

(8) A)

**GREATER DUBLIN DRAINAGE
CONSTRUCTION COMPOUND NO.10**

**HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR BIODIVERSITY GAIN**

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	SITE DESCRIPTION	2
2.1	LOCATION	2
2.2	TOPOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE.....	2
2.3	PLANNING HISTORY.....	2
2.4	ECOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS.....	2
2.5	LAND USE	2
3	FIXED DUNE ('GREY DUNE') HABITAT	3
3.1	GREY DUNES AT PORTMARNOCK	3
3.2.1	Habitats Directive Status.....	3
3.2.2	Range and Distribution	3
3.2.3	Sand Dune Ecology	3
3.2.4	Pressures and Threats.....	3
3.2	MANAGING GREY DUNES FOR CONSERVATION	3
3.2.1	Literature Review	3
3.2.2	Soil Management	3
3.2.3	Scrub Management.....	3
3.2.4	Grazing Management	3
3.2.5	Visitor and Amenity Management.....	3
4	HABITAT MANAGEMENT MEASURES	4
4.1	PRE-CONSTRUCTION PHASE	4
4.1.1	Soil Sampling	4
4.1.2	Sward Management.....	4
4.1.3	Seed Collection and Storage	4
4.2	CONSTRUCTION PHASE	4
4.2.1	Topsoil stripping	4
4.2.2	Turf Storage and Management.....	4
4.3	POST-CONSTRUCTION STAGE	4
4.3.1	Soil Preparation	4
4.3.2	Turf Reinstatement	4
4.3.3	Reseeding	4
4.3.4	Fencing and Signage	4
4.3.5	Access and Sward Management.....	4
4.4	MONITORING	4
4.4.1	Vegetation Condition Assessment.....	4
	REFERENCES	5
	APPENDIX I: COMPOUND LAYOUT PLAN	6
	APPENDIX II: SOIL TEST RESULTS	7

1 INTRODUCTION

In response to observations made to An Bord Pleanála by both the Development Applications Unit of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DCHG) and Fingal County Council (FCC) relating to a Strategic Infrastructure Development application (Ref: ABP-301908-18) by Irish Water to construct and operate the Greater Dublin Drainage project, RPS was requested to prepare an outline of a Habitat Management Plan for Biodiversity Gain

- FCC requested that a biodiversity plan be prepared for proposed temporary construction compound no. 10; and
- DCHG requested that consideration be given to attempting to restore some of the habitat at proposed temporary construction compound no.10 as fixed dune habitat.

Irish Water confirmed to An Bord Pleanála in its January 2019 Response to Submissions document that it will discuss its intention to provide biodiversity gain in this area through restoration of fixed dune habitat upon completion of construction phase at construction compound no. 10.

It is noted that the Local Authority (FCC) is the owner of the site, and will continue to be the owner of the site during the operational phase of the GDD Project. Irish Water will deliver the short term measures prescribed in the Plan and hand the site back to FCC upon completion of construction phase. The Local Authority will maintain the site thereafter and implement any longer term measures to be contained in the Plan.

The remainder of this report sets out the proposed structure of a Habitat Management Plan for Biodiversity Gain at proposed temporary construction compound no.10 of the GDD Project ('the Plan').

On the basis that FCC has requested the Plan be prepared, the measures proposed in the remainder of this report and general structure and content of the Plan must be considered by FCC. As future site manager tasked with implementing any longer term measures to be contained in the Plan, it is entirely reasonable that FCC must have adequate time to consider their long term objective(s) for the site, how it will function and what role it will perform in light of the policies and objectives contained in their Biodiversity Action Plan and County Development Plan for the Fingal administrative area and any relevant Local Area Plan relating to it.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 LOCATION

2.2 TOPOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

2.3 PLANNING HISTORY

2.4 ECOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS

2.4.1 Flora and Habitats

2.4.2 Species

2.4.3 Hydrology

2.5 LAND USE

2.5.1 Past Management

2.5.2 Current Management

3 FIXED DUNE ('GREY DUNE') HABITAT

3.1 GREY DUNES AT PORTMARNOCK

3.2.1 Habitats Directive Status

3.2.2 Range and Distribution

3.2.3 Sand Dune Ecology

3.2.4 Pressures and Threats

3.2 MANAGING GREY DUNES FOR CONSERVATION

3.2.1 Literature Review

3.2.2 Soil Management

3.2.3 Scrub Management

3.2.4 Grazing Management

3.2.5 Visitor and Amenity Management

4 HABITAT MANAGEMENT MEASURES

4.1 PRE-CONSTRUCTION PHASE

4.1.1 Soil Sampling

4.1.2 Sward Management

4.1.3 Seed Collection and Storage

4.2 CONSTRUCTION PHASE

4.2.1 Topsoil stripping

4.2.2 Turf Storage and Management

4.3 POST-CONSTRUCTION STAGE

4.3.1 Soil Preparation

4.3.2 Turf Reinstatement

4.3.3 Reseeding

4.3.4 Fencing and Signage

4.3.5 Access and Sward Management

4.4 MONITORING

4.4.1 Vegetation Condition Assessment

- *Year 1*
- *Year 3*
- *Year 5*
- *Year 10*

APPENDIX I: COMPOUND LAYOUT PLAN

APPENDIX II: SOIL TEST RESULTS
