

About NVZs

The Nitrates Directive requires all known areas of land which drain into polluted waters to be designated as NVZ's. Polluted waters are defined as follows.

(a) Surface freshwaters which contain or could contain, if preventative action is not taken, nitrate concentrations greater than 50 milligram's per litre (mg/l).

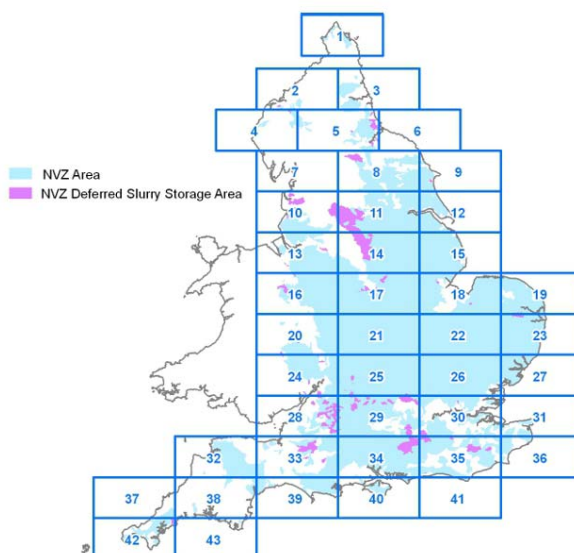
(b) Groundwaters which contain or could contain, if preventative action is not taken, nitrate concentrations greater than 50mg/l.

(c) Natural freshwater lakes, or other freshwater bodies, estuaries, coastal waters and marine waters which are eutrophic or may become so in the near future if preventative action is not taken.

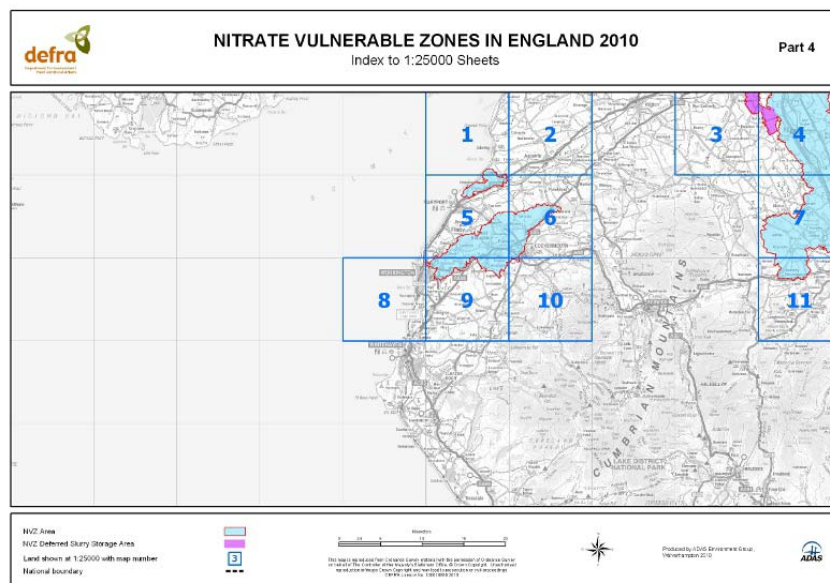
For a full explanation of the steps taken to identify the new NVZs in England please refer to the Defra NVZ web pages.

How to view Regional Maps

Please choose a part of England to view maps of the NVZs by clicking on one of the numbered pages on the overview (1-43).



This will take you to a 1:250,000 map of the area selected (e.g. Part 4)



Within these maps are a series of further numbered squares. Where there is no blue square, this area is either all NVZ or no NVZ. For a more detailed version of the overview map that can be zoomed into or printed, please click the link at the top of the page.

Clicking the square for your area of interest will take you to a 1:37,500 map showing the NVZ boundary in more detail where you will be able to print or download a pdf and determine what exact land is inside an NVZ (e.g. Part 4, Map 6).

