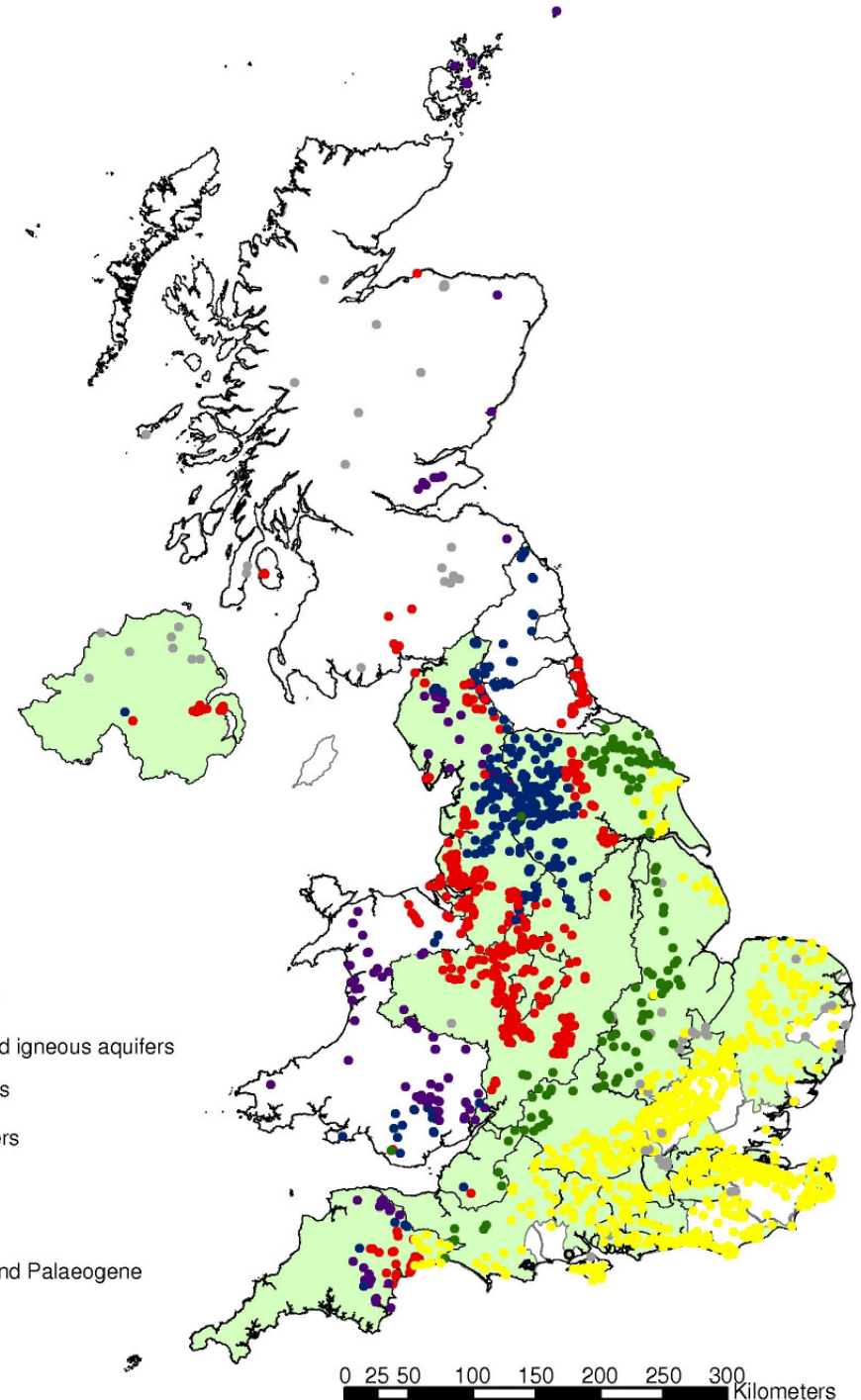
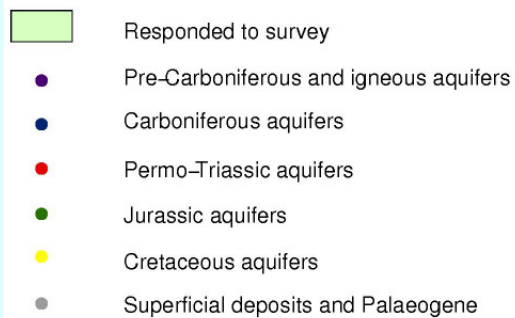
UK water environment, 2005

- Rivers cleanest on record
- Otters in 36% of rivers (up from 23% in 1995)
- 80% of rivers meet good or better standards
- Coarse sediment in 50% of rivers
- **Nutrient levels unchanged**
- **High phosphate levels in 50% of rivers**
- **Nitrate levels still rising in groundwater**
- **BL**

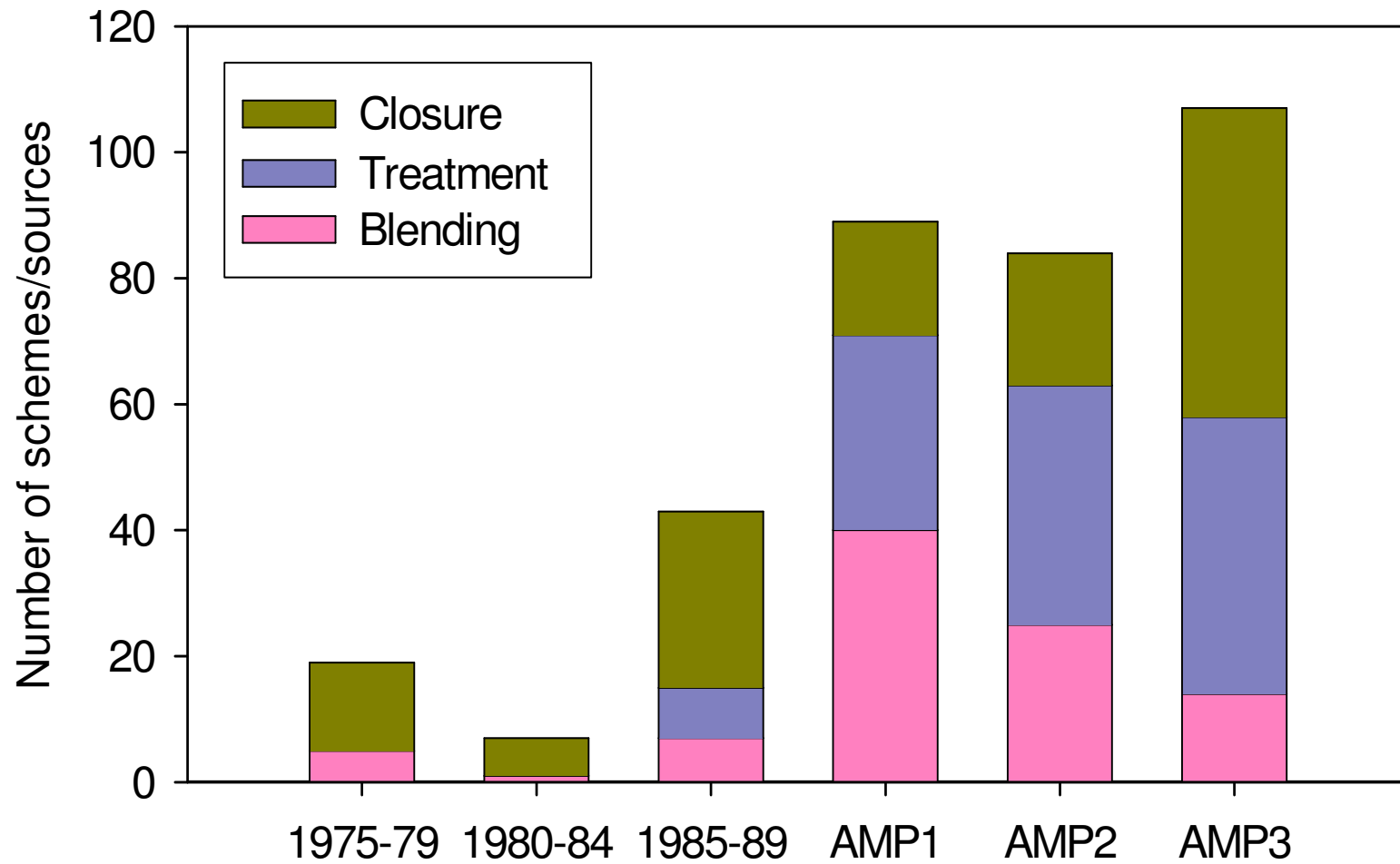
Survey responses & groundwater supply sources

- 14 utilities
- 75.6% of supplied groundwater

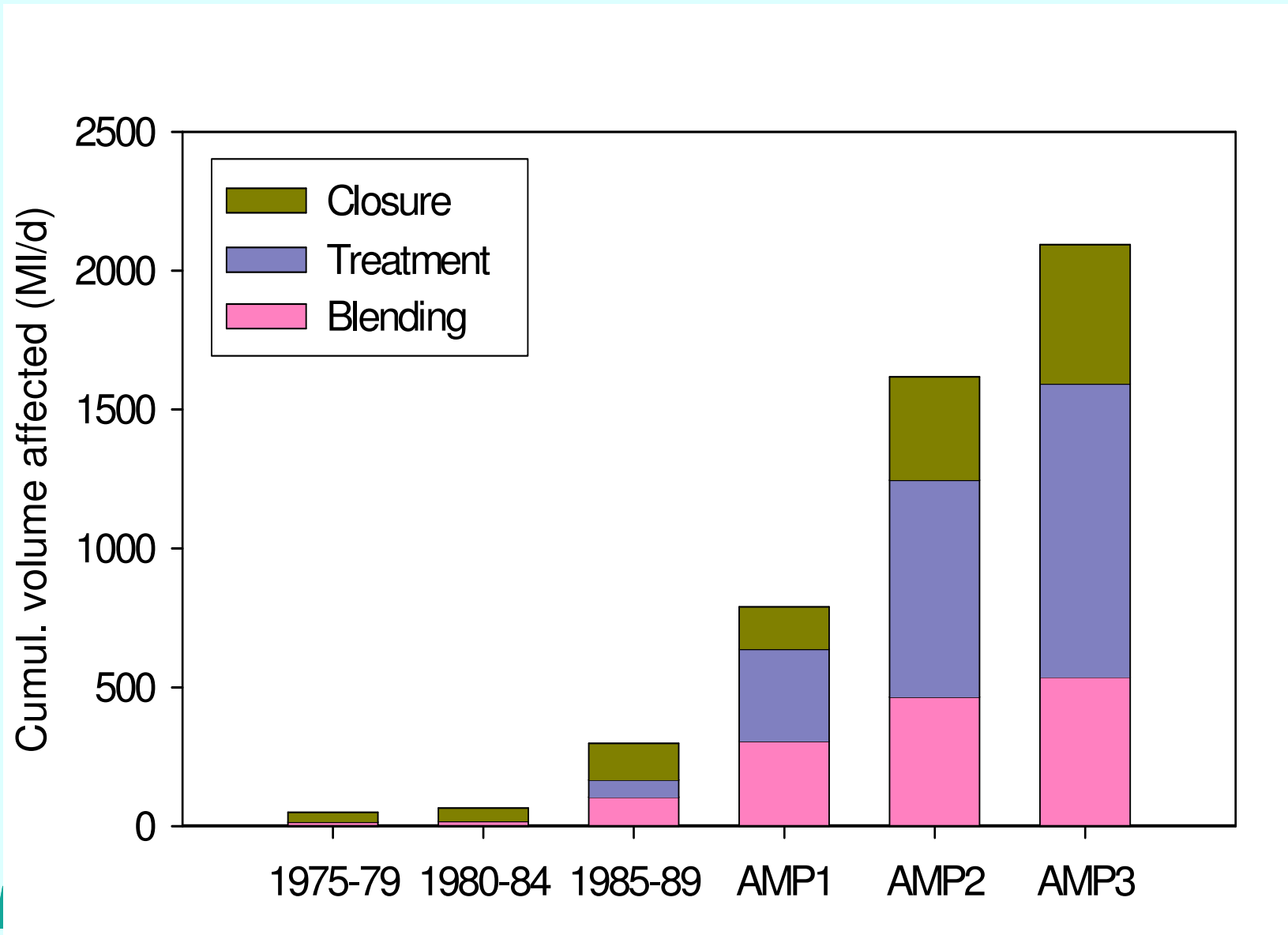
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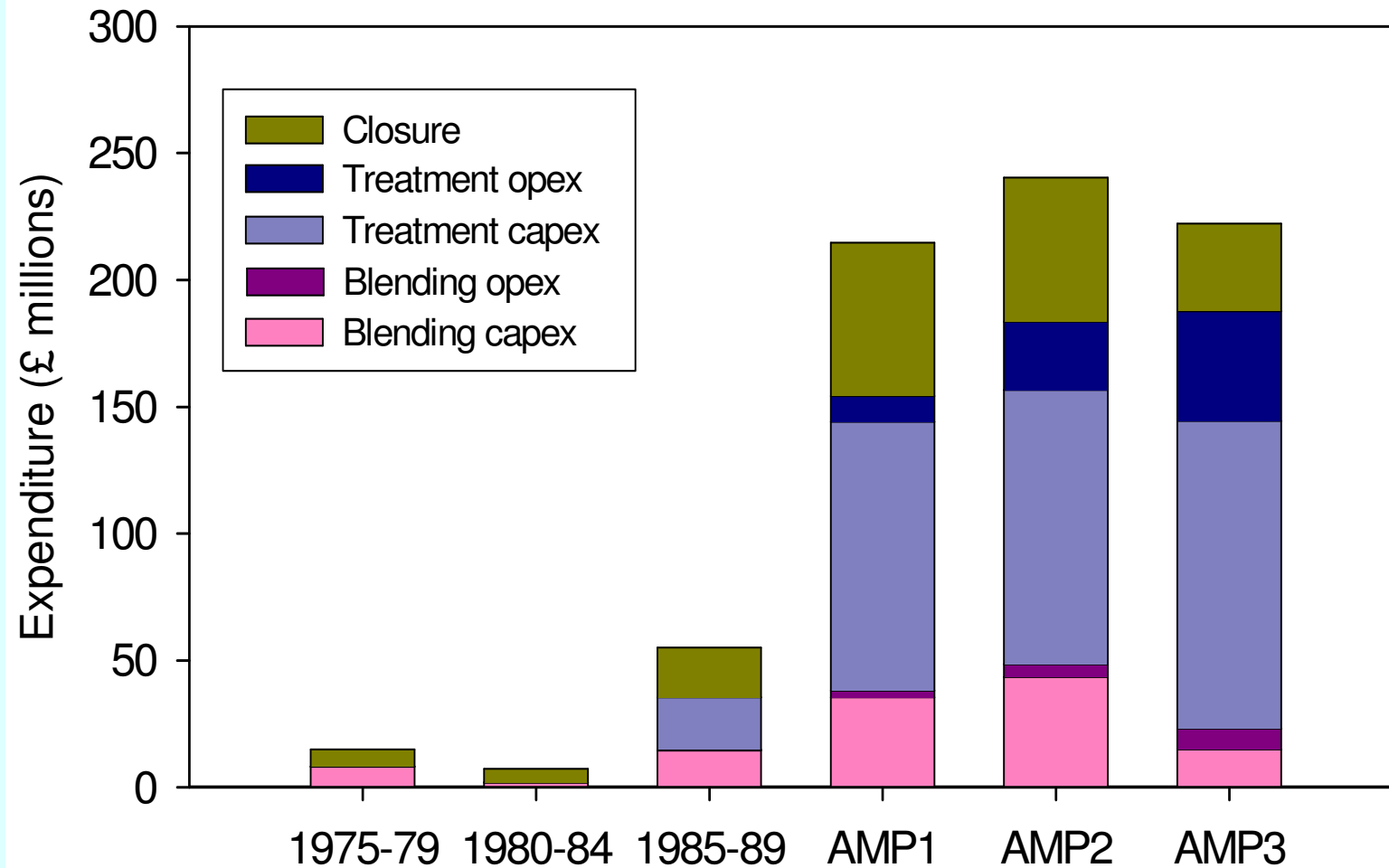
Scheme implementation



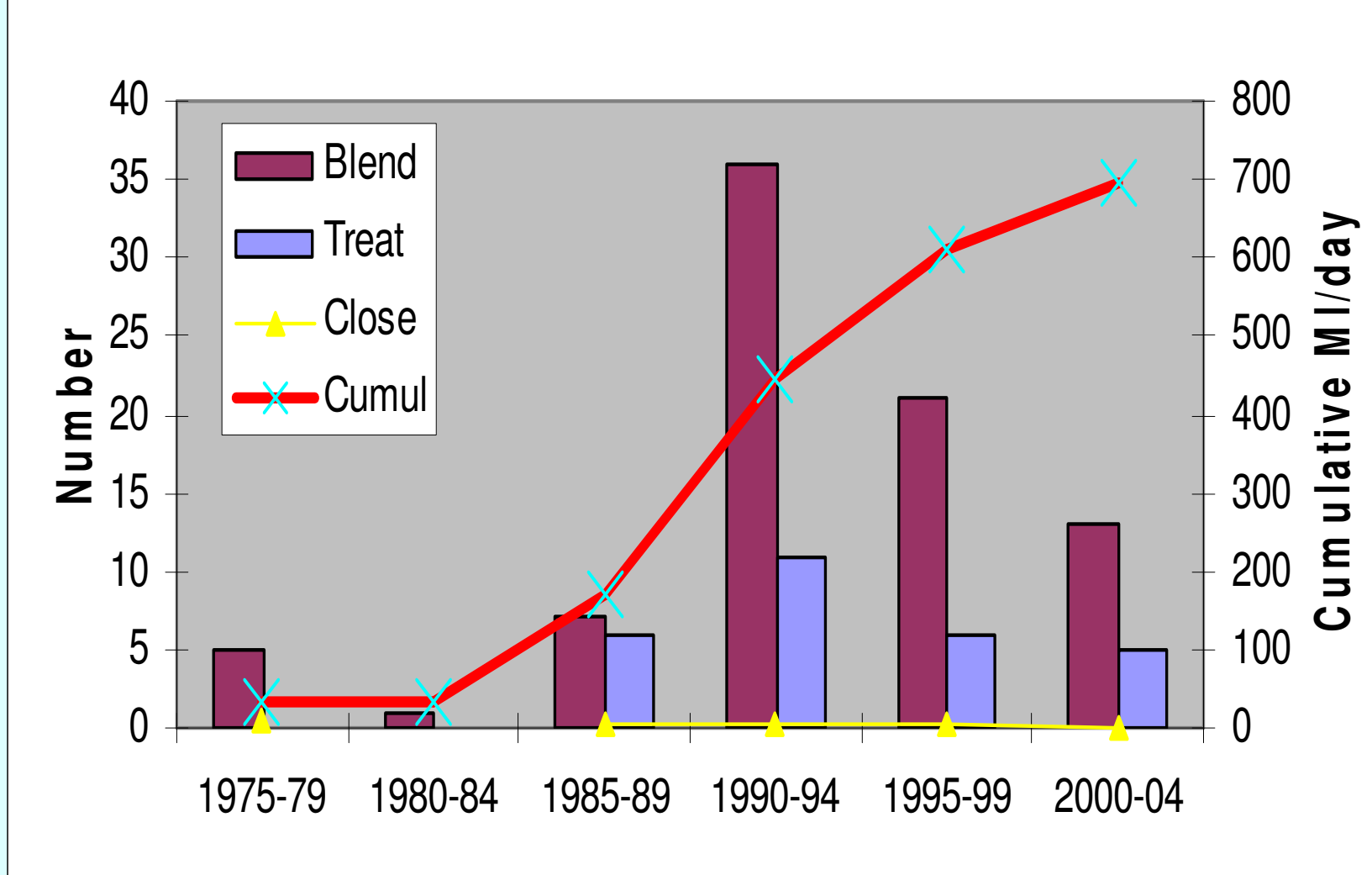
Amounts of water affected



opex & capex costs



Nitrate related boreholes

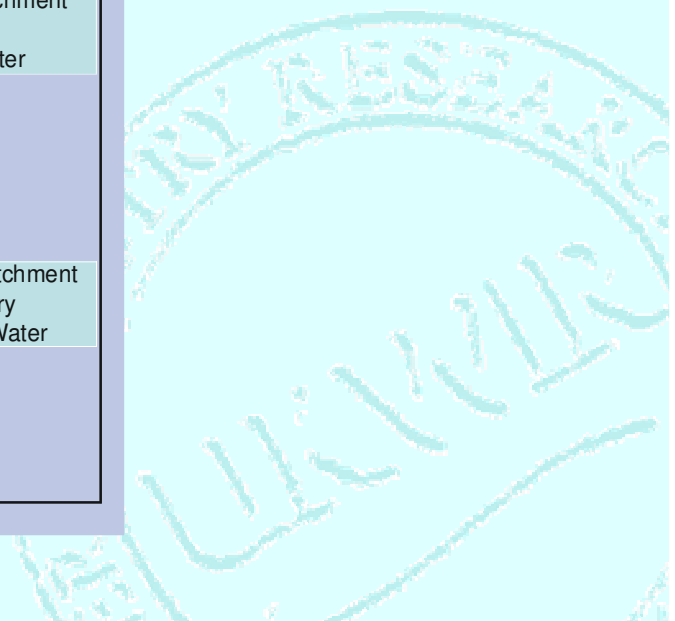
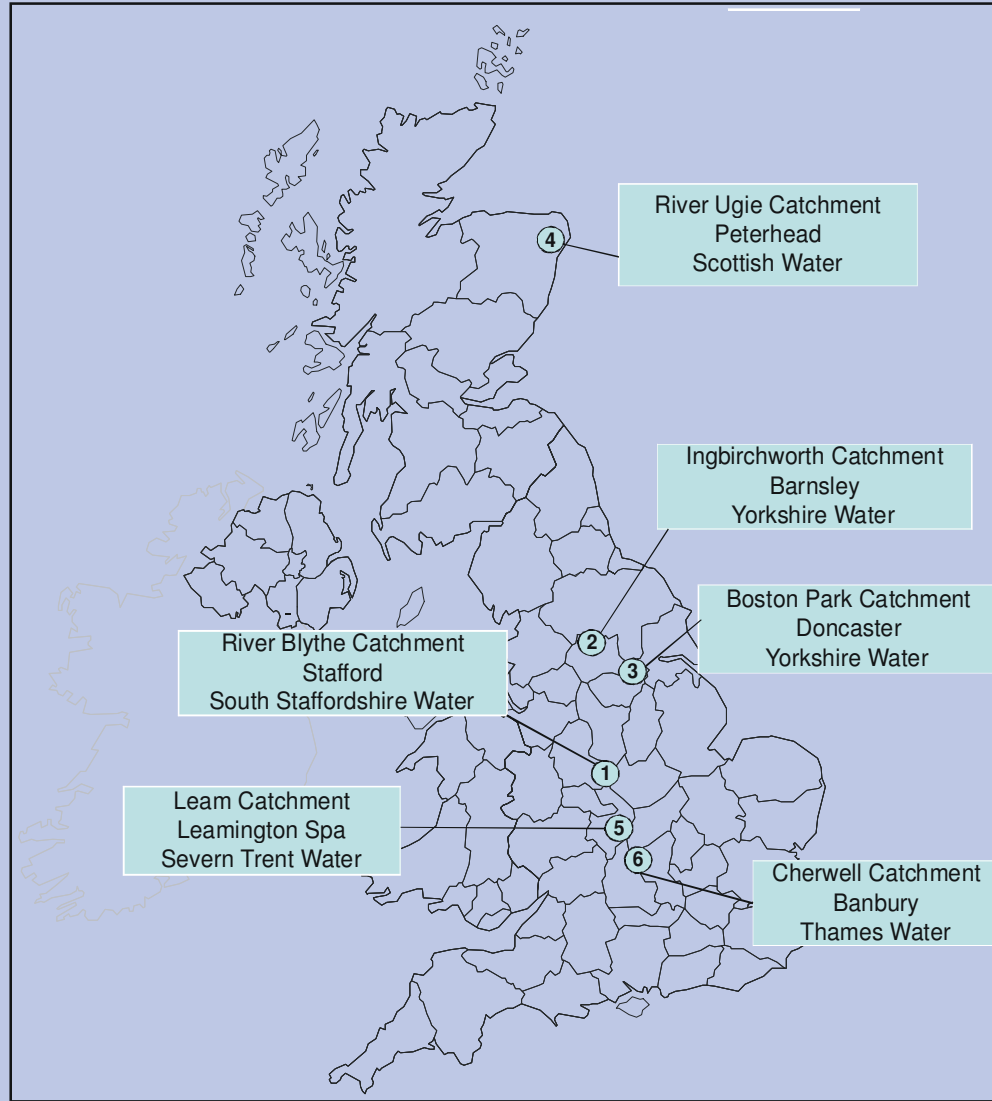




Integrated catchment management

- Six pilot catchments where:
 - real change can be made in a reasonable time
 - water is abstracted for public supply
 - pesticides are of concern
- Local groups decide on and take action to deliver real change
- Ultimately, produce general guidance for use throughout the UK

THE SIX PILOT AREAS IN THE VOLUNTARY INITIATIVE WATER CATCHMENT PROJECT



Key Issues

● Communication

- Who is active in the catchment?
- How to contact them?
 - Direct (how?) or indirect (Advisers)
- The message to them “*Did you know?*”
 - *There is a problem*
 - *You are contributing to it*
 - *You can stop doing it*

● Tools

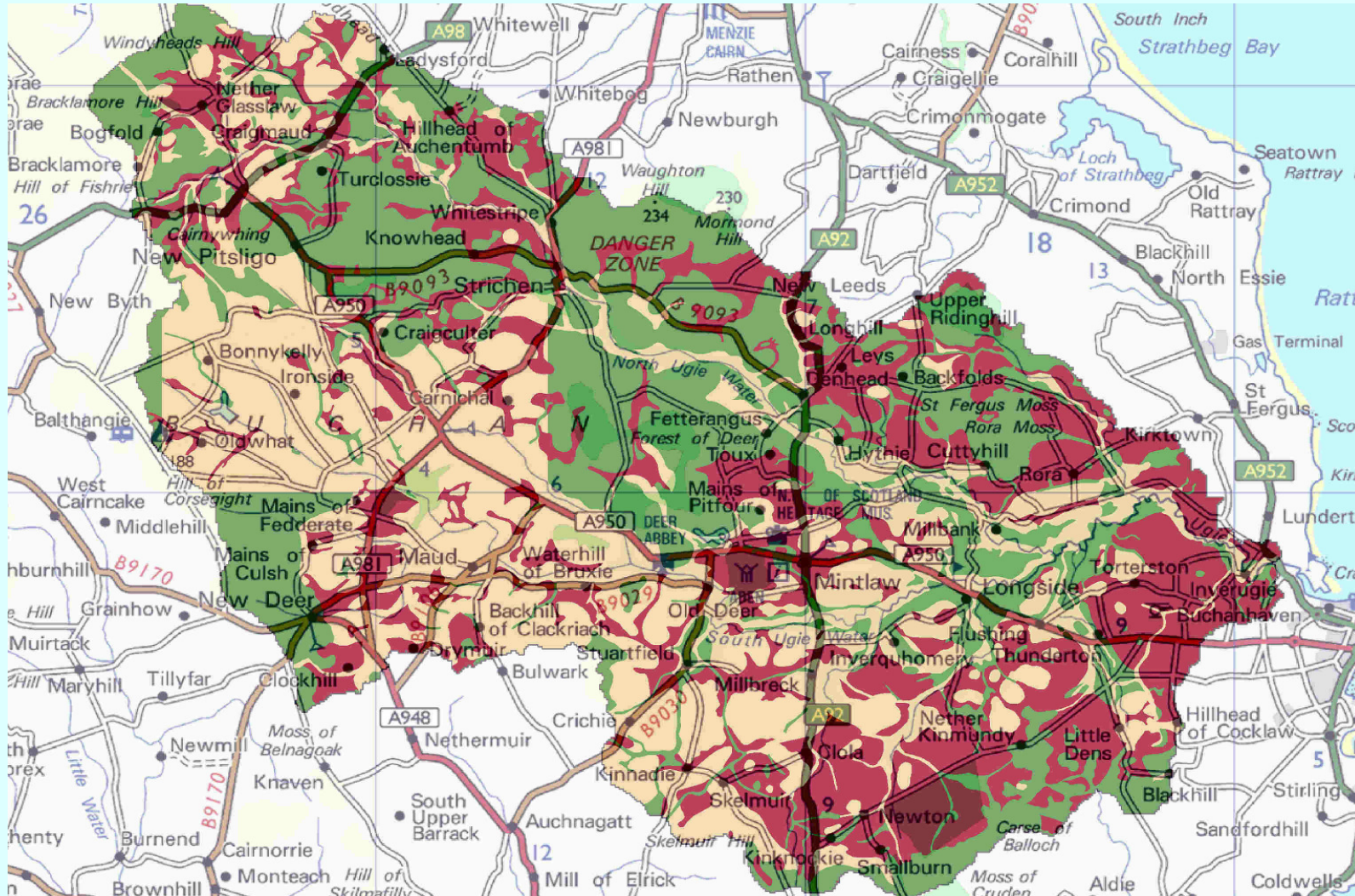


Tools

- Advice on:
 - Mixing and handling
 - Soil management
 - Application
 - Cleaning and washdown
- Decision trees
- Soil risk mapping
- Weekly text advisory messages
- Regular updates for advisors



Ugie Soil Risk Map

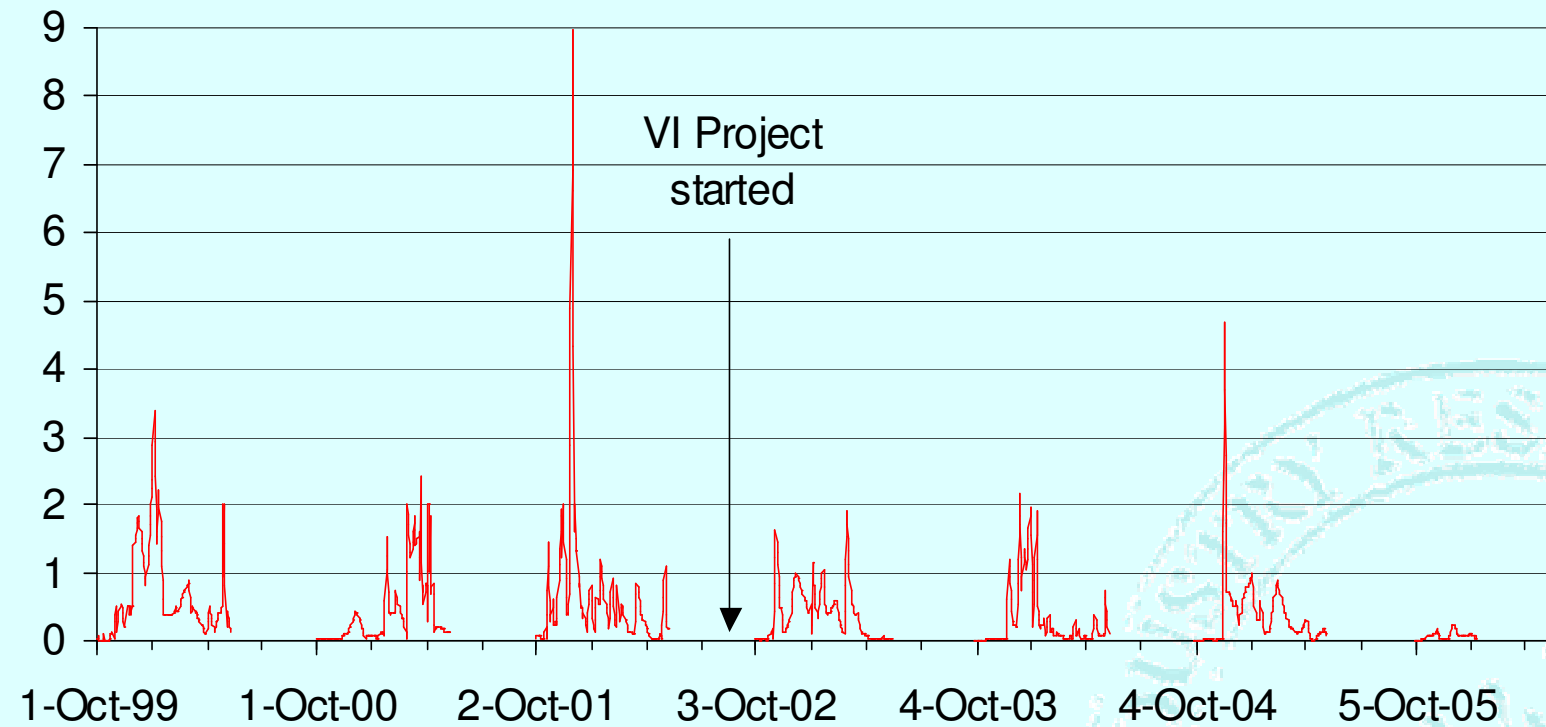


Text Advisory Messages

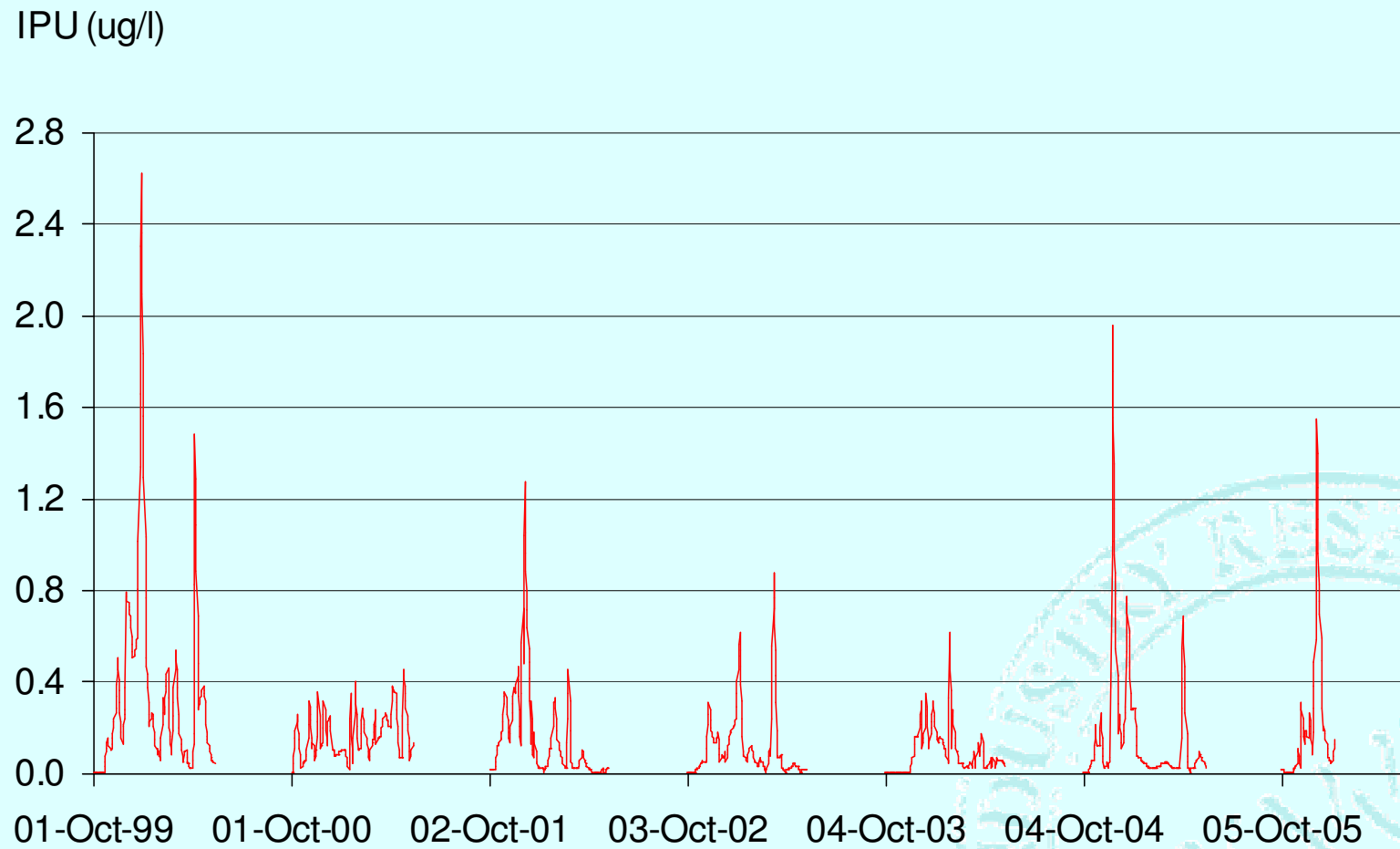
- Idea came from farmers
- Now sent to 370 growers, spray operators, advisers, suppliers & manufacturers 3 pilot areas
- Guides spraying in the coming week to minimise water pollution. Combines predictions of drain flow and expected weather with decision trees.

IPU in the river Cherwell

IPU ($\mu\text{g/l}$)



IPU in the river Thames



We need projects like WAgriCo !!



Thank you



UK WIR