

Our Case Number: ABP-320946-24



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Inland Fisheries Ireland
Teach Breac
Earl's Island
Co. Galway

Date: 17 September 2025

Re: Development at Long Point, Lake Road (R351)
Knockanima, Loughrea, County Galway

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

Please note that the proposed development shall not be carried out unless the Commission has approved it with or without modifications.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

Lauren Griffin
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737244

AA02

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D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Lauren Griffin

From: Lauren Griffin
Sent: Tuesday, 16 September 2025 11:56
To: David Harrington
Subject: RE: ACP Reference: ABP-320946-24

A Chara,

The Commission acknowledges receipt of your email; official correspondence will issue in due course.

Kind regards,

Lauren

From: David Harrington <David.Harrington@fisheriesireland.ie>
Sent: Friday, September 12, 2025 4:37 PM
To: Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>
Subject: ACP Reference: ABP-320946-24

Caution: This is an **External Email** and may have malicious content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact the ICT Helpdesk.

Dear Secretary,

I refer to the proposed Section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended – Notice of Significant Further Information on a Direct Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála (Ref. ABP-320946-24) For the Proposed Development at Long Point, Lake Road (R351) in the townland of Knockanima, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

(An Coimisiún Pleanála - ABP-320946-24)

Please find attached IFI's observations on the planning application.

I would appreciate if An Coimisiún Pleanála could acknowledge receipt of this submission.

Kind Regards,

David

David Harrington
Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer

✉ David.Harrington@fisheriesireland.ie • ☎ +353 (0)91 563118 • 🌐 www.fisheriesireland.ie • 🏠 H91 E2A2



Iascach Iníre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland



beolín / hotline
0818 34 74 24
Oscailte 24 uair an lae / 7 lá in aghaidh na seachtaine
Open 24 hours a day / 7 days a week

Help us protect Ireland's rivers, lakes and coastlines by reporting illegal fishing, water pollution or invasive species.
Our confidential phone number is 0818 34 74 24, which is open 24 hours a day / 7 days a week.

To read our Privacy Policy and Email Disclaimer Notice, Please visit www.fisheriesireland.ie



**Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland**

The Secretary
An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

ACP Reference: **ABP-320946-24**

12th September 2025

Re: Section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended – Notice of Significant Further Information on a Direct Planning Application to An Coimisiún Pleanála (Ref. ABP-320946-24) For the Proposed Development at Long Point, Lake Road (R351) in the townland of Knockanima, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

Dear Secretary,

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) is the State Body responsible for the protection, management and conservation of the inland fisheries and sea angling resource in Ireland. Protection of the aquatic environment and habitat is a vitally important element of IFI's work. IFI is mandated to ensure that the fisheries of the State are protected. "Fisheries" includes all inland fisheries recreational and commercial, sea angling and mollusc fisheries stipulated under the Fisheries Acts, the physical habitat upon which the fishery relies, the facilities and access, the quantity and quality of the water and the plant and animal life on which fish depend for shelter and food and the spawning areas where in fish deposit their eggs. The protective role of IFI relates to all aspects of the aquatic environment and all factors that influence the biotic communities within waters, which in any way relate to the propagation of fish stocks.

The application proposes the development of an existing public amenity area and carpark at Long Point, Lake Road, Loughrea, Co Galway. This site is located adjacent to the Lough Rea Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA).

Fishing on Lough Rea is managed by the Loughrea Anglers' Association who also operate a small hatchery which stocks the lake with brown trout at the unfed fry stage. IFI fish surveys of the lake have also detected the presence of perch, rudd, pike, eel, three-spined stickleback and nine-spined stickleback.

Lough Rea is currently listed as of good ecological status and not at risk under the Water Framework Directive, a status that needs to be protected.

Having regard to these environmental sensitivities, IFI requests that consideration be given to the following points:

Protection of water quality and fisheries habitat

It is noted that the application includes mitigation measures to avoid impacts on water quality during the construction phase of the project. These measures are set out in the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and have been incorporated into the design of the proposed works. IFI would also request that should the development be granted permission, it be a



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requirement that the appointed contractor(s) are made aware of IFI's guidance document for reference regarding the protection of fisheries watercourses during construction works in and adjacent to waters before the construction phase of the project commences:
<https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/sites/default/files/migrated/docman/2016/Guidelines%20Report%202016.pdf>

Invasive Species

IFI notes that Section 3.1.3 Management of Invasive Species confirms that whilst no third schedule invasive species were noted onsite, should invasives be subsequently identified, an Invasive species Management Plan (ISMP) will be produced by a suitably qualified ecologist to manage any such species. IFI would request that it receive advanced notification should invasives be detected prior to the management of these species. Landscaping proposals for the development should require the use of native species from local stock. More information can be found at [Home - Invasives.ie](http://Home-Invasives.ie)

Biosecurity

IFI would request that a biosecurity/information station be incorporated into the proposed redevelopment of the public amenity area to prevent the inadvertent introduction of invasive species such as the zebra mussel which are present in the River Corrib into Lough Rea (see attached IFI's "Invasive Species Disinfection Guidelines for Paddle Sports" for reference).

Response to Further Information - Section 3.1.3 - Further Information Item 2(iii)

Detailed materials and method for construction of the proposed slipway including any proposal to achieve increased depth of water adjacent for its operation or otherwise. "Prior to pumping, electrofishing will be carried out within the works area under licence from the NPWS by a qualified ecologist to remove any fish and move them into Lough Rea".

The above statement is also referenced within the Updated NIS document and the Updated Construction and Environmental Management Plan. IFI wish to clarify that such an electrofishing operation will require a Section 14 Authorisation from the Inland Fisheries Division of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

Response to Further Information - Further Information Item 6

It is proposed to raise the existing electrical kiosk to 81.40m O.D. (Flood Risk Assessment design height) as shown and to fully seal the existing foul pump chamber against ingress by floodwaters. Therefore, it is considered that the foul water pumping station can effectively store and pump to the wastewater network negating the possibility of contamination during flood events.

IFI notes this further information alongside Section 2.2.2.2 which states that the wastewater treatment system will undergo yearly inspections and maintenance to ensure sufficient use, and no faults have occurred. IFI would also request that a warning beacon light be installed as part of the proposed foul pumping station to draw attention to any potential faults which may arise within the system.

Updated Construction and Environmental Management Plan

Should any issues arise during the construction phase of the project which could potentially impact on the fisheries habitat, angling, salmonid/eel/lamprey migration within the Lough Rea catchment, IFI will require the cessation of works pending a satisfactory resolution to the methodology/issue in question.



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Inland Fisheries Ireland

I would appreciate if An Coimisiún Pleanála could acknowledge receipt of this submission.

Yours sincerely

David Harrington
Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer
IFI Galway
ACP-LP-0925