FEHILY TIMONEY

DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Appendix 5.1

Scoping Responses

RWE Renewables Ireland Limited
Unit 5
Desart House
Lower New Street
Kilkenny
R95 H488

Uisce Éireann
Teach Colvill
24-26 Sráid Thalbóid
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 NP86
Éire

Uisce Éireann
Colvill House
24-26 Talbot Street
Dublin 1
D01 NP86
Ireland

T: +353 1 89 25000
F: +353 1 89 25001
www.water.ie

18 December 2024

Dear Ms Mansfield,

Re: Diversion Reference DIV24312 Diversion enquiry. Subject to contract | Contract denied

Uisce Éireann has reviewed your enquiry in relation to a build-over of Uisce Éireann's water main as part of the proposed Development at the townland of Cloonbar, Co Galway as indicated on drawings no. 051021-DR-314 Watermain Over Crossings (DC), 051021-DR-315 Watermain Under Crossings (DC) and Shancloon Location plan.

Based upon the details you have provided with your enquiry and as assessed by Uisce Éireann, we wish to advise you that, subject to valid agreement/s being put in place, the proposed build over can be facilitated.

1. Uisce Eireann must be provided with a detailed method statement and risk assessment for working in the vicinity of Uisce Eireann assets as part of the build-over or near agreement process.
2. RWE Renewables Ireland Limited will submit project specific drawings as part of the Build over/ near Agreement application following grant of planning permission and completion of site investigations and detailed design. The specific clearance requirements will be agreed with Uisce Éireann during this process and 500 mm vertical separation provided if deemed necessary.
3. Uisce Éireann will require all crossings of the existing water main to be constructed below the pipe.

You are advised that this correspondence does not constitute an agreement in whole or in part to provide a diversion or to build near any Uisce Éireann infrastructure and is provided subject to build over agreement being executed at a later date. You are advised to make contact with the diversions team at diversions@water.ie once planning permission has been granted and prior to any works commencing on site in order to enter into a build over agreement with Uisce Éireann Water.

If you have any further questions, please contact Stephen O'Beirne from the diversions team on 083 087 8337 or email sobeirne@water.ie. For further information, visit **www.water.ie/connections.**

Yours sincerely,

Dermot Phelan
Connections Delivery Manager

An Roinn Comhshaoil,
Aeráide agus Cumarsáide
Department of the Environment,
Climate and Communications

Geological Survey
Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta
Ireland | Éireann

Rita Mansfield
Fehily Timoney & Company
Core House
Pouladuff Road
County Cork, T12 D773

17 May 2023

Re: Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request

Your Ref: P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC
Our Ref: 23/99

Dear Rita,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our website for data availability. We recommend using these various data sets, when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

The publicly available data referenced/presented here, should in no way be construed as Geological Survey Ireland support for or objection to the proposed development or plan. The data is made freely available to all and can be used as independent scientific data in assessments, plans or policies. It should be noted that in many cases this data is a baseline or starting point for further site-specific assessments.

With reference to your email received on the 20 April 2023, concerning the Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. Please find attached a list of our publicly available datasets that may be useful to the environmental assessment and planning process. We recommend that you review this list and refer to any datasets you consider relevant to your assessment. The remainder of this letter and following sections provide more detail on some of these datasets.

Geoheritage

A national inventory of geoheritage sites known as County Geological Sites (CGSs) is managed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland. CGSs, as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include sites that are of national importance which have been selected as the very best examples for NHA (Natural Heritage Areas) designation. NHA designation will be completed in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online Map Viewer.

The audit for Co. Galway was carried out in 2019. The full report details can be found here. **Our records show that there are no CGSs in the vicinity of the proposed wind farm development.**

Groundwater

Geological Survey Ireland's Groundwater and Geothermal Unit, provides advice, data and maps relating to groundwater distribution, quality and use, which is especially relevant for safe and secure drinking water supplies and healthy ecosystems.

Proposed developments need to consider any potential impact on specific groundwater abstractions and on groundwater resources in general. We recommend using the groundwater maps on our Map viewer which should include: wells; drinking water source protection areas; the national map suite - aquifer, groundwater vulnerability, groundwater recharge and subsoil permeability maps. For areas underlain by limestone, please refer to the karst specific data layers (karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie). Background information is also provided in the Groundwater Body Descriptions. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.

The Groundwater Data Viewer indicates an aquifer classed as a 'Regionally Important Aquifer - Karstified (conduit)' underlies the proposed development. The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates the range of groundwater vulnerabilities within the area covered is variable. We would therefore recommend use of the Groundwater Viewer to identify areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability and 'Rock at or near surface' in your assessments, as any groundwater-surface water interactions that might occur would be greatest in these areas.

GWClimate is a groundwater monitoring and modelling project that aims to investigate the impact of climate change on groundwater in Ireland. This is a follow on from a previous project (GWFlood) and the data may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans. Maps and data are available on the Map viewer.

Geological Survey Ireland has completed Groundwater Protection Schemes (GWPSs) in partnership with Local Authorities, and there is now national coverage of GWPS mapping. 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. **The Groundwater Protection Response overview and link to the main reports is here: https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater/projects/protecting-drinking-water/what-is-drinking-water-protection/county-groundwater-protection-schemes/Pages/default.aspx**

Geological Mapping

Geological Survey Ireland maintains online datasets of bedrock and subsoils geological mapping that are reliable and accessible. We would encourage you to use these data which can be found here, in your future assessments.

Please note we have recently launched QGIS compatible bedrock (100K) and Quaternary geology map data, with instructional manuals and videos. This makes our data more accessible to general public and external stakeholders. QGIS compatible data can be found in our downloadable bedrock 100k .zip file on the Data & Maps section of our website.

Geohazards

Geohazards can cause widespread damage to landscapes, wildlife, human property and human life. In Ireland, landslides, flooding and coastal erosion are the most prevalent of these hazards. We recommend that geohazards be taken into consideration, especially when developing areas where these risks are prevalent, and we encourage the use of our data when doing so.

Geological Survey Ireland has information available on landslides in Ireland via the National Landslide Database and Landslide Susceptibility Map both of which are available for viewing on our dedicated Map Viewer. Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.

Geological Survey Ireland also engaged in a national project on Groundwater Flooding. The data from this project may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans, and is described in more detail under 'Groundwater' above.

Natural Resources (Minerals/Aggregates)

Geological Survey Ireland provides data, maps, interpretations and advice on matters related to minerals, their use and their development in our Minerals section of the website. The Active Quarries, Mineral Localities and the Aggregate Potential maps are available on our Map Viewer.

We would recommend use of the Aggregate Potential Mapping viewer to identify areas of High to Very High source aggregate potential within the area. In keeping with a sustainable approach we would recommend use of our data and mapping viewers to identify and ensure that natural resources used in the wind farm development are sustainably sourced from properly recognised and licensed facilities, and that consideration of future resource sterilization is considered.

Geochemistry of soils, surface waters and sediments

Geological Survey Ireland provides baseline geochemistry data for Ireland as part of the Tellus programme. Baseline geochemistry data can be used to assess the chemical status of soil and water at a regional scale and to support the assessment of existing or potential impacts of human activity on environmental chemical quality.

Tellus is a national-scale mapping programme which provides multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water in Ireland. At present, mapping consists of the border, western and midland regions. Data is available at https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/Geochemistry.aspx.

Guidelines
The following guidelines may also be of assistance:

- Institute of Geologists of Ireland, 2013. Guidelines for the Preparation of the Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology Chapters of Geology in Environmental Impact Statements.
- EPA, 2022. Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR)

Other Comments
Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out.

The data would be added to Geological Survey Ireland's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to the Geological Mapping Unit, at mailto:GeologicalMappingInfo@gsi.ie, 01-678 2795.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Clare Glanville
Senior Geologist
Geological Survey Ireland

Trish Smullen
Geoheritage and Planning Programme
Geological Survey Ireland

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.

An Roinn Cosanta
Department of Defence

Hugh Rowlands
GIS Analyst / Ecologist
Fehily Timoney and Company
Core House
Pouladuff Road
Cork

05 May 2023

Without Prejudice

Dear Mr. Rowlands,

I refer to your letter and e-mail dated 19 April 2023, in relation to the proposed Shancloon Windfarm Development Co. Galway, located approximately 8 km west of Tuam, Co. Galway.

I wish to advise at the outset that any determination in relation to a planning consent is solely a matter for the planning authorities and/or ABP, as appropriate. Therefore, the following observations are made on a non-prejudicial basis, and are not intended to be used to rely on for a prospective planning application, nor are these observations to be relied on in the event of any commercial transaction pertaining to such lands and they are not to be relied on in the event of any contract exchange pertaining to same.

As a matter of practice, the Department of Defence does not provide observations or advice in the scoping process, except where the relevant parties have been directed by a planning authority to seek the Department's views. The following observations are based solely on the material provided by you and should be read in that context only. It should be noted that additional or supplemental observations may be made at the formal planning process.

Having consulted with the subject matter experts in the Irish Air Corps, the Department of Defence wishes to make the following observations:

- All turbines should be illuminated by Type C, Medium intensity, Fixed Red obstacle lighting with a minimum output of 2,000 candela to be visible in all directions of azimuth and to be operational H24/7 days a week.
- Obstacle lighting should be incandescent. If LED or other lighting types are used, should be a type visible to Night Vision equipment. Obstacle lighting must emit light at the near Infra-Red (IR) range of the electromagnetic spectrum, specifically at or near 850 nanometres (nm) of wavelength.

- Light intensity to be of similar value to that emitted in the visible spectrum of light.

- Any Irish Air Corps (IAC) requirements are separate to Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) requirements.

Nothing in the above observations shall be taken as a binding response by the Minister for Defence in the event that a planning application is made. The Minister reserves the right to comment on an actual planning application as and when it is submitted in accordance with the provisions of the planning regulatory code.

We would appreciate if you could keep us informed on any progress relating to this proposed development, in particular if this development was to progress to the planning stage.

Yours sincerely

Sent via e-mail

_____

Don Watchorn
Property Management Branch
Department of Defence
Station Road
Newbridge
Co. Kildare W12 AD93

Fish in Rivers Factsheet

WRBD **Corrib Catchment** **Factsheet: 2020/2**

The Corrib catchment occupies an area of approximately 4,000km² in the west of Ireland spanning counties Galway and Mayo. The catchment includes Loughs Corrib, Mask and Carra and all the rivers draining these lakes. Many other smaller lakes are also present in the catchment. Lough Corrib is the second largest lake (16,562 Ha) in Ireland after Lough Neagh. The main urban centres in the catchment are Galway City, Tuam, Ballinrobe, Claremorris and Ballyhaunis.

The catchment is characterised by a relatively flat limestone plain occupying the eastern two thirds of the catchment, which terminates in the lakes of Corrib and Mask, and where it meets the granites of West Galway and the metamorphic uplands of southwest Mayo (EPA 2018).

There are 25 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's) in the catchment, including Lough Corrib SAC (000297), Lough Carra Mask Complex SAC (001774) and the Connemara Bog Complex (EPA, 2018). There are also three special protection areas in the catchment (Lough Carra SPA, Lough Corrib SPA and Lough Mask SPA). The lakes and rivers support numerous protected habitats and species (including salmon, freshwater pearl mussel, white-clawed crayfish, sea lamprey and otter).

Loughs Corrib, Mask and Carra are three of the best brown trout fisheries in Ireland and Lough Corrib and its river are also renowned for salmon angling.

A total of fifty-two sites were surveyed to assess the status of their fish stocks in the Corrib Catchment from the 22nd of July to the 16th of September 2020. This work complements the survey carried out during 2019 (109 sites surveyed in the Carra, Mask and Clare catchments - O' Briain, 2020a and b). These surveys provide a comprehensive overview of fish status across the Corrib catchment.

Electro-fishing was the method used (CEN 2003), specifically the 10-minute timed electro-fishing (TEF) technique. All fish count results were converted to Area Delineated Electro Fishing (ADEF) according to Matson *et al.* (2018).

This report summarises the results of the fish stock survey in selected sub-catchments of the Lough Corrib Catchment in 2020. Fish ecological status is also reported for each site for Water Framework Directive purposes.

The Failmore (Teernakill) River at Teernakill South (site 43).

Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

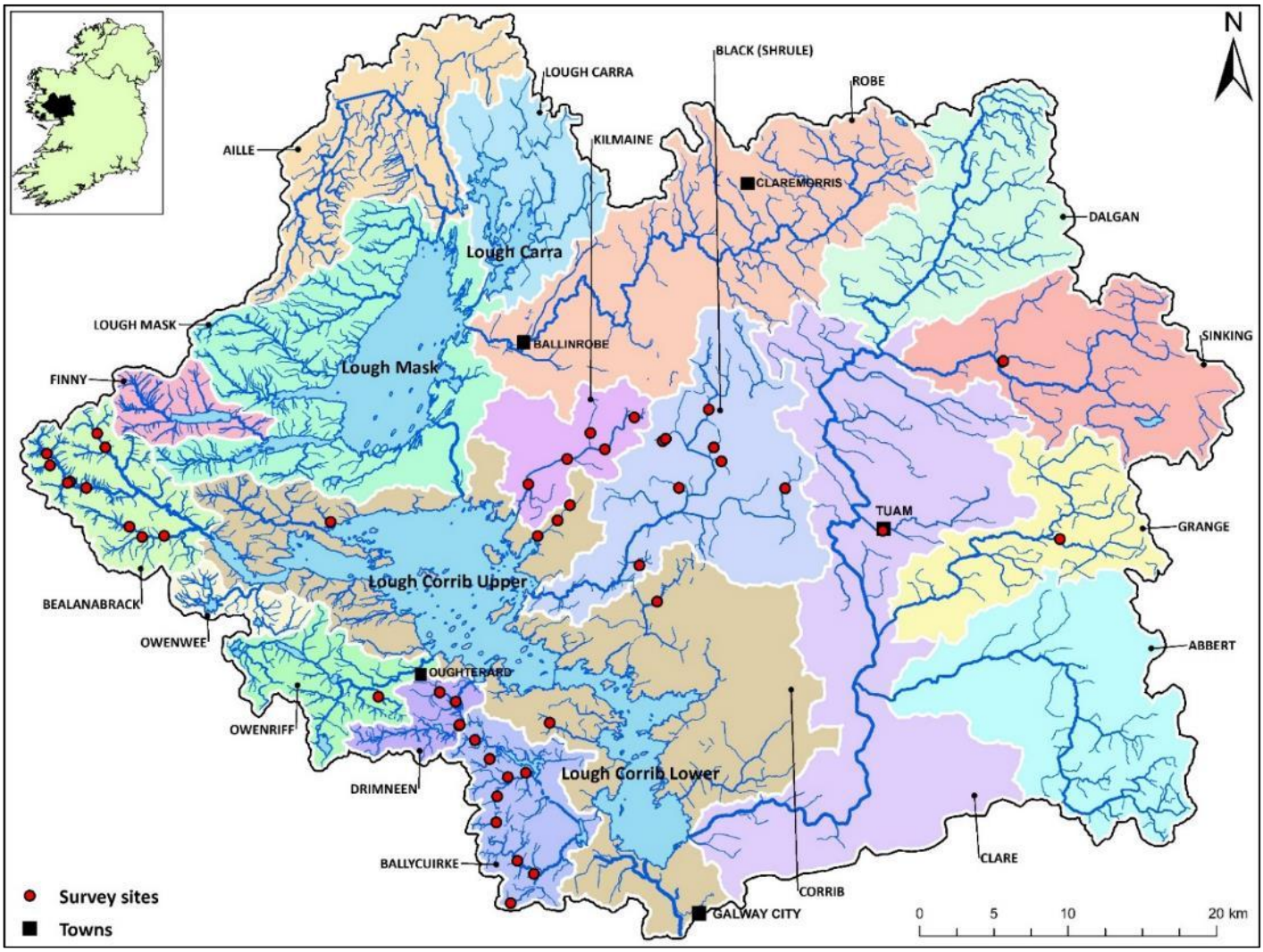


Fig. 1. Corrib sub-catchments and electrofishing survey sites, 2020.

Knockbane River at An Cnoc Ban (site 7) (Ballycuirke sub-catchment).

Ballycuirke sub-catchment

Ten sites (1-10) were surveyed in the Ballycuirke sub-catchment during August 2020 (Fig. 2 and Table 1).

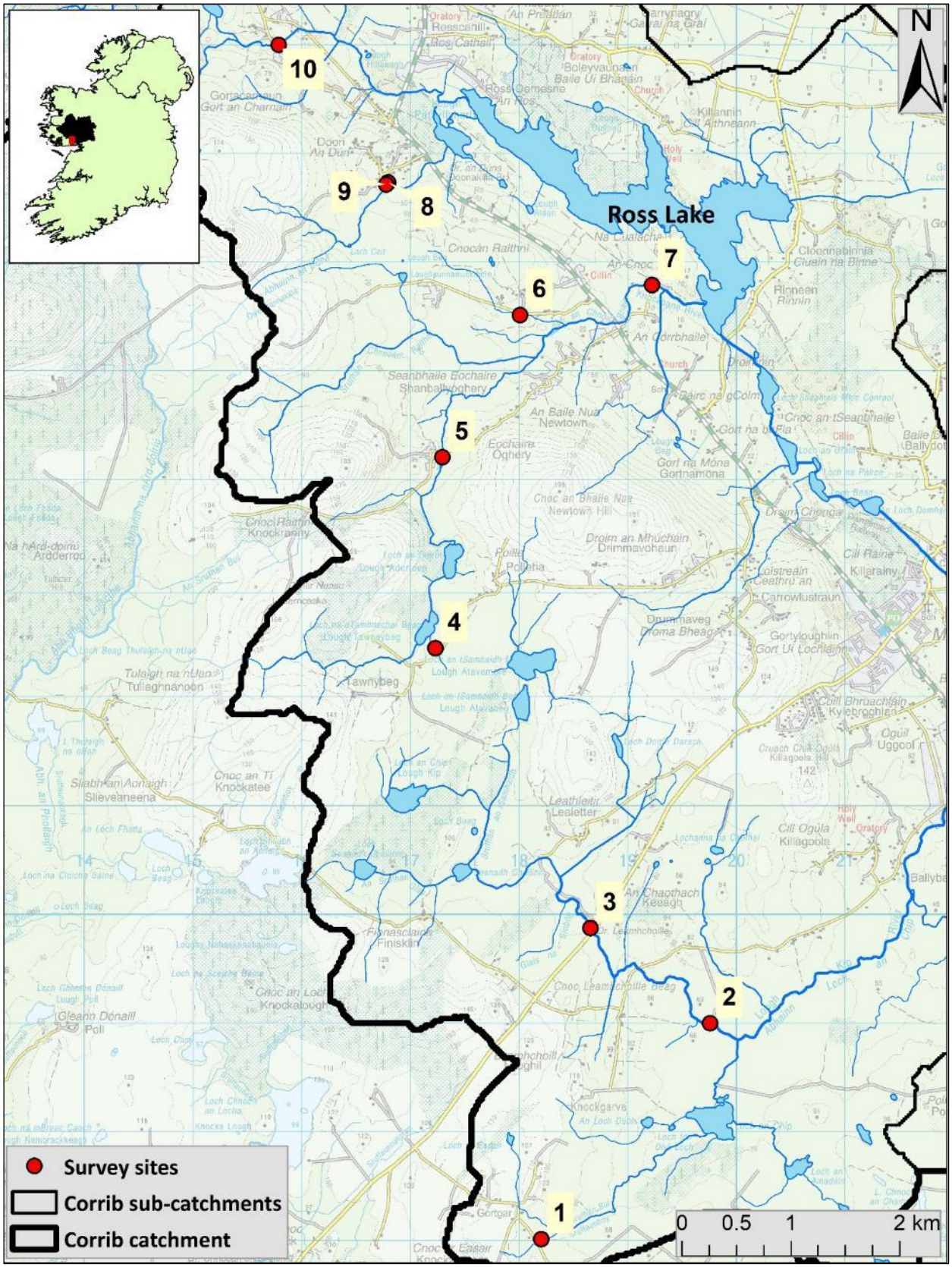


Fig. 2. Ballycuirke sub-catchment and electrofishing survey sites (sites 1-10), 2020.

Table 1. Site survey details for the Ballycuirke sub-catchment, 2020.

No.	River	Site	WFD SM	Date
Ballycuirke sub-catchment				
1	Sruffaunboy River	Gortgar Southeast	–	18/08/2020
2	Lough Kip River	Knockgarve Northeast	–	18/08/2020
3	Lough Kip River	Dr. Leamhchoille	–	17/08/2020
4	Atavamore stream	u/s Tawneybeg Lough	–	18/08/2020
5	Knockbane River	Oghery	–	19/08/2020
6	Knockaunranny River	Knockaunranny	–	18/08/2020
7	Knockbane River	An Cnoc Ban	–	13/08/2020
8	Owendunnakilla River	Doon A	–	13/08/2020
9	Owendunnakilla River	Doon B	–	17/08/2020
10	Killaguile River	Ballycuirke	–	13/08/2020

Table 2. Minimum density estimates (no. fish/m^2) for the Ballycuirke sub-catchment, 2020. Previous results are shown where applicable.

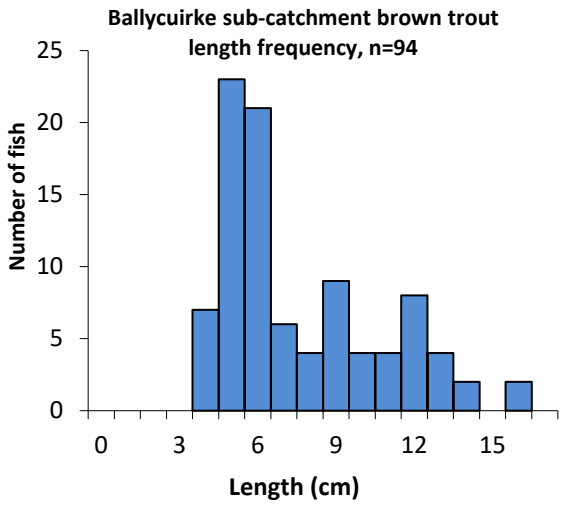
Ballycuirke sub-catchment										
Site no.	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**
Species	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**
Brown trout	–	0.480	0.252	0.046	0.161	0.128	0.011	0.321	0.241	0.428
0+ brown trout	–	0.480	0.148	0.046	0.075	0.128	0.011	0.281	0.190	0.185
1+ & older brown trout	–	–	0.105	–	0.086	–	–	0.040	0.051	0.243
Salmon	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.023
0+ salmon	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.023
1+ & older salmon	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Lamprey sp.	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.011	–	–	–
Perch	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.005	–	–	–
Roach	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.016	–	–	–
Stone loach	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.033	–	–	–
All Fish	**No fish**	**0.480**	**0.252**	**0.046**	**0.161**	**0.128**	**0.077**	**0.321**	**0.241**	**0.451**

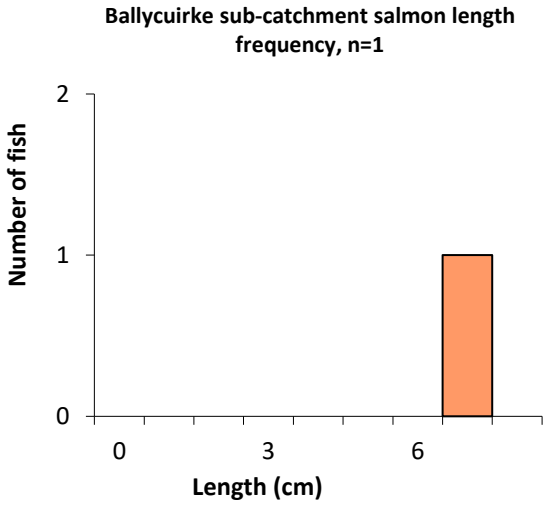
Table 3. Salmonid % age class structure (where recorded) for the Ballycuirke sub-catchment, 2020

Ballycuirke			
Site No.	**% of catch**		
	0+	**1+**	**2+**
Brown trout			
2	100	-	-
3	61	35	4
4	100	-	-
5	50	50	-
6	100	-	-
7	100	-	-
8	89	11	-
9	82	18	
10	45	33	22
Salmon			
10	100	-	-

Table 4. Fish ecological status for the Ballycuirke sub-catchment, 2020. Previous results are shown where recorded.

Site No.	2020
Ballycuirke	
1	N/A
2	Poor
3	Good
4	Poor
5	Moderate
6	Moderate
7	Poor
8	Good
9	Moderate
10	Good





Owendunnakilla River at Doon (B) (site 9)

Attamore stream, u/s Tawneybeg Lough (site 4)

Drimneen, Owenriff, Kilmaine (Cross) sub-catchments and small Corrib tributaries

Nineteen sites were surveyed in the Drimneen (sites 11-16), Owenriff (site 17), small Corrib tributaries (site 18 - Larragan River), site 19 - Annacurta River, Ballynalty River(sites 20-23), site 24 – Carrick River) and Kilmaine (Cross) (sites 25-29) sub-catchments during August and September 2020 (Fig. 3 and Table 5).

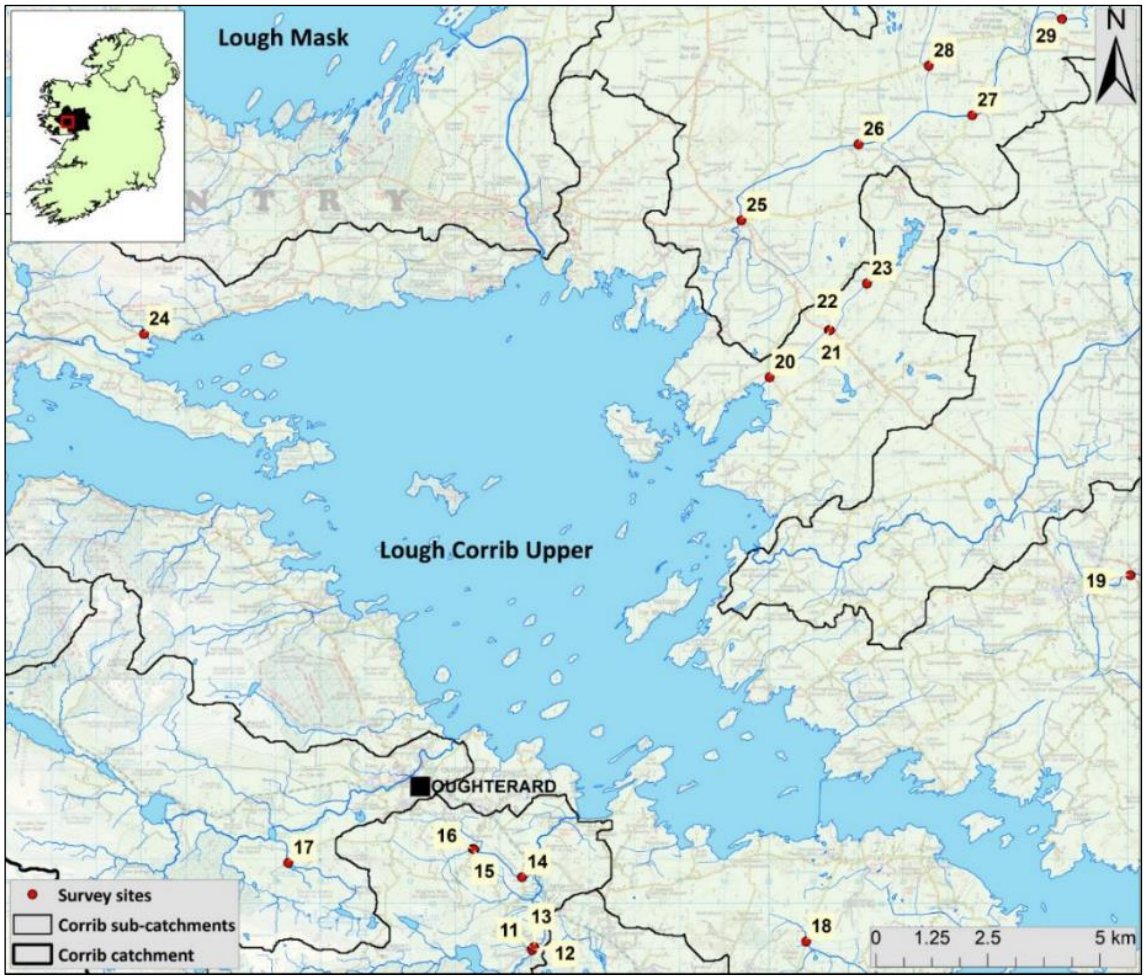


Figure 3. Drimneen (sites 11-16), Owenriff (site 17), Corrib (sites 18-24), and Kilmaine (sites 25-29) sub-catchments, 2020.

Cross River at Frenchbrook South (site 28).

Table 5. Site survey details for the Drimneen, Owenriff, Corrib and Kilmaine sub-catchments, 2020.

No.	River	Site	WFD SM	Date
Drimneen sub-catchment				
11	Drimneen River	d/s of Carrowndulla Lough	–	12/08/2020
12	Raha River	u/s Drimneen Br.	–	12/08/2020
13	Drimneen River	Drimneen	–	14/08/2020
14	Railway River	d/s of Railway line	–	12/08/2020
15	Railway River	Rushveala A	–	12/08/2020
16	Railway River	Rushveala B	–	13/08/2020
Owenriff sub-catchment				
17	Rusheeny River	d/s of L. Beg	–	14/08/2020
Corrib tributaries				
18	Larragan River	Pollagh	–	19/08/2020
19	Annacurta River	Br. d/s of Lodge	–	23/07/2020
20	Ballynalty River	u/s of Ballynalty Bay	–	15/09/2020
21	Ballynalty River	Funshinaugh	–	23/07/2020
22	Ballynalty River	Fushinaugh Northeast	–	15/09/2020
23	Ballynalty	Houndswood South	–	15/09/2020
24	Carrick River	Carrick East	–	27/07/2020
Kilmaine (Cross) sub-catchment				
25	Cross River	Cross Village	–	14/09/2020
26	Cross River	Curraghbaun	–	14/09/2020
27	Cross River	Carrownturly	–	14/08/2020
28	Cross River	Frenchbrook South	–	28/07/2020
29	Cross River	Gortnastang	–	17/08/2020

Table 6. Minimum density estimates (no. fish/m^2) for the Drimneen, Owenriff, Corrib and Kilmaine sub-catchments, 2020. Previous results are shown where applicable.

Drimneen sub-catchment							Owenriff	Corrib tributaries		
Site no.	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**
Species	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**
Brown trout	0.082	0.112	0.065	0.593	0.604	0.156	0.022	0.167	0.415	0.141
0+ brown trout	0.052	0.012	0.016	0.278	0.525	0.125	0.022	0.026	0.148	0.033
1+ & older brown trout	0.030	0.100	0.049	0.315	0.079	0.031	–	0.141	0.267	0.108
Salmon	–	–	–	0.445	0.224	–	0.221	–	0.020	0.083
0+ salmon	–	–	–	0.371	0.224	–	0.154	–	–	0.017
1+ & older salmon	–	–	–	0.074	–	–	0.066	–	0.020	0.066
European eel	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.090	–	0.025
Minnow	–	–	–	–	–	0.031	–	–	–	–
Pike	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.011	–	–	0.017
Roach	–	–	–	–	–	0.031	–	–	–	–
Stone loach	–	–	–	0.167	–	–	–	0.026	–	–
Three-spined stickleback	–	–	–	–	0.039	–	–	–	–	–
All Fish	**0.082**	**0.112**	**0.065**	**1.205**	**0.867**	**0.219**	**0.254**	**0.282**	**0.435**	**0.265**

Corrib tributaries					Kilmaine sub-catchment				
Site no.	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Species	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
Brown trout	1.429	0.317	–	0.583	0.144	0.104	–	0.132	–
0+ brown trout	1.216	0.301	–	0.460	0.107	0.088	–	0.116	–
1+ & older brown trout	0.212	0.017	–	0.123	0.037	0.016	–	0.017	–
Salmon	–	–	–	0.291	0.181	0.335	–	–	–
0+ salmon	–	–	–	0.291	0.147	0.240	–	–	–
1+ & older salmon	–	–	–	–	0.034	0.096	–	–	–
Three-spined stickleback	–	–	1.393	–	–	–	0.181	0.074	1.315
All Fish	**1.429**	**0.317**	**1.393**	**0.874**	**0.325**	**0.439**	**0.181**	**0.207**	**1.315**

Table 7. Salmonid % age class structure (where recorded) for the Drimneen, Owenriff, Corrib and Kilmaine sub-catchments, 2020.

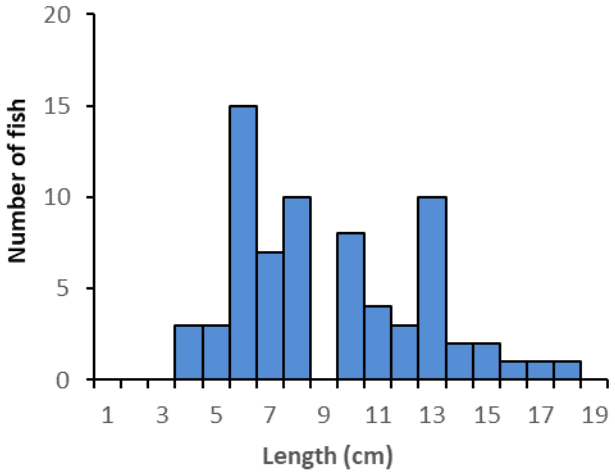
Brown trout			
Site No.	% of catch		
	0+	1+	2+
Drimneen			
11	67	33	-
12	11	67	22
13	25	63	12
14	47	53	-
15	89	11	-
16	80	20	-
Owenriff			
17	100	-	-
Corrib tributaries			
18	100	-	-
19	41	50	9
20	25	63	13
21	91	9	-
22	95	5	-
24	83	17	-
Kilmaine (Cross)			
25	91	5	5
26	86	14	-
28	90	10	-

Salmon		
Site No.	% of catch	
	0+	1+
Drimneen		
14	83	17
15	100	-
Owenriff		
17	70	30
19	-	100
Corrib tributaries		
20	20	80
24	100	-
Kilmaine (Cross)		
25	81	19
26	71	29

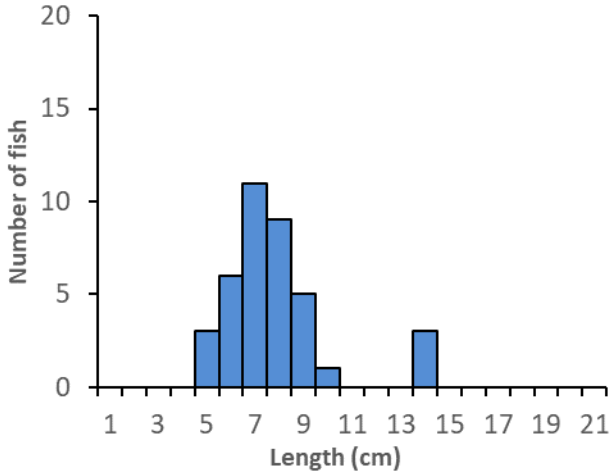
Table 8. Fish ecological status for the Drimneen, Owenriff, Corrib and Kilmaine sub-catchments, 2020. Previous results are shown where recorded.

Site No.	2016	2020
Drimneen		
11	-	Moderate
12	-	Moderate
13	-	Moderate
14	-	High
15	-	Good
16	-	High
Owenriff		
17	-	Good
Corrib tributaries		
18	Good	Good
19	-	Good
20	-	Good
21	-	High
22	-	Moderate
23	-	Poor
24	-	High
Kilmaine (Cross)		
25	-	Good
26	-	Good
27	-	Poor
28	-	Moderate
29	-	Poor

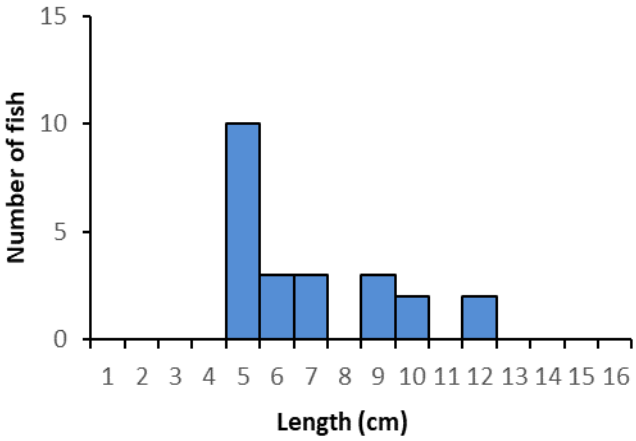
Drimneen sub-catchment brown trout length frequency, n=70



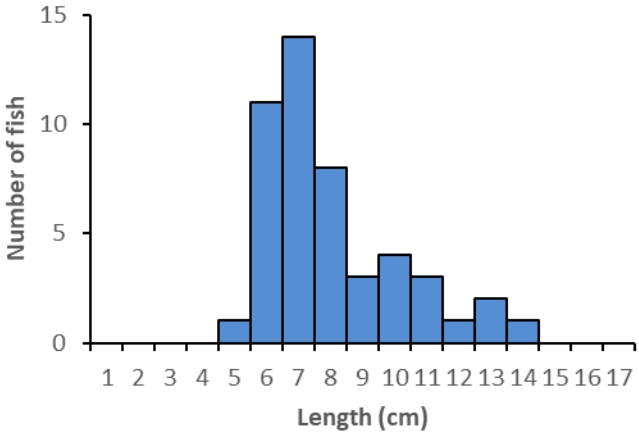
Kilmaine (Cross) sub-catchment brown trout length frequency, n=39



Drimneen sub-catchment salmon length frequency, n=23



Kilmaine (Cross) sub-catchment salmon length frequency, n=48



Railway River at Rushveala (site 16)

Ballynalty River at Funshinaugh Northeast (Site 22)

Black (Shrule) and Clare (including Grange and Sinking) sub-catchments

Twelve sites were surveyed on the Black (Shrule) (sites 30-37), Clare (site 38), Grange (site 39), and Sinking (sites 40-41) sub-catchments in July and August 2020 (Fig. 4 and Table 9).

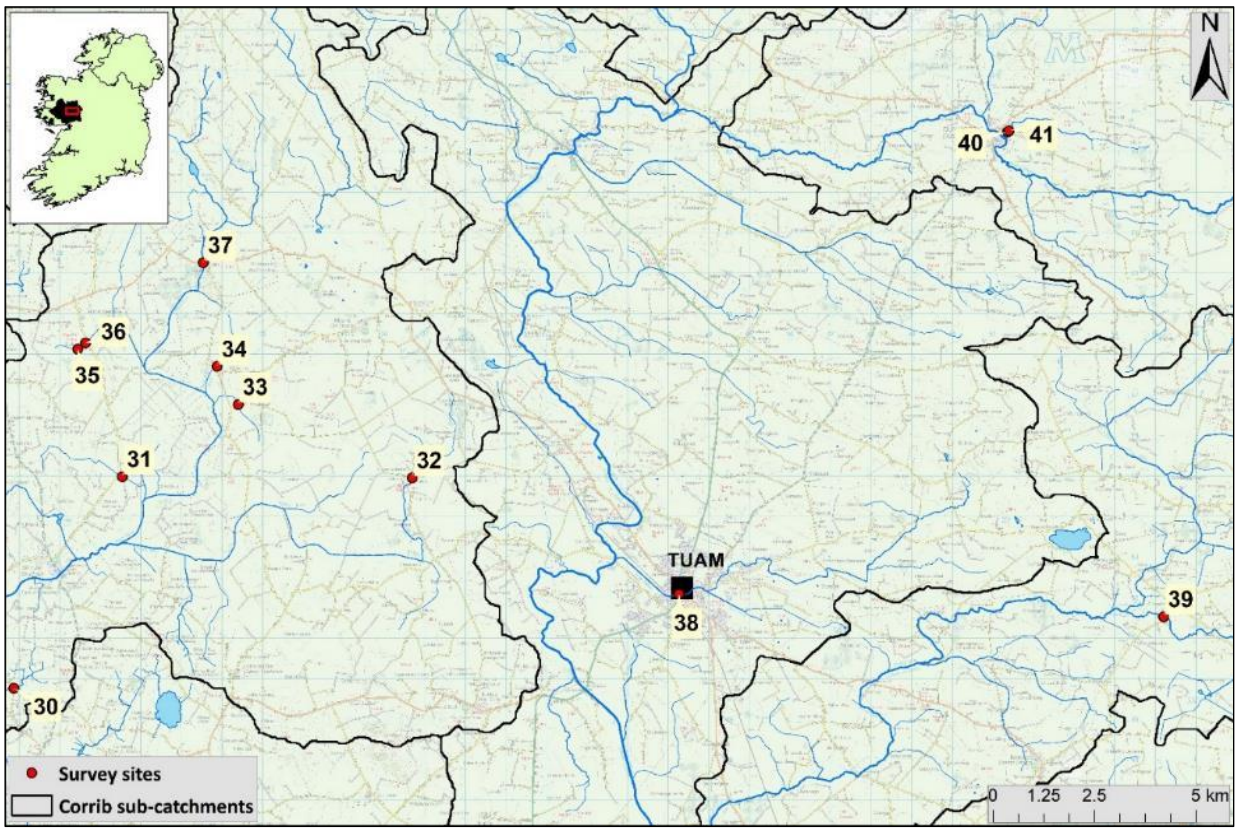


Fig. 4. Black (Shrule) (sites 30-37), Clare (site 38), Grange (site 39), and Sinking (sites 40-41) sub-catchments and electrofishing survey sties, 2020.

Table 9. Site survey details for the Black, Clare, Grange and Sinking sub-catchments, 2020.

No.	River	Site	WFD SM	Date
Black (Shrule) sub-catchment				
30	Cullagh River	Tonroe North	–	23/07/2020
31	Carrowmore River	Dalgan Demesne	–	28/07/2020
32	Togher River	Cloonnaglasha	–	13/08/2020
33	Toberroe River	Toberroe	–	24/07/2020
34	Black River	Br. at Kilshanvy	YES	29/07/2020
35	Kilshanvy River	Ballinully	–	12/08/2020
36	Ballinulty stream	Ballinulty	–	28/07/2020
37	Carras River	Outlawns	–	23/07/2020
Clare sub-catchment				
38	Tuam River	Tuam Garda Stn.	–	22/07/2020
Grange sub-catchment				
39	Grange River	Cloondahamper	–	29/07/2020
Sinking sub-catchment				
40	Sinking River	Baunoges A	–	22/07/2020
41	Sinking River	Baunoges B	–	22/07/2020

Grange River at Cloondahamper (site 39).

Table 10. Minimum density estimates (no. fish/m2) for the Black, Clare, Grange and Sinking sub-catchments, 2020. Previous results are shown where applicable.

Black (Shrule) sub-catchment								
Site no.	**30**	**31**	**32**	**33**	**34**	**35**	**36**	**37**
Species	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**
Brown trout	0.986	0.165	0.035	0.193	0.094	0.019	–	0.211
0+ brown trout	0.986	0.035	0.018	0.134	0.011	0.019	–	0.211
1+ & older brown trout	–	0.129	0.018	0.059	0.083	–	–	–
Salmon	–	–	–	–	0.089	–	–	0.158
0+ salmon	–	–	–	–	0.067	–	–	0.141
1+ & older salmon	–	–	–	–	0.022	–	–	0.018
European eel	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Lamprey sp.	0.067	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.009
Stone loach	–	–	0.035	–	–	–	–	–
Three-spined stickleback	0.045	–	0.053	0.089	–	0.029	0.058	–
All Fish	**1.098**	**0.165**	**0.123**	**0.282**	**0.183**	**0.048**	**0.058**	**0.378**

	Clare	Grange	Sinking	
Site no.	**38**	**39**	**40**	**41**
Species	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**
Brown trout	0.151	0.161	0.194	0.657
0+ brown trout	0.076	0.15	0.103	0.657
1+ & older brown trout	0.076	0.011	0.091	–
Salmon	0.060	0.032	0.114	–
0+ salmon	-	–	0.068	–
1+ & older salmon	0.060	0.032	0.046	–
European eel	-	–	–	–
Lamprey sp.	0.015	–	–	–
Stone loach	-	0.321	0.023	–
Three-spined stickleback	0.030	–	–	–
All Fish	**0.257**	**0.514**	**0.331**	**0.657**

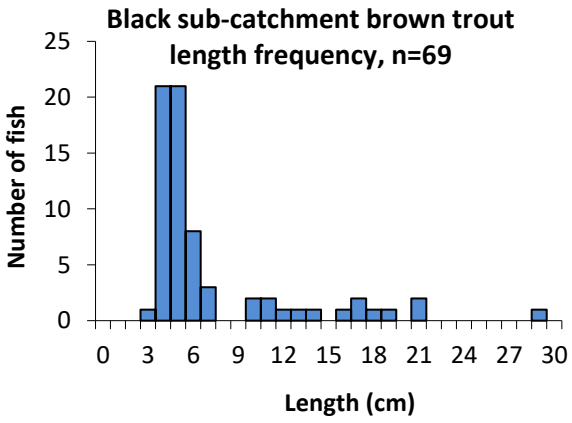
Table 11. Salmonid % age class structure (where recorded) for the Black, Clare, Grange and Sinking sub-catchments, 2020.

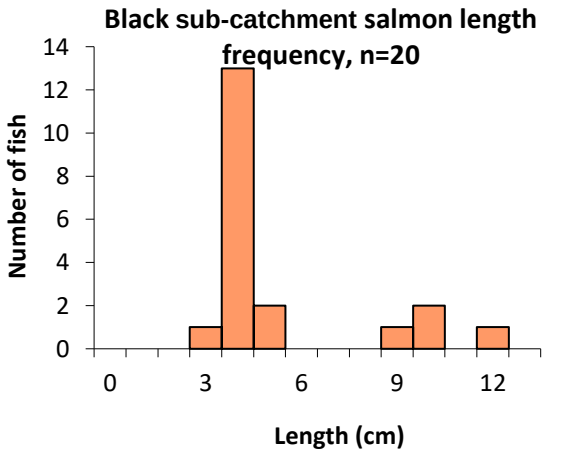
Brown trout				
Site No.	% of catch			
	0+	1+	2+	3+
Black (Shrule)				
30	100	-	-	-
31	29	57	14	-
32	50	50	-	-
33	75	25	-	-
34	13	63	12	12
35	100	-	-	-
37	100	-	-	-
Clare				
38	56	38	6	-
Grange				
39	93	7	-	-
Sinking				
40	56	44	-	-
41	100	-	-	-

Salmon		
Site No.	% of catch	
	0+	1+
Black (Shrule)		
34	78	22
37	82	18
Clare		
38	-	100
Grange		
39	-	100
Sinking		
40	60	40

Table 12. Fish ecological status for the Black, Clare, Grange and Sinking sub-catchments, 2020. Previous results are shown where recorded.

Site No.	2009	2012	2020
	Black (Shrule)		
30	-	-	Good
31	-	-	Moderate
32	-	-	Moderate
33	-	-	Good
34	Good	Good	Good
35	-	-	Moderate
36	-	-	Poor
37	-	-	Good
	Clare		
38	-	-	Moderate
	Grange		
39	-	-	Moderate
	Sinking		
40	-	-	Good
41	-	-	Moderate





Bealanabrack sub-catchment

Eleven sites were surveyed across the Bealanabrack sub-catchment (sites 42-52) during August and September 2020 (Fig. 4 and table 4).

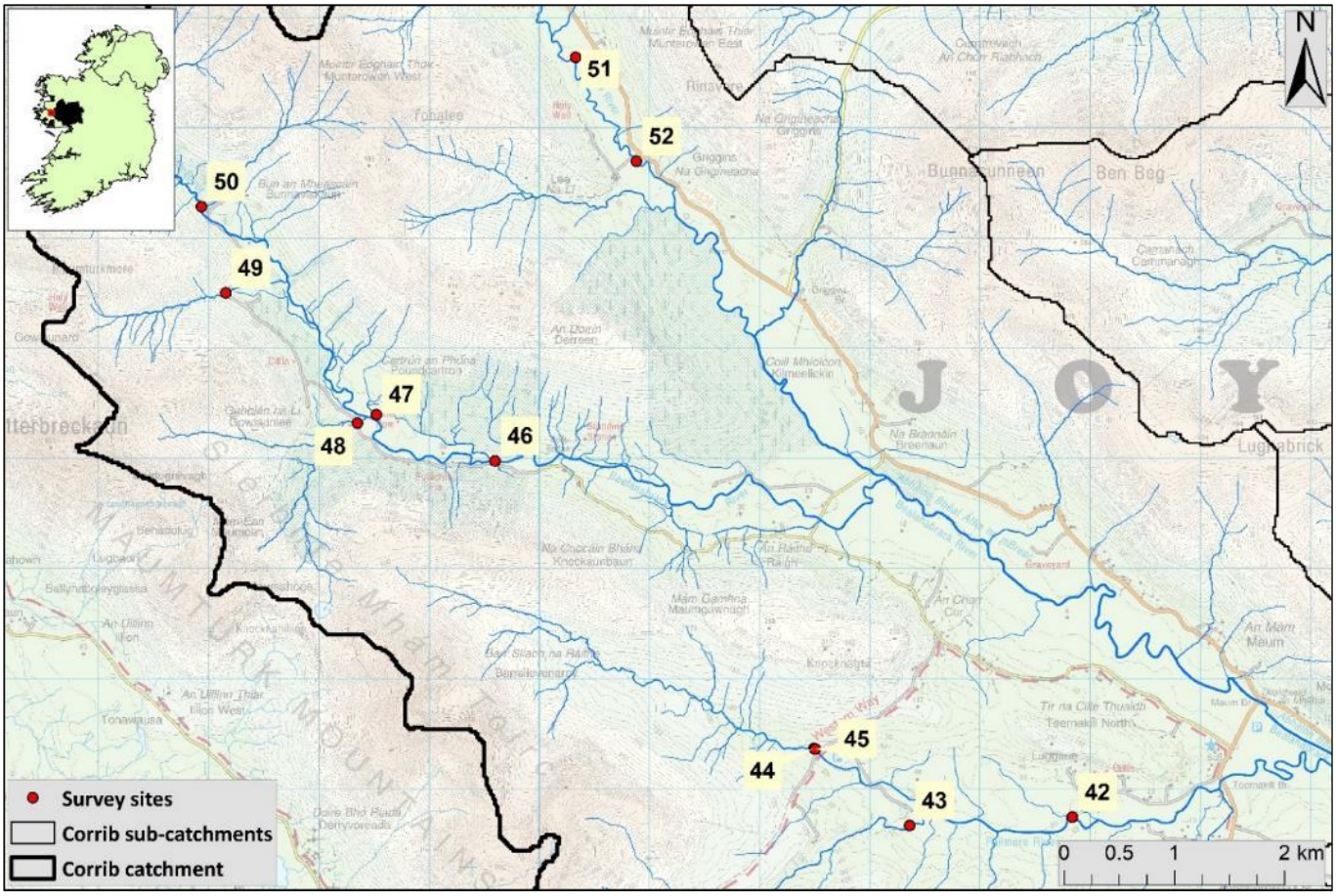


Fig. 5. Bealanabrack sub-catchment (sites 42-52), 2020.

Table 13. Site survey details for the Bealanabrack sub-catchment, 2020.

No.	River	Site	WFD	Date
Bealanabrack sub-catchment				
42	Failmore River	Luggaun South	–	16/09/2020
43	Teernakill River	Teernakill South	–	19/08/2020
44	Failmore River	Knocknagur_A	–	20/08/2020
45	Failmore River	Knocknagur_B	–	16/09/2020
46	Bealanabrack River	d/s of Fulachtai Fia	–	13/08/2020
47	Bealanabrack River tributary	Stone Row	–	18/08/2020
48	Bealanabrack River tributary	Gowlaunlee East	–	18/08/2020
49	Glenglosh River tributary	Gowlaunard East	–	18/08/2020
50	Glenglosh River	Bunnaviskaun	–	18/08/2020
51	Joyce's River	Munterowen East	–	16/09/2020
52	Joyce's River	Griggins	–	16/09/2020

Joyce's River at Munterowen East (site 51).

Table 14 Minimum density estimates (no. fish/m2) for the Bealanabrack sub-catchment, 2020. Previous results are shown where applicable.

Bealanabrack sub-catchment											
Site no.	**42**	**43**	**44**	**45**	**46**	**47**	**48**	**49**	**50**	**51**	**52**
Species	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**
Brown trout	0.005	0.204	–	0.025	0.010	1.04	0.009	0.113	0.039	0.257	0.113
0+ brown trout	0.005	0.11	–	0.008	–	0.71	0.009	0.098	0.013	0.134	0.082
1+ & older brown trout	–	0.095	–	0.016	0.010	0.33	–	0.015	0.026	0.124	0.031
Salmon	0.112	0.276	0.018	0.115	0.043	–	0.316	0.015	0.085	–	–
0+ salmon	0.075	0.223	0.006	0.041	0.033	–	0.231	0.015	0.059	–	–
1+ & older salmon	0.037	0.053	0.012	0.074	0.010	–	0.085	–	0.026	–	–
European eel	–	–	–	0.012	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
All Fish	**0.118**	**0.481**	**0.018**	**0.152**	**0.053**	**1.04**	**0.325**	**0.129**	**0.124**	**0.257**	**0.113**

Table 15. Salmonid % age class structure (where recorded) for the Bealanabrack sub-catchment, 2020.

Brown trout		
Site No.	% of catch	
	0+	1+
Bealanabrack		
42	100	-
43	63	37
45	67	33
46	-	100
47	75	25
48	100	-
49	86	14
50	33	67
51	59	41
52	75	25

Salmon		
Site No.	% of catch	
	0+	1+
Bealanabrack		
42	67	33
43	78	22
44	33	67
45	43	57
46	78	22
48	73	27
49	100	-
50	69	31

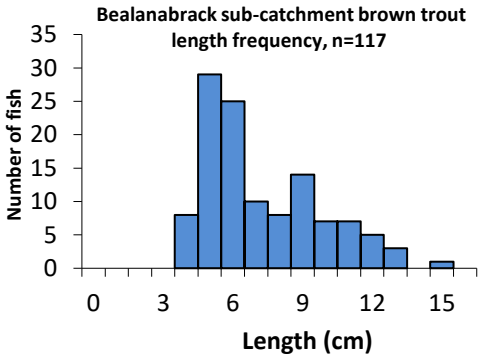
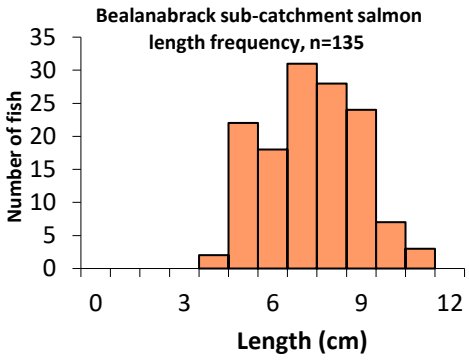


Table 16. Fish ecological status for the Bealanabrack sub-catchment, 2020. Previous results are shown where recorded.

Site No.	2020
Bealanabrack	
42	Moderate
43	Good
44	Poor
45	Moderate
46	Poor
47	High
48	Moderate
49	Good
50	Moderate
51	Good
52	Moderate



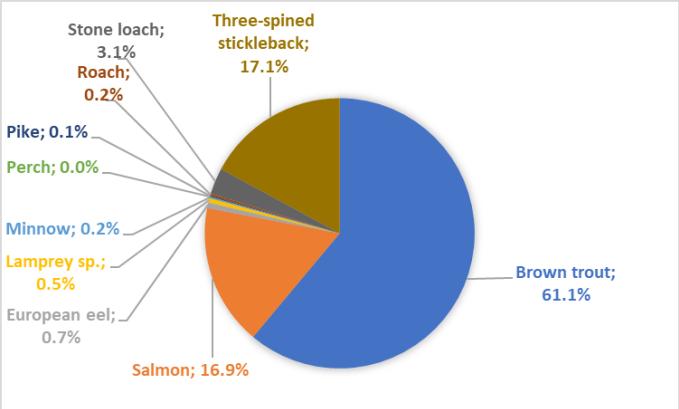
Teernakill River (site 43)

Bealnabrack River tributary at Stone Row (site 47)

Summary

Ten fish species were recorded at 52 sites surveyed within the Corrib catchment in 2020. Brown trout was the most common fish species recorded at 46 survey sites (88%) followed by salmon at 22 sites (42%). This was followed by three-spined stickleback at 11 sites (21%), lamprey at four sites (8%) and European eel at three sites (6%). Roach and pike were recorded at two sites (4%) each and perch at one site (2%).

Brown trout and salmon were also the most abundant species representing 61% of the total fish density calculated for all sites surveyed during 2020.



Fish species composition (% total density), Corrib catchment, 2020

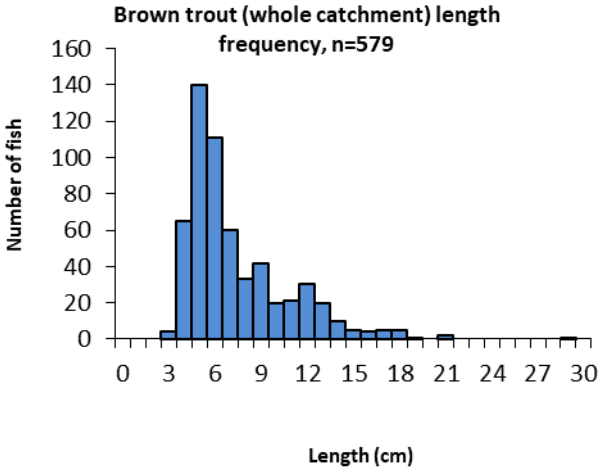
The highest brown trout 0+ density (1.216 fish/m^2) was recorded at site 21 on the Ballynalty River at Funshinaugh. This was followed by site 30 (0.986 fish/m^2) on the Cullagh River (Black sub-catchment) and site 47 (0.710 fish/m^2) on the Bealnabrack River at Stonerow. While the highest densities of 1+ and older brown trout were recorded at site 47 (0.330 fish/m^2), site 14 on the Railway River (Drimneen sub-catchment) (0.315 fish/m^2) and site 19 on the Annacurta River (0.267 fish/m^2).

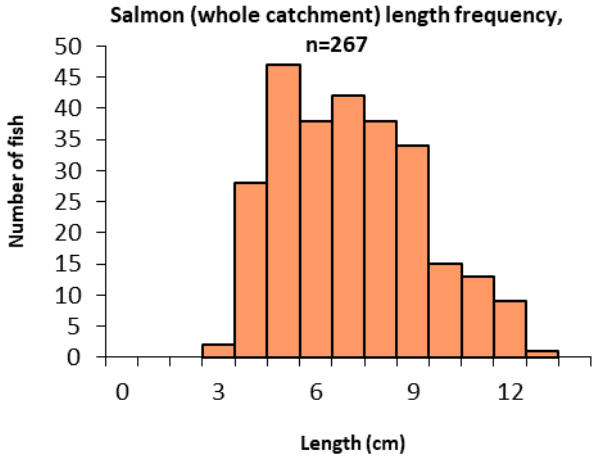
The highest total density of salmon was recorded at site 14 (0.445 fish/m^2) on the Railway River (Drimneen sub-catchment) followed by site 26 (0.335 fish/m^2) on the Cross River at Curraghbaun and site 48 (0.316 fish/m^2) on the Bealanabrack River at Gowlaunlee east. The highest density of 0+ salmon was also observed at site 14 followed by site 24 (0.291 fish/m^2) on the Carrick River and site 26 on the Cross River at Curraghbaun (0.240 fish/m^2). The highest densities of 1+ & older salmon were observed at sites 26 (0.096 fish/m^2), 48 (site 0.085 fish/m^2) and 14 (site 0.074 fish/m^2).

The highest density of three-spined stickleback was recorded at sites23 (1.393 fish/m^2) on the Balynalty River at Houndstooth South and site 29 (1.315 fish/m^2) on the Cross River at Gortnastang. While the highest density of stone loach was observed at site 39 (0.321 fish/m^2) on the Grange River at Cloondahamper followed by site 14 (0.167 fish/m^2) on the Railway River.

Brown trout ranged in length from 3.6cm to 29cm. Four age classes were present with 0+ and 1+ the most abudance age cohorts. The largest brown trout was recorded at site 34 on the Black river at Kilshanvy.

Salmon ranged in length from 3.5 to 13.5cm. Two age classes were present (0+ and 1+).





A Water Framework Directive fish classification tool (FCS2) was developed for Irish rivers in 2011 (SNIFFER, 2011). The tool works by comparing various fish community metric values within a site to those predicted for a site under un-impacted conditions. In general, a site will achieve High status if all expected type specific indicator species (e.g. both salmonid cohorts O+ and 1+ and older) are present and have reached the expected abundance. Fish ecological status will normally deteriorate if such cohorts are missing, reach lower than expected abundance or if more tolerant fish species proliferate.

Fish ecological status was assigned to 51 sites surveyed in the catchment during 2020 (Fig. 6). Five (10%) sites achieved High status and 18 (35%) sites achieved Good fish status. The remaining sites (55%) were assigned a status of Moderate (19) and Poor (9). Two sites (18 and 34) were surveyed previously and both have remained at Good fish status.

The reasons for the fish status failures (i.e. less than good) were due to lower than expected type specific indicator species (e.g. salmon and trout), absence of certain age cohorts (e.g. 0+) which is indicative of a recruitment failure or the presence of tolerant fish species. All age cohorts of trout and salmon were absent from four sites; site 23 (Ballynalty at Houndswood south, sites 27 and 29 on the Cross River (Carrownturly and Gortnastang respectively and site 36 on the Ballinulty stream (Black sub-catchment) while three-spined stickleback were the only species recorded. Three-spined stickleback are more tolerant to pollution than salmon and trout and therefore when dominant or present in reltively high densities at a site can be an indicator of poor water quality or poor habitat. The relatively high density of stoneloach observed at site 39 on the Grange River at Cloondahamper may be an indicator of the presence of organic pollution.

Failures in fish status across the catchment were likely caused by pressures such as nutrient enrichment, fish passage issues and habitat modification.

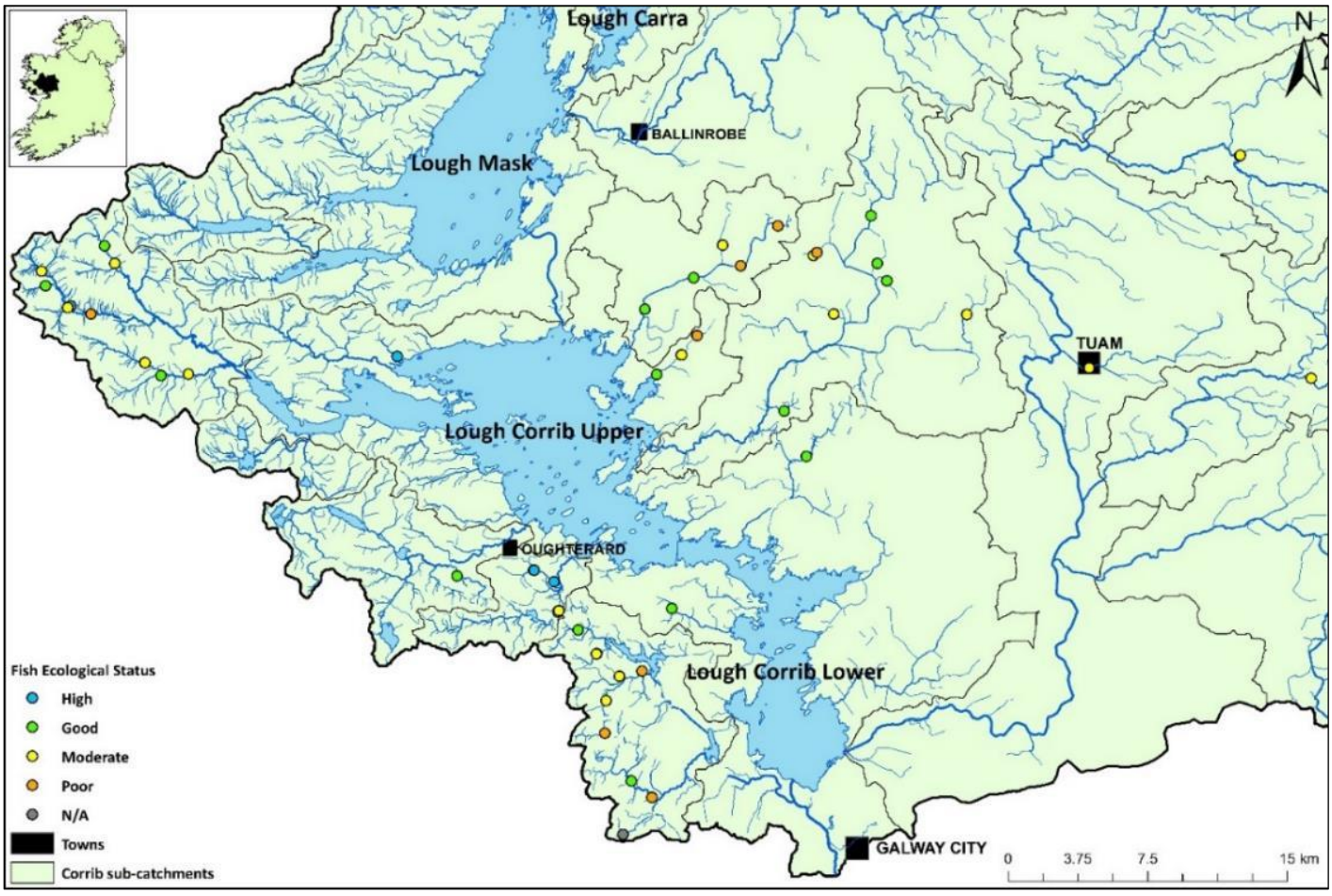


Fig. 6. Fish ecological status map of the Corrib catchment.

References

CEN (2003) *Water Quality Sampling of Fish with Electricity. CEN EN 14011:2000*. Brussels. European Committee for Standardization.

EPA (2018) *Corrib Catchment Assessment 2010-2015 (HA 30)*. Version No. 3. Catchment Science and Management Unit, Environmental Protection Agency.

Matson, R., Delanty, K., Shephard, S., Coghlan, B. and Kelly, F. (2018) Moving from multiple pass depletion to single pass timed electrofishing for fish community assessment in wadeable streams. *Fisheries Research*, **198**, 99-108.

O' Briain, R., Matson, R., Gordon, P., Lopez, S., Cierpial, D., Connor, L., Corcoran, W., Coyne, J., Gavin, A., McLoone, P., Twomey, C. and Kelly, F.L. (2020) *Sampling Fish In Rivers 2019 – Clare River Catchment. Factsheet No. 2019/02*. National Research Survey Programme. Inland Fisheries Ireland.

O' Briain, R., Matson, R., Gordon, P., Lopez, S., Cierpial, D., Connor, L., Corcoran, W., Coyne, J., Gavin, A., McLoone, P., Twomey, C. and Kelly, F.L. (2020) *Sampling Fish In Rivers 2019 – Lough Mask and Carra. Factsheet No. 2019/1*. National Research Survey Programme. Inland Fisheries Ireland.

SNIFFER (2011) *River Fish Classification Tool: Science Work. WFD68c, Phase 2*. Final Report. Version 6. Edinburgh. Scotland and Northern Ireland Forum for Environmental Research.

Inland Fisheries Ireland: 3044 Lake Drive, Citywest Business Campus, Dublin, D24 Y265, Ireland

CITATION: Gordon, P., Donovan, R., Matson, R., Corcoran, W.and Kelly, F.L. (2021) *Sampling Fish in Rivers 2020 – Corrib Catchment*. Factsheet No. 2020/02. National Research Survey Programme. Inland Fisheries Ireland

Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

EIAR Guidelines for the Consideration of Tourism and Tourism Related Projects

An tÚdarás Náisiúnta Forbartha Turasóireachta
Áras Fáilte, 88–95 Sráid Amiens
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 WR86
Éire

National Tourism Development Authority
Áras Fáilte, 88 - 95 Amiens Street
Dublin 1
D01 WR86
Ireland

Phone 1890 525 525
or +353 1 884 7700
Email info@failteireland.ie
www.failteireland.ie

Contents

1. Introduction

Tourism is a growing sector and substantial part of the Irish Economy. It contributes to both urban and rural economies in every part of the country. The impact and interaction of tourism with the environment is complex and the assessment of environmental impacts is of utmost importance to creating a sustainable tourism economy and protecting the natural resources that are so often a tourism attraction.

The purpose of this report is to provide guidance for those conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and compiling an Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR), or those assessing EIARs, where the project involves tourism or may have an impact upon tourism. These guidelines are non-statutory and act as supplementary advice to the EPA EIAR Guidelines outlined in section 2.

This guidance document has been prepared by Cunnane Stratton Reynolds on behalf of Fáilte Ireland to update their EIA guidelines in line with changes in legislative requirements.

2. Background to this Document

Tourism is one of the largest and most important sectors of the economy, providing employment for approximately **260,000 people**, an economic contribution of **€8.4 billion**, and exchequer revenue of **€1.78 billion** in 2018, which helps fund other key public services.

In 2018 Ireland welcomed **10.6 million overseas visitors.**

Fáilte Ireland is the National Tourism Development Authority. Fáilte Irelands role is to support the tourism industry and work to sustain Ireland as a high-quality and competitive tourism destination. They provide a range of practical business supports to help tourism businesses better manage and market their products and services.

Fáilte Ireland also work with other state agencies and representative bodies, at local and national levels, to implement and champion positive and practical strategies that will benefit Irish tourism and the Irish economy.

Fáilte Ireland promotes Ireland as a holiday destination through a domestic marketing campaign (DiscoverIreland.ie) and manage a network of nationwide tourist information centres that provide help and advice for visitors to Ireland.

Tourism related projects cover a broad range of plans, programmes and developments, from the Wild Atlantic Way to a single hotel conversion. These guidelines apply to projects involving or impacting upon tourism. A tourism plan, strategy or programme where it is part of the statutory plan making process under the Planning and Development Acts (as amended), may be more appropriately assessed by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as discussed in the next section.

It should be borne in mind that EIA is required where there is anticipated to be a significant impact on the environment, where tourism projects are of a prescribed type or meet thresholds identified below.

Where Natura 2000 Designated Sites are potentially affected by tourism development Appropriate Assessment must be carried out by the appropriate authority in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive.

3. Legislation and Statutory Guidance

Environmental Impact Assessment is a procedure that ensures that the environmental implications of decisions are taken into account before planning based decisions are made. The assessment results in a report, called an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

Legislation

These guidelines are produced under current EIAR legislative requirements, having regard to Directive 2011/92/EU (known as 'Environmental Impact Assessment' – EIA Directive), as amended by Directive EU 2014/52 which came into effect in May of 2017. These requirements were transposed into Irish Law on 1 September 2018 as most of the provisions of the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) came into effect. The principle of both Directives is to ensure that plans, programmes and projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are made subject to an environmental assessment, prior to their approval or authorisation.

Statutory Guidance

In response to the changes to the EIAR requirements under Directive EU 2014/52, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed Draft guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports in August 2017. At the time of this document the guidelines have not been adopted from draft.

In addition to the EPA statutory guidance, the Department of Housing has produced Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment in August 2018.

The process of EIA is set out in the EPA EIAR Guidelines, which this document should be read in conjunction with and used as supplementary guidance to. The process for ascertaining whether an EIAR is required is known as ‘screening’ and the process to determine the breath and scope of an EIAR is known as ‘scoping’. Guidance on this can be found in Section 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines.

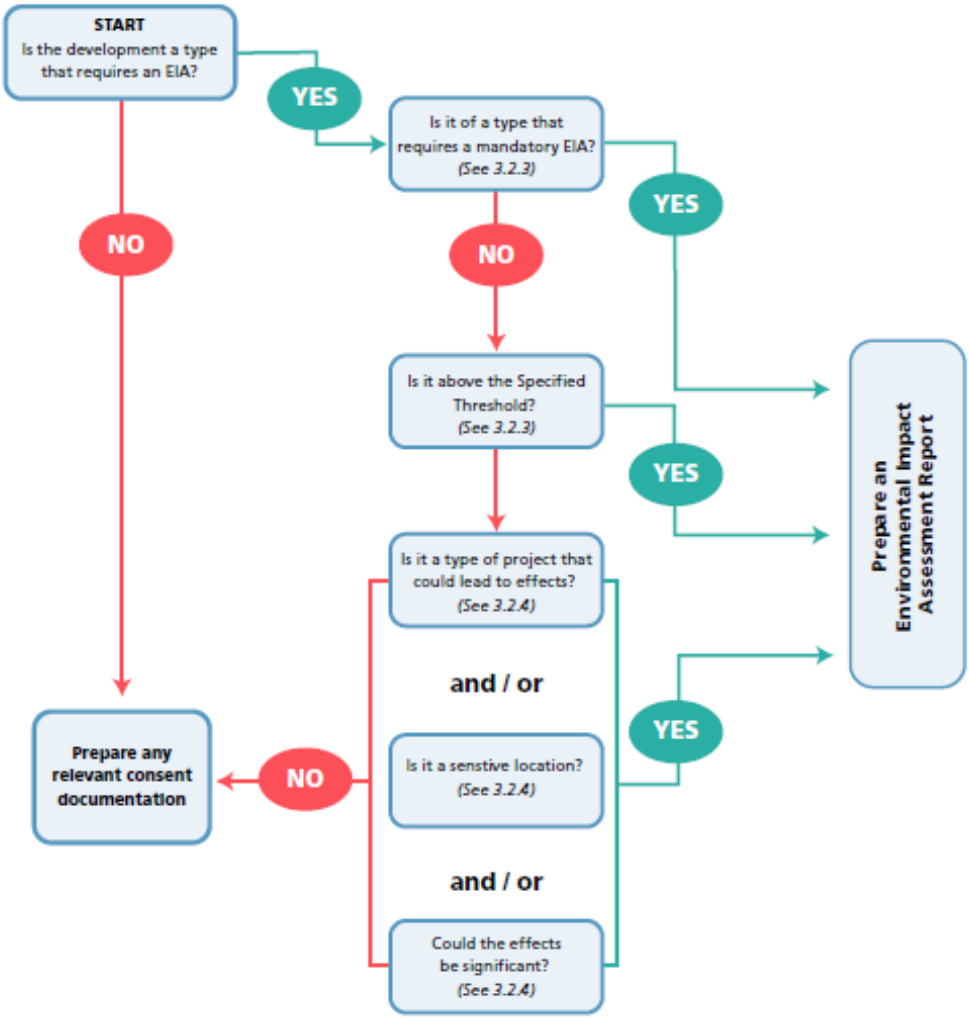
Screening

Through EIAR Screening, developments are either considered as requiring an EIAR due to the project type or because they exceed a threshold level. The screening process begins by establishing whether the proposal is a ‘project’ as understood by the Directive (as amended).

The prescribed development types and thresholds are set out in Annex I and II of the EIA Directive as transposed into Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2010-2018 (as amended). Development which do not exceed these thresholds but may require an EIAR are called sub threshold. Sub-Threshold considerations are outlined in Schedule 7 of European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018) as transposed from Annex III of the Directive. The Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment Reports note that projects at first glance may not appear to come under the Schedule

but on closer examination when the process is further examined, they may do so because of the sensitivity or significance of the receiving environment etc. Sub threshold developments require an EIAR if they are likely to have significant environmental impacts and must undergo assessment for likely significant impacts through an EIAR screening report. The contents of a screening report for subthreshold development are contained in Annex III of the EIA Directive.

Figure 1: EIAR Screening Process



(Taken from Fig 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines)

Tourism locations should be identified as sensitive receptors in screening assessments for particular impacts, depending on scale and sensitivity, as they would in a full EIAR. Section 6 below can act as guidance for Screening Reports as well as for full EIAR.

The screening process for considering where an EIAR is necessary, is summarised below in Figure 1 (excerpted from Figure 3.2 of the EPA Guidelines).

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a more strategic level of environmental assessment that examines plans, policies, objectives and programmes specifically rather than projects. For some tourism developments it may be more appropriate that they be examined through SEA, while individual projects or specific proposals are likely to be more assessed through EIAR. If a project is part of a plan, programme or policy/objective assessed by SEA there will still be a requirement for an EIAR for that development.

EIAR Scoping

Scoping an EIAR is an opportunity to look at the breadth of issues and ensure that any areas of possible significant impact are assessed. Identifying sensitivities and stakeholders should take account of tourism facilities and consider Fáilte Ireland in scoping requests where necessary.

4. Assessing Tourism

There is no legal definition of 'tourism' in Irish legislation. The UNWTO definition of sustainable tourism is *"Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities"* . This is widely accepted as a key definition of tourism as we move to a more sustainable future.

Tourism assessments are frequently carried out by economic consultants and by specific tourism consultants. It is always advisable, particular for tourism projects, that suitably qualified and experienced personnel are used to determine the impact of tourism related projects or to assess the impact of more general proposals on a tourism asset identified in a particular location. There is a requirement for EIAR under current legislation to contain a statement of competency within all EIAR documents, including screening and scoping reports.

Projects which involve a tourism element

Tourism projects are wide ranging and diverse. While there are some projects which cater to tourism and are easily identified as such - Hotels, Museums, etc. there are other projects where tourism is a key service or element, but which may not be immediately obvious - forest trails, community facilities and others. EIAR conducted for developments containing tourist elements should be completed in accordance with the current guidance from the EPA.

Projects which include a tourism element have potential particular environmental effects which differ from a non-tourism development. These impacts can be intermittent, event related, inconsistent, dependent on weather, temporal, temporary or seasonal. This is considered within the prescribed environmental topics for EIAR outlined in Section 7 below.

Projects which may have an impact upon tourism

While tourism projects may be diverse, the projects which can impact tourism are considerably more wide ranging, from large infrastructural developments to local energy developments. Disruption to or suppression of a tourist resource or amenity can have very local or more strategic impacts, directly or indirectly- for example energy projects in a rural area can have both a negative and positive impact in different regards. There can be temporary, periodic or even seasonal impacts occurring during construction or operational periods.

According to the Fáilte Ireland Tourism Facts 2018 Report, the most important factors in determining the attractiveness of tourism destinations for visitors to Ireland are;

- Beautiful Scenery and Unspoiled Environment
- Hospitality
- Safety
- Nature, Wildlife and Natural Attractions
- History and Culture
- Pace of Life

These factors used for the promotion of tourism in Ireland are also barometers of sensitivity to change in tourism sensitive or dominant locations where development may have an impact upon the tourism asset. The potential for development to impact these sensitivities, and the environmental criteria under which they can be considered, are identified in section 7 of the guidelines.

5. Guiding Principles of EIAR

As outlined in the EPA Draft EIAR Guidelines, the fundamental principles to be followed when preparing an EIAR, including screening and scoping, are:

- Anticipating, avoiding and reducing significant effects
- Assessing and mitigating effects
- Maintaining objectivity
- Ensuring clarity and quality
- Providing relevant information to decision makers
- Facilitating better consultation.

Environmental assessment should be undertaken in accordance with the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018.

6. Consideration of Competency and Qualifications

As per Section 2.5 of the EPA Guidelines, EIAR is required to be completed by 'competent experts'.

Contributors to the preparation of environmental impact assessment reports, including screening and scoping assessments, should be qualified and competent. Sufficient expertise, in the relevant field of the project concerned, is required for the purpose of its examination by the competent authorities in order to ensure that the information provided by the developer is complete and of a high level of quality so that a full and proper assessment can be undertaken.

For tourism related projects, or projects likely to affect tourism assets, competent experts in the area of tourism should be utilised in the environmental assessment.

The competency of all involved in the production of an EIAR or any related report (eg. Screening and scoping) is required to be stated at the beginning of the EIAR report with further details as necessary in each following chapter.

Where tourism projects involve for example heritage or cultural components, input from heritage consultants, conservation architects, or historians may be required.

7. EIAR Requirements

The following are the key requirements for an EIAR under the current guidance. This is not a definitive list and should be read in conjunction with regulations.

- project description;
- assessment of alternatives considered;

- baseline assessment;
- impact assessment;
- cumulative impact
- interaction of impacts
- mitigation.

Project Description

Project descriptions are required to describe the whole project including site, scale, design and key factors. It is important that the EIAR and design team have a consistent understanding of the development description in full. The key requirements are outlined in section 3.5 of the EPA Guidelines however they identify the following;

- the location of the project
- the physical characteristics of the whole project
- the main characteristics of the operational phase of the project
- an estimate, by type and quantity, of the expected residues and emissions

The location of the project should include identifying key sensitive receptors (including tourism receptors). In the operational phase of the project any tourism based, or potentially tourism related activity, should be identified.

Assessment of Alternatives

The assessment of alternatives is a requirement of EIAR

Where tourism projects are location dependent the assessment of alternatives should consider alternative methods and technologies, detail the key considerations culminating in the selection of the design, the reasoning for these and the environmental effect of these decisions. This is particularly important for tourism projects which are often location tied. The developer is expected to consider reasonable alternatives. What is considered reasonable my vary from case to case.

Baseline Assessment

Baseline descriptions are evidence based, current descriptions of environmental characteristics with consideration of likely changes to the baseline environment evidenced in planning histories, unimplemented permissions, and applications pending determination. Baseline assessments should identify any tourism sensitivities in the zone of influence of a development. This zone of influence of a development is highly dependant on its **Context, Character, Significance,** and **Sensitivity**, as outlined in the Draft Guidelines. These characteristics apply to both the development and the environment.

For example, in a tourism context;

The location of sensitive tourism resources that are likely to be directly affected should be highlighted, and other premises which although located elsewhere, may be the subject of in combination impacts such as alteration of traffic flows or increased urban development.

The character of an area from a tourism perspective should be described and the principal types of tourism in the area. Where relevant, the specific environmental resources or attributes in the existing environment which each group uses or values should be stated and where relevant, indicate the time, duration or seasonality of any of those activities.

The significance of the tourism assets or activities likely to be affected should be highlighted. Reference to any existing formal or published designation or

recognition of such significance should be. Where possible the value of the contribution of such tourism assets and activities to the local economy should be provided.

If there are any significant concerns or opposition to the development known to exist among tourism stakeholders and interest groups, this should be highlighted. Identify, where possible, the particular aspect of the development which is of concern, together with the part of the existing tourism resource which may be threatened or impacted.

In addition, the baseline should include any methodologies employed in the study to obtain information, if particular databases are used to locate sensitive receptors they should be acknowledged. In relation to tourism information, the suggested information sources at the end of this document are a non-exhaustive list which may be of assistance in identifying tourism receptors.

Impact Assessment

The topics for consideration of impact are prescribed in the EIA Directive and transcribed into Irish law by the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018). Impact assessment should contain the likely significant effects of a development arising from both construction and operation of a development. Advice on describing the effects is contained within the Draft Guidelines and includes the **quality, significance, extent, probability, type** and **duration** of the effect, with particular descriptors for each. In describing effects upon tourism receptors these descriptors should take account of the particular aspects and sensitivities of tourism, for example a temporary annual effect from a development may have different impacts upon tourism if it falls at peak season rather than off-peak.

Impact assessment should be carried out as per EPA guidelines and the best practice for that prescribed topic. It may be considered appropriate to consider impact on tourism assets under the 'material assets' topic below.

Population and Human Health

The consideration of tourism projects within the Population and Human Health is extensive, with impacts ranging from rural employment population impacts of seasonal tourism, to the health impact of air pollution from increased traffic in urban areas.

The impact upon tourism can be considered within this section through the sensitivities of Hospitality, Safety and Pace of Life. Changes in population can impact the perception of pace of life or safety in a particular location. Impacts upon these issues in areas which rely heavily on tourism or have a particular sensitive tourism generator should be considered in this section.

Biodiversity

Particular tourist activities can have a significant impact upon biodiversity. Landscapes which are 'unspoiled' can be attractors of tourism. However, the disturbance to ecology must be managed to minimise impact. Biodiversity is also a tourism asset and should be protected as such from other development and should be provided for in proposals where possible.

Land, Soils and Geology

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however particular activities or facilities which use geological features may have an impact upon soils and geology, such as mountain biking trails, recreational uses of old quarries etc. Indirect impacts such as material use for extensive landscaping and public realm should also be considered.

Water

Tourism uses can be water intense, depending on development type. Recreational use of a surface water feature, water-based leisure centres etc have different impacts to standard development.

Air Quality and Climate

Tourism impact upon air quality is dependent on activity proposed and sensitivity of the location.

Noise and Vibration

A link between tourism and this prescribed environmental factor, beyond the normal development impacts, is rare, however the impact upon tourism of issues of noise and vibration can be significant. Construction adjoining hotels for example should consider the sensitivity of the development and ensure mitigation is in place.

Material Assets; Traffic and Transport

The different transport patterns associated with tourism activities is a key impact of tourism and should be considered especially for tourism projects. These produce temporal and seasonal changes on the norm and specialist consideration and interpretation should be given. Tourism proposals should, where possible, be well served by public transport and should be accessible by modes other than the car. The impact of traffic on tourism assets can be substantial and can vary in severity according to season, the weather, etc. The impact of construction traffic can be a particular concern in tourism sensitive areas in terms of noise pollution and visual impact. The construction programme of developments should work to avoid peak tourism periods in tourism areas and should consider planned or anticipated tourism events and festivals.

Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage can be a key component of tourism projects and the impact of tourism on the maintenance of cultural heritage should be given the utmost consideration, whether positive or negative. As a tourism attraction, cultural heritage should be strongly considered in non-tourism developments and the impact upon tourism considered as a potential impact.

Archaeology

Archaeology can be of tourism interest and can be an attractive or key component of tourism projects. Archaeology can be a tourism attractor but is generally not kept in situ except in key cases which could also be considered under cultural heritage.

Material Assets; Waste Management

Tourism is a resource heavy activity and can impact waste streams and waste segregation. Impacts here should be considered strongly and with knowledge of the variation that arises from the particular tourist activity. Waste and Waste disposal issues can also impact the perception of an unspoiled environment, effecting tourism, which should be considered.

Material Assets

Material assets are utilities and infrastructure. Tourism itself could be considered a material asset as its impact upon the economy and the infrastructure in place to support it is a material consideration in assessing economic impact.

Landscape

The visual impact of a tourism development, especially in locations which are visually sensitive or renowned for their scenic or landscape beauty, should be considered carefully. A

development intended to utilise or enjoy a particular vista or environment should minimise impact upon that environment.

Major Accident and Natural Disaster

There is a requirement for tourist developments to describe expected significant effects on the environment of the proposed development's vulnerability to major accidents and/or natural disasters relevant to it. Where appropriate measures should be identified to prevent or mitigate the significant adverse effects of such accidents or disasters, including resulting from climate change, on the environment and detail the preparedness for the proposed response.

Interaction of Effects

Where two or more environmental impacts combine or interact they should be considered under the prescribed topics. It is best practice to provide a table of interactions within an EIAR or EIAR Screening Report.

Mitigation

Mitigation should follow the hierarchy of minimisation in descending order of preference- Avoid, Reduce, Remedy

Avoid sensitive tourism resources- such as views, access and amenity areas including habitats as well as historical or cultural sites and structures.

Reduce the exposure of sensitive resources to excessive environmental impact

Reduce the adverse effects to tourism land uses and patterns of activities, especially through interactions arising from significant changes in the intensity of use or contrasts of character or appearance.

Remedy any unavoidable significant residual adverse effects on tourism resources or activities.

Mitigation measures must be measurable and achievable within the bounds of the project.

Cumulative Impact

The cumulative impact is that of the project combined with any known likely project which will interact or compound an environmental impact.

Transboundary Impact

Transboundary impacts should be included in EIAR. In the case of tourism, especially international travel, the transboundary impacts may not be proximate to the EIAR site.

8. Sources of information on Tourism

Information available online

Fáilte Ireland

Fáilte Ireland offers detailed research analysis and insights into the Irish Tourism Industry. The National Tourism Development Authority has a portfolio of research across a number of areas including facts an figures, briefing papers and reports and visitor feedback. The Fáilte Ireland website has a dedicated research library which can be accessed here

Tourism Ireland

Tourism Ireland is responsible for marketing the island of Ireland overseas as a holiday and business tourism destination. Tourism Ireland publishes a range of research documents including; visitor facts and figures, seasonal updates and industry insights which are accessible here

Local Authorities

Local Authorities are an invaluable source of information. They produce tourism strategies and audits of tourism assets within their jurisdiction. Local authorities will also produce landscape and seascape studies. Protected views and prospects as well as the record of protected structures and other designated protected buildings are contained within the Statutory Development Plans.

Regional Authorities

Regional Authorities can also be consulted on high level strategic tourism and potential Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSESs) should be consulted.

Central Statistics Office

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) is Ireland's national statistical office and their purpose is to impartially collect, analyse and make available statistics about Ireland's people, society and economy. The Tourism and Travel Section of the Central Statistics Office is the major source for tourism statistics in Ireland and is updated regularly.

Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Rita Mansfield
Fehily Timoney & Company
Core House
Pouladuff Road
County Cork
T12 D773

17th August 2023 **Your Ref:** P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC

RE: Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report – EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request for the proposed Shancloon Wind Farm (Up to 13 wind turbines), Shancloon, Co. Galway.

Dear Ms Mansfield,

I refer to your correspondence requesting a scoping opinion for the proposed Shancloon Wind Farm, Co. Galway.

The site of this proposed development falls within the Lough Corrib catchment. Lough Corrib is renowned for its wild brown trout and salmon which ascend the tributaries of the catchment annually to spawn and utilise as nursery habitat. The study area and turbine development area form part of one such sub catchment, namely the Black River. Prime water quality and instream habitat is key to salmonids completing this stage of their lifecycle.

IFI have attached a report which summarises the results of a fish stock survey in selected sub-catchments of the Lough Corrib Catchment in 2020. Fish ecological status is also reported for each site for Water Framework Directive purposes. The results for the Black River are contained on pages 10-12 of said report.

It is noted that the study area is located in an area classed as "Open to Consideration" under the Wind Energy Designations the Galway County Development Plan).

Please find below our initial concerns and recommendations in relation to the proposed wind farm. IFI require that an EIAR will be prepared for the development to measure and identify its potential impacts on the aquatic environment and mitigate against these to ensure that any impact is minimal or non-existent.

1. All watercourses that will receive drainage from the construction sites of the turbines or the access roads must be assessed in terms of aquatic biodiversity with particular emphasis on fish, the food of fish, spawning grounds and fish habitat in general. In this regard changes to river morphology should be avoided unless such changes are approved in advance with Inland Fisheries Ireland and the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

2. The aquatic habitat and physical nature of any watercourse affected by the development must be fully described in detail. This includes areas of open water, pool riffle glide sequences, density and types of aquatic vegetation, description of riparian zones to depth of at least 10 metres on either bank etc. The extent of the surveys should be sufficiently long enough so as to be representative of the habitat contained in that watercourse. There should be a particular focus on sections upstream and downstream of any point where an impact on the watercourse is likely to arise. It may be appropriate to survey a tributary stream and the larger more important streams it joins and assess the effect the discharge might further have on biodiversity and fisheries in the larger streams. Surveys of un-impacted (control) streams should also be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment.

3. Electrofishing surveys will be required for all waters. Quantitative data in relation to all fish species should be compiled. The presence of salmonid species, crayfish and lamprey species will be of particular concern. In undertaking the electrofishing survey only experienced personnel should be employed. Appropriate permits for electrofishing must be obtained from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. Authorised personnel must ensure that they comply with all the conditions contained in the permit.

4. We are concerned about soils, their structure and types around all the turbines, associated access roads and site development. In particular we have concerns about the stability of the soils and the impact that works on both the turbines and access roads will have either directly or by vibration on the stability of the soils. IFI have serious concerns where it is proposed to construct wind turbines on peat soils especially if these peat soils are located on upland areas.

5. IFI strongly recommends that specialist personnel are employed to assess soil strength and suitability of the ground at each site and along any proposed access road. This is particularly important in relation to peat soils. From our experiences we will have serious difficulties with developments on peat soils where there is excessive slope and or where the peat depth exceeds one metre. Excessive slopes will be an issue with all wind farm proposals regardless of soil type. The potential for soil movement and landslides should be assessed fully within the EIS.

6. Particular attention should be paid to the hydrology of any site where excavations including excavations for road construction are being undertaken. It is important that natural flow paths are not interrupted or diverted in such a manner as to give rise to erosion or instability of soils caused by an alteration in water movement either above or below ground.

7. Attention should be paid to drainage during both the construction phase and the operational phase. This includes waters being pumped from foundations or other excavations. It is particularly important during the construction phase that sufficient retention time in the settlement pond is available to ensure no deleterious matter is discharged to any waters. We strongly recommend that settlement ponds are maintained, where appropriate, during the operational phase to allow for the adequate settlement of suspended solids and sediments and prevent any deleterious matter from discharging into any natural waters. In constructing and designing silt traps particular attention should be paid to rainfall levels and intensity. The silt traps should be designed to minimise the movement of silt especially during intense precipitation events where the trap maybe hydraulically overloaded. It is essential that they are located with good access to facilitate monitoring sampling and maintenance. A license to discharge to waters may be required from the local authority.

8. We have serious concerns about the construction of roads as these will tend to provide preferential flow paths for surface waters. Considerable attention to detail must be provided in relation to the interception of surface water flows. Our concerns in relation to deleterious matter have been referred to above, but we also have concerns in relation to the flow patterns and to ensuring that normal flows are maintained both during and after construction. Situations can arise where water transportation is significantly increased in certain watercourses thereby putting additional pressures on watercourses and interfering with the sustained flow of water particularly during dry weather. This should be avoided.

9. Serious consideration must be given to the disposal of all waste materials such that they will not give rise to any risk. In terms of risk, the placing of soils on adjacent ground should not be permitted unless all the area has been the subject of an in-depth risk assessment. This is of particular concern where peat soils are encountered. Furthermore, drainage from disturbed and stockpiled soils will have to be considered in advance. It may be essential to carry out soil stockpiling operations in confined areas only and to ensure vegetation of the soils with suitable plants which will promote stability. Consideration must be given to runoff/leachate from any stockpiles.

10. Details in relation to site offices and the services necessary for the site offices should form part of the EIA. In addition, details relating to operations during the construction phase to contain pollutants should also be considered. It should be noted that cement leachate, hydrocarbon oils and other toxic poisonous materials will require full containment and should not be permitted to discharge to any waters. Please note that physical pollution of watercourses in terms of dumping of unsuitable gravel material or other construction debris in or stockpiling such materials near watercourses is not acceptable as this will interfere with the aquatic habitat.

11. The use of sedimentary rocks, such as shale, in road construction should be avoided. This type of material has poor tensile strength and is liable to be crushed by heavy vehicles thereby releasing fine sediment materials into the drainage system which are difficult to precipitate and may give rise to water pollution. We recommend that specialist expertise should advise on the type of material required for road construction bearing in mind the pressures that will arise during the construction phase and the necessity to avoid pollution due to fines washing out into the roadside drainage.

12. In relation to watercourse crossings please be advised that IFI will require to be consulted well in advance in relation to all crossings of any watercourse or the use of any temporary diversions. We strongly recommend that these crossings should be kept to a minimum. We will also require that any instream structures or bridge crossings are approved by the Fisheries IFI. In particular in designing crossings the length, slope and width of any instream structure will be important. Clear span bridges are the preferred option for all crossings especially in upland areas.

13. Please also note that any instream works or other works which may impact directly on a watercourse should only be carried out during the open season which is from 1st July to 30th of September each year (so as to avoid impacting on the aquatic habitat during the spawning season). It would be important that appropriate scheduling of works is allowed for.

14. The EIS should indicate proposals to monitor the impact on all watercourses within the "development". In the event that environmental damage to the aquatic habitat and associated riparian zone is caused, the EIS should indicate the steps that may be taken to rectify any damage to the aquatic habitat including liaison with the appropriate authorities. In relation to wind farm structures and infrastructure it is important that a sufficient bank side riparian zone is maintained to absorb and attenuate overland flows. In deciding the extent of this riparian zone the following factors would be important:

1. Type of soil and its depth and strength especially if the development is on an upland peat bog area.

2. Stock piling or spreading of spoil on unstable soils especially if the soil is peat with a depth greater than 1metre thick. (Geotechnical surveys and assessment at every stage of the operation is essential).

3. Degree or extent of the slope.

4. Variations in the topography that will give rise to point flows (keep flow as diffuse as possible).

5. Extent and nature of catchment above the area of operation. In particular meticulous care should be paid to avoid interfering with the catchment and altering the direction of flow, perhaps to another catchment.

6. The importance of the water in fisheries and Biodiversity terms. With reference to the aquatic habitat the impact over a distance downstream must also be kept in mind.

7. Any other factors that will cause a deleterious effect to the watercourse.

8. The extent and proven efficacy of water treatment in relation to the structure.

With the above in mind for small streams in upland areas a distance of at least 15 meters should be considered as a bare minimum for a riparian zone. This should be more if the factors above are involved and will require ground truthing and site-specific survey.

We suggest that this type of development will comprise works at a number of locations, but the entire development should be considered as a whole. We strongly recommend that discussions should take place with the Environmental Section of the relevant County Council with a view to obtaining a licence to discharge trade effluent from the "building site" to waters. In this regard we consider that drainage waters particularly during the construction phase should be regarded as trade effluent. All effluent should comply with appropriate quality standards.

The discharge of polluting or deleterious matter to any watercourse except under and in accordance with a license may be an offence under the Fisheries Acts and/or under the Water Pollution Acts. It should be noted that even if an effluent

does generally comply with the quality standards contained in a license it may still cause pollution if the receiving water cannot provide sufficient assimilative capacity. With this in mind the environment impact assessment should also focus on the physical characteristics of watercourses and their ability to assimilate any pollutants discharged from the site including the discharge of water from any foundation works etc.

Should works be approved a detailed method statement addressing the issues outlined above, including all mitigations measures, precautions and environmental incident procedures must be forwarded to Inland Fisheries Ireland before works commence.

The above comments and observations are generic and the specific requirements will vary with each application. It should not be considered that addressing all of the above issues will influence IFI in any decision it may make in relation to any proposed windfarm development. IFIs primary concern is to protect the aquatic species and habitat, including water quality and the related riparian zone. IFI reserves the right to request additional information in relation to the development should further points arise.

At all times the precautionary principle should be applied throughout for the entire development. Particular attention should be paid to the various environmental directives including the Water Framework Directive. The Fisheries Acts in particular and the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts and all other environmental legislation should be considered as appropriate. As indicated in some of the points above site management and environmental plans will be important issues especially during the construction phase and we recommend that these issues should also receive consideration when preparing the EIAR and relevant supporting documents.

This concludes IFIs observations at this time.

Yours sincerely

David Harrington
Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer
IFI Galway
FT-ShancloonWind-0823

An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

Your Ref: P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC
Our Ref: G Pre00069/2023 (Please quote in all related correspondence)

12 June 2023

Fehily Timoney
Core House
Pouladuff Road
Cork
T12 D773

Via email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

Proposed Pre Planning Development: RWE Renewables Ireland Limited: renewable energy development referred to as the Shancloon Wind Farm: approximately 8 km west of Tuam, Co. Galway.

A chara

I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above. Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations co-ordinated by the Development Applications Unit under the stated headings.

Archaeology

The information provided was not sufficiently detailed to allow for a full assessment of the archaeological implications of this proposal, however the Department notes that an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) is scoped into the proposed EIA process as part of the overall Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed development and will be carried out by John Cronin & Associates. The supplied methodology indicates that this will incorporate a detailed desktop study and field inspection. In this regard, the NMS awaits the results of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA) and full EIAR for the scheme before commenting further.

Further to the above, and by way of general archaeological advice, please note that, whilst the proposed development site (PDS) may or may not contain within it known or subsurface Recorded Monuments and/or Archaeological sites that may require assessment as part of the overall CHIA, the PDS itself is located within a wider area of known archaeological settlement and activity (National Monuments Service's initial review of the Record of Monuments and Places, www.archaeology.ie and cartographic sources). All of these Recorded Monuments, both within and outside the PDS, are subject to statutory protection in the Record of Monuments and Places, established under section 12 of the National Monuments Act 1930-2014. Therefore the CHIA should include an assessment of the

possible effects of the proposal on the wider archaeological landscape. It is of importance that the study area for the CHIA should be of sufficient size and extent to support this. The Department would draw particular attention to the following sites subject to a Preservation Order that are located in general proximity to the PDS:

- Feartagar or Jennings Castle (RMP GA016-021-----; NM 185)
- Kilbennen Church and Round Tower (RMP GA029-017001-; GA029-017002-; NM 254)
- Kilcreevanty, Religious House – Benedictine Nuns (RMP GA029-096001-; PO 1/1989; 5/1996)
- Caltragh (Killower Ed), Ringfort & souterrain (RMP GA042-061----; GA042-061001-; PO 206/1955)

These monuments are subject to statutory protection under Section 14 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1930-2014.

The Department advises that in addition to a robust desk-study supported by a comprehensive field inspection the CHIA should incorporate a visual impact assessment (to assist in identifying any possible impacts to the setting of sites or monuments).

In this respect it should be noted that in addition to site-specific vulnerabilities to impact on setting many monument types–for example prehistoric monuments such as Standing Stone Alignments, Standing Stone Rows, Single Standing Stones, as well as some megalithic tombs—are often considered to represent a wide area of associated archaeological settlement and activity. As a result, the bunding/stockpiling of materials, intrusion into viewsheds may have a negative visual impact on such monuments and may diminish or interrupt alignment views and alter key aspects of their original function and layout. The Visual Impact Assessment should:

- Set out the key characteristics of the monument(s) and its surroundings that contribute to its setting and the degree to which this setting is integral to the significance and appreciation of the monument.
- Assess the effects of the development—both positive and negative—on these key characteristics. The development should be considered in terms of its location and siting relative to the monument as well as its form, appearance and permanence.
- Be supported by appropriate illustrations of the monument, its setting and the development.

The Department further advises that the following are also carried out as part of the overall CHIA to ensure a comprehensive assessment of the proposed development:

- The desk-study and field inspection regime should inform:

- Targeted non-intrusive advance geophysical survey or prospection (such as Ground Penetrating Radar Surveys)
- Targeted advance archaeological test excavation

- Any and all intrusive advance investigations (such as, but not limited to, ground investigations for soils/geology/hydrogeology) carried out as part of the EIA or design process should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring by a suitably qualified archaeologist

The results of these investigations should inform the EIA process and be incorporated within the EIA Report. The Department is happy to provide further advice and clarification as and if required in relation to the preparation of suitably comprehensive assessments as outlined above, with particular regard to the scope and locations for any advance non-intrusive prospection or advance test excavation that would be appropriate to inform the assessment of this proposed scheme.

Notwithstanding the above, the Department awaits the submission of this assessment before commenting further.

You are requested to send further communications to the Development Applications Unit (DAU) at **manager.dau@housing.gov.ie**.

Is mise le meas**,**

Diarmuid Buttimer
Development Applications Unit
Administration

Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes

following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)

Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes / Limitations	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climate/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950e9b9c5625c
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provide information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. [A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Radon Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/
Geoheritage	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Pla	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0ab2fbde2aaac3c228
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Physiographic units:	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physical landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a420fc54877843aca1bc075c62b
Geological Mapping	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	includes 3D models	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b79416093b6b2212a850ce6&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Geotechnical database	Land & Soils	National	Digitised geotechnical and Site Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a2718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 6" to 1 mile geological mapping records	land & Soils/Water	National	available online	https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:100,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas.	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with IW / coco / NFGWS for private supplies.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protections areas	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie).	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Not exhaustive; only those in designated SACs; could be other GWDTEs; for more information contact NPWS / EPA / site investigations	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	land & Soils/Water	National	Also, Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ee46bee08de41278b90a991d60c0b9e
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		https://secure.dccae.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headla	Water	Regional		http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).	water /Land & Soils	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?easting=?&northing=?&lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilties_Extractive_Facilities https://www.epa.ie/enforcement/mines/
Tellus	Geochemical data: multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707ff72f754
Tellus	Airborne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707ff72f754
Tellus	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project),	Land & Soils	Regional		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707ff72f754

Notes:

1. The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx

2. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data

3. Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

An Garda Siochána - Tuam Branch
FAO Ms Maura Burke
Tuam Garda Station, Operating Model Division
Abbeytrinity Road
Tuam
Galway
H54 T998
By email to GA.Bservices@Garda.ie

Our Ref: P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC

18 April 2023

Re: Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report – EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request

Dear Sir/Madam,

RWE Renewables Ireland Limited intend to apply for planning permission for a renewable energy development referred to as the Shancloon Wind Farm, located approximately 8 km west of Tuam, Co. Galway.

This letter and enclosed scoping report is being issued to you as part of the consultation process for the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). As part of the consultation process, we would be interested in receiving any comments you may have on the proposed development, relevant to your area of expertise. We respectfully ask that you forward all responses before Friday the 19th May 2023 to provide adequate time to consider all material. Your response may be forwarded by email or by post to the address below:

By Email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

By Post: Rita Mansfield, Fehily Timoney & Company, Core House, Pouladuff Road, County Cork, T12 D773

If you have no comments to make on the proposed project, I would be grateful if you would please communicate same as part of acknowledgment receipt of this correspondence.

If you should require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Mansfield

Rita Mansfield
for and on behalf of **Fehily Timoney and Company**

Encl

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

Galway Airport
Carnmore
Galway
By email to info@conneelybuilders.com

Our Ref: P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC

18 April 2023

Re: Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report – EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request

Dear Sir/Madam,

RWE Renewables Ireland Limited intend to apply for planning permission for a renewable energy development referred to as the Shancloon Wind Farm, located approximately 8 km west of Tuam, Co. Galway.

This letter and enclosed scoping report is being issued to you as part of the consultation process for the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). As part of the consultation process, we would be interested in receiving any comments you may have on the proposed development, relevant to your area of expertise. We respectfully ask that you forward all responses before Friday the 19th May 2023 to provide adequate time to consider all material. Your response may be forwarded by email or by post to the address below:

By Email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

By Post: Rita Mansfield, Fehily Timoney & Company, Core House, Pouladuff Road, County Cork, T12 D773

If you have no comments to make on the proposed project, I would be grateful if you would please communicate same as part of acknowledgment receipt of this correspondence.

If you should require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Mansfield

Rita Mansfield
for and on behalf of **Fehily Timoney and Company**

Encl

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

Irish Hen Harrier Winter Survey Group
By email to info@ihhws.ie

18 April 2023

Our Ref: P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC

Re: Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report – EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request

Dear Sir/Madam,

RWE Renewables Ireland Limited intend to apply for planning permission for a renewable energy development referred to as the Shancloon Wind Farm, located approximately 8 km west of Tuam, Co. Galway.

This letter and enclosed scoping report is being issued to you as part of the consultation process for the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). As part of the consultation process, we would be interested in receiving any comments you may have on the proposed development, relevant to your area of expertise. We respectfully ask that you forward all responses before Friday the 19th May 2023 to provide adequate time to consider all material. Your response may be forwarded by email or by post to the address below:

By Email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

By Post: Rita Mansfield, Fehily Timoney & Company, Core House, Pouladuff Road, County Cork, T12 D773

If you have no comments to make on the proposed project, I would be grateful if you would please communicate same as part of acknowledgment receipt of this correspondence.

If you should require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Mansfield

Rita Mansfield
for and on behalf of **Fehily Timoney and Company**

Encl

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

Irish Wildlife Trust
8 Cabra Road
Dublin
D07 T1W2
By email to info@iwt.ie

Our Ref: P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC

18 April 2023

Re: Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report – EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request

Dear Sir/Madam,

RWE Renewables Ireland Limited intend to apply for planning permission for a renewable energy development referred to as the Shancloon Wind Farm, located approximately 8 km west of Tuam, Co. Galway.

This letter and enclosed scoping report is being issued to you as part of the consultation process for the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). As part of the consultation process, we would be interested in receiving any comments you may have on the proposed development, relevant to your area of expertise. We respectfully ask that you forward all responses before Friday the 19th May 2023 to provide adequate time to consider all material. Your response may be forwarded by email or by post to the address below:

By Email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

By Post: Rita Mansfield, Fehily Timoney & Company, Core House, Pouladuff Road, County Cork, T12 D773

If you have no comments to make on the proposed project, I would be grateful if you would please communicate same as part of acknowledgment receipt of this correspondence.

If you should require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Mansfield

Rita Mansfield
for and on behalf of **Fehily Timoney and Company**

Encl

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

Knock Airport
Charlestown
Mayo
By email to info@irelandwestairport.com

Our Ref: P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC

18 April 2023

Re: Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report – EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request

Dear Sir/Madam,

RWE Renewables Ireland Limited intend to apply for planning permission for a renewable energy development referred to as the Shancloon Wind Farm, located approximately 8 km west of Tuam, Co. Galway.

This letter and enclosed scoping report is being issued to you as part of the consultation process for the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). As part of the consultation process, we would be interested in receiving any comments you may have on the proposed development, relevant to your area of expertise. We respectfully ask that you forward all responses before Friday the 19th May 2023 to provide adequate time to consider all material. Your response may be forwarded by email or by post to the address below:

By Email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

By Post: Rita Mansfield, Fehily Timoney & Company, Core House, Pouladuff Road, County Cork, T12 D773

If you have no comments to make on the proposed project, I would be grateful if you would please communicate same as part of acknowledgment receipt of this correspondence.

If you should require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Mansfield

Rita Mansfield
for and on behalf of **Fehily Timoney and Company**

Encl

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

National Monuments Service
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Custom house
Dublin 1
By email to nationalmonuments@housing.gov.ie

Our Ref: P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC

18 April 2023

Re: Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report – EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request

Dear Sir/Madam,

RWE Renewables Ireland Limited intend to apply for planning permission for a renewable energy development referred to as the Shancloon Wind Farm, located approximately 8 km west of Tuam, Co. Galway.

This letter and enclosed scoping report is being issued to you as part of the consultation process for the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). As part of the consultation process, we would be interested in receiving any comments you may have on the proposed development, relevant to your area of expertise. We respectfully ask that you forward all responses before Friday the 19th May 2023 to provide adequate time to consider all material. Your response may be forwarded by email or by post to the address below:

By Email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

By Post: Rita Mansfield, Fehily Timoney & Company, Core House, Pouladuff Road, County Cork, T12 D773

If you have no comments to make on the proposed project, I would be grateful if you would please communicate same as part of acknowledgment receipt of this correspondence.

If you should require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Mansfield

Rita Mansfield
for and on behalf of **Fehily Timoney and Company**

Encl

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

Roads Department
Galway County Council
Áras an Chontae
Prospect Hill
Galway
H91 H6KX
By email to roads@galwaycoco.ie

Our Ref: P20-306/Ltr/RM/NSC

18 April 2023

Re: Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Report – EIAR Scoping & Consultation Request

Dear Sir/Madam,

RWE Renewables Ireland Limited intend to apply for planning permission for a renewable energy development referred to as the Shancloon Wind Farm, located approximately 8 km west of Tuam, Co. Galway.

This letter and enclosed scoping report is being issued to you as part of the consultation process for the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). As part of the consultation process, we would be interested in receiving any comments you may have on the proposed development, relevant to your area of expertise. We respectfully ask that you forward all responses before Friday the 19th May 2023 to provide adequate time to consider all material. Your response may be forwarded by email or by post to the address below:

By Email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

By Post: Rita Mansfield, Fehily Timoney & Company, Core House, Pouladuff Road, County Cork, T12 D773

If you have no comments to make on the proposed project, I would be grateful if you would please communicate same as part of acknowledgment receipt of this correspondence.

If you should require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Mansfield

Rita Mansfield
for and on behalf of **Fehily Timoney and Company**

Encl

Northern & Western Regional Assembly

www.nwra.ie

Rita Mansfield
Fehily Timoney & Company
Core House
Pouladuff Road
County Cork
T12 D773

via email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

18/05/2023

RE: **PROPOSED SHANCLOON WIND FARM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT – EIAR SCOPING & CONSULTATION REQUEST**

A Chara,

I wish to acknowledge your correspondence received on 18 April 2023 and to advise that the Northern and Western Regional Assembly (NWRA) does not comment upon individual projects as a matter of course unless the Bord (or deciding authority) considers the proposed development to be inconsistent with the RSES. The NWRA will rely upon the Local Planning Authority/An Bord Pleanála to provide pre-planning advice in the first instance.

Section 33 E (3)(c) of the Planning Act (as amended) requires that prescribed bodies be consulted on proposals such as that the subject of your correspondence. Article 213 prescribes that the Regional Authorities be consulted: *'(i) where the development would not be consistent with or would materially contravene any regional planning guidelines (or any objective thereof) of a regional authority…,'*

Accordingly, An Bord Pleanála may determine that the NWRA is a 'prescribed body' and if it is consulted in respect of a planning application, its submission/observation will be informed by the development objectives of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES).

The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Northern and Western region was adopted in January 2020. It includes a suite of regional policy objectives that are of relevance to the project, including but not limited to the Overarching Environmental Regional Policy Objectives of section 1.5. The RSES is available on the NWRA website at www.nwra.ie/rses

I hope that the above is of assistance.

Kind regards,

Frank Flanagan
Senior Planner / Acting Assistant Director

Northern & Western Regional Assembly
The Square, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon
Tionól Réigiúnach an Tuaiscirt agus an Iarthair
An Chearnóg, Bealach an Doirín, Co. Ros Comáin
+353 (0)94 9862970
+353 (0)94 9862973
info@nwra.ie

An tAontas Eorpach
Ciste Forbartha Réigiúnach na hEorpa

For the attention of Rita Mansfield

Fehilly Timoney Consultants
Core House,
Pouladuff Road,
County Cork,
T12 D773,
Ireland

Uisce Éireann
Bosca OP 6000
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 WA07
Éire

Uisce Éireann
PO Box 6000
Dublin 1
D01 WA07
Ireland

T: +353 1 89 25000
F: +353 1 89 25001
www.water.ie

Date: 10th May, 2023

By Email: shancloonwindfarm@ftco.ie

Re: EIA Scoping Request – RWE Renewables Ireland Ltd- Proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Scheme, County Galway

Dear Sir/Madam,

Uisce Éireann has received notification of your Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping request relating to the proposed Shancloon Wind Farm Scheme in north County Galway.

Please see attached, Uisce Éireann's scoping opinion in relation to Water Services. On receipt of the planning referral, Uisce Éireann will review the finalised Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) as part of the planning process.

Queries relating to the terms and the EIA scoping opinions below should be directed to planning@water.ie

PP Ali Robinson

Signed on behalf of Yvonne Harris

Connections and Developer Services

Uisce Éireann's Response to EIA Scoping Request

At present, Uisce Éireann does not have the capacity to advise on the scoping of individual projects. However, in general the following aspects of Water Services should be considered in the scope of an EIA where relevant;

a) Where the development proposal has the potential to impact an Uisce Éireann Drinking Water Source(s), the applicant shall provide details of measures to be taken to ensure that there will be no negative impact to Uisce Éireann's Drinking Water Source(s) during the construction and operational phases of the development. Hydrological / hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified as part of the report.

b) Where the development proposes the backfilling of materials, the applicant is required to include a waste sampling strategy to ensure the material is inert.

c) Mitigations should be proposed for any potential negative impacts on any water source(s) which may be in proximity and included in the environmental management plan and incident response.

d) Any and all potential impacts on the nearby reservoir as public water supply water source(s) are assessed, including any impact on hydrogeology and any groundwater/ surface water interactions.

e) Impacts of the development on the capacity of water services (*i.e. do existing water services have the capacity to cater for the new development*). This is confirmed by Uisce Éireann in the form of a Confirmation of Feasibility (COF). If a development requires a connection t to either a public water supply or sewage collection system, the developer is advised to submit a Pre-Connection Enquiry (PCE) enquiry to Uisce Éireann to determine the feasibility of connection to the Uisce Éireann network.

   All pre-connection enquiry forms are available from https://www.water.ie/connections/connection-steps/.

f) The applicant shall identify any upgrading of water services infrastructure that would be required to accommodate the proposed development.

g) In relation to a development that would discharge trade effluent – any upstream treatment or attenuation of discharges required prior to discharging to an Uisce Éireann collection network.

h) In relation to the management of surface water; the potential impact of surface water discharges to combined sewer networks and potential measures to minimise and or / stop surface waters from combined sewers.

i) Any physical impact on Uisce Éireann assets – reservoir, drinking water source, treatment works, pipes, pumping stations, discharges outfalls etc. including any relocation of assets.

j) When considering a development proposal, the applicant is advised to determine the location of public water services assets, possible connection points from the applicant's site / lands to the public network and any drinking water abstraction catchments to ensure these are included and fully assessed in any pre-planning proposals. Details, where known, can be obtained by emailing an Ordnance Survey map identifying the proposed location of the applicant's intended development to datarequests@water.ie Other indicators or methodologies for identifying infrastructure located within the applicant's lands are the presence of registered wayleave agreements, visible manholes, vent stacks, valve chambers, marker posts etc. within the proposed site.

k) Any potential impacts on the assimilative capacity of receiving waters in relation to Uisce Éireann discharge outfalls including changes in dispersion / circulation characterises. Hydrological / hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified within the report.

l) Any potential impact on the contributing catchment of water sources either in terms of water abstraction for the development (*and resultant potential impact on the capacity of the source*) or the potential of the development to influence / present a risk to the quality of the water abstracted by Uisce Éireann for public supply should be identified within the report.

m) Where a development proposes to connect to an Uisce Éireann network and that network either abstracts water from or discharges wastewater to a "protected"/ sensitive area, consideration as to whether the integrity of the site / conservation objectives of the site would be compromised should be identified within the report.

n) Mitigation measures in relation to any of the above ensuring a zero risk to any Uisce Éireann drinking water sources (Surface and Ground water).

This is not an exhaustive list.

Please note;

- Where connection(s) to the public network is required as part of the Development proposal, applicants are advised to complete the Pre-Connection Enquiry process and have received a Confirmation of Feasibility letter from Uisce Éireann ahead of any planning application.

- Uisce Éireann will not accept new surface water discharges to combined sewer networks.