Wexford Demonstration Features

Quantification and Scaling of Flood Impacts

Or

Data, Maps, Models and Metrics!



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Ballygow demo site (3km²) co Wexford

Beef & sheep on heavy soils with some river gravels

- 4 Water level recorders $\frac{1}{100}$
- 1 rain gauge 🔺
- New bund
- New pond
- New draw off structure
- New Bridge



Original Bund 2021





- Approx. 1 m at highest point, outlet pipe at 30 cm - release back into stream
- Sediment trap



Pond Function - Observations





Pond Forensic Model ~200m long



Original designed function



Can we optimise this pond?

More storage volume (1500m³), raise draw off rate (0.7m³/s), bigger pipe on outfall (50cm)



Ballygow Wexford Storage Pond Version 2

WALE

W BUN

Aggregated Pond Model

What if we had more ponds? E.g. 10 ponds 7500m³ at 2km²



Big storage and target the peak

HEC-RAS – 2D Hydraulic Routing Model (1m DEM)



HEC RAS Scenarios Impacts for 1:2 year event 1km²



Opportunity Mapping in Ballycanew IACP 2 examples 11.92km2



- 78% grassland-based farming
- Soils derived from marine deposits of heavy muds, poor drainage
- P at risk through overland flow



~2500m³/km² or 2.5mm unit area

Detailed mapping:- Eureka a floodplain!





CRAFT with Offline Pond



Targeting high flows only (Increasing storage volume)



Optimistic Simulation for Ballygow Data 3km²



SloWaters Findings and Recommendations

- There is ample room in the landscape to store flood flow on farms.
- Ponds with bunds (1m high) fit well into the farmed landscape and the land take is minimal with minimum impact of the farm economics.
- Ponds should be large enough to hold flood flow capacity of ~ 1000 m³ or more
- The designer should decide a priori what magnitude storm they want to manage (e.g. 2mm-3mm/hr peak runoff or 1:100 Return Interval).
- The target storage for flood management should be at least 2-3 mm/km² (if feasible), or 2000-3000 m³/km².
- A network of **offline ponds** in opportune locations is needed.
- For flood flow the draw off structure should target only the peak flow this should be 50-70% of the peak flow.
- The pond drainage pipe or weir structure needs to be matched to the inflow rate and total volume. We recommend a peak pond drainage value of at least 0.5 Qp inflow rate.

SloWaters Recommendations

- We propose a 'catchment runoff management treatment train' approach to catchment management on farmland. Smaller Online NbS for water quality and bigger Offline ponds for flooding.
- **2. Build and test more real, full scale NbS features** ... instrument them ... analyse function ... model the impact and incorporate the results into models to scale up.
- **3. Further work** is required to address how a mixture of NbS feature should be added to the farmed landscape to address both water quantity and quality issues at the catchment scale (e.g. in ACP catchments).
- 4. More training is needed learn together!