FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

OFFALY LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2024-2029

Natura Impact Report

Prepared for:

Offaly County Council

Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí
Offaly County Council

Date: **October 2023**

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Natura Impact Report for the Offaly Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

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Abstract: Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this Natura Impact Report for the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This Natura Impact Report (NIR) has been prepared in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Draft Offaly Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2028 [the Draft LACAP] in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the "Habitats Directive").

This report is part of the ongoing AA process that is being undertaken alongside the preparation of the Draft LACAP. It will be considered, alongside other documentation prepared as part of this process, when Offaly County Council finalises the AA at adoption of the Draft LACAP.

1.2 Legislative Context

The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the "favourable conservation status" of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as European sites which form the Natura 2000 Network.

AA is required by the Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act (as amended). AA is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European site. These sites consist of SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.

1.3 Approach

The AA is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and grey literature[1] was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives (including spatial data collected for the most recent Article 17 conservation status reporting cycle, 2019).

In addition to being informed by these reports, the NIR was also informed by the Council's new Draft County Development Plan and accompanying the SEA Environmental Report and the Council's current County Development Plan and associated SEA Environmental Report and AA Natura Impact Report.

[1] Various documents where publishing, in journals for example, is not the primary activity of the producing body. Examples include: conference presentations; regulatory data; unpublished trial data; government publications; and dissertations/theses.

All of these data sources are likely to be useful for AAs that must be undertaken for lower-tier plans/projects under the Plan.

The ecological desktop study completed for the AA of the Draft LACAP comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites within 15km of the Draft LACAP boundary with identification of potential pathways links for specific sites (if relevant) greater than 15km from the Draft LACAP boundary;
- Review of the NPWS site synopsis and conservation objectives for European sites with identification of potential pathways from the Draft LACAP area; and
- Examination of available information on protected species.

There are four main stages in the AA process as follow:

Stage One: Screening

The process that identifies the likely impacts upon a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is proposed to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage Three.

Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions

The process that examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site.

Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain

An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

The Habitats Directive promotes a hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation and compensatory measures. This approach aims to avoid any effects on European sites by identifying possible effects early in the plan-making process and avoiding such effects. Second, the approach involves the application of mitigation measures, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse effects on the site(s) remain. If potential effects on European sites remain, the approach requires the consideration of alternative solutions. If no alternative solutions are identified and the plan/project is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, then compensation measures are required for any remaining adverse effect(s).

The assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor model[2], where, in order for an effect to be established all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the model is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features that are known to be utilised by the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the Draft LACAP provision that is known to interact with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor. This report provides information on whether direct, indirect and cumulative adverse effects could arise from the Draft LACAP.

The NIR exercise has been prepared taking into account legislation including the aforementioned legislation and guidance including the following:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009;
- "Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission 2018;
- "Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission Environment DG, 2002; and
- "Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission, 2000; and
- Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management; OPR Practice Note PN01; Office of the Public Regulator, 2021.

The scope of the AA was informed by the submissions received on the scope of the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment[3] (SEA) process being undertaken on the Draft LACAP, including a submission from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht that provided various information and suggestions relevant to the AA.

[2] Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from proposed works; Pathway(s) – e.g. groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites

[3] Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt it.

2. DESCRIPTION OF DRAFT LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2.1 Overview

The Draft Offaly LACAP 2024-2029 will be prepared over the coming months. The Plan will provide a five-year framework to:

- Actively translate national climate policy to local circumstances with the prioritisation and acceleration of evidence-based measures;
- Assist in the delivery of the climate neutrality objective at local and community levels;
- Identify and deliver a Decarbonising Zone (DZ) by 2050 within the local authority area to act as a test bed for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures in a specifically defined area. This will be done through the identification of projects and outcomes that will assist in the delivery of the National Climate Objective[4].

The preparation of the LACAP will be informed by a process of public participation and consultation. The LACAP represents an important policy document that will form the foundations to support and facilitate coordinated climate action, which is focused on local, area specific issues.

The Plan will be set within the context of the strategic framework of and be guided by the most recent approved national long term climate action strategy and sectoral adaptation plans as well as the County Development Plan.

Figure 2-1 illustrates the functional area and boundary of Offaly County Council.

2.2 Context setting background to Offaly County Council's Role and the LACAP

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 provides a statutory underpinning to climate action in Ireland. It specifies the requirement to develop a national Climate Action Plan (CAP) (and update it every year), a National Adaptation Framework (NAF), a National Long Term Climate Action Strategy and Sectoral Adaptation Plans (SAPs). It also specifies a series of carbon budgets and the associated sectoral emission ceilings. It sets out actions that must be taken to ensure delivery of commitments and a target to reduce GHG by 51% by 2030 and to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2050.

Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 defines the requirement for Local Authorities to prepare individual LACAPs for their functional area. The purpose of LACAPs will be to deliver effective climate action and mitigation at local authority and community levels. Local Authority County Development Plans must also be aligned with their LACAP.

The LACAPs are statutory plans that must be subject to SEA under the SEA Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC) to determine their effect on the environment, and AA under Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) to determine if their implementation is likely to have significant effects on any Natura 2000 sites.

[4] This is known as the National 2050 Climate Objective which establishes the national objective of achieving a competitive, low-carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050.

The statutory plan making process, which commenced on February 24th 2023, is 12 months in duration so the LACAPs must be completed on February 23rd, 2024. Another 30-day timeframe is allowed after this for the publication of the LACAP.

OFFALY
COUNTY
COUNCIL

Legend

Local Authority Boundaries

Local Authority Boundary

OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	2.1		
CLIENT:	OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL		
DATE:	26/07/2023	**SCALE:**	1:270,000 @ A3

N W E S

0 2 4 7 km

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2.3 Offaly County Council's Role with regard to Climate Action and the LACAP

Local authorities are key drivers in advancing climate policy at the local level. The LACAP will help Offaly County Council to address, in an integrated way, the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change adaptation and strengthen the alignment between national climate policy and the delivery of effective local climate action.

Offaly County Council is free to determine their own approach to the style and structure of their climate action plans but all must demonstrate alignment with the key principles of the national Climate Action Plan and subject to compliance with all relevant guidelines ensuring that the local plan is ambitious, action-focused, evidence-based, participative and transparent.

2.4 Purpose and Scope of the LACAP 2024-2029

2.4.1 Need for the Plan

The Offaly Local Authority Climate Action Plan (2024-2029) will consider specific adaptation and mitigation measures across key themes including Planning, Housing, Roads, Information Systems, Environment, Heritage and Community.

2.4.2 Objectives of the Draft LACAP

The overall objectives of the Draft LACAP are:

- A 50% improvement in the council's energy efficiency by 2030;
- A 51% reduction in the Council's greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 to reach net zero by 2050;
- To make Offaly and Dublin a climate resilient region, by reducing the impacts of future climate change-related events; and
- To actively engage and inform citizens on climate change.

2.4.3 LACAP Geographic Area

The LACAP area covers Offaly County Council's entire boundary, and all actions are set to be completed within the boundary. Where actions require collaborative efforts with neighbouring County Councils, these will be considered; however, these are thought to be captured within the LACAP (and SEA/AA processes) for each of the neighbouring County Councils.

The geographic scope of the LACAP, therefore, is the County Council boundary, and the SEA study area extends to 15km beyond this to consider wider reaching environmental impacts as can be seen in Figure 2-2.

3. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

3.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any potential significant affects to European sites from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the "'conservation objectives", "Qualifying Interests" (QIs) and/ or "Special Conservation Interests" (SCIs) of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European Site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The following NPWS Generic Conservation Objectives have been considered in the screening:

- For SACs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected; and
- For SPAs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Where available, Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat[5] or species[6] at that site have been considered.

3.2 Identification of Relevant European Sites

The Department of the Environment (2009) Guidance on AA recommends a 15 km buffer zone to be considered. Although sites beyond this buffer zone would be considered if relevant, a review of all sites within this zone has allowed the conclusion to be made that in the absence of significant hydrological links the characteristics of the Draft LACAP will not impose effects beyond the 15 km buffer. The assessment process also considers hydrogeological processes and possible effects to ground water with respect to ground water sensitive habitats and species.

[5] Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.
[6] The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

Details of European sites that occur within 15 km of the Draft LACAP boundary are provided in Table 3-1. European sites and EPA Rivers Catchments are also mapped in Figure 3-1 below. Information on QIs, SCIs and site-specific vulnerabilities and sensitivities (see Appendix 1) and background information (such as that within Ireland's Article 17 Report to the European Commission, site synopses and Natura 2000 standard data forms) have been considered by both the AA screening assessment (provided under this section) and Stage 2 AA (provided under Section 4). Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following National Parks and Wildlife Service documents:

- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for River Shannon Callows SAC [IE0000216] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Ballynafagh Bog SAC [IE0000391] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Pollardstown Fen SAC [IE0000396] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Slieve Bloom Mountains SAC [IE0000412] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Lough Ree SAC [IE0000440] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for All Saints Bog and Esker SAC [IE0000566] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Charleville Wood SAC [IE0000571] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Clara Bog SAC [IE0000572] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Ferbane Bog SAC [IE0000575] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Fin Lough (Offaly) SAC [IE0000576] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Mongan Bog SAC [IE0000580] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Moyclare Bog SAC [IE0000581] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Raheenmore Bog SAC [IE0000582] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Sharavogue Bog SAC [IE0000585] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Ballyduff/Clonfinane Bog SAC [IE0000641] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Kilcarren-Firville Bog SAC [IE0000647] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Lough Ennell SAC [IE0000685] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Clonaslee Eskers and Derry Bog SAC [IE0000859] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Ridge Road, SW of Rapemills SAC [IE0000919] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC [IE0000925] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Kilduff, Devilsbit Mountain SAC [IE0000934] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Ballynafagh Lake SAC [IE0001387] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Castlesampson Esker SAC [IE0001625] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Liskeenan Fen SAC [IE0001683] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC [IE0001776] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Split Hills and Long Hill Esker SAC [IE0001831] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Lower River Suir SAC [IE0002137] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Mountmellick SAC [IE0002141] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Lisduff Fen SAC [IE0002147] Version 1.
- NPWS (2011) Conservation Objectives for River Barrow and River Nore SAC [IE0002162] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Wooddown Bog SAC [IE0002205] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Scohaboy (Sopwell) Bog SAC [IE0002206] Version 9.

- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Arragh More (Derrybreen) Bog SAC [IE0002207] Version 9.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Glenloughaun Esker SAC [IE0002213] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Island Fen SAC [IE0002236] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC [IE0002241] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC [IE0002299] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Ballymore Fen SAC [IE0002313] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Mouds Bog SAC [IE0002331] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Coolrain Bog SAC [IE0002332] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Knockacoller Bog SAC [IE0002333] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Carn Park Bog SAC [IE0002336] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Crosswood Bog SAC [IE0002337] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC [IE0002339] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Mount Hevey Bog SAC [IE0002342] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Redwood Bog SAC [IE0002353] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Ardgraigue Bog SAC [IE0002356] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Mongan Bog SPA [IE0004017] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Ennell SPA [IE0004044] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA [IE0004058] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Ree SPA [IE0004064] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for River Little Brosna Callows SPA [IE0004086] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Middle Shannon Callows SPA [IE0004096] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for River Suck Callows SPA [IE0004097] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for All Saints Bog SPA [IE0004103] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Dovegrove Callows SPA [IE0004137] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA [IE0004160] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA [IE0004165] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA [IE0004232] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for River Nore SPA [IE0004233] Version 9.
- NPWS (2012) Generic Conservation Objectives for Boyne Coast And Estuary SAC [0001957]. Version 1.
- NPWS (2012) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lower River Shannon SAC [0002165]. Version 1.

- NPWS (2012) Generic Conservation Objectives for River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA [0004077]. Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Generic Conservation Objectives for Boyne Estuary SPA [0004080]. Version 1.

The assessment considers available conservation objectives. Since conservation objectives focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential effects of the Draft LACAP against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.

3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening

3.3.1 Is the Draft LACAP Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The overarching objective of the Draft LACAP is not the nature conservation management of the sites, but to provide for coherent and coordinated approach to climate action within the County. Therefore, the Draft LACAP is not considered to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites.

3.3.2 Elements of the Draft LACAP with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

The Draft LACAP provides a framework for the sustainable development of the Council boundary area. There are a number of environmental sensitivities within the area and an assessment of effects indicates the potential effects relate to the following:

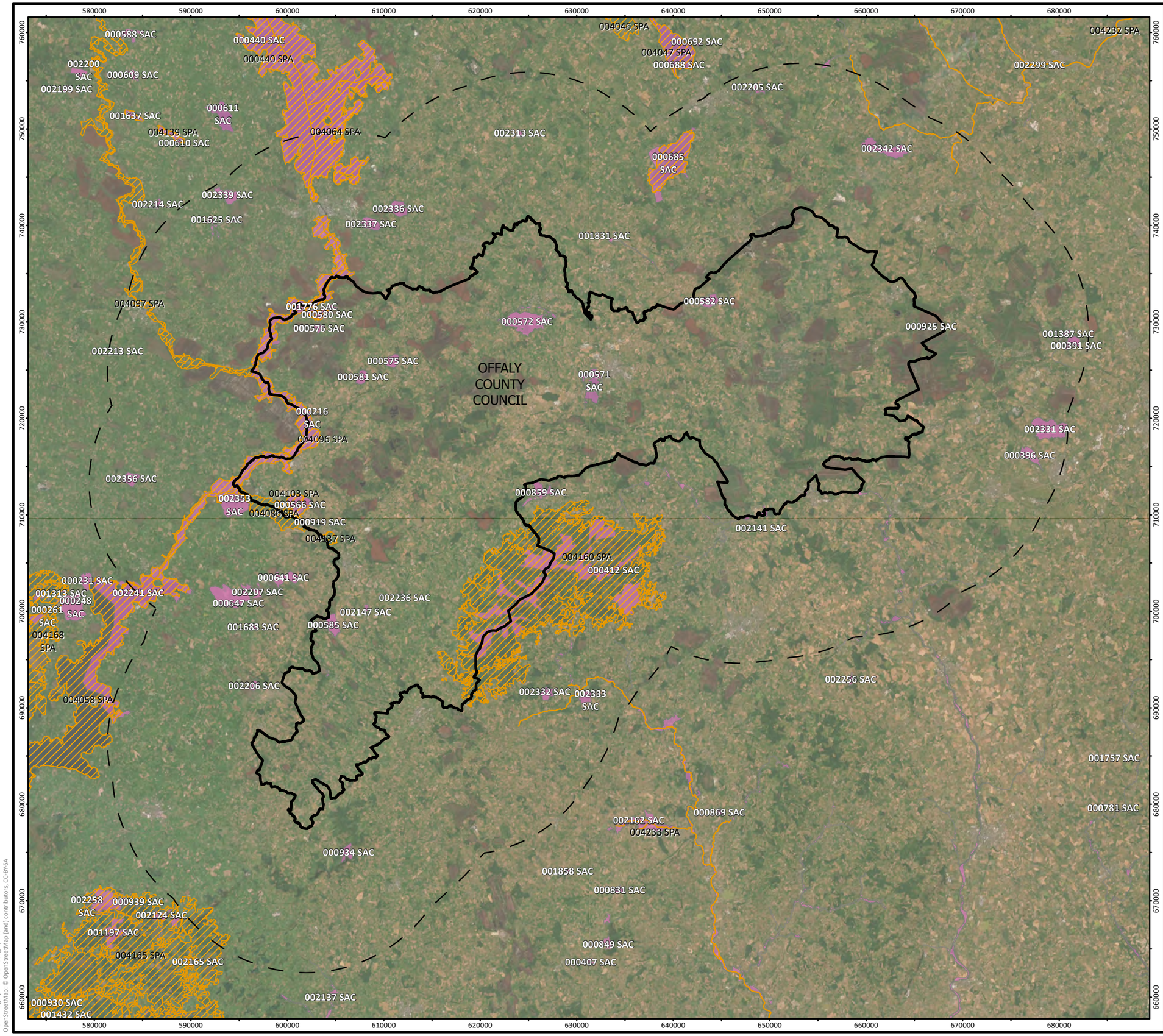
- *Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:*
  - *Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna;*
  - *Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and*
  - *Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species.*
- *Potential interactions if effects upon environmental vectors such as water and air.*
- *Adverse effects from tourism, amenity and recreation.*
- *Damage to the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource.*
- *Adverse effects upon the status of water bodies arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology.*
- *Increase in the risk of flooding.*
- *Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment (water services infrastructure and capacity is needed to ensure the mitigation of potential conflicts).*
- *Emissions to air including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions.*

The elements of the Draft LACAP with the highest potential to give rise to the effects indicated above are associated with construction phase elements of the implementation of the Draft LACAP. The operational phase elements of the Draft LACAP are consistent with the existing condition of the area. All policies and objectives are considered in this assessment with respect to the ecological integrity of each of the European sites identified. Considering the sensitivities/vulnerabilities of the QIs and SCIs in relation to all potential sources for effects and potential pathways for such effects. Where sources and pathways for effects are identified potential effects will be assessed in relation to the SSCOs.

3.3.3 Screening of Sites

Table 3.1 examines whether there is potential for effects on European sites considering information provided above, including Appendix 1. Sites are screened out based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- The existence of potential for pathways for significant effects, such as hydrological links, Draft LACAP proposals and the site to be screened;
- The distance of the relevant site from the Draft LACAP boundary; and
- The existence of a link between identified threats or vulnerabilities at a site to potential impacts that may arise from the Draft LACAP.



Legend

- Local Authority Boundaries
- Local Authority Boundary - 15km Buffer
- Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protected Areas

OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	3.1		
CLIENT:	OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL		
DATE:	15/08/2023	**SCALE:**	1:387,500 @ A3

N W E S

0 3 5 10 km

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OFFALY
COUNTY
COUNCIL

Legend

- Local Authority Boundaries
- Rivers

WFD Catchments

Catchment Name

- Barrow
- Boyne
- Lower Shannon
- Nore
- Suir
- Upper Shannon

Hydrology

OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	3.2
CLIENT:	OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL
DATE: 09/10/2023	**SCALE:** 1:270,000 @ A3

N W E S

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Table 3-1: Screening of European sites which have ecological pathways for potential effects

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	0	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Alkaline fens [7230], Limestone pavements [8240], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000412	Slieve Bloom Mountains SAC	0	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000566	All Saints Bog and Esker SAC	0	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Active raised bogs [7110], Bog woodland [91D0], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000571	Charleville Wood SAC	0	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000572	Clara Bog SAC	0	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Bog woodland [91D0]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000575	Ferbane Bog SAC	0	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000576	Fin Lough (Offaly) SAC	0	Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013], Alkaline fens [7230]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000580	Mongan Bog SAC	0	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000581	Moyclare Bog SAC	0	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000582	Raheenmore Bog SAC	0	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000585	Sharavogue Bog SAC	0	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000859	Clonaslee Eskers and Derry Bog SAC	0	Alkaline fens [7230], Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000919	Ridge Road, SW of Rapemills SAC	0	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000925	The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC	0	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001776	Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC	0	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002147	Lisduff Fen SAC	0	Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013], Alkaline fens [7230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002236	Island Fen SAC	0	Alkaline fens [7230], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Reefs [1170], Nore Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera durrovensis) [1990], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421], Estuaries [1130], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Mediterranean salt meadows	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			(Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095]. River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], European dry heaths [4030], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096]			
004017	Mongan Bog SPA	0	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004086	River Little Brosna Callows SPA	0	Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050],	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]	Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	0	Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Corncrake (Crex crex) [A122], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	0	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004103	All Saints Bog SPA	0	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004137	Dovegrove Callows SPA	0	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004160	Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA	0	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	The European Site is within the Offaly County LACAP area. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002353	Redwood Bog SAC	0.21	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110],	The European Site is within 500m of the Offaly County LACAP area.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002141	Mountmellick SAC	0.94	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016]	There is a separation distance of ca. 0.94 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interest of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002206	Scohaboy (Sopwell) Bog SAC	2.3	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of ca. 2.3 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000641	Ballyduff/Clonfinane Bog SAC	3.42	Bog woodland [91D0], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	There is a separation distance of ca. 3.42 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
001831	Split Hills and Long Hill Esker SAC	3.55	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	There is a separation distance of ca. 3.55 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
000934	Kilduff, Devilsbit Mountain SAC	4.03	European dry heaths [4030], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	There is a separation distance of ca. 4.03 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001683	Liskeenan Fen SAC	5.19	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	There is a separation distance of ca. 5.19 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interest of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002337	Crosswood Bog SAC	5.32	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of ca. 5.32 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002207	Arragh More (Derrybreen) Bog SAC	5.58	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of ca. 5.58 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
004233	River Nore SPA	5.63	Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) [A229]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Offaly LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interest of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002332	Coolrain Bog SAC	6.15	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]	There is a separation distance of ca. 6.15 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000647	Kilcarren-Firville Bog SAC	6.66	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of ca. 6.66 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002336	Carn Park Bog SAC	6.79	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of ca. 6.79 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004064	Lough Ree SPA	7.98	Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Offaly LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000440	Lough Ree SAC	7.99	Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Alkaline fens [7230], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Active raised bogs [7110], Limestone pavements [8240], Bog woodland [91D0]	There is a separation distance of ca. 7.99 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002313	Ballymore Fen SAC	8.14	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	There is a separation distance of ca. 8.14 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interest of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002342	Mount Hevey Bog SAC	8.32	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of ca. 8.32 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
000685	Lough Ennell SAC	8.71	Alkaline fens [7230]	There is a separation distance of ca. 8.71 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interest of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004044	Lough Ennell SPA	9.37	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Offaly LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002356	Ardgraigue Bog SAC	9.7	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]	There is a separation distance of ca. 9.7 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001625	Castlesampson Esker SAC	9.96	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Turloughs [3180]	There is a separation distance of ca.9.96 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000396	Pollardstown Fen SAC	10.28	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alkaline fens [7230], Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016]	There is a separation distance of ca. 10.28 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002333	Knockacoller Bog SAC	10.37	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120],	There is a separation distance of ca. 10.37 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	11.03	Limestone pavements [8240], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0]	There is a separation distance of ca. 11.03 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a hydrological connection of 14.2 km (instream distance) is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	11.03	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Offaly LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	11.06	Alkaline fens [7230], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]	There is a separation distance of ca. 11.06 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a hydrological connection of 12.7 km (instream distance) is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	11.06	Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) [A229]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Offaly LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interest of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002331	Mouds Bog SAC	11.13	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of ca. 11.13 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
001387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC	11.44	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Alkaline fens [7230], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065]	There is a separation distance of ca. 11.44 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002205	Wooddown Bog SAC	12.26	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of ca. 12.26 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	12.35	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Offaly LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interest of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002339	Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC	12.36	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Turloughs [3180], Active raised bogs [7110], Bog woodland [91D0]	There is a separation distance of ca. 12.36 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000391	Ballynafagh Bog SAC	12.4	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	There is a separation distance of ca. 12.4 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	13.61	Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-	There is a separation distance of ca. 13.61 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and no hydrological connection is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099]	At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002213	Glenloughaun Esker SAC	13.81	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	There is a separation distance of ca. 13.81 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interest as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	17.54	Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Coastal lagoons [1150], Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus) [1349], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Reefs [1170], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts [1230], Subtidal sandbanks (Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time) [1110], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260],	There is a separation distance of ca. 17.54 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a hydrological connection of 47.57 km (instream distance) is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)) [1330], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Estuaries [1130], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029]	There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	47.3	Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Greylag goose (Anser anser) [A043], Northern pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Greylag goose (Anser anser) [A043], Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Great crested grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Northern shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Greater scaup (Aythya marila) [A062], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)	There is a separation distance of ca. 47.3 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a hydrological connection of 77.32 km (instream distance) is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			[A053], Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179]. Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Northern lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]			
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	62.23	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria ("white dunes") [2120], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Estuaries [1130], Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)) [1330], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Shifting dunes (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") [2130]	There is a separation distance of ca. 62.23 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a hydrological connection of 91.4 km (instream distance) is present. The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	63.38	Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179], Northern lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Little tern (Sterna albifrons) [A195], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Ruddy	There is a separation distance of ca. 63.38 km between this European Site and the area of Offaly County LACAP and a hydrological connection of 91.4 km (instream distance) is present.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]	The Draft LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		

3.4 In-combination effects with Other Plans and Programmes

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely affect European sites. Appendix 2 outlines a selection of plans or projects that may interact with the Plan to cause in-combination effects to European sites. These plans, programmes, strategies etc. were considered throughout the assessment.

The Draft LACAP sits within a hierarchy of statutory documents setting out public policy for, among other things, land use planning, infrastructure, sustainable development, recreation, environmental protection and environmental management, which have been subject to their own environmental assessment processes, as relevant. The Plan must comply with relevant higher-level strategic actions and will, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions.

The National Planning Framework (NPF) sets out Ireland's planning policy direction for the next 20 years. The NPF is to be implemented through Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSESs) and lower tier Development Plans and Local Area Plans. The RSES for the Eastern and Midland Region sets out objectives for land use planning, tourism, infrastructure, sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been subject to environmental assessment and must be implemented through the Draft LACAP. As required by the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Draft LACAP is consistent with and conforms with national and regional policies, plans and programmes, including the NPF and the RSES for the Eastern and Midland Region. The County Development Plan may, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions, such as the that will be subject to their own lower-tier environmental assessments.

In order to be realised, projects included in the Draft LACAP (in a similar way to other projects from any other sector) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework.

All projects within the Draft LACAP area and receiving environment will be considered in combination with any and all lower tier projects that may arise due to the implementation of the Draft LACAP. Given the uncertainties that exist with regard to the scale and location of developments facilitated by the Draft LACAP, it is recognised that the identification of in-combination effects is limited and that the assessment of in-combination effects will need to be undertaken in a more comprehensive manner at the project-level.

Additional information on the in-combination effects relationship with other plans and programmes is provided at Appendix 2.

3.5 AA Screening Conclusion

The effects that could arise from the Draft LACAP have been examined in the context of several factors that could potentially affect the integrity of any European site. On the basis of the findings of this Screening for AA, it is concluded that the Draft LACAP:

- Is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site; and
- May, if unmitigated, have significant adverse effects on 47 (no.) European sites.

Therefore, a Stage 2 AA is required for the Draft LACAP (see Section 4 of this report). An AA Screening Determination undertaken by the planning authority accompanies this report and the Draft LACAP.

4. STAGE 2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Introduction

The Stage 2 AA assesses whether the Draft LACAP alone, or in-combination with other plans, programmes, and/or projects, would result in adverse effects on the integrity of the 47 European sites brought forward from screening (those considered on Table 3-1 for which there is "Potential Pathway for Significant Effects" and/or "Potential for In-Combination Effects"), with respect to site structure, function and/or conservation objectives.

4.2 Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected

The AA Screening identified 47 European sites with pathway receptors for potential effects arising from the implementation of the Draft LACAP. Appendix 1 characterises each of the qualifying features of the ALL European sites brought forward from Stage 1 in context of each of the sites' vulnerabilities. Each of these site characterisations were taken from the NPWS website[7].

4.3 Identifying and Characterising Potential Significant Effects

The following parameters can be used when characterising impacts[8]:

- Direct and Indirect Impacts - An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a Plan/Project.
- Magnitude - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.
- Extent - The area over that the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.
- Duration - The time that the effect is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource or feature.
    - Temporary: Up to 1 Year;
    - Short Term: The effects would take 1-7 years to be mitigated;
    - Medium Term: The effects would take 7-15 years to be mitigated;
    - Long Term: The effects would take 15-60 years to be mitigated; and
    - Permanent: The effects would take 60+ years to be mitigated.
- Likelihood – The probability of the effect occurring taking into account all available information.
    - Certain/Near Certain: >95% chance of occurring as predicted;
    - Probable: 50-95% chance as occurring as predicted;
    - Unlikely: 5-50% chance as occurring as predicted; and
    - Extremely Unlikely: <5% chance as occurring as predicted.

[7] Last accessed 17th July 2023; https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites

[8] These descriptions are informed by publications including: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2016) "Guidelines for ecological impact assessment"; Environmental Protection Agency (2002) "Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements"; and National Roads Authority (2009) "Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Roads Schemes".

- Ecologically Significant Impact - An impact (negative or positive) on the integrity of a defined site or ecosystem and/or the conservation status of habitats or species within a given geographic area.
- Integrity of a Site - The coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is an aim of NPWS to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) have been prepared for a number of European sites. These detailed SSCOs aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes that define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

> *Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'*
>
> *Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable'.*

Generic Conservation Objective for cSACs:

> *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species that the SAC has been selected.*

One generic Conservation Objective for SPAs:

> *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.*

4.3.1 Types of Potential Effects

Assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted utilising a standard source-pathway model (see approach referred to under Sections 1.3 and 3). The 2001 European Commission AA guidance outlines the following potential changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site: loss/reduction of habitat area; habitat or species fragmentation; disturbance to key species; reduction in species density; changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); and climate change. Each of these potential changes are considered below and in Table 4.1 with reference to the QIs/SCIs of all of the European sites brought forward from Stage 1 of the AA process (see Section 3).

4.3.1.1 Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area

The Draft LACAP provides for action related to climate action and generally seeks to reduce CO2 emissions through coordination, advocacy, awareness etc. Many of the actions also relate to land use change or the provision of infrastructure developments such as green energy and active travel projects. The exact spatial location of these projects is not fully developed within the plan. The development of all infrastructural have associated construction phase effects which include land take, habitat destruction, disturbance effects, light pollution, dust, hydrological interactions, airborne pollution, excessive noise etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects due to construction on the ecological integrity of any European site.

As identified above LACAP boundary has several European sites within it; therefore, there is potential for effects to European sites through urbanisation and direct habitat loss on foot of the implementation of the Draft LACAP; however, several mitigation measures have been integrated into the Draft LACAP to ensure that its implementation will not result in the loss of any habitat necessary for the ecological integrity of any European site; namely list of actions to avoid habitat loss R09[9], HT01[10], HT02[11], HT03[12], HT04[13], HT08[14], HT09[15], HT10[16], HT11[17] and HT17[18] etc.

Additionally, the environmental governance section of the LACAP sets out a number of measures which will ensure the protection of biodiversity throughout the implementation of the plan such as:

- Promote climate action projects that support and maximise environmental co-benefits, such as biodiversity protection and enhancement; improved air, water or soil quality; or enhanced recreation, amenity and cultural heritage value, to ensure win-win benefits are gained.
- Support or facilitate climate action related projects and initiatives which seek to make improvements in soil structure, management and health by increasing soil organic carbon - which will create the environmental co-benefits of improving flood resilience by enhancing water holding capacity of soils and increasing the level of GHG sequestration associated with land use functions.
- Ensure all development underpinned or supported by climate action is planned and implemented in a manner that appropriately considers the potential for environmental co-benefits, potential environmental impacts and environmental protection requirements. No climate action related development project that is likely to have a significant negative effect on the receiving environment shall be supported.

[9] The use of new technologies for weed control and the removal of glyphosate materials.
[10]Develop and implement a Heritage Pan to record, conserve and raise awareness of all aspects of built, natural and cultural heritage in the County. Ensure actions of each plan complement each other, having due regard to the need to appropriately protect, conserve and enhance important habitats and species and European sites, and support the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive.
[11]Develop and implement a local Biodiversity Action Plan to protect and enhance local biodiversity, including climate relevant measures, having due regard to the need to appropriately protect, conserve and enhance important habitats and species and European sites, and support the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive.
[12] Develop and implement pesticide reduction policy for the County Council - ensuring these substances are only used to a degree that does not cause significant effects on the receiving environment, such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity or European sites.
[13] Conduct tree cover survey. Devise and adopt tree management policy. Implement recommendations regarding canopy cover
[14] Resource and implement relevant actions of the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 (currently at draft stage) the Biodiversity Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan 2019
[15] Develop integrated programme to address Invasive Alien Species through education and/or selected actions as appropriate. This programme shall be developed by a competent ecology team, and shall have due regard to the need to appropriately manage and prevent the spread of invasive species.
[16] Conduct a County wetland survey and implement recommendations in terms of conservation and restoration of wetlands. Recommendations shall be developed by a competent ecology team, and shall have due regard to the need to appropriately protect, conserve and enhance important habitats and species and European sites, and support the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive.
[17] Implement a Countywide pollinator conservation initiative, creating and maintaining pollinator-friendly habitats based on most up to date scientific advice from AIPP, with a multi-disciplinary working group team responsible for planning, installation, and monitoring.
[18] Prepare strategic wildfire management plan for high risk areas such as bogs and Slieve Blooms, having appropriate regard to the need to support the achievement of conservation objectives and protect and enhance important habitats or the qualifying interests of any protected sites.

- Flood defence projects or related maintenance works supported by plan actions shall be carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-biodiversity related co-benefits, and shall have due regard for the protection and enhancement of rare, protected or important habitats and species.
- Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-cultural heritage co-benefits, and do not result in unauthorised physical damage to cultural, archaeological or architectural features, or unauthorised or inappropriate alteration of the context of sensitive cultural heritage features.
- Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action water quality co-benefits, and align with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive and relevant River Basin Management Plan.
- Promote climate action projects that support protected trees, hedgerows and other habitats such as wetlands, floodzones which contribute to green infrastructure.
- Support opportunities to improve ecological connectivity of non-designated habitats and sites to improve overall ecosystem resilience and functioning while supporting climate action within the county.
- Ensure all projects supported by the council have taken the necessary precautions to identify and manage invasives species, particularly with regard to Schedule III species. No climate action related development project that is likely to cause the spread of invasives species listed in Schedule III shall be supported.
- Support opportunities to support peatland restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance while achieving climate targets through the implementation of the climate actions within the plan.

These policies ensure that there will be no loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the plan.

4.3.1.2 Habitat or species Fragmentation

As previously stated, the Draft LACAP provides for infrastructure developments which have associated effects. These effects could result in the fragmentation of habitat and or species through light pollution, habitat loss, removal of stepping stone habitats etc. This is particularly relevant for linear projects such as active travel schemes. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects in relation to fragmentation on the ecological integrity of any European site.

The Draft LACAP recognises the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. The Draft LACAP provides actions to minimise potential fragmentation and to facilitate the enhancement of ecological corridors such as hedgerows; mitigation measures such as HT03[12], HT04[13], HT05[19], HT08[14] and C03[20] etc. (see full list of measures reproduced at Section 5 of this report). Lighting is a particular issue for biodiversity - particularly with regard to linear projects, therefore the following action was required to ensure there would be no significant impacts in this regard: R10[21].

[19] Pilot a biodiversity inclusive design for a social housing estate with green roofs, green walls, wetlands & pond SUDS, green carparking, nest boxes in facades, grasslands, and wildlife friendly shrubs and trees in open spaces
[20] Provision of 300 native trees to Tidy Towns and Community Groups as part of Annual National Tree Week
[21] The delivery of the Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Program, having due regard for the impact the spectrum of light used will have on protected nocturnal species such as bats.

Further to these provisions there are actions related to specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as waterways, wetlands and peatlands etc. These actions apply to all plans, programmes and/or projects that may arise due to the implementation of the Draft LACAP and will ensure that habitat or species fragmentation will not occur in relation to the connectivity of the ecological resources necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the Draft LACAP.

4.3.1.3 Disturbance to Key Species

Disturbance effects are cause by any activity that has potential to alter the movement patterns/distribution of species. Disturbance effects can relate to direct disturbance through human activity/movement or noise pollution. This is particularly relevant in relation to tourism and recreation in general, which could be influenced by the Draft LACAP due to the provision of active travel schemes and other green initiatives within the Draft LACAP; from the perspective that many of the tourism destinations or attractions in the area are in or adjacent to European sites.

The Draft LACAP accounts for noise pollution effects through its policies and objectives affording protection to European sites by ensuring any projects that arise from the implementation of the Draft LACAP avoid or minimise noise in compliance with the Environmental Noise Directive and associated National Regulations through the Offaly County Council Noise Action Plan 2018 - 2023. Actions to ensure the protection of habitat quality with respect to disturbance effects from noise and other sources have been built into the Draft LACAP; namely P04[22], HO2[23], R05[24], R06[25] and IS09[26] (further details see Section 5).

These measures are robust to ensure that any sensitive habitat features, or species will be identified and only compliant applications will be granted. All of the policies related to positive effects for Biodiversity are detailed in Section 5.

[22] Encourage remote working subject to operational effectiveness
[23] Upgrade of Tullamore Maintenance Fleet to Electric Vehicles, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, and local air quality during any necessary development to facilitate the change.
[24] Continued Delivery of the Offaly County Councils Active Travel Programs to facilitate modal shift, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as traffic and transport constraints and aspects, the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, and European sites.
[25] Improve and integrate Bus Services across County Offaly in order to facilitate modal shift.
[26] Enable working from home for all relevant staff members, which will help reduce car journeys

4.3.1.4 Reduction in species density

Species densities are reliant on species distributions, habitat condition, connectivity of ecological resources and availability of resources such as prey/food. The Draft LACAP introduces potential sources for effects to affect these four determinant factors for species densities in the form of construction phase effects such as habitat destruction, visitor movements/access, hydrological interaction or operational effects such as disturbance effects, habitat encroachment, trampling etc. However, the Draft LACAP contains provisions to enhance biodiversity, landscape and the environment within Council boundary R09[9], HT01[10], HT02[11], HT03[12], HT04[13], HT05[19], HT08[14], HT10[16], HT11[17], HT17[18] and HT18[27] etc. Similarly, the Draft LACAP the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. Further to these provisions there are actions related to specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as R09[9], HT02[11], HT04[13], HT05[19], HT08[14], HT10[16], HT12 and HT17[18] etc. These actions apply to all plans, programmes and projects that may arise due to the implementation of the plan. Measures relating to light pollution, noise pollution, habitat loss and fragmentation are addressed above (further detailed in Section 5).

In addition to this the Draft LACAP identifies actions to protect and improve water quality interactions (see below for further details) which can influence species densities. There are also a number of provisions relating to protective buffer zones, further assessment requirements as well as commitments to increasing water quality standards etc. These measures are detailed across the Draft LACAP.

4.3.1.5 Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value

Water quality is the primary macro indicator of conservation value. The Draft LACAP contains many robust actions to ensure the protection of both surface and ground water quality. Development within the vicinity of groundwater or surface water dependant European sites will not be permitted where there is potential for a likely significant effect on the groundwater or surface water supply to the European sites. Action that specifically relate to the protection of water quality which account for potential effects to European sites include R09[9], HT03[12], HT08[14] and HT10[16]. Similarly, emissions to air have potential to adversely affect the conservation status of European sites; however, the Draft LACAP contains actions – such as P04[22], R01[28], R02[29], R05[24], R06[25], IS09[26] and C03[20] etc. – which account for this.

Additionally, the actions provide broader scope to ensure the protection of the wider landscape associated with riparian zones and habitats sensitive to hydrological interactions, such as HT10[16] and HT17[18].

[27] Produce and make accessible species-specific guidelines and pilot exemplars of animal aided design to integrate provisions for biodiversity in new development and retro fits, including bee-bricks, bat, swift and sparrow boxes, darkened areas for bats and areas suitable for pollinators, use green roofs and walls for biodiversity.
[28] Migration of the Offaly County Councils Corporate Fleet to Low Emission fuels(Electric/HVO). Whilst ensuring energy/fuel used to power local authority alternative vehicles is sustainably sourced, and appropriate end-of-life management practices are in place for Electric Vehicles.
[29] Formulation of a County/Regional EV Strategy for the delivery of Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, and cultural heritage.

4.3.1.6 Climate change

The Draft LACAP is specifically focused on climate action and most of the actions within the plan are aimed at reducing carbon emissions and move towards renewable energy sources; P01[30], P02[31], P03[32], P04[22], P05[33], H01[34], H02[35], H03[36], H04[37], H05[38] and R01[28] etc.

Therefore, there are no sources for significant effects to climate change factors identified within the Draft LACAP having regard for the measures identified above and in Section 5 below. Therefore, there are no changes projected to arise from climate change to the degree that it would affect the QIs or SCIs of the European sites considered.

[30] Include climate action adaptation and mitigation policy into Local Area Plans, team plans and Personal Development Plans. Due regard shall be had to relevant planning and environmental protection criteria, including the need to protect European sites, when implementing this action.
[31] Promote green procurement, in order for goods, services and works to support environmental and wider sustainable development objectives, to assist in balancing cost effectiveness and sustainable development and to represent both short-term and long-term value for money.
[32] Provide refresher climate change awareness training to staff
[33] Promote and support carbon adaptation and mitigation policies, objectives and standards of the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027, through pre-planning consultation, planning application process and conditions; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as European sites, biodiversity, air and water quality.
[34] Continue to retrofit local authority social housing stock under the National Retro Fit Programme; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations.
[35] Upgrade of Tullamore Maintenance Fleet to Electric Vehicles, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, and local air quality during any necessary development to facilitate the change.
[36] Inclusion of Green Criteria in procurement of consultants on housing schemes
[37] Upgrade of corporate buildings via Pathway project, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations.
[38] Implement Building Information Modelling to Housing Capital projects

Table 4-1: Characterisation of Potential Effects arising from the subject land area

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, forestry, hydrological interactions, waste management, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting, predation, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000412	Slieve Bloom Mountains SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, forestry, invasive species, mining, hydrological interactions, waste management, species composition change, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000566	All Saints Bog and Esker SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, hydrological interactions, waste management, mining and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000571	Charleville Wood SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, forestry, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting and predator control, recreation and removal of terrestrial plants.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000572	Clara Bog SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, hydrological interactions, waste management, mining, taking or Removal of terrestrial plants and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000575	Ferbane Bog SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, forestry, mining, hydrological interactions, waste management and species composition change. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000576	Fin Lough (Offaly) SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, hydrological interactions, waste management, biocenotic evolution, succession and direct interaction with species and populations through hunting. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000580	Mongan Bog SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, hydrological interactions, waste management and direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000581	Moyclare Bog SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, hydrological interactions, waste management and direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000582	Raheenmore Bog SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices and hydrological interactions. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000585	Sharavogue Bog SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, forestry, problematic native species and hydrological interactions. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000859	Clonaslee Eskers and Derry Bog SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, hydrological interactions, waste management, species composition change, and other direct land use practices.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000919	Ridge Road, SW of Rapemills SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, species composition change, and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000925	The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, species composition change, erosion, and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001776	Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, species composition change, waste management, and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002147	Lisduff Fen SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, mining, hydrological interactions, waste management, and other direct land use practices.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, forestry, invasive species, erosion, mining, hydrological interactions, changes in abiotic conditions, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002236	Island Fen SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, species composition change, mining, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting, and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002353	Redwood Bog SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004017	Mongan Bog SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, mining, and other direct land use practices.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004086	River Little Brosna Callows SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, hydrological interactions, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting and fishing, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to burning, agricultural practices, forestry, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004103	All Saints Bog SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to burning, agricultural practices, forestry, mining, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting, recreation and other direct land use practices.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004137	Dovegrove Callows SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004160	Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, forestry, other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002141	Mountmellick SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to hydrological interactions and waste management. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000396	Pollardstown Fen SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to burning, agricultural practices, forestry, mining, waste management, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to, agricultural practices, forestry, invasive species, problematic native species, mining, species composition changes, eutrophication, hydrological interactions, waste management, climatic changes, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting, and recreation. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to, agricultural practices, forestry, invasive species, mining, hydrological interactions, waste management, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to hydrological interactions and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
001387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing, and recreation. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to forestry, agricultural practices, and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002339	Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, invasive species, hydrological interactions, waste management, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001683	Liskeenan Fen SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices and invasive species. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
004233	River Nore SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to waste management and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004064	Lough Ree SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, forestry, invasive species, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting and recreation. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000440	Lough Ree SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, forestry, invasive species, hydrological interactions, waste management, antagonism arising from introduction of species, wildlife watching, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002313	Ballymore Fen SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, waste management and problematic native species. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000685	Lough Ennell SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices, forestry, competition, hydrological interactions, waste management, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting, light and noise pollution, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004044	Lough Ennell SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to agricultural practices, forestry, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting, recreation and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001625	Castlesampson Esker SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to agricultural practices and mining. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agricultural practices, forestry, hydrological interactions, waste management, invasive species, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing and hunting, pollutants, mining, recreation, and other direct land use practices.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to direct interaction with agricultural practices, waste management, species and populations through fishing, recreation, and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SAC relate to invasive species, biocenotic evolution, succession, hydrological interactions, waste management, climatic factors, recreation, and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. The known threats and pressures for the SPA relate to invasive species, waste management, hydrological interactions, direct interaction with species and populations through fishing, recreation, and other direct land use practices. Therefore mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

5. MITIGATION MEASURES

This section outlines measures that have been incorporated into the Draft LACAP in order to mitigate against potential effects to European sites as identified above. The Draft LACAP was prepared in an iterative manner whereby the Plan and AA documents have informed subsequent versions of the other. These mitigation measures ensure that there will be no significant effects to the ecological integrity of any European site from implementation of the Draft LACAP. The mitigation measures most relevant to the protection of European sites are identified in Table 5-1 below[39]. Some of these measures, many of which were integrated into the current Plan through the SEA and AA processes for that Plan, have been retained and/or updated.

Some of the key text integrated into the Draft LACAP as a direct result of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and AA recommendations for the Draft LACAP are detailed on Table 5.2.

The plan making process was carried out in parallel with the SEA and AA processes. Regular communication and interaction took place between the environmental assessment team and the plan making team. Environmental considerations that came to light during the SEA and AA processes, including consultation processes, were regularly communicated to the plan making team during the plan making process. As necessary, environmental mitigation measures to ameliorate the potential negative environmental effects of implementing the Draft LACAP were developed and then integrated into the Draft LACAP. Much of the environmental mitigation was embedded in the plan early on in the process as a result of this. This process was carried out in an iterative manner to ensure optimal plan making and environmental outcomes. Environmental considerations were also integrated into the plan so as to facilitate maximizing identified positive environmental effects of the Draft LACAP.

Mitigation measures have been proposed that maximize the co-benefits of climate action for other environmental components such local air quality, human health, biodiversity, water quality and other interrelated areas (i.e., win-win solutions).

Several environmental governance principles were established to ensure plan implementation generates the minimum level of negative environmental effects and the maximum level of positive environmental effects. These environmental governance principles shall underpin and guide plan implementation and shall apply to and be integrated into all actions/activities which result due to the implementation of the plan.

In addition to this, additional text clarifying environmental protection related obligations and environmental enhancement opportunities has been attached to a variety of defined actions in the plan. This text has been shaped to ensure that environmental considerations are appropriately taken into account during plan implementation. Again, This text has also been shaped to ensure plan implementation generates the minimum level of negative environmental effects and the maximum level of positive environmental effects.

[39] For a complete assessment of the Plan, against all environmental components (These components comprise biodiversity, fauna, flora, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors), refer to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.

Environmental mitigation measures to be integrated into the Draft LACAP to prevent, reduce and fully offset any potential significant negative environmental effects, and to maximize potential environmental benefits and co-benefits of the Draft LACAP. The reader is asked to refer to the SEA ER Appendix 3.2 - Detailed Evaluation of Environmental Effects of Plan Implementation, for an understanding of the potential environmental effects associated with each individual action which are being mitigated (in the case of negative environmental effects) or maximized (in the case of positive environmental effects).

Due to the inter-relationship between various environmental components, environmental mitigation measures defined for one component can also serve to benefit another environmental component.

Table 5-1: Recommendations integrated into the Plan

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
P01	Include climate action adaptation and mitigation policy into Local Area Plans, team plans and Personal Development Plans.	Development supported by this action, such as renewable energy or drainage related development could potentially have negative environmental effects, including impacts on water quality or hydrology, biodiversity and protected sites.	Include climate action adaptation and mitigation policy into Local Area Plans, team plans and Personal Development Plans. Due regard shall be had to relevant planning and environmental protection criteria, including the need to protect European sites, when implementing this action.
P05	Promote and support carbon adaptation and mitigation policies, objectives and standards of the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027, through pre-planning consultation, planning application process and conditions.	Broadly, the action will promote the carrying out of more climate positive local authority led development. The action is likely to have a slight positive effect on the climate environment - having regard to the share of GHG emissions that can be offset via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. Development supported by this action, such as renewable energy or drainage related development could lead to unforeseen and unintended environmental effects in the absence of appropriate mitigation, including impacts on water quality or hydrology, biodiversity and protected sites.	Promote and support carbon adaptation and mitigation policies, objectives and standards of the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027, through pre-planning consultation, planning application process and conditions; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as European sites, biodiversity, air and water quality.
H01	Continue to retrofit local authority social housing stock under the National Retro Fit Programme	This action will support the reduction/offset of Residential sector GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Continue to retrofit local authority social housing stock under the National Retro Fit Programme; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Older houses have the potential to house bats, retrofitting works could therefore disturb bats using these buildings.	
H02	Upgrade of Tullamore Maintenance Fleet to Electric Vehicles	The change to electric vehicles is likely to have a positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action. This change to electric vehicles will likely involve the expansion of the authorities EV charging network. This expansion will lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.	Upgrade of Tullamore Maintenance Fleet to Electric Vehicles, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, and local air quality during any necessary development to facilitate the change.
H04	Upgrade of corporate buildings via Pathway project	This action will support the local authority reducing its organizational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission	Upgrade of corporate buildings via Pathway project, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors,

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		reduction targets. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Older buildings have the potential to house bats, retrofitting works could therefore disturb bats using these buildings.	European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations.
R01	Migration of the Offaly County Councils Corporate Fleet to Low Emission fuels(Electric/HVO)	This action will support the local authority in reducing its organisational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. This has the potential to generate some degree of positive effects on climate and local air quality.	Migration of the Offaly County Councils Corporate Fleet to Low Emission fuels(Electric/HVO) - Whilst ensuring energy/fuel used to power local authority alternative vehicles is sustainably sourced, and appropriate end-of-life management practices are in place for Electric Vehicles.
R02	Formulation of a County/Regional EV Strategy for the delivery of Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure	The introduction of a public electric vehicle charging network will lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust),	Formulation of a County/Regional EV Strategy for the delivery of Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, and cultural heritage.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	
R04	Delivery of the Grand Canal Greenway/Greenways in general and associated Trailheads to facilitate modal shift.	This action supports the development of additional active travel infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental	Delivery of the Grand Canal Greenway/Greenways in general and associated Trailheads to facilitate modal shift, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, and European sites.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	
R05	Continued Delivery of the Offaly County Councils Active Travel Programs to facilitate modal shift.	This action supports the development of additional active travel infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Continued Delivery of the Offaly County Councils Active Travel Programs to facilitate modal shift, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as traffic and transport constraints and aspects, the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, and European sites.
R10	The delivery of the Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Program.	This action will support the local authority in reducing its organizational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect in terms of	The delivery of the Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Program, having due regard for the impact the spectrum of light used will have on protected nocturnal species such as bats.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		GHG emissions however, the spectrum of light from LED sources has the potential to impact nocturnal species. Therefore there is also scope for there to be slight negative effects if unmitigated.	
R11	The implementation of 'Climate Adaption Strategy for Regional and Local Roads'	This action will likely to lead to retrofitting and upgrading of existing roads. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the retrofitting of the existing road network have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.	The implementation of 'Climate Adaption Strategy for Regional and Local Roads', having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, and local air quality.
IS03	Replace wireless connections to Birr MD/Library, Edenderry MD/Library with fiber connections	This action could lead to minor construction works to facilitate the change to fiber. In the absence of mitigation, these works have the potential to cause local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), and impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction).	Replace wireless connections to Birr MD/Library, Edenderry MD/Library with fiber connections, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, European sites, and local air quality.
HT01	Develop and implement a Heritage Pan to record, conserve and raise awareness of all aspects of built, natural and cultural heritage in the County. Ensure actions of each plan complement each other.	This action is likely to have a positive environmental effect in terms of protection of biodiversity. This action has the potential to generate slight to significant positive effects on biodiversity, flora and fauna, protected species and important habitats. Restoration works, if carried out improperly, could potentially impact or impinge on important habitat	Develop and implement a Heritage Pan to record, conserve and raise awareness of all aspects of built, natural and cultural heritage in the County. Ensure actions of each plan complement each other, having due regard to the need to appropriately protect, conserve and enhance important habitats and species and European

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		or species present at wetlands, resulting in slight to significant environmental impacts. Such works could potentially impact on water quality also.	sites, and support the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive.
HT02	Develop and implement a local Biodiversity Action Plan to protect and enhance local biodiversity, including climate relevant measures.	This action is likely to have a positive environmental effect in terms of protection of biodiversity. This action has the potential to generate slight to significant positive effects on biodiversity, flora and fauna, protected species and important habitats. Restoration works, if carried out improperly, could potentially impact or impinge on important habitat or species present at wetlands, resulting in slight to significant environmental impacts. Such works could potentially impact on water quality also.	Develop and implement a local Biodiversity Action Plan to protect and enhance local biodiversity, including climate relevant measures, having due regard to the need to appropriately protect, conserve and enhance important habitats and species and European sites, and support the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive.
HT03	Develop and implement pesticide reduction policy for the County Council	This action has the potential to lead to slight to significant positive effects on biodiversity, flora, fauna and important habitats and water quality, and slight positive effects on the climate environment. Limiting and regulating the use of herbicides and pesticides would prevent to some degree the occurrence of environmental pollution incidents due to the use of these substances. The negative environmental effect of the continued use of such substances is potentially significant, given the hazardous properties of these substances.	Develop and implement pesticide reduction policy for the County Council - ensuring these substances are only used to a degree that does not cause significant effects on the receiving environment, such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity or European sites.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
HT07	Build climate resilience and improve energy performance of architectural and archaeological heritage in public and private ownership through schemes such as BHIS, HSF, HTI, IWTN and Community Monuments Fund.	This action has the potential to have adverse effects on bats, as many roosts are located within old unused buildings.	Build climate resilience and improve energy performance of architectural and archaeological heritage in public and private ownership through schemes such as BHIS, HSF, HTI, IWTN and Community Monuments Fund, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations.
HT09	Develop integrated programme to address Invasive Alien Species through education and/or selected actions as appropriate.	This action hast the potential to lead to positive effects on biodiversity through the removal and/or prevention of spread of invasive species. Inappropriate or improper invasive species management could lead to negative environmental impacts on biodiversity.	Develop integrated programme to address Invasive Alien Species through education and/or selected actions as appropriate. This programme shall be developed by a competent ecology team, and shall have due regard to the need to appropriately manage and prevent the spread of invasive species.
HT10	Conduct a County wetland survey and implement recommendations in terms of conservation and restoration of wetlands	This action has the potential to generate slight to significant positive effects on biodiversity, flora and fauna, protected species and important wetland habitat. This action will promote good flood risk management and flood risk reduction. The proper management of flood water storage systems will generate a positive effect for environmental receptors that are at risk of being negatively impacted by flood events - by reducing the risk of such flood events. This action also has the potential	Conduct a County wetland survey and implement recommendations in terms of conservation and restoration of wetlands. Recommendations shall be developed by a competent ecology team, and shall have due regard to the need to appropriately protect, conserve and enhance important habitats and species and European sites, and support the maintenance and improvement of water quality in line with the aims of the Water Framework Directive.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		to generate climate and biodiversity related benefits. Restoration works, if carried out improperly or inappropriately, could potentially impact or impinge on important habitat or species present at lakes and wetland, resulting in slight to significant environmental impacts. Such works could potentially impact on water quality also.	
HT17	Prepare strategic wildfire management plan for high risk areas such as bogs and Slieve Blooms	This action will promote the protection of biodiversity from climate change influenced wildfire - and has the potential to generate a significant positive effect for protected sites, through preventing the destruction of habitat at the site.	Prepare strategic wildfire management plan for high risk areas such as bogs and Slieve Blooms, having appropriate regard to the need to support the achievement of conservation objectives and protect and enhance important habitats or the qualifying interests of any protected sites.
HT21	Implement green infrastructure solutions, such as bioswales and permeable pavements, using a multi-disciplinary team to guide planning, installation and monitoring to improve stormwater management and enhance local biodiversity.	This action has the potential to lead to positive impacts on water quality and hydrology and biodiversity mainly.	Implement green infrastructure solutions, such as bioswales and permeable pavements, using a multi-disciplinary team to guide planning, installation and monitoring to improve stormwater management and enhance local biodiversity, having appropriate regard to local environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity European sites and cultural heritage considerations.

Table 5-2: Environmental Mitigation Measures related Environmental Governance Principles suggested for inclusion in the plan - specifically the plan implementation section

Promote climate action projects that support and maximise environmental co-benefits, such as biodiversity protection and enhancement; improved air, water or soil quality; or enhanced recreation, amenity and cultural heritage value, to ensure win-win benefits are gained.
Support or facilitate climate action related projects and initiatives which seek to make improvements in soil structure, management and health by increasing soil organic carbon - which will create the environmental co-benefits of improving flood resilience by enhancing water holding capacity of soils and increasing the level of GHG sequestration associated with land use functions.
Ensure all development underpinned or supported by climate action is planned and implemented in a manner that appropriately considers the potential for environmental co-benefits, potential environmental impacts and environmental protection requirements. No climate action related development project that is likely to have a significant negative effect on the receiving environment shall be supported.
Flood defence projects or related maintenance works supported by plan actions shall be carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-biodiversity related co-benefits, and shall have due regard for the protection and enhancement of rare, protected or important habitats and species.
Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-cultural heritage co-benefits, and do not result in unauthorised physical damage to cultural, archaeological or architectural features, or unauthorised or inappropriate alteration of the context of sensitive cultural heritage features.
Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action water quality co-benefits, and align with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive and relevant River Basin Management Plan.
Promote climate action projects that support protected trees, hedgerows and other habitats such as wetlands, floodzones which contribute to green infrastructure.
Support opportunities to improve ecological connectivity of non-designated habitats and sites to improve overall ecosystem resilience and functioning while supporting climate action within the county.
Ensure all projects supported by the council have taken the necessary precautions to identify and manage invasives species, particularly with regard to Schedule III species. No climate action related development project that is likely to cause the spread of invasives species listed in Schedule III shall be supported.
Support opportunities to support peatland restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance while achieving climate targets through the implementation of the climate actions within the plan.

6. CONCLUSION

Stage 1 AA Screening and Stage 2 AA of the Draft Offaly Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 has been carried out. Implementation of the Draft LACAP has the potential to result in effects to the integrity of any European sites, if unmitigated.

The risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European sites have been addressed by the inclusion of mitigation measures that will prioritise the avoidance of effects in the first place and mitigate effects where these cannot be avoided. In addition, all lower-level plans and projects arising through the implementation of the Draft LACAP will themselves be subject to AA when further details of design and location are known.

In-combination effects from interactions with other plans and projects was considered in the assessment and the mitigation measures incorporated into the plan are seen to be robust to ensure there will be no significant adverse effects as a result of the implementation of the Draft LACAP either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects.

Having incorporated mitigation measures, it is concluded that the Draft Offaly Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 is not foreseen to give rise to any significant adverse effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects[40]. This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species, for which these sites have been designated.

The AA process is ongoing and will inform and be concluded at adoption of the Plan.

[40] Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

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APPENDIX 1

Background information to European sites

Appendix 1 - Table 1 Quality and site characteristics of European sites considered in the assessment

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000571	Charleville Wood SAC	The woodland is one of a very few ancient woodlands in Ireland with some parts undisturbed for at least 200 years. Notable for its size and the occurrence of several rare insect species particularly Mycetobia obscura. The lake attracts locally to regionally important numbers of waterfowl. The site supports a large population of the rare snail Vertigo moulinsiana.	A large oak woodland on deep glacial deposits surrounded by estate parkland and agricultural grassland. Site includes a small lake partially overgrown by reed swamp with a wooded island and a stream bordering the western site margin.
000581	Moyclare Bog SAC	Moyclare Bog is a small raised bog site which contains examples of the Annex I habitats active raised bog degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). Much of the bog surface is wet and has a moderate to high cover of Sphagnum moss. It supports Rhynchospora fusca a relatively rare species. Perhaps the most striking feature of this bog is the high proportion of active raised bog within the uncut dome (c.60%). The site occurs in close proximity to a number of important raised bogs close to the flood-plain of the River Shannon.	The site is underlain by low permeability Waulsortian Carboniferous limestones. The subsoil geology is dominated by silty/stoney till. Sections to the north indicate that shell marl underlies the peat in places. Most of the raised bogs in the vicinity have been cut away by Bord na Móna over the past 50 years. Part of the cutaway bog has been converted to improved grassland but is included in the site for hydrological reasons.
000925	The Long Derries Edenderry SAC	This is an important site for several reasons. It supports good quality dry calcareous esker grassland in which occurs a substantial population of the rare and protected Orchis morio. An interesting transition between this habitat and acid peaty grassland is found on the eastern side of the site. Gravel quarries on the site support other rare plant species: Acinos arvensis (a protected species) and Erigeron acer as well as the uncommon introduced Minuartia hybrida. The site is an important ornithological site; the most notable species Caprimulgus europaeus (Nightjar) of which only about thirty pairs are known to breed in Ireland breeds on the site. Several other important bird species also occur.	The site forms part of a low esker ridge which primarily consists of glacial gravels interspersed with loam and peat soils. The site comprises a mosaic of dry esker grassland (calcareous) Cretaegus scrub gravel quarries (used and disused) and humid grassland. The north-eastern side of the site grades into peatland and here an interesting mixture of acid and base loving plants occurs. Much of the western half of the site was previously used as a golf course. A wide variety of activities occur on the site and the western half is the most disturbed.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
001387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC	Alkaline fen is a main habitat at this site occurring in mosaic with a range of swamp and transitional bog communities as well as fen woodland. The fen is well-developed and of good quality and represents one of the best examples in eastern Ireland. The site also contains a relict population of Vertigo moulinsiana. Confirmed record for 1997 and noted to be a large population. All recently surveyed sites with confirmed populations of this species are considered important. The site supports a population of Euphydryas aurinia and contains a number of other rare invertebrate species some of which are good wetland indicator species including the mollusc Pisidium pseudosphaerium the lepidopterans Ectoedemia argyropeza and Apomyelois bistriatella subcognata and the coleopterans Chlaenius tristis and Philonthus corvinus. Of some local importance for wintering waterfowl.	The site comprises a former reservoir (generally called Ballynafagh Lake) and an associated canal feeder (Blackwood feeder) the latter now disused and mostly dry. The lake is shallow and is now very overgrown with various wetland vegetation types with only a small area of open water remaining. Fen is the predominant habitat with reed-swamp wet grassland and some bog or heath also occurring. A strip of deciduous woodland occurs on some drier ground. The main habitats along the canal feeder are dry grassland (partly improved) wet grassland swamp vegetation and scrub.
001683	Liskeenan Fen SAC	The site supports a good though small example of Cladium mariscus fen. It occurs in association with alkaline fen and Phragmites reed beds. Cutover raised bog scrub and woodland add diversity to the site and the close proximity of the fen and bog habitats is of ecological interest. The site supports a stand of Orchis morio a Red Data Book species. Fen habitats such as at this site are nowadays scarce in Co. Tipperary.	This site is located approximately 7 km north-east of Borrisokane in north Co. Tipperary. It comprises a shallow wet basin dominated by fen vegetation which is adjacent to cutover raised bog. While the fen still floods somewhat in winter it may have been more 'turlough' in character in the past - a former inflow has been diverted to a major drainage channel which drains the western part of the basin. A swallow hole does not appear to be active. The substrate of the wetland area is peat over marl. The cutover bog is quite wet and has a good Sphagnum cover. Scrub occurs over part of the cutover bog while a stand of mixed woodland occurs at the eastern end of the site. Improved grassland occurs around the west and south-west margins of the site along with some wet grassland and unimproved dry grassland.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
001776	Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC	The importance of the site lies in the relatively large area of high quality species-rich calcareous grassland that occurs. This grassland supports a suite of orchid species including Orchis morio of which this site holds probably the largest population of the species in the country. The occurrence of woodland on the site is notable; esker woodland is becoming increasingly rare in Ireland.	The site comprises an impressive steep-sided esker ridge which is composed of glacial sands and gravels and situated on the north side of Mongan raised bog and to the east of the River Shannon. Species-rich calcareous grassland is the dominant vegetation of the site; areas of Corylus avellana/Fraxinus excelsior woodland scrub improved grassland and gravel pit are also included in the site.
002213	Glenloughaun Esker SAC	Although small in area this is an excellent example of dry calcareous grassland which is largely unimproved. Of particular note is the species diversity. The orchid interest lies in the occurrence of a large population of Orchis morio a Red Data Book plant species. Orchis mascula also occurs.	This small site is situated on an esker ridge approximately 5 km south-west of Ballinasloe in Co. Galway. It comprises mostly unimproved dry grassland. A feature of the site is the somewhat unusual mixture of calcicole and calcifuge species. Leaching of the base-rich substrate of the esker is likely to have given rise to soil conditions suitable for colonisation by calcifuge species. Some scrub and hedgerows are also present within site along with a small area of deciduous woodland. Main landuse is grazing.
002332	Coolrain Bog SAC	This site is one of the most southerly relatively intact raised bogs in the country. Although pool systems are absent the bog surface is relatively wet and flat and a significant proportion is classified as active bog. There is a high Sphagnum cover which includes the relatively rare species S. imbricatum and S. fuscum. Four small wet flushes dominated by Pinus contorta occur in the active bog area. The area of degraded raised bog is small in extent though shows a typical range of plant communities. Rhychosporian vegetation is represented mainly in the area of active bog. The location of this site close to the southern limits of raised bog distribution in Ireland makes it of high biogeographical interest.	The site is located 9 km south-west of the village of Mountrath Co. Laois. The bog overlies Old Red Sandstone bedrock in contrast to most Irish raised bogs which overlie Carboniferous limestone. Uncut high bog occupies almost half the site area and a high proportion of this is classified as active bog. Substantial areas of the surrounding cutover bog have been afforested with conifers and a portion of this area has been included within the site for to preserve the integrity of the high bog. Other areas of cutover have been converted to pasture grassland of varying quality.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002339	Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC	This site displays an excellent diversity of bog and wetland habitats. While the uncut high bog is mainly classified as degraded raised bog there is a small area of active raised bog within a central wet flush zone. Rhynchosporion vegetation is also represented with the presence of the scarce Rhynchospora fusca of some note. However the presence of bog woodland is of particular note as it is considered as one of the best-formed and most extensive areas of bog woodland in the country. Corkip Lough constitutes a good example of a turlough system containing both a permanent water area and an extensive area of seasonally inundated turlough grassland. In addition there are areas of species-rich calcareous grassland and fen which are of ecological interest. Overall the quality of the habitats occurring at this site is generally good with the areas of bog woodland and turlough being of particularly high ecological value. A number of relatively rare plant and animal species occur these include the rare aquatic invertebrate Eurycercus glacialis and the wetland plant Teucrium scordium. In general this site ranks as one of the most diverse and species-rich small sites in Co. Roscommon.	Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough is a diverse site situated in Co. Roscommon some 8 km west of Athlone. The site and surrounding land overlies limestone bedrock and the soils present are derived from limestone drift. The western half of the site is dominated by a turlough while the eastern half is dominated by a small raised bog complex a significant part of which is uncut high bog. Much of the site is surrounded by low esker ridges which contain areas of species-rich calcareous grassland and scrub. Corkip Lough fluctuates markedly throughout the year and during the summer the water level drops revealing a species-rich wetland flora.
002353	Redwood Bog SAC	This extensive site contains good examples of active raised bog degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. The area of active raised bog present is one of the largest in counties Tipperary and Offaly. The location of the bog within the flood-plain of the Shannon and Little Brosna rivers adds to its interest. Redwood Bog is a feeding site for the Little Brosna flock of Anser albifrons flavirostris though its usage nowadays appears to be low. Overall this site part of which is a state-owned nature reserve is considered as one of the most important relatively intact raised bogs along the banks of the River Shannon.	Redwood Bog is a large raised bog site located along the eastern banks of the River Shannon in the most northerly corner of Co. Tipperary. The bog is a good example of a flood-plain bog lying at the confluence of the Shannon and Little Brosna rivers. Approximately one-third of the site is uncut high bog though much of this is classified as degraded bog. Cutover bog accounts for approximately 55% of the site area. Commercial peat-cutting still continues within this site dominating the western half. Small parts of the cutover have been invaded by Betula pubescens scrub while other parts have been converted to wet pasture grassland.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004064	Lough Ree SPA	Lough Ree is one of the most important Midland sites for wintering waterfowl with nationally important populations of Anas penelope Anas crecca Anas acuta Anas clypeata Aythya fuligula and Bucephala clangula. Nationally important populations of Pluvialis apricaria and Vanellus vanellus are also associated with the lake. Regionally important numbers of Cygnus cygnus and Anser albifrons flavirostris are also found in the vicinity of the lake. The site supports a nationally important population of Sterna hirundo. Larus ridibundus breeds (nationally important) and Larus fuscus and Larus canus have bred in the past (recent census information is poor). Lough Ree is an important site for breeding duck and grebes with Aythya fuligula and Podiceps cristatus having populations of national importance. Of particular note is that it is one of the two main sites in the country for breeding Melanitta nigra a Red Data Book species. The woodland around the lake is a stronghold for Sylvia borin and this scarce species probably occurs on some of the islands within the SPA. Lutra lutra is frequent within the site and the fish Coregonus autumnalis pollan occurs.	Situated on the River Shannon between Lanesborough and Athlone Lough Ree is the third largest lake in the Republic of Ireland. It lies in an ice-deepened depression in Carboniferous Limestone. Some of its features (including the islands) are based on glacial drift. The main inflowing rivers are the Shannon Inny and Hind and the main outflowing river is the Shannon. The greater part of Lough Ree is less than 10 m in depth but there are six deep troughs running from north to south reaching a maximum depth of about 36 m just west of Inchmore. The lake has a very long indented shoreline and hence has many sheltered bays. It also has a good scattering of islands most of which are included in the site. The lake is classified as a mesotrophic system. The water of Lough Ree tends to be strongly peat-stained restricting macrophytes to depths of less than 2 m. Swamp vegetation especially of Phragmites australis occurs in the sheltered areas around the lake. The swamp often grades to species-rich calcareous fen or freshwater marsh. Lowland wet grassland some of which floods in winter is found in abundance around the shore. Some of the islands are wooded.
004137	Dovegrove Callows SPA	Dovegrove Callows is of importance as a high water feeding site for the internationally important Little Brosna population of Anser albifrons flavirostris. Of particular significance is that it can support the entire flock when most other feeding sites are submerged by floodwater.	The site is situated on the Little Brosna River approximately 2 km downstream of Birr and 11 km from the confluence with the River Shannon. It is typical wet callow grassland that floods regularly. Grazing is the principal landuse.
000575	Ferbane Bog SAC	Ferbane Bog is an example of a relatively small raised bog site which contains good examples of the Annex 1 habitats active raised bog degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). Uncut high bog dominates the site and is surrounded by a narrow band of cutover. approximately 35% of the high bog surface consists of very wet active bog with the remainder degraded but capable of regeneration. Areas of poor-fen vegetation	This site is underlain by low permeability Waulsortian limestone bedrock. The subsoils are predominantly low permeability clay rich tills. The bog developed in a basin. This site represents a range in the variation seen in geomorphological setting.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		and birch woodland occur on cutover surfaces along the margins of the site and add to the habitat diversity.	
000576	Fin Lough (Offaly) SAC	A diversity of habitats showing the transition from open water fen fen carr and raised bog are exhibited at the site and give rise to a rich diversity of plants and animals. One of the few open water areas in the county the lake is of value for wintering waterfowl. Site supports a population of Vertigo Geyeri and is also important for Chrysogaster macquarti and Platycheirus perpallidus.	A limestone lake surrounded by fen marsh fen carr and grading into surrounding pasture grassland. Drainage works to facilitate peat milling activities adjoining the site have accelerated the seral development from open water to fen and raised bog with large areas of the former lake basin now overgrown by reedswamp and scrub woodland.
000585	Sharavogue Bog SAC	Sharavogue Bog SAC is a site of considerable conservation significance comprising two subsites: Sharavogue Bog and Cangort (Kilfrancis) Bog which contain raised bog a rare habitat in the EU and one that is becoming increasingly scarce and under threat in Ireland. It contains good examples of the EU Habitats Directive Annex I habitats Active Raised Bog (7110) Degraded Raised Bog (7120) and Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion (7150). The site already supports a good diversity of raised bog microhabitats including some hummock/hollow complexes and rewetted cutover bog. Ireland has a high proportion of the total EU resource of Atlantic raised bog (over 50%) and so has a special responsibility for its conservation at an international level. Along the eastern margins of Sharavogue there is upwelling of base-rich water into the lagg zone and these areas now support carr woodland and calcareous fen vegetation. Areas of wet lagg vegetation such as this are very rare in Western Europe and the lagg system at Sharavogue is one of the best developed in the country. The protected semi-aquatic plant species Slender Cottongrass (Eriophorum gracile) is growing in fen vegetation in the lagg zone while the nationally rare shrub Alder Buckthorn (Frangula alnus) occurs in dry bog woodland on cutaway. Although the Cangort (Kilfrancis) Bog subsite of the SAC is small (13.12 ha) and currently lacks annex habitats full restoration	Sharavogue Bog (SAC) (236.55 ha) is located about 8km south of Birr Co. Offaly in the Little Brosna Valley. It consists of 2 raised bog sites. The main area Sharavogue Bog covers 223.43 ha while a smaller outlier Cangort (Kilfrancis) Bog is located 4km further south and comprises 13.12 ha. Sharavogue Bog is situated between the River Little Brosna and an elevated ridge of Carboniferous limestone. Sharavogue includes 137 ha of uncut raised bog and 86.43 ha of surrounding areas which include cutover bog wet grassland semi-natural woodland and an area of wet lagg vegetation in the cutover along the eastern margin of the bog. The bog is underlain by low permeability limestone and limestone till. Groundwater upwells at the base of the ridge that occurs to the east of the bog. Cangort (Kilfrancis) Bog is the part of Cangort Bog NHA (000890) and it has been restored as part of an EU LIFE project. The site consists of 2.53 ha of high bog and 10.59 ha of cutover most of which was afforested in the 1970s. The underlying geology is carboniferous limestone. Sharavogue Bog is one of the few remaining raised bogs in Ireland situated on a floodplain. It has a well-developed dome of uncut peat which is long and relatively narrow. Active Raised Bog (ARB) is confined to the more southern central part of the dome covers 25.8 ha but lacks any areas of central ecotope as a result of long-term drying out caused by peat cutting and marginal and river drainage.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		measures have been implemented and it has the potential to support the retention of Degraded Raised Bog in Cangort Bog NHA (000890).	In addition drains were inserted across about 60% of the high bog dome in the early 1990s. All the drains on the high bog and many of the drains on the south eastern area of the cutover were dammed in the late 1990s as part of an EU Cohesion project to restore peat forming conditions on the high bog and cutover. The bog surface has also been damaged by burning in the past and there are invasive native and non-native species are present on the bog dome. The dominant micro-topography consists of Sphagnum hummocks and hollows. Pools are scarce and Sphagnum cuspidatum filled lawn-like depressions are very occasional. Rhynchosporion depressions (7150) are open pioneer type vegetation communities of wet depressions on acid peat in both natural and man modified situations. Rhynchosporion vegetation occurs along pool edges (very scarce in Sharavogue Bog) on lawns and hollows underlain by deep wet and quaking peat. Cangort Bog NHA is a remnant of a larger area of bog much of which has now been cutover and reclaimed for forestry and agriculture. In the SAC section of the NHA all the afforested areas on the high bog and cutover were clear-felled and the associated drains blocked in 2014. Site specific conservation objectives have been set for Sharavogue Bog SAC for Active Raised Bog. One of the key targets is to restore the area of Active Raised Bog to 40.9 ha and it has been determined using modelling techniques that there is potential for 14.7 ha of Degraded Raised Bog to be restored to Active Raised Bog on the high bog following restoration measures. There is also long-term potential for 0.4 ha of Bog peat-forming habitats (BPFH) to develop if restoration measures are undertaken on cutover areas. A restoration plan has been developed to achieve these targets. Detailed objectives have yet to be developed for the Cangort (Kilfrancis) subsite of the SAC but will be produced as part of the restoration plan for the Cangort Bog NHA site. Cangort (Kilfrancis) Bog is being actively managed for conservation by the landowner Coillte as part of an EU LIFE Project and most of the required restoration

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			measures have already been carried out. Sharavogue Bog is part of the current NPWS Restoring Active Raised Bog in Irelands SAC Network 2016-2020 (LIFE NAT/IE/000032).
000641	Ballyduff/Clonfinane Bog SAC	Ballyduff/Clonfinane Bog is a medium sized raised bog which contains good examples of the Annex I habitats active raised bog degraded raised bog depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion) and bog woodland. The central parts of both sub-sites are very wet and there are very good pool complexes especially at Clonfinane. At Clonfinane there is some potential for the development of lagg vegetation along the northern margins of the site where the peat depth appears to be naturally shallow. Although parts of the site have been drained in the past there has been significant restoration of the high bog areas in the Clonfinane portion of the site. The nationally rare shrub Frangula alnus grows in tall Betula pubescens woodland along the northern margins of Clonfinane.	This site is underlain by low permeability Waulsortian limestones. Clayey tills black lake clays and laminated lake clays dominate the subsoils. The bog has developed in a number of former shallow laustrine basins which coalesced over low ridges.
000647	Kilcarren-Firville Bog SAC	Kilcarren-Firville Bog is a relatively large raised bog site which contains good examples of the priority Annex I habitat active raised bog and the non-priority habitats degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). The quality of these habitats is good and in addition there is a large area of surrounding cutover which contains a number of regenerating areas and some areas of well-developed scrub. These scrub areas provide habitat for a population of the nationally rare shrub Frangula alnus. Of particular hydrological note is the presence of infiltration zones along the margins of the site. These could potentially be developed into lagg areas in the future.	This site is underlain by low permeability Waulsortian limestone bedrock with low permeability clayey limestone tills dominating the subsoil. Peat developed in a number of basins which coalesced over low ridges. This has led to the development of infiltration areas along the northern edges.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
001625	Castlesampson Esker SAC	The importance of this site lies in its almost intact structure something that is very rare in Irish eskers in its relatively undisturbed nature and in the presence of good quality species-rich dry calcareous grassland. The absence of large blocks of scrub on the esker is notable. This grassland vegetation supports a rich variety of species some of which are rare on eskers or in the midlands including four orchid species. The rare Erigeron acer a Red Data Book species is found in the three gravel pits on the site. The protected Acinos arvensis occurs in a gravel pit on the site north of the main road. The site includes a series of turloughs.	The site is dominated by a steep-sided esker composed of glacial gravels. The vegetation of most of the esker is of dry grassland with small amounts of scrub scattered throughout. Improved grassland occurs commonly on the site; this is found mainly on the level ground at the base of the esker. Three gravel pits occur within the site. These support mainly open vegetation including two rare plant species. One of the gravel pits supports a number of fen species.
002206	Scohaboy (Sopwell) Bog SAC	Scohaboy (Sopwell) Bog SAC is a site of considerable conservation significance comprising raised bog a rare habitat in the EU and one that is becoming increasingly scarce and under threat in Ireland. It contains good examples of the EU Habitats Directive Annex I habitat Degraded raised bog (capable of regeneration) which is being restored to the priority Annex 1 habitat Active raised bog. The site already supports a good diversity of raised bog microhabitats including some hummock/hollow complexes tear pools and rewetted cutover bog and is one of the more southerly raised bogs in the south Midlands which adds significantly to its ecological importance. Ireland has a high proportion of the total EU resource of raised bog (over 50%) and so has a special responsibility for its conservation at an international level. The site is being actively managed for conservation as part of the Coillte EU LIFE Project and most of the required restoration measures have already been carried out. Those measures that remain or are ongoing should be achievable with average effort. An After LIFE management plan is being developed by Coillte for the future conservation management of the SAC.	Scohaboy (Sopwell) Bog SAC (002206) comprises 71.91 ha of raised bog (62.36 ha of high bog and over 9.55 ha cutover) which occupies the central section of the northern end of Scohaboy Bog NHA (000937). Scohaboy Bog is a Midland type raised bog developed in a basin. The site is bounded by peatland on all margins apart from the north where a stream flows along the northern margin. Cutover bog occurs in the south-east of the site and an area of approximately 19 ha of clear-felled coniferous plantation is present on the high bog to the north of the site. Over 43 ha of the high bog was never afforested but a considerable proportion of that area was subjected to intensive but shallow drainage. That drainage was not maintained and in some areas has naturally partly infilled by bog moss Sphagnum species regrowth over the years. The afforested area was planted in the 1980s and was all clearfelled by 2013. Much of the unafforested high bog has vegetation typical of Midland Raised Bog type. The two scarce hummock forming bog mosses Sphagnum fuscum(sensu lato) and S. austinii occur with the latter being locally frequent in places. Some of the recovering pool systems are quite large with Bog Bean (Menyanthes trifoliata) and Great Sundew (Drosera anglica) present.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The SAC is located within the raised bog Scohaboy Bog NHA (000937) the conservation management of which should support the redevelopment of Active Raised Bog in the SAC. The presence of White-clawed Crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) a species listed in Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive adds to the diversity and scientific value of the site. The population at this site is considered to have a favourable conservation status with the presence of adults and juveniles. The presence of this species increases the overall scientific interest of the site.	When the conifer plantation in the SAC were removed the intensive drainage system associated with it was blocked by 2014 as part of an EU funded LIFE project so as to raise the water table and restore Active raised bog (ARB) on the site. Prior to the felling there was relatively few bog species present. With the clear-felling of conifers and blocking of drains the high bog appears to be re-wetting with some areas of wet flats and hollows already developing and water-levels now much higher throughout the year. However the majority of the former plantation will not develop vegetation characteristic of the wettest conditions as the surface slopes in this area are too steep and there is a considerable amount of conifer and birch regeneration occurring in these areas. The main benefit of the tree removal and the drain blocking will be to improve the hydrology of the adjacent areas of unafforested high bog to the south of the plantation. There three areas covering over 11.6 ha have been identified by hydrological modelling as Degraded Raised Bog (7120) habitat (DRB). These now have standing surface water in the drains hollows and pools for most of the year and considerable areas of regenerating Sphagnum species. It is considered that this area will rapidly develop into Active Raised Bog within 10 years. Much of the cutover to the south-east of the site is dominated by Purple Moor-grass (Molinia caerulea) with scattered scrub of Gorse (Ulex europaeus) and Downy Birch (Betula pubescens) in places. Peat cutting ceased in the area in 2015 and the cutover drains were all blocked in late 2015. The area has now rewetted and should eventually support raised bog communities and species. It is estimated that approximately 1.6 ha of this cutover has the potential to support Active Raised Bog in the medium to long term (i.e. over 30 years period).

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002207	Arragh More (Derrybreen) Bog SAC	The large area of Degraded Raised Bog habitat in Arragh More Bog SAC is of significant conservation value as it has the potential for restoration to over 10 ha of Active Raised Bog which is a priority habitat in the E.U. and one that is scarce and under threat in Ireland. The restoration actions undertaken to date are resulting in active redevelopment of the habitat towards Active Raised Bog which add to the diversity and scientific value of the site. Large sections of the Degraded Raised Bog in the more flushed parts of the bog may also develop directly or via Active Raised Bog into the very rare priority habitat Bog Woodland (91D0) which would add further to the scientific interest of the site. The site is being actively managed for conservation as part of the Coillte E.U. LIFE Project. The SAC is located within the raised bog Arragh More Bog NHA (000640) the conservation management of which should support the redevelopment of Active Raised Bog in the SAC while the management of the SAC will support the retention of 3 ha of Active Raised Bog in the NHA. Overall there is a large area of bog with good restoration potential for two priority habitats and most of the required restoration measures have already been carried out. While some significant threats remain the size and potential of the site makes it of international importance.	Arragh More (Derrybreen) Bog SAC (002207) comprises 90.58 ha of raised bog (57.9 ha of high bog and 32.68 ha cutover) which occupies the north-western section of Arragh More Bog NHA (000640). Arragh More Bog NHA developed originally in at least 3 basins aligned in a north south direction which were initially separated by low ridges of relatively impermeable glacial till overlying limestone bedrock. As these bogs grew they eventually coalesced over these low ridges to form one bog with a very complex shape. Arragh More Bog NHA is therefore the remnant of a large bog that was originally part of a system of interconnecting bogs which are now separated by roads and cutover that has been reclaimed for agriculture. The SAC occupies the western parts of the two most northerly basins. The surface of the high bog in the central basin is lower than that to the east and south and receives significant amounts of runoff from them resulting in the development of an internal flush system. The SAC is bordered by forest plantations on cutover to the north raised bog and cutover to the east and south and agricultural grassland to the east. The SAC was mostly afforested in in the 1970s with just over 12 ha (13%) of high bog in the north-east and south of the site being left unplanted. The remaining areas of intact high bog have vegetation typical of a Midland Raised Bog. Some hummocks of the relatively scarce S. austinii and S. fuscum (sensu lato) have been recorded. Two main areas of high bog covering 11.4 ha have been identified as Degraded Raised Bog (DRB) and thus with potential to develop peat forming habitats (Active Raised Bog and Bog Woodland). These consist of a large area (9.9 ha) to the east with two large lobes and a much smaller one (1.5 ha) to south-east section of the SAC. There is a small area of Bog Woodland to the east just outside the site to provide the characteristic species for that habitat.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002236	Island Fen SAC	This site is important as it supports fine examples of the Annex 1 habitat Juniper scrub formations over calcareous grasslands/heath along with some small though species rich areas of alkaline fen - also an Annex 1 habitat. This Juniperus communis site is the only site proposed for this habitat type east of Lough Derg.	The geology of the site is of Lower Carboniferous Limestone and the principle soil is grey brown podzolic. The site overlies an old lake bed lined with shelly marl. Soil cover is generally thin with some rocks protruding locally. Much of the site is dominated by Phragmites australis reedbeds which merge northwards into calcareous grasslands/heath with upright Juniper scrub formations. To the west and south small zones of alkaline fen occur along with a small hazel and ash woodland.
002336	Carn Park Bog SAC	Although a relatively large proportion of this site has been afforested it still contains a substantial area of active raised bog. This is typical of the midland raised bog type with hummock/hollow complexes pools and Sphagnum lawns. The diversity of Sphagnum species is notably high and includes the nationally rare Sphagnum pulchrum. Degraded raised bog is also well represented though part of this has been afforested. The areas of cutover bog which have not been planted add to the biodiversity of the site.	Carn Park Bog lies approximately 8 km east of Athlone. It comprises an area of uncut high bog and surrounding cutover areas. Part of the high bog is active raised bog though the greater part is classified as degraded. A substantial area of the degraded high bog and the cutover bog has been planted with conifers. Part of the cutover bog has been invaded by Betula pubescens scrub. Further afforestation occurs adjacent to the site.
002342	Mount Hevey Bog SAC	Mount Hevey Bog is one of the most easterly relatively intact raised bogs in Ireland and represents one of the largest bog areas in the eastern half of the country. Although more than half of the site area consists of cutover bog there is a large area of active raised bog. The active areas support well-developed pool areas and have a high Sphagnum cover which include the rare species Sphagnum fuscum and S. imbricatum. A soak area which has developed from an infilled lake and now supports some Betula pubescens trees adds diversity to the bog surface. A substantial area of uncut high bog that is classified as degraded raised big is present. The degraded bog supports a wide range of plant communities depending on factors such as height of water table and past burning events. The bog and especially the active parts contains substantial areas of Rhynchosporion vegetation which have a typical species composition and generally exist in a well-preserved condition.	Mount Hevey is a large midland raised bog which is situated 3 km north-east of Kinnegad village and lies on the border of counties Meath and Westmeath. The bog overlies Carboniferous limestone bedrock and occurs in four sections. Two of these are small and lie to the north of a railway line while two larger lobes lie to the south of the railway line. These two larger lobes are of higher ecological value due to the presence of active bog. Cutover bog surrounds the uncut high bog. Part of the high bog and also part of the cutover has been afforested with conifers. Other parts of the cutover has been invaded by Betula pubescens scrub and small amounts of broad-leaved woodland. Some of the cutover has been converted to semi-improved grassland.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The cutover areas which surround the high bog contain large areas of scrub woodland dominated by Betula pubescens.	
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Lough Derg is of importance for both breeding and wintering birds. The islands support nationally important breeding colonies of Sterna hirundo Phalacrocorax carbo Podiceps cristatus and probably Aythya fuligula. It is a traditional site for nesting Larus ridibundus but there is no recent survey information. In winter the lake is particularly important for diving ducks with nationally important populations of Aythya fuligula and Bucephala clangula occurring. Cygnus olor also has a population of national importance whilst a range of other species occur in lesser numbers including Cygnus cygnus Anas crecca Fulica atra and Vanellus vanellus. A flock of Anser albifrons flavirostris has traditionally used the site where they feed on grassy islands but birds have seldom been recorded in recent years.	Lough Derg is the largest of the Shannon Lakes being some 40 km long. Its maximum breadth across the Scarriff Bay-Youghal Bay transect is 13 km but for most of its length it is less than 5 km wide. The lake is relatively shallow at the northern end being mostly 6 m in depth but in the middle region it has an axial trench and descends to over 25 m in places. The narrow southern end of the lake has the greatest average depth with a maximum of 34 m. The greater part of the lake lies on Carboniferous limestone but the narrow southern section is underlain by Silurian strata. Most of the lower part of the lake is enclosed by hills on both sides the Slieve Aughty Mountains to the west and the Arra Mountains to the east. The northern end is bordered by relatively flat agricultural country. The lake shows the high hardness levels and alkaline pH to be expected from its mainly limestone catchment basin and it has most recently been classified as a mesotrophic system. The lake has many small islands especially on its western and northern sides. The shoreline is often fringed with swamp vegetation. Aquatic vegetation includes a range of charophyte species.
004086	River Little Brosna Callows SPA	This site is of international importance because it regularly supports in excess of 30000 waterfowl and is rated among the top five sites in the country for numbers of wintering birds. At a species level it supports internationally important populations of Anser albifrons flavirostris and Limosa limosa. The Anser albifrons flavirostris flock is the largest outside of the Wexford Slobs whilst the Limosa limosa population accounts for over 15% of the national total and is the largest in the country. It has nationally important populations of a further seven species: Cygnus cygnus Anas penelope Anas crecca Anas acuta Anas clypeata Pluvialis apricaria and Vanellus vanellus.	The site follows the River Brosna from its confluence with the River Shannon for approximately 9 km south-eastwards to just beyond New Bridge. The main habitat present is grassland that is improved to varying extents and which is seasonally flooded. The less improved areas are species-rich. The grassland is used mainly for pasture but some is used for hay-making. The river channel is fringed by swamp and marsh vegetation. The site adjoins several raised bogs and cutover bogs.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The Anas penelope population is over 10% of the national total whilst the Anas acuta Anas clypeata and Pluvialis apricaria populations are over 5% of the respective totals. The Calidris alpina population is notable as inland populations of this species are rare. It has substantial nesting populations of Gallinago gallinago and Tringa totanus though the numbers of nesting waders has decreased since the 1980s. Crex crex formerly bred but not since the early 1990s. This site provides one of the few remaining examples in the country of a large river system which still floods in a fairly natural way.	
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. Along with its main tributaries the River Suck and River Brosna it represents one of the most important wetland systems in the country. It is of International Importance for wintering waterfowl as numbers regularly exceed the 20000 threshold (mean of 34985 for the 5 winters 1994/94-1998/99). Of particular note is the presence of an Internationally Important population of Cygnus cygnus. A further five species have populations of national importance: Cygnus olor Anas penelope Pluvialis apricaria Vanellus vanellus and Limosa limosa. There is a well documented spring passage of Limosa limosa along the river valley. The Shannon callows are also of high importance for breeding birds. In particular it has the largest concentration of Crex crex in Ireland. Since 1991 a conservation programme involving annual monitoring of population size practical habitat management and publicity has been in operation. Coturnix coturnix a very rare species in Ireland also breeds in the grasslands. Several wader species notably Vanellus vanellus Gallinago gallinago and Tringa totanus have important breeding populations though these have declined substantially since the 1980s. The scarce breeding species Anas clypeata nests in small numbers each year.	The site follows the River Shannon from Athlone just below Lough Ree to Portumna just above Lough Derg a distance of over 50 km. It includes much of the flood plain of the river varying in width from approximately 0.5 km to up to 1.5 km in places. A weir at Meelick divides the flooding regime. The main habitat present is humid grassland improved to varying extents that is seasonally flooded. The less improved areas are species-rich. The grassland is used mainly for pasture but some is used for hay-making. The river channel is fringed by swamp and marsh vegetation. There is an extensive system of drainage channels many of which support a diverse flora. The callows often border raised bogs some of which are still intact.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The callows is one of the very few sites in Ireland where Limosa limosa has bred. The habitats also support a range of ground nesting passerine species notably Locustella naevia and Alauda arvensis. In autumn and winter Circus cyaneus is a regular visitor.	
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and Britain and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. It has been placed among the most 'natural' floodplains in western Europe. It is subject to regular and prolonged annual winter flooding. Wooded alluvial islands which flood regularly occur at one location. A number of Red Data Book and scarce plant species occur on the site the scarce species including Leucojum aestivum Sium latifolium Botrychium lunaria and Lemna gibba. In addition the site contains a very wide variety of native plant species. A small area of limestone pavement at Clorhane is of particular importance as it is the only example of this habitat in the region. Along with its tributary the Little Brosna (designated separately) this is one of the great waterfowl sites in Ireland with huge numbers of a wide range of species occurring in winter with a mean peak of 34985 waterbirds recorded from 1995/96 to 1999/00. This is the third highest for an inland site in Ireland. The highest is the Little Brosna which is an extension to the Middle Shannon Callows. Only three estuarine sites are higher. In 1996/97 one species was of International Importance (Whooper Swan) and six species were of National Importance. A small flock of Anser albifrons flavirostris regularly use a few locations on the site and these are part of the Internationally Important flocks of both the Little Brosna and the River Suck. It is one of very few significant inland sites in Britain or Ireland for Calidris alpina. It is the top site in the country for Cygnus olor and close to that for Cygnus cygnus Vanellus vanellus and Pluvialis apricaria.	The River Shannon is the largest river in Ireland and its central route drains a large percentage of the whole country. It has proved too powerful to be tamed by drainage schemes in the past and this central section is still free to flood the surrounding lowlands in winter. It is a well-used agricultural resource of low intensity during the summer. This floodplain functions as a semi-natural meadow/marsh habitat (used for grazing or hay-making). There is an extensive system of surface drains. The site is linear running for about 50 km at an average width of about 0.75 km (but reaching 1.5 km in several places). For about half its length it borders raised bogs most of which are in the process of large-scale peat harvesting. Esker ridges lie adjacent to the callows in some places. There are areas of both relict and active levees. A weir at Meelick divides the flooding regime. Ecological diversity is caused and maintained by multiple ownership variation in the flooding regime due to the topography of the callows hundreds of kilometres of drainage ditches differences in the amount of peat and alluvium in the soils and by the extensive nature of the site. The main habitat on the site is humid grassland managed for hay and pasture and these areas have the same management regime as the lowland hay meadows and Molinia meadows.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The E.U. Birds Directive Annex I species Circus cyaneus regularly uses the site for hunting in autumn and winter. Perhaps even more important are its nesting Crex crex Coturnix coturnix and breeding waders. In 1987 1204 pairs of breeding waders were recorded (including adjacent parts of the Shannon) mainly Vanellus vanellus Gallinago gallinago Numenius arquata and Tringa totanus. Crex crex has one of its last strongholds here with 70 and 66 calling birds present in 1998 and 1999 respectively. The Shannon Callows is one of the few areas in Ireland where Coturnix coturnix breeds. Numbers vary between years but up to 14 males have been heard. There are high populations of ground-nesting passerines such as Alauda arvensis Anthus pratensis Locustella naevia and Emberiza schoeniclus on the site. The River Shannon Callows is a breeding site for two Red Data Book waterbird species: Limosa limosa islandica and Anas clypeata. The Red Data Book species Anas acuta has also bred on the site though its current status is unknown. The E.U. Birds Directive Annex I species Falco columbarius bred on the site in 1996. Large rivers flowing unfettered through lowland floodplains are now rare anywhere in Europe. This river and its associated habitats are of the highest conservation importance.	
000391	Ballynafagh Bog SAC	Ballynafagh Bog is a small raised bog site which contains examples of the Annex 1 habitats active raised bog degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. The bog is one of the most easterly examples of a relatively intact raised bog in Ireland and together with Mouds Bog is one of only two such systems in Co. Kildare. A central depression on the high bog dome supports a substantial area of active raised bog with a locally high Sphagnum cover. The site is also of ornithological interest being within the breeding territory of a pair of Falco columbarius and providing habitat for breeding Gallinago gallinago and Numenius arquata. Lepus timidus hibernicus occurs within the site.	This area is directly underlain by muddy fossiliferous limestones interbedded with calcareous shales. A reverse fault runs directly under the bog so that the NW of the bog is underlain by fossiliferous mudmounds. Both have low permeabilities. The subsoils are predominantly clay rich tills of low permeability. Part of the site has been planted with conifers.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000396	Pollardstown Fen SAC	The largest spring-fed fen in Ireland largely intact and responding well to restoration measures. Supports one of the largest stands of Cladium fen and is one of the most studied examples of its kind in Ireland. Type locality for the Cirsio dissecti-Schoenetum nigricantis and contains a significant number of rare and threatened species. A number of internationally important invertebrates have been recorded and rare sub-aquatic invertebrates are particularly well represented. Pollardstown is the only known site in Ireland (or Europe) to support all three Annex II Vertigo species (V.geyeri V.angustior V. moulinsiana) and thus provides unique opportunity to study their different habitat and hydrological requirements. Re-flooding of reclaimed areas has increased the ornithological value of the site.	A large spring-fed fen situated in a shallow basin composed of up to 6m of marl/peat overlying clay. The fen contains the feeder channel of the Grand Canal and has survived several attempts at drainage and reclamation. Supports extensive areas of Cladium fen Schoenus fen reed and sedge swamp Molinia grassland and species-rich seepage areas. Restoration of the central fen area following partial reclamation in 1979 has caused re-flooding and allowed the re-establishment and expansion of aquatic and reedswamp vegetation and their associated fauna.
000412	Slieve Bloom Mountains SAC	One of the best and least disturbed mountain blanket bogs in Ireland representing an important biogeographical link in the east/west gradient of bog variation. Contains transitional elements between raised and blanket bogs notably Andromeda polifolia and Vaccinium oxycoccus and includes extensive heaths and headwater streams. Wet heath is well represented within the site. Alluvial woodland occurs within the Camcor River valley - this is of variable quality due to afforestation but quality will be improved with sensitive management by the forestry agency. The Slieve Blooms is a stronghold for breeding Circus cyaneus.	An isolated inland mountain range composed of Old Red Sandstone forming an elongated ridge extending for 25km in a North-east/South-west direction supporting extensive mountain blanket bog development. Site includes the headwaters of several river systems including the river Barrow. Surrounding lands are extensively afforested with conifer monocultures.
000440	Lough Ree SAC	One of the largest and most important lakes in Ireland Lough Ree is an excellent example of a natural eutrophic system. The woodlands at the site are considered the best in the midlands. The site also contains very good examples of degraded raised bog much of which retain a typical raised bog flora and which could be improved by restoration works. Bog woodland is also represented though some of this is planted Pinus species. A further area of wet woodland on cutover peat is notable for the abundance of Frangula alnus.	A large mesotrophic moderate-eutrophic lake situated in an ice deepened depression in carboniferous limestone on the River Shannon. Greater part is less than 10 m in depth but there are deep troughs from north to south of depths between 17-33 m. Lough Ree has a long and much indented shoreline mostly stony with some gravel and sand. In parts reed swamp alkaline fen bog freshwater marshes wet and dry grassland and wet woodland occurs. Numerous islands some wooded occur in the lake.

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		Good to moderate examples of alkaline fens and calcareous dry grasslands also occur. Limestone pavement with species-rich woodland occurs at Rathcline. Several Red Data plant species occur. Lutra lutra is frequent on the site and the fish Coregonus autumnalis pollan has been recorded. It is an important bird site for wintering and breeding waterfowl and has a colony of Sterna hirundo. It is of particular importance for the breeding population of Melanitta nigra as it is one of only three sites for the species in Ireland. Water quality of the lake is considered good.	Dry broad-leaved woodland of good quality is included in site. Lough Ree is surrounded by agricultural land of moderate to high intensity and is close to Athlone town. Eutrophication may be a problem but at present Lough Ree is less affected than other midland lakes notably Lough Derg.
000572	Clara Bog SAC	Clara Bog is a very good example of a large midland raised bog which contains examples of the Annex I habitats active raised bog degraded raised bog bog woodland depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion) and orchid-rich calcareous grassland. One of the most unusual features of the bog is the presence of an infilling lake which supports mesotrophic fen vegetation. There is an associated soak area which is dominated by a well-developed wet birch woodland. This area of bog woodland is one of the best examples of the habitat in the country and supports a rich invertebrate flora which includes Parhelophilus consimilis and Ampedus pomorum. The moss Tetraplodon angustatus has its only Irish station on the bog while it is also the last known site for the vascular plant species Scheuchzeria palustris (transplanted to the site and now thought to be extinct). The site also provides habitat for important bird species such as Lagopus lagopus and breeding Falco columbarius. Clara Bog has been subject to detailed hydrological and ecological studies.	Most of the site is underlain by low permeability Waulsortian limestone. The southern section is underlain by relatively impermeable massive limestone. This bedrock is overlain by sands gravels and boulder clays which in turn are overlain by a layer of lacustrine clay. Shell marl is seen in a few places. The peat layer developed on top of this. An esker ridge runs roughly east-west along the northern edge of the site and a till mound is seen to the south. The raised bog developed in a former lake. Part of the old cutover bog has been converted to improved pasture which is included in the site for hydrological reasons. A conifer plantation will eventually be removed.
000582	Raheenmore Bog SAC	Raheenmore Bog is a medium-sized midland raised bog site which contains good examples of the priority Annex I habitat active raised bog and the non-priority habitats degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). These habitats are generally of good quality.	This site is underlain by muddy limestone with low permeability. This is overlain by sands gravels and boulder clays. A layer of lacustrine clay lies over this on which the peat layer developed. The bog developed in a basin between low hills in which a lake would initially have been present. Part of the cutover bog has been converted to improved grassland which is included in the site for hydrological reasons.

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		Most of the site is owned by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and there has been considerable research and restoration carried out on the site over the past 15 years. In addition to the presence of a well-developed flora the site provides habitat for important animal species such as Rana temporaria Lacerta vivipara Lagopus lagopus and is within a breeding territory of Falco columbarius.	
000859	Clonaslee Eskers and Derry Bog SAC	The alkaline fen at this site is a good representative of the habitat and has a diverse flora. The site contains a relict population of Vertigo geyeri and is one of a small number of known sites for this mollusc in the country. The site also contains two legally protected and Red Data plant species Vicia orobus and Acinos arvensis plus a number of scarce species such as Erigeron acer Sesleria albicans and Ophrys insectifera.	This site comprises a series of glacial esker ridges situated c.5 km west of the town of Clonaslee and to the north of the Slieve Bloom Mountains. Calcareous grassland mostly unimproved is a principal habitat and is noted for high species diversity. Calcareous springs at the base of the esker ridges have resulted in the formation of alkaline fen. Native deciduous woodland also occurs on the ridges. A raised bog Derry Bog now mostly cutaway is included in site. Owing to the diversity of habitats present the site is noted for its unusual mixture of calcicole and calcifuge species.
000919	Ridge Road SW of Rapemills SAC	The importance of this site lies in the unimproved herb-rich esker grassland. As well as supporting vegetation communities in which several notable herb species are found the site also supports a large population of Orchis morio a Red Data Book species. Sites such as this are becoming increasingly rare in Ireland through grassland improvement or removal of the sites for gravel.	A relatively extensive unimproved grassland site situated on steep-sided twin esker ridge formed from glacial gravels. The main vegetation type on the site is unimproved dry grassland in which several notable herb species are found. Open scrub and hazel scrub woodland is found in many parts of the site. The western end of the site has some improved grassland.
000934	Kilduff Devilsbit Mountain SAC	The main importance of the site lies in the fairly extensive area of good quality species-rich Nardus grassland that occurs and in the large population of the nationally rare and protected orchid Pseudorchis albida that it supports. The site is relatively diverse and includes a small area of good quality dry heath. Undamaged unimproved upland grassland sites such as this are becoming increasingly rare in Ireland.	The site is situated on the north-eastern slopes of Devilsbit Mountain a flat-topped ridge composed of silurian grits. The main vegetation type found on the site is species-rich heathy grassland. Degraded Molinia-dominated wet heath dry heath and stands of Quercus sp./Fagus sylvatica woodland occur in the upper sections of the site. Light scrub is scattered throughout the lower sections of the site and here several streams and flushes are found. A wet broad-leaved Alder woodland in the wet area at the eastern side of the site.

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001831	Split Hills and Long Hill Esker SAC	This is one of the finest wooded esker ridges remaining in the country and constitutes one of the few woodlands in the area. In places a very rich ground flora is found in the woods. This includes several scarce species including the protected Cardamine impatiens which has not been recorded as a native elsewhere in Ireland. The site is very diverse and includes examples of many habitats. Species-rich calcareous grassland is found in many areas of the site. The protected plant Galeopsis angustifolia has been recorded from the site.	A linear site approximately 7km long which comprises for the most part an esker ridge composed of glacial sand and gravel. The main habitat is semi-natural deciduous woodland but this diverse site also contains significant areas of bog scrub improved and wet grasslands. Sand and gravel are extracted from three areas of the site. Roads and a river cross the site in several places.
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	This site contains a range of Annex I habitats including floating river vegetation eutrophic tall herbs alluvial forest old oak woods yew woods and salt meadows. The site is very important for the presence of a number of scarce and specialised Annex II animal species with particularly important populations of the fish species Salmo salar and Alosa fallax fallax. Lutra lutra is widespread on the system as is Austropotamobius pallipes. The site supports two Annex I priority and five non-priority Annex I habitats. There are four Annex I species of birds present within the site. The rare lichen Lobaria pulmonaria an ancient woodland indicator occurs at Portlaw Oak Woods within the site.	The Suir River system flows through the counties of Tipperary Kilkenny and Waterford. The site consists of all of the freshwater stretches of the Suir immediately south of Thurles the tidal stretches as far as the confluence with the Barrow/Nore immediately east of Cheekpoint in Co. Waterford and many of the tributaries including the Clodiagh the Lingaun Anner Nier Tar Aherlow and Multeen. Much of the system flows through Carboniferous limestone though towards Waterford the geology changes to Old Red Sandstone and Ordovician bedrocks. The site supports a diverse range of habitats including marsh reedbeds wet and dry grasslands broad-leaved semi-natural woodlands salt marshes tidal rivers and estuarine channels. Substantial areas of improved grassland and arable lands are included for water quality reasons.
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	The main channel of the Boyne contains a good example of alluvial woodland of the Salicetum albo-fragilis type which has developed on three alluvium islands. Alkaline fen vegetation is well represented at Lough Shesk where there is a very fine example of habitat succession from open water to raised bog. The Boyne and its tributaries is one of Ireland's premier game fisheries and offers a wide range of angling from fishing for spring salmon and grilse to sea trout fishing and extensive brown trout fishing. The site is one	This site comprises most of the freshwater element of the River Boyne from upriver of the Boyne Aqueduct at Drogheda the Blackwater River as far as Lough Ramor and the principal Boyne tributaries notably the Deel Stoneyford and Tremblestown Rivers. This system drains a considerable area of Cos. Meath and Westmeath and smaller areas of Cavan and Louth. The underlying geology is Carboniferous Limestone for the most part with areas of Upper Lower and Middle well represented. In the vicinity of Kells Silurian Quartzite is present while close to Trim are Carboniferous Shales and Sandstones.

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		of the most important in eastern Ireland for Salmo salar and has very extensive spawning grounds. The site also has an important population of Lampetra fluviatilis though the distribution or abundance of this species is not well known. Lutra lutra is widespread throughout the site. Some of the grassland areas along the Boyne and Blackwater are used by a nationally important winter flock of Cygnus cygnus. Several Red Data Book plants occur within the site with Pyrola rotundifolia Poa palustris and Juncus compressus. Also occurring are a number of Red Data Book animals notably Meles meles Martes martes and Rana temporaria. The River Boyne is a designated Salmonid Water under the EU Freshwater Fish Directive.	The rivers flow through a landscape dominated by intensive agriculture mostly of improved grassland but also cereals. Much of the river channels were subject to arterial drainage schemes in the past. Natural flood-plains now exist along only limited stretches of river though often there is a fringe of reed swamp freshwater marsh wet grassland or deciduous wet woodland. Along some parts notably between Drogheda and Slane are stands of tall mature mixed woodland. Substantial areas of improved grassland and arable land are included in site for water quality reasons. There are many medium to large sized towns adjacent to but not within the site.
002313	Ballymore Fen SAC	The site supports a good example of transition mire vegetation that occurs in association with alkaline fen and incipient raised bog. It has many of the expected plant species for the habitat including the locally rare Carex limosa and an excellent diversity of bryophytes. The site supports the Red Data Book species Pyrola rotundifolia and has the legally protected amphibian species Rana temporaria and Triturus vulgaris as well as a diverse invertebrate fauna with at least five Odonta species. Quality of habitats is good and the site is in a fairly natural state.	Ballymore Fen occupies a relatively wide and deep depression in drift deposits that are underlain by Carboniferous Limestone. The site is fed on both the east and west by springs and there are small streams flowing from the north-east and south of the site. The area may at one stage have been a lake of some size but at present is occupied by a transition mire complex with the characteristic lagg fen at the edges. In the wetter areas towards the centre and south of the site the vegetation is characterised by a scraw. A mosaic of fen and incipient bog vegetation occurs elsewhere with transition mire vegetation present as part of this. Scrub dominated by Salix spp. is invading the drier areas. The site includes fields of semi-improved grassland which surround the wetland - much of this is species-rich calcareous grassland that is lightly grazed by cattle.
002331	Mouds Bog SAC	Mouds Bog is the largest relatively intact raised bog in Co. Kildare and thus is the most easterly site remaining in the country. Although there is extensive industrial peat extraction in the west of the site there is still a fairly large area of wet bog surface present including some active raised bog with a small soak system.	Mouds Bog is a large raised bog complex located 3 km north-west of Newbridge Co. Kildare. The bog occurs as two basins separated by a central mineral ridge. Approximately half the site comprises uncut high bog though this is predominantly degraded bog. Much of the western end of the site is affected by industrial extraction of peat.

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		The degraded bog is typical of the habitat but displays some diversity by way of a number of dry flushes. Rhynchosporion vegetation is well represented in the wetter areas and includes Drosera anglica a relatively scarce species in Co. Kildare. The site contains one of the few Irish populations of the introduced insectivorous plant species Sarracenia purpurea. Lagopus lagopus a Red listed species in Ireland has been recorded.	Old cutover surrounds the remainder of the high bog though some of this has been reclaimed for pasture grassland. Part of the cutover has been invaded by Betula pubescens scrub.
002337	Crosswood Bog SAC	Although there is a relatively large amount of disturbance along the margins of the high bog the high bog supports a relatively large area of wet active raised bog. This is characterised by a high Sphagnum cover which includes an abundance of the rare species S. pulchrum and S. fuscum. The site also has a substantial area of degraded raised bog which exhibits a wide range of vegetation types indicative of degradation including a partially wooded flush. Crosswood bog is one of the better quality medium-sized raised bogs in Co. Westmeath and is one of a number of important medium-sized raised bogs to the east of Athlone.	Crosswood Bog is a medium-sized midland raised bog located 5 km east of the town of Athlone. The site consists of a core of uncut high bog surrounded by cutover surfaces. Approximately one-third of the high bog is active bog the remainder being degraded. Along the southern margins of the cutover there has been extensive afforestation with conifers. Scrub woodland dominated by Betula pubescens is frequent in the south-western part of the cutover.
002356	Ardgraigue Bog SAC	This relatively small site contains good examples of active raised bog degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. The site is important because of its high water table and the relatively undisturbed conditions which prevail on the high bog in spite of some intensive peat-cutting along the high bog margins. Sphagnum cover is unusually high and the presence of large amounts of the nationally rare moss Sphagnum pulchrum demonstrates that very wet conditions prevail. A small flush on the high bog supports some unusual plant species such as Melampyrum pratense and Empetrum nigrum. A number of associated raised bog sites occur in close proximity to this site.	Ardgraigue Bog is a relatively small midland/western raised bog site located north-east of Killimor village in the east of Co. Galway. The bog overlies Carboniferous limestone bedrock and has developed in a small topographical basin. Most of the surrounding land is dominated by fields of agricultural grassland. A small core of uncut high bog is surrounded by cutover which has been reclaimed in places to produce agricultural grassland. Scrub has colonised some parts of the cutover.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004044	Lough Ennell SPA	Lough Ennell is one of the most important midland lakes for wintering waterfowl with nationally important populations of Cygnus olor Aythya ferina Aythya fuligula and Fulica atra. The population of Aythya fuligula represents over 3% of the national total. It also attracts Pluvialis apricaria and Vanellus vanellus though these feed mainly outside of the site. At times the lake is utilised as a roost (with limited feeding) by the internationally important Midland lakes population of Anser albifrons flavirostris. It supports two Red Data Book charophyte species. The site is an important trout fishery.	Lough Ennell is a large limestone lake. It is approximately 6.5 km long and is mostly c. 2 km wide. The River Brosna is the principal inflowing and outflow river. It is a relatively shallow lake with a maximum depth of c. 30 m. The water is hard with low colour and markedly alkaline pH. The lake is classified as a mesotrophic system though it had been eutrophic in the past. The lake bottom is of limestone with a marl deposit. Lough Ennell supports a diverse aquatic flora with a particularly well-developed charophyte flora. Reedbeds and species-poor swamp vegetation occasionally fringe the lake particularly around the points of inflow and outflow and on the eastern shore. Phragmites australis is abundant in places. Much of the lakeshore is rather dry stony ground which was formerly part of the lake bed but is now exposed by drainage and colonised by calcareous grassland. Alkaline fen is also found on the lake shore. There are several islands within the lake.
004160	Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA	Supports 3.7% of the all-Ireland population of Circus cyaneus and among the top 5 most important sites in the country for this species. Also the most easterly population in the country. Habitat excellent for nesting and foraging purposes. Also has nesting Falco peregrine Falcon columbarius and Lagopus lagopus the later a Red Data Book Species.	The site lies on the Offaly-Laois border and runs along a NE-SW ridge for approximately 25km. Much of the site is over 200 m in altitude with a maximum of 527 m at Arderin. The mountains are of Old Red Sandstone flanked by Silurian rocks. Several important rivers rise within the site including the Barrow Delour and Silver rivers. Approximately 60% of the site is afforested including both first and second rotation plantations and clearfell areas. Roughly one-quarter of the site is unplanted blanket bog and heath with the remainder of the site largely rough grassland that is used for hill farming. Some stands of deciduous woodland and scrub also occur especially within the river valleys.
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	Supports c. 3% of the all-Ireland population of Circus cyaneus and among the top 5 most important sites in the country for the species. Habitat excellent for both nesting and foraging purposes. Also has nesting Falco peregrinus Falco columbarius and Lapopus lagopus the	This is an extensive upland site that occurs in Counties Tipperary and Limerick. Much of the site is over 200 metres in altitude rising to 694 m at Keeper Hill. The site is underlain mainly by Silurian-aged Sandstones. Several important rivers rise within the site including the Mulkear Bilboa and Clare rivers.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		latter a Red Data Book species. Falco columbarius probably nests but a survey is required.	Approximately half of the site is afforested including both first and second rotation plantations and clear fell areas. Roughly one-quarter of the site is unplanted blanket bog and heath with both wet and dry heath present. The remainder of the site is largely rough grassland that is used for hill farming. Some stands of deciduous woodland also occur especially in the river valley.
004233	River Nore SPA	The River Nore support nationally important numbers of Alcedo atthis. Other species which occur within the site include Cygnus olor Anas platyrhynchos Phalacrocorax carbo Ardea cinerea Gallinula chloropus Gallinago gallinago and Riparia riparia.	The River Nore SPA is a long linear site that includes the following river sections: the River Nore from the bridge at Townparks (north-west of Borris in Ossory) to Coolnamuck (approximately 3 km south of Inistioge) in Co. Kilkenny; the Delour River from its junction with the River Nore to Derrynaseera bridge (west of Castletown) in Co Laois; the Erkina River from its junction with the River Nore at Durrow Mills to Boston Bridge in Co. Laois; a 1.5 km stretch of the River Goul upstream of its junction with the Erkina River; the Kings River from its junction with the River Nore to a bridge at Mill Island Co. Kilkenny. The site includes the river channel and marginal vegetation.
000566	All Saints Bog and Esker SAC	This site contains good examples of the Annex I priority habitats active raised bog bog woodland and orchid-rich dry grassland. In addition it contains examples of the non-priority habitats degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. The Betula woodland is of high quality and is the best developed bog woodland of its type in Ireland. The site supports a rich invertebrate fauna including several insect species which are rare in Ireland or found only on this site. Part of the Little Brosna flock of Greenland White-fronted Geese (Anser albifrons flavirostris) may occasionally use the site during disturbance on the Little Brosna Callows. Another species listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive Merlin (Falco columbarius) is also found on the site. The esker grassland on the site supports a large population of the rare orchid Orchis morio. Other rare plant species Erigeron acer and Galeopsis angustifolia the latter protected in Ireland are found in a quarry on the southern side of the site.	The site is located in an area dominated by low permeability shales which are overlain by ridges of high permeability gravels. One of these runs east/west under the bog to form two basins. The ridge is co-incident with the Betula bog woodland. The southern side of the site is bounded by an esker ridge which supports a small area of orchid-rich grassland and in which are found several gravel quarries one of which supports rare plant species.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000580	Mongan Bog SAC	Mongan Bog is an example of a small to medium sized raised bog site which contains examples of the Annex I habitats active raised bog degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). The centre of the site is dominated by a core of uncut high bog which contains an unusually large number of pools dominated by open water. The uncut high bog core is surrounded by old cutover surface which is regenerating into a mosaic of heath and low scrub. The relatively rare sedge Rhynchospora fusca has been recorded from wet pools within the site. In the past the bog was used by wintering Anser albifrons flavirostris but the geese appear to have deserted the site in recent years. The site supports breeding Numenius arquata and Gallinago gallinago.	The bedrock underlying this site is low permeability fossiliferous limestone. This is overlain by permeable sands and gravels mainly derived from limestone. The peat layer is underlain by relatively impermeable lake clays. Esker ridges of sands and gravels lie to the north and south of the site. Part of the old cutover bog has been converted to improved grassland and this is included in the site for hydrological reasons.
000685	Lough Ennell SAC	This lake is one of the most important midland limestone lakes but the quality of the water has been poor owing to severe eutrophication in the 1970's. There has been improvement however and in 1990 it was classified as mesotrophic. A good diversity of charophytes have been recorded including some of the rare species of calcareous water. Some good alkaline fen fringes the lake in parts. Lutra lutra and Lampetra planeri occur at the site as well as some important invertebrate species. The site is an important bird area and has wintering Anser albifrons flavirostris. Further improvement in water quality would increase the value of this site.	Lough Ennel is a large open steep-sided limestone lake situated on the River Brosna within the Shannon catchment. The water is hard with low colour and markedly alkaline Ph. Maximum depth is 30m though the lake is generally much shallower. Much of the lakeshore is stony - wetland vegetation including reedswamp and alkaline fen fringe the lake in places particularly at the points of inflow and outflow of the Brosna and at the south west and south east shores. Mixed woodland much of it with a wet wood character occurs in places. Some improved grassland used by feeding Anser albifrons flavirostris is included in site. The lake is surrounded by generally good quality pasture land.
002141	Mountmellick SAC	Site contains a relict population of Vertigo moulinsiana. Confirmed record for 1997. Typical wetland habitat. All recently surveyed sites with confirmed populations of this species are considered important.	Site comprises a disused section of the Grand Canal at Dangan's Bridge approximately 3 km east of Mountmellick in Co. Laois. The habitat is fen type vegetation with Typha latifolia Glyceria maxima and Iris pseudacorus. At present the site is not used for any particular activity.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002147	Lisduff Fen SAC	A small though relatively intact fen system. Petrifying springs with heavy tufa formations occur along the stream in the southern end of the site. An important site for Vertigo geyeri with a series of recent records including confirmed presence in 1995.	Lisduff Fen is located at Kilcoman crossroad approximately 4 km south-east of Birr. The fen system includes areas dominated by Phragmites australis some wet grassland areas of Betula/Salix scrub and communities tending towards raised bog. There are also some pools. Part of a small stream which enters the fen at the south end is included. Landuse in surrounding areas is mainly pasture for cattle.
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	The site supports many Annexed habitats including the priority habitats of alluvial woodland and petrifying springs. Quality of habitat is generally good. The site also supports a number of Annex II animal species - Salmo salar Margaritifera margaritifera M.m. durrovensis Alosa fallax fallax Austropotamobius pallipes Petromyzon marinus Lutra lutra Lampetra fluviatilis and L. planeri. Annex I Bird species include Anser albifrons flavirostris Falco peregrinus Cygnus cygnus Cygnus columbianus bewickii Limosa lapponica Pluvialis apricaria and Alcedo atthis. A range of rare plants and invertebrates are found in the woods along these rivers and rare plants are also associated with the saltmarsh.	This site consists of most of the freshwater stretches of the Barrow/Nore River catchments. The Barrow is tidal as far upriver as Graiguenamanagh while the Nore is tidal as far upriver as Inishtioge. The site also includes the extreme lower reaches of the River Suir and all of the estuarine component of Waterford Harbour extending to Creadan Head. The larger of the many tributaries include the Lerr Fushoge Mountain Aughavaud Owenass Boherbaun and Stradbally Rivers of the Barrow and the Delour Dinin Erkina Owveg Munster Arrigle and King's Rivers on the Nore. Both rivers rise in the Old Red Sandstone of the Slieve Bloom Mountains. They traverse limestone bedrock for a good proportion of their routes though the middle reaches of the Barrow and many of the eastern tributaries run through Leinster Granite. A wide range of habitats associated with the rivers are included within the site including substantial areas of woodland (deciduous mixed) dry heath wet grassland swamp and marsh vegetation salt marshes a small dune system biogenic reefs and intertidal sand and mud flats. Areas of improved grassland arable land and coniferous plantations are included in the site for water quality reasons.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002205	Wooddown Bog SAC	The Degraded Raised Bog habitat in Wooddown Bog SAC is of conservation significance as it has the potential for restoration to Active Raised Bog which is a priority habitat in the EU and one that is scarce and under threat in Ireland. Despite the relatively small area of Degraded raised bog present the restoration actions have resulted in active redevelopment of the habitat towards Active Raised Bog which add to the diversity and scientific value of the site. The site is being actively managed for conservation as part of the Coillte EU LIFE Project and most of the required restoration measures have already been carried out. However some significant threats remain and an After LIFE management plan is being developed for the future conservation management of the SAC. The SAC is located within the raised bog Wooddown Bog NHA (000694) the conservation management of which should support the maintenance and improvement Degraded Raised Bog in the SAC.	Wooddown Bog SAC (002205) comprises 49.87 ha of raised bog (22.94 ha of high bog and over 26.93 ha cutover) which occupy the eastern end of Wooddown Bog NHA (Site Code 000694). Wooddown Bog is a Midland type raised bog developed in a basin. The SAC is bordered by open high bog on its northern and western margins by forestry on cutover bog on its eastern margin and by agricultural grassland on its southern side. All the SAC except for approximately 8.5 ha of high bog and cutover in the northwest was afforested in 1973-5 with conifer plantations. The remaining open high bog vegetation has a Midlands raised bog species composition but shows signs of significant drying out due to past drainage and turf cutting. When the conifers in the SAC were removed in 2011 all the intensive drainage system associated with it were blocked by 2013 as part of an EU funded LIFE project so as to raise the water table and restore Active Raised Bog (ARB) on the site. Prior to the felling there was relatively few bog species present on the afforested section. With the clear-felling of conifers and blocking of drains there are indications that the high bog is re-wetting. As a consequence raised bog vegetation has returned to the formerly afforested areas of the high bog. However the majority of the restored areas have not yet developed vegetation characteristic of the wettest conditions and there is a considerable amount of conifer and birch regeneration occurring in these areas. Several potential areas of Degraded Raised Bog (DRB) were identified by hydrological modelling. The most westerly of these is adjacent to a drain on the SAC boundary which cannot currently be closed and so it is not expected to recover until the drain is blocked. Another three areas of Degraded Raised Bog together comprise about 1.5 ha and occur in the central-southern section of the site. These now have standing surface water in the hollows and pools for most of the year with considerable areas of regenerating bog mosses.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			There is a wooded flush on the cutover in the northern section of the SAC. With further drain blocking on the high bog and cutover this may have the potential to develop into the priority habitat Bog Woodland (91D0) as elements of this habitat already occur in the NHA. Wet birch woodland is also developing on the middle section of the site. This habitat type may also evolve into Bog Woodland in the future at this location.
002241	Lough Derg North-East Shore SAC	This site supports a wide range of habitats including Alkaline fens Juniper scrub formations limestone pavement Yew woodlands alluvial woodlands and Cladium fen. It also supports the only known population in the country for the Irish Red Data Book species Inula salicina. Other scarce plant species found here include Sorbus aria and Rhamnus catharticus. The endangered fish species Coregonus autumnalis has its European stronghold in Lough Derg. The open water areas of the lake itself are important for wintering wildfowl. Goat island holds a breeding colony of Sterna hirundo. A subflock of Anser albifrons flavirostris uses the callow lands around Slevoir Bay in Winter. A good population of Cygnus olor occurs.	This site incorporates part of the water body of Lough Derg and includes most of the northern lake shore and approximately one-third of the northeast shoreline. Lough Derg itself is the lowest order lake on the River Shannon and is one of the largest freshwater bodies in Ireland. Most of the lake overlies Carboniferous Limestone which outcrops along the shores but some old Red Sandstone occurs on the eastern side. The site is of high scenic value and is a well known angling and tourism area.
002333	Knockacoller Bog SAC	Although Knockacoller Bog is a relatively small raised bog site it does occur close to the southern limit of raised bog development and thus is important from a biogeographical perspective. Sphagnum growth is good in the central active area and includes the relatively rare species S. imbricatum and S. fuscum. Some pools are present. The part of the high bog that is classified as degraded is rather dry and often has a uniform vegetation dominated by Calluna vulgaris or Narthecium ossifragum. Rhynchosporion vegetation is largely confined to the active central core of the bog but supports the relatively rare Rhynchospora fusca. Knockacoller Bog together with Coolrain Bog which lies 4 km to the west forms an important southerly outpost for raised bog distribution.	Knockacoller Bog is a small midland raised bog situated 5 km south-west of Mountrath village Co. Laois. The bog overlies sandy calcareous till which in turn overlies Carboniferous limestone bedrock. Uncut high bog accounts for approximately 40% of the site area with cutover surface dominating the remainder. The uncut bog surface contains a wet central active area which may have arisen due to slumping of the surface. Part of the cutover has been colonised by Betula pubescens scrub and woodland (10-12m high) which adds to habitat diversity. A small part of the cutover has been reclaimed for grassland.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004017	Mongan Bog SPA	Site is an important example of a relatively intact midland raised bog. Has been used as a feeding and roost site by part of the River Suck population of Anser flavirostris albifrons. Appears to be seldom used nowadays which probably reflects a trend in recent years away from usage of raised bog sites. Supports breeding Gallinago gallinago and probably Numenius arquata. An important site for invertebrates with several rare species recorded. Mongan is one of the most studied raised bog sites in the country.	Mongan Bog is a relatively intact raised bog situated close to Clonmacnoise and the Shannon callows. The surface is noticeably wet with a well developed hummock-hollow topography. The peat layer is underlain by relatively impermeable lake clays bog which overlie permeable sands and gravels mainly derived from limestone. The underlying geology is low permeability fossiliferous limestone. The peat basin is surrounded by esker ridges to the north and south.
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	The River Suck Callows is an important site for wintering waterfowl with an internationally important population of Anser albifrons flavirostris centred within the site. This is one of the largest flocks in the country outside of the Wexford Slobs. Despite poor survey data for recent years it is known that at least three species have populations of national importance: Cygnus cygnus Anas penelope and Vanellus vanellus. Cygnus columbarius bewickii formerly occurred in significant numbers but has abandoned the site in line with a marked contraction of range at a national level. Crex crex formerly bred but not since the early 1990s. This site provides one of the few remaining examples in the country of a large river system of which parts still flood in a fairly natural way.	The River Suck is the largest tributary of the River Shannon. The site follows the river from Castlecoote near Fuerty to its confluence with the River Shannon a distance of approximately 70 km of river course. The main habitat is grassland improved to varying extents that is seasonally flooded. The less improved areas are species-rich. The grassland is used mainly for pasture but some is used for silage or occasionally hay-making. The river channel is fringed in places by swamp and marsh vegetation. The site adjoins several raised bogs and cutover bogs and there are turloughs in the vicinity.
004103	All Saints Bog SPA	Site is an important raised bog site with good examples of active raised bog degraded raised bog Rhynchoporian vegetation as well as orchid-rich calcareous grassland. All Saints bog was formerly an important refuge for part of the internationally important population of Anser albifrons flavirostris based on the Little Brosna. The geese would utilise the bog when disturbed from the callows. In recent years however there has been less use of All Saint's following a general trend of less usage of raised bogs and also probably due to disturbance from peat milling activities on the bog adjacent to the site.	Site is a raised bog complex with a well-developed area of active bog which is surrounded by degraded raised bog and some cutaway bog. The bog supports an extensive stand of Betula pubescens woodland. The southern side of the site is bounded by an esker ridge which supports a small area of dry calcareous grassland. The geology of the area is dominated by low permeability shales which are overlain by ridges of high permeability gravels. One of these ridges runs east-west under the bog causing it to form two basins. The ridge is co-incident with the birch woodland.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Falco columbarius has been seen on the bog during the breeding season and probably nests. The site supports several rare invertebrate species and the esker ridge supports three Red Data plant species.	
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	The River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA supports nationally important numbers of Alcedo atthis. Other species which occur within the site include Cygnus olor Anas crecca Anas platyrhynchos Phalacrocorax carbo Ardea cinerea Gallinula chloropus Gallinago gallinago and Riparia riparia.	The River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA is a long linear site that comprises stretches of the River Boyne and several of its tributaries: most of the site is in Co Meath but it extends also into Counties Cavan Louth and Westmeath. It includes the following river sections: The River Boyne from the M1 motorway bridge west of Drogheda to the junction with the Royal Canal west of Longwood Co Meath; the River Blackwater from its junction with the River Boyne in Navan to the junction with Lough Ramor in Co Cavan; the Tremblestown River (and Athboy River) from the junction with the River Boyne at Kilnagross Bridge to the bridge in Athboy Co Meath; the Stoneyford River from its junction with the River Boyne to Stonestone Bridge in Co. Westmeath; the River Deel from its junction with the River Boyne to Cummer Bridge Co. Westmeath. The site includes the river channel and marginal vegetation.
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	The site contains many Annexed habitats including the most extensive area of estuarine habitat in Ireland. A good range of Annexed species are also present including the only known resident population of Tursiops truncatus in Ireland all three Irish species of lamprey and a good population of Salmo salar. A number of birds listed on the EU Birds Directive either winter or breed in the site. The site is internationally important for waterfowl with more than 50000 individuals occurring in winter. Several species listed in the Irish Red Data Book are present perhaps most notably the only known Irish populations of Scirpus triqueter.	A very large long site approximately 14 km wide and 120 km long encompassing: the drained river valley which forms the River Shannon estuary; the broader River Fergus estuary plus a number of smaller estuaries e.g. Poulnasherry Bay; the freshwater lower reaches of the Shannon River between Killaloe and Limerick plus the freshwater stretches of much of the Feale and Mulkear catchments; a marine area at the mouth of the Shannon estuary with high rocky cliffs to the north and south; ericaceous heath on Kerry Head and Loop Head; and several lagoons. The underlying geology ranges from Carboniferous limestone (east of Foynes) to Namurian shales and flagstones (west of Foynes) to Old Red Sandstone (at Kerry Head). The salinity of the system varies daily with the ebb and flood of the tide and with annual rainfall fluctuations seasonally.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	This is the most important coastal wetland site in the country and regularly supports in excess of 50000 wintering waterfowl. It has internationally important populations of Calidris alpina Limosa limosa and Tringa totanus. A further 16 species have populations of national importance. The site is particularly significant for Calidris alpina (11% of national total) Pluvialis squatarola (7.5% of total) Vanellus vanellus (6.5% of total) Tringa totanus (6.1% of total) and Tadorna tadorna (6.0% of total). It has Cygnus cygnus Pluvialis apricaria and Limosa lapponica in significant numbers. The site was formerly frequented by a population of Anser albifrons flavirostris but these have now abandoned the area. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the wintering birds and habitat quality for most of the estuarine habitats is good.	The River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries form the largest estuarine complex in Ireland. The site comprises all of the estuarine habitat west from Limerick City and south from Ennis extending west as far as Killadysert and Foynes on the north and south shores of the Shannon respectively (a distance of some 25 km from east to west). Also included are several areas in the outer Shannon estuary notably Clonderalaw Bay and Poulnasherry Bay. The site has vast expanses of intertidal flats. The main macro-invertebrate community is a Macoma-Scrobicularia-Nereis community which provides a rich food resource for the wintering birds. Eelgrass (Zostera spp.) is present in places. The intertidal flats are often fringed with salt marsh vegetation areas which provide important high tide roost sites for the birds. In the innermost parts of the estuaries the tidal channels or creeks are fringed with species such as Phragmites australis and Scirpus spp. Spartina anglica is frequent in parts.
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	While the site has a good diversity of coastal habitats including fixed dunes most have been modified in some way. The containment of the main tidal channel has altered the tidal pattern which affects the functioning of the various estuarine habitats. Both dune systems were formerly far more extensive but much of the stable areas have now been converted to golf courses. Site is important for wintering waterfowl supporting nine species in nationally important numbers including Pluvialis apricaria an Annex I EU Birds Directive species. Sterna albifrons breeds or attempts to breed in most years.	This moderately sized coastal site which is situated below the town of Drogheda comprises most of the estuary of the Boyne River a substantial river which drains a large catchment. On the seaward side the site extends north and south for several kilometres to include the remaining intact areas of dune systems at Baltray and Mornington as well as the adjacent beaches and intertidal sand flats. The main channel of the Boyne is contained by training walls for navigable purposes. As well as intertidal sand and mud flats the inner part of the site has salt marshes and Spartina swards.
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	The Boyne Estuary is one of the most important sites for wintering waterfowl on the east coast. It has a total of 10 species with populations of national importance - of particular note is that it supports 7.0% of the national total of Calidris canutus and 4.0% of the total for Pluvialis apricaria.	This moderately-sized coastal site which is situated below the town of Drogheda comprises most of the estuary of the Boyne River a substantial river which drains a large catchment. Apart from one section which is over 1 km wide the width is mostly less than 500 m. The main river channel which is navigable and dredged is defined by training walls the latter being breached in places. Intertidal flats occur on the sides of the channelled river.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Other species which have populations of national importance include Tadorna tadorna Haematopus ostralegus Vanellus vanellus Limosa limosa Tringa totanus and Arenaria interpres. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the birds. Sterna albifrons bred in the past but successful breeding has not occurred since 1996.	The sediments vary from fine muds in the innermost areas to sandy muds or sands towards the mouth. The linear stretches of intertidal flats to the north and south of the river mouth are mainly sands. Intertidal areas are fringed by salt marshes in the inner sheltered areas. Spartina is frequent on the flats and salt marshes.

Appendix 1 - Table 2 Background data for European sites considered in the assessment; including the Qualifying features (Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests) and the known threats and pressures as recorded by the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	Limestone pavements [8240], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Alkaline fens [7230]	A08, K03.04, B02.02, J02.11, C01.03.02, A04.03, A03.03, J02.05, F03.01, A10.01, J02.04.01, J02.01, D01.01, A04.01, G05.01, G01, J02.05.02, B06, A03, A04.02.05, A07	Fertilisation, Predation, Forestry clearance, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Mechanical removal of peat, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Abandonment or lack of mowing , Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Hunting, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Flooding, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Intensive grazing, Trampling, overuse, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Grazing in forests or woodland, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals
000391	Ballynafagh Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]	E01.04, G05, C01.03, D05, B01, J01	Other patterns of habitation, Other human intrusions and disturbances , Peat extraction, Improved access to site, Forest planting on open ground, Fire and fire suppression
000396	Pollardstown Fen SAC	Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013], Alkaline fens [7230], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	A04, J01, F03.01, B, F02.03, E01.03, D02.01, E03.01, C01.01	Grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Hunting, Sylviculture, forestry, Leisure fishing, Dispersed habitation, Electricity and phone lines, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Sand and gravel extraction

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000412	Slieve Bloom Mountains SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	I01, J01.01, G05.01, C01, G01.02, H05.01, J02.15, A04.03, B02.02, G01.03.02, K02.01, B02	Invasive non-native species, Burning down, Trampling, overuse, Mining and quarrying, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Garbage and solid waste, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Forestry clearance, Off-road motorized driving, Species composition change (succession), Forest and Plantation management & use
000440	Lough Ree SAC	Bog woodland [91D0], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Active raised bogs [7110], Limestone pavements [8240], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Alkaline fens [7230], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	G02.09, J02.04, D03.01.02, A03.03, B02, G01.01, H02.06, I01, A04, K03.05, H01.08, L08, F03.01, E01.03, J02.11.02, G01.02, H06.03, A08, F02.03	Wildlife watching, Flooding modifications, Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Abandonment or lack of mowing , Forest and Plantation management & use, Nautical sports, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Invasive non-native species, Grazing, Antagonism arising from introduction of species, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Inundation (natural processes), Hunting, Dispersed habitation, Other siltation rate changes, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Thermal heating of water bodies, Fertilisation, Leisure fishing
000566	All Saints Bog and Esker SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Bog woodland [91D0], Active raised bogs [7110], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	A08, E03.03, C01.01, A05.02, C01.03, A04, J02.15, J01.01, E03.01, J02.10, E05	Fertilisation, Disposal of inert materials, Sand and gravel extraction , Stock feeding, Peat extraction, Grazing, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Burning down, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Storage of materials

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000571	Charleville Wood SAC	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]	F03.02.04, F04, F03.02.03, G01, G02.09, B02, G01.02, F05.04	Predator control, Taking or Removal of terrestrial plants, general, Trapping, poisoning, poaching, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Wildlife watching, Forest and Plantation management & use, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Poaching
000572	Clara Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Bog woodland [91D0], Active raised bogs [7110], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	F04, X, J01.01, A08, A04.03, C01.03, E04.01, J02.15, E03.01, C01.01.01, D01.01, J02.10, A05.02	Taking or Removal of terrestrial plants, general, No threats or pressures, Burning down, Fertilisation, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Peat extraction, Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Sand and gravel quarries, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Stock feeding
000575	Ferbane Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	X, E03.01, A10, J01.01, K02.01, E03.03, B03, C01.03, C01.01, A02.01, J02.15, A08	No threats or pressures, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Burning down, Species composition change (succession), Disposal of inert materials, Forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth, Peat extraction, Sand and gravel extraction , Agricultural intensification, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Fertilisation
000576	Fin Lough (Offaly) SAC	Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013], Alkaline fens [7230]	X, E03.01, K02, J02.10, K01.02, A04.03, E03.03, J01.01, K01.03, F03.01	No threats or pressures, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Biocenotic evolution, succession, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Silting up, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Disposal of inert materials, Burning down, Drying out, Hunting

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000580	Mongan Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]	F03.01, A08, A05.02, X, C01.03, J01.01, E03.01, E03.03, J02.15	Hunting, Fertilisation, Stock feeding, No threats or pressures, Peat extraction, Burning down, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Disposal of inert materials, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
000581	Moyclare Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	J01.01, E03.03, J02.15, A04.01.04, C01.03, E03.01, F03.01, A07, X	Burning down, Disposal of inert materials, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Intensive goat grazing, Peat extraction, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Hunting, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, No threats or pressures
000582	Raheenmore Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]	A02.01, X, J02.01.03	Agricultural intensification, No threats or pressures, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits
000585	Sharavogue Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	I02, J02.15, A08, J01.01, B02.02	Problematic native species, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Fertilisation, Burning down, Forestry clearance
000641	Ballyduff/Clonfinane Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Bog woodland [91D0]	A10, C01.03.02, A08, C01.03, A04, J01, A03, A01, D05	Restructuring agricultural land holding, Mechanical removal of peat, Fertilisation, Peat extraction, Grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Cultivation, Improved access to site
000647	Kilcarren-Firville Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	A03, B01, A04, A08, J01, C01.03, A10, D01.02	Mowing or cutting of grassland, Forest planting on open ground, Grazing, Fertilisation, Fire and fire suppression, Peat extraction, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Roads, motorways

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000685	Lough Ennell SAC	Alkaline fens [7230]	B02.02, D01.01, H01.08, F03.01, A04.01.01, H06.02, H06.01.01, K03.01, H01.05, J02.01, J02.05.02, F02.03.02, A04.02.05, A04.03	Forestry clearance, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Hunting, Intensive cattle grazing, Light pollution, Point source or irregular noise pollution, Competition (fauna), Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Pole fishing, Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing
000859	Clonaslee Eskers and Derry Bog SAC	Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013], Alkaline fens [7230]	E01.03, H05.01, J01.01, C01.03.02, J02.15, A04.02.03, J02.05, K02.01	Dispersed habitation, Garbage and solid waste, Burning down, Mechanical removal of peat, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Non intensive horse grazing, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Species composition change (succession)
000919	Ridge Road, SW of Rapemills SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	A07, D01, A02.01, K02.01, A10.01, A04.03, A08, J01.01, A05.02, A04.01	Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Roads, paths and railroads, Agricultural intensification, Species composition change (succession), Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fertilisation, Burning down, Stock feeding, Intensive grazing
000925	The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	D01, X, G01.03.02, K02.01, E05, K01.01, A04.03	Roads, paths and railroads, No threats or pressures, Off-road motorized driving, Species composition change (succession), Storage of materials, Erosion, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing
000934	Kilduff, Devilsbit Mountain SAC	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], European dry heaths [4030]	G02.09, F03.02.02, G01.02, H05.01, A10, G01.04.01	Wildlife watching, Taking from nest (e.g. falcons), Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Garbage and solid waste, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Mountaineering & rock climbing

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
001387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC	Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Alkaline fens [7230], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016]	A04, F02.03	Grazing, Leisure fishing
001625	Castlesampson Esker SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Turloughs [3180]	A04, C01.03.01, A10.01, C01.01	Grazing, Hand cutting of peat, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Sand and gravel extraction
001683	Liskeenan Fen SAC	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	I01, C01.03.01, A04, A08	Invasive non-native species, Hand cutting of peat, Grazing, Fertilisation
001776	Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	A02.01, D01, A07, A04.01, A05.02, E03.03, A10.01, A04.03, A08, K02.01	Agricultural intensification, Roads, paths and railroads, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Intensive grazing, Stock feeding, Disposal of inert materials, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub. Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fertilisation, Species composition change (succession)
001831	Split Hills and Long Hill Esker SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	K04.01, D01.01, K02.01, A04.02.01, A04.02.05, A04.01.01	Competition (flora), Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Species composition change (succession), Non intensive cattle grazing, Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Intensive cattle grazing
002137	Lower River Suir SAC	Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior	A01, J02.12.02, H01, J02.01, A08, J02.01.02, B, E03, E01, I01, X, D03.01	Cultivation, Dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Fertilisation, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Sylviculture, forestry, Discharges, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Invasive non-native species, No threats or pressures, Port areas

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		(Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355]		
002141	Mountmellick SAC	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016]	J02.05, H05.01	Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Garbage and solid waste
002147	Lisduff Fen SAC	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Alkaline fens [7230], Geyer`s whorl snail (Vertigo geyeri) [1013]	A04.03, E03.03, A08, A02.01, J02.10, C01, A07, X, E03.01, E05	Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Disposal of inert materials, Fertilisation, Agricultural intensification, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Mining and quarrying, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, No threats or pressures, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Storage of materials
002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC	Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Twaite shad (Alosa fallax) [1103], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], European dry heaths [4030], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Atlantic salmon	D03.01, F02.01.02, K01.01, A04.01.01, J02.06, A02.01, E02, F01.01, J02.02.01, C01.01.01, J02.12.02, B05, J02, B07, J03.02.01, I01, J02.05.02, H01, F02, A10.01, B02.01.01, M01,	Port areas, Netting, Erosion, Intensive cattle grazing, Water abstractions from surface waters, Agricultural intensification, Industrial or commercial areas, Intensive fish farming, intensification , Dredging or removal of limnic sediments, Sand and gravel quarries, Dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, Use of fertilizers (forestry), Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Forestry activities not referred to above, Reduction in migration or migration barriers, Invasive non-native species, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Forest replanting

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		(Salmo salar) [1106], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Estuaries [1130], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Reefs [1170], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Nore Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera durrovensis) [1990]. Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099]	C01.03, B02, F02.03	(native trees), Changes in abiotic conditions, Peat extraction, Forest and Plantation management & use, Leisure fishing
002205	Wooddown Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	J02.15, I01, J02.01, I02, C01.03.01, J01.01, B02.02	Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Invasive non-native species, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Problematic native species, Hand cutting of peat, Burning down, Forestry clearance
002206	Scohaboy (Sopwell) Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	C01.03, J01, I02, J02.15, I01, J01.02, C01.03.02, B02.02, J02.01	Peat extraction, Fire and fire suppression, Problematic native species, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Invasive non-native species, Suppression of natural fires, Mechanical removal of peat, Forestry clearance, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general
002207	Arragh More (Derrybreen) Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	J02.01, J02.15, B02.02, I02, I01, J01.01, C01.03.02	Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Forestry clearance, Problematic native species, Invasive non-native species, Burning down, Mechanical removal of peat

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002213	Glenloughaun Esker SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	A02.01, A04.01.03, B01.01, C01.01, A04, I02, A04.03, A08	Agricultural intensification, Intensive horse grazing, Forest planting on open ground (native trees), Sand and gravel extraction , Grazing, Problematic native species, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fertilisation
002236	Island Fen SAC	Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Alkaline fens [7230]	F03.01, J01.01, X, C01, D01, A04.03, A04.01, K02.01	Hunting, Burning down, No threats or pressures, Mining and quarrying, Roads, paths and railroads, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Intensive grazing, Species composition change (succession)
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Limestone pavements [8240], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	H01.08, I02, I01, H01, A08, J02.01.03, D01.01, C01, A10.01, K02.01, K02.03, A04.02.05, M01.01, A04.01, B02.01.01, J02.10, M01.02, J02, G02.09, D03.01.02, G01, M01.03	Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Problematic native species, Invasive non-native species, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Fertilisation, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Mining and quarrying, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Species composition change (succession), Eutrophication (natural), Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes), Intensive grazing, Forest replanting (native trees), Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Droughts and less precipitations, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Wildlife watching, Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Flooding and rising precipitations
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Alkaline fens [7230], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106]	E03.02, A08, A10.01, A01, E03.04, I01, G02.10, E05, H01, E01.04, D01.02, A07, J02.15,	Disposal of industrial waste, Fertilisation, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Cultivation, Other discharges, Invasive non-native species, Other sport or leisure complexes, Storage of materials, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Other patterns of habitation, Roads, motorways, Use of biocides,

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
			A05.02, G01, J02.10, C01.01, J02.05.02, D01.05, J02, A03, G05, J02.11, G05.06, B01.02, E02	hormones and chemicals, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Stock feeding, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Sand and gravel extraction , Modifying structures of inland water courses, Bridge, viaduct, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Mowing or cutting of grassland. Other human intrusions and disturbances , Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Industrial or commercial areas
002313	Ballymore Fen SAC	Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	A04.03, I02, A03.02, H01.03, A08, A04.02.05	Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Problematic native species, Non intensive mowing, Other point source pollution to surface water, Fertilisation, Non intensive mixed animal grazing
002331	Mouds Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]	A04, B, J01, C01.03.02, A01, I01, E02	Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry, Fire and fire suppression, Mechanical removal of peat, Cultivation, Invasive non-native species, Industrial or commercial areas
002332	Coolrain Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	J02.15, C01.03.02, J02.05, J02.01, B, J01.01, I01, H05.01	Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Mechanical removal of peat, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Sylviculture, forestry, Burning down, Invasive non-native species, Garbage and solid waste
002333	Knockacoller Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	C01, J01.01, J02.15, K02, A04.02.03	Mining and quarrying, Burning down, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Biocenotic evolution, succession, Non intensive horse grazing

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002336	Carn Park Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	I01, I03, J02.01, J02.05, B02.02, D01.01, C01.03.02	Invasive non-native species, Introduced genetic material, GMO, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Forestry clearance, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Mechanical removal of peat.
002337	Crosswood Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]	B02.02, A05.02, J01, I03, J02.01, D01.01, E03.01, C01.03.02, J02.05, I01	Forestry clearance, Stock feeding, Fire and fire suppression, Introduced genetic material, GMO, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Mechanical removal of peat, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Invasive non-native species
002339	Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Turloughs [3180], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Bog woodland [91D0]	J02.01, E03.01, I01, J02.05, A10.01, A04	Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Invasive non-native species, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Grazing
002342	Mount Hevey Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	I01, I03, K04.02, C01.03.02, D01.01, J02.03, D01.04, J02.01, E03.01, B02.02, J02.05	Invasive non-native species, Introduced genetic material, GMO, Parasitism (flora), Mechanical removal of peat, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Canalisation & water deviation, Railway lines, TGV, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Forestry clearance, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general
002353	Redwood Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110]	X, D01.02, D01.01, A01, C01.03, J01	No threats or pressures, Roads, motorways, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Cultivation, Peat extraction, Fire and fire suppression

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002356	Ardgraigue Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	E03.01, C01.03.02, J01.01, X, J02.07, J02.15, B02.01.02, E03.03, A02.01, J02.06	Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Mechanical removal of peat, Burning down, No threats or pressures, Water abstractions from groundwater, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Forest replanting (non native trees), Disposal of inert materials, Agricultural intensification, Water abstractions from surface waters
004017	Mongan Bog SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	D05, A04, C01.03, C01.01	Improved access to site, Grazing, Peat extraction, Sand and gravel extraction
004044	Lough Ennell SPA	Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059]	G01.02, G05.01, E01, F03.01, G01.01, B, A08, F02.03	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Trampling, overuse, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Hunting, Nautical sports, Sylviculture, forestry, Fertilisation, Leisure fishing
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067]	A08, G01.01, F03.01, F02.03	Fertilisation, Nautical sports, Hunting, Leisure fishing
004064	Lough Ree SPA	Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	G01.01, A08, A04, F02.03, F03.01, G01.02, I01, B	Nautical sports, Fertilisation, Grazing, Leisure fishing, Hunting, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Invasive non-native species, Sylviculture, forestry

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004086	River Little Brosna Callows SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]	A03, F02.03, E01.03, A04, D01.01, A08, F03.01	Mowing or cutting of grassland, Leisure fishing, Dispersed habitation, Grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Fertilisation, Hunting
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Corncrake (Crex crex) [A122]	F03.01, F02.03, D01.05, E01, A04, D01.01, G01.02, A04.03, A08, G01.01, A03	Hunting, Leisure fishing, Bridge, viaduct, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fertilisation, Nautical sports, Mowing or cutting of grassland
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]	F02.03, A04, G01.01, A03, B, A08, E01.03, F03.01	Leisure fishing, Grazing, Nautical sports, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Sylviculture, forestry, Fertilisation, Dispersed habitation, Hunting
004103	All Saints Bog SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	E01.03, A01, B01, C01.03.02, F03.01, A08, D01.02, J01, A03, C01.03, A04, C01.01	Dispersed habitation, Cultivation, Forest planting on open ground, Mechanical removal of peat, Hunting, Fertilisation, Roads, motorways, Fire and fire suppression, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Peat extraction, Grazing, Sand and gravel extraction

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004137	Dovegrove Callows SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	A08	Fertilisation
004160	Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	A04, B, D01.01, D01.02, E01.03, C01.03	Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Roads, motorways, Dispersed habitation, Peat extraction
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	E01.03, D01.01, D01.02, C01.03, A04, B	Dispersed habitation, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Roads, motorways, Peat extraction, Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) [A229]	E01, E01.03, D01.02, X, J02	Urbanised areas, human habitation, Dispersed habitation, Roads, motorways, No threats or pressures, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
004233	River Nore SPA	Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) [A229]	J02.01, X, D03.01	Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, No threats or pressures, Port areas
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	Coastal lagoons [1150], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Reefs [1170], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Estuaries [1130], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus) [1349], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330],	K02.03, C01.03.01, F01, A08, J02.10, G01.01, F02.03, F03.01, H04, B, E01, J02.12.01, E03, J02.01.02, D01.01, I01, C01.01.02, J02.01.01, A04	Eutrophication (natural), Hand cutting of peat, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fertilisation, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Nautical sports, Leisure fishing, Hunting, Air pollution, air-borne pollutants, Sylviculture, forestry, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Discharges, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Invasive non-native species, Removal of beach materials, Polderisation, Grazing

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]		
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062], Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	G01.01, D03.02, F01, A08, E01, E02, E03	Nautical sports, Shipping lanes, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fertilisation, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Industrial or commercial areas, Discharges
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Estuaries [1130], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white	G05, E03.01, J03.03, H01, J02.12, J02.02, J02.12.01, J02.01.03, L07, E03.03, G03, E01, K02, G01.03.02,	Other human intrusions and disturbances , Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Reduction, lack or prevention of erosion, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general, Removal of sediments (mud...), Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits,

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		dunes [2120], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130]	D01.01, G05.04, G01.02, E05, I01, D01.05, J02	Storm, cyclone, Disposal of inert materials, Interpretative centres, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Biocenotic evolution, succession, Off-road motorized driving, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Vandalism, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Storage of materials, Invasive non-native species, Bridge, viaduct, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Little Tern (Sterna albifrons) [A195], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]	I01, G02.01, G01.02, E01, J02.05, F02.03, J02.01.02, J02.11, F01	Invasive non-native species, Golf course, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Leisure fishing, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture

Appendix 1 - Table 3 Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Geyer's Whorl Snail (Vertigo geyeri)	[1013]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (Vertigo angustior)	[1014]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (Vertigo moulinsiana)	[1016]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera)	[1029]	In stream works, hydrological and morphological alterations, sediment and enrichment, pollution due urbanisation etc. Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia)	[1065]	Declines in habitat quality lead to species decline.	Habitat management; land use change and drainage.
White-clawed Crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes)	[1092]	Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Invasive species, disease, surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Sea Lamprey(Petromyzon marinus)	[1095]	Barriers to upstream migration (e.g. weirs), which limit access to spawning beds and juvenile habitat are main threats to this species.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity.
Brook Lamprey (Lampetra planeri)	[1096]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
River Lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis)	[1099]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
Twaite Shad (Alosa fallax fallax)	[1103]	Habitat quality, particularly at spawning sites is the most notable threat to this species.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Salmon (Salmo salar)	[1106]	Marine survival rates are of concern for the populations.	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.
	[1110]		
Estuaries	[1130]	Pollution, fishing /aquaculture and habitat quality.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	[1140]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Coastal lagoons	[1150]	Eutrophication. Modification of hydrological glow and drainage.	Erosion and silting up. Accumulation of seaweed. Land use management resulting in hydrological interactions.
Large shallow inlets and bays	[1160]	Pressures on the habitat include nutrient enrichment, dredging and invasive alien species. Overall Status is assessed as Bad and deteriorating, a genuine decline since the 2013 assessment of Inadequate and improving, and is based on more detailed information.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity, surface water runoff, discharge etc. On site management activities.
Reefs	[1170]	Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.
Annual vegetation of drift lines	[1210]	Grazing; sand and gravel extraction; recreational activities; coastal protection works.	Overgrazing and erosion. Changes in management.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	[1220]	Disruption of the sediment supply, owing to the interruption of the coastal processes, caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures including rock armour and sea walls. The removal of gravel.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity and gravel removal.
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	[1230]	A number of significant pressures were identified, including trampling by walkers, invasive non-native species, gravel extraction, and sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change. There have been no significant losses in sea cliff habitat since the Directive came into force.	Land use activities such as tourism and/or agricultural practices. Direct alteration to the habitat or effects such as burning or drainage.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	[1310]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Marine water dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Infilling, reclamation, invasive species.
Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	[1330]	Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass (Spartina anglica); infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops truncatus)	[1349]	Pressures acting on the species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as impacts arising from geophysical seismic exploration or from local/regional prey removal from fisheries.	Large vessel movement effecting distributions. Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.
Otter (Lutra lutra)	[1355]	Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; fertilization; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets); hunting; poisoning; sand and gravel extraction; mechanical removal of peat; urbanised areas; human habitation; continuous urbanization; drainage; management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes; and canalization or modifying structures of inland water course.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	[1410]	Over-grazing by cattle or sheep; infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development and reclamation.
Killarney Fern (Trichomanes speciosum)	[1421]	Threatened by habitat loss, deliberate collection, encroachment of invasive or vigorous species, or indirectly by water pollution, removal of woodland or alteration of watercourses.	Land use management and direct impacts.
River Nore Freshwater Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera durrovensis)	[1990]	In stream works, hydrological and morphological alterations, sediment and enrichment, pollution due urbanisation etc. Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Embryonic shifting dunes	[2110]	Natural erosion processes exacerbated by recreation and sand extraction. Coastal protection interfering with natural processes.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with white dunes(Ammophila arenaria)	[2120]	Recreation and coastal defences, which may interfere with local sediment dynamics.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	[2130]	Recreation; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing: non-native plant species, particularly sea buckthorn (Hippophae rhamnoides).	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation	[3150]	Hydrological changes, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Turloughs	[3180]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Water courses of plain to montane levels with vegetation(Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion)	[3260]	Hydrological and morphological changes, water quality, enrichment, and surface water discharges from industrial site and/or agriculture.	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change and direct physical interactions.
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	[4010]	Reclamation, afforestation and burning; overstocking; invasion by non-heath species; exposure of peat to severe erosion.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
European dry heaths	[4030]	Afforestation, overburning, over-grazing, under-grazing and bracken invasion.	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	[5130]	Overgrazing, erosion, scrub clearance, inappropriate land use management, and succession processes.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)* important orchid sites	[6210]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	[6230]	Bracken encroachment, succession, inappropriate grazing, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	[6410]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	[6430]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	[6510]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Active raised bogs	[7110]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	[7120]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	[7130]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Transition mires and quaking bogs	[7140]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	[7150]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and ground water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Calcareous fens with species of mariscus sedge and bog cotton (Cladium mariscus and Caricion davallianae)	[7210]	Hydrological changes, pollution to surface waters, urbanisation, roads development, groundwater interactions, grazing and cultivation practices and the inappropriate use of pesticides.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	[7220]	Ground water interactions, on site management activities.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Alkaline fens	[7230]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Limestone pavements	[8240]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	[91A0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Bog woodland	[91D0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Alluvial forests with Alder and Ash (Alnus glutinosa, Fraxinus excelsior, Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	[91EO]	Inappropriate grazing levels; invasive species; and clearance for agriculture or felling for timber.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Changes in management.
Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	[91J0]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.

Appendix 1 - Table 4 Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A004	Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis ruficollis	Xxp/Xxt	No threats and pressures identified by the NPWS
A017	Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo carbo	D01	Wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure
A038	Whooper Swan	Cygnus cygnus	A02, A11, C03, D02, G01, H07	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other forms of pollution
A046	Light-Bellied Brent Goose	Branta bernicla hrota	A02, A11, C03, D02, F01, G01, G05, H03, H07, I01, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other Human intrusions and disturbances , Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A048	Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	F01, F02, G01, H03, M01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A050	Eurasian Wigeon	Anas penelope	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, I01, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A052	Teal	Anas crecca	Xxp/Xxt	No threats and pressures identified by the NPWS

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A053	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	Xxp/Xxt	No threats and pressures identified by the NPWS
A054	Northern Pintail	Anas acuta	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A056	Northern Shoveler	Anas clypeata	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution
A059	Common Pochard	Aythya ferina	C03, F03, G01, H01, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A061	Tufted Duck	Aythya fuligula	C03, F03, G01, H01, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A062	Greater Scaup	Aythya marila	C03, F01, F02, F03, G01, H01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A065	Common Scoter	Melanitta nigra nigra	A04, C03, F02, G01, H01, H03, I01, K03, M02	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Invasive non-native species, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A067	Common Goldeneye	Bucephala clangula	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A082	Hen Harrier	Circus cyaneus	A02, B01, B02, C01, C03, F03, G01, I01, J01, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Forest planting on open ground, Forest and Plantation management & use, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species, Fire and Fire suppression, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A122	Corn Crake	Crex crex	A03.01, A04.01, K03.04, M01.03	Intensive Mowing or intensification, Intensive grazing, Predation, Flooding and rising precipitations
A125	Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra atra	C03, G01, H01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A130	Eurasian Oystercatcher	Haematopus ostralegus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A137	Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A140	European Golden Plover	Pluvialis apricaria	A02, A04, B01, C01, C03, F01, G01, H03, J01, K03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Forest planting on open ground, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Fire and Fire suppression, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A141	Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A142	Northern Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus	A02, C03, F01, G01, H03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A143	Red Knot	Calidris canutus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A144	Sanderling	Calidris alba	C03, F01, G01, H03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A149	Dunlin	Calidris alpina	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A156	Black-Tailed Godwit	Limosa limosa islandica	A02, C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A157	Bar-Tailed Godwit	Limosa lapponica	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A160	Eurasian Curlew	Numenius arquata arquata	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A162	Common Redhank	Tringa totanus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A164	Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	C03, F01, G01, H03, J02, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Changes in abiotic conditions
A169	Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres	C03, F01, G01, H03, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A179	Black-Headed Gull	Larus ridibundus	A04, C03, F02, H03, J03, M01	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic ressources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A193	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	C03, D01, D03, G01, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A195	Little Tern	Sterna albifrons albifrons	C03, D01, I01, I02, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Invasive non-native species, Problematic native species, Changes in abiotic conditions
A229	Common Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis	A11, D01, G01, H01, I01, J02	Agriculture activities not referred to above, Roads, paths and railroads, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A395	Greater White-Fronted Goose	Anser albifrons flavirostris	A02, A04, A06, A11, B01, C03, D02, D05, F01, F03, G01, H03, H07, K03, M01, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Annual and perennial non-timber crops, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Forest planting on open ground, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Improved access to site, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in abiotic conditions, Changes in biotic conditions

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APPENDIX 2

Relationship with other plans and programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the Directive, Regulation, Plan or Programme to become familiar with the full details of each.

Appendix 2 - Table 1: Other Plans and Programmes

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Level			
SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)	Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	Carry out and environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as	Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are	All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
amended by 2014/52/EU)	likely to have significant effects on the environment. Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4.	For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made.	environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.	Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats.	Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution.	Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas). Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance.	align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Bathing Water Directive (revised) 2006 [2006/7/EC]	The purpose of this Directive is to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and to protect human health by complementing Directive 2000/60/EC	This Directive lays down provisions for: the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality; the management of bathing water quality; and the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)	Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and - preventing further such pollution.	Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State's NAP must include:	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC)	The purpose of this Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from the activities listed in Annex I. It lays down measures designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions in the air, water and land from the abovementioned activities, including measures concerning waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole, without prejudice to Directive 85/337/EEC and other relevant Community provisions.	The IPPC Directive is based on several principles: an integrated approach best available techniques, flexibility; and public participation	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC	The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs).	The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU Renewables Directive (2009/28/EC)	The Renewable Energy Directive establishes an overall policy for the production and promotion of energy from renewable sources in the EU. It requires the EU to fulfil at least 20% of its total energy needs with renewables by 2020 – to be achieved through the attainment of individual national targets. All EU countries must also ensure that at least 10% of their transport fuels come from renewable sources by 2020.	The Directive promotes cooperation amongst EU countries (and with countries outside the EU) to help them meet their renewable energy targets. The Directive specifies national renewable energy targets for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for renewables. EU countries set out how they plan to meet these targets and the general course of their renewable energy policy in national renewable energy action plans. Progress towards national targets is measured every two years when EU countries publish national renewable energy progress reports.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/0288(COD))	Article 3(4) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) requires Member States to ensure that the share of energy from renewable energy sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of their final energy consumption. The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for Member States to meet this target and is expected to be the main contributor. Other methods available to meet the target are the reduction of energy consumption, which is imperative because a mandatory percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise, and the use of electricity from renewable energy sources.	Limit the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive; Improve the greenhouse gas performance of biofuel production processes (reducing associated emissions) by raising the greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations subject to protecting installations already in operation on 1st July 2014; Encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels by allowing such fuels to contribute more to the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive than conventional biofuels; Improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by obliging Member States and fuel suppliers to report the estimated indirect land-use change emissions of biofuels.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)	This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport.	This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refuelling points, and user information requirements.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)	Establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain, from production to final consumption.	Energy distributors or retail energy sales companies have to achieve 1.5% energy savings per year through the implementation of energy efficiency measures EU countries can opt to achieve the same level of savings through other means, such as improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs The public sector in EU countries should purchase energy efficient buildings, products and services Every year, governments in EU countries must carry out energy efficient renovations on at least 3% (by floor area) of the buildings they own and occupy Energy consumers should be empowered to better manage consumption. This includes easy and free access to data on consumption through individual metering National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits Large companies will make audits of their energy consumption to help them identify ways to reduce it	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities.	
EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)	This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner.	The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas: Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; Safety of offshore oil and gas operations.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (2014/89/EU)	This Directive establishes a framework for maritime spatial planning aimed at promoting the sustainable growth of maritime economies, the sustainable development of marine areas and the sustainable use of marine resources.	Each Member State shall establish and implement maritime spatial planning. In doing so, Member States shall take into account land-sea interactions. The resulting plan or plans shall be developed and produced in accordance with the institutional and governance levels determined by Member States. This Directive shall not interfere with Member States' competence to design and determine the format and content of that plan or those plans. Maritime spatial planning shall aim to contribute to the objectives listed in Article 5 and fulfil the requirements laid down in Articles 6 and 8. When establishing maritime spatial planning, Member States shall have due regard to the particularities of the marine regions, relevant existing and future activities and uses and	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		their impacts on the environment, as well as to natural resources, and shall also take into account land-sea interactions. Member States may include or build on existing national policies, regulations or mechanisms that have been or are being established before the entry into force of this Directive, provided they are in conformity with the requirements of this Directive.	
UK Marine Policy Statement	Achieving a sustainable marine economy Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society Living within environmental limits Promoting good governance Using sound science responsibly	The MPS will facilitate and support the formulation of Marine Plans, ensuring that marine resources are used in a sustainable way in line with the high level marine objectives and thereby: Promote sustainable economic development; Enable the UK's move towards a low-carbon economy, in order to mitigate the causes of climate change and ocean acidification and adapt to their effects; Ensure a sustainable marine environment which promotes healthy, functioning marine ecosystems and protects marine habitats, species and heritage assets; and Contribute to the societal benefits of the marine area, including the sustainable use of marine resources to address local social and economic issues	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	Aims to provide the legal mechanism to help ensure clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas by putting in place a new system for improved management and protection of the marine and coastal environment.	The Marine Act comprises eight key elements: Marine Management Organisation (MMO) Strategic Marine Planning System Streamlined Marine Licensing System Marine Nature Conservation	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		Fisheries Management and Marine Enforcement Migratory and Freshwater Fisheries Coastal Access Coastal and Estuarine Management	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Marine (Northern Ireland) Act 2013	Aims to provide for marine plans in relation to the Northern Ireland inshore region; to provide for marine conservation zones in that region; to make further provision in relation to marine licensing for certain electricity works in that region; and for connected purposes.	The Marine Act sets out a new framework for Northern Ireland's seas based on: a system of marine planning that will balance conservation, energy and resource needs; improved management for marine nature conservation and the streamlining of marine licensing for some electricity projects. The main provisions of the Act are outlined below: Marine Planning Nature Conservation Marine Licensing	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020	Aims to halt or reverse biodiversity loss and speed up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy. Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible.	Outlines six targets and twenty actions to aid European Union in halting the loss to biodiversity and eco-system services. The six targets cover: Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity Maintaining, enhancing and protecting for ecosystems, and green infrastructure Ensuring sustainable agriculture, and forestry Sustainable management of fish stocks Reducing invasive alien species Addressing the global need to contribute towards averting global biodiversity loss	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)	The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments.	The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value. An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision making. Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. Supporting EU-level GI projects. Improving access to finance for GI projects. Improving information and promoting innovation.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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			environmental protection and management.
UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.	sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them; each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage; encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity	An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	The Convention has three main goals: the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); the sustainable use of its components; and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

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			bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change	It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.	The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)	The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol. At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal.	The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). EU member states implement measures to improve on or compliment the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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	The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.	term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system.	environmental protection and management.
EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package	Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020. Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels. Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%. Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency.	Four pieces of complimentary legislation: Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps. Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU. Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020. Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy	A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries. Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as- usual scenario.	To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030: A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS). New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries. First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive) Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)	The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). Sets new air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives. Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values. Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM10) or up to five years (NO2, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.	Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria. Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures. Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public. Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases. Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to: Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.	
Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community	Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain “good status” of water bodies. Promote sustainable water usage. The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive Sampling Drinking Water Directive	Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. Achieve "good status" for all waters. Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. Involve the public and streamline legislation. Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. Recover costs for water services.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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	Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive Shellfish Directive Freshwater Fish Directive Groundwater Directive Dangerous Substances Directive		
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	Protect, control and conserve groundwater. Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals.	Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)	Improve and maintain the quality of water intended for human consumption. Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.	Set values applicable to water intended for human consumption for the parameters set out in Annex I. Set values for additional parameters not included in Annex I, where the protection of human health within national territory or part of it so requires. The values set should, as a minimum, satisfy the requirements of Article 4(1) (a). Implement all measures necessary to ensure that regular monitoring of the quality of water intended for human consumption is carried out, in order to check that the water available to consumers meets the requirements of this Directive and in particular the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		Ensure that any failure to meet the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5 is immediately investigated in order to identify the cause. Ensure that the necessary remedial action is taken as soon as possible to restore its quality and shall give priority to their enforcement action. Undertake remedial action to restore the quality of the water where necessary to protect human health. Notify consumers when remedial action is being undertaken except where the competent authorities consider the non-compliance with the parametric value to be trivial.	
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges.	Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment. Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges. Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU	Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.	Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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		Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives that are not of significant relevance to the SEA for the Guidelines. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs.	environmental protection and management.
Marine Strategy Framework Directive	The aim of the European Union's ambitious Marine Strategy Framework Directive is to	The Directive provides various requirements, including: Completion of an initial assessment of Irish marine waters;	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively

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(2008/56/EC), as amended	protect more effectively the marine environment across Europe.	Establishment of establish environmental targets and indicators; Establishment of a monitoring programme; Establishment of a programme of measures; and Implementation of the programme of measures and monitoring programme. Implementation of the Directive is contributed towards by a set of detailed criteria and methodological standards that were revised in 2017 leading to a Commission Decision on "laying down criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters and specifications and standardised methods for monitoring and assessment, and repealing Decision 2010/477/EU". Annex III "Indicative lists of characteristics, pressures and impacts" of the Directive was amended in 2017.	contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)	The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.	The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Convention of the Protection of the	The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the	The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all

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Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)	conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co- operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.	The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions.	environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')	It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.	(I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; (II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; (III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and (IV) Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural	Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values,	Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively

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Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)	beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time. A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations.	Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage. Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned.	contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Landscape Convention 2000	The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes.	Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020)	It identifies three key objectives: to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy	Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals): Better implementation of legislation. Better information by improving the knowledge base. More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of

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	to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment- related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing	Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies. Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme: To make the Union's cities more sustainable. To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively.	the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)	The convention has three main aims: to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats to promote cooperation between states to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species	The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also: Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucus. Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon. Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations. Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bali Road Map (2007)	The overall goals of the project are twofold: To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and	The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks: mitigation adaptation technology	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards

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	To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities.	financing	– in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cancun Agreements (2010)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover: Mitigation Transparency of actions Technology Finance Adaptation Forests Capacity building	Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.	The following actions were committed to by governments at this conference: Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020); Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets; Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt; Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries.	
EU Common Agricultural Policy	To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living.	ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future; Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources; Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)	Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.	The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely: Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation; and Restriction of chemicals. REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Stockholm Convention	The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.	Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

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		Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner To target additional POPs Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ramsar Convention	The Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".	Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
OSPAR Convention	The mission of OSPAR is to conserve marine ecosystems and safeguard human health in the North-East Atlantic by preventing and eliminating pollution; by protecting the marine environment	OSPAR's work is organised under six strategies: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Strategy Eutrophication Strategy Hazardous Substances Strategy	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in

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	from the adverse effects of human activities; and by contributing to the sustainable use of the seas.	Offshore Industry Strategy Radioactive Substances Strategy Strategy for the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme These six strategies fit together to underpin the ecosystem approach. For each strategy a programme of work is designed and implemented annually.	combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European 2020 Strategy for Growth	Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities: Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation; Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy; Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion.	In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020: 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D; the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The European Green Deal (EGD) 2019	The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people's quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind.	It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution. It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed on 4th March 2020 to bring about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Level			
Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, and the National Development Plan (2021 - 2030)	The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment	The National Planning Framework published alongside the National Development Plan yields ten National Strategic Outcomes as follows: Compact Growth Enhanced Regional Accessibility Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	- from villages to cities, and everything around and in between. The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people.	Sustainable Mobility A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills High-Quality International Connectivity Enhanced Amenity and Heritage Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services	the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [In Preparation]	The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will: Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.	In preparation.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2022 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development.	Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

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		afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large scale projects. Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage.	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011	The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)	These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.	They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C- 418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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			environmental protection and management.
Waste Management Act 1996, as amended	To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.	The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009 (S.I 296 of 2009)	The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels	Actions: Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater)	To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending	The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in

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Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 366 of 2016)	Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.	Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution. Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established	combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 31 of 2014)	These Regulations, which give effect to Irelands 3rd Nitrates Action Programme, provide statutory support for good agricultural practice to protect waters against pollution from agricultural sources	The Regulations include measures such as: Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited Limits on the land application of fertilisers Storage requirements for livestock manure; and Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008 (S.I. 79 of 2008)	These Regulations provide for transposition of the EU Bathing Water Directive 2006 (Directive 2006/7/EC of 15 February 2006) which aims: To improve health protection for bathers To establish a more pro-active approach to management of bathing waters, and	The Regulations establish a new classification system for bathing water quality based on four classifications “poor”, “sufficient”, “good” and “excellent” and generally require that a classification of at least “sufficient” be achieved by 2015 for all bathing waters. Local authorities must take appropriate measures with a view to improving waters which are classified as “poor” and	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	To promote increased public involvement and dissemination of information to the public.	increasing the number of bathing waters classified as "good" or "excellent". A permanent advice against bathing must be issued in a case where a bathing water is classified as "poor" for five consecutive years. Local authorities are required annually to identify bathing waters, establish a monitoring calendar, carry out the specified monitoring, report the results to the EPA, carry out appropriate management measures where necessary and provide information to the public. There must be public participation in the identification of waters and the general implementation of the Regulations. The EPA is required by the Regulations to classify bathing waters, generally on the basis of the monitoring results for the four preceding bathing seasons, and to publish an annual report in relation to bathing water quality. Monitoring by local authorities is to commence not later than 2011 with a view to ensuring that a classification is assigned to bathing waters not later than 2015. Private controllers of access lands may be required to contribute towards the costs incurred by a local authority or the EPA.	the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bathing Water Quality (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (S.I 351 of 2011)	This Regulation defines further the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Further defines the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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			environmental protection and management.
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021	An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.	When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to: The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective, The policy of the Government on climate change, Climate justice, Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Action Plan 2023	The Climate Action Plan 2023 provides a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting Ireland on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021.	The Plan lists the actions needed to deliver on our climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated annually, to ensure alignment with Ireland's legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's Second National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (2022 - 2024)	National Implementation Plan 2022 - 2024 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The first version of the Plan (2018 – 2020) provided a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also included a 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets.	The Plan identifies five strategic objectives to guide implementation: To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development; To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs; Greater partnerships for the Goals; To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms; and Strong reporting mechanisms	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021)	€27 billion multi-annual Exchequer Capital Investment Plan, which is supported by a programme of capital investment in the wider State sector, and which over the period 2016 to 2021 will help to lay the foundations for continued growth in Ireland.	This Capital Plan reflects the Government's commitment to supporting strong and sustainable economic growth and raising welfare and living standards for all. It includes allocations for new projects across a number of key areas and funding to ensure that the present stock of national infrastructure is refreshed and maintained.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			environmental protection and management.
Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2010 (Irish Government submission to the European Commission)	The National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under Directive 2009/28/EC.	The NREAP sets out the Member State's national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Strategy for Renewable Energy (2012-2020)	The Government's overarching strategic objective is to make renewable energy an increasingly significant component of Ireland's energy supply by 2020, so that at a minimum it will achieve its legally binding 2020 target in the most cost efficient manner for consumers. Of critical importance is the role which the renewable energy s activity as part of the Government's action plan for jobs sector plays in job creation and economic	This document sets out five strategic goals, reflecting the key dimensions of the renewable energy challenge to 2020: Increasing on and offshore wind, Building a sustainable bioenergy sector, Fostering R&D in renewables such as wave & tidal, Growing sustainable transport; and Building out robust and efficient networks.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Climate Mitigation Plan 2017	The Plan represents an initial step to set Ireland on a pathway to achieve the deep decarbonisation required in Ireland by mid-century in line with the Government's policy objectives.	The National Mitigation Plan focuses on the following issues: Climate Action Policy Framework Decarbonising Electricity Generation Decarbonising the Built Environment Decarbonising Transport	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		An Approach to Carbon Neutrality for Agriculture, Forest and Land Use Sectors	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (2014)	The National Policy Position provides a high-level policy direction for the adoption and implementation by Government of plans to enable the State to move to a low carbon economy by 2050. Statutory authority for the plans is set out in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015.	National climate policy in Ireland: Recognises the threat of climate change for humanity; Anticipates and supports mobilisation of a comprehensive international response to climate change, and global transition to a low-carbon future; Recognises the challenges and opportunities of the broad transition agenda for society; and Aims, as a fundamental national objective, to achieve transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Clean Air Strategy for Ireland (2023)	The Clean Air Strategy provides the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	Through this document Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount, this is a strong theme of the Strategy.	Implementation of the Guidelines need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EirGrid 's Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation	EirGrid 's mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland.	Grid25, EirGrid 's roadmap to uprate the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand,	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in

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Programme 2017 - 2022	"Our vision is of a grid developed to match future needs, so it can safely and reliably carry power all over the country to the major towns and cities and onwards to every home, farm and business where the electricity is consumed and so it can meet the needs of consumers and generators in a sustainable way."	and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020.	combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
All Island Grid Study 2008	The All Island Grid Study is the first comprehensive assessment of the ability of the electrical power system and, as part of that, the transmission network ("the grid") on the island of Ireland to absorb large amounts of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. The objective of this five-part study is to assess the technical feasibility and the relative costs and benefits associated with various scenarios for increased shares of electricity sourced from renewable energy in the all island power system.	Key conclusions of the study: The presented results indicate that the differences in cost between the highest cost and the lowest cost portfolios are low (7%), given the assumptions made and costs included in the Study. All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to significant reductions of CO2 emissions compared to portfolio 1 All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to reductions on the dependency of the all island system on fuel and electricity imports. The limitations of the study may overstate the technical feasibility of the portfolios analysed and could impact the costs and benefits resulting. Further work is required to understand the extent of such impact. Timely development of the transmission networks, requiring means to address the planning challenge, is a precondition for implementation of the portfolios considered. Market mechanisms must facilitate the installation of complementary, i.e. flexible, dispatchable plant, so as to maintain adequate levels of system security.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
Strategy for the Future Development of National and	The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate	A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Regional Greenways (2018)	locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users. It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity.	extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; Greenways that provide a substantially segregated offroad experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.	align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Water Resources Plan (2021)	The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment.	The key objectives of the plan are to: Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland's water resources Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater	
Draft National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development 2030 [Awaiting publication]	"This multi-annual National Strategic Plan Sustainable Aquaculture Development (2022 – 2030) (NSPSA) overlaps with the EU's new 'Strategic guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture for the period 2021 to 2030', as well as the programming period (2021 to 2027) of the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF). As such, this plan provides the strategic vision and framework for funding under EMFAF, as well as other EU and national initiatives."	Develop 'Designated Marine Area Plans' (DMAPs) for aquaculture to ensure that the sector is championed in Ireland's Marine Spatial Plan to facilitate investment in different forms of sustainable aquaculture. More vigilant and responsive monitoring if aquatic diseases and food safety risks. Develop a comprehensive human capacity plan for Irish aquaculture to promote the sector as an attractive career option, develop leadership, management and business capacity in the sector and provide the necessary skills required over the strategy time period. Provide coordinated messaging on the sustainable, low carbon nature of Irish aquaculture production, supported by independent certification and open dialogue.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.	This Strategy therefore addresses issues including: A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety;	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector.	
Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997)	The overall aim of this Strategy is to ensure that economy and society in Ireland can develop to their full potential within a well-protected environment, without compromising the quality of that environment, and with responsibility towards present and future generations and the wider international community.	The Strategy addresses all areas of Government policy, and of economic and societal activity, which impact on the environment. It seeks to re-orientate policies as necessary to ensure that the strong growth Ireland enjoys and seeks to maintain will be environmentally sustainable.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation)	The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. Landscape Strategy Vision: "Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and	The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to: Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape; Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape;	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning."	Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible.	
National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2021 - 2027	This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published. Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period: To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally; To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste; To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export; To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management.	The revised Plan makes 20 recommendations under the following topics: Policy and Regulation Prevention Collection and Treatment Implementation	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
National Ports Policy 2013	The core objective of National Ports Policy is to facilitate a competitive and effective market for maritime transport services.	National Ports Policy introduces clear categorisation of the ports sector into Ports of National Significance (Tier 1), Ports of National Significance (Tier 2) and Ports of Regional Significance.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Aviation Policy 2015	Specifically, the principal goals of this National Aviation Policy are: To enhance Ireland's connectivity by ensuring safe, secure and competitive access responsive to the needs of business, tourism and consumers; To foster the growth of aviation enterprise in Ireland to support job creation and position Ireland as a recognised global leader in aviation; and To maximise the contribution of the aviation sector to Ireland's economic growth and development.	The National Aviation Policy commits to: Maintaining safety as the number one priority in Irish aviation and ensuring that safety regulation is robust, effective and efficient; Creating conditions to encourage the development of new routes and services, particularly to new and emerging markets; Ensuring a high level of competition among airlines operating in the Irish market; Optimising the operation of the Irish airport network to ensure maximum connectivity to the rest of the world; Ensuring that the regulatory framework for aviation reflects best international practice and that economic regulation facilitates continued investment in aviation infrastructure at Irish airports to support traffic growth; Supporting the aircraft leasing and aviation finance sectors to maintain Ireland's leading global position in these spheres; and Maintaining a safe and innovative general aviation sector to support Ireland's broader aviation industry	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines	The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.	The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025	The vision is: "A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility."	These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive: Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Marine Planning Framework 2021	The NMPF is a key consideration for decision makers on all marine authorisations. The NMPF creates the overarching framework for decision making that is consistent, evidence based, and secures a sustainable future for the maritime area.	The National Marine Planning Framework is a succinct strategic document that will deal with, inter alia, the following environmental, social and economic issues: Key marine activities such as fisheries, tourism, transport, offshore renewable energy generation, oil and gas exploration and production, aquaculture, and how they interact; Climate change and related impacts; Communities and health;	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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		Cultural heritage; Marine environment and biodiversity; Transboundary interactions with other jurisdictions.	environmental protection and management.
Tourism Action Plan 2019 - 2021	Includes a total of 27 actions to be addressed in the period between now and 2018 aimed at securing continued growth in overseas tourism revenue and employment.	23 actions address a range of key issues, including the marketing of Ireland as a visitor destination overseas, visitor access to and within Ireland, the effective presentation of Irish culture, sport, and events to visitors, the role of Local Authorities in supporting tourism, visitor accommodation capacity, and skills development in the tourism sector. The actions are directed at specific tourism stakeholders in the public and private sectors, all of whom are expected to proactively work towards completion of each action within the specified timeframe.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025	The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work.	The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025: Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; 250,000 people employed in tourism; and 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Tourism 2020: Tourism Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2020	Northern Irelands Tourism Strategy until 2020 Vision is to "Create the new Northern Ireland experience and get it on everyone's destination wish list" Details an Action Plan to achieving targets for People, Products and Places, Promotion and Partnership	Sets targets for: Increasing visitor numbers Increasing tourism earnings Accelerating visitor spend Targeting specific markets and segments Supporting indigenous high quality businesses Being visitor inspired Plan provides for development of at least 22 key sites on Causeway Coastal Route	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012	A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.	Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020 (2009)	Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved. Sets out five key goals: To reduce overall travel demand. To maximise the efficiency of the transport network. To reduce reliance on fossil fuels. To reduce transport emissions.	Others lower level aims include: reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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	To improve accessibility to transport.	improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets.	environmental protection and management.
National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) 2021	NIFTI is the Department of Transport's framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network to support the delivery of the National Strategic Outcomes. The NIFTI will guide transport investment in the years ahead to enable the National Planning Framework, support the Climate Action Plan, and promote social, environmental and economic outcomes throughout Ireland.	The four investment priorities stated in NIFTI are: Mobility of people and goods in urban areas. Protection and renewal. Enhanced regional and rural connectivity. Decarbonisation.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)	White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland. Outlines strategic Goals for: Security of Supply Sustainability of Energy Competitiveness of Energy Supply	The underpinning Strategic Goals are: Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production Being prepared for energy supply disruptions	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and	NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their	Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively

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sectoral adaptation plans (including transport)	administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur	Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance based actions. Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change. Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance	contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Governments White Paper 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' (2015 – 2030)	The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050.	2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning: Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95% Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Renewable Energy Action Plan (2010)	Sets out the Member State's national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive.	Including Ireland's 16% target of gross final consumption to come from renewables by 2020.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2009 – 2020)	This is the second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland.	The Plan reviews the original 90 actions outlined in the first Plan and updates/renews/removes them as appropriate.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Wildlife Act of 1976 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000	The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.	Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems Give statutory protection to NHAs Enhances wildlife species and their habitats Includes more species for protection	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Actions for Biodiversity (2017-2021) Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan	Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally.	To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity. To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystems services.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of

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		To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment. To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species. To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.	the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Broadband Plan (2012)	Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland.	The Plan sets out: A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High Speed Broadband. Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)	Sets out comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process. Ensures flood risk is a key consideration in preparing land use plans and in the assessment of planning applications. Implementation of the Guidelines is through actions at national, regional, local authority and site-specific levels.	Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding. Avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface water run-off. Ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains. Avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth. Improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders. Ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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	Planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are required to have regard to the Guidelines in carrying out their functions under the Planning Acts.	conservation are complied with at all stages of flood risk management. The 2009 Flood Risk Management Guidelines were amended by Circular PL 2/2014 (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government) that provides advice on the use of OPW flood mapping in assessing planning applications and clarifies some advice from the 2009 Guidelines.	environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003) European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014) European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)	Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions.	Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans. Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs. Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies. Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. Outlines surface water quality standards. Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives	Transpose the requirements of the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC into Irish Legislation.	Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for groundwater bodies of groundwater against pollution and deterioration in quality. Sets groundwater quality standards.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively

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(Groundwater) Regulations of 2010 (SI 9 of 2010)		Outlines threshold values for the classification and protection of groundwater.	contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 to 1990	The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.	The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to: Prosecute for water pollution offences. Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects. Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Services Act 2007 Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012	Provides the water services infrastructure. Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply. Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and wastewater services in the	Key strategic objectives include: Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial	Implementation of the Guidelines need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc.

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Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013	amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.	Strategy, and in other locations where services need to be enhanced. Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary wastewater treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive. Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures. Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services. Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER.	– the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Irish Water's (now known as Uisce Eireann) Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2020 - 2024)	This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term.	Six strategic objectives as follows: Meet Customer Expectations. Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply. Provide Effective Management of Wastewater. Protect and Enhance the Environment. Support Social and Economic Growth. Invest in the Future.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas 2017 - 2022	Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs	Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning. Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Harvest 2020	Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas.	Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Agri-vision 2015 Action Plan	Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment	not applicable	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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			environmental protection and management.
Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS) Green, Low-Carbon, Agri- environment Scheme (GLAS)	Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring.	Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Rural Development Programme	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas	At a more detailed level, the programme also: Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Forestry Programme (2014-2020)	Represents Ireland's proposals for 100% State aid funding for a new Forestry Programme for the period 2014 – 2020.	Measures include the following: Afforestation and Creation of Woodland Neighbour Wood Scheme Forest Roads Reconstitution Scheme Woodland Improvement Scheme Native Woodland Conservation Scheme Knowledge Transfer and Information Actions Producer Groups Innovative Forest Technology Forest Genetic Reproductive Material Forest Management Plans	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
River Basin Management Plan	River Basin Management Plans set out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters.	Aim to protect and enhance all water bodies in the RBD and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive. Identify and manages water bodies in the RBD. Establish a programme of measures for monitoring and improving water quality in the RBD. Involve the public through consultations.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)	This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and	Objectives of the Strategy: To give direction to Ireland's approach to peatland management. To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively

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	economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.	To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. To ensure that Ireland's peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsible. To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required. To provide a framework for determining and ensuring the most appropriate future use of cutover and cutaway bogs. To ensure that specific actions necessary for the achievement of its objectives are clearly identified and delivered by those involved in or responsible for peatlands management or for decisions affecting their management.	contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.	CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020	The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows:	Three high level goals, of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified:	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and

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	Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner.	To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy. To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources.	align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017-2030	This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: AFV forecasts Electricity targets Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets Hydrogen targets Biofuels targets LPG targets Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion. The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high end value added product development.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010	Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed	Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020 Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) NI	The SPPS consolidates some twenty separate policy publications into one document and sets out strategic subject planning policy for a wide range of planning matters. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two-tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development.	The overall objective of the planning system is to further sustainable development and improve well-being for the people of the North.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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			environmental protection and management.
National Policy Framework For Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030	This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors.	This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport: Reduce overall travel demand Maximise the efficiency of the transport network Reduce reliance on fossil fuels Reduce transport emissions Improve accessibility to transport These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Regional/ County/Local Level			
Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies provide a long-term regional level strategic planning and economic framework in support of the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Fingal County Council; Dublin City Council; South Dublin County Council; Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Louth County Council; Kildare County Council; Meath County Council; Wicklow County Council; Longford County Council; Laois County Council; Offaly County Council; and Westmeath County Council. The Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Tipperary County Council, Wexford County Council, Kerry	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council. The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its eight constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council, Leitrim County Council, Sligo County Council, Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council, Mayo County Council, Roscommon County Council; and Galway County Council.	
Regional Development Strategy 2035 (Northern Ireland)	Spatial strategy for the future development of Northern Ireland. Strategic planning framework to facilitate and guide public and private sectors.	Aims to provide long-term policy direction with a strategic spatial perspective.	Implementation of the Guidelines need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
GreaterDublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2016-2035)	It sets out how transport will be developed across the region, covering Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare, over the period of the strategy and has been approved by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in accordance with the relevant legislation. The Vision Statement: "The GDA by 2022 is an economically vibrant, active and sustainable international Gateway Region, with strong connectivity across the GDA Region, nationally and worldwide; a region which fosters	They set out a number of core principles deriving from the strategic vision, which are: Dublin as the capital city of Ireland and a major European centre shall grow and progress, competing with other cities in the EU, and serving a wide range of international, national, regional and local needs. The Dublin and Mid-East Regions will be attractive, vibrant locations for industry, commerce, recreation and tourism and will be a major focus for economic growth within the Country.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	communities living in attractive, accessible places well supported by community infrastructure and enjoying high quality leisure facilities; and promotes and protects across the GDA green corridors, active agricultural lands and protected natural areas." Full SEA and Stage 2 AA have been undertaken on this Strategy	The GDA, through its ports and airport connections will continue to be the most important entry/exit point for the country as a whole, and as a Gateway between the European Union and the rest of the World. Access to and through the GDA will continue to be a matter of national importance. Development in the GDA shall be directly related to investment in integrated high quality public transport services and focused on compact urban form. Development within the existing urban footprint of the Metropolitan Area will be consolidated to achieve a more compact urban form Development in the Hinterland Area will be focused on the high quality integrated growth and consolidation of development in key identified towns, separated from each other by extensive areas of strategic green belt land devoted to agriculture and similar uses.	
Transport Strategy for the Cork Metropolitan Area 2040	The Strategy addresses all transport modes and its objective will be to provide a long-term strategic planning framework for the integrated development of transport infrastructure and services in the Cork Metropolitan Area, over the next two decades	It will be used to inform transport investment levels and investment prioritisation over both the longer and shorter terms and will be able to inform sustainable integrated land use and transport policy formulation at the strategic (Metropolitan Area) level and at the local level.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
GreaterDublin Area Cycle Network Plan	Sets out a ten year cycling strategy for Counties Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow	Aims to identify and determine: The Urban Cycle Network at the Primary, Secondary and Feeder level	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively

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	Plan to increase regions cycle network dramatically The Plan refers to the EuroVelo International Cycle Route Network of the European Cyclists Federation is a network of 15 long distance cycle routes connecting and uniting the whole European continent. Two of these routes are in Ireland including EV2 from Galway through Dublin to London, Berlin, Warsaw and Moscow.	The Inter-Urban Cycle Network linking the relevant sections of the Urban Network including the elements of the National Cycle Network within the Greater Dublin Area including linkages to key transport locations outside of urban areas such as airports and ports The Green Route Network being cycle routes for development of tourist, recreational and leisure purposes.	contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Dublin to Galway Greenway Plan	Develop a segregated cycling and walking trail to international standards, extending from Dublin City to Galway which is of a scale that will allow Ireland to harness the potential of an identified growing tourism market for cycling. This route forms part of an interconnected National Cycle Network of high quality, traffic free, inter urban routes, which will establish Ireland as a quality international tourism destination for a broad range of associated recreational activities and pursuits.	To provide a segregated, substantially off road cycle route from Dublin City to Clifden via Galway City, maximising the use of – where feasible – existing and approved routes and disused railway line corridors and to also use existing plans and/or permitted projects where these have been subject to a consent process that has previously included the carrying out or screening for SEA, EIA and AA.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Regional Development Strategy 2035 (Northern Ireland)	Spatial strategy for the future development of Northern Ireland. Strategic planning framework to facilitate and guide public and private sectors.	Aims to provide long-term policy direction with a strategic spatial perspective.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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			environmental protection and management.
Water Quality Management Plans	Ensure that the quality of waters covered by the plan is maintained. Maintain and improve the quantity and quality of water included in the Plan scope.	Monitoring of water bodies against quality standards. Outlines management programmes for water catchments. Purpose is to maintain and improve the quantity and quality of groundwater.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Port Masterplans (such as Dublin Port Masterplan 2012-2040 and 2017 Review)	The Masterplan sets out a vision for the operations of the port and land utilisation. The Masterplan is a non-statutory plan which has nonetheless been framed within the context of EU, national, regional and local development plan policies.	Not applicable	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs	Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest	Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

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	To describe the site and its management To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives		achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater Protection Schemes	A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.	A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP)	The overarching vision for each LECP is: "to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities"	The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Development Plans, Local Area Plans, Planning Schemes	Outlines planning objectives for land use development (including transport objectives).	Identifies future infrastructure, development and zoning required. Protects and enhances amenities and environment.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively

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	Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. Sets out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area.	Guides planning authority in assessing proposals. Aims to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. Aims to promote sustainable development. Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.	contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Green Infrastructure Plans/Strategies	Promotes the maintenance and improvement of green infrastructure in an area. Aims to protect and enhance biodiversity and habitats.	not applicable	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Biodiversity Action Plans	Aims to protect, conserve, enhance and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services across all spectrums.	Outlines the status of biodiversity and identifies species of importance. Outlines objectives and targets to be met to maintain and improve biodiversity. Aims to increase awareness.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Heritage Plans	Aims to highlight the importance of heritage at a strategic level.	Manage and promote heritage as well as increase awareness. Aim to conserve and protect heritage.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all

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			environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
County Landscape Character Assessments	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub- Basin Management Plans	Identifies the current status of the species and the reason for loss or decline. Identifies measure required to improve or restore current status.	Identifies pressures on Freshwater Pearl Mussels for each of the designated populations in Ireland. Outlines restoration measures required to ensure favourable conservation status.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Local Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans	Produced by Local Authorities. Outlines areas local flood risk. Sets out measures to manage and prevent flood risk at a local level.	not applicable	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Shellfish Pollution Reduction Programmes	Aims to improve water quality and ensure the protection or improvement of designated shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth and contribute to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man.	Identifies key and secondary pressures on water quality in designated shellfish areas. Outlines specific measures to address identified key and secondary pressures on water quality. Addresses the specific pressures acting on water quality in each area.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Regional Waste Management Plans	These plans (for the Connacht-Ulster, Southern, and Eastern-Midlands regions) give effect to national and EU waste policy, and address waste prevention and management (including generation, collection and treatment) over the period 2015-2021.	To manage wastes in a safe and compliant manner, a clear strategy, policies and actions are required.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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			environmental protection and management.
Draft Climate Change Action Plans 2019 - 2024	Dublin's four local authorities have joined together to develop Climate Change Action Plans as a collaborative response to the impact that climate change is having, and will continue to have, on the Dublin Region and its citizens. While each plan is unique to its functional area, they are unified in their approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation, and their commitment to lead by example in tackling this global issue.	The Climate Change Action Plan features a range of actions across five key areas - Energy and Buildings, Transport, Flood Resilience, Nature-Based Solutions and Resource Management - that collectively address the four targets of this plan: A 33% improvement in the Council's energy efficiency by 2020 A 40% reduction in the Council's greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 To make Dublin a climate resilient region, by reducing the impacts of future climate change - related events To actively engage and inform citizens on climate change	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Noise Action Plans	The Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland.	The main purpose of the Noise Action Plan is to: Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

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