TOBIN

Bord na Móna - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar Winter Season 2025/2026 Bird Surveys: Summary Report

Bord na Móna

BUILT ON KNOWLEDGE

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1. BACKGROUND

This report summarises the results of bird surveys undertaken by TOBIN at the proposed Bord na Móna Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar Farm site (herein referred to as the 'proposed project'), during the Winter Season 2025/2026, for the survey period of October 2025 to March 2026.

2. FIELD SURVEY METHODOLOGIES

2.1 VANTAGE POINT SURVEYS

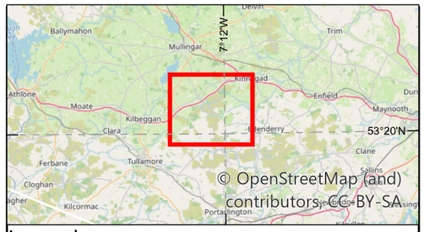
The Vantage Point (VP) surveys were carried in accordance with the methodology set out by the NatureScot (formally Scottish Natural Heritage) guidelines (NatureScot, 2025). Thirteen (13) VPs across the proposed project site were set at fixed locations, which were strategically positioned to provide a maximum viewshed of the survey area over the survey period, the locations of which can be seen in Figure 2-1. The viewshed of a given VP extended to a distance of no greater than 2km and included an arc of no greater than 180 degrees, as per NatureScot (2025), which encompassed the study area for the VP surveys.

The 13 VPs were surveyed for 6 hours each

on each month, summing up to a total of 468 hours for the survey period of October 2025 to March 2026 (Table 2-1).

Vantage point	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total hours
1	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
2	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
3	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
4	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
5	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
7	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
8	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
9	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
10	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
11	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
12	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
13	6	6	6	6	6	6	**36**
Total hours	**78**	**78**	**78**	**78**	**78**	**78**	**468**

7°22'48"W
7°16'30"W
7°10'12"W
53°27'12"N
53°23'40"N
53°20'8"N
742800
737600
732400
644000
649500
655000
VP1
VP2
VP3
VP4
VP5
VP6
VP7
VP8
VP9
VP10
VP11
VP12
VP13
Microsoft, Vantor



Legend

- Energy Park - Proposed Developments
- Proposed wind farm 500m buffer
- VPs
- Viewshed Coverage

0 1,000 2,000
Meters

NOTES

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Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord Na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure 2-1: Vantage Point Layout and Viewshed Coverage for Winter Bird Surveys 2025/2026

Scale @ A3: 1:60,000

Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
K.Kale	J.Forde	October 2026

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2.2 Winter Bird Transect Survey

Wintering Bird transect surveys were conducted to establish the distribution and abundance of birds within the proposed project site, and to allow the evaluation of the site's importance. The transect survey was adapted from CBS (2012), and involved 13 representative transects delineated across the Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar Farm site to achieve maximum coverage of locally representative habitat and bird activity. The transects were walked once each month from October 2025 to March 2026, at a standard speed. On each transect, all bird species encountered (seen or heard) within two distance bands (<100m, >100m) from the observer were recorded and their abundance noted.

Transect layout for the winter 2025/2026 can be seen in Figure 2-2.

2.3 Hen Harrier Roost Surveys

Hen Harrier roost surveys were undertaken by TOBIN between October 2025 to March 2026. The Hen Harrier roost surveys were conducted in the areas of suitable roosting habitat found within the proposed wind farm site or within the study area and were aimed to identify active winter hen harrier roosts. Suitable roosting habitat is typically restricted to dense vegetation, such as heather or young commercially planted conifers. Hen Harrier breed in upland areas, but the wintering population is widely dispersed and can be frequently found in lowland areas.

The Hen Harrier Roost Survey methods followed those set out by Gilbert et al. (1998) and were in accordance with recommendations outlined O'Donoghue et al. (2019). Ten potential areas for roosting Hen Harrier were identified and each of the locations was surveyed at a vantage point six times during the wintering season (once per month). Surveyors were in place an hour and a half before the sunset and stayed onsite until the last visible light. Information recorded by surveyors from the vantage points included the number of Hen Harrier entering or exiting a roost, the time, age, and sex, where it was possible to discern.

Hen Harrier roost survey locations layout for the winter 2025/2026 can be seen in Figure 2-2

2.4 Wetland Bird Survey

The Wetland Bird Survey involve conducting monthly counts in wetland habitat locations within the proposed wind farm site and the 10 km buffer. Wetland Bird Survey surveys were undertaken by TOBIN between October 2025 to March 2026 and included a monthly count at each wetland habitat site. Counts were conducted at 'look-see' basis (Bibby et al. 2000), which involved scanning across the survey area and counting all the birds seen. Birds were recorded on a count form, along with relevant information, including numbers of waterbirds; the presence of marked birds (leg-ringed or neck-collared); and weather conditions.

Survey site locations can be seen in the Figure 2-3.

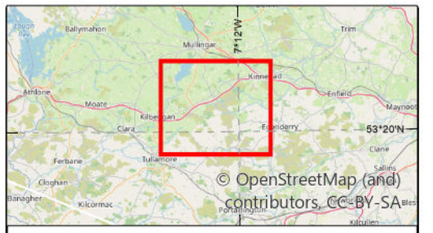
2.5 Incidental Sighting

Incidental sightings were recorded at the Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar Farm site, but outside of the scheduled surveys. This could be sighting of target species observed during the walk to the VP location,during VP 30 min break, or outside of the viewshed.

7°21'40"W
7°14'8"W
7°6'36"W
53°26'42"N
53°19'24"N
748000
741000
734000
727000
636000
643000
650000
657000

Derryhinch
Drumman
Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg
T1
T2
T3
T4
T5
T6
T8
T9
T10
T11
T12

Microsoft, Vantor



Legend

- Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar - Proposed Development
- Hen Harrier Survey Locations
- Transects

0 2 4
Kilometers

NOTES

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Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure 2-2: Transect Survey Routes and Hen Harrier Survey Locations

Scale @ A3: 1:80,000

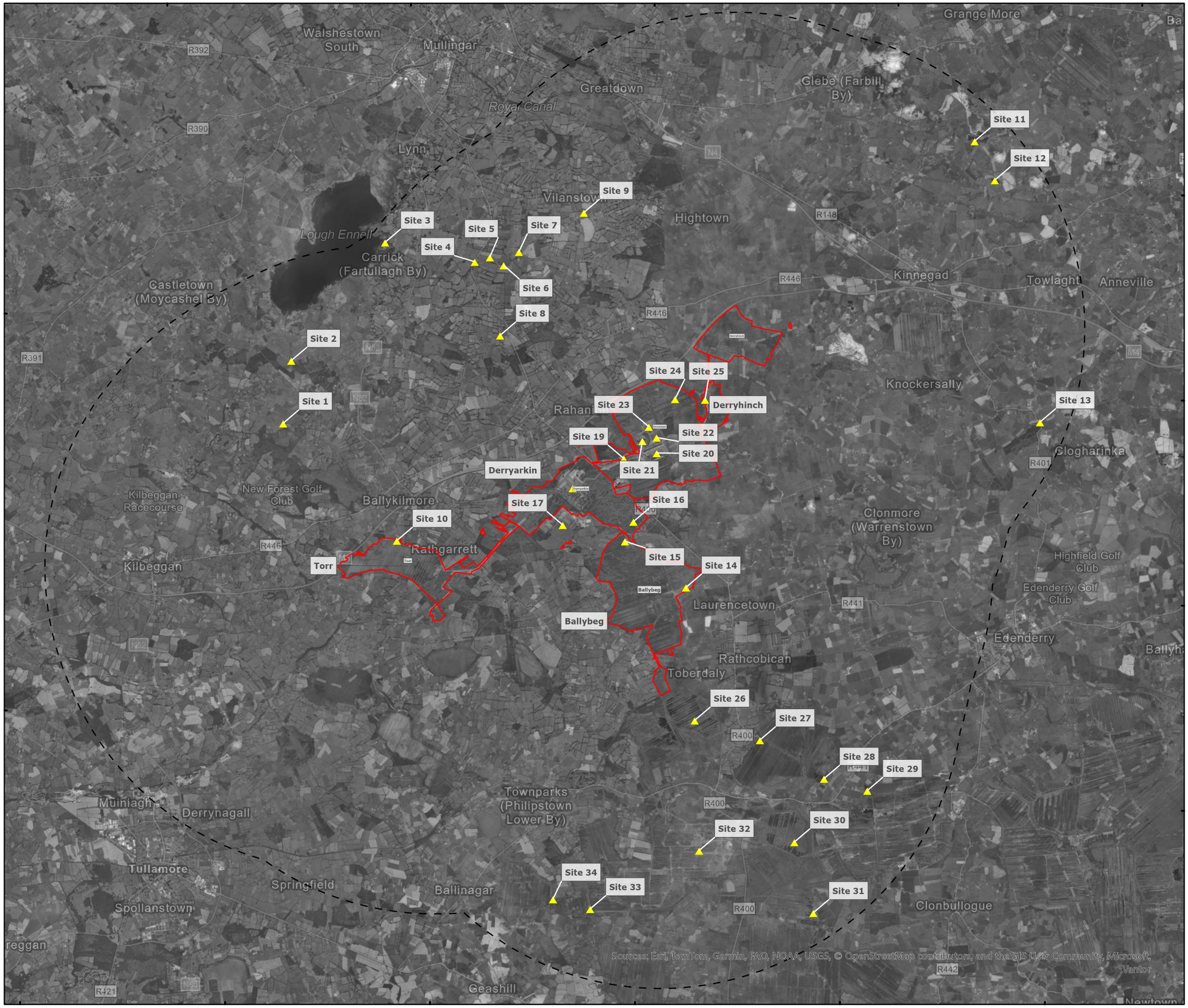
Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
K.Kale	L.Shinkwin	June 2026

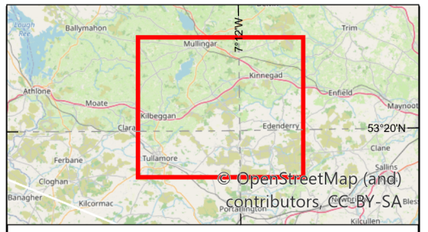
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Legend

- Site Boundary
- 10km Buffer
- Wetland Bird Survey locations

0 3 6
Kilometers

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Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord Na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure 2-3: Wetland Bird Survey Locations

Scale @ A3: 1:120,000

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3. FIELD SURVEY RESULS

This section summarises the results of the winter ornithological surveys within the study area during the field surveys between October 2025 and March 2026. All recorded species, their presence within the site or within the 10 km buffer, and their protection and conservation status is provided in Table 3-1 for targets species and Table 3-2 for non -target species. The data and locations of all species observed over the survey period are plotted and presented on figures within Appendix A-I. Species account of all target species recorded over the survey period are discussed below.

In this summary, the terms regular, occasional, irregular, and rare are used to describe the frequency of species occurrence within and around the proposed project site. These categories are based on the number and consistency of observations recorded during surveys, informed by professional judgment and established good practice. The following general definitions apply:

- Regular – Species recorded consistently across all months, typically observed in >50% of relevant surveys.
- Occasional – Species recorded less frequently, typically in 10–50% of surveys.
- Irregular – Species with no discernible seasonal or annual pattern, and whose presence is unpredictable.
- Rare – Species recorded only once or twice during the survey period.

These classifications follow principles of transparent, evidence-based ecological assessment, and the use of professional judgment, as outlined in CIEEM (2018) and NatureScot (2025).

Table 3-1. Full target species list of birds recorded at the proposed project site and with 10 km buffer during the winter season between October 2025 and March 2026.

Target Species	Protection and Conservation Status*	Occurrence during winter season October 2025 – March 2026
Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Occasional within the site boundary
Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*)	WA, BoCCI Green List	Regular within the site boundary
Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*)	WA, BoCCI Red List	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Common Gull (*Larus canus*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km Wetland Bird Survey)
Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*)	WA, BoCCI Red List	Regular within the site boundary

Target Species	Protection and Conservation Status*	Occurrence during winter season October 2025 – March 2026
Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)	WA, Annex I Birds Directive, BoCCI Amber List	Occasional within the site boundary
Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*)	WA, BoCCI Red List	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)	WA, BoCCI Green List	Occasional within the site boundary
Common Pochard *(Aythya ferina)*	WA, BoCCI Red List	Rare within the site boundary
Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Occasional within the site boundary
Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*)	WA, BoCCI Red List	Regular within the site boundary
Eurasian Coot (*Fulica atra*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Eurasian Curlew (*Numenius arquata*)	WA, BoCCI Red List	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus)*	WA, BoCCI Green List	Regular within the site boundary
Eurasian Teal *(Anas crecca)*	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Regular within the site boundary
Eurasian Wigeon (Mareca penelope)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Eurasian Woodcock (Scolopax rusticola)	WA, BoCCI Red List	Rare within the site boundary
European Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*)	WA, Annex I Birds Directive, BoCCI Red List	Regular within the site boundary
Gadwall (*Mareca strepera*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Rare within the site boundary
Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Regular within the site boundary

Target Species	Protection and Conservation Status*	Occurrence during winter season October 2025 – March 2026
Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus)*	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Occasional within the site boundary
Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)	WA, Annex I Birds Directive, BoCCI Green List	Occasional within the site boundary
Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*)	WA, BoCCI Green List	Regular within the site boundary
Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Rare within the site boundary
Hen Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*)	WA, Annex I Birds Directive, BoCCI Amber List	Regular within the site boundary
Jack Snipe (*Lymnocryptes minimus)*	WA, BoCCI Green List	Rare within the site boundary
Lesser Black-backed Gull *(Larus fuscus)*	WA, BoCCI Amber List	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)	WA, BoCCI Green List, Annex I Birds Directive	Occasional within the site boundary
Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Occasional within the site boundary
Mallard *(Anas platyrhynchos)*	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Regular within the site boundary
Merlin *(Falco columbarius)*	WA, Annex I Birds Directive, BoCCI Amber List	Occasional within the site boundary
Mute Swan *(Cygnus olor)*	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Regular within the site boundary
Northern Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)	WA, BoCCI Red List	Regular within the site boundary
Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)	WA, Annex I Birds Directive	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Peregrine Falcon *(Falco peregrinus)*	WA, BoCCI Green List, Annex I Birds Directive	Rare within the site boundary

Target Species	Protection and Conservation Status*	Occurrence during winter season October 2025 – March 2026
Red-crested Pochard (*Netta rufina*)	WA	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Scaup (*Anas marila*)	WA, BoCCI Red List	No on-site records; species occurs within 10 km (Wetland Bird Survey)
Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*)	WA, Annex I Birds Directive, BoCCI Amber List	Rare within the site boundary
Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List	Regular within the site boundary
Water Rail (*Rallus aquaticus*)	WA, BoCCI Green List	Rare within the site boundary
Western Barn Owl (*Tayo alba*)	WA, BoCCI Red List	Rare within the site boundary
White-tailed Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*)	WA, BoCCI Red List, Annex I Birds Directive	Rare within the site boundary
Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*)	WA, Annex I Birds Directive, BoCCI Amber List	Regular within the site boundary

* EU BD = European Union Birds Directive, WA = Wildlife Acts, BoCCI = Birds of Conservation Concern Ireland 2020-2026.

Table 3-2. Full list of non-target bird species recorded within the proposed project site during the winter season between October 2025 and March 2026.

Target Species	Protection and Conservation Status*
Coal Tit (*Periparus ater*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Common Blackbird (*Turdus merula*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Common Linnet (*Linaria cannabina*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List
Common Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Common Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*)	WA, BoCCI Green List

Target Species	Protection and Conservation Status*
Common Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List
Common Woodpigeon (*Columba palumbus*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Eurasian Blue Tit (*Sylvia atricapilla*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Eurasian Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Eurasian Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Eurasian Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Eurasian Magpie (*Pica pica*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Eurasian Siskin (*Spinus spinus*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Eurasian Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List
Eurasian Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
European Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
European Stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List
Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Great Tit (*Parus major*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Hooded Crow (*Corvus cornix*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List
Lesser Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Long-tailed Tit (*Aegithalus caudatus*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Northern Raven (*Corvus corax*)	WA, BoCCI Green List

Target Species	Protection and Conservation Status*
Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe Oenanthe*)	WA, BoCCI Amber List
Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*)	WA, BoCCI Red List
Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*)	WA, BoCCI Green List
Western Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*)	WA, BoCCI Green List

3.1 RESULTS SUMMARY

This summary highlights the survey records that in TOBIN's preliminary opinion are ecological constraints and may affect the project design/planning application for Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar.

With regards to ornithological constraints, the bird species of importance are:

- Listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC).
- Red and Amber species on the Birds of Conservation Concern Ireland List (BoCCI) (Gilbert *et al,* 2021).
- Species that may not be of conservation concern but occur in large enough numbers for the site to be considered of national and/or international importance for the species.
- Species that may be vulnerable to disturbance or sensitive to wind farm developments (BES, 2020; Cutts *et al*, 2013; Goodship & Furnness, 2022, Mc Guinness *et al*, 2015).
- Unusual, or very rare records for the specific geographic area.

3.1.1 Regularly Occurring Species

3.1.1.1 Mute Swan

Mute Swan was regularly recorded within the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with a total of 1,823 sightings, across 193 records, both in flight and on water. These records were primarily concentrated at the Drumman and Derryarkin quarry ponds. However mute swans were widely distributed at wetlands throughout the development site, and within the 10km buffer. Mute Swans often occurred in pairs, but groups of up to 75 individuals were recorded.

The highest daily count took place on 4 December 2025, when 174 individuals were recorded during Wetland Bird Survey survey withing the development site. Notably, the highest daily counts between October 2025 to January 2026 exceeded the national (110 individuals) and

international (110 individuals) importance threshold for the species, as defined by Burke *et al.* (2025).

Given that the regular presence of Mute Swan within the development site, and the occurrence of daily counts reaching national and international site importance thresholds, this species warrants specific consideration in the future impact assessment. The locations of Mute Swan observations are presented in Figure A- I.

3.1.1.2 Whooper Swan

Whooper Swan was regularly recorded within the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with a total of 719 sightings across 62 records, both in flight, at roosting locations and at feeding grounds. These records were partially concentrated in north Derryarkin Ponds, which has been identified as regular roosting site, and at a regular feeding ground located north of Ballybeg bog, and withing 250 meters from the site boundary. Additional Whooper Swan records were made in other areas of the development site such as Drumman and Ballybeg Bogs, with birds recorded both on ground and in flight, albeit with lower frequency and numbers. Additional observations of Whooper Swan were made at a various wetland with 10 km buffer during Wetland Bird Survey surveys.

The highest maximum daily count of Whooper Swan within the development site was recorded on 6 January 2026, when 80 individuals were observed. The current national (190 individuals) and international (430 individuals) site importance thresholds for the species, as by as defined by Burke *et al.* (2025), were not reached during the winter season 2025/2026. However, the flock numbers did exceed the county importance threshold for Offaly (>15) and Westmeath (>10), as defined by Burke *et al.* (2021).

The locations of Whooper Swan observations are presented in Figure A- I.

3.1.1.3 European Golden Plover

European Golden Plover was recorded regularly within the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with a total of 9,570 sightings recorded across 78 records, predominantly observed in flight, in flocks ranging in size from six to 650 individuals. The highest concentration of flight records occurred at Derryarking quarry ponds, Drumman Bog and Derryhinch. Golden Plover flocks were also recorded outside the proposed project site but within the 10 km buffer during Irish Wetland Bird Survey surveys, particularly at rewetted cutover bogs located to the south of the site. Additionally, roost locations for Golden Plover were identified in the southern section of Drumman Bog.

The largest flock, made up of 650 individuals, was recorded on two occasions on 1 December 2025, circling over Derryarking quarry ponds. The national (910 individuals) and international (12,000 individuals) threshold values, as defined by Burke *et al.* (2025), were not reached during the 2025/2026 winter season.

The locations of Golden Plover observations are present in Figure A- II.

3.1.1.4 Northern Lapwing

Northern Lapwing was recorded regularly within the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with a total of 5,574 sightings recorded across 83 records, predominantly observed in flight, in flocks ranging from single individuals to a maximum of 400 birds. The

highest concentration of Lapwing records was associated with various wetland habitats within Derryarkin Bog. However, Lapwing were also recorded at Drumman Bog and Derryhinch Bog, as well as at multiple wetland sites within the 10 km buffer, notably rewetted cutover bogs located to the south of the proposed project site.

The largest flock, comprising 400 individuals, was recorded on 1 December 2025, circling over Derryarkin quarry ponds. The national (820 individuals) and international (72,300 individuals) threshold values, as defined by Burke *et al.* (2025), were not exceeded during the 2025/2026 winter season.

The locations of Northern Lapwing observations are present in Figure A- III.

3.1.1.5 Mallard

Mallard was recorded regularly within the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with a total of 1,025 sightings recorded across 127 records. Mallard was observed throughout the site, with localised concentrations associated with quarry ponds and other wetland features within Derryarkin, Drumman and Ballybeg Bogs. Records made up of individuals observed both in flight and on water, in flocks ranging from single birds to a maximum of 84 individuals.

The highest maximum daily count of Mallard within the proposed development area was recorded on 4 December 2025, when 140 individuals were observed during an Irish Wetland Bird Survey of wetlands within the proposed development. The national (250 individuals) and international (53,000 individuals) site importance thresholds for the species, as defined by Burke *et al.* (2025), were not reached during the 2025/2026 winter season.

The locations of Mallard observations are presented in Figure A- V.

3.1.1.6 Tufted Duck

Tufted Duck was recorded regularly within the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with a total of 611 sightings recorded across 21 records. Most records were made up of flocks observed swimming and foraging (diving) within the Derryarkin and Drumman quarry ponds. Flock sizes ranged from two to 150 individuals. Additionally, Tufted Duck was recorded during Irish Wetland Bird Survey surveys within the 10 km buffer at Lough Ennell.

The highest maximum daily count of Tufted Duck within the proposed development area was recorded on 4 December 2025, when 150 individuals were recorded at Drumman quarry ponds. The national (160 individuals) and international (8,900 individuals) site importance thresholds for the species, as defined by Burke *et al.* (2025), were not reached during the 2025/2026 winter season.

The locations of Tufted Duck observations are presented in Figure A- IV.

3.1.1.7 Common Snipe

Common Snipe occurred regularly throughout the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with total of 327 sightings, across 107 records, with majority of individual birds flushed from cover by the surveyor. Additionally, Common Snipe was also seen in flight commuting over site. Due to the cryptic behaviour, Common Snipe is difficult to detect, and the spatial distribution of records were closely associated with the surveyors transect routes, and

survey locations (VPs, HHVPs, Wetland Bird Survey sites). There are currently no national population estimates available for wintering Common Snipe in Ireland.

The locations of Common Snipe observations are presented in Figure A- V.

3.1.1.8 Common Buzzard

Common Buzzard was recorded regularly throughout the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with 162 sightings across 133 records. All records made up of birds observed in flight, predominantly of one individual. However, small groups of up to four individuals were recorded, notably during March 2026. There is currently no available national wintering population estimates for Common Buzzard in Ireland.

3.1.1.9 The locations of Common Buzzard observations are presented in Figure A-VI,Common Kestrel

Common Kestrel was recorded regularly throughout the proposed project site and surrounding 10 km buffer, with 150 sightings across 143 records, mostly of a single individual in flight hunting or commuting. with birds occasionally recorded perched. There is currently no available national wintering population estimates for Common Kestrel in Ireland.

The locations of Common Kestrel observations are presented in Figure A- VII.

3.1.1.10 Hen Harrier

Hen Harrier was recorded during each month of the survey period (October 2025 to March 2026), with a total of 39 sightings, across 38 records. Hen Harrier was observed across the proposed project site, with notable concentration of records within the Drumman Bog. However, the species was seen in in flight in Derryarkin, Ballybeg, Derryhinch Bogs and within 10 km buffer during Wetland Bird Survey surveys at rewetted cutover bog south of the site. All observations were made of a ringtail individual - female or a juvenile Hen Harrier.

No confirmed roost locations were identified during the 2025/2026 winter survey period. However, potential roosts areas were identified in the western part of the Drumman Bog and in the southern part of Derryarkin Bog. The regular presence of Hen Harrier at dusk, near suitable roosting habitat, within the proposed project site, together with previously confirmed roosts recorded during previous winter seasons, warrants specific consideration in the future impact assessment

The locations of Hen Harrier observations are presented in Figure A- VIII.

3.1.1.11 Merlin

Merlin was recorded occasionally recorded withing the proposed project site with a total of eight individual records. These observations were made of either hunting males and females within Derryarking and Drumman Bogs.

The locations of Merlin observations are presented in Figure A- IX.

3.1.1.12Grey Heron

Grey Heron was recorded regularly during each month of the survey period (October 2025 to March 2026), with a total of 119 sightings across 86 records. The species was widespread throughout the proposed project site, and was frequently observed in flight while commuting,

as well as foraging at a range of wetland features within the proposed project site and within the 10 km buffer during Irish Wetland Bird Survey surveys.

The locations of Grey Heron observations are presented in Figure A- X.

3.1.1.13 Great Cormorant

Great Cormorant was regularly recorded withing the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with a total of 553 sightings across 161 records. The species was observed hunting and resting at various wetlands and was frequently observed in flight commuting over the site, with notable concentration of records identified at Derryarkin and Drumman quarry ponds.

The highest maximum daily count of Great Cormorant within the proposed project was recorded on 28 March 2026, when 38 individuals were recorded during Wetland Bird Survey survey within the site. The national (120 individuals) and international (970 individuals) site importance thresholds for the species, as by as defined by Burke *et al.* (2025), were not reached during the winter season 2025/2026.

The locations of Great Cormorant observations are presented in Figure A- XI.

3.1.1.14 Eurasian Teal

Eurasian Teal was recorded regularly within the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with a total of 140 sightings across 24 records. Most records were made of flocks swimming and roosting withing the Drumman quarry ponds, and various other wetlands within the site. The flocks varied in size from 2 to 14 individuals. Additionally, Eurasian Teal was observed during Wetland Bird Survey surveys withing 10 km buffer at Lough Ennell.

The highest maximum daily count of Eurasian Teal within the proposed project area was recorded on 15 December 2025, when 14 individuals were seen at a wetland in south Derryarkin Bog. The national (440 individuals) and international (6,700 individuals) site importance thresholds for the species, as by as defined by Burke *et al.* (2025), were not reached during the winter season 2025/2026.

The locations of Eurasian Teal observations are presented in Figure A- XII.

3.1.1.15 Eurasian Sparrowhawk

Eurasian Sparrowhawk was recorded regularly throughout the proposed project site and the surrounding 10 km buffer, with 45 sightings, across 44 records. All observations were made of birds in flight, mostly of single individuals. However, on one occasion a displaying pair was observed at a wetland withing the 10 km buffer on 22 December 2025 during a Wetland Bird Survey – an unusual record for this time of the year. There are currently no available national wintering population estimates for Eurasian Sparrowhawk in Ireland.

The locations of Eurasian Sparrowhawk observations are presented Figure A- XIII.

3.1.2 Less frequent target species within site boundary

Various target species were recorded with the proposed project site boundary that had occasional, irregular or rare presence over the survey period is listed in the section, along with the number of sightings and number of records in brackets.

These were: Black-headed Gull; Lesser Black-backed Gull, Little Grebe; Great Crested Grebe; Common Moorhen; Common Pochard; Little Egret; Great Egret; Water Rail; Peregrine Falcon; Common Ringed Plover; Greater Black-backed Gull; Common Kingfisher; Short-eared Owl; White-tailed Eagle; Greylag Goose; Eurasian Woodcock; Western Barn Owl; and Jack Snipe

The locations of irregular or rare observations are presented in Figure A- XIV.

3.1.3 Species recorded only outside of the site boundary

Various target species were recorded during the survey period, but only outside of the proposed project site boundary, and within 10 km buffer during Wetland Bird Survey surveys.

These were: Eurasian Coot, Common Goldeneye, Eurasian Wigeon, Eurasian Curlew, Common Gull, Goosander, Gadwall, Red-crested Pochard, Scaup, Osprey

The locations of irregular or rare observations are presented in Figure A- XV.

4. CONCLUSION

In total, 46 target bird species were recorded at the proposed project site and the 10 km buffer during the 2025/2026 winter season, across all survey types. The areas within the proposed project site with the highest concentration of wintering bird activity were concentrated at various wetlands, most predominantly Derryarkin and Drumman quarry ponds. Areas of highest wintering bird activity within the proposed project site were associated with wetland habitats, most notably Derryarkin and Drumman quarry ponds. The most frequently recorded species within the site were European Golden Plover, Northern Lapwing, Mute Swan and Mallard.

Additionally, nine raptor species were recorded within the proposed project site and surrounding 10 km buffer, comprising Common Buzzard, Common Kestrel, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Hen Harrier, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, White-tailed Eagle, Short-eared Owl and Western Barn Owl.

In terms of conservation importance, wetlands within the proposed project site supported nationally and internationally important site-level numbers of Mute Swan. Furthermore, ten species listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive were recorded, namely European Golden Plover, Whooper Swan, Hen Harrier, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Little Egret, Great Egret, Common Kingfisher, White-tailed Eagle and Short-eared Owl. In addition, ten species classified as Red-listed in Ireland by Gilbert *et al.* (2021) were recorded: European Golden Plover, Northern Lapwing, Common Snipe, Common Kestrel, Common Pochard, Eurasian Woodcock, Western Barn Owl, Yellowhammer and White-tailed Eagle.

The 2025/2026 winter surveys at the Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar Farm site highlighted regular Hen Harrier activity,with two areas identified as potential roost locations: one in the north-western part of Drumman Bog, and another in the south-eastern part of Derryarkin Bog. Additionally, Hen Harrier was recorded in flight across other areas of the Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar Farm during the winter season,including Ballybeg Bog, Derryarkin Bog and Derryhinch Bog.

5. REFERENCES

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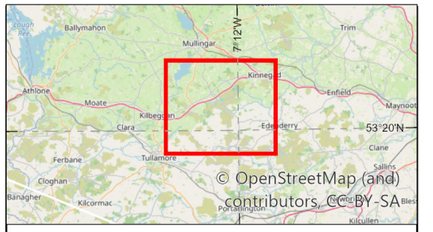
NatureScot (2025) *Recommended bird survey methods to inform impact assessment of onshore wind farms.* Scottish Natural Heritage. Available online at: https://www.nature.scot/doc/recommended-bird-survey-methods-inform-impact-assessment-onshore-windfarms [accessed April 2026]

Appendix A-I

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7°6'36"W
53°29'42"N
53°19'24"N
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Derryhinch
Drumman
Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg

Microsoft, Vantor



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A	05/05/2026	First issue	K.K	L.S

Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A-I: Mute Swan

Scale @ A3: 1:80,000

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K.Kale	L.Shinkwin	May 2026

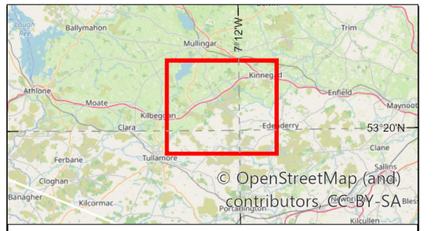
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Derryhinch
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Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A-II: Whooper Swan

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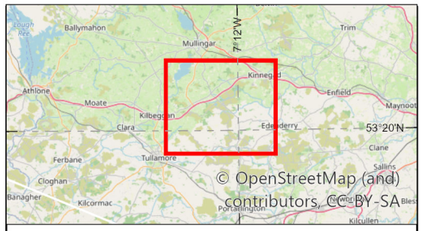
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Derryhinch
Drumman
Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg

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Title: Figure A- III: European Golden Plover

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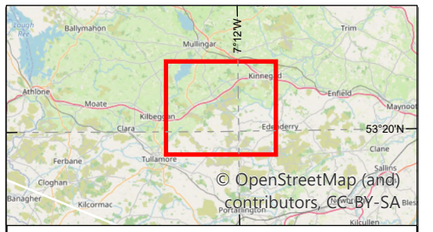
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Derryhinch
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Ballybeg

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Title: Figure A- IV: Northern Lapwing

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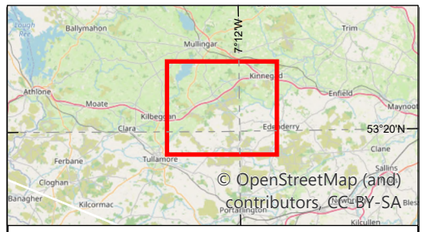
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Derryhinch
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Ballybeg

Earthstar Geographics



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Title: Figure A-V: Mallard

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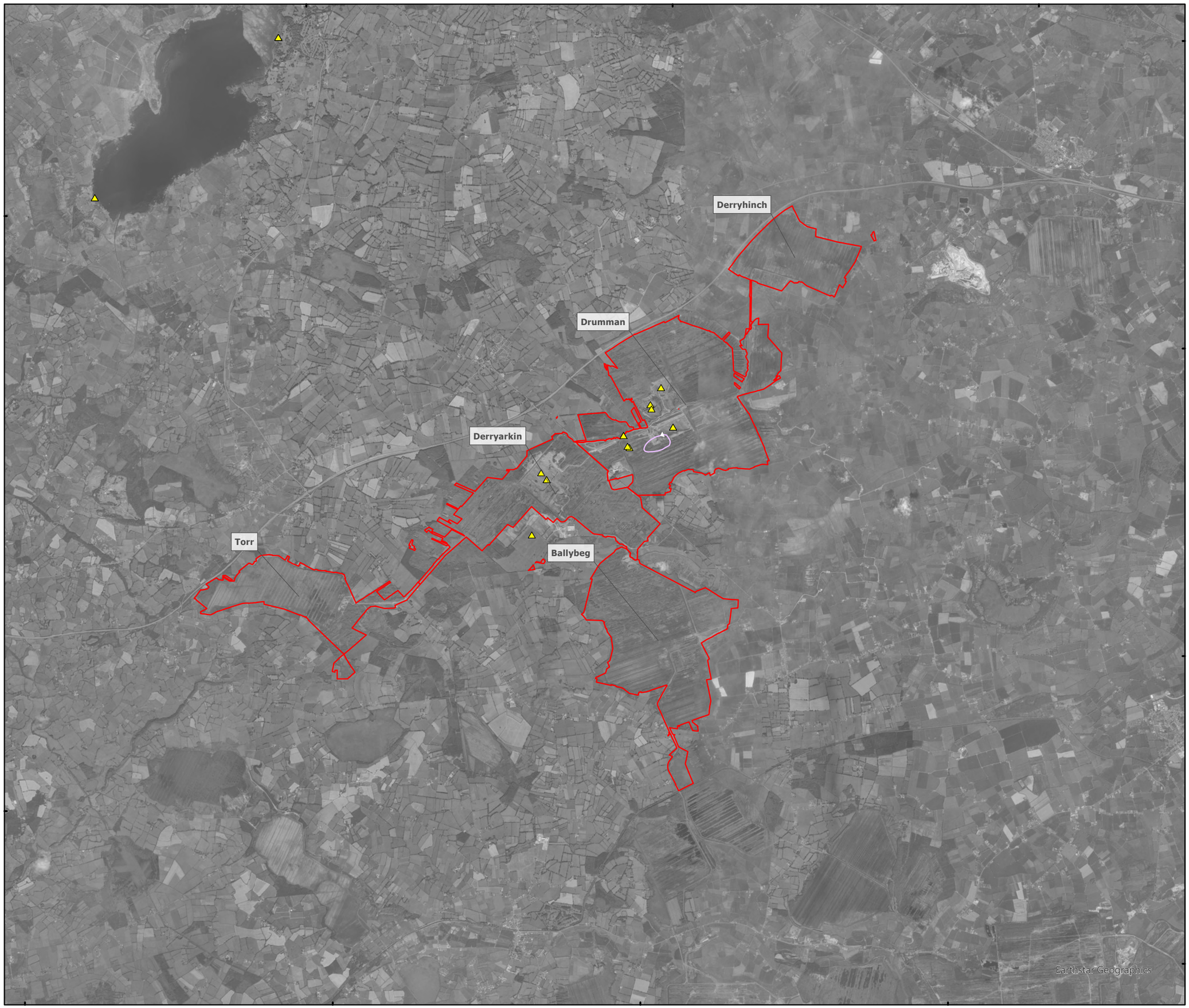
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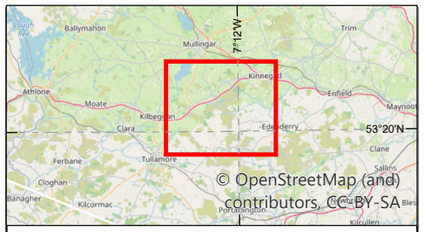
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Title: Figure A-VI: Tufted Duck

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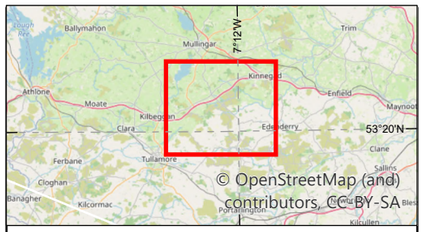
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Derryhinch
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Ballybeg
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Project:

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Title:

Figure A-VII: Common Snipe

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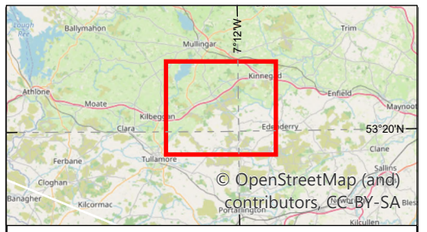
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Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg

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Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A-VIII: Common Buzzard

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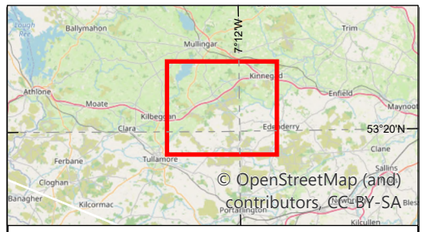
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4. ALL LEVELS RELATE TO ORDNANCE SURVEY DATUM AT MALIN HEAD

Rev	Date	Description	By	Chkd.
A	06/05/2026	First issue	K.K.	L.S

Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A-IX: Common Kestrel

Scale @ A3: 1:80,000

Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
K.Kale	L.Shinkwin	May 2026

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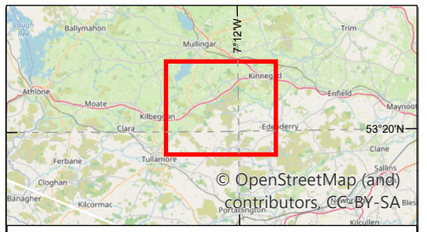
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Map Ref: 11458-077-K-S.BO-TOB-A

Draft: A

7°21'40"W
7°14'8"W
7°6'36"W
53°29'42"N
53°19'24"N
748000
741000
734000
727000
636000
643000
650000
657000

Derryhinch
Drumman
Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg



Legend

- Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar - Proposed Development
- Flightlines
- Non - Flight Observations

0 2 4
Kilometers

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4. ALL LEVELS RELATE TO ORDNANCE SURVEY DATUM AT MALIN HEAD

Rev	Date	Description	By	Chkd.
A	06/05/2026	First issue	K.K.	L.S

Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A-X: Hen Harrier

Scale @ A3:	1:80,000	
Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
K.Kale	L.Shinkwin	May 2026

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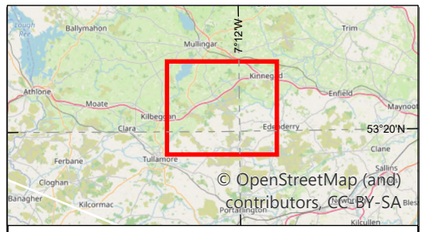
Map Ref: 11458-078-HH-S.BO-TOB-A

Draft: A

Earthstar Geographics

7°21'40"W
7°14'8"W
7°6'36"W
748000
741000
734000
727000
53°24'2"N
53°19'24"N
636000
643000
650000
657000
Microsoft, Vantor

Derryhinch
Drumman
Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg



Legend

- Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar - Proposed Development
- Flightlines
- Non - Flight Observations

0 2 4
Kilometers

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Rev	Date	Description	By	Chkd.
A	06/05/2026	First issue	K.K.	L.S

Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A-XI: Merlin

Scale @ A3: 1:80,000

Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
K.Kale	L.Shinkwin	May 2026

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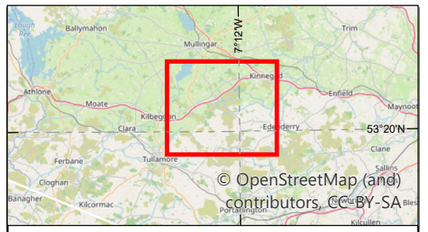
Map Ref: 11458-079-M-S.BO-TOB-A

Draft: A

7°21'40"W
7°14'8"W
7°6'36"W
53°29'42"N
53°19'24"N
748000
741000
734000
727000
636000
643000
650000
657000

Derryhinch
Drumman
Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg

Earthstar Geographics



Legend

- Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar - Proposed Development
- Flightlines
- Non - Flight Observations

0 2 4
Kilometers

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Rev	Date	Description	By	Chkd.
A	06/05/2026	First issue	K.K.	L.S

Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A-XII: Grey Heron

Scale @ A3: 1:80,000

Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
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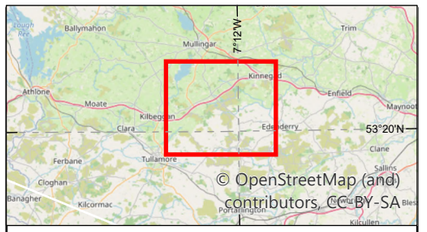
Map Ref: 11458-079-M-S.BO-TOB-A

Draft: A

7°21'40"W
7°14'8"W
7°6'36"W
53°29'42"N
53°19'24"N
748000
741000
734000
727000
636000
643000
650000
657000

Derryhinch
Drumman
Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg

Microsoft, Vantor



Legend

- Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar - Proposed Development
- Flightlines
- Non - Flight Observations

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Kilometers

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A	06/05/2026	First issue	K.K	L.S
Rev	Date	Description	By	Chkd

Client:

Bord na Móna

Project:

Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title:

Figure A-XIII: Great Cormorant

Scale @ A3:	1:80,000	
Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
K.Kale	L.Shinkwin	May 2026

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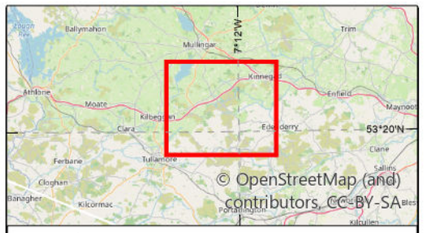
Map Ref: 11458-081-CA-S.BO-TOB-A

Draft: A

7°21'40"W
7°14'8"W
7°6'36"W
53°29'42"N
53°19'24"N
748000
741000
734000
727000
636000
643000
650000
657000

Derryhinch
Drumman
Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg

Microsoft



Legend

Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar - Proposed Development

Non - Flight Observations

Eurasian Teal

0 2 4
Kilometers

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Rev	Date	Description	By	Chkd.
A	16/07/2026	First issue	K.K	L.S

Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A-XIV: Eurasian Teal

Scale @ A3: 1:80,000

Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
K.Kale	L.Shinkwin	July 2026

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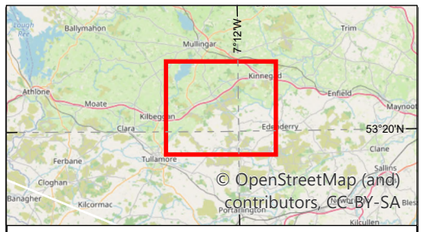
Map Ref: 11458-082-T-S.BO-TOB-A

Draft: A

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7°14'8"W
7°6'36"W
53°29'42"N
53°19'24"N
748000
741000
734000
727000
636000
643000
650000
657000

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Drumman
Derryarkin
Torr
Ballybeg

Earthstar Geographics



Legend

- Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar - Proposed Development
- Flightlines
- Non - Flight Observations

0 2 4
Kilometers

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Rev	Date	Description	By	Chkd.
A	06/05/2026	First issue	K.K.	L.S

Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A-XV: Eurasian Sparrowhawk

Scale @ A3: 1:80,000

Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
K.Kale	L.Shinkwin	May 2026

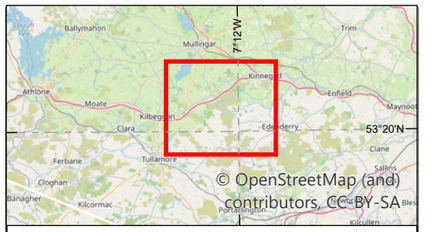
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Map Ref: 11458-083-SK-S.BO-TOB-A

Draft: A





Legend

- Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar - Proposed Development

Species

- Black-headed Gull
- Eurasian Woodcock
- Great Black-backed Gull
- Great Egret
- Greylag Goose
- Lesser Black-backed Gull
- Little Egret
- Peregrine Falcon
- White-tailed Eagle
- Common Pochard
- Common Ringed Plover
- Eurasian Woodcock
- Great Black-backed Gull
- Great Crested Grebe
- Great Egret
- Jack Snipe
- Lesser Black-backed Gull
- Little Egret
- Little Grebe
- Peregrine Falcon
- Short-eared Owl

Species

- Black-headed Gull
- Common Kingfisher
- Common Moorhen
- Water Rail
- Western Barn Owl
- White-tailed Eagle

0 2 4
Kilometers

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Rev	Date	Description	By	Chkd.
A	06/05/2026	First issue	K.K.	L.S

Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A- XVI: Occasional, irregular, or rare species within the site

Scale @ A3: 1:80,000

Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
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Map Ref: 11458-084-ICSO-S.BO-TOB-A

Draft: A

7°29'12"W 7°21'40"W 7°14'8"W 7°6'36"W 6°59'4"W

755000 748000 741000 734000 727000 720000

53°26'42"N 53°19'24"N

Derryhinch

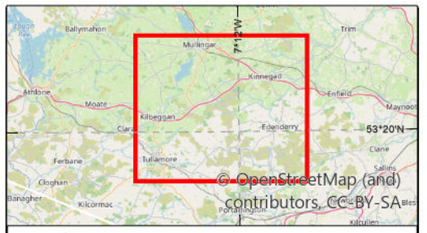
Drumman

Derryarkin

Torr

Ballybeg

629000 636000 643000 650000 657000 664000



Legend

- Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar - Proposed Development
- 10km Buffer

Non - Flight Observations selection

Species

- Common Goldeneye
- Common Gull
- Goosander
- Eurasian Coot
- Eurasian Curlew
- Eurasian Sparrowhawk
- Eurasian Teal
- Eurasian Wigeon
- Gadwall
- Osprey
- Red-crested Pochard
- Scaup

0 2 4
Kilometers

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4. ALL LEVELS RELATE TO ORDNANCE SURVEY DATUM AT MALIN HEAD

Rev	Date	Description	By	Chkd.
A	16/07/2026	First issue	K.K	L.S

Client: Bord na Móna

Project: Bord na Mona - Derrygreenagh Wind and Solar

Title: Figure A- XVII: Species recorded outside of the proposed project site and within 10 km buffer

Scale @ A3: 1:125,000

Prepared by:	Checked by:	Date:
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Map Ref: 11458-084-ICSO-S.BO-TOB-A

Draft: A



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