

Appendix C9B.06

Loughs Agency Fisheries Data 2020-2024

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Aquatic Ecology Loughs Agency Fisheries Data (2020-2024)

TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal



TT_MGT0337-RPS-P3-ZZ-RP-E-EN0001

EIAR

March 2026

Loughs Agency provided electrofishing data (2020-2024) for sites throughout the River Finn, Deele and River Foyle West catchments. Sites in proximity to the Donegal TEN-T PRIPD were examined in terms of juvenile salmonid data. The electrofishing sites are shown in **Figures 9B.06.1 to 9B.06.3**. Loughs Agency site codes are used as these are regular monitoring stations and can be used for future reference. Refer to **Table 9B.04.1**, below, for a description of the Loughs Agency fish monitoring sites in relation to Donegal TEN-T PRIPD aquatic ecology survey site locations.

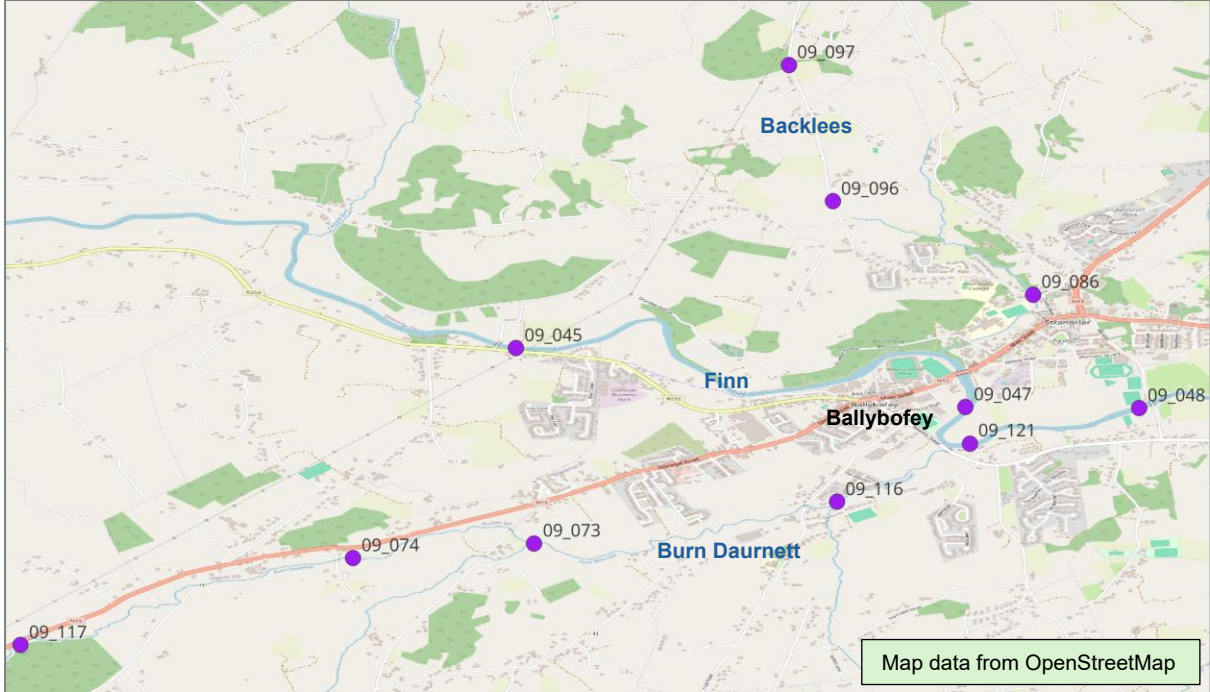


Figure 9B.06.1 Section 1 Finn/Foyle Catchment Electrofishing Sites (South)

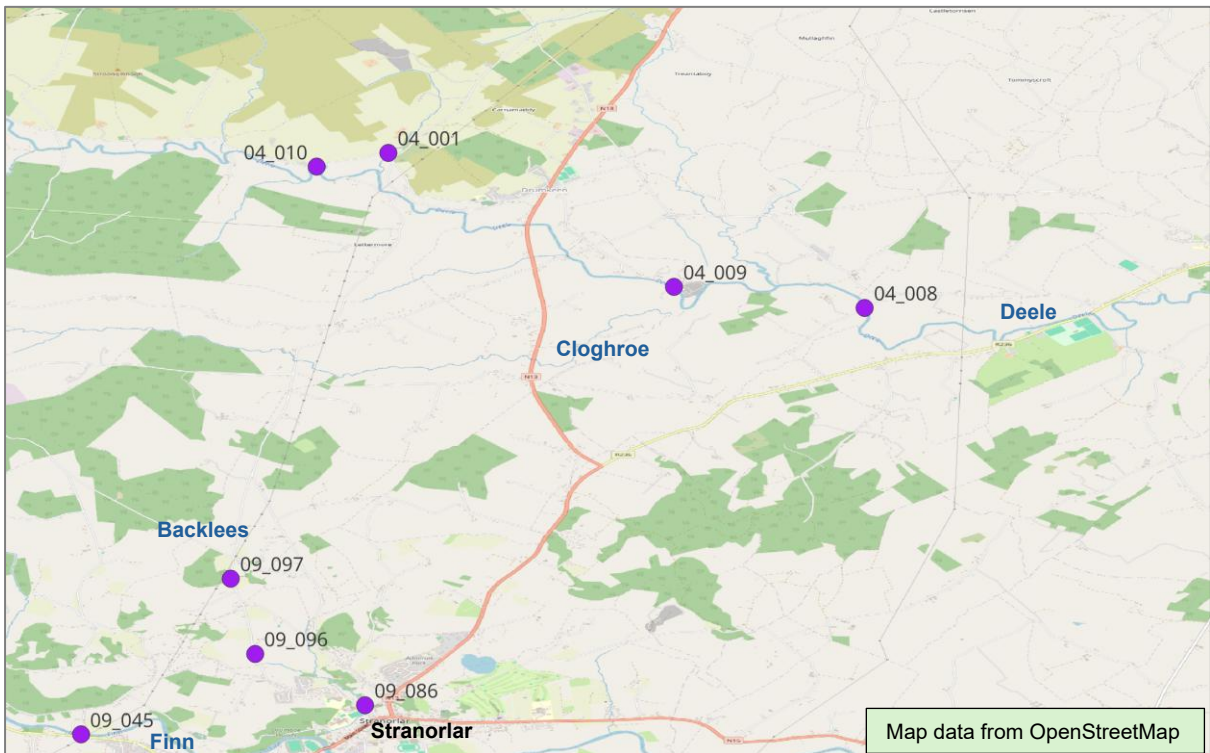


Figure 9B.06.2 Section 1 Deele/Foyle Catchment Electrofishing Sites (North)

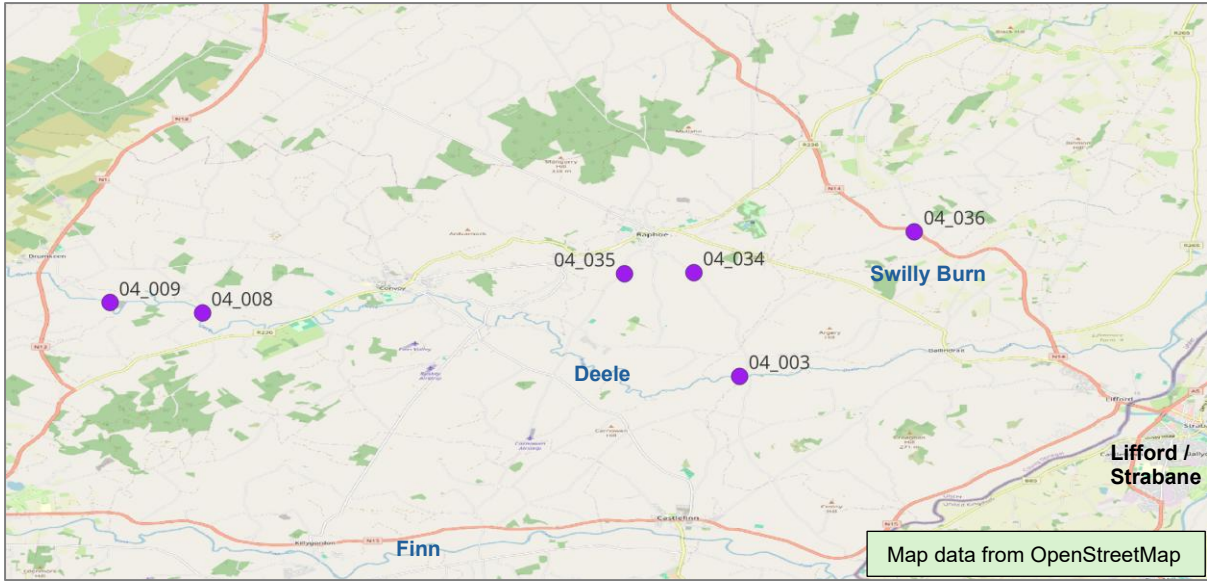


Figure 9B.06.3 Section 3 Deelee / Swilly Burn (Foyle) Catchment Electrofishing Sites

Table 9B.04.1 Loughs Agency Electrofishing Data 2020 – 2024 (juvenile salmonid numbers)

Catchment	River	LA Site ID	Sample Year	Trout 0+	Trout 1+	Salmon 0+	Salmon 1+	Location notes (TEN-T)
River Foyle West	Swilly Burn Trib	04_036	2020	0	5	0	0	EPA name "Drumbeg": sampled 800m d/s W3-13
			2022	0	0	0	0	
			2024	1	0	0	0	
	Swilly Burn	04_034	2020	0	2	0	0	Swilly Burn main channel c.4.2km u/s W3-14
			2021	2	6	0	0	
			2022	0	2	0	0	
			2023	0	1	0	0	
		2024	6	4	0	0		
		04_035	2020	0	21	0	0	Swilly Burn main channel c.4.3km u/s W3-14
			2021	7	3	0	0	
2022	0		2	0	0			
Deelee	Deelee	04_003	2021	14	7	12	18	Deelee main channel 4.35km upstream Site W3-17 (Section 3)
			2022	11	9	17	9	
			2023	11	9	9	12	
			2024	24	11	32	16	
		04_008	2021	14	2	25	18	Deelee main channel 1.8km d/s Cloghroe River confluence (3.6km d/s W1-14, Section 1)
			2022	8	15	12	16	
			2023	19	19	23	2	
		04_009	2021	14	9	37	16	Deelee main channel 350m u/s Cloghroe River confluence (Section 1)
	2022		27	18	53	24		
	2023		23	14	29	19		
	Deelee	04_010	2021	19	11	0	0	

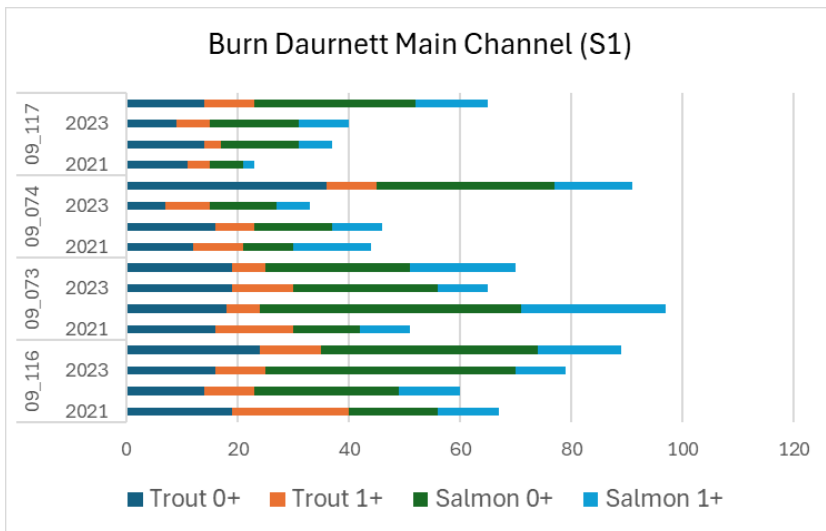
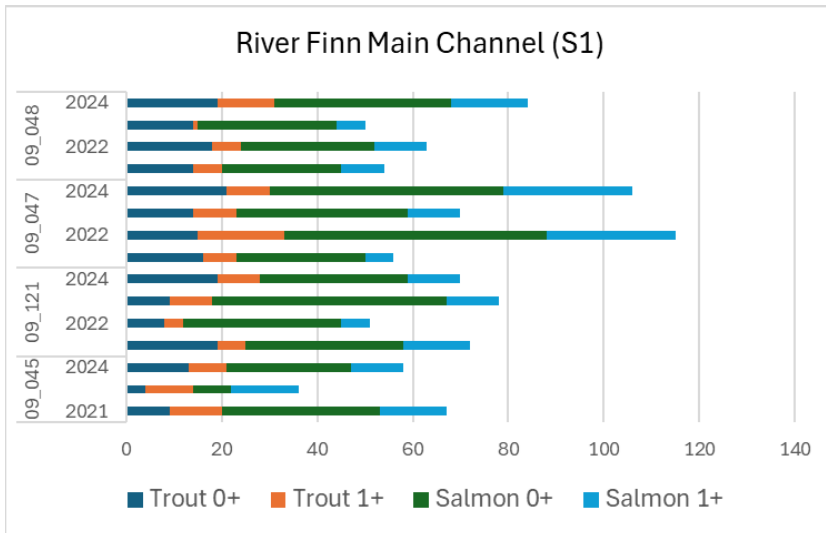
Catchment	River	LA Site ID	Sample Year	Trout 0+	Trout 1+	Salmon 0+	Salmon 1+	Location notes (TEN-T)		
	Breen Burn (tributary of Deelee)	04_001	2022	16	11	0	0	Deelee main channel 4.75km u/s Cloghroe River confluence (demonstrates salmon absent in upper catchment)		
			2023	21	17	0	0			
			2024	39	18	0	0			
			2021	11	6	0	0		Small tributary of upper River Deelee (demonstrate salmon absent in small upper catchment tributary)	
			2022	4	6	0	0			
			2023	7	4	0	0			
			Finn	Finn	09_045	2021	9	11	33	14
2022	4	10				8	14			
2024	13	8				26	11			
09_121	2021	19			6	33	14	River Finn main channel c.650m d/s Ballybofey N15 bridge		
	2022	8			4	33	6			
	2023	9			9	49	11			
09_047	2021	16			7	27	6	River Finn main channel c.250m d/s Ballybofey N15 bridge		
	2022	15			18	55	27			
	2023	14			9	36	11			
09_048	2021	14			6	25	9	River Finn main channel c.2.5km u/s Ballybofey N15 bridge at site W1-06 (proposed bridge crossing reach)		
	2022	18			6	28	11			
	2023	14			1	29	6			
	2024	19			12	37	16			
Finn	Burn Daurnett	09_116			2021	19	21	16	11	Burn Daurnett main channel c.640m u/s River Finn confluence
					2022	14	9	26	11	
					2023	16	9	45	9	
					2024	24	11	39	15	
		09_073			2021	16	14	12	9	Burn Daurnett main channel c.2.3km u/s River Finn confluence
					2022	18	6	47	26	
					2023	19	11	26	9	
		09_074	2021	12	9	9	14	Burn Daurnett main channel c.3.3km u/s River Finn confluence (c.790m u/s W1-22)		
			2022	16	7	14	9			
			2023	7	8	12	6			
			2024	36	9	32	14			
		09_117	2021	11	4	6	2	Burn Daurnett main channel c.5.1km u/s River Finn confluence (just d/s W1-02 confluence)		
			2022	14	3	14	6			
			2023	9	6	16	9			
			2024	14	9	29	13			
		Finn	Drumboe Burn	09_086	2021	11	9	14	7	EPA name "Backlees": c.1km d/s proposed bridge crossing (W1-08)
					2022	11	2	26	8	
					2023	19	6	29	1	
					2024	9	18	12	19	
				09_096	2021	4	1	0	0	Backlees stream: 120m u/s proposed
2022	1				3	0	0			

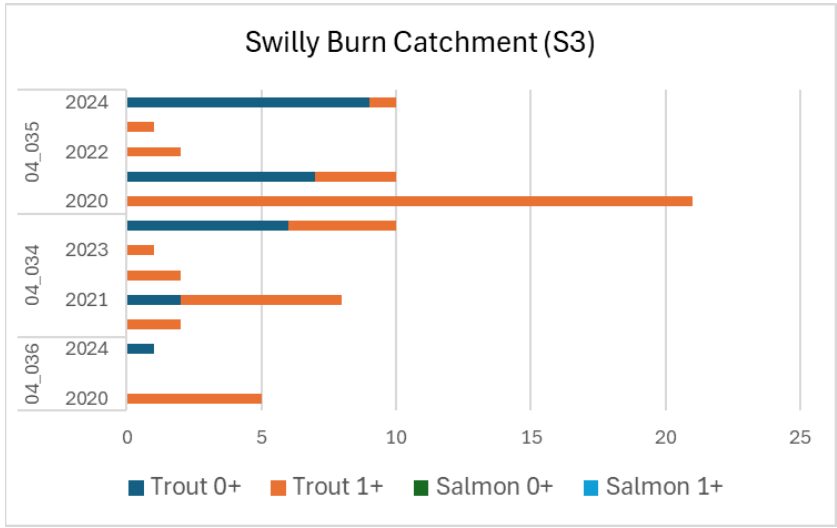
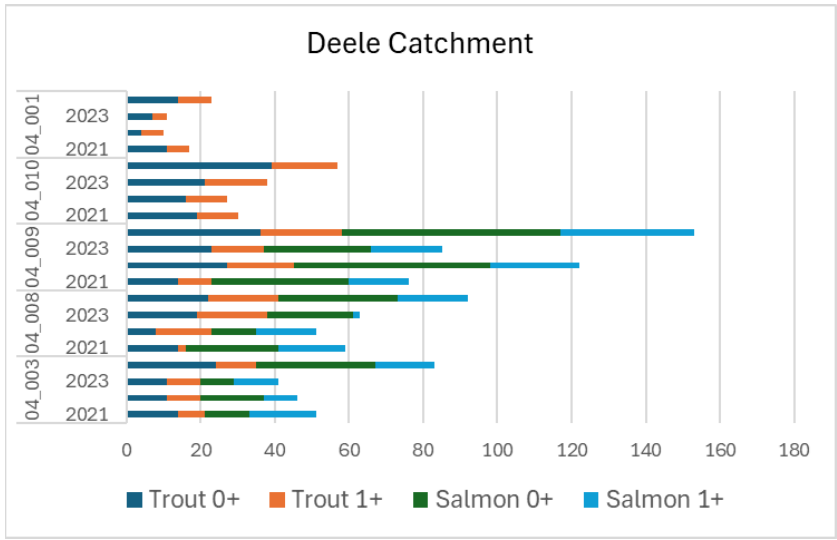
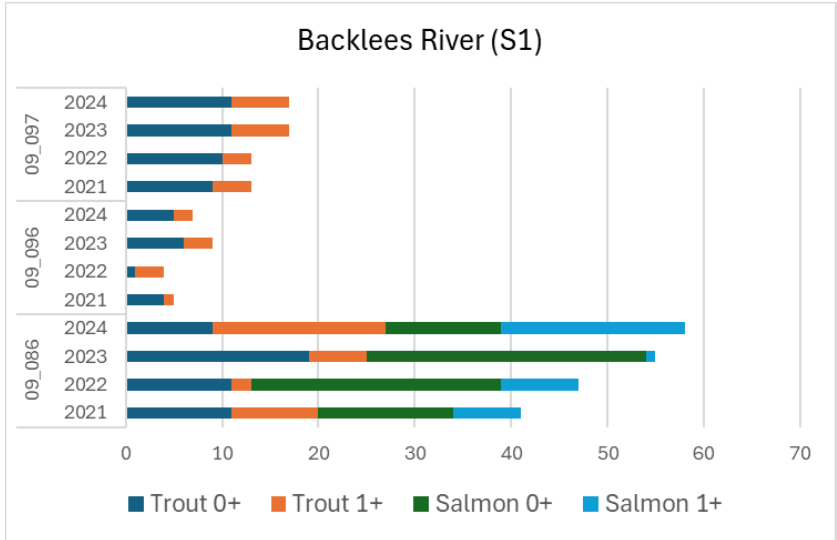
Catchment	River	LA Site ID	Sample Year	Trout 0+	Trout 1+	Salmon 0+	Salmon 1+	Location notes (TEN-T)
	Liskeran Burn	09_097	2023	6	3	0	0	bridge crossing point (W1-08) at link road tie in
			2024	5	2	0	0	
			2021	9	4	0	0	Backlees stream: 1.4km u/s proposed bridge crossing point (W1-08) and 770m u/s W1-09
			2022	10	3	0	0	
			2023	11	6	0	0	
			2024	11	6	0	0	

Table 9B.04.1 Loughs Agency juvenile salmonid abundance descriptors (McCauley & Deehan, 2019)

	Poor	Poor/Mod	Fair	Good	Excellent
Salmon 0+	1 to 4	~	5 to 14	15 to 24	25+
Trout 0+	0-1	2 to 3	4 to 8	9 to 17	18+

Graphical representation of fisheries data from the above tables is set out in the following figures:





Loughs Agency provided composite redd count data for 2020-2024. **Figures 9B.06.4 and 9B.06.5** show the location of redds in relation to the electrofishing sites for which data is presented above and with relevance to Sections 1 and 3 of the proposed development. It is noted that entire catchments can't be surveyed for salmon redds annually, therefore composite redd data has been used as an indicative layer for local distribution of spawning habitats, acknowledging that some spawning sites will be outside of the areas surveyed and identified.

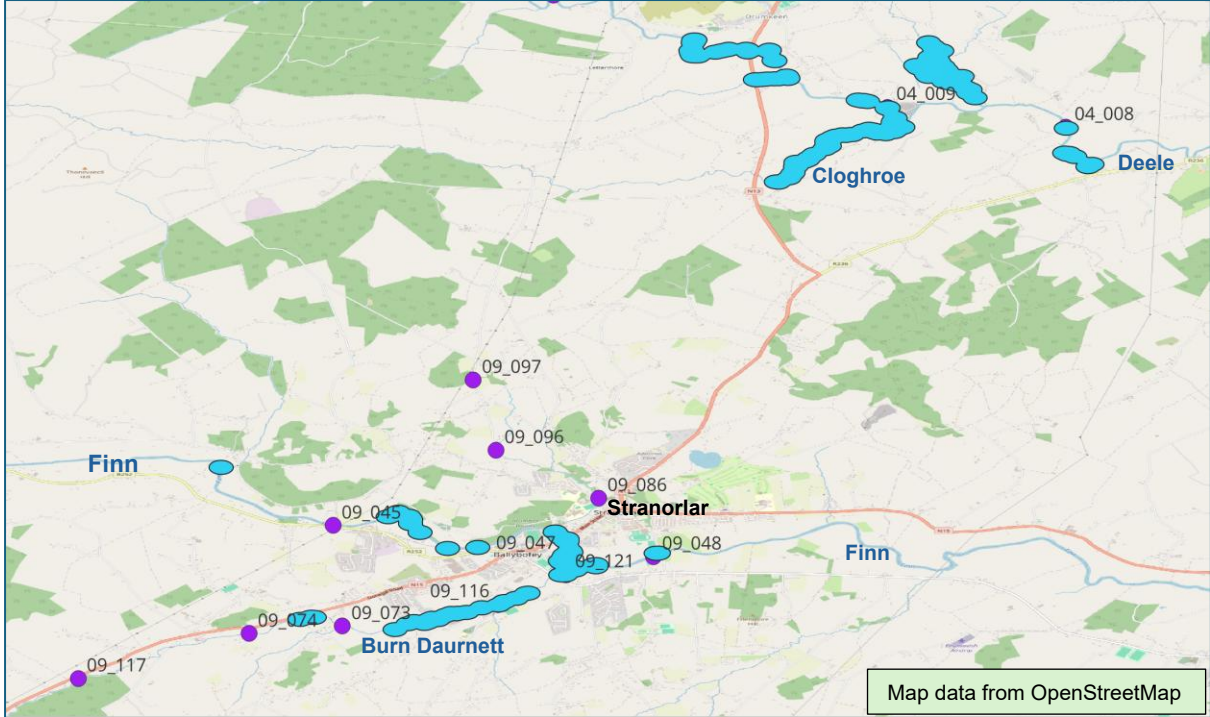


Figure 9B.06.4 Section 1 Composite Redd Counts (Blue)

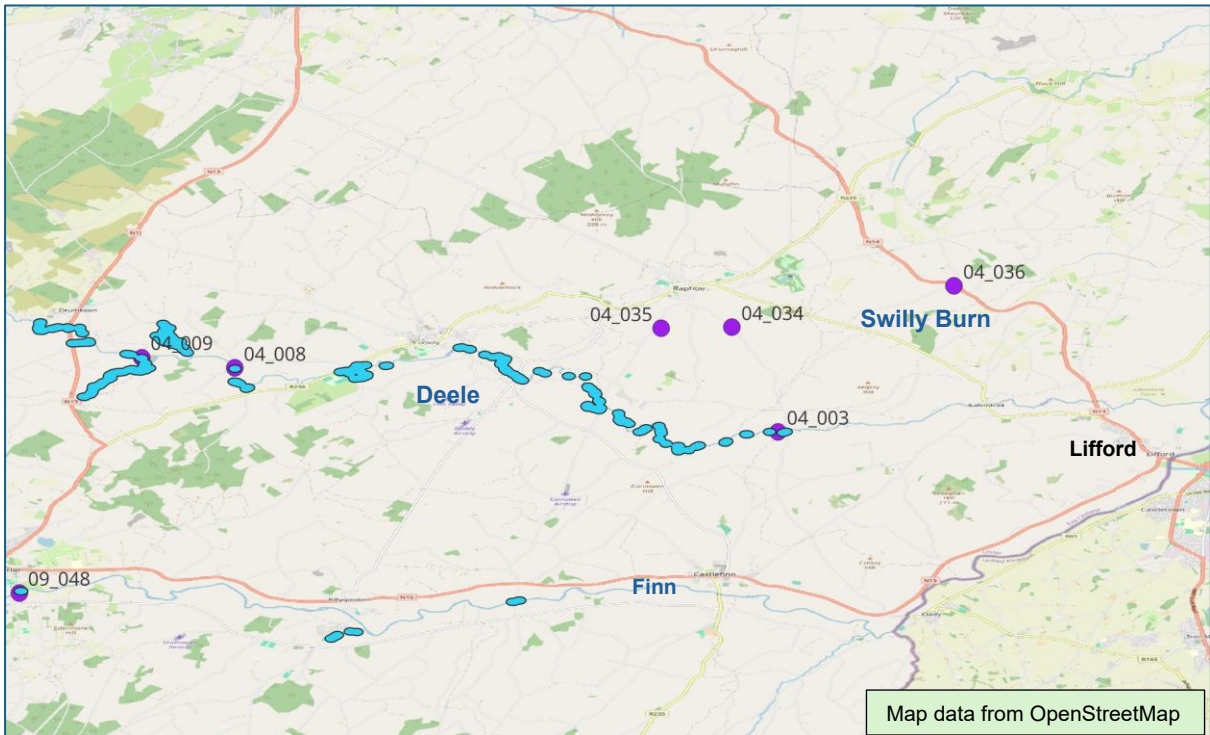


Figure 9B.06.5 Section 3 Composite Redd Counts (Blue)

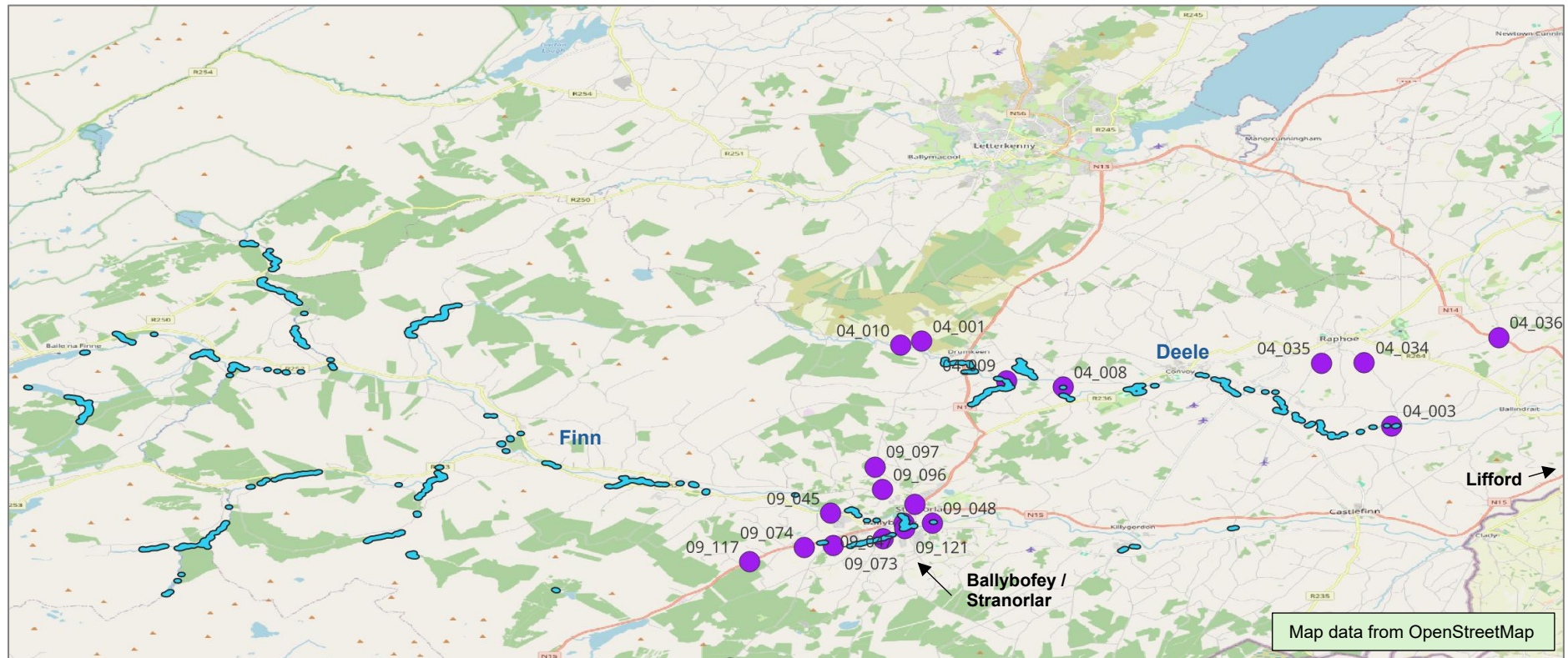


Figure 9B.06.6 Overall Finn / Foyle Catchment Composite Redd Counts (Blue) showing distribution of redds extending into upper catchment areas