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## APPENDIX 6-1

### BOTANICAL STUDY

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Introduction

MKO were commissioned to undertake detailed botanical surveys to provide an evaluation and assessment of the habitats occurring within the Proposed Project footprint.

## 1.2 Survey Methods

Dedicated botanical surveys were undertaken in 2024 on the 30<sup>th</sup> July, 5<sup>th</sup> September, 17<sup>th</sup> September and 25<sup>th</sup> September, February 2025 and 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

A total of 19 relevés, within the Proposed Project footprint and in representative habitats within the Site, are set out in this report. The location of each is provided on Figure 1-1.

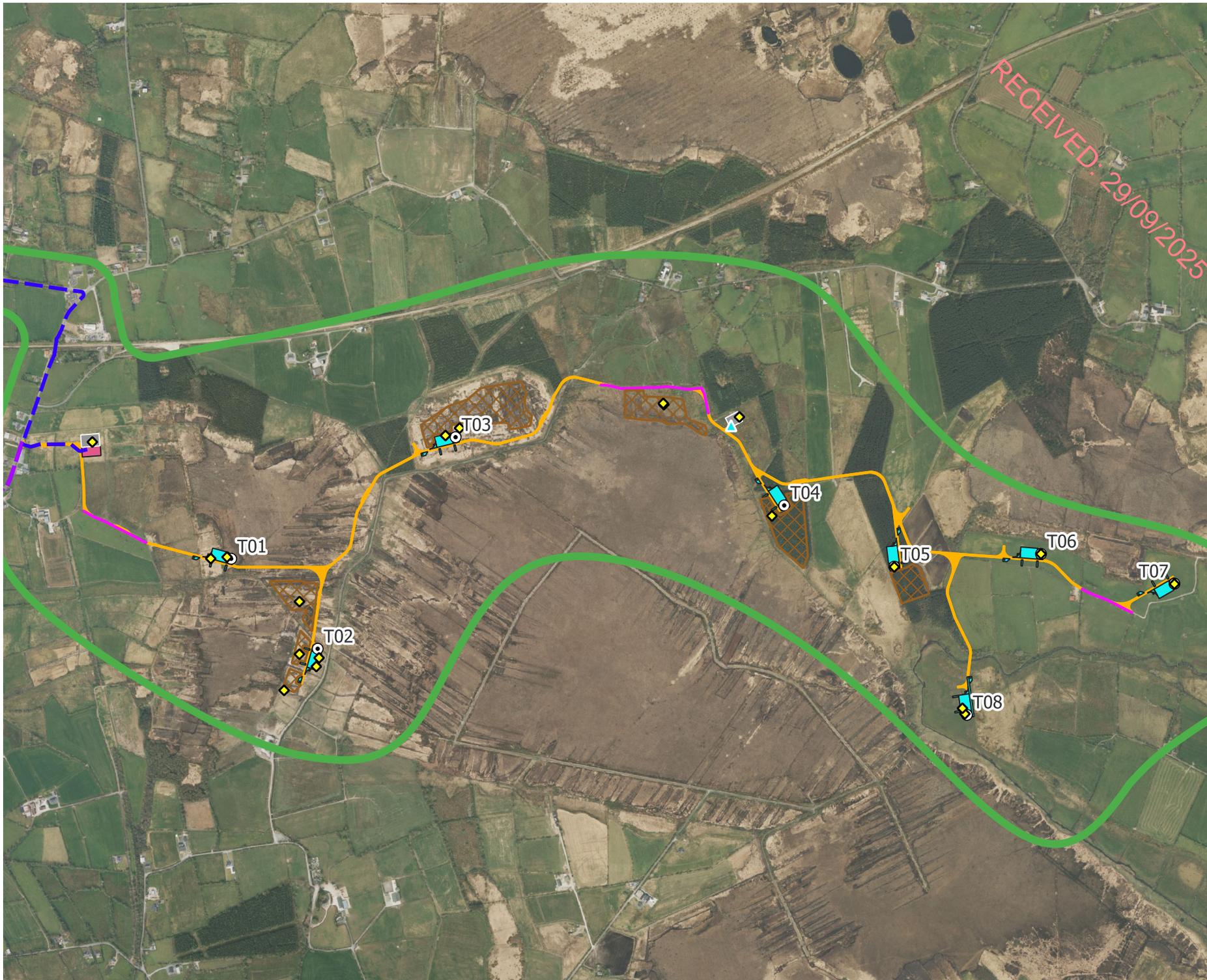
Relevés that were undertaken on cutover raised bog and associated habitats and grassland habitats were undertaken in line with the following guidance documents:

- Smith, G.F. & Crowley, W. (2020) The habitats of cutover raised bog. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 128. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Ireland.
- Martin, J.R., O'Neill, F.H. & Daly, O.H. (2018), *The monitoring and assessment of three EU Habitats Directive Annex I grassland habitats*. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 102. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Ireland.
- O'Neill, F.H., Martin, J.R., Devaney, F.M. & Perrin, P.M. (2013), *The Irish semi-natural grasslands survey 2007-2012*. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 78. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Ireland.

All species were readily identifiable during the surveys. Plant nomenclature for vascular plants follows 'New Flora of the British Isles' (Stace, 2019), while mosses and liverworts nomenclature follows 'Mosses and Liverworts of Britain and Ireland - a field guide' (British Bryological Society, 2010).

## 1.3 Statement of Authority

Field surveys were undertaken by Rachel Walsh (B.Sc., Env., MCIEEM) assisted by Cuan Feely (BSc.) and Caití Farren (BSc.). Rachel is an experienced Ecologist with over 5 years' experience in habitat surveying and ecological assessment. This report has been reviewed by John Hynes (B.Sc., M.Sc., MCIEEM). John is a highly experienced ecologist has over 15 years' professional experience in environmental management and ecological assessment.



### Map Legend

-  Relevé Locations
-  Proposed Met Mast
-  Proposed Hardstands
-  Proposed Grid Connection
-  Proposed New Roads
-  Proposed Peat and Spoil Management Areas
-  Proposed Temporary Construction Compounds
-  Proposed Turbine Foundations
-  Proposed Upgrades to Existing Roads
-  EIA Site Boundary
-  Proposed Onsite Substation
-  Proposed Turbine Delivery Route



Drawing Title

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<b>Relevé Locations</b>	
Project Title Gannow Renewable Energy Development	
Drawn By <b>RW</b>	Checked By <b>JH</b>
Project No. <b>240323</b>	Drawing No. <b>Figure 1-1</b>
Scale <b>1:16,000</b>	Date <b>19.09.25</b>



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## 2. RESULTS

### 2.1 Proposed Wind Farm Infrastructure

#### 2.1.1 Turbine T01

Turbine T01 is located on the margin of cutover bog (PB4) with a drain lined by willow (*Salix sp.*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) scrub (WS1). There is a lower area of cutover bog with secondary heath vegetation to the west. The higher bog area is dry and firm with bare peat present. Table 2-1 below provides data from a relevé taken within the higher bog area while Table 2-2 provides data from a relevé taken within the lower area to the west. The lower area is dominated by tussocky purple moor grass (*Molinia caerulea*) with willow (*Salix sp.*), birch (*Betula pubescens*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) encroachment. Drainage ditches (FW4) intersect this area. The potential for the lower area with heath vegetation to correspond with Annex I habitat was considered, however, as stated by Smith et al. (2020):

*‘Cutover bog habitats should only rarely be considered examples of dry siliceous heath (HH1) or wet heath (HH3). These habitats are defined by peat depths of less than 0.5 m (Fossitt, 2000), which seldom occur on cutover bog. Only where a habitat is underlain by shallow peat and good indicators of heath are present, such as Carex binervis, Galium saxatile and Juncus squarrosus, should heath habitats be considered for cutover bog.’*

In light of the above, given the habitat history and peat depth in this area and the plant species present, the area does not correspond with Annex I habitat.

Table 2-1 Relevé 1 results in the footprint of Turbine T01 (east)

Relevé 1 (4 x 4)	Grid reference: ITM 559992 729604	Date 25/09/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Ling heather	20
<i>Rhynchospora alba</i>	White beak sedge	15
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Common Cottongrass	15
<i>Erica tetralix</i>	Cross leaved heath	2
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple moor grass	1
<b>Non-vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Campylopus introflexus</i>		3
<i>Sphagnum tenellum</i>		0.5

Additional relevé data as per Smith et al. 2020 <sup>1</sup>	
<i>Sphagnum</i> cover	0.5
Bare peat cover	60
Average acrotelm depth	No acrotelm
Substrate firmness (firm, soft, very soft, quaking)	firm
Moisture level (wet, intermediate, dry)	dry
Soil type	Bog peat
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification	Cutover bog (PB4)
IVC (Irish Vegetation Community classification)	BG1D <i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i> - <i>Campylopus introflexus</i>
IWM 128 sub-community classification	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> -bare peat cutover bog (BP1)

Table 2-2 Relevé 2 results in the footprint of Turbine T01 (west)

Relevé 2 (4 x 4)	Grid reference: ITM 559939 729599	Date 25/09/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple moor grass	30
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Ling heather	15
<i>Myrica gale</i>	Bog myrtle	50
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	3
<i>Erica tetralix</i>	Cross leaved heath	5
<i>Salix</i> sp.	Willow sapling	0.5
<b>Non-vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Sphagnum capillifolium</i>		3
<i>Sphagnum palustre</i>		3

<sup>1</sup> Smith, G.F. & Crowley, W. (2020) The habitats of cutover raised bog. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 128. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Ireland.

Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification	Cutover bog (PB4)
IVC (Irish Vegetation Community classification)	HE4E - <i>Molinia caerulea</i> <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> - <i>Erica tetralix</i>
IWM 128 sub-community classification	<i>Molinia caerulea</i> cutover bog (LS3)
Peat depth	2 – 3m

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Plate 2-1 Cutover bog within the footprint of Turbine T01



Plate 2-2 Lower ground (cutover bog) to the west of the Turbine T01 footprint comprising secondary wet heath type vegetation

## 2.1.2 Turbine T02

Turbine T02 is located on areas of wet grassland (GS4) and willow scrub (WS1), as well as tracks and hard standing categorised as spoil and bare ground (ED2) and recolonising bare ground (ED3). The potential for these wet grasslands to correspond with Annex I Molinia Meadow habitat was considered<sup>2</sup>. However, given the dominant, tussocky nature of the purple moor grass (*Molinia caerulea*) and the dominance of scrubby species it was deemed that the grasslands do not correspond to the Annex I type.

Table 2-3 Relevé results within Turbine T02 (north grassland area)

Relevé 1	Grid reference: ITM 560292 729278	Date 30/07/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple moor grass	50
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet	5
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	7

<sup>2</sup> Martin, J.R., O'Neill, F.H. & Daly, O.H. (2018), *The monitoring and assessment of three EU Habitats Directive Annex I grassland habitats. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 102. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Ireland.*

<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge bindweed	8
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False oat grass	10
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted hair grass	5
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous sedge	2
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Knapweed	5
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	Marsh pennywort	2
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Angelica	1
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain	1
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling	2
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Wet grassland (GS4)
IVC community		GL1D <i>Molinia caerulea</i> - <i>Potentilla erecta</i> - <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> (Transitional)

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Table 24 Relevé within footprint of Turbine T02 (south grassland area)

Relevé 2	Grid reference: ITM 560283 729250	Date 30/07/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple moor grass	70
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Devils Bit Scabious	25
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	15
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple loosestrife	5
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet	5
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	5
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge bindweed	5
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False oat grass	15
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water mint	0.5
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous sedge	2

<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Knapweed	20
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling	0.5
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Wet grassland (GS4)
IVC community		GL1D <i>Molinia caerulea</i> - <i>Potentilla erecta</i> - <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>

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Plate 2-3 Southern wet grassland area in the footprint of Turbine T02



Plate 2-4 Recolonising bare ground (ED3) in the footprint of Turbine T02

### 2.1.2.1 Peat and Spoil Management Areas by Turbine T02

There are three peat and spoil management areas west of Turbine T02; one area is directly west of the turbine, while the other two areas are northwest and southwest of the turbine.

The peat and spoil management area which is southwest of Turbine T02, is a mosaic habitat of wet grassland and recolonising bare ground habitat, dominated by Yorkshire fog and Hard rush (Table 2-5, Plate 2-5). The peat and spoil management area which is directly west of Turbine T02 is a mosaic habitat of wet grassland and spoil and bare ground which is dominant in Yorkshire fog. A gravel lane runs directly through this area (Table 2-6, Plate 2-6). The grassland areas do not correspond with Annex I Molinia Meadow habitat given their species composition.

The peat and spoil management area which is northwest of Turbine T02 comprises cutover bog (PB4), with a slow flowing drain running through the centre. There are also some smaller areas of willow and gorse scrub within this management area (Table 2-7, Plate 2-7). This area comprises degraded, dry cutover bog and does not correspond with Annex I habitat.

Table 2-5 Relevé results at the Peat and Spoil Management Area Southwest of Turbine T02

Relevé 1 (2 x 2)	Grid reference: ITM 560178 729173	Date: 12/02/2025
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog	63

<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	Hard Rush	42
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple Moor Grass	18
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed canary grass	18
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Ling heather	3
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	3
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Devils Bit Scabious	3
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	3
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Wet Grassland (GS4)
IVC community		GL1D <i>Molinia caerulea</i> – <i>Potentilla erecta</i> – <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> grassland

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Plate 2-5 Wet grassland habitat within the footprint of the Peat and Spoil Management Area Southwest of Turbine T02

Table 2-6 Relevé results at the Peat and Spoil Management Area west of Turbine T02

Relevé 1 (2 x 2)	Grid reference: ITM 560228 729290	Date: 12/02/2025
Species	Common Name	% Cover
Vascular Plants		
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	83
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping bent	18
<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	Hard rush	18
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	18
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Bitter dock	18
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		
		Wet grassland (GS4)/ Spoil and bare ground (ED2)
IVC community		
		GL2C <i>Holcus lanatus</i> – <i>Lolium perenne</i> grassland

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Plate 2-6 Mosaic of Wet grassland and Spoil and bare ground habitat within the footprint of the Peat and Spoil Management Area West of Turbine T02

Table 2-7 Relevé results at the Peat and Spoil Area north west of Turbine T02

Relevé 1 (2 x 2)	Grid reference: ITM 560228 729460	Date: 12/02/2025
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Ling heather	60
<i>Carex panicea</i>	Carnation sedge	18
<i>Erica tetralix</i>	Cross-leaved heath	18
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple moor grass	80
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Devils bit scabious	8
<i>Trichophorum cespitosum</i>	Deergrass	18
<b>Non-Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Hypnum jutlandicum</i>		8
<i>Sphagnum cuspidatum</i>		18
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification	Cutover bog (PB4)	
IVC community	HEAD- <i>Molinia caerulea</i> – <i>Potentilla erecta</i> – <i>Erica tetralix</i> heath	

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Plate 2-7 Cutover bog habitat regenerating with predominantly purple moor grass within the Peat and Spoil Management area northwest of Turbine T02

### 2.1.3 Turbine T03 and Associated Peat Management Area

Turbine T03 and the associated peat management area is located on an area of cutover bog (PB4) that is separated from the main bog area by a vehicular access road and forestry. The habitat consists of a dry, high bog area dominated by ling heather and lower cutover areas dominated by tussocky purple moor grass. The bog has a flat topography and is intersected by drains. Patches of willow, gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and birch scrub are present. The bog habitats have been classified according to Smith et al (2020) as *Calluna vulgaris-Sphagnum subnitens* cutover bog (MS1) on high bog areas and as *Molinia caerulea* cutover bog (LS3) on low bog areas/margins. The NPWS Article 17 Reporting for 2019 has been published and states:

*'In an Irish context, ARB (which is currently defined as occurring only on the high bog) encompasses active peat --forming ecotopes (central and sub--central) as defined by Kelly (1993) and Kelly & Schouten (2002), and actively peat --forming flushes.'*

In addition, the definition of Degraded Raised Bog has also been changed in the 2019 Article 17 Reporting. Whilst previously (from the 2013 Reporting), the habitat previously pertained to all vegetated areas of uncut Raised Bog that did not meet the criteria to be classified as Active Raised Bog, it is now recognised that the extent is much narrower and dependant on specific hydrological conditions. This habitat still does not occur on cutover bog in the Irish context and is more limited in its extent on uncut bogs. According to Smith et al. (2020), an area of cutover bog must have *Sphagnum* cover of more than 40%, in addition to other criteria, to qualify as Active Raised Bog. As this is the threshold used for the High *Sphagnum* habitat group, it follows that an area of cutover should fall into the HS1, HS2 or HS3 habitat types to qualify as active raised bog. These habitats do not occur on the cutover habitats upon which the Proposed Wind Farm is located.

Table 2-8 Relevé results within the footprint of Turbine T03

Relevé 1 (4 x 4)	Grid reference: ITM 560704 729997	Date 25/09/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Ling heather	20
<i>Trichophorum germanicum</i>	Deergrass	20
<i>Eriophorum vaginatum</i>	Hare's Tail Cottongrass	5
<i>Erica tetralix</i>	Cross leaved heath	8
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple moor grass	15
<b>Non-vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Sphagnum capillifolium</i>		15
<i>Cladonia sp.</i>		15
<i>Sphagnum tenellum</i>		5
<i>Hypnum jutlandicum</i>		5
<b>Additional relevé data as per Smith et al. 2020<sup>1</sup></b>		
<i>Sphagnum</i> cover		20
Bare peat cover		20
Average acrotelm depth		15cm
Substrate firmness (firm, soft, very soft, quaking)		firm
Moisture level (wet, intermediate, dry)		Very dry
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Cutover bog (PB4)
IVC (Irish Vegetation Community classification)		HE4A <i>Molinia caerulea</i> - <i>Trichophorum</i> <i>cespitosum/germanicum</i>
IWM 128 sub-community classification		<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> - <i>Sphagnum</i> <i>subnitens</i> cutover bog (MS1)

Table 2-9 Relevé in the vicinity of Turbine T03 on the low bog

Relevé 1 (4 x 4)	Grid reference: ITM 560750 730021	Date 04/09/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple moor grass	90
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	12
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Ling heather	5
<b>Non-vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Hylocomium splendens</i>		1
<b>Additional relevé data as per Smith et al. 2020<sup>1</sup></b>		
<i>Sphagnum</i> cover		0
Bare peat cover		0
Average acrotelm depth		NA
Substrate firmness (firm, soft, very soft, quaking)		firm
Moisture level (wet, intermediate, dry)		dry
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Cutover bog (PB4)
IVC (Irish Vegetation Community classification)		HEAD <i>Molinia caerulea</i> - <i>Potentilla erecta</i> - <i>Erica tetralix</i> heath
IWM 128 sub-community classification		<i>Molinia caerulea</i> cutover bog (LS3)

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*Plate 2-8 Revegetated cutover bog (PB4) in the footprint of Turbine T03*



*Plate 2-9 Revegetated cutover bog (PB4) in the footprint of Turbine T03*

2.1.4

## Turbine T04 and Associated Peat and Spoil Management Area

Turbine T04 is located within mature conifer forestry (WD4). The proposed peat and spoil management area for Turbine T04 is located adjacent to the turbine within the same forestry block. The forestry within this area is uniform in habitat. A drain runs along the western boundary of the forestry block.

Table 2-10 Relevé results at Turbine T04

Relevé 1 (10 x 10)	Grid reference: ITM 561768 729737	Date 30/07/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Canopy</b>		
<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Sitka spruce	90
<b>Ground layer</b>		
Needle litter		100
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Conifer forestry (WD4)



Plate 2-10 Mature, species-poor conifer forestry (WD4) in the footprint of Turbine T04.

2.1.5

## Turbine T05 and Associated Peat and Spoil Management Area

Turbine T05 is located within mature sitka spruce forestry (WD4). The proposed Peat and Spoil Management area for Turbine T05 is also located within this habitat, adjacent to the turbine.

Table 2-11 Relevé results at Turbine T05

Relevé 1 (10 x 10)	Grid reference: ITM 562167 729572	Date 25/09/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Canopy</b>		
<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Sitka spruce	90
<b>Ground layer</b>		
Needle litter		90
<i>Thuidium tamarascinum</i>	Tamarisk moss	10
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		
		Conifer plantation (WD4)



Plate 2-11 Mature, species-poor conifer forestry (WD4) in the footprint of Turbine T05

## 2.1.6 Turbine T06

Turbine T06 is located within Improved Agricultural Grassland (GA1) surrounded by tree lines along the north and east, a small oak-ash-hazel woodland to the west, and a scattered hawthorn hedgerow with a drainage ditch along the southern boundary.

Table 2-12 Relevé results at Turbine T06

Relevé 1 (2 x 2)	Grid reference: ITM 562645 729614	Date 30/07/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye Grass	80
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	5
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover	2
Bare soil		13
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Improved Agricultural Grassland (GA1)
IVC community		GL2C - <i>Holcus lanatus</i> - <i>Lolium perenne</i>

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Plate 2-12 Improved agricultural grassland (GA1) in the footprint of Turbine T06

## 2.1.7 Turbine T07

Turbine T07 is located within improved agricultural grassland (GA1) bordered by treelines to the north and west, and by a farm track to the east and south.

Table 2-13 Relevé results for Turbine T07

Relevé 1 (2 x 2)	Grid reference: ITM 563080 729517	Date 30/07/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye Grass	80
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	10
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover	10
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Improved Agricultural Grassland (GA1)
IVC community		GL2C - <i>Holcus lanatus</i> - <i>Lolium perenne</i>



Plate 2-13 Habitat at Turbine T07 location.

## 2.1.8 Turbine T08

Turbine T08 is located within a field categorised as transitional between wet grassland (GS4) and marsh (GM1). The field is bordered to the north, west and south by the Raford River. The field is dominated by creeping bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*) and bladder sedge (*Carex vesicaria*), with patches of reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinaceae*) and a number of broadleaved wetland species. The field has a flat topography with the east and north sloping up from the field and was wet underfoot at the time of survey. There was a noticeable absence of bryophytes during surveys of the field.

Table 2-14 Relevé no. 1 results within the footprint of Turbine T08

Relevé 1 (2 x 2)	ITM 562397 729097	Date 05/09/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping bent	70
<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>	Forget-me-not	20
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	Bogbean	10
<i>Carex vesicaria</i>	Bladder sedge	15
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Hoary willowherb	7
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water mint	5

<i>Galium palustre</i>	Marsh bedstraw	5
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	2
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	1
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple loosestrife	1
<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	Horsetail	1
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Wet grassland (GS4) – Marsh (GM1)
IVC community		GL2A - <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> - <i>Ranunculus repens</i>

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Table 2-15 Relevé no. 2 results within the footprint of Turbine T08

Relevé 2 (2 x 2)	ITM 562389 729115	Date 05/09/2024
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping bent	40
<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>	Forget-me-not	5
<i>Carex vesicaria</i>	Bladder sedge	20
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Hoary willowherb	15
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water mint	5
<i>Galium palustre</i>	Marsh bedstraw	3
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	1
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple loosestrife	5
<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	Horsetail	3
<i>Phalaris arundinaceae</i>	Reed canary grass	3
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	Marsh pennywort	0.5
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft rush	1
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Wet grassland (GS4) – Marsh (GM1)

IVC community	GL2A - <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> - <i>Ranunculus repens</i>
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Plate 2-14 Habitat within the footprint of Turbine T08

2.1.9

## Proposed Temporary Construction Compound (East) and Met Mast

The proposed temporary construction compound and meteorological mast (met mast) in the east of the site, north of T04, is located within a wet grassland (GS4) pasture dominated by soft rush with patches of gorse. Devils bit scabious is also scattered throughout areas to the south of the compound area. The field is bordered to the north, east and south by drains and mature conifer forestry and to the west by scrub, a drainage ditch and bog. The proposed met mast is located within the footprint of the temporary construction compound.

Table 2-16 Relevé in the footprint of the temporary construction compound and proposed met mast

Relevé 1 (2x2)	Grid reference: ITM 561662 730057	Date 12/02/2025
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft rush	40
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	4
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup	30

<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle	2
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog	30
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Bitter dock	6
<i>Cirsium dissectum</i>	Meadow thistle	4
<i>Plantago major</i>	Broadleaved plantain	5
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Wet grassland (GS4)
IVC community		GL2D - <i>Juncus effusus</i> - <i>Rumex acetosa</i>

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Plate 2-15 Soft rush-dominated wet grassland within the footprint of the temporary construction compound

2.1.10

## Peat Management Area east of Turbine T03

The Peat Management Area east of T03 is located on cutover bog, with a farm track to the north. Drier sections of the area contain a grassland species composition as shown in the tables below. Multiple interconnected drainage ditches flow through this management area.

Table 2-17 Relevé results at Peat Management Area east of Turbine T03

Relevé 1 (2 x 2)	Grid reference: ITM 561416 730097	Date: 12/02/2025
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple moor grass	75
<i>Erica tetralix</i>	Cross-leaved heath	10
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Ling Heather	50
<i>Carex nigra</i>	Common Sedge	10
<b>Non-Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Sphagnum cuspidatum</i>	N/A	25
<i>Hypnum jutlandicum</i>	Heath plait moss	10
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		Cutover bog (PB4)
IVC community		HE4E - <i>Molinia caerulea</i> - <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> - <i>Erica tetralix</i>

Table 2-18 Relevé results at Peat Management Area east of Turbine T03

Relevé 1 (2 x 2)	Grid reference: ITM 561414 730101	Date: 12/02/2025
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	25
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog	75
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft rush	70
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red fescue	25
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	10

<i>Montia fontana</i>	Water-blinks	10
<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	Brookweed	6
Non-Vascular Plants		
<i>Calliergonella cuspidata</i>		10
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification	Wet Grassland (GS4)	
IVC community	GL2D - <i>Juncus effusus</i> - <i>Rumex acetosa</i>	

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Plate 2-16 Cutover bog within the Peat Management Area east of Turbine T03

2.2

## Proposed Onsite 38kV Substation and Temporary Construction Compound

The proposed onsite 38kV substation and adjacent temporary construction compound is located within wet grassland (GS4) dominated by high growing meadowsweet and soft rush. Other wet grasslands adjacent to this field within which access roads are proposed are improved and dominated by soft rush.

A description of the habitats found within the Proposed Wind Farm site is provided in Section 6.4.1 of Chapter 6 of the EIAR.

Table 2-19 Relevé within footprint of proposed onsite 38kV substation and construction compound

Relevé 1 (2x2)	Grid reference: ITM 559553 729976	Date 10/09/2025
Species	Common Name	% Cover
<b>Vascular Plants</b>		
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog	60
<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	Hard rush	20
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft rush	15
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup	12
<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	Jointed rush	2
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet	4
<b>Non-vascular plants</b>		
<i>Calliergonella cuspidata</i>		10
Fossitt (2000) Habitat Classification		
		Wet grassland (GS4)
IVC community		
		GL2B <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> – <i>Ranunculus repens</i>



*Plate 2-17 Wet grassland in the footprint of the proposed onsite 38kV substation footprint*

3.

## CONCLUSION

A description of relevés undertaken within and adjacent to the footprint of the Proposed Project has been provided within this report. An assessment of the potential Annex I status of habitats within the Proposed Project footprint has also been undertaken and presented. The project footprint is dominated by commercial forestry (WD4), cutover bog (PB4), improved agricultural grassland (GA1) and wet grassland (GS4, GS4-GM1). No Annex I habitats occur within the footprint of the Proposed Project.

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