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Issues facing  
nature conservation  
in England:  
A Natural Areas  
perspective



Conservation  
Resource  
Monitoring  
Team

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**English Nature Research Report**

**Number 165**

**ISSUES FACING NATURE CONSERVATION IN ENGLAND:  
A NATURAL AREAS PERSPECTIVE**

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Conservation Resource Monitoring Team  
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# CONTENTS

<b>SUMMARY</b> .....	1
<b>OBJECTIVES</b> .....	1
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b> .....	1
<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	3
Confidentiality .....	3
Limitations of the Data .....	3
Natural Areas .....	4
Core Profiles .....	4
<b>DATA MANIPULATION</b> .....	5
Upland, Lowland and Maritime Natural Areas .....	5
The Keywording Process .....	5
Summary of Keywords .....	6
Dictionary of Keywords .....	11
<b>ANALYSES</b>	
1. ANALYSIS OF ISSUE TYPES BY NATURAL AREA .....	27
2. ANALYSIS OF ISSUES BY NATURAL AREA .....	30
Agricultural Issues .....	30
Communication Issues .....	30
Development Issues .....	30
Issues related to Marine Fisheries .....	35
Fossil Collecting Issues .....	35
Fragmentation Issues .....	35
Issues Related to Lack of Knowledge .....	35
Management Issues .....	40
Military issues .....	40
Issues Related to Minerals Winning .....	40
Issues Related to Natural Processes .....	45
Policy Issues .....	45
Pollution Issues .....	45
Water Quantity Issues .....	49
Recreation Issues .....	49
Issues Related to Habitat Re-creation .....	49
Species Issues .....	52

3	ANALYSIS OF ISSUES BY KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURE . . . .	53
	The Issues Affecting Woodlands, Parklands and Forestry Key Features . . .	54
	The Woodland Key Features Affected by Recreation Issues . . . . .	57
	The Woodland Key Features Affected by Policy Issues . . . . .	57
	The Issues Affecting River, Stream and Canal Key Features . . . . .	60
	The River Key Features affected by Pollution Issues . . . . .	63
	The River Key Features affected by Recreation Issues . . . . .	63
	The Issues Affecting Cliff Key Features . . . . .	66
	The Cliff Key Features Affected by Development Issues . . . . .	69
	The Cliff Key Features Affected by Management Issues . . . . .	69
	The Key Features Affected by Agricultural Pollution Issues . . . . .	72
	The Grassland Key Features Affected by Agricultural Pollution . . .	72
	The Woodland Key Features Affected by Agricultural Pollution . . .	75
	The River Key Features Affected by Agricultural Pollution . . . . .	75
4.	COMPARISON OF LOCAL ISSUES AND NATIONAL AVERAGE	
	Issues Affecting Lowland Natural Areas in Dorset compared to	
	Lowland Natural Areas Nationally . . . . .	78
	<b>POTENTIAL FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS . . . . .</b>	<b>80</b>

## **SUMMARY**

The full set of Core Profiles contains 6834 issues collected for 1043 key nature conservation features in the 114 Natural Areas of England. These issues were analysed using keywords for 18 issue types and 107 issues. This report presents a preliminary analysis of these issues, both by frequency and distribution.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this report are:

- To undertake a preliminary analysis of the issues facing nature conservation throughout England at a local scale and national scale.
- To present the data in such a form as to enable further analysis.
- To demonstrate the role of Natural Areas in giving local issues a wider context and presenting these issues from a national perspective.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Core Profiles, and the issues contained therein could not have been compiled without the support and cooperation of both Natural Area Lead Officers and their colleagues from adjacent Teams. We are grateful for their contributions. The Core Profiles themselves were collated to a standard format within a very tight timetable by a dedicated project team; Simon Bates, Mel Heath, Nick Sibbett, Simon Webb and Corinna Woodall. We wish to record our thanks for their considerable efforts.



# INTRODUCTION

## **Confidentiality**

The issues analysed within this report are derived from the draft Core Profiles. The overview of these Core Profiles by the specialist teams is not yet complete; hence the final list of issues may vary. Also, some of the issues raised may well be considered to be of a sensitive nature, for example, where partner organisations are referred to. Because of the obvious risks of misinterpretation and the draft nature of the issues themselves, neither this report nor the accompanying disk should be circulated outside English Nature.

As part of the Joint Working arrangements, the Countryside Commission have access to this report and the Core Profiles. We have requested that they do not circulate the report or data externally.

## **Limitations of the Data**

- The data used in these analyses were gathered from the locally based, lead Conservation Officers for each Natural Area. In order to retain the local identity of each Natural Area, the data were presented in their original format.
- The data collected represent the views of over 100 locally based Conservation Officers and thus represents a strong view of locally significant features. This report aims to present a national overview of these local issues. It is a first attempt and in places may be considered to be crude. However, none of the data collected have been altered in any way, and all issues are given in their original format on the accompanying disk. Nevertheless any errors in the interpretation of the original data remain the responsibility of the authors of this report.
- The issues described in this report have been identified as being significant at present. As factors affecting nature conservation may vary over time so too will these issues.



## **Natural Areas**

Natural Areas are biogeographic zones which reflect the geological foundation, the natural systems and processes and the wildlife in different parts of England, and provide a framework for setting objectives for nature conservation (Biodiversity, The UK Steering Group Report, HMSO, 1995). To date, 114 Natural Areas have been identified consisting of around 150 areas identified on the Joint Character Map (drawn up in conjunction with the Countryside Commission). The use of English Nature's Natural Areas, together with the Countryside Commission's Countryside Character Areas will provide a context for planning and management of the countryside through the integration of both local and national objectives.

## **Core Profiles**

The issues analysed in this report have been derived from the draft Natural Area Core Profiles. Core Profiles were compiled for all Natural Areas during 1995 by a team seconded to the Natural Areas Corporate Project, with considerable input from locally based staff. The Core Profiles, therefore, reflect strongly the local situation. Each Core Profile lists the Key Nature Conservation Features for each Natural Area, and then describes this feature in a standardised way using keywords from the ENSIS dictionaries. The issues affecting each Key Nature Conservation Feature within each Natural Area were then compiled. Both the Key Nature Conservation Features themselves and the issues were collected as free text to maintain the local 'flavour' of the Core Profiles.

In order to undertake a national analysis of the issues (collected as free text) it was first necessary to keyword them. The keywords used are those that seemed both sensible and pragmatic to us when faced with the whole data set (c. 7000 separate issues, but with much duplication). Inevitably such a data set could be analysed using a different set of keywords based on a particular specialism. However, we believe that the set of keywords used here will provide a 'first sort' of the spreadsheet; the relevant sections can be further keyworded as appropriate by the user. It is likely that following further refinement, the keywords will be the basis of an additional dictionary within ENSIS.

None of the original data collected has been altered in any way; the key-words have simply been appended to the spreadsheet. Thus it is possible to examine, for example, exactly what the three Public Awareness issues are in the upland Natural Areas. Furthermore, as the issues were arrived at by consultation with the lead officer for each Natural Area, it is possible to explore precisely what the issue is detail with the lead officers.

The Core Profiles themselves are currently being looked at by the national specialists in Peterborough to ensure that they reflect fully the national perspective. Once these have been completed a revised set of Core Profiles will be issued, probably around Easter. In the meantime all teams have a relevant set of Core Profiles, and the SSTs each have a complete set.

# DATA MANIPULATION

## **Upland, Lowland and Maritime Natural Areas**

The issues listed within each Natural Area Core Profile were collated. For ease of use the divisions of Natural Areas into 72 lowland, 18 upland and 24 maritime were maintained. However, the data are stored in such a way that these divisions can be amalgamated, for example where a Team has the lead on both upland and lowland Natural Areas or where all Natural Areas affected by a particular issue need to be listed.

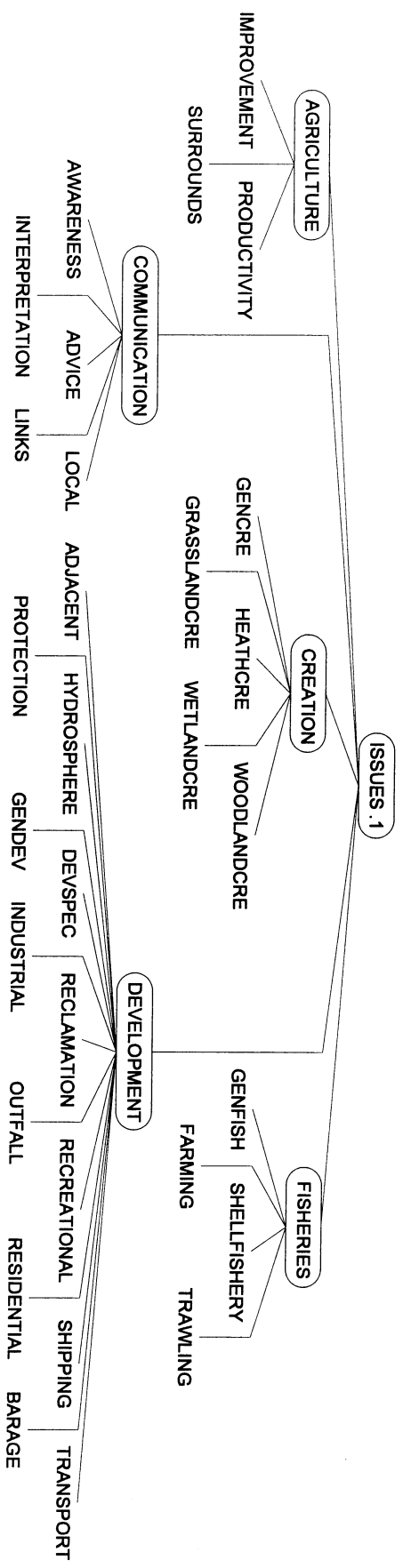
## **The Keywording Process**

The major strength of the data gathered is its local flavour. The knowledge of each Conservation Officer was directly channelled by simply asking for a set of the most important issues affecting each key nature conservation feature. (In practice we asked staff to identify the most significant 10 issues pertaining to each key nature conservation feature. However, where more than 10 issues were considered significant, they were all listed; in many cases less than 10 issues per key nature conservation feature were recorded.) We have therefore gained a valuable viewpoint from the perspective of locally based experienced staff. As a result of this, however, the data were not always supplied in the same detail and were not always comparable. The most effective method of analysis was therefore to divide the issues into a set of 18 issue types. The issue types were then assigned a keyword. Within these issue types, issues were divided further into a second tier and assigned a 'sub-keyword'.

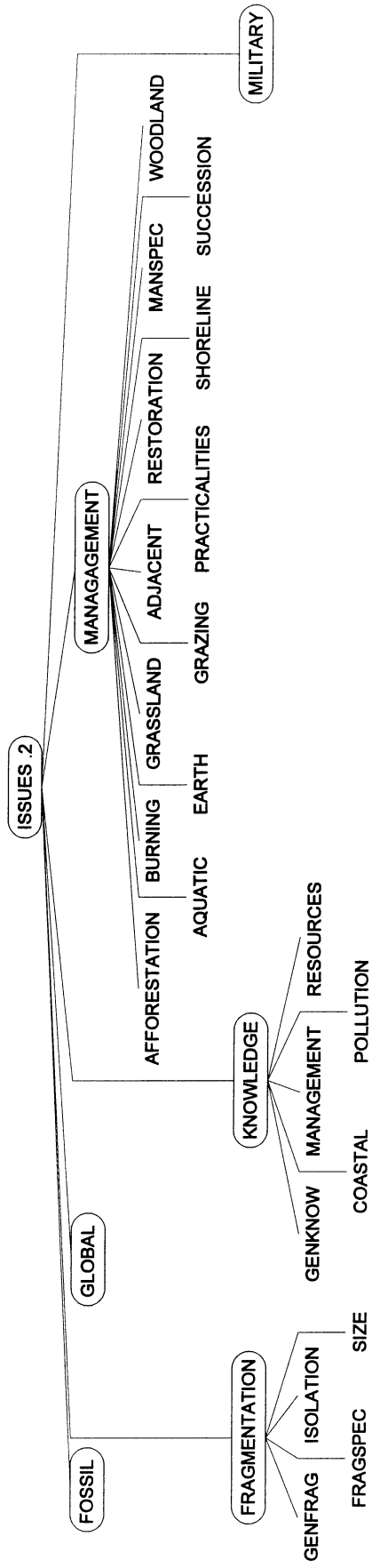
The keywords used are designed as far as possible to provide distinct categories of issues. However, there are specific issues that do not fall easily into any one keyword category alone. Where confusion may exist examples have been given.

A default "General" sub-keyword was used where specific issues did not fall easily into one of the existing keywords. At this stage we considered it prudent to limit the number of keywords to those with a sufficient 'population' to warrant analysis. Also included in the "General" categories were any issues collected which were simply listed as generic types, eg. "Recreation".

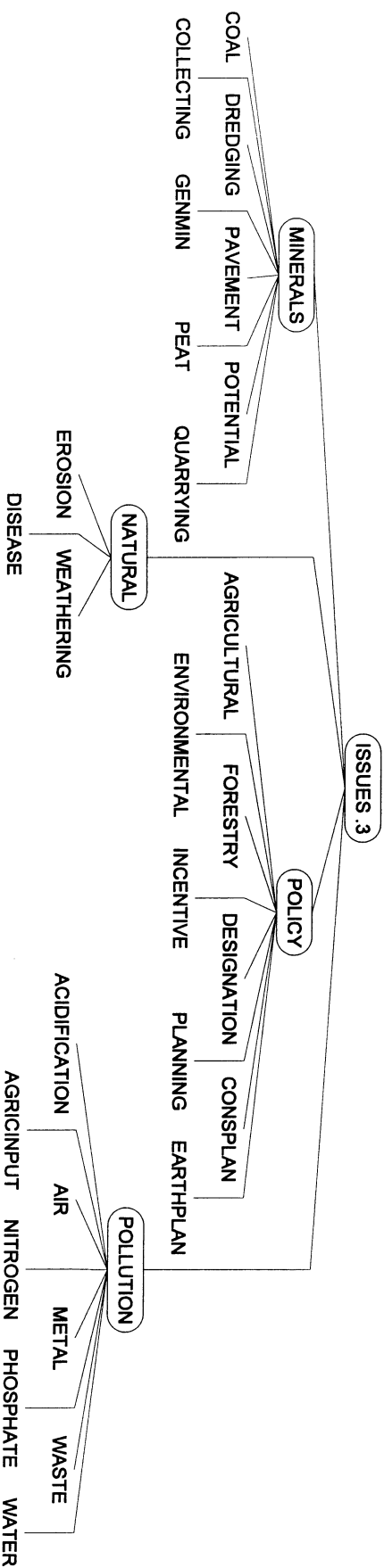
# KEYWORDS SUMMARY (PART 1)



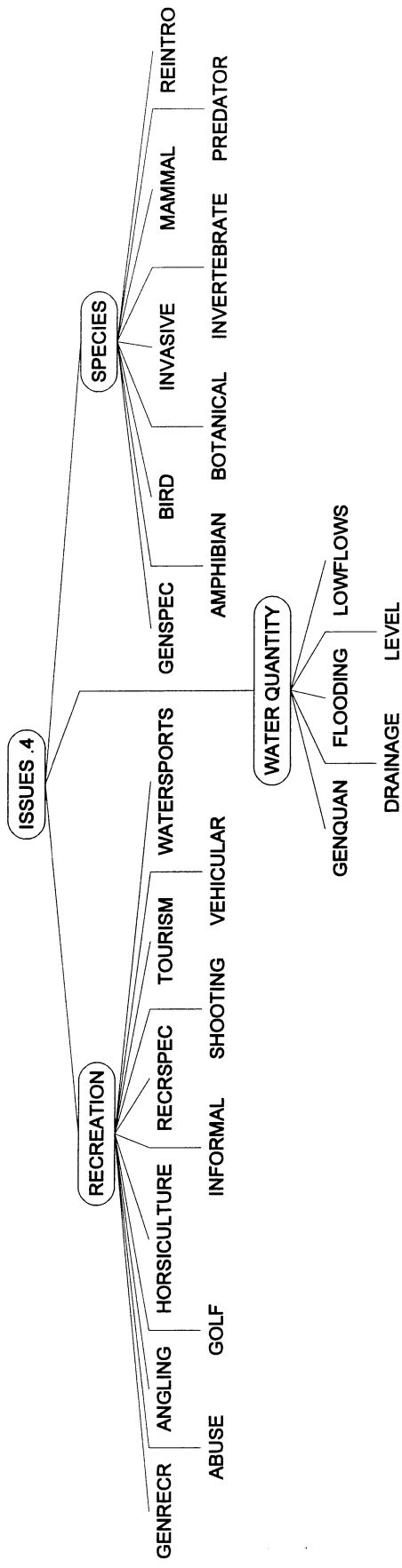
# KEYWORDS SUMMARY (PART 2)



# KEYWORDS SUMMARY (PART 3)



# KEYWORDS SUMMARY (PART 4)





# Dictionary of Keywords

## AGRICULTURAL ISSUES

### Keyword - AGRICULTURE

This keyword covers farm management (improvement and intensification), farm economics (lack of productivity, abandonment) and the poor wildlife quality of agricultural land as an adjacent habitat. Agricultural pollution and government policy are covered by the POLLUTION and POLICY keywords respectively.

### Sub-Keywords

- **IMPROVEMENT** **Agricultural improvement and intensification issues.**  
This category includes hedgerow management and removal practices as well as application of fertiliser and other improvement operations.
- **SURROUNDS** **Issues associated with agriculture as the surrounding land use.**  
This category identifies the effect of agricultural practice on surrounding land and its consequent impacts on key sites. Agricultural run-off is represented by the POLL keyword.
- **PRODUCTIVITY** **Agricultural productivity and related issues.**  
This keyword represents issues concerning economically driven changes in farming practice such as changing harvest from hay to silage cut, changes in sowing times and farm abandonment and diversification.



## **COMMUNICATION ISSUES**

### **Keyword - COMMUNICATION**

This section covers communications with the public, land owners, local communities and our conservation partners. Issues connected with other bodies including the IDB, NRA and Local Authorities are covered under 'ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY'.

### **Sub-Keywords**

- **ADVICE**                   **Management advice issues.**  
Lack of knowledge or interest in the land shown by owners such as hobby farmers.
  
- **AWARENESS**           **Public awareness and perception issues .**  
Including unsatisfactory public evaluation of features and lack of interest as well as awareness.
  
- **INTERPRETATION**       **Interpretation and education issues.**  
Including the necessity for provision of interpretation and promotion of educational and research value of sites.
  
- **LINKS**                   **Links with conservation partners.**  
Including local wildlife and geological groups as well as museums and records centres.
  
- **LOCAL**                   **Local community involvement.**

## **DEVELOPMENT ISSUES**

### **Keyword - DEVELOPMENT**

This category represents the direct and indirect impacts of built development on nature conservation features.

#### **Sub-Keywords**

- **GENDEV**            **General development issues.**
- **ADJACENT**        **Issues associated with development on adjacent land.**
- **BARAGE**           **Tidal barage construction issues.**
- **DEVSPEC**         **Species issues caused by development.**  
Including impacts on Bats and Barn Owls.
- **HYDROSPHERE**   **Development issues in the freshwater hydrosphere.**  
Including river weir construction, canalisation, flood plain developments and reservoir works.
- **INDUSTRIAL**      **Industrial development issues.**  
Including the oil and gas industry and power generation.
- **OUTFALL**         **Marine outfall issues.**  
Including sewage and wastewater disposal.
- **PROTECTION**     **Issues related to coastal protection works.**
- **RECLAMATION**   **Coastal reclamation for development.**
- **RECREATIONAL** **Developments related to recreation.**  
Including golf course construction and developments related to tourism.
- **RESIDENTIAL**    **Developments for residential purposes.**
- **SHIPPING**        **Developments in the commercial shipping industry.**  
Including dock construction and large-scale channel dredging.
- **TRANSPORT**     **Developments related to transport.**  
Including road and railway construction and maintenance.

## **COMMERCIAL MARINE FISHERY ISSUES**

### **Keyword - FISHERIES**

These issues are only relevant to maritime Natural Areas.

### **Sub-Keywords**

- **GENFISH**            **General commercial fishery issues.**
- **FARMING**           **Fish farming issues.**
- **SHELLFISHERY**   **Shell fishery issues.**
- **TRAWLING**        **Issues associated to trawling methods.**

## **FOSSIL ISSUES**

### **Keyword - FOSSIL**

Damage due to fossil collecting.

## **FRAGMENTATION ISSUES**

### **Keyword - FRAGMENTATION**

These issues are centred around the fragmentation of resources into small and/or isolated units. The fragmentation may be on a regional, site or population scale.

### **Sub-Keywords**

- **GENFRAG**           **General fragmentation issues.**
  
- **FRAGSPEC**       **Fragmentation of species populations.**
  
- **ISOLATION**       **Site isolation issues.**  
                                  Including the creation of wildlife corridors.
  
- **SIZE**               **Resource and site area issues.**  
                                  Including insufficient site size and lack of local resource.

## **GLOBAL ISSUES**

### **Keyword - GLOBAL**

Including possible changes in climate, weather patterns and sea-level.

## KNOWLEDGE RELATED ISSUES

### Keyword - KNOWLEDGE

The issues covered by this keyword are those where lack of knowledge is hindering operations. It includes; knowledge of species, groups or habitats and their appropriate management; knowledge of pollution processes; knowledge of physical coastal processes; and knowledge of the conservation resource, including the need for survey or monitoring.

### Sub-Keywords

- **GENKNOW**      **General knowledge related issues.**
- **COASTAL**      **Knowledge of coastal processes (physical).**  
Including lack of knowledge of erosion, sediment transport and accretion.
- **MANAGEMENT**      **Knowledge of management and restoration techniques.**
- **POLLUTION**      **Knowledge of pollution.**
- **RESOURCE**      **Knowledge of the resource .**  
Including the extent and quality of the resource. Also covers the need for surveying and monitoring operations.
- **KNOWSPEC**      **Knowledge of species or groups.**  
Includes general lack of knowledge of invertebrates and the need for faunal surveying.

## MANAGEMENT ISSUES

### Keyword - MANAGEMENT

This keyword covers management related issues for all types of feature including habitats and earth science sites. The challenges presented by invasive and alien species are covered under the SPECIES keyword.

### Sub-Keywords

- **ADJACENT**            **Issues associated with the management of adjacent land.**  
Including buffer zone and conservation headland issues.
  
- **AFFORESTATION** **Issues related to afforestation on open ground.**
  
- **AQUATIC**            **Issues related to the management of aquatic and wetland habitats.**  
Including wet grassland, riparian habitats, open water and river corridor management as well as control of saline intrusion.
  
- **BURNING**            **Issues related to burning management regimes.**
  
- **EARTH**                **Earth science site management issues.**  
Including need for vegetation clearance, lack of resource, infilling of sites and habitats arising from minerals winning.
  
- **GRASSLAND**        **General grassland and heathland management issues.**  
Including cutting regimes, turf removal and road verge management.
  
- **GRAZING**            **Issues associated with grazing management regimes.**  
Including issues related to deer, stock fencing, poaching, stock feeding, stock type, rabbit grazing, erosion due to livestock and inappropriate grazing levels.

- **MANSPEC**                    **Management for species or groups.**  
Including maintenance of otter, invertebrate and lichen habitat.
  
- **PRACTICALITIES** **Issues associated with the practicalities of site management.**  
Including lack of voluntary manpower, accessibility, fragmented ownership, common ownership, landscape and archaeological considerations.
  
- **RESTORATION**        **Issues associated with management for restoration of habitats.**
  
- **SHORELINE**            **Shoreline management issues.**  
Including management of sand dunes, beaches, sea cliffs and lagoons.
  
- **SUCCESSION**        **Issues related to succession.**  
Including site abandonment, scrub and woodland encroachment, gorse invasion and neglect.
  
- **WOODLAND**            **General woodland habitat management issues.**  
Including planting of broadleaves, natural regeneration, planting of conifers, deconiferisation, coppicing regimes, thinning regimes, storm damage and scrub management.

## **ISSUES RELATED TO MILITARY USE OF LAND**

### **Keyword - MILITARY**

Issues related to the use or ownership of land by the MoD. Including disturbance due to training activities and the benefits associated with continuity of ownership and appropriate management.

## **ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH MINERALS WINNING**

### **Keyword - MINERALS**

As well as coal mining and quarrying operations, this category also covers peat extraction and limestone pavement removal.

### **Sub-Keywords**

- **GENMIN**                    **General minerals winning issues.**
  
- **COAL**                        **Issues associated with current or past coal mining.**  
Including ferruginous mine discharge and subsidence.
  
- **COLLECTING**            **Minerals collecting issues.**  
Including Tufa removal.
  
- **DREDGING**                **Aggregates dredging issues.**  
Including sand and gravel winning.
  
- **PAVEMENT**                **Limestone pavement removal.**
  
- **PEAT**                        **Issues related to peat extraction operations.**
  
- **POTENTIAL**               **Issues related to potential mineral exploitation activities.**  
Including extant planning permissions.
  
- **QUARRYING**               **Issues related to quarrying activities.**  
Including clay winning.



## **ISSUES RELATED TO NATURAL PROCESSES**

### **Keyword - NATURAL**

This sector covers river and coastal erosion processes, the associated sediment transport and accretion, other weathering processes and disease.

### **Sub-Keywords**

- **DISEASE**                      **Issues associated with flora and fauna diseases.**  
Including Dutch Elm Disease and other fungal attack.
  
- **EROSION**                      **Riverine and coastal erosion issues.**  
Including managed retreat, sediment accretion and transport as well as the need to maintain coastal processes.
  
- **WEATHERING**                **Issues associated with natural weathering processes.**

## POLICY ISSUES

### Keyword - POLICY

This category covers a wide range of issues including agricultural policy, environmental policy, English Nature internal policy and its links with other environmental stake-holders, countryside designations and Town and Country planning issues.

### Sub-Keywords

- **AGRICULTURAL** **Agricultural policy (European and UK).**
- **CONSPLANS** **Plans with conservation objectives.**  
Shoreline management plans, catchment plans, whole farm plans, Biodiversity Action Plans, Water Level Management Plans.
- **DESIGNATIONS** **Issues related to designated sites.**  
Statutory and non-statutory designations including SNCI, SSSI and SACs are considered under this category.
- **EARTHPLANS** **Policy issues related to earth science sites.**  
Including RIGS.
- **ENVIRONMENTAL** **General environmental policy.**  
Including EN internal policy, NRA and IDB involvement and national legislation.
- **FORESTRY** **Forestry policy.**  
FA and FE operations and the National Forest programmes.
- **INCENTIVES** **Financial incentives for land owners.**  
Including management agreements, set-aside, and countryside grants (WES, RES, WGS, LA landscape grants, etc).
- **PLANNING** **Issues related to the Town and Country Planning process.**  
Including planning control, local/structure plans and national policy guidance.

## ISSUES RELATED TO POLLUTION

### Keyword - POLLUTION

This set consists of issues related to the impacts of pollution and includes agricultural pollution, water quality and acidification as well waste disposal issues.

### Sub-Keywords

- **AGRICINPUT**     **Agricultural inputs.**  
Including nitrogen fertiliser, slurry application and spray drift.
  
- **ACIDIFICATION**     **Acidification due to acid rain and/or conifer afforestation.**
  
- **AIR**     **General impact on air quality.**
  
- **NITROGEN**     **Atmospheric nitrogen deposition.**
  
- **METAL**     **Heavy metal pollution.**
  
- **PHOSPHATE**     **Phosphates and sewage pollution.**  
Including domestic water pollution.
  
- **WASTE**     **Waste disposal issues.**  
Including landfill, toxic waste disposal, marine dumping, tipping, surface water disposal, disposal of dredged material and road run-off.
  
- **WATER**     **General impacts on water quality.**  
Including eutrophication, industrial water pollution, oil pollution, radionuclides, cooling water and marine pollution.

## **ISSUES RELATED TO WATER RESOURCES**

### **Keyword - QUANTITY**

This keyword covers issues related to both low water levels and flooding as well as active water level management for appropriate habitats. Issues connected to the production of Water Level Management Plans are covered under the POLICY (Conservation Plan) keyword.

### **Sub-keywords**

- **GENQUAN**            **General water quantity issues.**
- **DRAINAGE**        **Drainage issues.**
- **FLOODING**        **Flooding issues.**
- **LEVEL**            **Active water level management.**
- **LOWFLOWS**       **Low water levels or water tables.**  
Including issues related to abstraction and drought.

## **HABITAT RE-CREATION ISSUES**

### **Keyword - CREATION**

This keyword covers issues related to the active creation of former habitat where total loss has occurred. Issues related to management for restoration of degraded habitats are covered within the management section.

### **Sub-Keywords**

- **GENCRE**            **General re-creation issues.**
- **GRASSLANDCRE** **Grassland re-creation.**
- **HEATHCRE**        **Heathland re-creation.**
- **WETLANDCRE**    **Wetland re-creation.**
- **WOODLANDCRE** **Woodland re-creation.**

## **RECREATION ISSUES**

### **Keyword - RECREATION**

This keyword covers the impacts of informal and formal recreation from country pursuits to watersports.

### **Sub-Keywords**

- **GENRECR**            **General recreation issues.**
- **ABUSE**            **Abuse and fire hazard.**  
Including fire hazard and vandalism.
- **ANGLING**        **Angling.**  
Including fish introduction and bait digging.
- **GOLF**            **Golf courses and practice areas.**
- **HORSICULTURE** **Horsiculture.**  
Including riding stables and pony trekking.
- **INFORMAL**      **Informal recreation.**  
Including climbing, caving, walking, cycling, dog walking and hang gliding.
- **RECRSPEC**      **Recreation issues related to species.**  
Including disturbance to bats and birds.
- **SHOOTING**      **Shooting and hunting issues.**  
Including issues such as grouse shooting, wildfowling and fox and stag hunting.
- **TOURISM**        **Issues related to tourism.**  
Including the positive issues related to green tourism and the negative issues connected to disturbance.
- **VEHICULAR**      **Recreational vehicular disturbance.**  
Including 4WD, camping, car parking, light aircraft and motorbike activities.
- **WATERSPORTS**   **Disturbance caused by motorised and other watersports**

## ISSUES RELATED TO SPECIES

### Keywords - SPECIES

This section includes the impacts of alien and invasive species as well as the need for re-introduction, predator control and threats to individual species. Livestock and deer related issues are covered under the management category. Impacts on species of development and recreation are covered under the respective keywords.

### Sub-Keywords

- **GENSPEC**                    **General species related issues.**
  
- **AMPHIBIAN**                **Amphibian issues.**
  
- **BIRD**                        **Issues connected with birds.**  
Including egg collecting, gull culling and raptor persecution.
  
- **BOTANICAL**                **Issues involving botanical species.**  
Including sphagnum removal.
  
- **INVASIVE**                 **Invasive or alien species issues.**  
Examples include bracken, rhododendron, Japanese knotweed and mink.
  
- **INVERTEBRATE**        **Issues related to invertebrate species.**
  
- **MAMMAL**                    **Issues related to mammal species.**
  
- **PREDATOR**                **Predator control issues.**
  
- **REINTRO**                  **Reintroduction of species.**  
Including the Species Recovery programme.



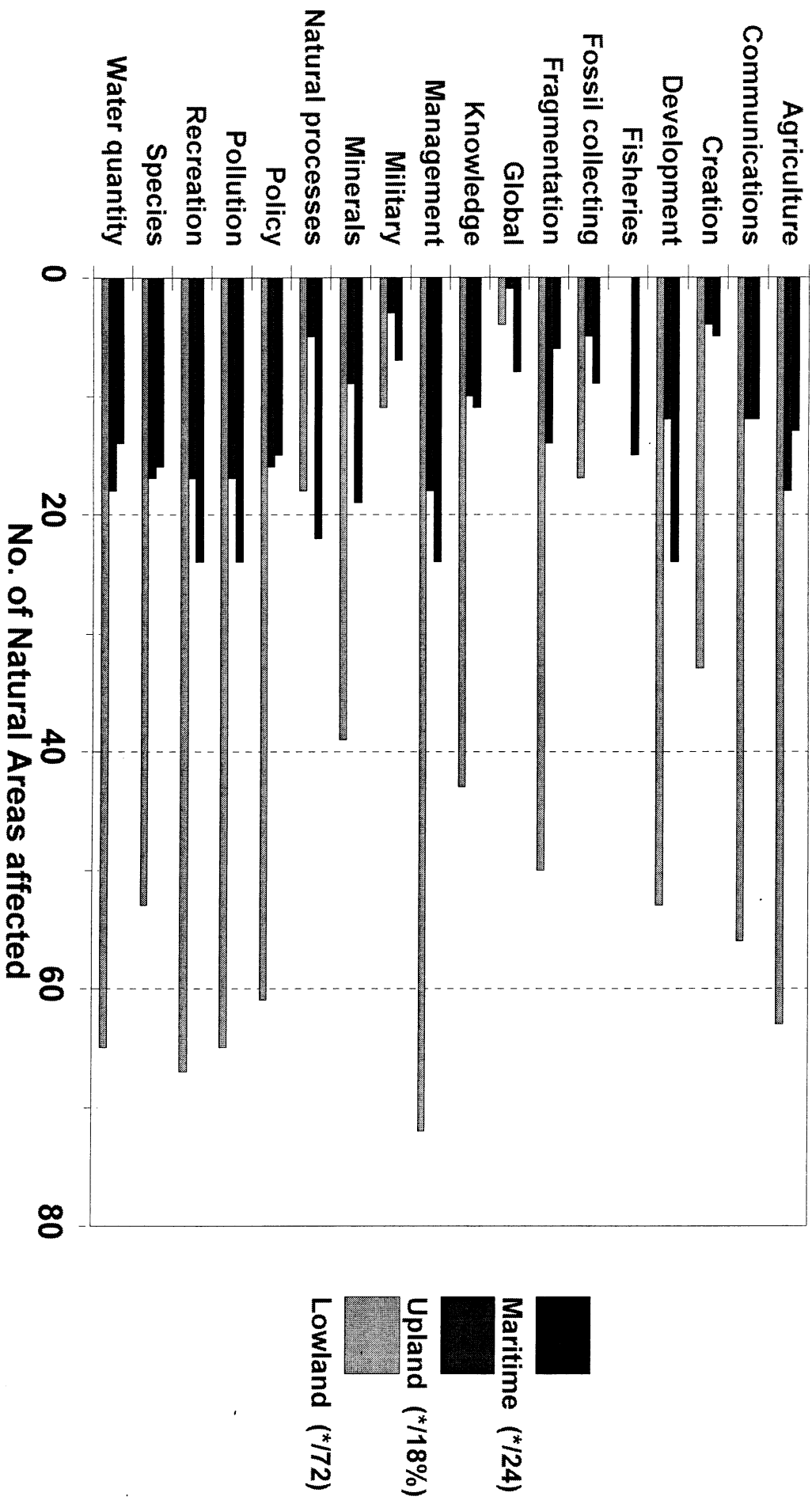
## 1. ANALYSIS OF ISSUE TYPES BY NATURAL AREA

This section consists of an analysis of the generic issue types. The numbers of Natural Areas in which the 18 issue types are present are laid out in the table below. The relative prevalence of issue types in the lowland, upland and maritime spheres is given by the first three columns. These indicate the amount of the total 72 lowland, 18 upland and 24 maritime Natural Areas that are affected by each issue type. The final column gives the total number of Natural Areas affected.

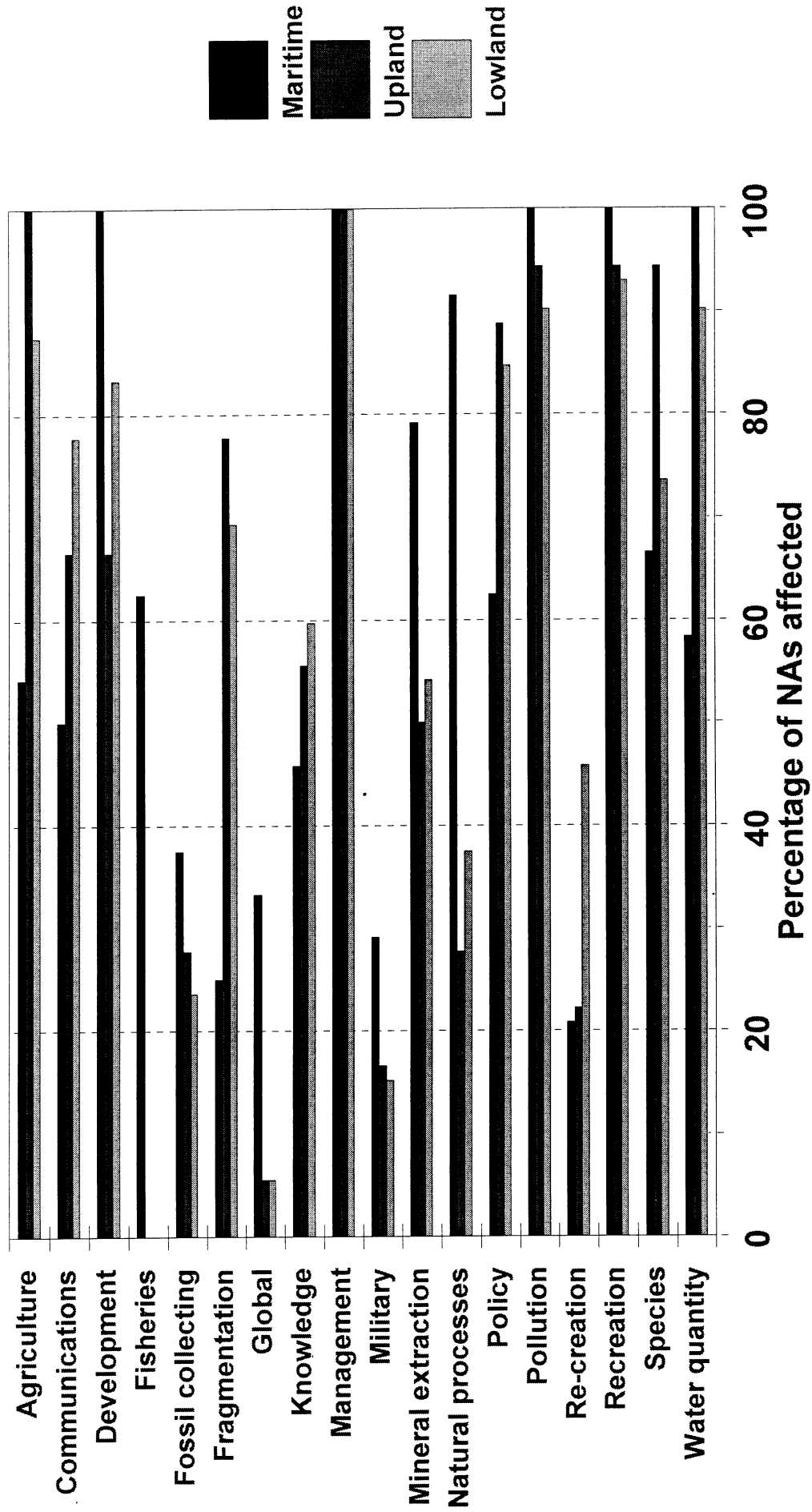
<b>Keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Management	72	18	24	<b>114</b>
Recreation	67	17	24	<b>108</b>
Pollution	65	17	24	<b>106</b>
Water Quantity	65	18	14	<b>97</b>
Agriculture	63	18	13	<b>94</b>
Policy	61	16	15	<b>92</b>
Development	53	12	24	<b>89</b>
Species	53	17	16	<b>86</b>
Communications	56	12	12	<b>80</b>
Fragmentation	50	14	6	<b>70</b>
Minerals	39	9	19	<b>67</b>
Knowledge	43	10	11	<b>64</b>
Natural Processes	18	5	22	<b>45</b>
Creation	33	4	5	<b>42</b>
Fossil Collecting	17	5	9	<b>31</b>
Military	11	3	7	<b>21</b>
Fisheries	0	0	15	<b>15</b>
Global	4	1	8	<b>13</b>



# ANALYSIS OF ISSUE TYPES



# ANALYSIS OF ISSUE TYPES





## 2. ANALYSIS OF ISSUES BY NATURAL AREA

### Agricultural Issues

<b>Sub-keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Improvement	59	19	12	90
Farm Productivity	23	6	2	31
Impact on Surrounding Sites	8	3	1	12

### Communication Issues

<b>Sub-keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Local Community	4	0	1	5
Interpretation	30	9	10	49
Links with Partners	15	3	4	22
Public Awareness	17	3	1	21
Management Advice	13	3	0	16

### Development Issues

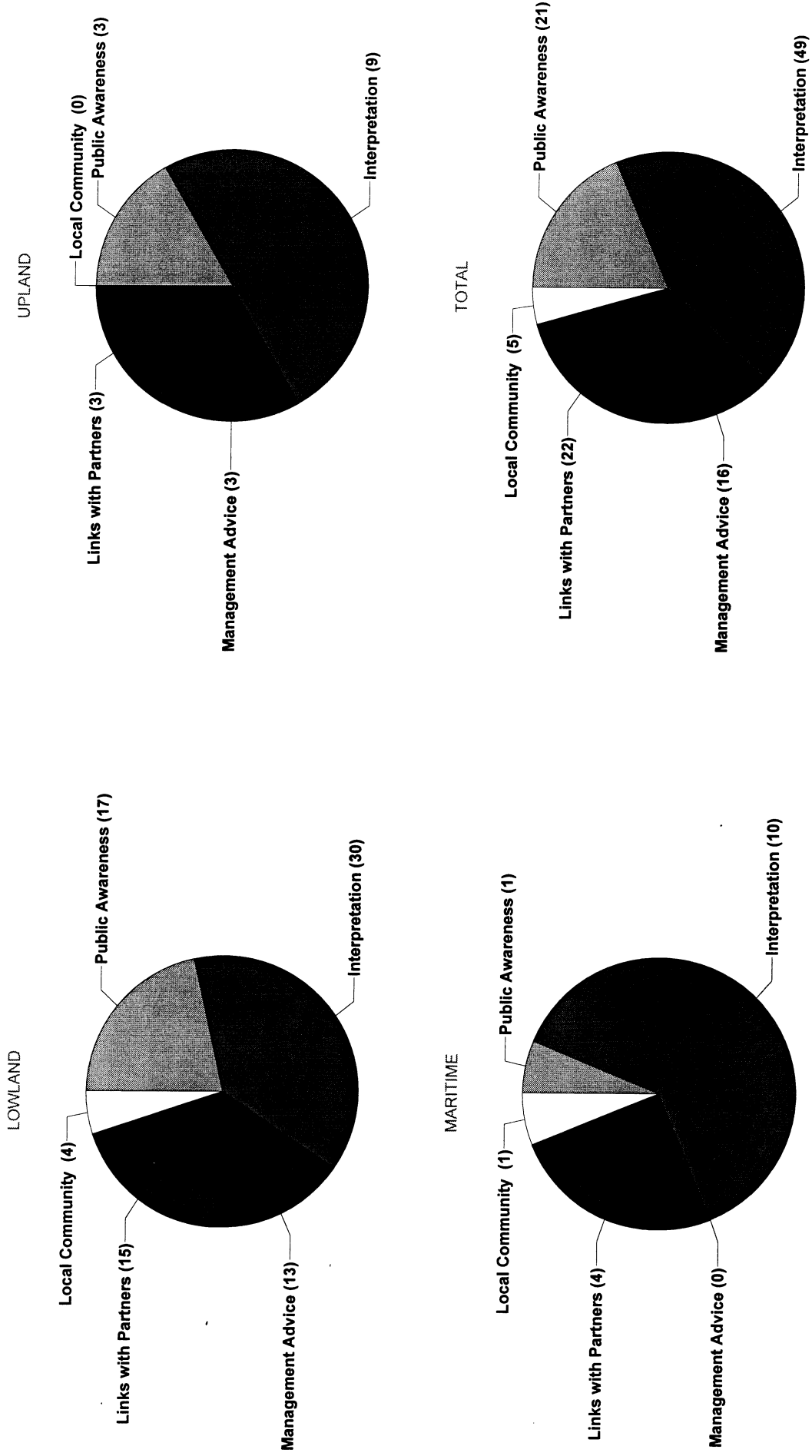
<b>Sub-keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Coastal Protection	21	0	24	45
Freshwater Hydrosphere	32	9	1	42
General	22	1	16	39
Transport Related	23	4	6	33
Industrial	10	4	14	28
Shipping Related	3	0	19	22
Maritime Reclamation	3	0	9	12
Recreational	5	0	4	9
Adjacent Development	7	0	2	9
Tidal Barages	1	0	4	5
Residential	3	0	1	4
Outfalls	0	0	2	2
Impacts on Species	0	1	0	1

**NATURAL AREAS WHERE AGRICULTURE AS A  
SURROUNDING LAND USE IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**

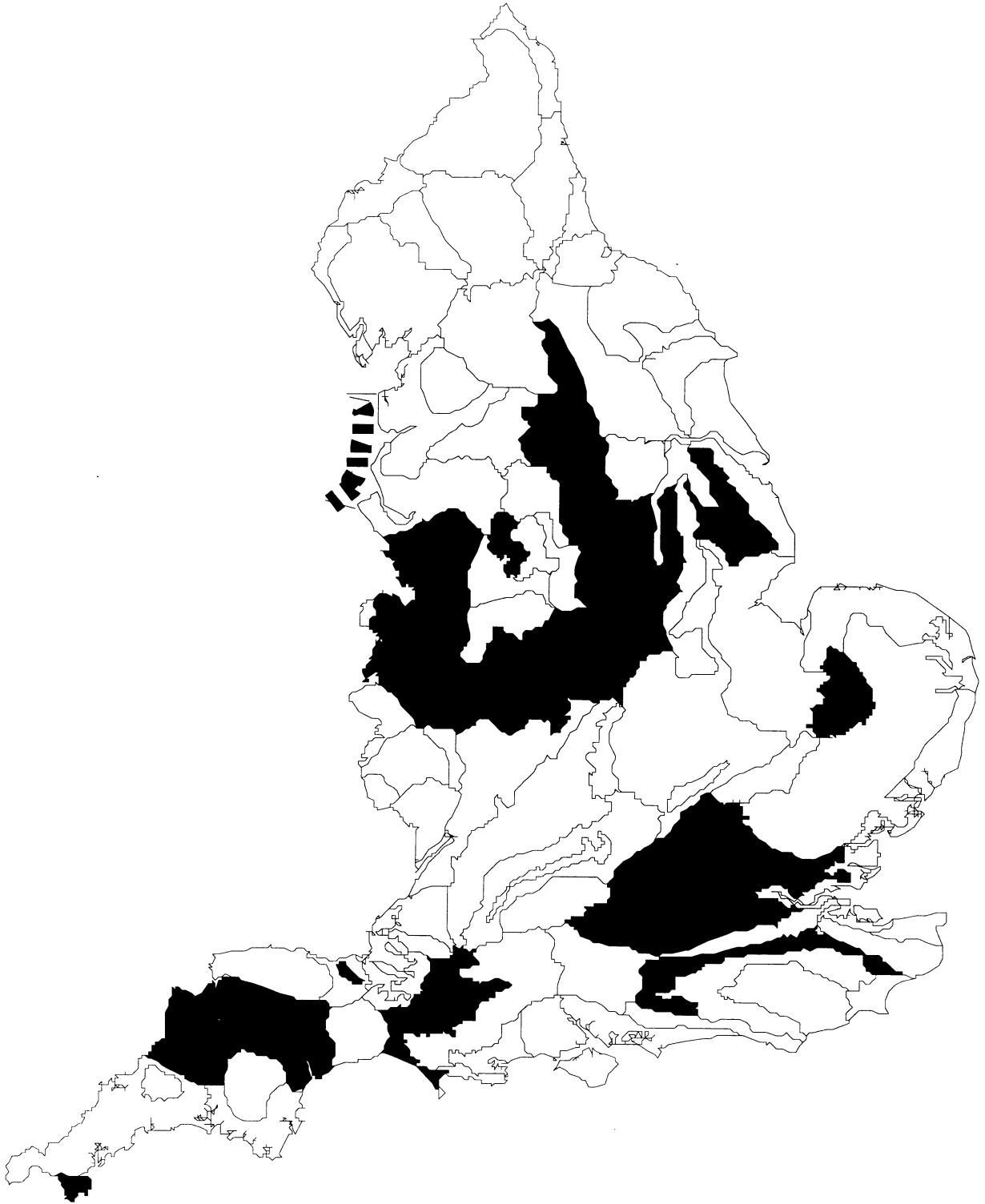


# COMMUNICATION ISSUES

## Number of Natural Areas Affected

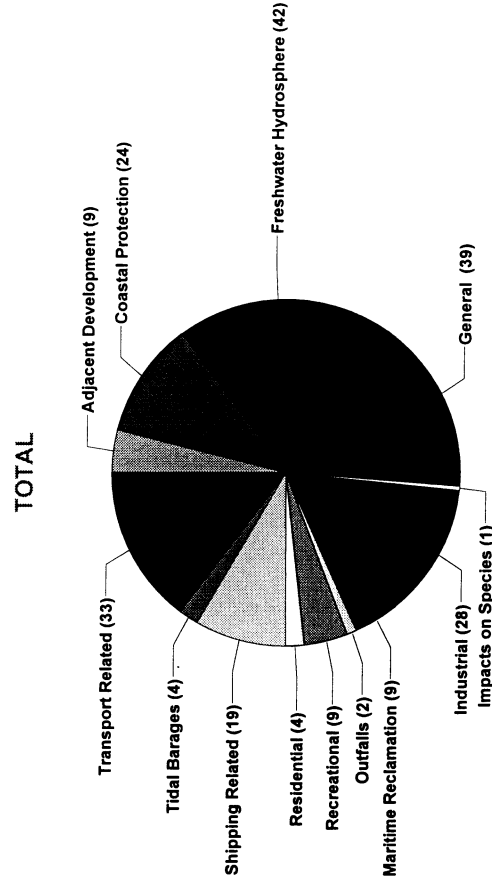
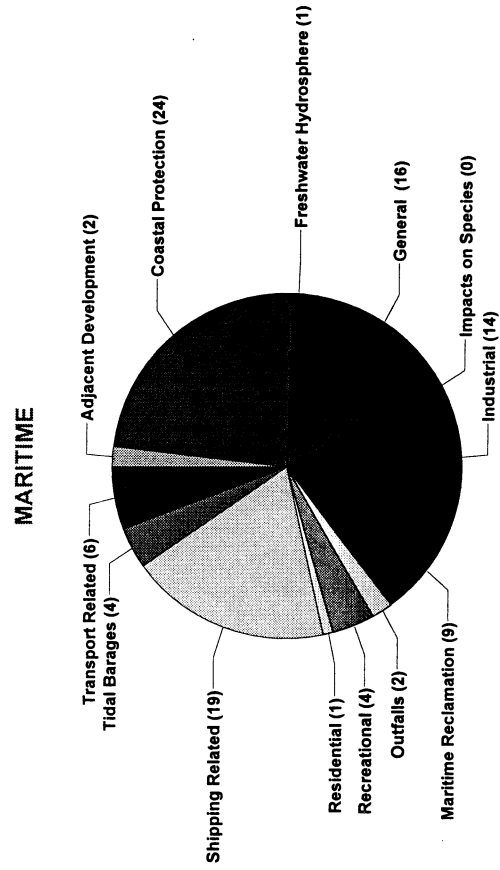
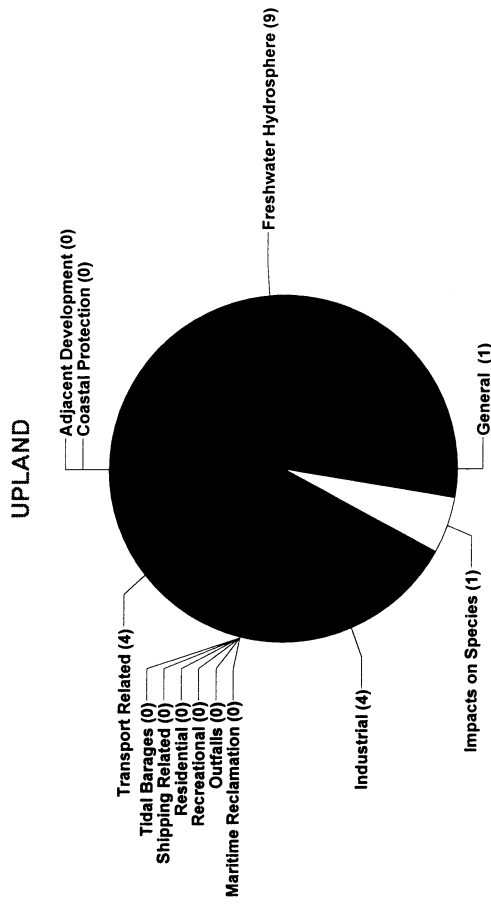
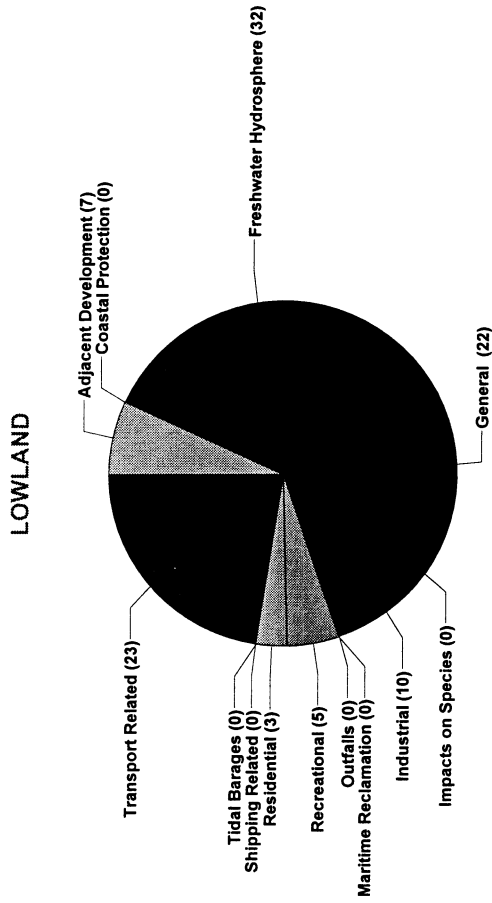


**NATURAL AREAS WHERE COMMUNITY  
AWARENESS IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**



# DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

## Number of Natural Areas Affected





### Issues related to Marine Fisheries

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>
General	42
Mollusc Fishery	9
Crustacean Fishery	8
Trawling Methods	5
Fish Farming	2

### Fossil Collecting Issues

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Fossil	17	5	9	31

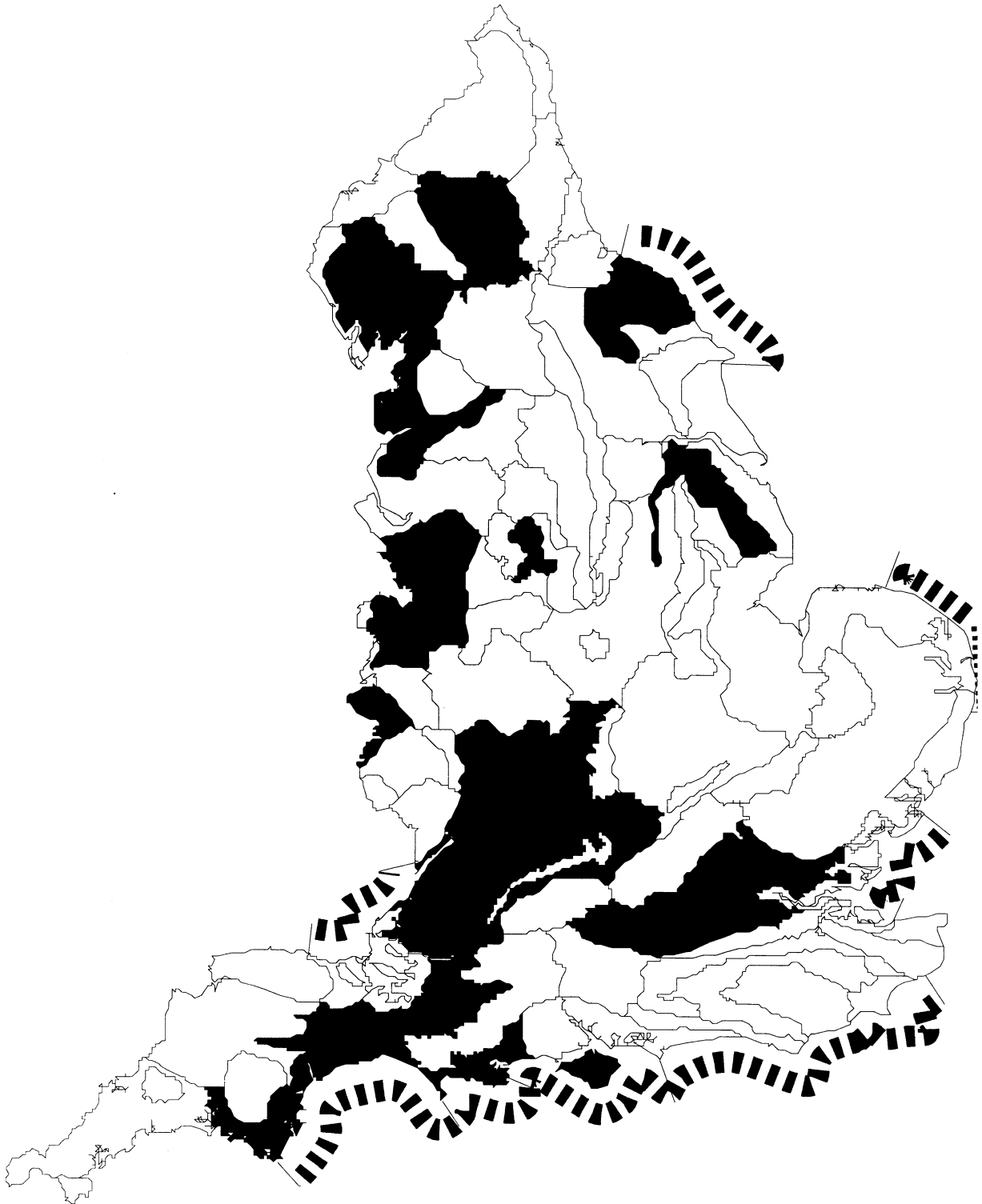
### Fragmentation Issues

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>
General	45	8	3
Isolation	25	4	1
Site Size	10	3	0
Species	4	0	2

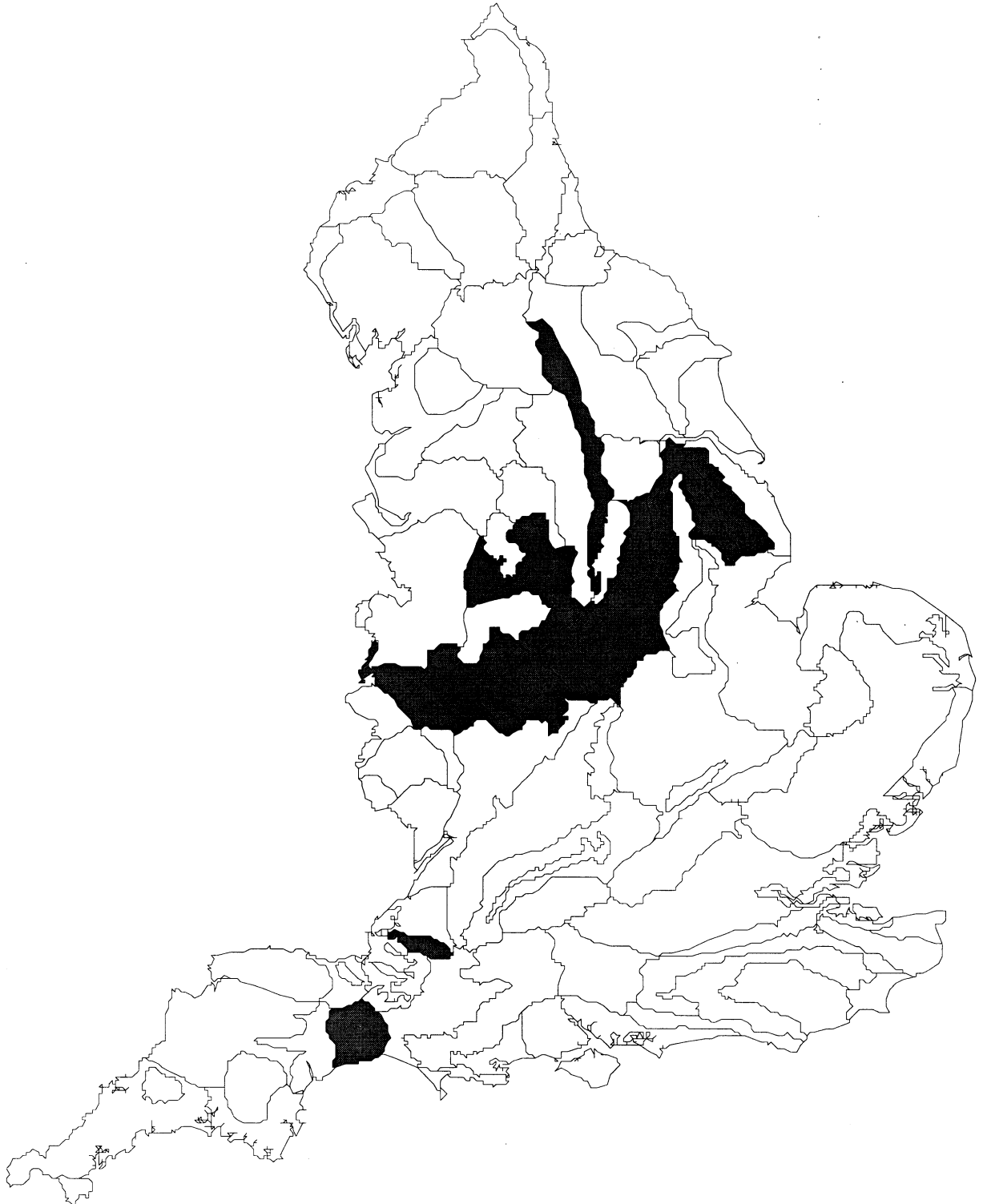
### Issues Related to Lack of Knowledge

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>
Resource	32	8	5
Species	17	3	4
General	13	1	4
Management	5	2	1
Coastal processes	0	0	6
Pollution	1	1	1

**NATURAL AREAS WHERE FOSSIL  
COLLECTING IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**

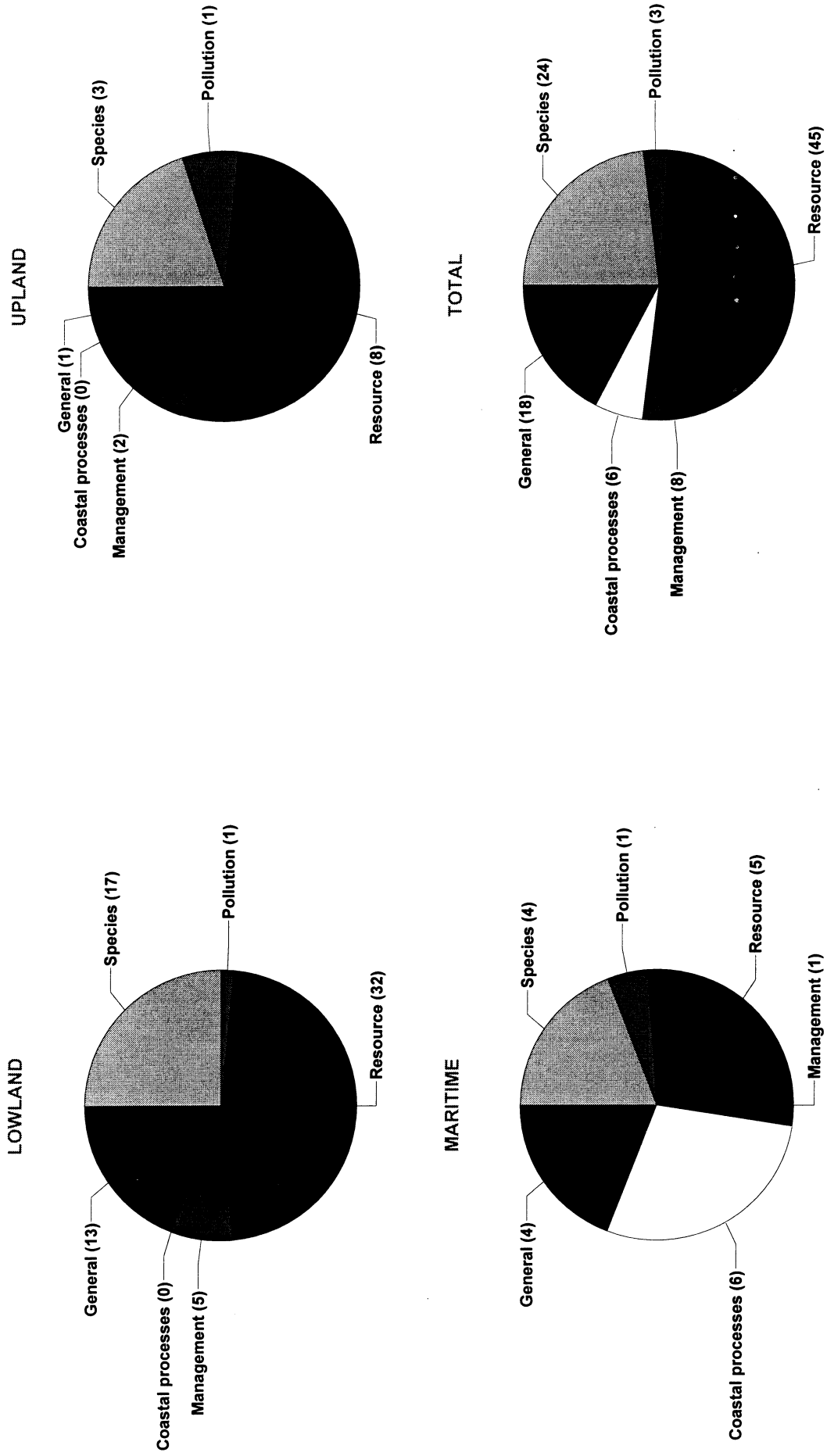


**NATURAL AREAS WHERE SITE  
SIZE IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING KEY  
NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**



# ISSUES RELATED TO KNOWLEDGE

## Number of Natural Areas Affected



**NATURAL AREAS WHERE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF  
HABITAT MANAGEMENT IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**



## Management Issues

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Grazing	63	18	16	97
Succession	67	13	15	95
Woodland	64	17	4	85
Earth Science	60	12	12	84
Aquatic and Wetlands	45	11	10	66
Grassland & Heathland	44	13	7	64
Restoration	40	7	6	53
Species Man	31	9	2	42
Practicalities	25	7	4	36
Man of Adjacent Land	21	4	3	28
Afforestation	17	5	1	23
Burning Regimes	6	15	2	23
Shoreline	6	0	7	13

## Military issues

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>
Military	11	0	7

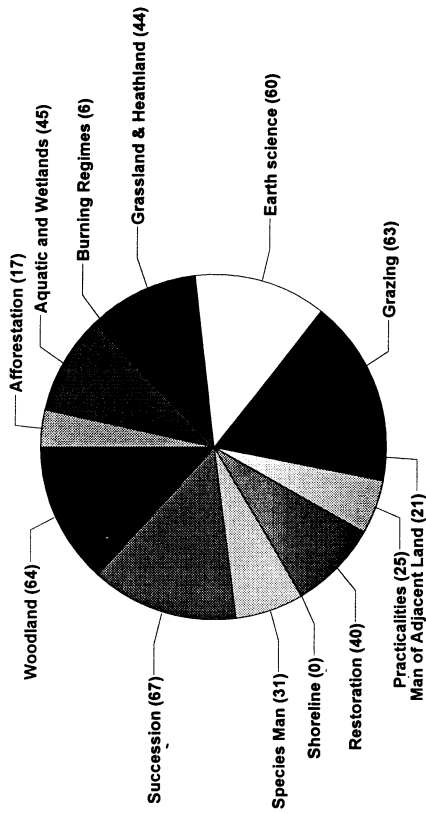
## Issues Related to Minerals Winning

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Aggregates Dredging	25	0	16	41
General	22	8	2	32
Quarrying	7	4	2	13
Peat Extraction	7	2	0	9
Minerals Collecting	3	5	1	9
Coal mining	6	0	2	8
Potential operations	0	1	1	2
Limestone Pavement	0	2	0	2

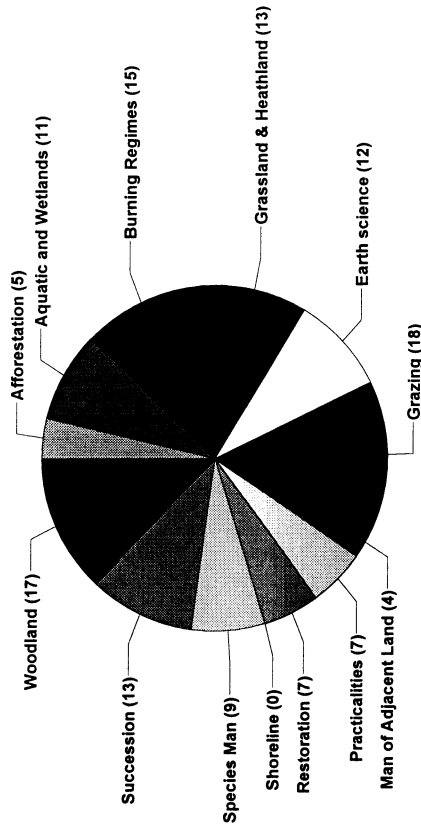
# MANAGEMENT ISSUES

## Number of Natural Areas Affected

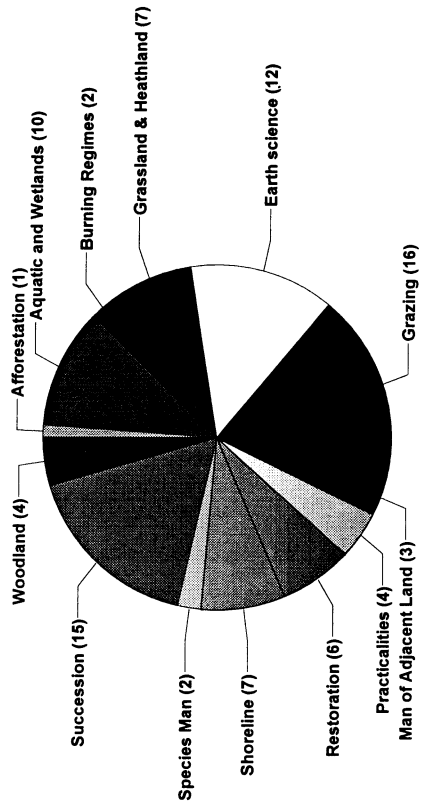
LOWLAND



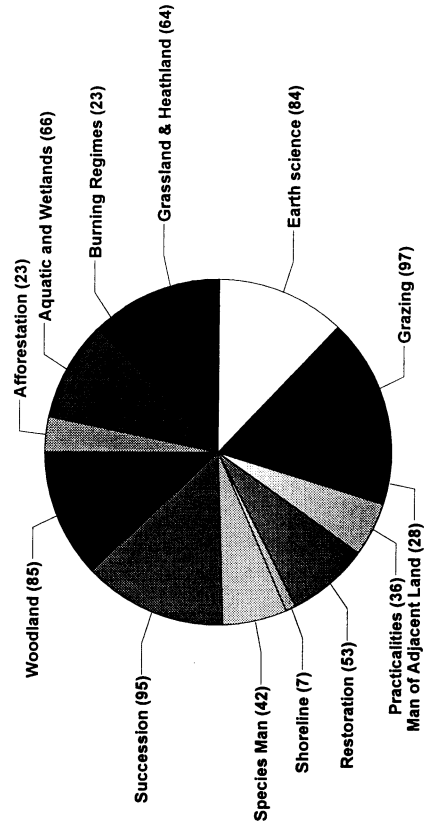
UPLAND



MARITIME



TOTAL



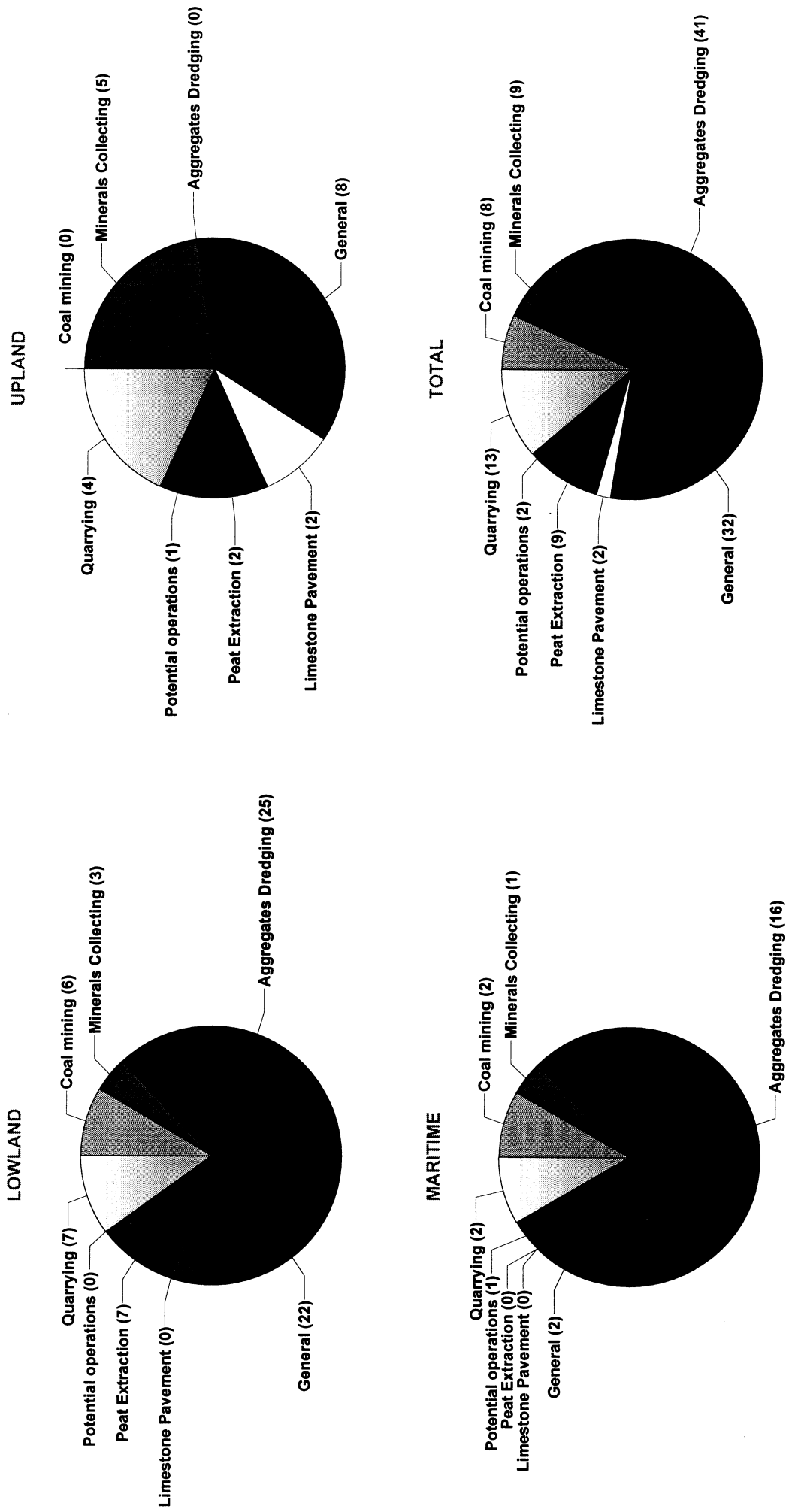
**NATURAL AREAS WHERE BURNING AS A HABITAT  
MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUE IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**



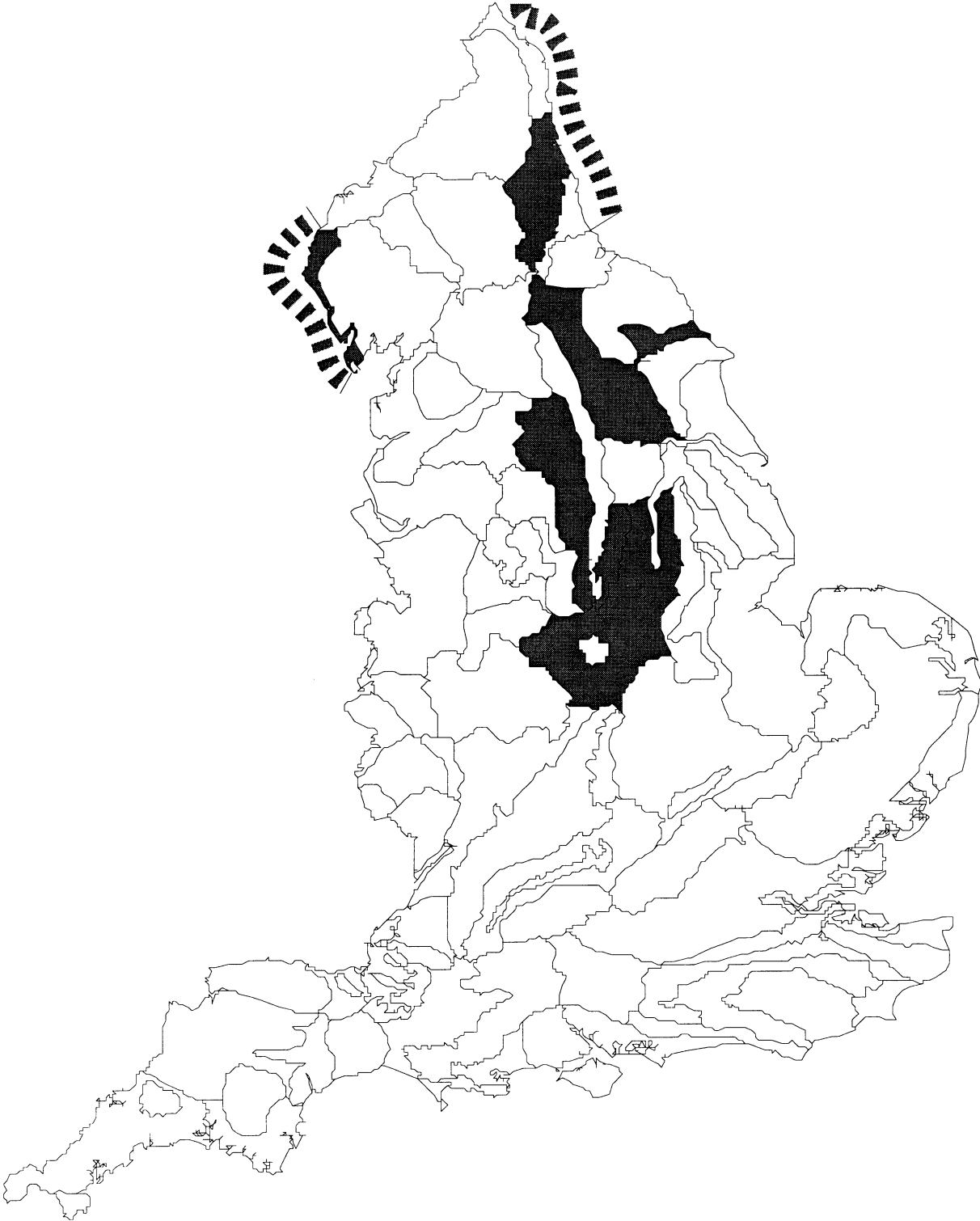


# MINERALS WINNING ISSUES

## Number of Natural Areas Affected



**NATURAL AREAS WHERE COAL MINING  
COLLECTING IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**



### Issues Related to Natural Processes

<b>Sub-keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Erosion	25	2	23	50
Disease	4	2	0	6
Weathering	1	1	0	2

### Policy Issues

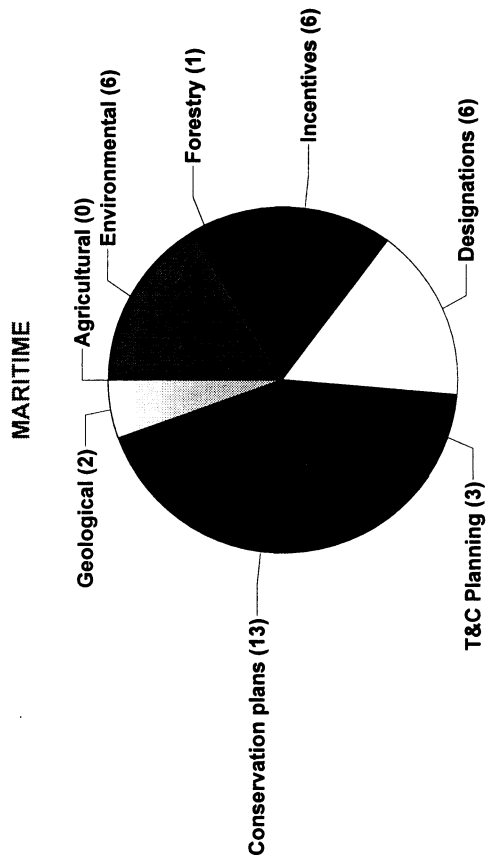
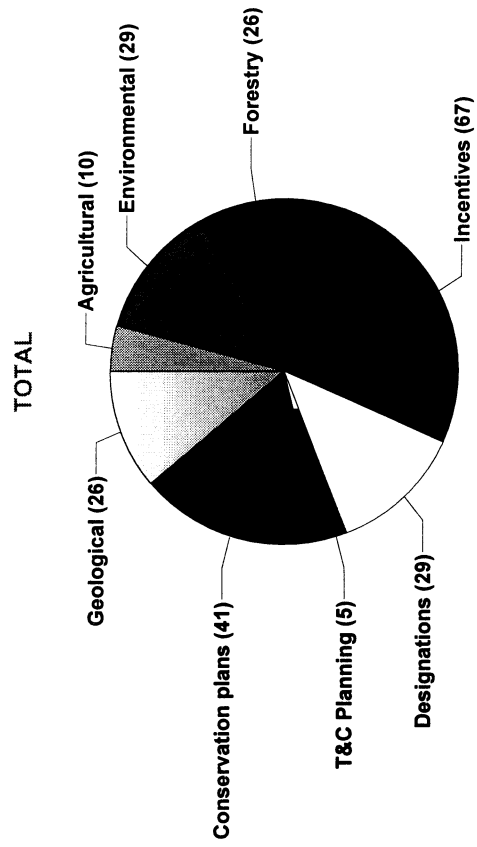
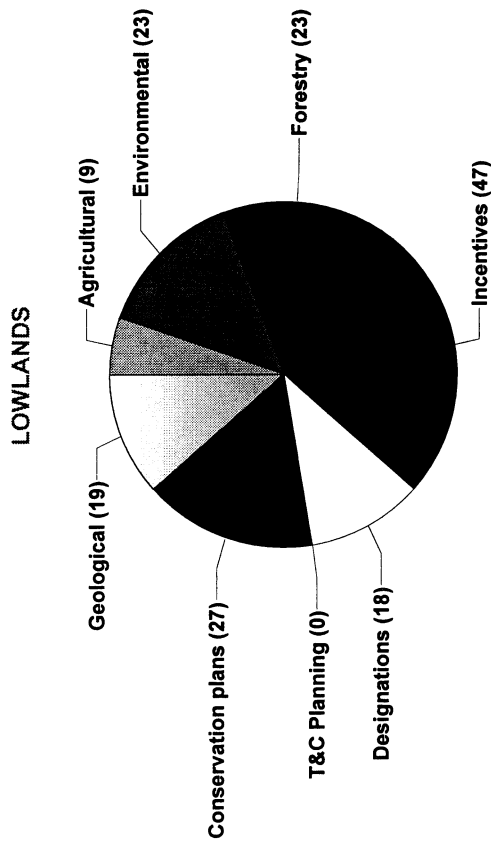
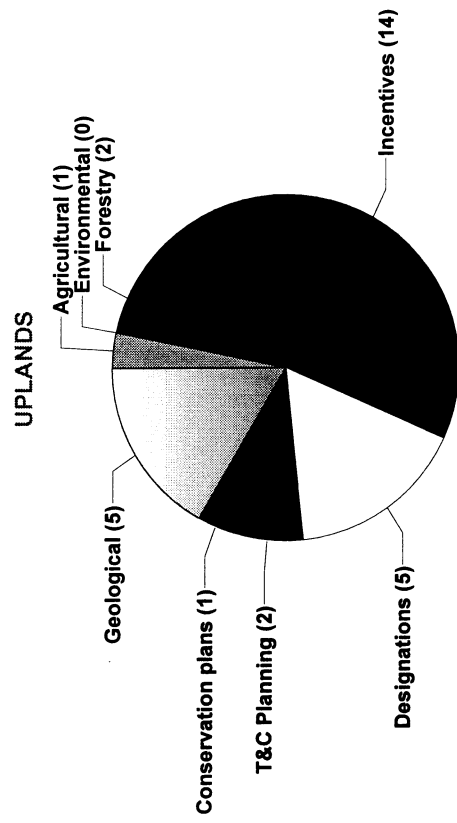
<b>Sub-keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Incentives	47	14	6	67
Conservation plans	30	1	13	44
Designations	18	5	6	29
Environmental	23	0	6	29
Geological	19	5	2	26
Forestry	23	2	1	26
Agricultural	9	1	0	10
T&C Planning	0	2	3	5

### Pollution Issues

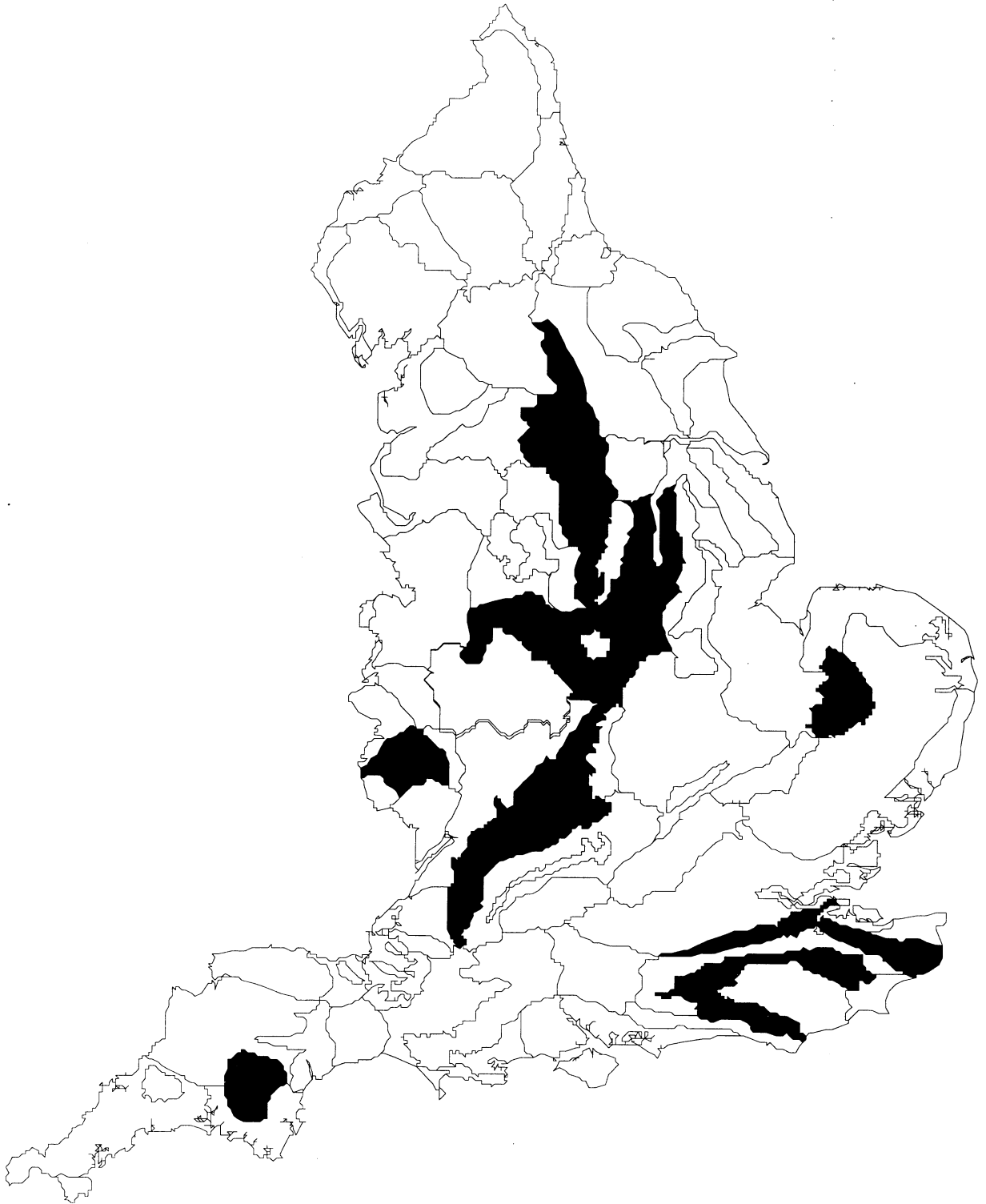
<b>Sub-keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Water Quality	62	13	20	95
Agricultural	27	12	4	43
Phosphates and Sewage	12	2	14	28
Waste Disposal	0	6	18	24
Air Quality	9	1	1	11
Acidification	3	7	0	10
Atmospheric Nitrogen	4	3	0	7
Heavy Metals	2	0	4	6

# POLICY ISSUES

## Number of Natural Areas Affected

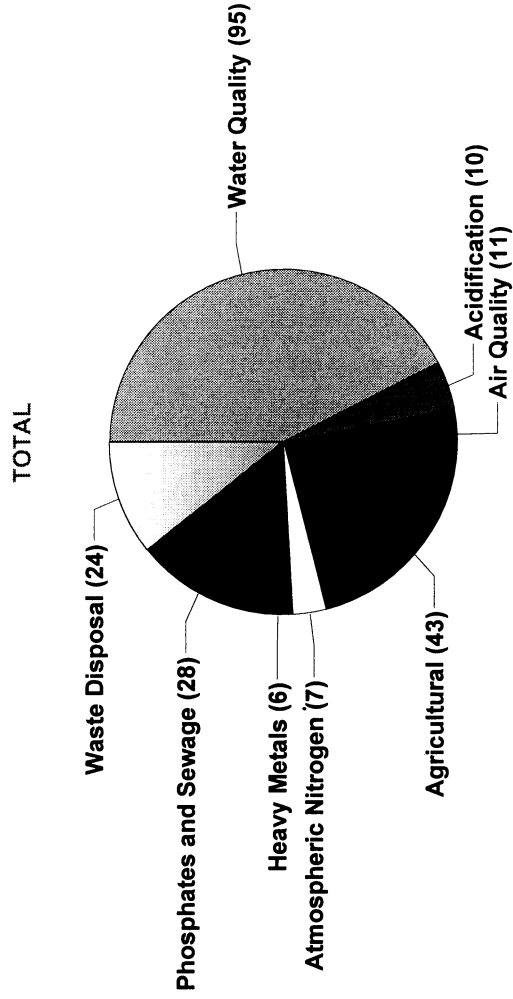
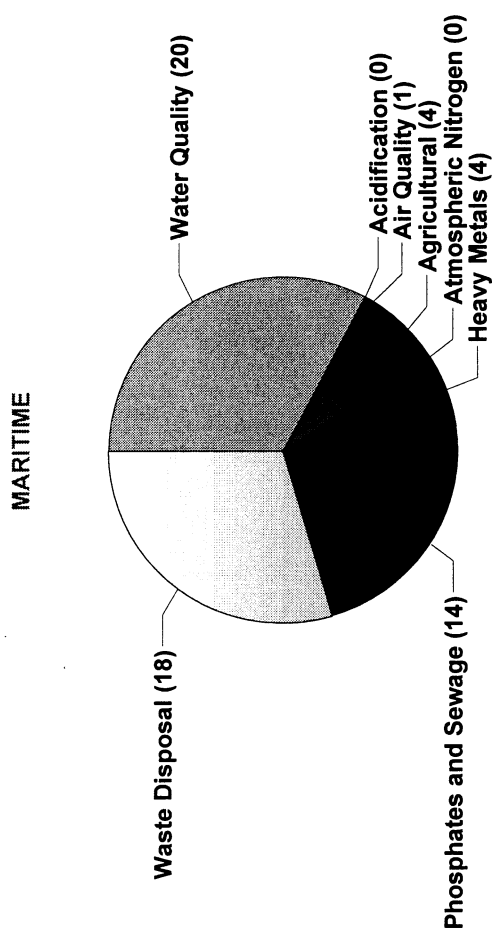
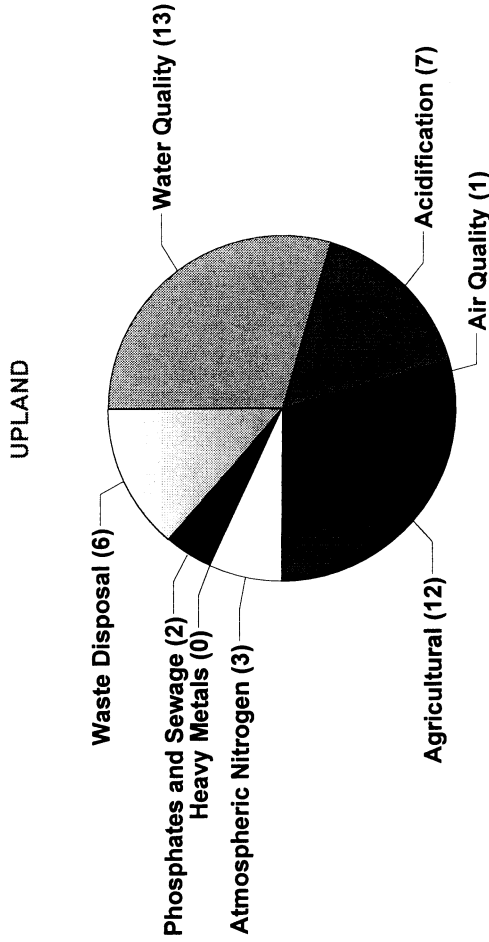
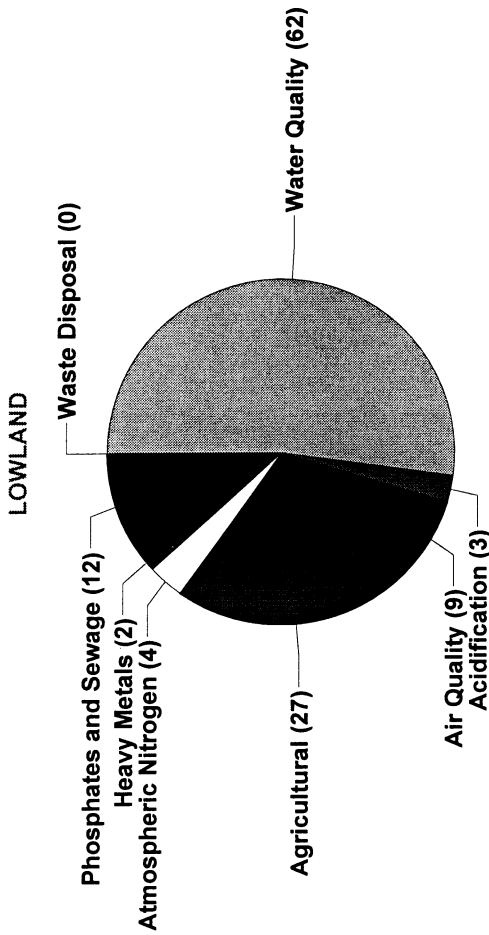


**NATURAL AREAS WHERE AGRICULTURAL  
POLICY IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**



# POLLUTION ISSUES

## Number of Natural Areas Affected



## Water Quantity Issues

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Low flows	50	12	8	70
Drainage	33	15	5	53
Water Level Man	25	7	8	40
General	16	0	0	16
Flood issues	10	3	0	13

## Recreation Issues

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
General	56	13	21	90
Angling	39	5	18	62
Informal	31	11	15	57
Watersports	22	2	12	36
Shooting / Hunting	15	5	14	34
Tourism	10	1	8	19
Species impacts	9	1	8	18
Vehicles	6	4	7	17
Abuse	11	2	2	15
Golf	10	0	4	14
Horsiculture	10	2	2	14

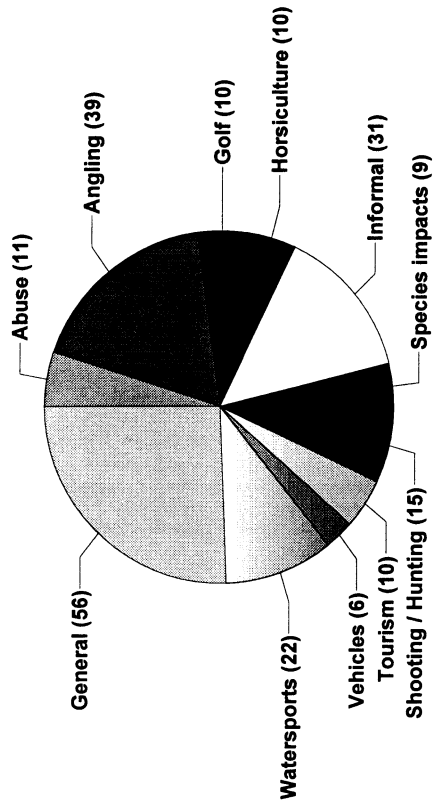
## Issues Related to Habitat Re-creation

<b>Sub- keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Grassland	15	0	0	15
Wetland	8	3	3	14
Heathland	9	0	2	11
General	11	0	0	11
Woodland	6	1	0	7

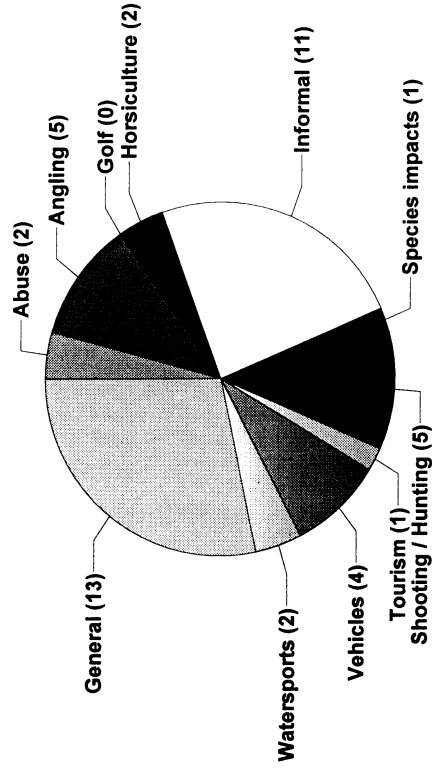
# RECREATION ISSUES

## Number of Natural Areas Affected

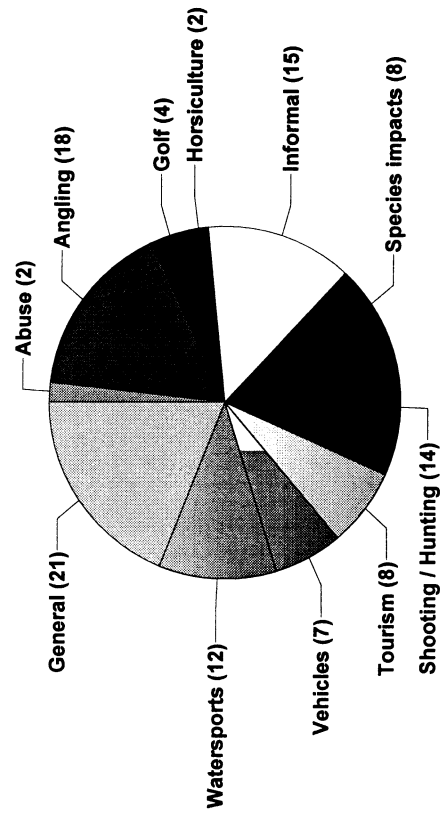
LOWLANDS



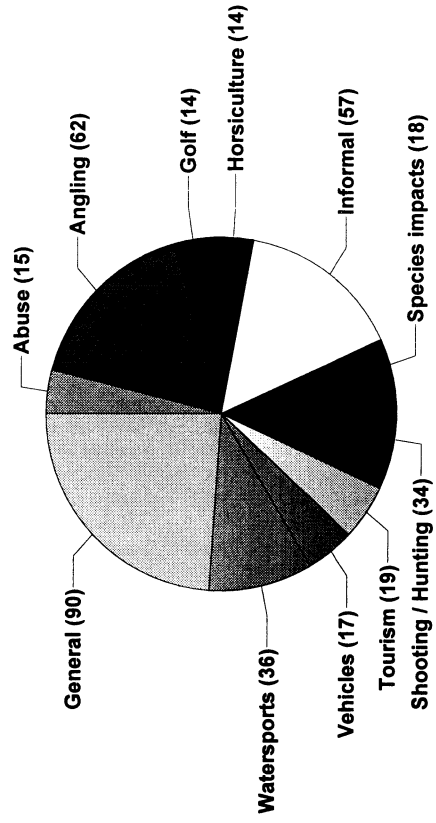
UPLANDS



MARITIME

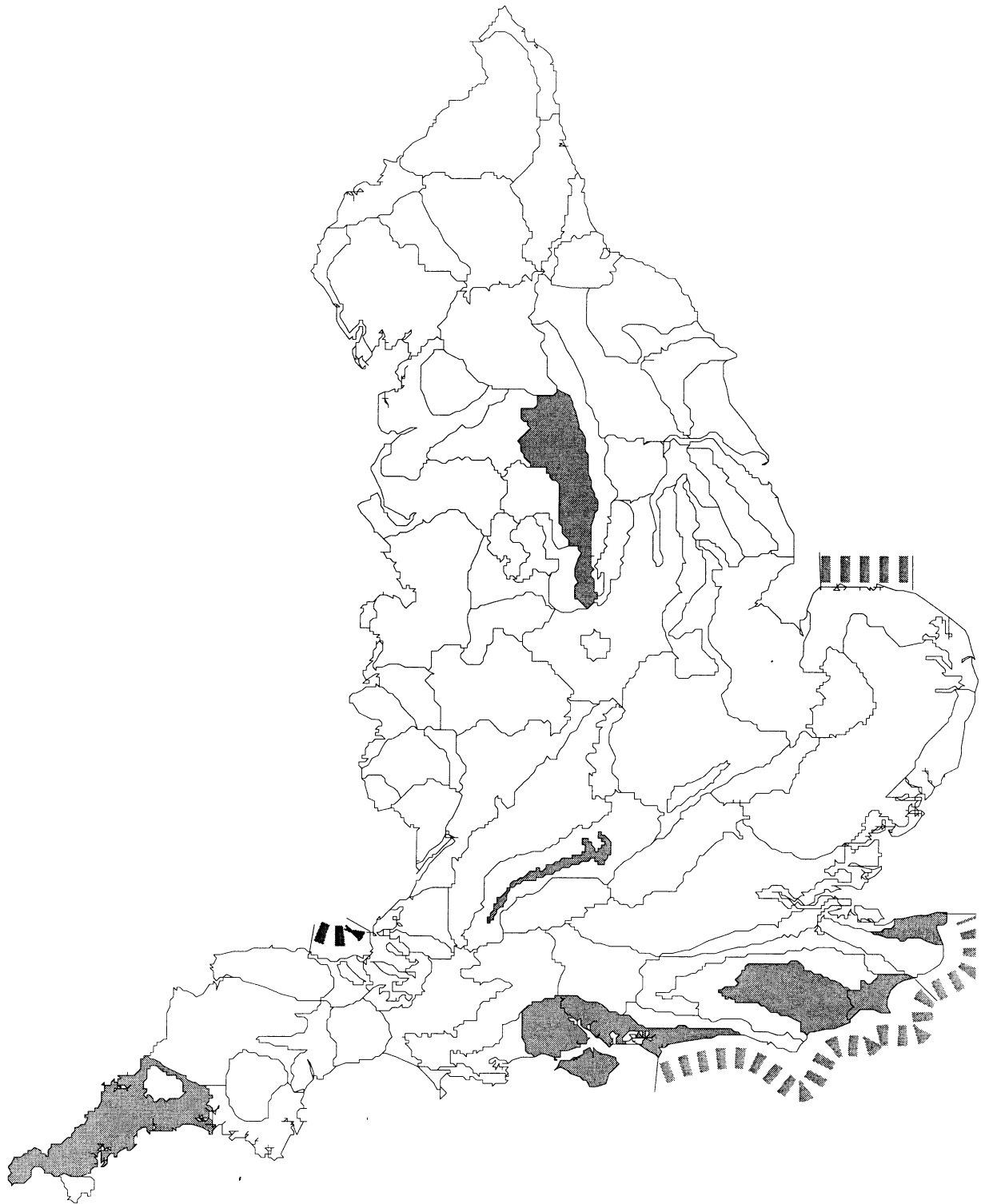


TOTAL





**NATURAL AREAS WHERE GOLF IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**



## Species Issues

<b>Sub-keyworded Issue</b>	<b>No. Lowland NAs Affected (*/72)</b>	<b>No. Upland NAs Affected (*/18)</b>	<b>No. Maritime NAs Affected (*/24)</b>	<b>Total No. NAs Affected (*/114)</b>
Invasive	41	15	9	65
Bird	9	8	6	23
Predator Control	9	5	2	16
Mammals	8	0	2	10
General	6	1	2	9
Reintroduction	4	2	2	8
Botanical	3	1	4	8
Invertebrates	1	0	1	2
Amphibian	1	0	0	1



### **3. ANALYSIS OF ISSUES BY KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURE**

A “Key Nature Conservation Feature” is a habitat or earth science resource that is thought to be of significant importance within its Natural Area.

The key features of all 114 Natural Areas and the issues affecting them are in place within the spreadsheet. This data set can be manipulated to study:

- the issues that affect a particular key feature or type of key feature
- the key features that are affected by a particular issue or issue type.

As mentioned in the Introduction to this report, the key nature conservation features were collected as free text to maintain the identity of each particular feature within its Natural Area. Thus woodland has been recorded under many terms, including: wold-edge woods, clough woodlands, Chiltern beech woods and calcareous clay woods. As with the issues it would be necessary to keyword the key nature conservation features to enable a full analysis at this stage. This has not been done. However, each key feature is defined rigorously within the core profiles at several levels: Phase 1 survey classification; NVC type; listings of significant species; and listings of character species. In due course the Core Profiles will form the basis of a Natural Areas information system within ENSIS. When fully functional it will then be possible to sort by Phase 1 habitat type, NVC type and species among others.

#### **Example Analyses**

This section consists of several example analyses, including:

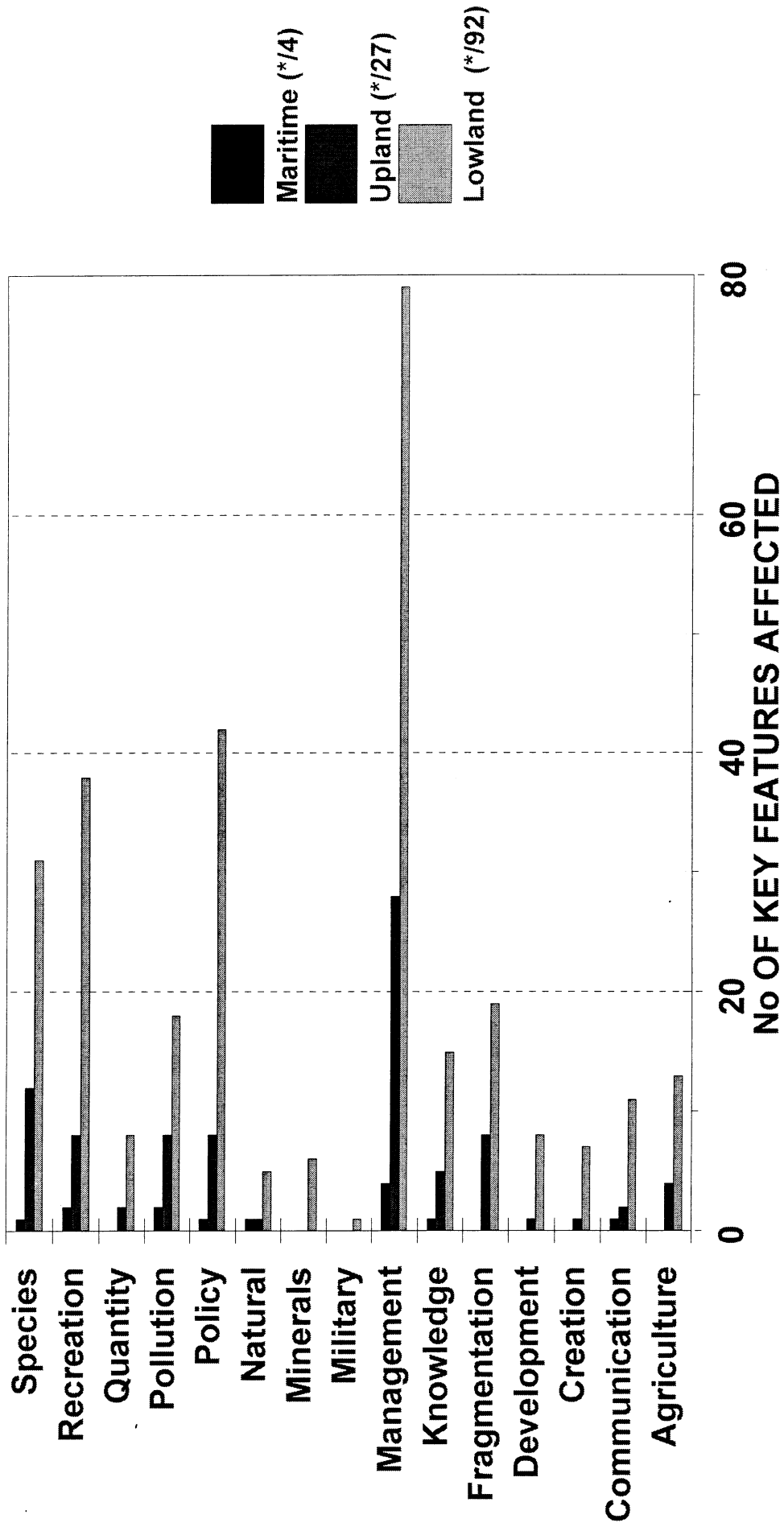
- The issues affecting types of key nature conservation feature:
  - Woodlands and forestry
  - Rivers, streams and canals
  - Sea cliffs
- The key nature conservation features and Natural Areas affected by:
  - Agricultural pollution issues

## ANALYSIS OF ISSUES AFFECTING WOODLANDS, PARKLANDS AND FORESTRY KEY FEATURES

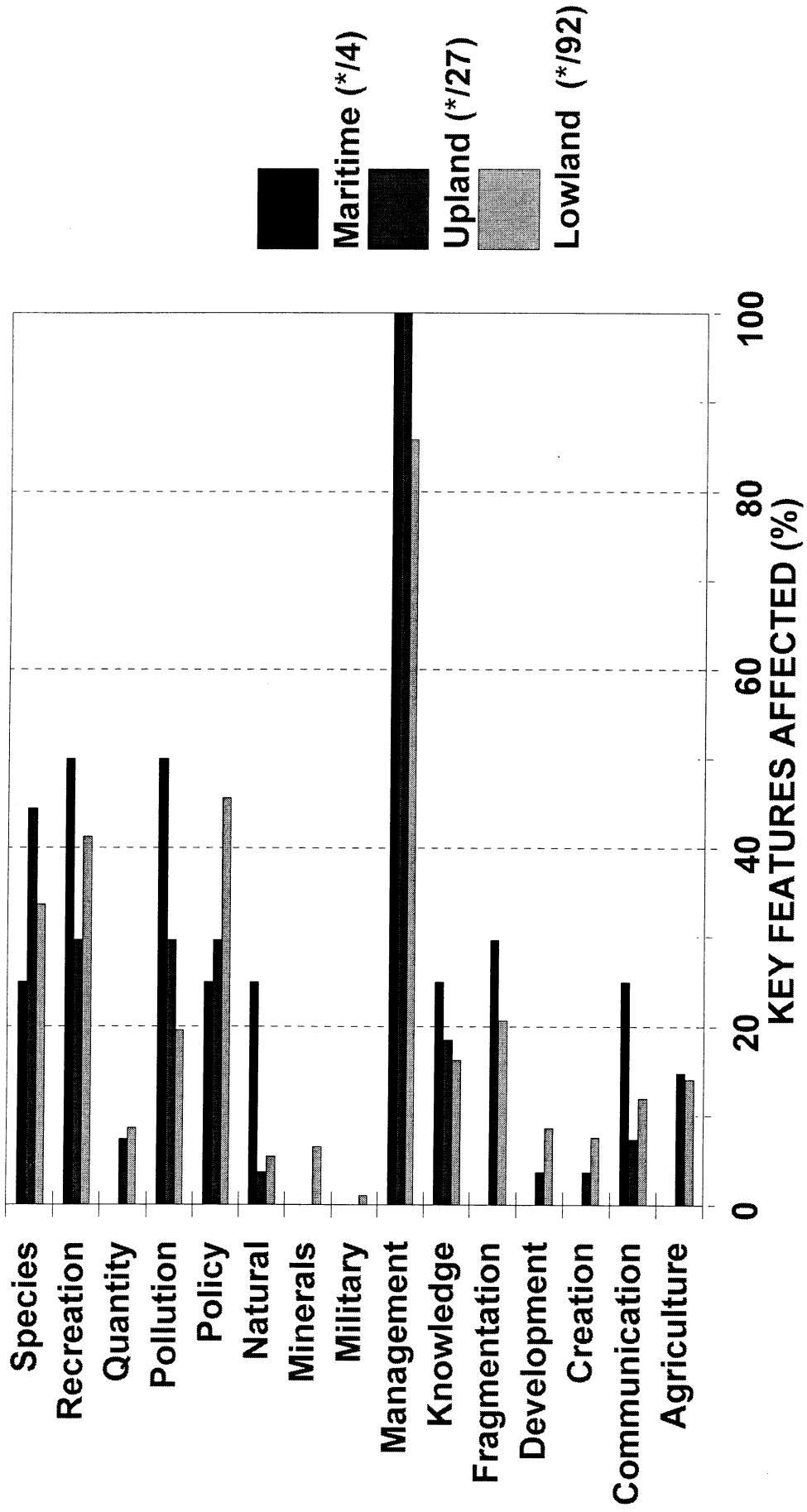
There are 123 woodlands, parklands and forestry key nature conservation features listed in the Core Profiles (92 in the lowlands, 27 in the uplands and 4 in the maritime sphere). 85 of the 114 Natural Areas contains at least one key nature conservation feature that fits into this category. In total, 759 different issues were listed to affect woodlands, parklands and forestry key features.

Issue Keyword	Lowland Key Features Affected		Upland Key Features Affected		Maritime Key Features Affected		Total Key Features Affected	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Management	79	86	27	100	4	100	111	90
Policy	42	46	8	30	1	25	51	41
Recreation	38	41	8	30	2	50	48	39
Species	31	34	12	44	1	25	44	36
Pollution	18	20	8	30	2	50	28	23
Fragmentation	19	21	8	30	0	0	27	22
Knowledge	15	16	5	19	1	25	21	17
Agriculture	13	14	4	15	0	0	17	14
Communication	11	12	2	7	1	25	14	11
Quantity	8	9	2	7	0	0	10	8
Development	8	9	1	4	0	0	9	7
Creation	7	8	1	4	0	0	8	7
Natural	5	5	1	4	1	25	7	6
Minerals	6	7	0	0	0	0	6	5
Military	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1

# ISSUE TYPES AFFECTING WOODLANDS AND FORESTRY KEY FEATURES



# ISSUE TYPES AFFECTING WOODLANDS, AND FORESTRY KEY FEATURES



### Study of the Woodland Key Features Affected by Recreation Issues

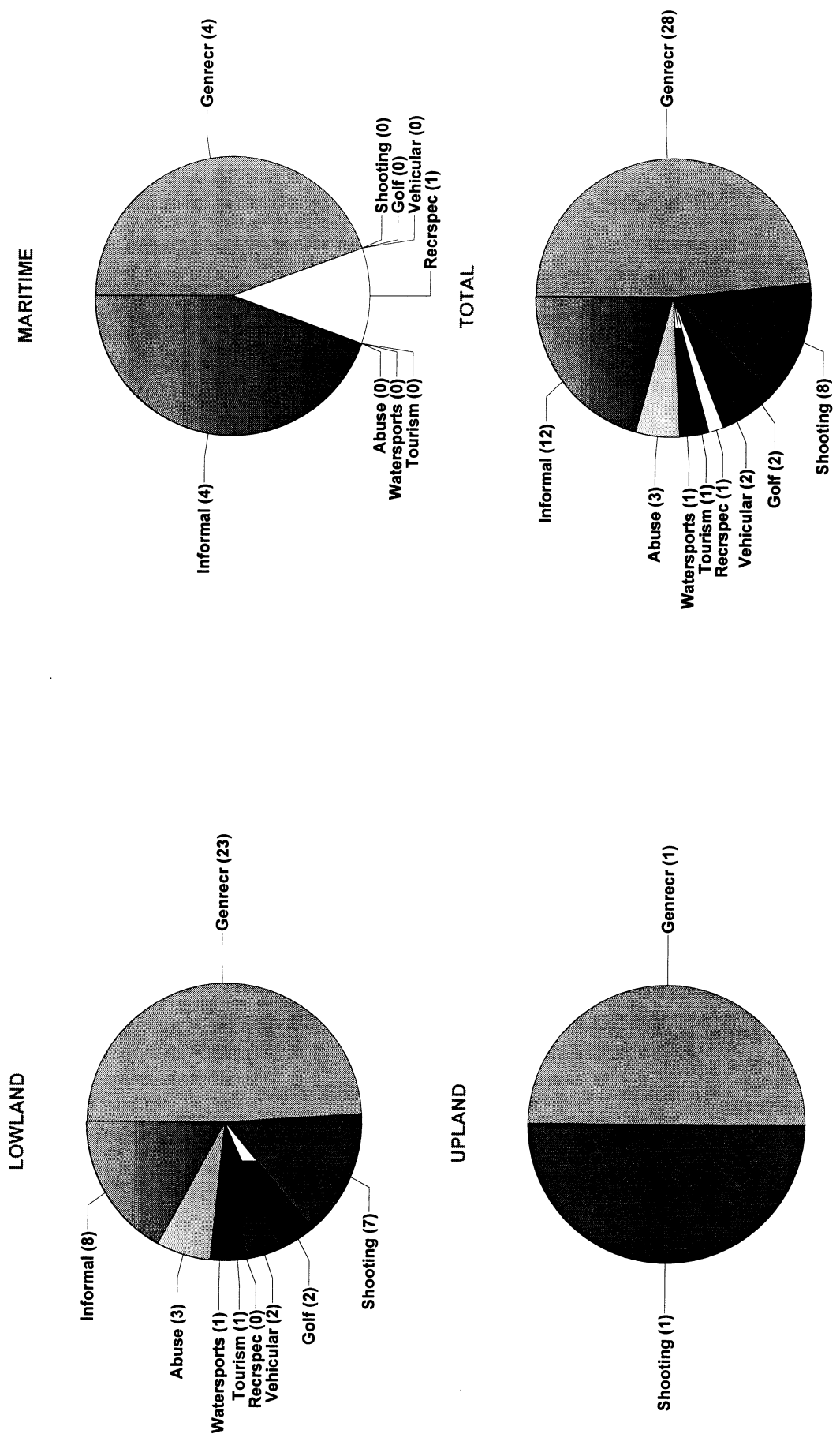
Issue Keyword	Lowland	Key	Upland	Key	Maritime	Key	Total	Key
	Features	Affected	Features	Affected	Features	Affected	Features	Affected
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Genrecre	23	25	4	15	1	25	28	23
Informal	8	9	4	15	0	0	12	10
Shooting	7	8	0	0	1	25	8	7
Abuse	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	2
Golf	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2
Vehicular	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2
Watersports	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Recrspec	0	0	1	4	0	0	1	1
Tourism	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1

### Study of the Woodland Key Features Affected by Policy Issues

Issue Keyword	Lowland	Key	Upland	Key	Maritime	Key	Total	Key
	Features	Affected	Features	Affected	Features	Affected	Features	Affected
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Incentives	34	37	6	22	1	25	41	33
Forestry	20	22	1	4	1	25	22	18
Environmental	5	5	0	0	0	0	5	4
Consplans	2	2	1	4	0	0	3	2
Planning	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2
Designations	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2
Agricultural	0	0	1	4	0	0	1	1

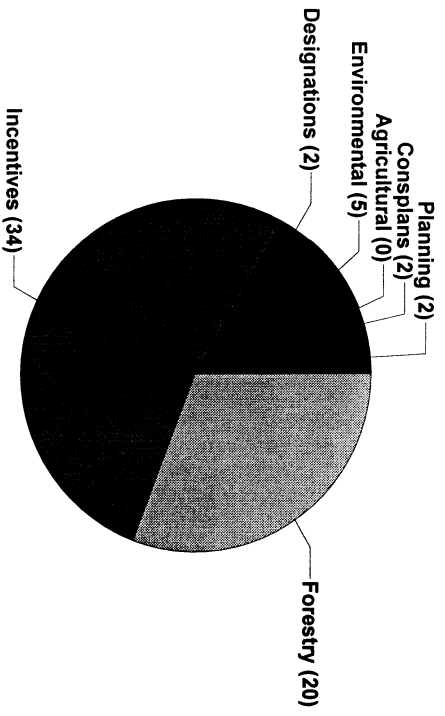


# NUMBER OF WOODLAND KEY FEATURES AFFECTED BY RECREATION ISSUES

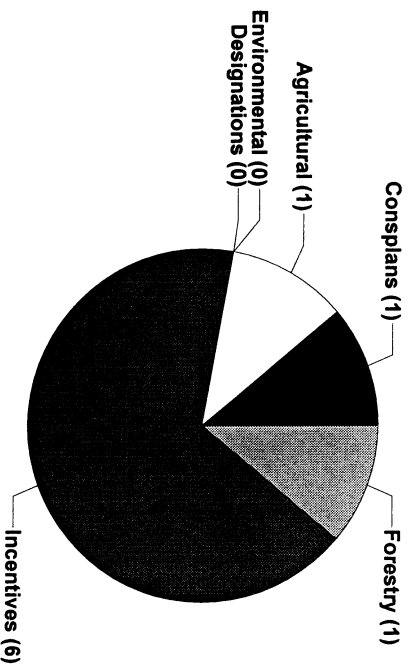


# NUMBER OF WOODLAND KEY FEATURES AFFECTED BY POLICY ISSUES

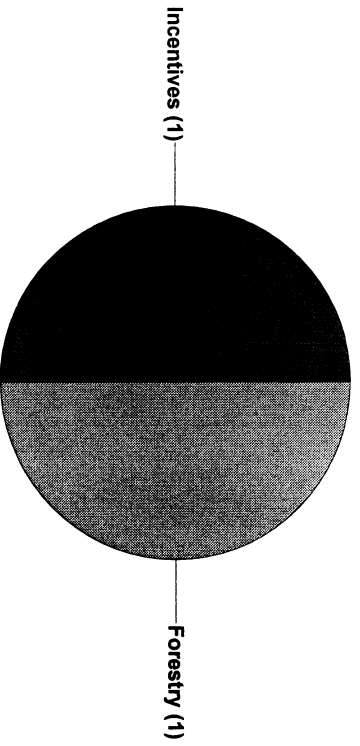
LOWLAND



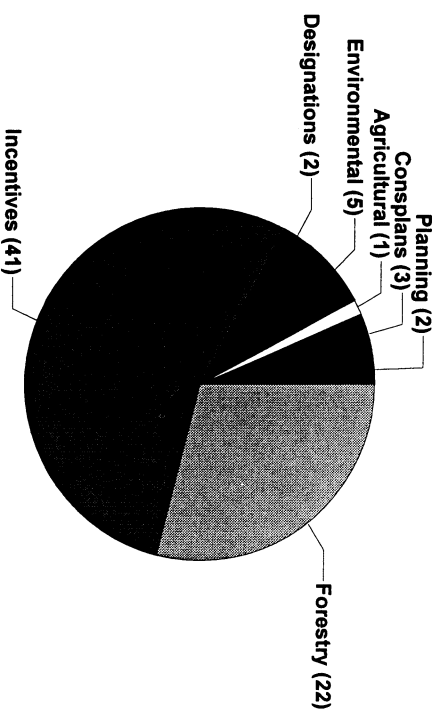
UPLAND



MARITIME



TOTAL

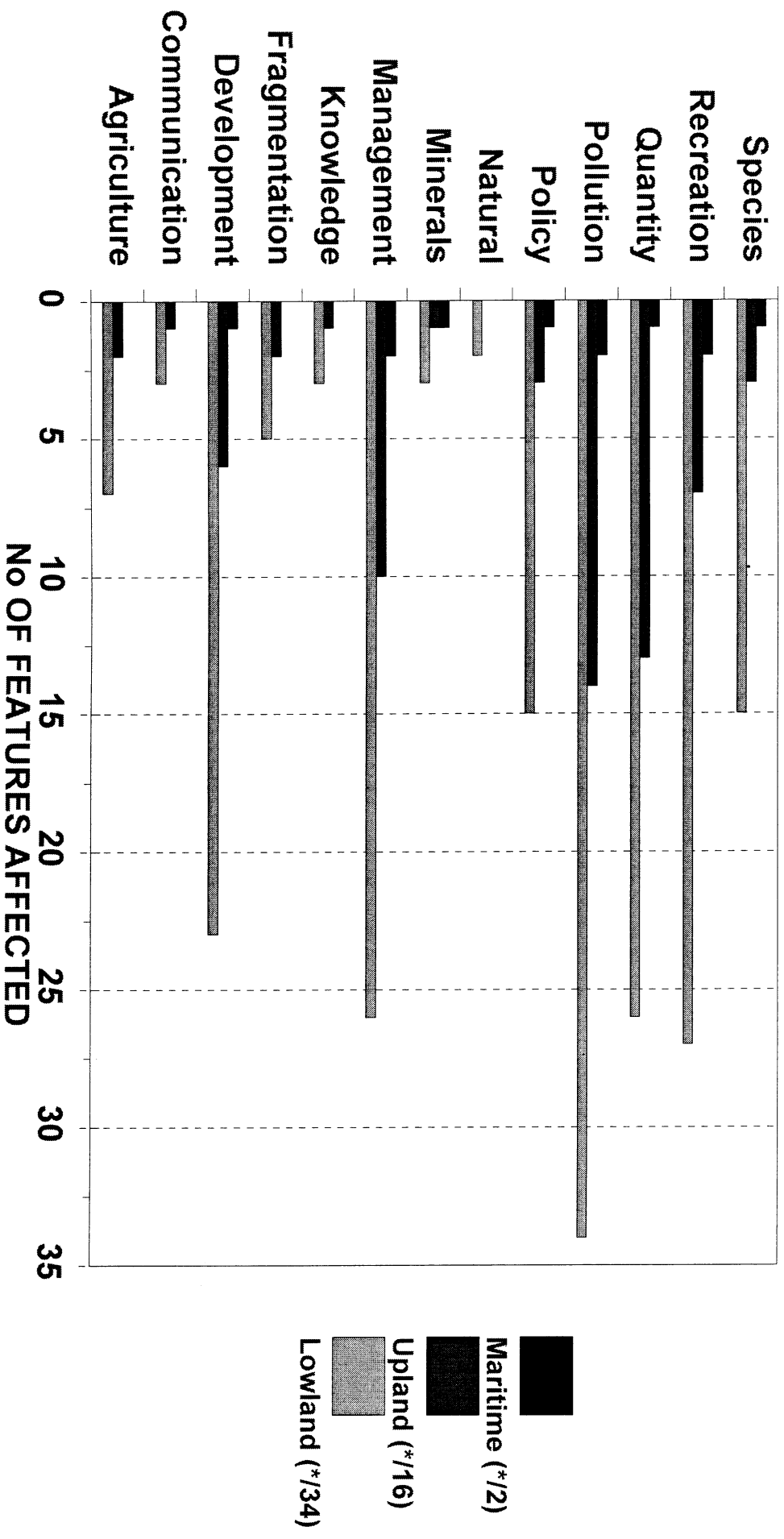


## ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUES AFFECTING RIVER, STREAM AND CANAL KEY FEATURES

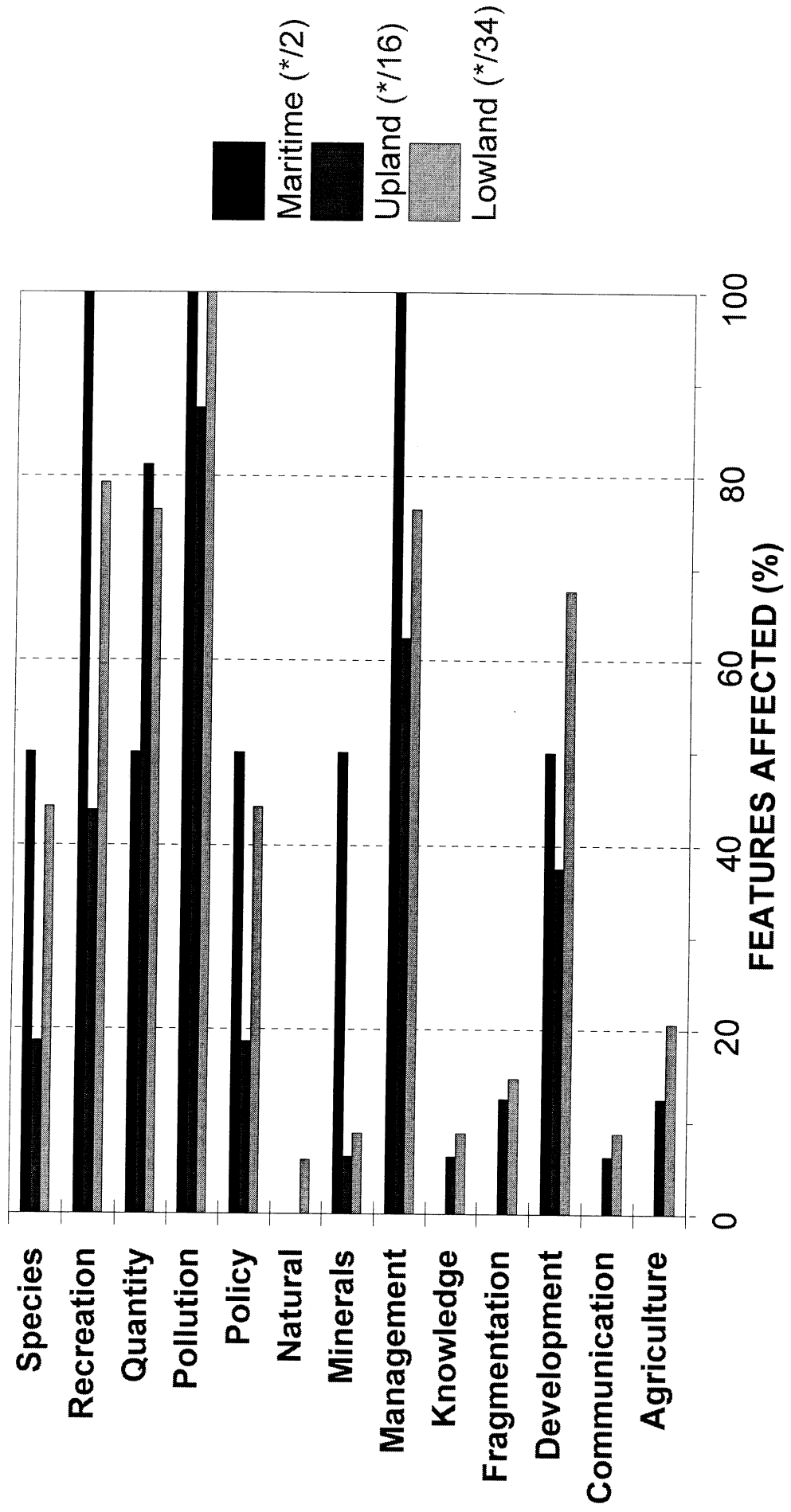
There are 52 river, stream and canal key nature conservation features listed in the Core Profiles (34 in the lowlands, 16 in the uplands and 2 in the maritime sphere). 44 of the 114 Natural Areas contains at least one key nature conservation feature that fits into this category. In total, 439 different issues are thought to affect to affect river, stream and canal key nature conservation features.

Issue Keyword	Lowland Key Features Affected		Upland Key Features Affected		Maritime Key Features Affected		Total Key Features Affected	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Pollution	34	100	14	88	2	100	50	96
Quantity	26	76	13	81	1	50	40	77
Management	26	76	10	63	2	100	38	73
Recreation	27	79	7	44	2	100	36	69
Development	23	68	6	38	1	50	30	58
Species	15	44	3	19	1	50	19	37
Policy	15	44	3	19	1	50	19	37
Agriculture	7	21	2	13	0	0	9	17
Fragmentation	5	15	2	13	0	0	7	13
Minerals	3	9	1	6	1	50	5	10
Knowledge	3	9	1	6	0	0	4	8
Communication	3	9	1	6	0	0	4	8
Natural	2	6	0	0	0	0	2	4

## NUMBER OF RIVER, STREAM AND CANAL KEY FEATURES AFFECTED BY ISSUE TYPES



# RIVER STREAM AND CANAL KEY FEATURES AFFECTED BY ISSUE TYPES



### The River Key Features affected by Pollution Issues

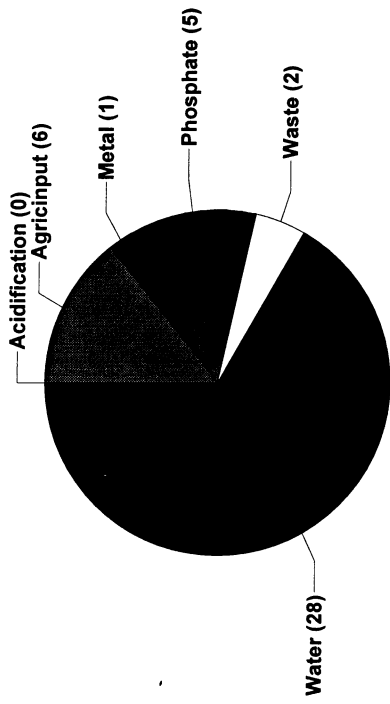
Issue Keyword	Lowland Key Features Affected		Upland Key Features Affected		Maritime Key Features Affected		Total Key Features Affected	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Water	28	82	9	56	2	100	39	75
Agricinput	6	18	4	25	0	0	10	19
Phosphate	5	15	2	13	2	100	9	17
Waste	2	6	3	19	0	0	5	10
Acidification	0	0	4	25	0	0	4	8
Metal	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	2

### The River Key Features affected by Recreation Issues

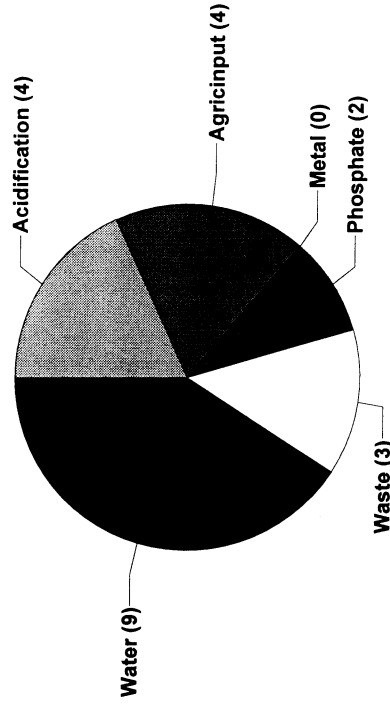
Issue Keyword	Lowland Key Features Affected		Upland Key Features Affected		Maritime Key Features Affected		Total Key Features Affected	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Angling	17	50	4	25	1	50	22	42
Genrecr	9	26	3	19	1	50	13	25
Watersports	7	21	1	6	0	0	8	15
Informal	1	3	2	13	0	0	3	6
Shooting	2	6	0	0	0	0	2	4
Tourism	0	0	0	0	1	50	1	2

# NUMBER OF RIVER, CANAL AND STREAM KEY FEATURES AFFECTED BY POLLUTION ISSUES

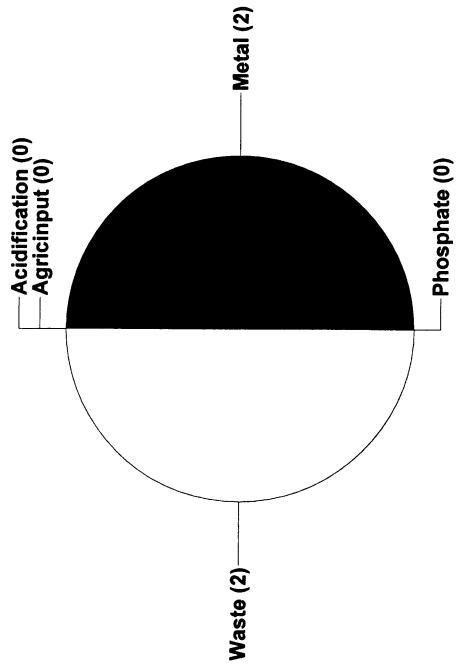
LOWLAND



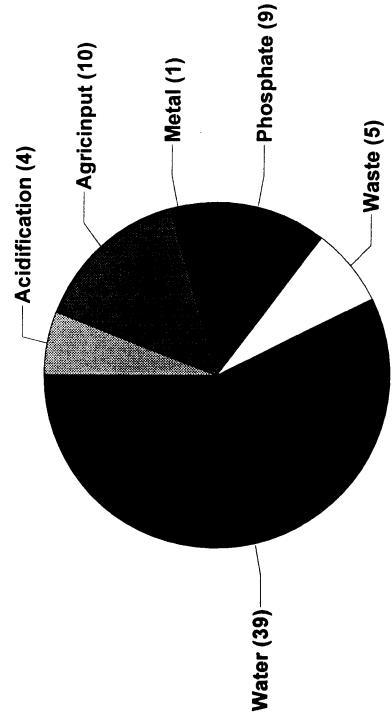
UPLAND



MARITIME

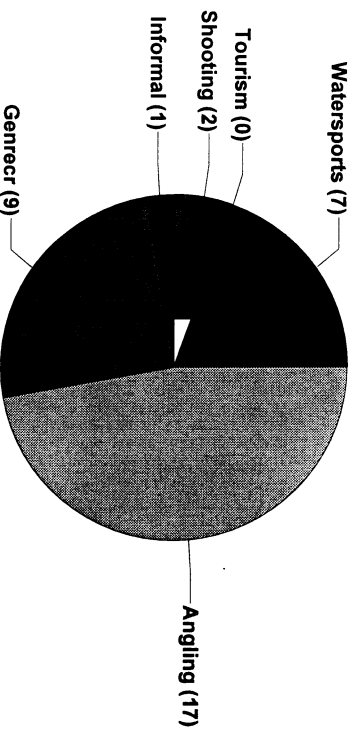


TOTAL

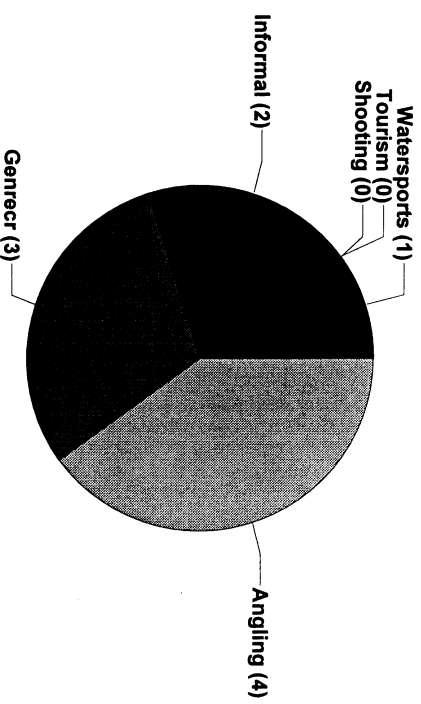


# NUMBER OF RIVER, CANAL AND STREAM KEY FEATURES AFFECTED BY RECREATION ISSUES

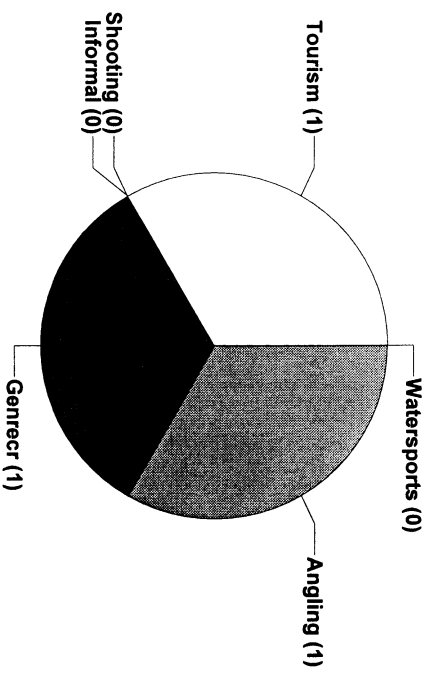
LOWLAND



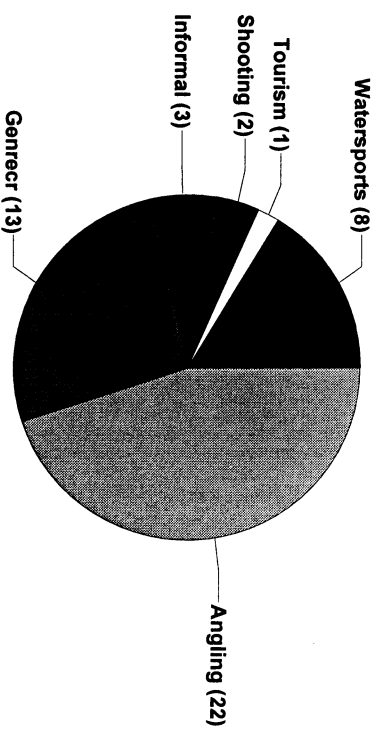
UPLAND



MARITIME



TOTAL



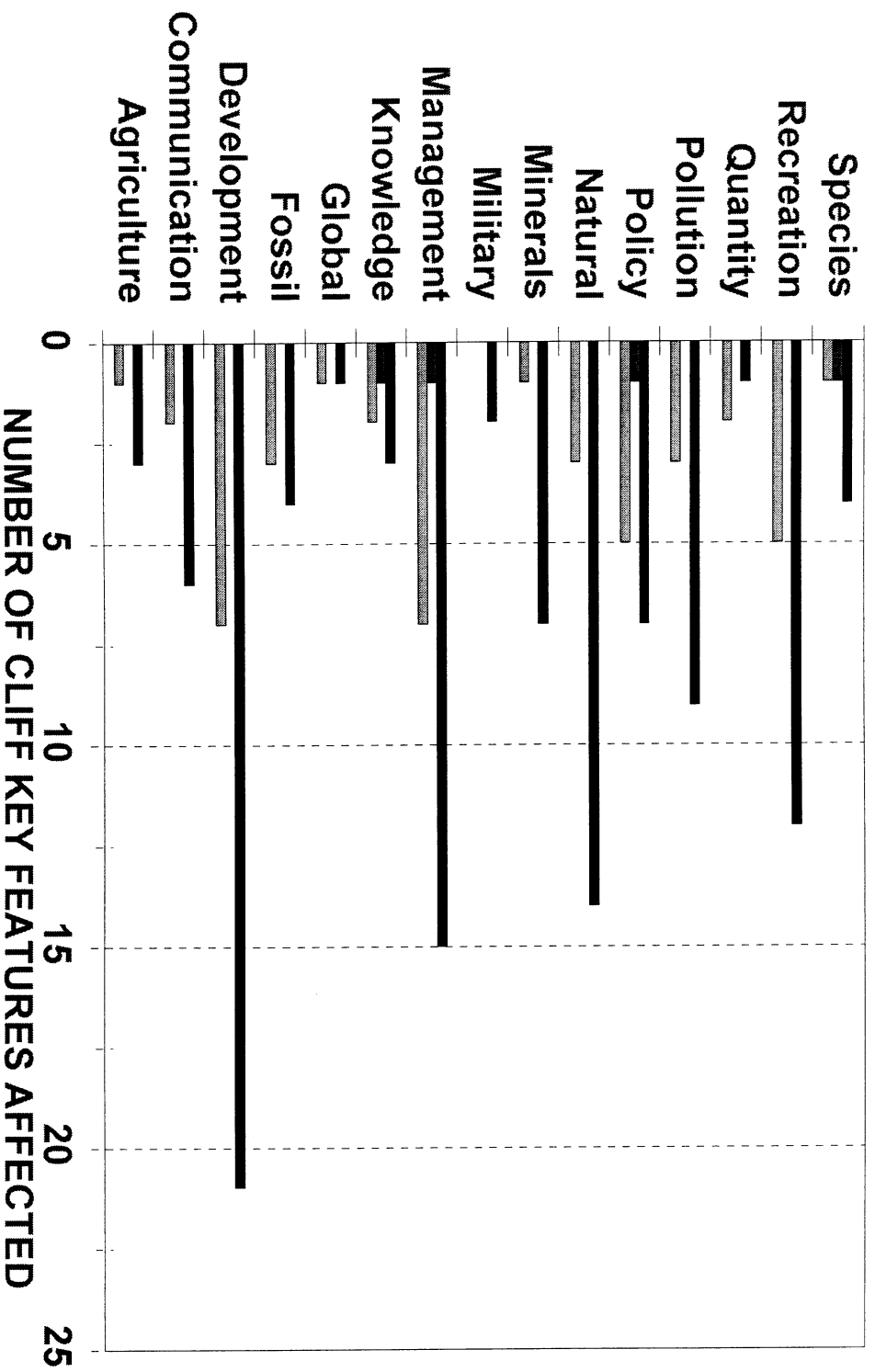


## ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUES AFFECTING CLIFF KEY FEATURES

There are 32 cliff key nature conservation features listed in the Core Profiles (10 in the lowlands, 1 in the uplands and 21 in the maritime sphere). 30 of the 114 Natural Areas contains at least one key nature conservation feature that fits into this category. In total, 231 different issues are thought to affect to affect river, stream and canal key nature conservation features.

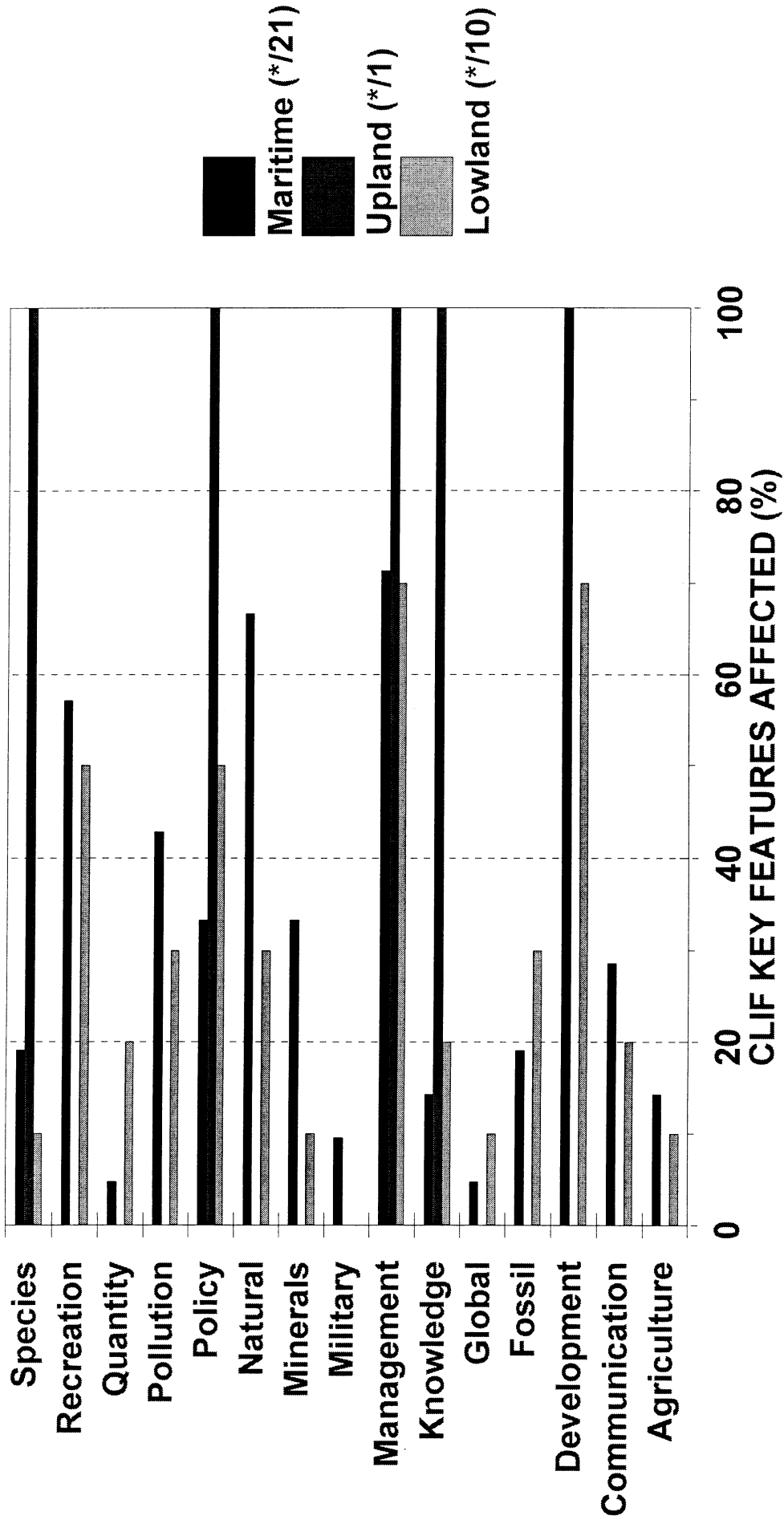
Issue Keyword	Lowland Key Features Affected		Upland Key Features Affected		Maritime Key Features Affected		Total Key Features Affected	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Development	7	70	0	0	21	100	28	88
Management	7	70	1	100	15	71	23	72
Recreation	5	50	0	0	12	57	17	53
Natural	3	30	0	0	14	67	17	53
Policy	5	50	1	100	7	33	13	41
Pollution	3	30	0	0	9	43	12	38
Minerals	1	10	0	0	7	33	8	25
Communication	2	20	0	0	6	29	8	25
Fossil	3	30	0	0	4	19	7	22
Species	1	10	1	100	4	19	6	19
Agriculture	1	10	0	0	3	14	4	13
Knowledge	2	20	1	100	3	14	3	9
Quantity	2	20	0	0	1	5	3	9
Global	1	10	0	0	1	5	2	6
Military	0	0	0	0	2	10	2	6

## ISSUE TYPES RELEVANT TO CLIFF KEY FEATURES



- Maritime (\*1/21)
- Upland (\*1/1)
- Lowland (\*1/10)

# ISSUE TYPES AFFECTING CLIFF KEY FEATURES



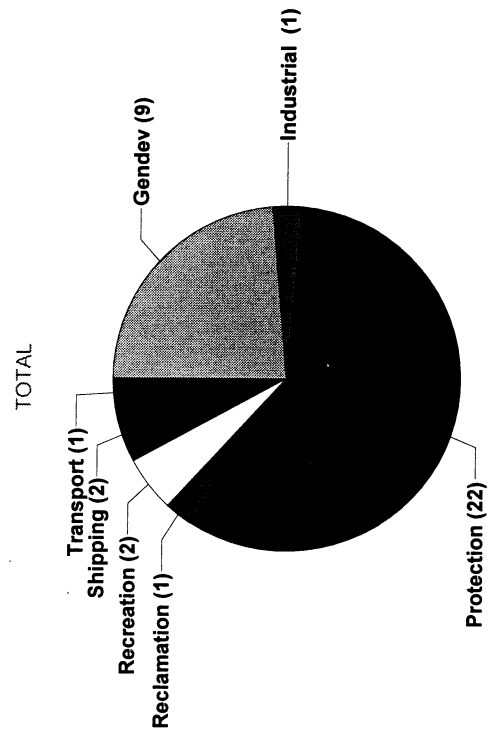
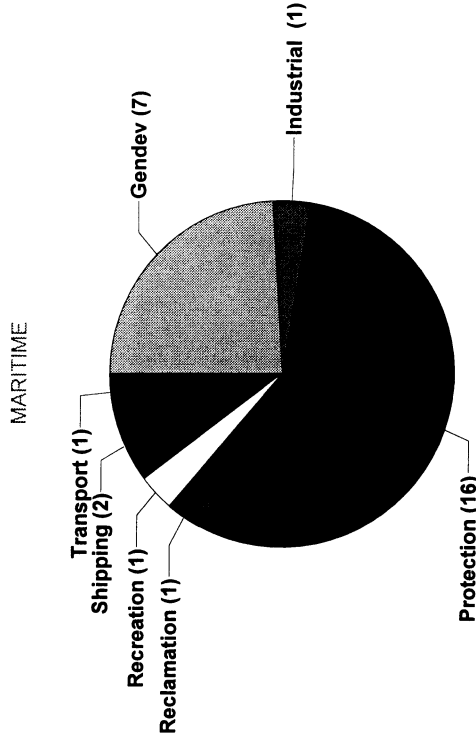
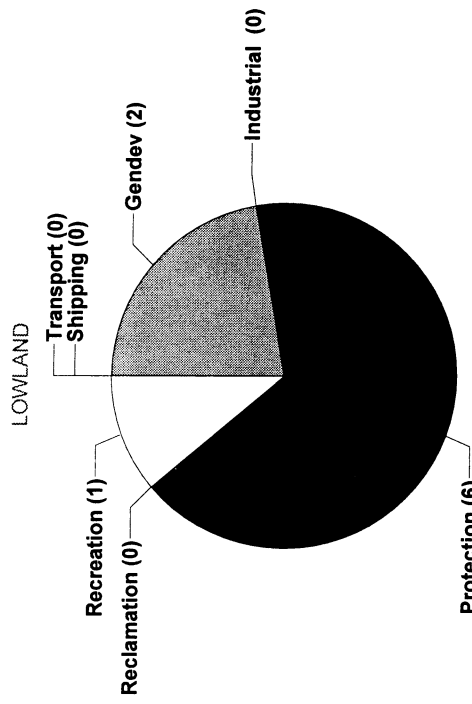
### The Cliff Key Features Affected by Development Issues

Issue Keyword	Lowland Key Features Affected		Upland Key Features Affected		Maritime Key Features Affected		Total Key Features Affected	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Protection	6	60	0	0	16	76	22	69
Gendev	2	20	0	0	7	33	9	28
Recreation	1	10	0	0	1	5	2	6
Shipping	0	0	0	0	2	10	2	6
Industrial	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	3
Transport	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	3
Reclamation	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	3

### The Cliff Key Features Affected by Management Issues

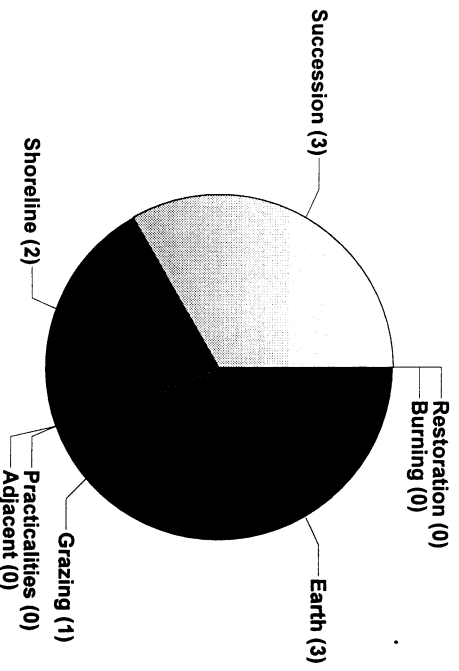
Issue Keyword	Lowland Key Features Affected		Upland Key Features Affected		Maritime Key Features Affected		Total Key Features Affected	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Adjacent	0	0	0	0	2	10	2	6
Burning	0	0	1	100	1	5	2	6
Earth	3	30	0	0	6	29	9	28
Grazing	1	10	1	100	4	19	6	19
Practicalities	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	3
Restoration	0	0	1	100	1	5	2	6
Shoreline	2	20	0	0	1	5	3	9
Succession	3	30	0	0	8	38	11	34

# NUMBER OF CLIFF KEY FEATURES AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

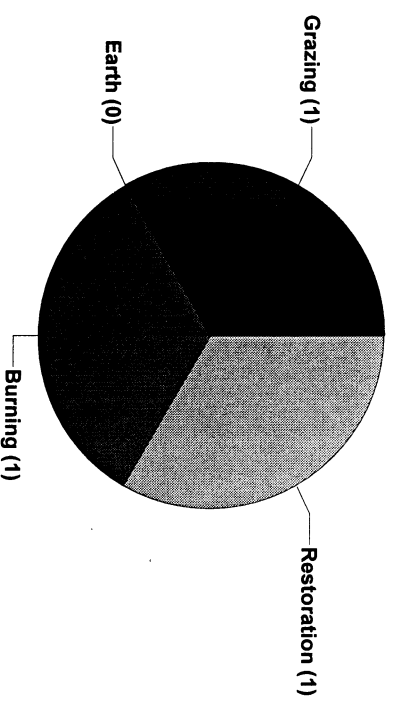


# NUMBER OF CLIFF KEY FEATURES AFFECTED BY MANAGEMENT ISSUES

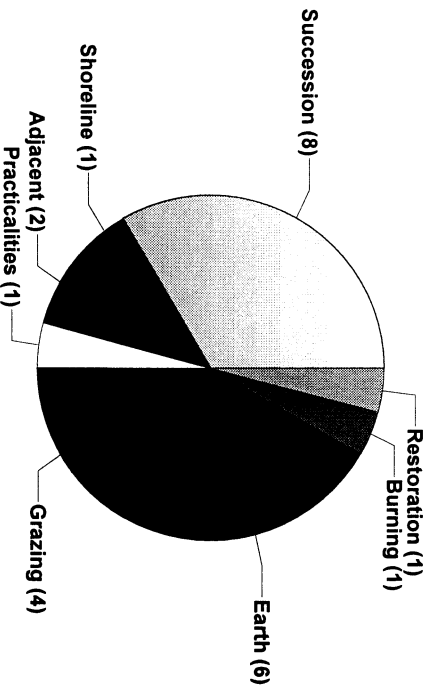
LOWLAND



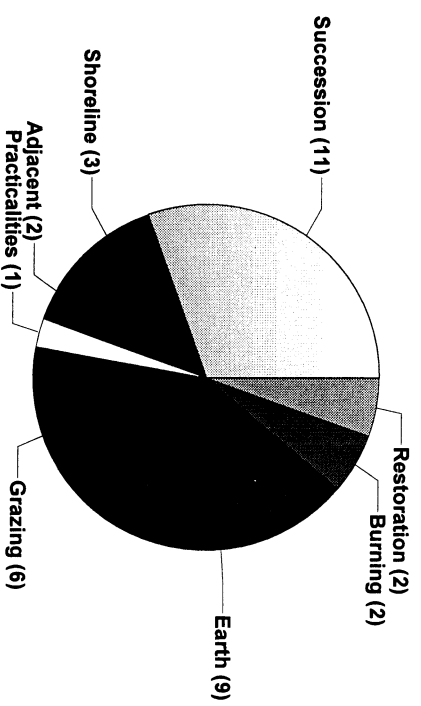
UPLAND



MARITIME



TOTAL



**ANALYSIS OF THE KEY FEATURES AFFECTED BY THE AGRICULTURAL POLLUTION ISSUE**

SPHERE	No OF KEY FEATURES AFFECTED	No OF NATURAL AREAS AFFECTED
Upland	17	12
Lowland	45	27
Maritime	4	4

**The Grassland Key Features Affected by Agricultural Pollution Issues**

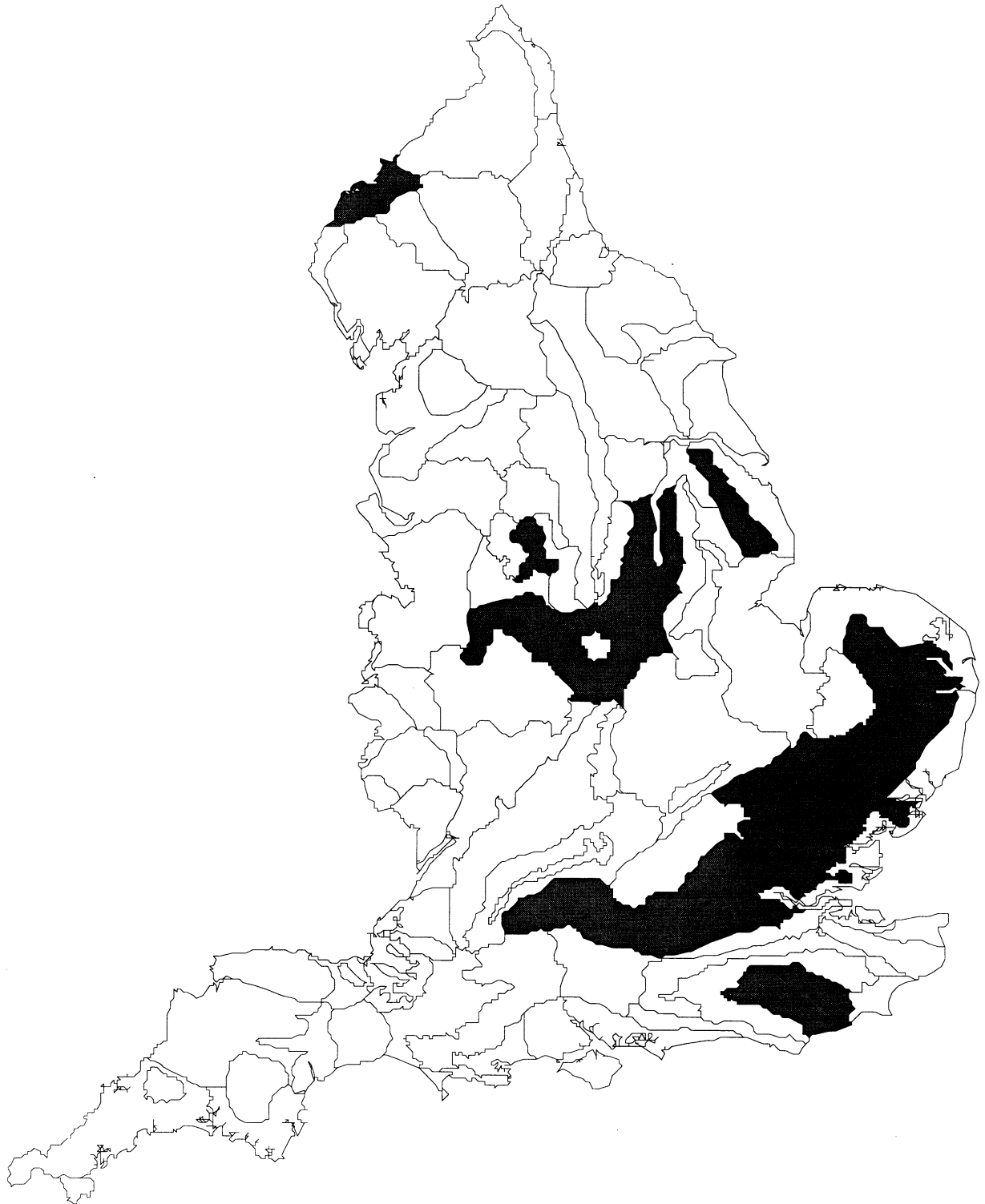
Natural Area	Key Nature Conservation Feature
Lincolnshire Wolds	Acid grassland
Lincolnshire Wolds	Chalk grassland
Solway Basin	Hay Meadows & Wet Grasslands
High Weald	Hay meadows
White Peak	Limestone grassland
White Peak	Limestone grassland
Wessex Downs	Lowland calcareous grassland
Upper Trent Valley	Lowland grassland
Trent Valley and Levels	Neutral grassland
Lincolnshire Wolds	Neutral grassland
White Peak	Neutral grassland
East Anglian Plain	Hay meadows
London Basin	Lowland wet grassland
East Anglian Heights	Marsh/marshy grassland

**NATURAL AREAS WHERE AGRICULTURAL  
POLLUTION IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**





**NATURAL AREAS WHERE AGRICULTURAL  
POLLUTION IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING GRASSLAND  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**



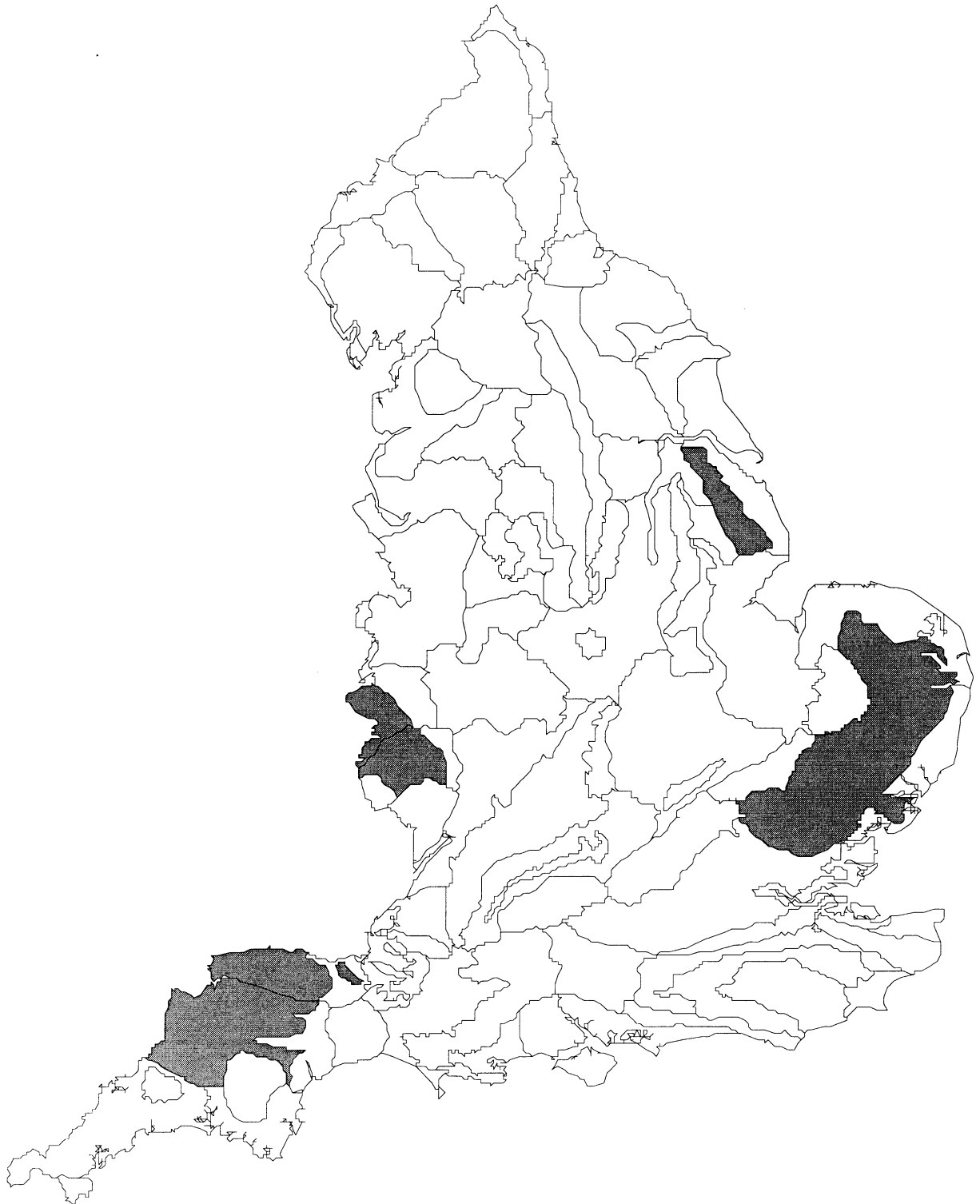
### The Woodland Key Features Affected by Agricultural Pollution Issues

<b>Natural Area</b>	<b>Key Nature Conservation Feature</b>
Lincolnshire Wolds	Woodlands
East Anglian Plain	Parks and pasture-woodlands
Culm Measures	Parklands
Exmoor	Parkland
Hereford Plain	Dingle Woodlands
Central Marches	Parkland

### The River Key Features Affected by Agricultural Pollution

<b>Natural Area</b>	<b>Key Nature Conservation Feature</b>
Yorkshire Dales	Rivers, Streams & Open Water
Plain of Holderness	River Hull & Riparian Fringes
Lincolnshire Marsh and Coast	Rivers, streams and ditches
East Anglian Heights	Chalk springs
Breckland	Rivers
East Anglian Plain	River valleys
Chilterns	Chalk Streams
London Basin	Rivers
Low Weald	Rivers and streams
Dorset Heaths	Rivers and Streams
Culm Measures	Rivers and Streams
Black Mountains and Golden Valley	Streams and rivers
Staffordshire Uplands	Rivers
White Peak	Limestone river and stream
Bowland Fells	Upland Streams
Cumbria Fells and Dales	Open Water, Lake, Tarn and River

**NATURAL AREAS WHERE AGRICULTURAL  
POLLUTION IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING WOODLAND  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**



**NATURAL AREAS WHERE AGRICULTURAL  
POLLUTION IS AN ISSUE AFFECTING RIVER  
KEY NATURE CONSERVATION FEATURES**





#### 4. Comparison of Issues Affecting Adjacent Natural Areas with the National Average

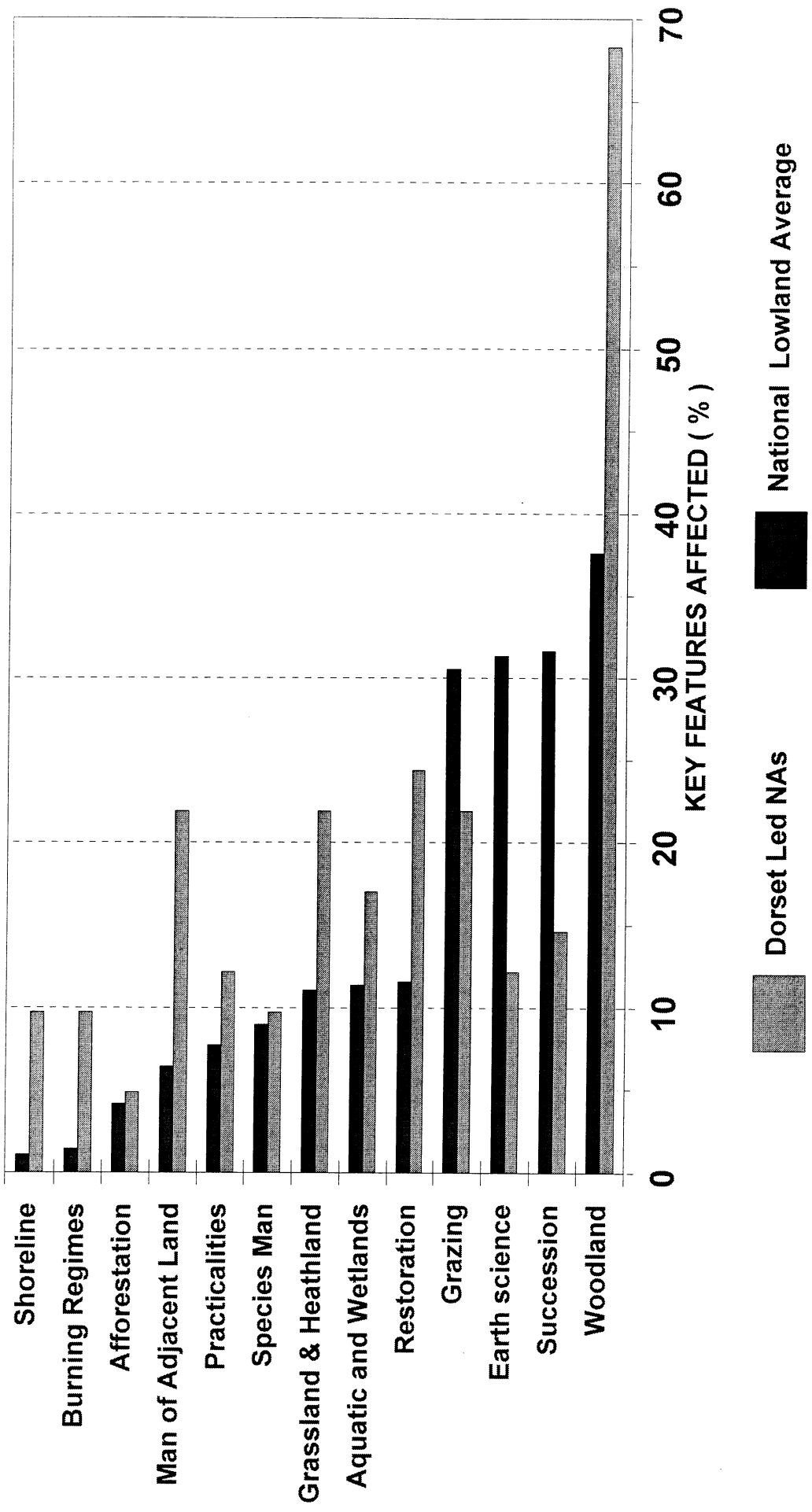
##### Comparison of the Issues Affecting Lowland Natural Areas in Dorset and the Lowland Natural Areas Nationally

As an example of this type of analysis, the issues affecting the three lowland Natural Areas led by the Dorset Team (Dorset Heaths, Isles of Portland and Purbeck and the Wessex Vales) were isolated from the main body of lowlands data and analysed separately. The number of key nature conservation features affected by management issues in Dorset and in the lowland sphere in general was compared. The comparison was aided by averaging the number of key nature conservation features affected over the total number of key nature conservation features present (41 in Dorset and 622 in the lowland sphere).

KEY FEATURES AFFECTED IN DORSET LED NAs	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL KEY FEATURES (%)	KEY FEATURES AFFECTED IN LOWLAND SPHERE	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL KEY FEATURES (%)
28	68	234	38
6	15	197	32
5	12	195	31
9	22	190	31
10	24	72	12
7	17	71	11
9	22	69	11
4	10	56	9
5	12	48	8
9	22	40	6
2	5	26	4
4	10	9	1
4	10	7	1

The graphs are largely similar indicating that conservation in the Dorset lowlands faces similar issues to English lowland Natural Areas in general. On closer inspection it can be seen that the Dorset Team faces differing proportions of certain issues compared to the national average: woodland management issues are proportionally more frequent in Dorset whereas earth science and succession issues are less frequent. A number of tentative conclusions can be drawn from this such as; that woodlands cause a greater work load in Dorset compared to the national picture or that woodlands are proportionally more significant in Dorset. In the same way, earth science sites can be said to either occur less or cause less of a work load in Dorset than nationally.

# THE MANAGEMENT ISSUES AFFECTING DORSET NAs COMPARED TO LOWLAND AVERAGE



## **POTENTIAL FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS**

The complete set of data used for this report is held within an “Issues spreadsheet”. The spreadsheet consists of the Natural Area and Key Nature Conservation Feature concerned, the issues connected with them and the keyword and sub-keyword assigned to those issues. This spreadsheet draws together all of the issues information held within the draft Core Profiles and is therefore the basis for these analyses.

### **Further Analyses**

The data held in the Issues Spreadsheet can be sorted (sorting within spreadsheets is based on repeated alphabetical listing) and edited by Natural Area, Key Nature Conservation Feature, Issue Keyword, Issue Sub-keyword and any combination of these. In effect therefore the data can be manipulated to focus on various different areas of interest.

Types of analyses illustrated in this report include:

- the issues relevant to a type of key nature conservation feature (eg. woodlands, cliffs)
- the spatial distribution of any individual issue or type of issues (eg. Agricultural pollution)
- the spatial distribution of issues within specified key features or types of key features (eg. the distribution of the agricultural pollution issues where it affects rivers and streams.)
- the issues relevant to the Natural Areas led by a specific Local Team (an example of which follows)

Further analyses which could be undertaken for this data set include:

- the issues relevant to a specific nature conservation feature (eg. upland oak woodland, grazing marsh and lowland heath)
- the issues relevant to a specific Natural Area
- the issues relevant to a set of Natural Areas within a region
- the issues relevant to Natural Area type (eg. upland)
- a comparison of the issues relevant to two or more adjacent Natural Areas
- the spatial distribution of a specified key nature conservation feature within Natural Areas



