Wales

2.1 Criteria used for identifying Nitrate Vulnerable Zones

In 2013, following a review of water quality in Wales, the area of the country designated as Nitrate Vulnerable Zones was approximately 479 km$^2$, up from the 444 km$^2$, previous designation period. This is the currently designated area, although a further review is underway and new zones are expected to be in place from 2017. Our methods for identifying and designating these NVZs followed the criteria set out by Environment Agency and described in Annex 1. The Regulations designating these NVZs have been described in the previous Article 10 reports.

2.2 Extent of previous and current NVZ areas

The 2013 NVZs can be broken down as follows$^1$:

- Surface water designations: 339 km$^2$
- Groundwater designations: 166 km$^2$
- Eutrophic designations: 62 km$^2$

The revised area from the 2017 review will be presented in the next report; our proposed zones are currently out for consultation. The Figures below show the designated zones from the 2013 review and the proposed zones for 2017 although these may change subject to any successful appeals.

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$^1$ The four areas overlap to varying degrees so that when combined a total NVZ area in Wales covers approximately 479 km$^2$. 
Figure 2.1: Nitrate Vulnerable Zones in Wales, as designated in 2013 and in force during the current reporting period.

The following link connects to an interactive map of proposed designations for Wales currently under review:

http://lle.gov.wales/apps/nvz

Figure 2.2: Proposed Nitrate Vulnerable Zones in Wales, as a result of the 2017 review.
2.3 Review of NVZs

A review of the Nitrate Vulnerable Zones in England was completed during the current reporting period, with the resultant designations coming into force in 2013. The review led to 479km² of Wales being designated (as presented above).

Table 2.1: Summary of designated area in Wales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting period</th>
<th>NVZ area (km²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current period</td>
<td>479km²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous period</td>
<td>444km²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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