FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

CLARE LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2024-2029

Natura Impact Report

Prepared for:

Clare County Council

COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR
CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

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Natura Impact Report for the Clare Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

REVISION CONTROL TABLE, CLIENT, KEYWORDS AND ABSTRACT

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Abstract: Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this Natura Impact Report for the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This Natura Impact Report (NIR) was prepared in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Clare Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 (LACAP) in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the "Habitats Directive").

This report is part of the AA process that was undertaken alongside the preparation of the LACAP.

1.2 Post Draft Plan Consultation Revisions

This document is the final NIR produced on adoption of the LACAP. An earlier draft version of this report has been updated having regard to the consultation submissions made during the Draft Plan consultation period, recommendations made in the Chief Executive (CE) Report on consultation submissions, and the revisions made to the original draft version of the LACAP that was put on display for consultation. The updates made to the report were clerical or minor and non-material in nature and have not changed the parameters of the environmental/ecological assessment undertaken or the environmental mitigation defined.

The Plan revisions arising from the consultation process, the CE Report, and the post consultation plan-making process were screened for AA. The AA Screening Report for the post consultation Plan revisions are presented in Appendix 3. The Plan revisions were determined to be non-material and did not introduce any additional environmental/ecological effects not previously considered and mitigated during the SEA and AA processes.

An AA Conclusion Statement will now be prepared on how the AA process shaped the content of the final plan.

1.3 Legislative Context

The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the "favourable conservation status" of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as European sites which form the Natura 2000 Network.

AA is required by the Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act (as amended). AA is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European site. These sites consist of SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.

1.4 Approach

The AA is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and grey literature[1] was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives (including spatial data collected for the most recent Article 17 conservation status reporting cycle, 2019).

In addition to being informed by these reports, the NIR was also informed by the Council's County Development Plan and associated SEA Environmental Report and AA Natura Impact Report.

All of these data sources are likely to be useful for AAs that must be undertaken for lower-tier plans/projects under the Plan.

The ecological desktop study completed for the AA of the LACAP comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites within 15km of the LACAP boundary with identification of potential pathways links for specific sites (if relevant) greater than 15km from the LACAP boundary;
- Review of the NPWS site synopsis and conservation objectives for European sites with identification of potential pathways from the LACAP area; and
- Examination of available information on protected species.

There are four main stages in the AA process as follow:

Stage One: Screening

The process that identifies the likely impacts upon a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is proposed to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage Three.

Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions

The process that examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site.

[1] Various documents where publishing, in journals for example, is not the primary activity of the producing body. Examples include: conference presentations; regulatory data; unpublished trial data; government publications; and dissertations/theses.

Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain

An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

The Habitats Directive promotes a hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation and compensatory measures. This approach aims to avoid any effects on European sites by identifying possible effects early in the plan-making process and avoiding such effects. Second, the approach involves the application of mitigation measures, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse effects on the site(s) remain. If potential effects on European sites remain, the approach requires the consideration of alternative solutions. If no alternative solutions are identified and the plan/project is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, then compensation measures are required for any remaining adverse effect(s).

The assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor model[2], where, in order for an effect to be established all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the model is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features that are known to be utilised by the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the LACAP provision that is known to interact with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor. This report provides information on whether direct, indirect and cumulative adverse effects could arise from the LACAP.

The NIR exercise has been prepared taking into account legislation including the aforementioned legislation and guidance including the following:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009;
- "Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission 2018;
- "Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission Environment DG, 2002; and
- "Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission, 2000; and
- Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management; OPR Practice Note PN01; Office of the Public Regulator, 2021.

[2] Source(s) – e.g., pollutant run-off from proposed works; Pathway(s) – e.g., groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites

The scope of the AA was informed by the submissions received on the scope of the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment[3] (SEA) process being undertaken on the LACAP, including a submission from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht that provided various information and suggestions relevant to the AA.

[3] Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt it.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2.1 Overview

The Clare LACAP 2024-2029 was prepared in the past few months. The Plan provides a five-year framework to:

- Actively translate national climate policy to local circumstances with the prioritisation and acceleration of evidence-based measures,
- Assist in the delivery of the climate neutrality objective at local and community levels,
- Identify and deliver a Decarbonising Zone (DZ) within the local authority area to act as a test bed for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures in a specifically defined area. This will be done through the identification of projects and outcomes that will assist in the delivery of the National Climate Objective[4].

The preparation of the LACAP will be informed by a process of public participation and consultation. The LACAP represents an important policy document that will form the foundations to support and facilitate coordinated climate action, which is focused on local, area specific issues.

LACAPs have an inward and outward focus. Climate action in the plan should be defined by local authorities for their own organization which they have full control over (i.e., the inward focus), and for communities in their functional area, which they exert a strong influence over in partnership with relevant stakeholders (i.e., the outward focus).

The Plan will be set within the context of the strategic framework of and be guided by the most recent approved national long term climate action strategy and sectoral adaptation plans as well as the County Development Plan.

Figure 2-1 illustrates the functional area and boundary of Clare County Council.

2.2 Context

Climate change refers to the long-term changes in the earth's weather patterns or average temperatures. In Ireland this is demonstrated by rising sea levels, extreme weather events and changes in the eco-system. Extensive research and a significant body of evidence has shown a correlation between the increasing global average temperature and the increasing quantity of GHG released into the atmosphere, particularly from anthropogenic sources.

Changes in weather patterns and climate can have significant adverse impacts on the environment and human beings. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published the Climate Change 2022: *Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability in 2022*. Included in this report is an outline of observed impacts of climate change on the environment and human beings. These include impacts from inland flooding, damages to infrastructure, impacts from infectious disease, displacement, animal and livestock health and productivity, mental health and water scarcity derived from climate change.

[4] This is known as the National 2050 Climate Objective which establishes the national objective of achieving a competitive, low-carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050.

The seriousness of the potential impacts and risks associated with climate change is reflected in the vast quantity of international, European and national legislation that has been introduced to mitigate those impacts and risks.

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 provides a statutory underpinning to climate action in Ireland. It specifies the requirement to develop a national Climate Action Plan (CAP) (and update it every year), a National Adaptation Framework (NAF), a National Long Term Climate Action Strategy and Sectoral Adaptation Plans (SAPs). It also specifies a series of carbon budgets and the associated sectoral emission ceilings. It sets out actions that must be taken to ensure delivery of commitments and a target to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 51% by 2030 and to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2050.

Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 defines the requirement for Local Authorities to prepare individual LACAPs for their functional area. The purpose of LACAPs will be to deliver effective climate action and mitigation at local authority and community levels. Local Authority County Development Plans must also be aligned with their LACAP.

The LACAPs are statutory plans that must be subject to SEA under the SEA Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC) to determine their effect on the environment, and AA under Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) to determine if their implementation is likely to have significant effects on any Natura 2000 sites.

Legend

Local Authority Boundaries

Local Authority Boundary

CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	2.1		
CLIENT:	CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL		
DATE:	26/07/2023	**SCALE:**	1:412,500 @ A3

N W E S

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2.3 Clare County Council's Role with regard to Climate Action and the LACAP

Local authorities are key drivers in advancing climate policy at the local level. The LACAP will help Clare County Council to address, in an integrated way, the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change adaptation and strengthen the alignment between national climate policy and the delivery of effective local climate action.

Clare County Council is free to determine their own approach to the style and structure of their climate action plan but must demonstrate alignment with the key principles of the national Climate Action Plan and subject to compliance with all relevant guidelines ensuring that the local plan is ambitious, action-focused, evidence-based, participative and transparent.

2.4 Purpose and Scope of the LACAP 2024-2029

2.4.1 Need for the Plan

The Clare Local Authority Climate Action Plan (2024-2029) will consider specific adaptation and mitigation measures across key themes including Governance and Leadership, Built Environment, Transport, Natural Environment, Communities and Partnership, and Natural Environment.

2.4.2 Overview of the LACAP

The indicative Vision for Clare County Council is:

> *"Clare is a national leader in Climate Action supporting a sustainable low carbon economy and climate resilient, biodiverse communities and businesses"*

The indicative Mission for Clare County Council is:

> *"Deliver and enable climate action for a just transition to a low carbon and climate resilient future within County Clare which results in sustainable growth, a high quality of life, inclusivity, and service accessibility."*

The overall objectives of the LACAP are:

- Based on the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, Clare County Council has a target to reduce its own greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030, on a 2018 baseline.
- Clare County Council has a 50% energy efficiency target to meet by 2030, in respect of a 2009 baseline.

2.4.2.1 *Evidence Base: County GHG Emissions and Climate Risk*

An assessment of County Clare's emission sources has been undertaken, which provides a basis against which targeted actions and measures can be identified and monitored. In 2018, the baseline year, GHG emissions within the Clare County Council area were approximately 1,965 kilotonnes CO_2equivalent. The emissions are primarily broken down across three sectors: agriculture (44%), transport (20%) and residential (16%). Commercial and industrial, industrial processes, Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) and waste/wastewater account for the remaining 19% of total GHG emissions.

A Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) was also undertaken to develop an understanding of the risks posed by climate change for County Clare. The CCRA provides a qualitative assessment of climate risk for Clare County Council. A qualitative risk assessment provides the evidence base to identify potential climate risks for the administrative area of Clare County Council and for the delivery of services by Clare County Council. Ten climate hazards were identified in the assessment:

- Heatwaves
- Droughts
- Cold Spell
- Heavy Snowfall
- Severe Windstorms
- Pluvial Flooding
- River Flooding
- Coastal Flooding
- Coastal Erosion
- Groundwater Flooding

2.4.2.2 *LACAP Geographic Area*

The LACAP area covers Clare County Council's entire boundary, and all actions are set to be completed within the boundary. Where actions require collaborative efforts with neighbouring County Councils, these will be considered; however, these are thought to be captured within the LACAP (and SEA/AA processes) for each of the neighbouring County Councils.

The geographic scope of the LACAP, therefore, is the County Council boundary, and the SEA study area extends to 15km beyond this to consider wider reaching environmental impacts as can be seen in Figure 2-2.

2.4.2.3 *Decarbonisation Zone*

Kilkee/Loop Head peninsula has been designated as the DZ for Clare County Council. The boundary for the DZ is shown in Figure 2-2. Possible actions for the DZ include:

- Feasibility study for development of an anaerobic digestor in the DZ.
- The possibility of biochar from hemp growing could be mixed with digestate, a by-product of anaerobic digestion process, and then utilised as a fertiliser and reduce run-offs into water bodies.
- Create greenways such as biodiversity trails in the DZ. Could tie in with the possibility of rewetting peatlands and other biodiversity and ecosystem conservation measures in the DZ.

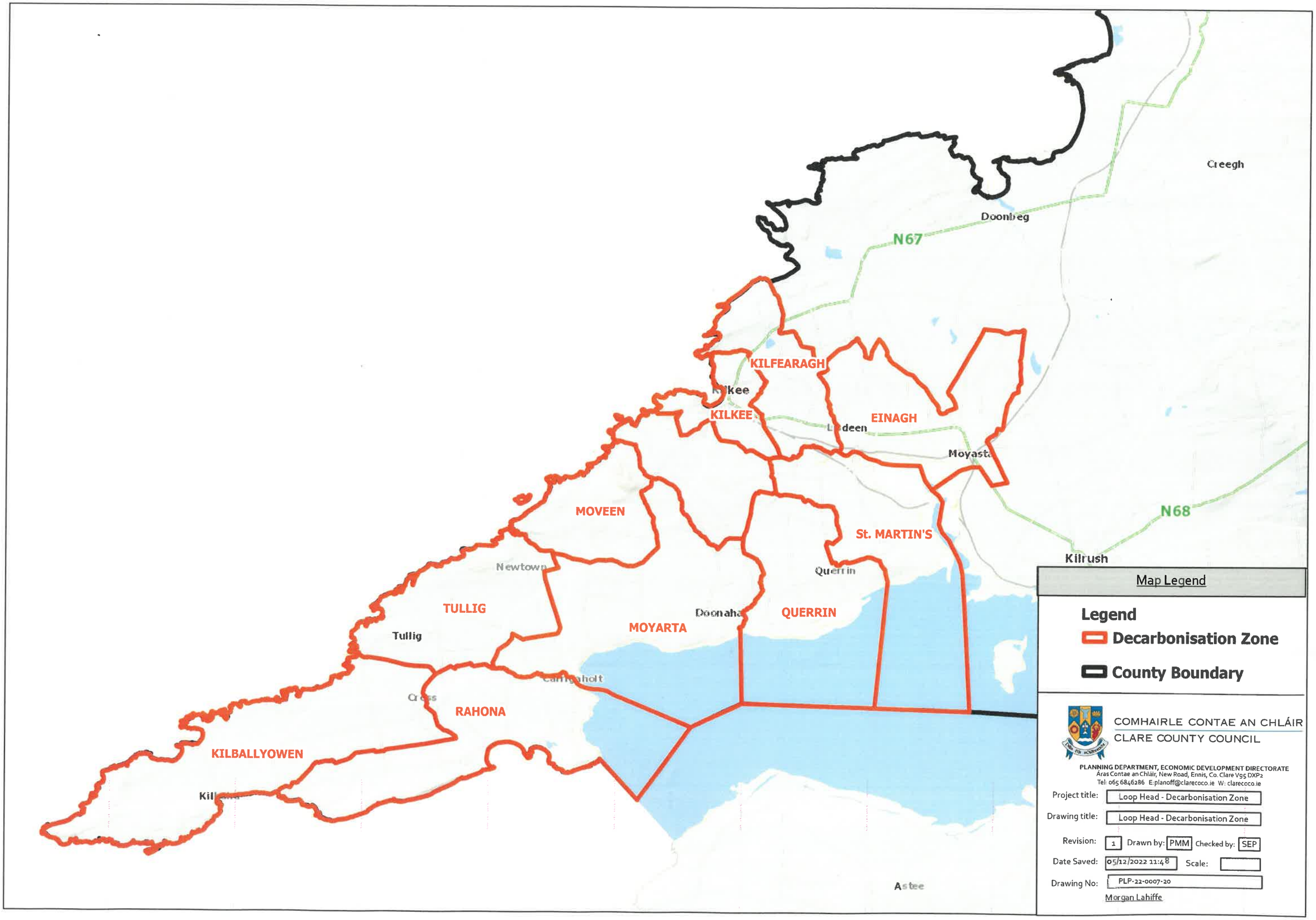
- Creation and/or expansion of Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) groups in the DZ. The Loop Head Together group is open to setting up their own SEC, expansion of the existing Kilkee SEC is also possible.
- Feasibility of renewable energy generation in the DZ through microgeneration by local communities. Possibility to create a solar farm in DZ, possible issues about existing electricity grid infrastructure.
- Opportunity for retrofitting private housing in the DZ. Clare County Council aim to retrofit some social housing units in DZ and undertake data analysis of energy consumption before and after retrofitting took place to show cost benefit, comfort benefit and the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
- Promotion of the Vacant Homes Grant Scheme and promote existing SEAI grants to bring vacant homes I the DZ back into use to tackle rural depopulation.
- Working with communities to improve water quality of rivers in the DZ. Opportunity to work with Local Authority Water Programme (LAWPRO) and consenting landowners towards a project to improve water quality locally.
- Installation of more EV charging points in the DZ. Possibility of community group or GAA club looking to install an EV charger through different funds. Clare County Council has a pilot project aimed at Kilkee.
- Promote “farm to fork” initiatives to see more food products produced being sold and consumed within the DZ. Possibility to start a social enterprise with such a goal in mind. Creation of allotments for community to grow their own fruits/vegetables can tie in with the “farm to fork” initiative too.
- Active travel infrastructure such as footpaths could be expanded in DZ, could be limited as DZ has a low population density. Possibility to create corridors for a cycle path connecting some areas of the DZ.
- Identification of roads in the DZ that are possibly at risk from future coastal erosion and coastal flooding.
- Establish greater connectivity by public transport to and from the DZ, tourism is a significant contributor to the DZ economy so increased frequency of public transport services could increase numbers of ‘day-tripper’ tourists to Loop Head.

2.4.3 Themes and Strategic Goals

Theme	Description & Objectives	Strategic Goals
Governance & Leadership	To show leadership in reducing climate change drivers by achieving a 51% energy efficiency improvement in our own energy use by 2029	Commitment to: • CA Resources • LA Supporting governance • Budget(s), alignment to & sourcing funding • Alignment with higher order national climate policy • CA Training for staff/ Ems • Promoting/ nurturing interdepartmental co-operation • Ambition/Vision/Innovation • Communications Campaign/ promoting action from LACAP • Sustained implementation -devising & implementing reporting mechanism (internal & external) • Organisational preparedness, planning & resilience (adaptation) • Leading by example (own work) • Alignment with SDGs
Built Environment	To pursue climate actions to: 1. Increase climate resilience of the built environment and transport and 2. To work towards GHG emission reductions in line with national targets	• Promotion of energy efficiency in buildings • Onsite renewables • Promotion of compact development • Urban regeneration opportunities • Protection of Built Heritage • Social Housing retrofits • Energy consumption • EV Charging strategy / infrastructure • Flood alleviation measures • SUDs

Theme	Description & Objectives	Strategic Goals
		• Critical infrastructure – provision & protection • Offshore renewables – Marine
Transport	To promote sustainable and accessible transport across the county	• Sustainable smart mobility • Active Travel
Natural Environment	To promote biodiversity and nature-based solutions across the county	• Promotion & integration of biodiversity • Landscaping & Tree planting • Protection of Natural Heritage • Water protection • Natured-based solutions (SuDs, flood management) • Coastal Protection planning and measures • Land use (LULUCF) • Agricultural support & environmental protection • Active land management • Green procurement & supply chains • LA own waste (generation & disposal) – Incl. roadwork materials, landscaping, housing etc. • Promotion of Circular economy • Enabling increase in Recycling rates • Alignment with National Waste Management Plan • Advocacy – reduce-reuse-recycle & source local • Air quality • Capturing Co-benefits - communications

Theme	Description & Objectives	Strategic Goals
Communities: Resilience & Transition	The Council will support and empower communities to become sustainable, inclusive, and resilient through a Just Transition	• Citizen Engagement • Behavioural change initiatives • Support for community initiatives / events • SECs support & promotion • Awareness & Advocacy • Enterprise support & economic opportunities • Energy poverty • CA promotion through Arts/Culture/Creativity • Alignment with LECP • JT (Midlands) • Collaboration with key stakeholders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Doonbeg
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St. MARTIN'S
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Newtown
Querrin
TULLIG
Doonaha
QUERRIN
MOYARTA
Tullig
Carrigaholt
Cross
RAHONA
KILBALLYOWEN
Astee
Map Legend
Legend
Decarbonisation Zone
County Boundary
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Tel: 065 6846286 E:planoff@clarecoco.ie W: clarecoco.ie
Project title: Loop Head - Decarbonisation Zone
Drawing title: Loop Head - Decarbonisation Zone
Revision: 1 Drawn by: PMM Checked by: SEP
Date Saved: 05/12/2022 11:48 Scale:
Drawing No: PLP-22-0007-20
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3. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

3.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any potential significant affects to European sites from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the "'conservation objectives", "Qualifying Interests" (QIs) and/ or "Special Conservation Interests" (SCIs) of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European Site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The following NPWS Generic Conservation Objectives have been considered in the screening:

- For SACs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected; and
- For SPAs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Where available, Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat[5] or species[6] at that site have been considered.

3.2 Identification of Relevant European Sites

The Department of the Environment (2009) Guidance on AA recommends a 15 km buffer zone to be considered. Although sites beyond this buffer zone would be considered if relevant, a review of all sites within this zone has allowed the conclusion to be made that in the absence of significant hydrological links the characteristics of the LACAP will not impose effects beyond the 15 km buffer. The assessment process also considers hydrogeological processes and possible effects to ground water with respect to ground water sensitive habitats and species.

Details of European sites that occur within 15 km of the LACAP boundary are provided in Table 3-1. European sites and EPA Rivers Catchments are also mapped in Figure 3-1 below. Information on QIs, SCIs and site-specific vulnerabilities and sensitivities (see Appendix I) and background information (such as that within Ireland's Article 17 Report to the European Commission, site synopses and Natura 2000 standard data forms) have been considered by both the AA screening assessment (provided under this section) and Stage 2 AA (provided under Section 4).

[5] Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.
[6] The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following National Parks and Wildlife Service documents:

- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Ballyallia Lake SAC [IE0000014] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Ballycullinan Lake SAC [IE0000016] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Ballyogan Lough SAC [IE0000019] Version 1.
- NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives for Black Head-Poulsallagh Complex SAC [IE0000020] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC [IE0000030] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Dromore Woods and Loughs SAC [IE0000032] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Inagh River Estuary SAC [IE0000036] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Pouladatig Cave SAC [IE0000037] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Lough Gash Turlough SAC [IE0000051] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Moneen Mountain SAC [IE0000054] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Moyree River System SAC [IE0000057] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC [IE0000064] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Curraghchase Woods SAC [IE0000174] Version 1.
- NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives for Inishmaan Island SAC [IE0000212] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for River Shannon Callows SAC [IE0000216] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Barroughter Bog SAC [IE0000231] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Caherglassaun Turlough SAC [IE0000238] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Castletaylor Complex SAC [IE0000242] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Cloonmoylan Bog SAC [IE0000248] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Coole-Garryland Complex SAC [IE0000252] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Derrycrag Wood Nature Reserve SAC [IE0000261] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Galway Bay Complex SAC [IE0000268] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Kiltartan Cave (Coole) SAC [IE0000286] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Lough Corrib SAC [IE0000297] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Lough Cutra SAC [IE0000299] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Loughatorick South Bog SAC [IE0000308] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Peterswell Turlough SAC [IE0000318] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Pollnaknockaun Wood Nature Reserve SAC [IE0000319] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Barrigone SAC [IE0000432] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Tory Hill SAC [IE0000439] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Lough Fingall Complex SAC [IE0000606] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Clare Glen SAC [IE0000930] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Silvermine Mountains SAC [IE0000939] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Ballyteige (Clare) SAC [IE0000994] Version 1.

- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Ballyvaughan Turlough SAC [IE0000996] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Glenomra Wood SAC [IE0001013] Version 1.
- NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives for Carrowmore Point to Spanish Point and Islands SAC [IE0001021] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Keeper Hill SAC [IE0001197] Version 1.
- NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives for Inisheer Island SAC [IE0001275] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Kiltiernan Turlough SAC [IE0001285] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Rosturra Wood SAC [IE0001313] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Termon Lough SAC [IE0001321] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Glenstal Wood SAC [IE0001432] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Glendree Bog SAC [IE0001912] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Sonnagh Bog SAC [IE0001913] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for East Burren Complex SAC [IE0001926] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Old Domestic Building (Keevagh) SAC [IE0002010] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Connemara Bog Complex SAC [IE0002034] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC [IE0002091] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Coy SAC [IE0002117] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Pollagoona Bog SAC [IE0002126] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Newgrove House SAC [IE0002157] Version 1.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Lower River Shannon SAC [IE0002165] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Gortacarnaun Wood SAC [IE0002180] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Drummin Wood SAC [IE0002181] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC [IE0002241] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Ardrahan Grassland SAC [IE0002244] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Old Farm Buildings, Ballymacrogan SAC [IE0002245] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Ballycullinan, Old Domestic Building SAC [IE0002246] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Toonagh Estate SAC [IE0002247] Version 1.
- NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives for Carrowmore Dunes SAC [IE0002250] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Silvermines Mountains West SAC [IE0002258] Version 1.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Kerry Head Shoal SAC [IE0002263] Version 1.
- NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives for Kilkee Reefs SAC [IE0002264] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Askeaton Fen Complex SAC [IE0002279] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Carrowbaun, Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs SAC [IE0002293] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Cahermore Turlough SAC [IE0002294] Version 1.

- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Ballinduff Turlough SAC [IE0002295] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC [IE0002312] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Old Domestic Buildings, Rylane SAC [IE0002314] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Ratty River Cave SAC [IE0002316] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Cregg House Stables, Crusheen SAC [IE0002317] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Knockanira House SAC [IE0002318] Version 1.
- NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives for Kilkishen House SAC [IE0002319] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Tullaher Lough and Bog SAC [IE0002343] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Moanveanlagh Bog SAC [IE0002351] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Cliffs of Moher SPA [IE0004005] Version 9.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Inner Galway Bay SPA [IE0004031] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Ballyallia Lough SPA [IE0004041] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Corrib SPA [IE0004042] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Cutra SPA [IE0004056] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA [IE0004058] Version 9.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA [IE0004077] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Middle Shannon Callows SPA [IE0004096] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Coole-Garryland SPA [IE0004107] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Illaunonearaun SPA [IE0004114] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Loop Head SPA [IE0004119] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Cregganna Marsh SPA [IE0004142] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA [IE0004161] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA [IE0004165] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA [IE0004168] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Connemara Bog Complex SPA [IE0004181] Version 9.
- NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives for Mid-Clare Coast SPA [IE0004182] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Kerry Head SPA [IE0004189] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Corofin Wetlands SPA [IE0004220] Version 9.

The assessment considers available conservation objectives. Since conservation objectives focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential effects of the LACAP against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.

3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening

3.3.1 Is the LACAP Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The overarching objective of the LACAP is not the nature conservation management of the sites, but to provide for coherent and coordinated approach to climate action within the County. Therefore, the LACAP is not considered to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites.

3.3.2 Elements of the LACAP with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

The LACAP provides a framework for the sustainable development of the Council boundary area. There are a number of environmental sensitivities within the area and an assessment of effects indicates the potential effects relate to the following:

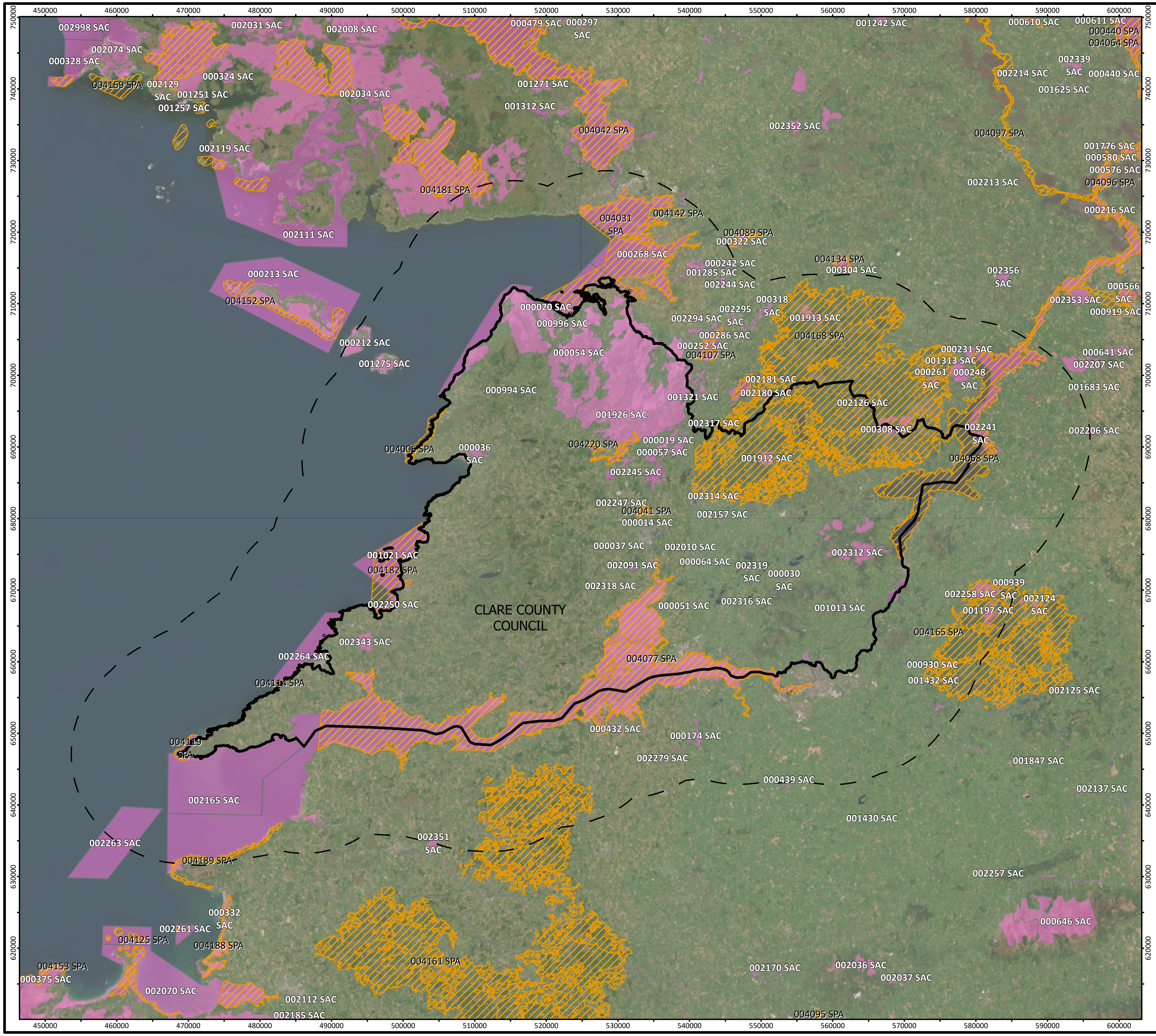
- *Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:*
  - *Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna;*
  - *Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and*
  - *Disturbance (e.g., due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species.*
- *Potential interactions if effects upon environmental vectors such as water and air.*
- *Adverse effects from tourism, amenity and recreation.*
- *Damage to the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource.*
- *Adverse effects upon the status of water bodies arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology.*
- *Increase in the risk of flooding.*
- *Emissions to air including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions.*

The elements of the LACAP with the highest potential to give rise to the effects indicated above are associated with construction phase elements of the implementation of the LACAP. The operational phase elements of the LACAP are consistent with the existing condition of the area. All policies and objectives are considered in this assessment with respect to the ecological integrity of each of the European sites identified. Considering the sensitivities/vulnerabilities of the QIs and SCIs in relation to all potential sources for effects and potential pathways for such effects. Where sources and pathways for effects are identified potential effects will be assessed in relation to the SSCOs.

3.3.3 Screening of Sites

Table 3-1 examines whether there is potential for effects on European sites considering information provided above, including Appendix I. Sites are screened out based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- The existence of potential for pathways for significant effects, such as hydrological links, LACAP proposals and the site to be screened;
- The distance of the relevant site from the LACAP boundary; and
- The existence of a link between identified threats or vulnerabilities at a site to potential impacts that may arise from the LACAP.



Legend

- Local Authority Boundaries
- Local Authority Boundary - 15km Buffer
- Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protected Areas

CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	3.1
CLIENT: CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL	
DATE: 15/08/2023	**SCALE:** 1:522,500 @ A3

0 4 7 10 km

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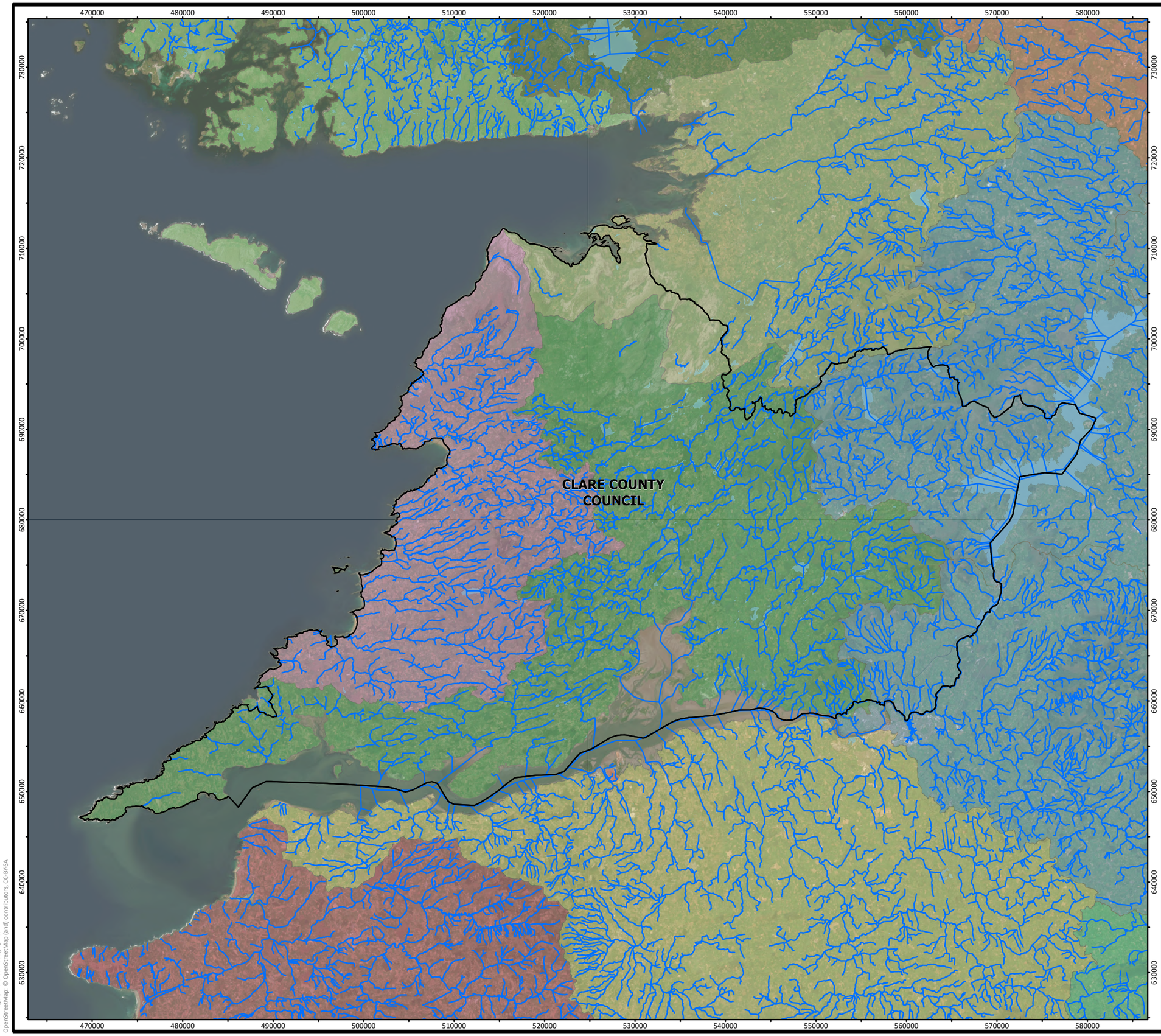
Path: R:\Map Production\2023\P23-076\Workspaces\NIR\P23_076_Fig_3_1_Special_Areas_of_Conservation_and_Special_Protected_Areas_Longford.aprx



Legend

- Local Authority Boundaries
- Rivers

WFD Catchments

Catchment Name

- Blackwater (Munster)
- Corrib
- Galway Bay North
- Galway Bay South East
- Lower Shannon
- Mal Bay
- Shannon Estuary North
- Shannon Estuary South
- Suir
- Tralee Bay-Feale
- Upper Shannon

Hydrology

CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO: 3.2

CLIENT: CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

DATE: 15/08/2023 **SCALE:** 1:412,500 @ A3

N W E S

0 3 6 10 km

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Path: R:\Map Production\2023\P23-076\Workspaces\NIR\P23_076_Fig_3-2 Hydrology.aprx

Table 3-1: Screening of European sites which have ecological pathways for potential effects

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000014	Ballyallia Lake SAC	0	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000016	Ballycullinan Lake SAC	0	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000019	Ballyogan Lough SAC	0	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000020	Black Head-Poulsallagh Complex SAC	0	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Petalwort (Petalophyllum ralfsii) [1395], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Reefs [1170], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Limestone pavements [8240], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000030	Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC	0	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000032	Dromore Woods and Loughs SAC	0	Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430], Limestone pavements [8240]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000036	Inagh River Estuary SAC	0	Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000037	Pouladatig Cave SAC	0	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	0	Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270], Turloughs [3180]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000054	Moneen Mountain SAC	0	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Limestone pavements [8240], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			grasslands [5130], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Turloughs [3180]	Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000057	Moyree River System SAC	0	Caves not open to the public [8310], Limestone pavements [8240], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Alkaline fens [7230]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC	0	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000268	Galway Bay Complex SAC	0	Harbour seal (Phoca vitulina) [1365], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Alkaline fens [7230], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Limestone pavements [8240], Turloughs [3180], Reefs [1170], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Coastal lagoons [1150]	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000308	Loughatorick South Bog SAC	0	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000994	Ballyteige (Clare) SAC	0	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000996	Ballyvaughan Turlough SAC	0	Turloughs [3180]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC	0	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001021	Carrowmore Point to Spanish Point and Islands SAC	0	Reefs [1170], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Coastal lagoons [1150], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001321	Termon Lough SAC	0	Turloughs [3180]	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
001912	Glendree Bog SAC	0	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001926	East Burren Complex SAC	0	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Alkaline fens [7230], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Juniperus	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Caves not open to the public [8310], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Limestone pavements [8240], Turloughs [3180]			
002010	Old Domestic Building (Keevagh) SAC	0	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002091	Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC	0	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002126	Pollagoona Bog SAC	0	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002157	Newgrove House SAC	0	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	0	Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Estuaries [1130], Coastal lagoons [1150], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus)	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			[1349], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Reefs [1170], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]	Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Limestone pavements [8240], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	The European Site is located immediately adjacent to the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002245	Old Farm Buildings, Ballymacrogan SAC	0	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002246	Ballycullinan, Old Domestic Building SAC	0	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002247	Toonagh Estate SAC	0	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002250	Carrowmore Dunes SAC	0	Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120], Reefs [1170], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014], Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130]	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002264	Kilkee Reefs SAC	0	Reefs [1170], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC	0	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], European dry heaths [4030], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002314	Old Domestic Buildings, Rylane SAC	0	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC	0	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002318	Knockanira House SAC	0	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002319	Kilkishen House SAC	0	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002343	Tullaher Lough and Bog SAC	0	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Rhynchosporion [7150], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004005	Cliffs of Moher SPA	0	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009], Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200], Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188], Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199], Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346], Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004031	Inner Galway Bay SPA	0	Grey Heron (Ardea cinerea) [A028], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Black-throated Diver (Gavia arctica) [A002], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182], Sandwich Tern (Sterna sandvicensis) [A191], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) [A003], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Teal	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			(Anas crecca) [A052], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]			
004041	Ballyallia Lough SPA	0	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	0	Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	0	Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004114	Illaunonearaun SPA	0	Barnacle goose (Branta leucopsis) [A045]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004119	Loop Head SPA	0	Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188], Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004168	Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA	0	Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098], Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	The European Site overlaps with the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004182	Mid-Clare Coast SPA	0	Barnacle goose (Branta leucopsis) [A045], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Purple Sandpiper (Calidris maritima) [A148], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004220	Corofin Wetlands SPA	0	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004]	The European Site is located within the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002317	Cregg House Stables, Crusheen SAC	0.19	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The European Site is located within 500 m of the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002180	Gortacarnaun Wood SAC	0.27	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	The European Site is located within 500 m of the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004107	Coole-Garryland SPA	0.98	Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Clare County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000252	Coole-Garryland Complex SAC	0.99	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270], Limestone pavements [8240], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Turloughs [3180]	There is a hydrological connection of approximately 1.3 km (in-stream distance) between this European Site and the Clare LACAP area. In addition, a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is therefore potential for the functioning and quality of the surface water and groundwater-influenced Qualifying Interests of this SAC to be affected as a result of actions taken under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002181	Drummin Wood SAC	1.51	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	There is a separation distance of approximately 1.51 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000238	Caherglassaun Turlough SAC	2.66	Turloughs [3180], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270]	There is a separation distance of approximately 2.66 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000299	Lough Cutra SAC	2.9	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	This European Site is located within 5 km of the Clare County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there is potential for significant effects to Lesser Horseshoe Bat of this SAC through deterioration of suitable foraging habitat within the LACAP area as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004056	Lough Cutra SPA	2.92	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Clare County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	4.41	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alkaline fens [7230]	There is a separation distance of approximately 4.41 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000261	Derrycrag Wood Nature Reserve SAC	4.91	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	There is a separation distance of approximately 4.91 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000432	Barrigone SAC	4.91	Limestone pavements [8240], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	There is a separation distance of approximately 4.91 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002294	Cahermore Turlough SAC	5.54	Turloughs [3180]	There is a separation distance of approximately 5.54 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000248	Cloonmoylan Bog SAC	5.99	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Bog woodland [91D0]	There is a separation distance of approximately 5.99 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
000286	Kiltartan Cave (Coole) SAC	6.23	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	There is a separation distance of approximately 6.23 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	6.31	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae,	There is a separation distance of approximately 6.31 km between this European Site and the area of the Clare LACAP, and a potential groundwater connection is present.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Salicion albae) [91E0], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the groundwater-influenced supporting habitat of Qualifying Interest Desmoulin`s whorl snail of this SAC as a result of actions taken under the LACAP.		
000606	Lough Fingall Complex SAC	6.86	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Limestone pavements [8240], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Turloughs [3180], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]	There is a separation distance of approximately 6.86 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000319	Pollnaknockaun Wood Nature Reserve SAC	7.26	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	There is a separation distance of approximately 7.26 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001275	Inisheer Island SAC	7.29	Reefs [1170], Coastal lagoons [1150], Limestone pavements [8240], European dry heaths [4030], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510]	There European Site is located approximately 7.29 km from the area of Clare County LACAP and is separated by marine waters. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	7.42	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Clare County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000930	Clare Glen SAC	7.54	Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	There is a separation distance of approximately 7.54 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002295	Ballinduff Turlough SAC	7.68	Turloughs [3180]	There is a separation distance of approximately 7.68 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002263	Kerry Head Shoal SAC	7.77	Reefs [1170]	There European Site is located approximately 7.77 km from the area of Clare County LACAP and is separated by marine waters. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
001313	Rosturra Wood SAC	7.81	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	There is a separation distance of approximately 7.81 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
001913	Sonnagh Bog SAC	7.84	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	There is a separation distance of approximately 7.84 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	7.98	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Clare County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002293	Carrowbaun, Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs SAC	8.17	Turloughs [3180]	There is a separation distance of approximately 8.17 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC	8.79	Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130], European dry heaths [4030], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	There is a separation distance of approximately 8.79 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002117	Lough Coy SAC	9.11	Turloughs [3180]	There is a separation distance of approximately 9.11 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000231	Barroughter Bog SAC	9.36	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	There is a separation distance of approximately 9.36 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC	9.58	Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421]	There is a separation distance of approximately 9.58 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
000318	Peterswell Turlough SAC	10.02	Turloughs [3180], Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270]	There is a separation distance of approximately 10.02 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002244	Ardrahan Grassland SAC	10.15	Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Limestone pavements [8240], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]	There is a separation distance of approximately 10.15 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
001285	Kiltiernan Turlough SAC	10.81	Turloughs [3180]	There is a separation distance of approximately 10.81 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004189	Kerry Head SPA	11.13	Northern fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009], Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Clare County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001197	Keeper Hill SAC	11.27	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	There is a separation distance of approximately 11.27 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000297	Lough Corrib SAC	11.28	Active raised bogs [7110], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], Slender naiad (Najas flexilis) [1833], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Bog woodland [91D0], Alkaline fens [7230], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Limestone pavements	There is a separation distance of approximately 11.28 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			[8240], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Slender green feather-moss (Hamatocaulis vernicosus) [6216]			
002034	Connemara Bog Complex SAC	11.85	Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Coastal lagoons [1150], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Slender naiad (Najas flexilis) [1833], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Reefs [1170], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Alkaline fens [7230], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], European dry heaths [4030], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	There is a separation distance of approximately 11.85 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004142	Cregganna Marsh SPA	12.05	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Clare County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000212	Inishmaan Island SAC	12.53	European dry heaths [4030], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Reefs [1170], Machairs * in Ireland [21A0], Limestone pavements [8240], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]	There European Site is located approximately 12.53 km from the area of Clare County LACAP and is separated by marine waters. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	12.96	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	There is a separation distance of approximately 12.96 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			[6510], Alkaline fens [7230], Limestone pavements [8240], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]	The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	12.98	Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Corncrake (Crex crex) [A122], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Clare County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000242	Castletaylor Complex SAC	13.1	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Limestone pavements [8240], Turloughs [3180], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	There is a separation distance of approximately 13.1 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004181	Connemara Bog Complex SPA	13.53	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098], Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Clare County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000439	Tory Hill SAC	13.91	Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	There is a separation distance of approximately 13.91 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC	13.95	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	There is a separation distance of approximately 13.95 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002351	Moanveanlagh Bog SAC	13.98	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	There is a separation distance of approximately 13.98 km between this European Site and the area of Clare County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004042	Lough Corrib SPA	14.71	Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051], Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182], Arctic tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194]	This European Site is within 15km of the area of Clare County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

3.4 In-combination effects with Other Plans and Programmes

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely affect European sites. Appendix II outlines a selection of plans or projects that may interact with the Plan to cause in-combination effects to European sites. These plans, programmes, strategies etc. were considered throughout the assessment.

The LACAP sits within a hierarchy of statutory documents setting out public policy for, among other things, land use planning, infrastructure, sustainable development, recreation, environmental protection and environmental management, which have been subject to their own environmental assessment processes, as relevant. The Plan must comply with relevant higher-level strategic actions and will, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions.

The National Planning Framework (NPF) sets out Ireland's planning policy direction for the next 20 years. The NPF is to be implemented through Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSESs) and lower tier Development Plans and Local Area Plans. The RSES for the Southern Region sets out objectives for land use planning, tourism, infrastructure, sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been subject to environmental assessment and must be implemented through the LACAP. Section 18, Part 3 of the Climate Acts 2015-2021 and Section 10 (2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) require that local authorities take account of their LACAPs when preparing a County Development Plan. Local authorities must be cognisant of this provision and forge a strong link between spatial planning and positive climate action ensuring that land-use planning and development integrates considerations of adaptation and mitigation.

In order to be realised, projects included in the LACAP (in a similar way to other projects from any other sector) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework.

All projects within the LACAP area and receiving environment will be considered in combination with any and all lower tier projects that may arise due to the implementation of the LACAP. Given the uncertainties that exist with regard to the scale and location of developments facilitated by the LACAP, it is recognised that the identification of in-combination effects is limited, and that the assessment of in-combination effects will need to be undertaken in a more comprehensive manner at the project-level.

Additional information on the in-combination effects relationship with other plans and programmes is provided at Appendix 2.

3.5 AA Screening Conclusion

The effects that could arise from the LACAP have been examined in the context of several factors that could potentially affect the integrity of any European site. On the basis of the findings of this Screening for AA, it is concluded that the LACAP:

- Is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site; and
- May, if unmitigated, have significant adverse effects on 76 (no.) European sites.

Therefore, a Stage 2 AA is required for the LACAP (see Section 4 of this report). An AA Screening Determination undertaken by the planning authority accompanies this report and the LACAP.

4. STAGE 2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Introduction

The Stage 2 AA assesses whether the LACAP alone, or in-combination with other plans, programmes, and/or projects, would result in adverse effects on the integrity of the 76 European sites brought forward from screening (those considered on Table 3-1 for which there is "Potential Pathway for Significant Effects" and/or "Potential for In-Combination Effects"), with respect to site structure, function and/or conservation objectives.

4.2 Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected

The AA Screening identified 76 European sites with pathway receptors for potential effects arising from the implementation of the LACAP. Appendix I characterises each of the qualifying features of the ALL European sites brought forward from Stage 1 in context of each of the sites' vulnerabilities. Each of these site characterisations were taken from the NPWS website[7].

4.3 Identifying and Characterising Potential Significant Effects

The following parameters can be used when characterising impacts[8]:

- Direct and Indirect Impacts - An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a Plan/Project.
- Magnitude - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.
- Extent - The area over that the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.
- Duration - The time that the effect is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource or feature.
    - Temporary: Up to 1 Year;
    - Short Term: The effects would take 1-7 years to be mitigated;
    - Medium Term: The effects would take 7-15 years to be mitigated;
    - Long Term: The effects would take 15-60 years to be mitigated; and
    - Permanent: The effects would take 60+ years to be mitigated.
- Likelihood – The probability of the effect occurring taking into account all available information.
    - Certain/Near Certain: >95% chance of occurring as predicted;
    - Probable: 50-95% chance as occurring as predicted;
    - Unlikely: 5-50% chance as occurring as predicted; and
    - Extremely Unlikely: <5% chance as occurring as predicted.

[7] Last accessed 17th July 2023; https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites

[8] These descriptions are informed by publications including: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2016) "Guidelines for ecological impact assessment"; Environmental Protection Agency (2002) "Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements"; and National Roads Authority (2009) "Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Roads Schemes".

- Ecologically Significant Impact - An impact (negative or positive) on the integrity of a defined site or ecosystem and/or the conservation status of habitats or species within a given geographic area.
- Integrity of a Site - The coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is an aim of NPWS to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) have been prepared for a number of European sites. These detailed SSCOs aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes that define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

> *Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'*
>
> *Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable'.*

Generic Conservation Objective for SACs:

> *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species that the SAC has been selected.*

One generic Conservation Objective for SPAs:

> *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.*

4.3.1 Types of Potential Effects

Assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted utilising a standard source-pathway model (see approach referred to under Sections 1.3 and 3). The 2001 European Commission AA guidance outlines the following potential changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site: loss/reduction of habitat area; habitat or species fragmentation; disturbance to key species; reduction in species density; changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); and climate change. Each of these potential changes are considered below and in Table 4-1 with reference to the QIs/SCIs of all of the European sites brought forward from Stage 1 of the AA process (see Section 3).

4.3.1.1 Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area

The LACAP provides for action related to climate action and generally seeks to reduce CO_2 emissions through coordination, advocacy, awareness etc. Many of the actions also relate to land use change or the provision of infrastructure developments such as green energy and active travel projects. The exact spatial location of these projects is not fully developed within the plan. The development of all infrastructural have associated construction phase effects which include land take, habitat destruction, disturbance effects, light pollution, dust, hydrological interactions, airborne pollution, excessive noise etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects due to construction on the ecological integrity of any European site.

As identified above LACAP boundary has several European sites within it; therefore, there is potential for effects to European sites through urbanisation and direct habitat loss on foot of the implementation of the LACAP; however, several mitigation measures have been integrated into the LACAP to ensure that its implementation will not result in the loss of any habitat necessary for the ecological integrity of any European site; namely list of actions to avoid habitat loss BE3.2[9], C2.6[10], N1.1[11], N1.5[12], N1.8[13] and N1.11[14] etc.

Additionally, the environmental governance section of the LACAP sets out a number of measures which will ensure the protection of biodiversity throughout the implementation of the plan such as:

- Promote climate action projects that support and maximize environmental co-benefits, such as biodiversity protection and enhancement; improved air, water or soil quality; or enhanced recreation, amenity and cultural heritage value, to ensure win-win benefits are gained.
- Support or facilitate climate action related projects and initiatives which seek to make improvements in soil structure, management and health by increasing soil organic carbon - which will create the environmental co-benefits of improving flood resilience by enhancing water holding capacity of soils and increasing the level of GHG sequestration associated with land use functions.

[9] Develop updated risk assessment of coastal erosion for Clare to manage vulnerability arising from climate impacts.
[10] Supporting County Clare in transitioning to a more sustainable tourism destination as actioned in the Clare Tourism Strategy 2030 through the measurement and monitoring of sustainable indicators whilst having due regard for sensitivities including biodiversity, European sites, cultural heritage, and amenity value.
[11] Develop and implement an Updated Clare Biodiversity Action Plan to protect and enhance local biodiversity ensuring climate change is factored into the Plan's development.
[12] Develop interventions to address Invasive Alien Species through education and awareness.
[13] Support and work with landowners to undertake a peatland restoration project whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
[14] Develop and implement a Heritage Plan to record, conserve, and raise awareness of all aspects of built, natural, and cultural heritage in the County, ensuring that climate change is factored into the Plan's development.

- Ensure all development underpinned or supported by climate action is planned and implemented in a manner that appropriately considers the potential for environmental co-benefits, potential environmental impacts and environmental protection requirements. No climate action related development project that is likely to have a significant negative effect on the receiving environment shall be supported.
- Flood and coastal defence projects, or related maintenance works, shall be carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-biodiversity related co-benefits, and shall have due regard for the protection and enhancement of rare, protected or important habitats and species.
- Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-cultural heritage co-benefits, and do not result in unauthorized physical damage to cultural, archaeological or architectural features, or unauthorized or inappropriate alteration of the context of sensitive cultural heritage features.
- Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action water quality co-benefits, and align with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive and relevant River Basin Management Plan.

These policies ensure that there will be no loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the plan.

4.3.1.2 Habitat or species Fragmentation

As previously stated, the LACAP provides for infrastructure developments which have associated effects. These effects could result in the fragmentation of habitat and or species through light pollution, habitat loss, removal of stepping stone habitats etc. This is particularly relevant for linear projects such as active travel schemes. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects in relation to fragmentation on the ecological integrity of any European site.

The LACAP recognises the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. The LACAP provides actions to minimise potential fragmentation and to facilitate the enhancement of ecological corridors such as hedgerows; N1.1[11], N1.8[13], N1.11[14], N1.2[15] mitigation measures (see full list of measures reproduced at Section 5 of this report). Lighting is a particular issue for biodiversity - particularly with regard to linear projects, therefore the following action was required to ensure there would be no significant impacts in this regard: BE1.4[16] etc.

Further to these provisions there are actions related to specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as waterways, wetlands and peatlands etc. These actions apply to all plans, programmes and/or projects that may arise due to the implementation of the LACAP and will ensure that habitat or species fragmentation will not occur in relation to the connectivity of the ecological resources necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the LACAP.

[15] Identify potential for climate and biodiversity projects including tree planting and woodland creation within Clare County Council landbanks

[16] Completion of Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project, while ensuring the lumen levels and spectral range are maintained or reduced/controlled to avoid effects to biodiversity.

4.3.1.3 Disturbance to Key Species

Disturbance effects are cause by any activity that has potential to alter the movement patterns/distribution of species. Disturbance effects can relate to direct disturbance through human activity/movement or noise pollution. This is particularly relevant in relation to tourism and recreation in general, which could be influenced by the LACAP due to the provision of active travel schemes and other green initiatives within the LACAP; from the perspective that many of the tourism destinations or attractions in the area are in or adjacent to European sites.

The LACAP accounts for noise pollution effects through its policies and objectives affording protection to European sites by ensuring any projects that arise from the implementation of the LACAP avoid or minimise noise in compliance with the Environmental Noise Directive and associated National Regulations through the Clare County Council Noise Action Plan 2018 - 2023. Actions to ensure the protection of habitat quality with respect to disturbance effects from noise and other sources have been built into the LACAP; namely T1.7[17], T2.5[18] , and T2.6[19] etc. (further details see Section 5).

These measures are robust to ensure that any sensitive habitat features or species will be identified and only compliant applications will be granted. All of the policies related to positive effects for Biodiversity are detailed in Section 5.

4.3.1.4 Reduction in species density

Species densities are reliant on species distributions, habitat condition, connectivity of ecological resources and availability of resources such as prey/food. The LACAP introduces potential sources for effects to affect these four determinant factors for species densities in the form of construction phase effects such as habitat destruction, visitor movements/access, hydrological interaction or operational effects such as disturbance effects, habitat encroachment, trampling etc. However, the LACAP contains provisions to enhance biodiversity, landscape and the environment within Council boundary BE3.2[9], C2.6[10], N1.1[11], N1.2[15], N1.8[13], and N1.11[14] etc. Similarly, the LACAP the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. Further to these provisions there are actions related to specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as BE3.2[9], C2.6[10], N1.10[20] and N1.8[13] etc. These actions apply to all plans, programmes and projects that may arise due to the implementation of the plan. Measures relating to light pollution, noise pollution, habitat loss and fragmentation are addressed above (further detailed in Section 5).

In addition to this the LACAP identifies actions to protect and improve water quality interactions (see below for further details) which can influence species densities. There are also a number of provisions relating to protective buffer zones, further assessment requirements as well as commitments to increasing water quality standards etc. These measures are detailed across the LACAP.

[17] Expand 30 km/h speed limit zones to more residential/urban areas of the County.
[18] Enable staff to utilise practical lower-carbon options for undertaking business travel through provision of electric bikes and vehicles, carpooling, etc.
[19] Support the uptake of remote working and online conferencing tools to reduce commuting and business travel
[20] Develop and implement a policy for the use of chemical pesticides and herbicides across all Clare County Council assets ensuring these substances are only used to a degree that does not cause significant effects on the receiving environment, such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity or European sites.

4.3.1.5 Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value

Water quality is the primary macro indicator of conservation value. The LACAP contains many robust actions to ensure the protection of both surface and ground water quality. Development within the vicinity of groundwater or surface water dependant European sites will not be permitted where there is potential for a likely significant effect on the groundwater or surface water supply to the European sites. Action that specifically relate to the protection of water quality which account for potential effects to European sites include BE2.3[21], N1.10[20], N2.1[22], N2.2[23], N2.3[24], N2.4[25], DZ-BE4[26] and DZ-N2[27] etc. Similarly, emissions to air have potential to adversely affect the conservation status of European sites; however, the LACAP contains actions – such as T2.5[18], N1.2[17], T2.4[28], N2.6[29] and N2.7[30] etc. – which account for this.

Additionally, the actions provide broader scope to ensure the protection of the wider landscape associated with riparian zones and habitats sensitive to hydrological interactions; such as the environmental governance section of the LACAP which sets out a number of measures which will ensure the protection of the wider landscape associated with riparian zones and habitats sensitive to hydrological interactions throughout the implementation of the plan.

[21] Ensure Ennis Local Area Plan and Shannon Local Area Plan integrate and advance climate action in a manner that maximises climate action co-benefits and ensures appropriate environmental protection.
[22] Meet annual targets for domestic wastewater treatment systems inspections across County Clare per the EPA National Inspection Plan with a focus on compliance.
[23] Undertake inspections to ensure compliance with discharge licence requirements.
[24] Undertake pre-season awareness campaign to the effects of runoff on bathing water quality.
[25] Meet annual inspection targets as per EPA National Agriculture Inspection Plan.
[26] Advocate for a suitably located and designed wastewater treatment plant in Kilkee.
[27] Support the development of a biodiversity walking and cycling route to enhance and raise awareness of local biodiversity having due regard to environmental sensitivities including water quality, protected species, biodiversity and European sites.
[28] Reduce transportation emissions through driver training, enhanced practices, reduced idling, and optimised fleet.
[29] Enable improvements in air quality through inspections of fuel suppliers to address unauthorised sale of unapproved solid fuels.
[30] Undertake and expand upon air quality monitoring capabilities in accordance with the National Ambient Air Monitoring Programme as well as implementing all relevant recommendations.

4.3.1.6 Climate change

The LACAP is specifically focused on climate action and most of the actions within the plan are aimed at reducing carbon emissions and move towards renewable energy sources; BE1.2[31], BE1.6[32], BE1.8[33], BE2.1[34], BE2.2[35], T1.4[36], T1.8[37], and BE2.3[18] etc.

Therefore, there are no sources for significant effects to climate change factors identified within the LACAP having regard for the measures identified above and in Section 5 below. Therefore, there are no changes projected to arise from climate change to the degree that it would affect the Qis or SCIs of the European sites considered.

[31] Maintain ISO 50001 Energy Management Standard for Clare County Council

[32] Develop and Implement energy efficiency projects in Clare County Council owned and operated buildings/assets that deliver on 50% energy efficiency and 51% emissions targets, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, protected species, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures.

[33] Implement renewable energy projects in Clare County Council buildings/locations that deliver on energy efficiency and emissions targets, where it is confirmed through appropriate environmental assessment that associated renewable energy development will not have any signficant environmental effect.

[34] Support the development of renewable energy infrastructure and ancillary facilities in order to meet national, regional and county renewable energy targets through planning policy and land use objectives, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause signficant negative environmental effects.

[35] Support new developments and major renovations to integrate climate into design through the development management process having due regard to ensure appropriate environmental protection, including protection of European sites, during the development planning process.

[36] Develop and Adopt Electric Vehicle Strategy for County Clare, having due regard to ensuring disabled access to EV charging, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage.

[37] Support the delivery of an efficient and reliable public bus system for Ennis - whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.

Table 4-1: Characterisation of Potential Effects arising from the subject land area

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000014	Ballyallia Lake SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to waste management, hydrological interactions, agriculture, competition, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000016	Ballycullinan Lake SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, habitat fragmentation, land use management, hydrological interactions, waste management, and land use change. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000019	Ballyogan Lough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to mining/ resource extraction, succession, hydrological interactions, waste management, land use management, agriculture, forestry, and burning. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000020	Black Head-Poulsallagh Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to recreation, infrastructure, land use management, waste management, mining/ resource extraction, competition, agriculture, succession, land use change, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000030	Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, agriculture, forestry, land use management, and decline or extinction of species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000032	Dromore Woods and Loughs SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, agriculture, waste management, habitat fragmentation, forestry, recreation, hydrological interactions, land use management, land use change, transport, predator control, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000036	Inagh River Estuary SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to coastal protection, land use change, land use management, hydrological interactions, agriculture, and invasive species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000037	Pouladatig Cave SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management, agriculture, waste management, hydrological interactions, infrastructure, recreation, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000054	Moneen Mountain SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, infrastructure, land use management, waste management, succession, and competition. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000057	Moyree River System SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to recreation, waste management, agriculture, hydrological interactions, burning, infrastructure, land use management, land use change, forestry, direct interaction with species and populations, and succession. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management, land use change, infrastructure, unsocial behaviour, and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000268	Galway Bay Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, hydrological interactions, invasive species, mining/ resource extraction, land use change, land use management, waste management, aquaculture, agriculture, coast protection, recreation, commercial shipping, and direct interactions with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000308	Loughatorick South Bog SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, forestry, mining/ resource extraction, recreation, waste management, burning, direct interaction with species and population. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000994	Ballyteige (Clare) SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management, changes in abiotic conditions, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000996	Ballyvaughan Turlough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to habitat fragmentation, agriculture, irrigation, hydrological interactions, land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, land use management, habitat fragmentation, agriculture, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001021	Carrowmore Point to Spanish Point and Islands SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to recreation, agriculture, hydrological interactions, mining/ resource extraction, direct interaction with species and populations, and coastal protection. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001321	Termon Lough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, waste management, agriculture, land use management, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
001912	Glendree Bog SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to mining/ resource extraction, forestry, agriculture, infrastructure, erosion, recreation, and burning. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001926	East Burren Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to succession, land use management, agriculture, infrastructure, recreation, hydrological interactions, waste management, and succession. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002010	Old Domestic Building (Keevagh) SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to habitat fragmentation, agriculture, infrastructure, direct interaction with species and populations, land use management, land use change, and decline or extinction of species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002091	Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to unsocial behaviour and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
002126	Pollagoona Bog SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, hydrological interactions, burning, and natural catastrophes. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002157	Newgrove House SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, infrastructure, habitat fragmentation, agriculture, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, waste management, mining/ resource extraction, aquaculture, agriculture, land use management, recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, forestry, infrastructure, coastal protection, land use change, and invasive species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002180	Gortacarnaun Wood SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, agriculture, and invasive species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management, hydrological interactions, waste management, succession, invasive species, change in abiotic conditions, mining/ resource extraction, forestry, agriculture, flooding, and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002245	Old Farm Buildings, Ballymacrogan SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, land use management, land use change, infrastructure, habitat fragmentation, and interspecific faunal relations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002246	Ballycullinan, Old Domestic Building SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, infrastructure, land use management, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002247	Toonagh Estate SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to habitat fragmentation, agriculture, land use management, land use change, and succession. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002250	Carrowmore Dunes SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, direct interaction with species and populations, mining/ resource extraction, and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002264	Kilkee Reefs SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to coastal protection, recreation, and direct interactions with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, mining/ resource extraction, waste management, land use management, land use change, infrastructure, burning, recreation, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002314	Old Domestic Buildings, Rylane SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to reconstruction/ renovation of buildings, land use management, land use change, forestry, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to reconstruction/ renovation of buildings, land use management, land use change, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002317	Cregg House Stables, Crusheen SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to reconstruction/ renovation of buildings. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002318	Knockanira House SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002319	Kilkishen House SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, land use change, land use management, and reconstruction/ renovation of buildings. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
002343	Tullaher Lough and Bog SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, agriculture, mining/ resource extraction, and burning. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004005	Cliffs of Moher SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation and noise. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004031	Inner Galway Bay SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to aquaculture, recreation, hydrological interactions, waste management, infrastructure, land use management, direct interaction with species and populations, land use change, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004041	Ballyallia Lough SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, agriculture, infrastructure, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, agriculture, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, commercial shipping, aquaculture, agriculture, infrastructure, land use management, and waste management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004114	Illaunonearaun SPA	There are no known threats or pressures to this SPA. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004119	Loop Head SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
004168	Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture, infrastructure, habitat fragmentation, forestry, and mining/ resource extraction. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004182	Mid-Clare Coast SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004220	Corofin Wetlands SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture, infrastructure, habitat fragmentation, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004107	Coole-Garryland SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture, recreation, forestry, direct interaction with species and populations, interspecific faunal relations, waste management, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000252	Coole-Garryland Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, construction/renovation, forestry, invasive species, agriculture, land use management, hydrological interactions, waste management, agriculture, burning, energy production, mining/ resource extraction, and flooding. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000238	Caherglassaun Turlough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, land use management, waste management, hydrological interactions, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000299	Lough Cutra SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, light pollution, land use management, noise, habitat fragmentation, and construction/ renovation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004056	Lough Cutra SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture, forestry, recreation, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to waste management, hydrological interactions, habitat fragmentation, agriculture, burning, land use change, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002294	Cahermore Turlough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, agriculture, flooding, land use management, and waste management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, land use management, unsocial behaviour, and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000606	Lough Fingall Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, waste management, land use management, hydrological interactions, and mining/ resource extraction. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to forestry, infrastructure, irrigation, mining/ resource extraction, and habitat fragmentation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002295	Ballinduff Turlough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to waste management, hydrological interactions, land use management, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to forestry, infrastructure, habitat fragmentation, agriculture, and mining/ resource extraction. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002293	Carrowbaun, Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to flooding, infrastructure, waste management, hydrological interactions, land use management, agriculture, and construction/ renovation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002117	Lough Coy SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management, hydrological interactions, waste management, acid rain, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000318	Peterswell Turlough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, waste management, agriculture, land use management, land use change, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001285	Kiltiernan Turlough SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, infrastructure, hydrological interactions, waste management, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004189	Kerry Head SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to land use management, agriculture, infrastructure, and waste management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000297	Lough Corrib SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to mining/ resource extraction, infrastructure, land use management, agriculture, waste management, hydrological interactions, forestry, habitat fragmentations, recreation, tourism, invasive species, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002034	Connemara Bog Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to mining/ resource extraction, burning and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004142	Cregganna Marsh SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to recreation, flooding, agriculture, forestry, waste management, land use change, direct interaction with species and populations, infrastructure, land use management, hydrological interactions, mining/ resource extraction, and predation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to infrastructure, agriculture, recreation, and land use management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000242	Castletaylor Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management, hydrological interactions, waste management, land use change, forestry, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004181	Connemara Bog Complex SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to infrastructure, recreation, invasive species, habitat fragmentation, mining/ resource extraction, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000439	Tory Hill SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, land use management, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
004042	Lough Corrib SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, infrastructure, land use management, agriculture, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

5. MITIGATION MEASURES

This section outlines measures that have been incorporated into the LACAP in order to mitigate against potential effects to European sites as identified above. The LACAP was prepared in an iterative manner whereby the Plan and AA documents have informed subsequent versions of the other. These mitigation measures ensure that there will be no significant effects to the ecological integrity of any European site from implementation of the LACAP. The mitigation measures most relevant to the protection of European sites are identified in Table 5-1 and Table 5-2 below.[38] Some of these measures, many of which were integrated into the current Plan through the SEA and AA processes for that Plan, have been retained and/or updated.

The plan making process was carried out in parallel with the SEA and AA processes. Regular communication and interaction took place between the environmental assessment team and the plan making team. Environmental considerations that came to light during the SEA and AA processes, including consultation processes, were regularly communicated to the plan making team during the plan making process. As necessary, environmental mitigation measures to ameliorate the potential negative environmental effects of implementing the LACAP were developed and then integrated into the LACAP. Much of the environmental mitigation was embedded in the plan early on in the process as a result of this. This process was carried out in an iterative manner to ensure optimal plan making and environmental outcomes. Environmental considerations were also integrated into the plan so as to facilitate maximizing identified positive environmental effects of the LACAP.

Mitigation measures have been proposed that maximize the co-benefits of climate action for other environmental components such local air quality, human health, biodiversity, water quality and other interrelated areas (i.e., win-win solutions).

Additional text clarifying environmental protection related obligations and environmental enhancement opportunities has been attached to a variety of defined actions in the plan (as seen in Table 5-1). This text has been shaped to ensure that environmental considerations are appropriately taken into account during plan implementation. This text has also been shaped to ensure plan implementation generates the minimum level of negative environmental effects and the maximum level of positive environmental effects.

Several environmental governance principles were established to ensure plan implementation generates the minimum level of negative environmental effects and the maximum level of positive environmental effects (as seen in Table 5-2). These environmental governance principles shall underpin and guide plan implementation and shall apply to and be integrated into all actions/activities which result due to the implementation of the plan.

Due to the inter-relationship between various environmental components, environmental mitigation measures defined for one component can also serve to benefit another environmental component.

[38] For a complete assessment of the Plan, against all environmental components (These components comprise biodiversity, fauna, flora, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors), refer to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.

Table 5-1: Recommendations integrated into the Plan

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
G1.6	Develop strategy/resources to ensure all council-owned buildings are included under a broadened Facilities Management System	The implementation of this action will have no real environmental effect when considered in isolation. The action has the potential to promote organisational climate action and facilitate the upgrading of Council-owned buildings.	Develop strategy/resources to ensure all council-owned buildings are included under a broadened Facilities Management System to facilitate upgrading, retrofitting, and increased sustainability of all such buildings.
BE1.1	Conduct Energy Audits across Clare County Council's Significant Energy Users (SEUs) to inform creation of Gap to Target analysis.	This action promotes energy saving and energy efficiency within the local authority organisation. This action is not likely to have any environmental or climate effects when considered in isolation but the creation of targets may facilitate the Council in realising their energy goals.	Conduct Energy Audits across Clare County Council's Significant Energy Users (SEUs) to inform creation of Gap to Target analysis, with a focus on following-up on targets set.
BE1.4	Completion of Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project.	This action will support the local authority in reducing its organizational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect in terms of GHG emissions however, the spectrum of light from LED sources has the potential to impact nocturnal species. Therefore there is also scope for there to be slight negative effects if unmitigated.	Completion of Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project, while ensuring the lumen levels and spectral range are maintained or reduced/controlled to avoid effects to biodiversity.
BE1.5	Undertake deep retrofitting of Clare County Council facilities through the Pathfinder Programme.	This action will support the implementation of active travel projects defined in the Department of Transport Pathfinder programme for the local authority functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the retrofitting have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.	Support the implementation of Department of Transport Pathfinder Projects; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, protected species, European sites and biodiversity.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
BE1.6	Develop and Implement energy efficiency projects in Clare County Council owned and operated buildings/assets that deliver on 50% energy efficiency and 51% emissions targets.	This action will support the local authority in reducing its organizational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. Upgrade or retrofitting works associated with this action may result in the generation of localized environmental effects, including dust and noise impacts.	Develop and Implement energy efficiency projects in Clare County Council owned and operated buildings that deliver on 50% energy efficiency and 51% emissions targets, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, protected species, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures.
BE1.7	Social Housing Stock - Advance retrofitting programme subject to Dept funding.	This action will support retrofitting aimed at regenerative action with energy efficiency at the core. The adoption of this action can potentially result in reduced energy consumption and prevent GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive effect on climate - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. Given the urban nature of the works, there are no significant impacts identified to be likely. However, due regard should be given to Annex IV species which may be roosting in any structures which are to be developed.	Social Housing Stock - Retrofitting programme to intensify subject to Dept funding, having due regard to protected species, biodiversity, European sites and the need to appropriately conserve protected structures.
BE1.8	Implement renewable energy projects in Clare County Council buildings/locations that deliver on energy efficiency and emissions targets.	This action will support the local authority reducing its organisational GHG emissions in line with climate policy and legislation and emission reduction targets. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Implement renewable energy projects in Clare County Council buildings/locations that deliver on energy efficiency and emissions targets, where it is confirmed through appropriate environmental assessment that associated renewable energy development will not have any significant environmental effect.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		This action may support the development of on-site renewable energy infrastructure at local authority sites. The development of PV panels on Council buildings has the potential to result in negative glint and glare impacts on sensitive environmental receptors.	
BE2.1	Support the development of renewable energy infrastructure and ancillary facilities in order to meet national, regional and county renewable energy targets through planning policy and land use objectives.	This is an action that serves to promote the development of renewable energy infrastructure and associated ancillary infrastructure, including linear development. This action can potentially lead to positive climate effects. The supporting of such developments could however result in a variety of slight to very significant negative environmental effects, including impacts on important habitats and species (due to collision risk and vibration effects), including European sites - thus further consideration and mitigation measures are required.	Support the development of renewable energy infrastructure and ancillary facilities in order to meet national, regional and county renewable energy targets through planning policy and land use objectives, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
BE2.2	Support new developments and major renovations to integrate climate into design through the development management process.	This action will support the development of new buildings and public realm space that place sustainability and energy efficiency to the forefront. The adoption of this action can potentially result in reduced energy consumption in new development and prevent GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight and maybe moderate positive effect on climate - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. Integrating climate considerations into the development planning and design processes has the potential to result in the creation of unintended negative environmental, if climate considerations are prioritized over environmental protection related consideration, including a wide range of potential impacts across multiple environmental components.	Support the integration of climate-related regulation and best practice in the design of new developments and major renovations through the development management process, having due regard to ensure appropriate environmental protection, including protection of European sites, during the development planning process.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
BE2.3	Ensure Ennis Local Area Plan and Shannon Local Area Plan integrate and advance climate action.	This action has the potential to contribute to the creation of slight positive environmental effects on climate, biodiversity, water quality and hydrology, and local air quality. Development supported by this action, such as renewable energy, active travel or drainage related development could potentially have negative environmental effects.	Ensure policies and objectives that address climate and sustainability issues (inc. green infrastructure, sustainable drainage systems) are integrated in the development of the Ennis and Shannon Local Area Plans, in a manner that maximizes climate action co-benefits and ensure appropriate environmental protection.
BE2.4	Support the implementation of the Shannon Estuary Taskforce Report (including development of Maritime Training Centre of Excellence in Kilrush).	This is an action that serves to support the carrying out of development, including offshore renewable energy projects development. This action can potentially indirectly lead to positive climate effects. The supporting of such developments could however result in a variety of slight to very significant negative environmental effects, including impacts on important habitats and species (due to collision risk and vibration effects), including European sites - thus further consideration and mitigation measures are required.	To enable the decarbonisation of the energy system of the region, support the implementation of the recommendations under Shannon Estuary Taskforce Report including development of Maritime Training Centre of Excellence in Kilrush; whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure supported projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
BE2.5	Support upgrade of existing residential and commercial properties to promote sustainable compact growth and regeneration.	This action will support regenerative action in the community, with some focus on energy efficiency. The adoption of this action can potentially result in reduced energy consumption and prevent GHG emissions in the County. The action is likely to have a slight positive effect on climate - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. Given the largely urban nature of some of the works (such as Towns Centre First), there are no significant impacts identified to be likely. However, due regard should be given to Annex IV species which may be roosting in any structures which are to be developed.	Promote the sustainable compact growth and regeneration of settlements by supporting the upgrade of existing residential and commercial properties (through schemes such as Towns Centre First, Croí Conaithe, Repair and Lease, buy and Renew, vacant property acquisition, Derelict Site Identification etc.), having due regard to protected species, biodiversity, European sites and the need to appropriately conserve protected structures.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
BE2.6	Develop feasibility reports into District Heating for Ennis & Shannon.	This action is likely to have no environmental effect in and of itself but will provide essential information underpinning the potential development of district heating for Ennis which may result in lowering GHG emissions in the town.	Develop feasibility report into District Heating for Ennis, ensuring such a report is appropriate regard to planning and environmental protection considerations.
BE3.3	Undertake bridge repair programme to safeguard against climate impacts.	This activity has the potential to adversely affect Annex II and IV species such as Daubenton's Bat through disturbance and habitat loss or impact protected structures if incorrectly implemented.	Clare County Council to undertake continuation of enhanced bridge remediation (Bridge Rehabilitation Programme) - having due regard to the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations, and the need to not negatively impinge on any protected species or European sites.
BE3.4	Carry out condition survey of Clarecastle Flood Barrage to inform short, medium, and long-term decision making on future flood strategy.	This is a survey based action and will not have any real environmental effect in and off itself. The completion of such assessments however will underpin and support flood defence strategy going forward however. The study has the potential to lead to further action that could have very significant environmental effects, including effects water quality and hydrology, biodiversity, European site or sensitive human receptors.	Flood Defence: Carry out condition survey of Clarecastle Flood Barrage to inform short, medium and long term decision making on future flood strategy - ensuring the study has appropriate regard to environmental conditions and considerations.
BE3.5	Implement the recommendations of the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (CFRAMS) programme as it relates to County Clare and to ensure that flood risk management policies and infrastructure are progressively implemented (CDP).	The progression of this flood resilience related action has the potential to lead to significant development taking place. In the absence of any mitigation, such development could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on: water quality, biodiversity, including flora and fauna reliant on aquatic eco-systems; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust), the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise), and the receiving human environment.	To implement the recommendations of the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (CFRAMS) programme as it relates to County Clare and to ensure that flood risk management policies and infrastructure are progressively implemented (CDP) - having due regard to the need to promote nature based solutions and Sustainable Drainage Systems, and environmental sensitivities at these locations, including water quality, biodiversity,

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		Flood resilience action has the potential to have positive environmental effects. The possible development of nature based solutions and SuDS as part of a flood risk management policy has the potential to have slight to significant, positive effects on biodiversity and water quality. The delivery of flood resilience action has the potential to reduce flood risk and prevent future flood events. Reducing flood risk can generate significant, positive effects for a variety of environmental receptors that could be negatively impacted by flood events; including ecological receptors. The implementation of a flood management policy is likely to have slight to significant positive effects on the receiving soils environment - through the prevention of erosion. This may have also a beneficial impact on inter-related environmental components that could potentially be impacted by fluvial erosion.	European sites, riparian corridors and aquatic ecology, visual amenity and recreation and amenity value.
T1.1	Deliver active travel projects in towns and villages across the county.	This action supports the development of additional active travel infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions.	Deliver active travel (including cycling infrastructure) projects in towns and villages across the county; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	
T1.2	Advance the delivery of the West Clare Railway Greenway, having due regard to climate resiliency, opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with the route, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, and cultural heritage related sensitivities.	This action supports the development of additional green infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of such infrastructures have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Continue development of West Clare Greenway, having due regard to opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with the route, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, and cultural heritage related sensitivities.
T1.3	Complete development of Ennis/Tulla Road, St Flannan's and Lahinch Road active travel projects.	This action supports the development of additional active travel infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through	Complete development of priority Ennis/Tulla Road active travel project having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	
T1.4	Develop and adopt an Electric Vehicle Strategy for County Clare.	The development of this strategy has the potential to lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Develop and Adopt Electric Vehicle Strategy for County Clare, having due regard to ensuring disabled access to EV charging, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
T1.5	Support implementation of Electric Vehicle Strategy to increase electric vehicle charging infrastructure.	The expansion of the EV charging network will lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Support implementation of Electric Vehicle Strategy to increase electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Clare, having due regard to ensuring disabled access to EV charging, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage.
T1.8	Support the delivery of an efficient and reliable public bus system for Ennis.	The delivery of an expanded, safe public transport network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of public transport infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to profound significant environmental effects (depending the scale, extent and character of the development), including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the	Support the delivery of an efficient and reliable public bus system for Ennis - whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.	
T1.9	Advance the installation of bus shelters at bus stops throughout the county.	This action supports the promotion of sustainable modes of transport. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the installation of bus shelters have the potential to generate a range of slight environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of this action has the potential to have a positive effect on population and human health through the promotion of modes of travel that reduce GHG emissions when compared to single vehicle options.	Continue the installation of bus shelters at bus stops throughout the county, whilst having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, cultural heritage.
T1.10	Support the implementation of the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (LSMATS).	LSMATS aims to upgrade the current transport options available in the region in an environmentally sustainable manner. Improvements include improvements to bus, rail, cycle, and private transport options and may include significant development in the region. In the absence of any mitigation, such large-scale infrastructural projects have the potential to generate a wide variety of negative environmental effects - that range from slight in magnitude to profound - on, inter alia, ecological receptors, the soils and geological environment and the water environment.	Support the implementation of the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy; whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
T1.11	Engage with public transport providers to support enhanced public transport (bus and rail) outcomes including rural bus service expansion and service interconnectivity, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action benefits and co-benefits, and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.	This is an engagement related action and will not have any real environmental effect when considered in isolation. Depending on the nature and level of engagement, this action could lead to positive environmental outcomes, in addition to positive public transport related outcomes.	Continue to engage with transport service providers to support enhanced transport outcomes including rural bus service expansion, increased public awareness and uptake, service interconnectivity, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action benefits and co-benefits, and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
T2.2	Increase procurement of electric light good vehicles in Clare County Council vehicle fleet.	This action has the potential to increase the uptake in Electric Vehicles and will support a modal shift and reduction in vehicle related GHG emissions. Electric vehicles have the potential to generate a variety of uncertain lifecycle impacts, including production related impacts and end-of-life related.	Increase procurement of electric light good vehicles in Clare County Council vehicle fleet, while ensuring sustainability criteria is appropriately considered during procurement processes and appropriate end-of-life vehicle management practices are in place.
T2.3	Conduct feasibility study and integration of renewable alternative fuel options for Clare County Council vehicle fleet.	This action could lead to the LA transitioning its vehicle fleet to a renewable fuel. The scalable adoption of vehicles based on certain alternative fuels may contribute to the expansion of alternative fuel production sectors. These sectors may indirectly cause environmental effects (including uncertain and potentially negative effects) as a result of fuel sourcing, production and supply processes.	Conduct feasibility study and integration of renewable alternative fuel options for Clare County Council vehicle fleet, ensuring appropriate regard is had to the sustainability of sourced alternative fuels.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
C2.5	Support an increase the number of Sustainable Energy Communities established in Clare.	This promotional/engagement action will support the effective delivery of climate action in the community. The adoption of this action will support the full realization of the plan vision in the community. The carrying out of the type of energy efficiency upgrades or small-scale renewable energy development supported by this programme has some potential to have negative localized effects - such as localized impacts on biodiversity, in the absence of mitigation.	Support an increase the number of Sustainable Energy Communities established in Clare, where specific supported energy efficiency and renewable energy projects will not lead to unintended negative environmental effects in a local community.
C2.6	Supporting County Clare in transitioning to a more sustainable tourism destination as actioned in the Clare Tourism Strategy 2030 through the measurement and monitoring of sustainable indicators.	This promotional action will support sustainable initiatives within the County. The action has the potential to have a net positive effect for climate action and awareness within the County. Recreational activity in natural spaces such as rivers and beaches are not inherently damaging. However, there are known impacts associated with inappropriately managed activities in sensitive habitats such as Dune systems. Therefore, the promotion of access and engagement with waterways and natural spaces needs to be carefully considered. Similarly, infrastructure works such as culverting could have unintended consequences on water quality and associated aquatic habitats and species. If implemented correctly this action is likely to have moderate positive environmental effect in terms of water quality improvements, engagement with nature and biodiversity enhancements. The action should take into account other environmental factors such as biodiversity and environmental health.	Supporting County Clare in transitioning to a more sustainable tourism destination as actioned in the Clare Tourism Strategy 2030 through the measurement and monitoring of sustainable indicators, whilst having due regard for sensitivities including biodiversity, European sites, cultural heritage, and amenity value.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
C2.7	Supporting the engagement of tourism businesses in North Clare with the Geopark Code of Practice for Sustainable Tourism Businesses through the implementation of the Burren and Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark's Management Plan 2024 – 2029.	This promotional action will support sustainable initiatives within the County. The action has the potential to have a net positive effect on climate action and awareness within the County. Recreational activity in natural spaces such as rivers and beaches is not inherently damaging. However, there are known impacts associated with inappropriately managed activities in sensitive habitats such as Dune systems. Therefore, the promotion of access and engagement with waterways and natural spaces needs to be carefully considered. Similarly, infrastructure works such as culverting could have unintended consequences on water quality and associated aquatic habitats and species. If implemented correctly this action is likely to have moderate positive environmental effects in terms of water quality improvements, engagement with nature and biodiversity enhancements. The action should take into account other environmental factors such as biodiversity, cultural heritage, amenity value, and environmental health.	Supporting the engagement of tourism businesses in North Clare with the Geopark Code of Practice for Sustainable Tourism Businesses through the implementation of the Burren and Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark's Management Plan 2024 – 2029, whilst having due regard for sensitivities including biodiversity, European sites, cultural heritage, and amenity value.
N1.3	Support and engage with locally and nationally led European Innovation Partnership (EIP) & Priority Action Areas projects in County Clare with biodiversity, climate, and community benefits	This action may lead to the carrying out of climate action projects and development that could generate a range of slight to significant positive environmental effects, including positive effects on climate, water quality, the soils environment, biodiversity and population and human health. In the absence of mitigation, the carrying out of climate action related development may have unintended negative environmental effects.	Support and engage with locally and nationally led European Innovation Partnership (EIP) & Priority Action Areas projects in County Clare with biodiversity, climate, and community benefits, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure the scheme and any development and activities promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
N1.8	Support and work with landowners to undertake a peatland restoration project.	This action will have a moderate to significant positive effect for climate action, biodiversity, and environmental/ecosystem health. Such a project, if not appropriately designed or implemented, has the potential to have unintended adverse environmental effects, including effects on water quality and hydrology, biodiversity, European sites and the soils environment.	Support and work with landowners to undertake a peatland restoration project, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
N1.10	Develop and implement a policy for the use of chemical pesticides and herbicides across all Clare County Council assets.	This action has the potential to have wide ranging slight to moderate effects on local biodiversity, water quality, soil, flora, fauna, etc. Limiting and regulating the use of herbicides and pesticides would prevent to some degree the occurrence of environmental pollution incidents due to the use of these substances. The negative environmental effect of the continued use of such substances is potentially significant, given the hazardous properties of these substances.	Develop and implement a policy for the use of chemical pesticides and herbicides across all Clare County Council assets, ensuring these substances are only used to a degree that does not cause significant effects on the receiving environment, such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity or European sites.
N2.5	Work with Irish Water and LAWPRO (Local Authority Waters Programme) to identify the impacts of critical and vulnerable receptors in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan and Water Framework Directive and support the implementation of all relevant remediation and mitigation measures.	This action will promote good water quality initiatives, with the potential to positively affect the environment where remediation measures are considered. It has the potential to generate a positive effect for sensitive environmental receptors that are at risk of - or currently are - being negatively impacted by water quality stressors.	Work with Irish Water and LAWPRO (Local Authority Waters Programme) to identify the impacts of critical and vulnerable receptors in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan and Water Framework Directive and support the implementation of all relevant remediation and mitigation measures required to maintain or achieve good or high quality water status in the County.
N2.7	Undertake and expand upon air quality monitoring capabilities.	This is a monitoring related action and will not have a real environmental effect when considered in isolation. The action will facilitate better tracking of ambient air quality in the local authority area.	Undertake and expand upon air quality monitoring capabilities in accordance with the National Ambient Air Monitoring Programme as

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
			well as implementing all relevant recommendations.
N3.2	Investigate the development of composting centres to promote circularity of green waste and support development of community gardens and allotments.	This action is likely to promote effective waste management and waster/material circularity. Any measures that improve resource efficiency/circularity will broadly support the reduction of lifecycle GHG emissions associated with the production of materials and goods. This is likely to result in a positive environmental effect generally. The construction and operation of composting facilities has the potential to generate a variety of slight to significant negative environmental effects, including noises.	Investigate the development of suitably located composting centres to promote circularity of green waste, whilst having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving human environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, and the existing traffic and transport environment.
DZ-BE1	Support the development of a feasibility study for an anaerobic digestion system to produce biogas and organic fertiliser.	The action itself will not have a real environmental effect. The consequent development of an Anaerobic Digestion facility that the action may lead to could result in a variety of environmental effects, including potential positive climate and material asset related effects, and potential negative construction or operational effects, including effects on biodiversity, local odour effects, noise effects and traffic and transport related effects.	Feasibility study on large/medium scale anaerobic digestion to produce biogas and organic fertilizer, whilst ensuring the study as appropriate regard to planning and environmental protection constraints and considerations.
DZ-BE2	Flood Risk: Completion of the Kilkee Flood Relief Scheme.	The progression of this flood resilience related action has the potential to lead to significant development taking place. In the absence of any mitigation, such development could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental	Flood Risk: Completion of the Kilkee Flood Relief Scheme - having due regard to the need to promote nature based solutions and Sustainable Drainage Systems, and

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		effects, including effects on: water quality, biodiversity, including flora and fauna reliant on aquatic eco-systems; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust) and the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise). Flood resilience action has the potential to have positive environmental effects. The possible development of nature based solutions and SuDS as part of a flood risk management policy has the potential to have slight to significant, positive effects on biodiversity and water quality. The delivery of flood resilience action has the potential to reduce flood risk and prevent future flood events. Reducing flood risk can generate significant, positive effects for a variety of environmental receptors that could be negatively impacted by flood events; such as ecological receptors. The implementation of a flood management policy is likely to have slight to significant positive effects on the receiving soils environment - through the prevention of erosion. This may also have a beneficial impact on inter-related environmental components that could potentially be impacted by fluvial erosion.	environmental sensitivities at these locations, including water quality, biodiversity, European sites, riparian corridors and aquatic ecology, visual amenity and recreation and amenity value.
DZ-BE4	Support the upgrading of the wastewater treatment plant in Kilkee	This is an advocacy-based action. The action itself will not have a real environmental effect. The consequent development of a WWTP that the action could result in a variety of environmental effects, including potential positive water quality and aquatic ecology related effects, and potential negative construction or operational	Advocate for a suitably located and designed WWTP in Kilkee.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		effects, including effects on biodiversity, local odour effects, noise effects and traffic and transport related effects.	
DZ-BE6	Advance the installation of private and community solar PV systems on agriculture, residential, commercial and/or public locations.	Developing such installations will lead to a reduction in GHG emissions. The development of PV panels on buildings has the potential to result in negative glint and glare impacts on sensitive environmental receptors.	Support Solar PV (rooftop/carport/farm) development on agriculture, residential and commercial locations, where it is confirmed through a glint and glare assessment that such solar development will not have any potential glint and glare impact on sensitive receptors, or otherwise, where it is confirmed that such solar development constitutes exempted development under the Planning and Development Regulations by virtue of its size or location outside a Solar Safeguarding Zone.
DZ-BE7	Undertake energy audit of Cuturlann McSweeny to identify energy efficiency opportunities to contribute towards LA targets	This is a study-based action and will not have any real environmental effect in and of itself. The completion of the audit will, however, support retrofitting works at the building and may contribute toward achieving GHG emission reductions and energy efficiency if successfully implemented. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works.	Undertake energy audit of Cuturlann McSweeny to identify energy efficiency opportunities to contribute towards LA targets, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity.
DZ-BE8	Undertake energy retrofitting of social housing stock across the DZ.	This action will support the reduction of Residential sector GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Retrofitting works may also negative effect the appropriate	Energy retrofit of all social housing in the DZ, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		conservation of protected structures. Therefore, there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.	
DZ-BE10	Advance coverage of Sustainable Energy Communities initiative across all the DZ.	This promotional/engagement action will support the effective delivery of climate action in the community. The adoption of this action will support the full realization of the plan vision in the community. The carrying out of the type of energy efficiency upgrades or small-scale renewable energy development supported by this programme has some potential to have negative localized effects - such as impacts on protected structures, or localized impacts on visual amenity or biodiversity, in the absence of mitigation.	Advance coverage of Sustainable Energy Communities initiative across all the DZ where specific supported energy efficiency and renewable energy projects will not lead to unintended negative environmental effects in a local community.
DZ-T1	Advance the delivery of the West Clare Railway Greenway.	This action supports the development of additional green infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of such infrastructures have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts, cultural heritage asset impacts and impacts on traffic and transport (through the temporary creation of traffic diversions and congestion). The delivery of an expanded, safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action	Complete Kilkee to Kilrush West Clare Greenway, having due regard to opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with the route, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, and cultural heritage related sensitivities.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	
DZ-T2	Deliver active travel projects across the DZ.	This action supports the development of additional active travel infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts, cultural heritage asset impacts and impacts on traffic and transport (through the temporary creation of traffic diversions and congestion).	Deliver active travel projects across the DZ having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage.
DZ-T3	Support the installation of electric vehicle charging points across the DZ including Kilkee, Loop Head Lighthouse, Kilrush and Vandeleur Walled Gardens.	The expansion of the EV charging network will lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG	Support the installation of electric vehicle charging points across the DZ including Kilkee, Loop Head Lighthouse, Kilrush and Vandeleur Walled Gardens having due regard to ensuring disabled access to EV charging, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	
DZ-T4	Support the installation of community-led electric vehicle charging points across the DZ.	The expansion of the EV charging network will lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Support the installation of community-led electric vehicle charging points across the DZ having due regard to ensuring disabled access to EV charging, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage.
DZ-CP1	Support the development of local food production and farm enterprises in the DZ (e.g., Loop Head Farm to Fork).	Support local food production could potentially increase the amount of locally produced food bought and consumed, and decrease the amount of food sourced from afar. This action therefore has the potential to reduce lifecycle GHG emissions associated with food production and supply, leading to a slight positive effect on climate. The carrying out improper or unsustainable food production practices in a local context may result in negative environmental	Support the development of local food production and farm enterprises in the DZ (e.g., Loop Head Farm to Fork) whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
		effects, including negative effects on water quality, the receiving environment or biodiversity.	
DZ-CP4	Support businesses to prevent, reduce and separate waste generated through Kilkee Green Business Hub.	This action is likely to promote effective waste management and waster/material circularity. Any measures that improve resource efficiency/circularity will broadly support the reduction of lifecycle GHG emissions associated with the production of materials and goods. This is likely to result in a positive environmental effect generally.	Enhanced material and waste management (i.e., Kilkee Green Business Hub)
DZ-N2	Support the development of a biodiversity walking and cycling route to enhance and raise awareness of local biodiversity	This is a biodiversity based action that will serve to underpin and support other actions contained in the plan. Should this action lead to the construction of built development, the construction activities associated with the development result in negative environmental effects, including negative water quality, noise and dust related effects, or effects on biodiversity or European sites.	Support the development of a biodiversity walking and cycling route to enhance and raise awareness of local biodiversity having due regard to environmental sensitivities that may be affected by any built development such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, and cultural heritage.

Table 5-2: Environmental Mitigation Measures related Environmental Governance Principles suggested for inclusion in the plan - specifically the plan implementation section

Promote climate action projects that support and maximize environmental co-benefits, such as biodiversity protection and enhancement; improved air, water or soil quality; or enhanced recreation, amenity and cultural heritage value, to ensure win-win benefits are gained.
Support or facilitate climate action related projects and initiatives which seek to make improvements in soil structure, management and health by increasing soil organic carbon - which will create the environmental co-benefits of improving flood resilience by enhancing water holding capacity of soils and increasing the level of GHG sequestration associated with land use functions.
Ensure all development underpinned or supported by climate action is planned and implemented in a manner that appropriately considers the potential for environmental co-benefits, potential environmental impacts and environmental protection requirements. No climate action related development project that is likely to have a significant negative effect on the receiving environment shall be supported.
Flood and coastal defence projects, or related maintenance works, shall be carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-biodiversity related co-benefits, and shall have due regard for the protection and enhancement of rare, protected or important habitats and species.
Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-cultural heritage co-benefits, and do not result in unauthorized physical damage to cultural, archaeological or architectural features, or unauthorized or inappropriate alteration of the context of sensitive cultural heritage features.
Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action water quality co-benefits, and align with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive and relevant River Basin Management Plan.

6. CONCLUSION

Stage 1 AA Screening and Stage 2 AA of the Clare Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 has been carried out. Implementation of the LACAP has the potential to result in effects to the integrity of any European sites, if unmitigated.

The risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European sites have been addressed by the inclusion of mitigation measures that will prioritise the avoidance of effects in the first place and mitigate effects where these cannot be avoided. In addition, all lower-level plans and projects arising through the implementation of the LACAP will themselves be subject to AA when further details of design and location are known.

In-combination effects from interactions with other plans and projects was considered in the assessment and the mitigation measures incorporated into the plan are seen to be robust to ensure there will be no significant adverse effects as a result of the implementation of the LACAP either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects.

Having incorporated mitigation measures, it is concluded that the Draft Clare Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 is not foreseen to give rise to any significant adverse effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects[39]. This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species, for which these sites have been designated.

[39] Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

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APPENDIX 1

Background information to European sites

Appendix 1 - Table 1 Quality and site characteristics of European sites considered in the assessment

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000030	Danes Hole Poulnalecka SAC	The site contains a small though significant natural limestone cave. As this site contains 250 Lesser Horseshoe Bats (Rhinolophus hipposideros) it is a site of international importance. It is also important as it lies along the eastern limit for the distribution of this species in Ireland. The site also supports a stand of Old Oak woodland.	This site consists of a small fossil limestone cave in the banks of a tributary to the River Ahaclare west of Broadford Co. Clare. The cave is approximately 50 m long and 2-3m wide. The passage is at times quite low. The cave ends in a sump. There is no sign that this water floods other parts of the cave or that the stream outside the entrance floods the cave. The cave is used as a winter hibernation site by Lesser Horseshoe Bats. The area surrounding the cave is mixed woodland which provides ideal foraging habitat and shelter for the bats. A summer roost and important commuting hedgerows down to the Ahaclare are also included in the site.
000037	Pouladatig Cave SAC	A good example of a natural active limestone cave. As >100 Lesser Horseshoe Bats (Rhinolophus hipposideros) use this site as a winter hibernation roost it is a site of international importance. The surrounding scrub and hedgerows provide necessary shelter for the bats.	Pouladatig Cave is a natural limestone cave situated near Inch Bridge west of Ennis County Clare. It is a short active stream cave with some rock falls and small chambers. The cave entrance is small and is sheltered by hawthorn trees. After the entrance there is a low bedding crawl but the cave then opens out into roomier passageways. The length of the cave is approx. 100 m. Cave habitats include flowing water mud banks boulders rock roof and walls. The cave is used as a hibernation site by Rhinolophus hipposideros. The surrounding scrub vegetation and hedgerows is included in the site as it provides foraging areas and shelter for the bats.
000054	Moneen Mountain SAC	The site contains four priority Annex I habitats. The overall quality of the site is further emphasised by the diverse range and continuous nature of high quality limestone habitats present over such a large area. Another important feature is the presence of Pyrola media a Red Data Book species confined to upland heaths. Also noteworthy is the presence of Meles meles and Martes martes both Red Data Book vertebrates. A summer colony of Rhinolophus hipposideros (>60i) occurs within the site. The site supports populations of Euphydryas aurinia.	This is a large composite site situated in north County Clare. The Carboniferous limestone rises into a series of rounded hills intersected by deep and often steep valleys to the north of the site before levelling out towards the south. The site encompasses a complete range of inland Burren habitats from open limestone pavement and its associated grasslands and heath to dense Corylus avellana scrub and patches of Fraxinus excelsior woodland. A small turlough is contained within the site.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000212	Inishmaan Island SAC	Inishmaan is an outstanding site with a rich and diverse range of Annex I habitats of karstic carboniferous limestone and of coastal types. Traditional agricultural in the form of rye cultivation is still carried out and provides a habitat for a number of rare and threatened arable weeds Lolium temulentum Bromius racemiosus and Avena strigosa. Many other (6) rare and some protected plant species also occur. Ornithologically the island is important for breeding Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax Sterna paradisaea and Sterna albifrons.	Inishmaan is the middle of the three Aran Islands situated approximately 15km off the west coast of County Clare. Geologically the island is an extension of the karstic carboniferous region of the burren. The shallow soil is a unique man-made combination of sand and seaweed built up over the centuries. Pockets of rendzina are found throughout the limestone pavement.
000238	Caherglassaun Turlough SAC	The site is important as it contains the priority Annex I habitat turlough along with the Annex II species Rhinolophus hipposideros. The site is very unusual in its combination of permanent water daily (tidal) fluctuations turlough surroundings deep holes/cliffs and extensive flooded woodland. The site supports the Red Data Book plant species Limosella aquatica Rorippa islandica and Viola persicifolia along with an excellent variety of turlough and aquatic plant communities. These are generally eutrophic and there is little deposition of marl (Calcium Carbonate). The site supports small numbers of wildfowl.	The turlough lies in a basin with even slopes on the South and East sides and a series of low cliffs and limestone pavements on the North-West. Collapse features are notable here and to the west of the lakes. The whole area floods at times of high water though the lake is generally stable (apart from small tidal effects) in summer. Scrub/woodland is common in many places and it is inundated generally.
000252	Coole-Garryland Complex SAC	This is considered to be the most important turlough complex in the country and therefore in Europe. It contains many rare species and communities associated with turloughs and the unusual turlough/woodland transition. Also present is the Annex II species Lutra lutra. Contains only documented example of Chenopodietum rubri of submountainous river. Has important wintering waterfowl populations notably Cygnus cygnus in internationally important numbers and Cygnus columbianus and Anas penelope in nationally important numbers. Has breeding Vanellus vanellus.	This is a large site situated in a low lying karstic limestone area. It contains a series of seasonal lakes (Turloughs) fed by springs and a partly subterranean river surrounded by woodland pasture and limestone heath. The turlough plays host to two nationally rare species Limosella aquatica and Filipendula vulgaris. The juxtaposition between woodland and turlough provides ideal habitat for several important invertebrate faunal communities. The Red Data Book species Martes martes occurs within the site.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000286	Kiltartan Cave (Coole) SAC	The site is a fine example of a natural limestone 'fossil' cave. It shows many representative cave features including gour pools and straw stalactites. As this site contains >50 Rhinolophus hipposideros in winter it is a site of international importance. It is the only major cave in the area and the only major hibernation site known for the Lesser Horseshoe in County Galway.	This site is a natural limestone cave. It is situated north of Coole Park just off the main Galway-Ennis road County Galway It is approximately 800 m in length and is a segment of an abandoned streamcourse of the Gort River. The entrance to the cave is reached by a 3 m descent after which the cave divides into two passageways. It is used as a hibernation site by approximately seventy-five Rhinolophus hipposideros. Most of the bats are found in the right-hand side passage.
000432	Barrigone SAC	The importance of this site lies primarily in the diverse range of habitats and species present within such a small area. This includes the protected plant Viola hirta and the Annex II species Euphydryas aurinia for which the site holds one of the biggest colonies in the county. 60% of the site is dominated by the priority Annex I habitats. In an area where agricultural activity is high and in this case intensive quarrying is carried out these dry grassland habitats are very important. Limestone outcrops throughout the site. Calcareous grassland is well represented and is notably species rich particularly for orchids of which 8 species have been recorded including the scarce Neotinea maculata. Associated with the limestone pavement and calcareous grassland are areas of Juniperis communis scrub.	Topographically the site slopes gently upwards from north to south from 15m on the north boundary to almost c. 40m at the south. From here there is a distant view of Aughinish Island and the Shannon Estuary to the North. Barrigone is an area of dry grassland with limestone outcrops together with associated scrub. The substrate bedrock and microclimate contribute to produce a specific and substantial range of plants.
000606	Lough Fingall Complex SAC	This site has six annexed habitats including four priority habitats - turloughs orchid-rich calcareous grassland cladium fen and limestone pavement. The turlough habitat is one of the largest and most important in the country. The interplay and gradation between habitats results in valuable zonation and a diversity of conditions suiting many less common species. The site has an internationally important breeding population of Rhinolophus hipposideros. Some scarce invertebrate species occur at the site and two Red Data Book plant species.	This site lying within 2-3km of Galway Bay is within the stretch of flat low-lying bare limestone known as the Ardrahan limestones. It is characterised by a complex of habitats some of which are scarce and specialised. It includes a number of oligotrophic turloughs in which the characteristic vegetation is well developed. Limestone pavement is well represented along with calcareous grassland juniper scrub and the rare lowlands Arctostaphylos - Dryas heath. There are also some infilling shallow turlough-type lakes. The well-known 'Burren flora' is well-represented.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			A large building at Cloghballymore provides a breeding site for the Lesser Horseshoe Bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) while surrounding mixed woodland provides ideal foraging habitat.
000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC	Though small the site is important for the presence of the priority habitat Nardus grassland and also for the nationally important population of the Red Data Book species Pseudorchis albida within this habitat. A small but intact example of wet heath is also present. A typical upland fauna occurs with Lagopus lagopus and Lepus timidus hibernicus.	This small site is situated on the northern slopes of the Silvermine Mountains. The site is underlain by sandstone. The dominant habitat is heath which occurs with upland grasslands and scrub. The site is longest on its north/south axis. It rises 150m from north to south and has a maximum altitude of 409m. Grazing is the main landune. A road cuts through the N/S axis of the site.
000994	Ballyteige (Clare) SAC	Though small in extent this site supports a good example of a habitat that in Ireland is in urgent need of conservation. Many such species-diverse wet meadows have been radically altered through drainage re-seeding and fertilization and examples such as this in which traditional management practices have been continued are becoming much rarer.	This small site lies over carboniferous shales over which a poorly-draining acid gley soil has developed. The principal habitat on the site is wet grassland of the Junco acutiflori-molinietum type in which grass and rush species predominate. A noteworthy feature of the site is the great abundance of the marsh orchid Dactylorhiza majalis. The fauna of the site has not been studied but it is liable to be quite rich.
000996	Ballyvaughan Turlough SAC	The main interest in this small turlough site is the abundance of the Red Data species Potentilla fruticosa. Good diversity of habitat in a small area and noted for its plant species diversity. Relatively undisturbed and could benefit from regular light grazing. Good representation of some of the habitats of the burren region.	Site is situated in a depression with frequent limestone outcrops. It is a rather dry turlough and dominated by shrubs. A small pond marks the location of a spring which occasionally floods the whole site. The drier areas of limestone paving have a typical flora including orchids. Surrounded by Hazel scrub which merges into low woodland in places. Relatively undisturbed.
001197	Keeper Hill SAC	The site supports a significant representation of intact blanket bog which has a varied topography and occurs in association with wet heath. Falco peregrinus and Lagopus lagopus breed within the site. Several rare bryophytes occur within the site.	A small to medium upland site in the midlands underlain by Old Red Sandstone. The dominant habitats are heath blanket bog and upland wet grassland. The site is almost completely surrounded by coniferous woodland. With access easy along forest roads at the trackway to the summit the site is a popular amenity area and vantage point.
001313	Rosturra Wood SAC	The site is important because the Quercus stands are remnants of an ancient woodland which was amongst the largest in Ireland until the 1940s.	This site consists of two separate areas, the southern one of which is a nature reserve. The northern area is dominated by conifers while in the southern area the conifers have mostly been clear-felled.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		It also provides a refuge for species of flora and fauna which are otherwise scarce in the locality most notably the Red Data Book species Cephalanthera longifolia. Unfortunately, only a small portion of the site remains under deciduous woodland.	Oak woodland occurs mostly as a fringe around both areas. The underlying rock is Old Red Sandstone. The soils vary from thin acid podzols to deeper gleyed brown-earths.
002091	Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC	This is a good example of natural fossil limestone caves which are well covered. Together these sites rank as some of the most important Lesser Horseshoe (Rhinolophus hipposideros) sites in Europe containing over 4% of the Irish population.	Newhall and Edenvale Caves are natural fossil limestone caves. Newhall is a narrow dry passage formed along an inclined joint. The main passage of Edenvale Cave runs into a cliff for 15 m and is crossed by a number of other passages. The side passages run in two directions at acute angles to each other forming many intersections hence the local name 'The Catacombs'. The two caves are used by > 500 Lesser Horseshoe Bats as winter hibernation sites while a two storey farm outbuilding in the grounds of Newhall House is used as a summer breeding site. All three sites used by the bats are surrounded by mature woodland which provides essential foraging habitat and shelter.
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	The site contains many Annexed habitats including the most extensive area of estuarine habitat in Ireland. A good range of Annexed species are also present including the only known resident population of Tursiops truncatus in Ireland all three Irish species of lamprey and a good population of Salmo salar. A number of birds listed on the EU Birds Directive either winter or breed in the site. The site is internationally important for waterfowl with more than 50000 individuals occurring in winter. Several species listed in the Irish Red Data Book are present perhaps most notably the only known Irish populations of Scirpus triqueter.	A very large long site approximately 14 km wide and 120 km long encompassing: the drained river valley which forms the River Shannon estuary; the broader River Fergus estuary plus a number of smaller estuaries e.g. Poulnasherry Bay; the freshwater lower reaches of the Shannon River between Killaloe and Limerick plus the freshwater stretches of much of the Feale and Mulkear catchments; a marine area at the mouth of the Shannon estuary with high rocky cliffs to the north and south; ericaceous heath on Kerry Head and Loop Head; and several lagoons. The underlying geology ranges from Carboniferous limestone (east of Foynes) to Namurian shales and flagstones (west of Foynes) to Old Red Sandstone (at Kerry Head). The salinity of the system varies daily with the ebb and flood of the tide and with annual rainfall fluctuations seasonally.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002181	Drummin Wood SAC	This oak woodland is classified as Blechno-Quercetum petraeae var. coryletosum. While of only moderate size it a good example of the type and generally of good quality. Typical structure Regeneration is good and is occurring in previously cut areas. Has the rare and Red Data Book species Cephalanthera longifolia. Both Martes martes and Meles meles occur. Similar woods of this quality are scarce in this part of country.	Site is situated in the foothills of the Slieve Aughty Mountains almost 3 km east of Lough Cutra. Area drains into the Owendalulleegh River. Over 60% of the site is wooded the remainder being mainly heath habitat with colonising Betula and Quercus trees. Small areas of wet grassland and marsh vegetation also present along with a stream and small lake. Woodland has been managed in past. Light grazing occurs. Surrounding areas are used for afforestation and rough grazing.
002244	Ardrahan Grassland SAC	The site is important as it contains excellent examples of the Annex I habitat Alpine heath along with frequent areas of Juniper scrub formations throughout the site. Small examples of the Annex I priority habitat of Limestone Pavement are found. The site also supports an interesting example of a shallow marl lake. Although small it is of high scientific interest due to its relatively natural state good quality Chara communities and given the rarity of this habitat type in the locality.	Geologically the overdominant rock formations are of flat carboniferous limestone. Southwest of Brackloon Lough the land rises slightly to form low calcareous hills with a frequent cover of Juniper heath. Much of the site is dominated by species rich limestone grassland merging northwards into a rich mosaic of alpine heath limestone pavement calcareous grassland and scrub. Some areas of reclamation occur at the northern and north western edges of the site.
002263	Kerry Head Shoal SAC	The Kerry Head reef has extremely high conservation value. It contains a rich and diverse flora and fauna that is characterized by rare erect and encrusting sponges. Several species occur in associations that are unique in Ireland and the axinellid sponge community is considered to be Ireland's best example (pers. comm. B.Picton). Two sponge species were not recorded anywhere else in Ireland by BioMar (Tetilla cranium and Quasillina brevis). The populations of nine other rare and notable species (Tetilla zetlandica Thymosia guernei Axinella damicornis Axinella flustra Spongionella pulchella Hexadella racovitzae Terebratulina retusa Diazona violacea and Aldisa zetlandica) represent a very high proportion of the total populations in the national territory. Four other species have conservation importance (Gymnangium montagui Eunicella verrucosa Isozoanthus sulcatus and Carpomitra costata).	The Kerry Head Shoal is a deep (20 - 52 m) limestone reef running in a north-east / south-west direction. The reef is situated on the west coast of Ireland to the north of Tralee Bay and to the west of Kerry Head. It is exposed to the full force of swells from the Atlantic. The infralittoral and circalittoral reef communities of the Kerry Head Shoal are extremely exposed to wave action and subject to weak tidal streams. The circalittoral reef topography ranges from big relatively flat terraces cut by gullies to ridged bedrock and angular boulders.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002264	Kilkee Reefs SAC	Kilkee has good examples of exposed reef communities that contain species worthy of conservation. The purple sea urchin Paracentrotus lividus is abundant in shallow pools on the shore. In the infralittoral zone there are scarce species of sponge sea fan and nudibranch. The erect and encrusting sponges anthozoans and nudibranchs in the circalittoral are of particular interest. Species richness can be high: 86 species were recorded by BioMar in the upper infralittoral reef north-east of Ilaunonearaun and 76 species were recorded in the lower eulittoral reef at Duggerna Rock. While poorly documented the site has examples of submerged marine caves that are presumed of good quality and largely undisturbed. Exposed littoral sediment communities and sheltered infralittoral reef communities add habitat diversity to the area.	This site is situated on the south-west coast of Co. Clare. It stretches for approximately 12 km from Ballard Bay to Castle Point. It is exposed to the full force of Atlantic swells from the west and slopes steeply. A small shallow bay Moore Bay offers some shelter from wave action. Bedrock is Carboniferous Millstone Grit and Flagstone. A few small islands and islets are included the largest being Bishop's Island.
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	The site is most important for the presence of the Annex I habitat Cladium fen and also for the presence of Alkaline fens. Small areas of species-rich dry grassland are also found. The site supports a diversity of habitats and species.	The site consists of a number of separate small fen areas north east and south of Askeaton in an area of undulating ground underlain by Carboniferous Limestone. The fen is predominantly the Cladium type though alkaline fens are found around the landward margins. Adjacent to the fens are associated habitats such as freshwater marsh wet grassland and open water. On higher ground dense scrub is found. Occasionally at the south of the site cliffs are present. Diverse dry grassland is found also at the south of the site though this is further fragmented by agricultural improvement.
002294	Cahermore Turlough SAC	Cahermore turlough is considered to be of regional importance. While the vegetation is not particularly diverse the amount and quality of the native scrub and developing woodland within the turlough zone is of note. The overall quality is reduced by close grazing and agricultural improvements in parts. When flooded it can support locally important concentrations of wintering waterfowl including Cygnus cygnus.	The site is situated in the limestone lowlands of South Galway. It occupies a shallow basin that is mostly covered by glacial drift. There are rock outcrops in the northern part and a low mound of limestone pavement in the eastern sector. The turlough is a dry type and there is no standing water in summer apart from a few ponds dug for cattle. Some collapse features occur in the drift in the southern part including a swallow hole. The turlough appears to flood largely from the southern side.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC	This extensive upland site has been selected for the presence of the Annex 1 habitats active blanket bog dry heath and wet heath. The quality of these habitats is generally very good due to low levels of recent disturbance. The occurrence of Vaccinium oxycoccus is of note. The site ranks as one of the most extensive high quality upland areas in the mid-west of Ireland and is of high importance. Areas of conifer plantation have been included within the site. The site is used as foraging habitat by a small population of Circus cyaneus which nests in the Slieve Bernagh mountain range. Lagopus lagopus occurs within the site.	This is a large upland site located in the south-east of county Clare. The site comprises three distinct blocks of land separated by extensive conifer plantations which dominate the mountain slopes. The dominant bedrock within the site is base-poor Silurian sedimentary rocks and Old Red Sandstone. These rocks support a rather shallow peat soil which give rise to the dominant heath habitats. Where peat is deeper especially on plateau areas blanket bog has developed. Small areas of conifer plantations have been retained within the site area as well as some areas of cutover blanket bog
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC	The cave is small (5-10 m) but in excellent condition. Cave habitats include rock roof and walls and stalactites. The cave provides stable and undisturbed winter hibernating conditions for an internationally important number of lesser horseshoe bats. The nearest known summer roost of lesser horseshoe bats is also included in the site.	This site includes a natural fossil limestone cave situated in the bank of the Ratty or Owenogarney River. A section of the river and accompanying bankside vegetation is also included in the site. An old disused cottage situated approximately 500 m from the cave is included in the site as it is used as a summer roost by the bats. . The surrounding habitat consists of unimproved pasture and scrub woodland. Castle Lake occurs a few hundred metres upstream of the site.
002317	Cregg House Stables Crusheen SAC	Cregg House stables support an internationally important summer roost of lesser horseshoe bats. The site is in reasonably good condition and provides relatively undisturbed roosting conditions for the bats.	This site consists of an old stone-built stable block that is still used for horses. It is situated approximately 10 km south of Gort. The surrounding landscape consists of improved pasture with hedgerow boundaries. There are several small lakes with fringing woodland in the vicinity of the roost thus providing some foraging habitat for the bats.
004005	Cliffs of Moher SPA	The site is one of most important seabird colonies in Ireland with the largest populations of Rissa tridactyla and Alca torda in the country and the second largest population of Fulmarus glacialis. The population of Alca torda is of international Importance. The site also had nationally important populations of Uria aalge and Fratercula arctica.	This cliff site extends a distance of some 8 km along the north Clare coast from Cancregga Point to just south of Lough Point. The cliffs which rise to 203 m in height are formed of horizontal beds of coal measure sandstones and shales. Cleavage in the rock is so good that the term flagstone has been applied.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Small numbers of several other seabird species also breed including Larus argentatus L. marinus and Corvus corax. The cliffs have breeding Falco peregrinus and Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax both species being listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive. Habitat in the site is of excellent quality. Part of the site is a designated Refuge for Fauna.	The line of cliffs shows faulting and slumping to good effect but these are difficult to observe from the cliff top. The sheer cliffs are largely unvegetated though some wide slopes are vegetated with a Festuca sward. The site includes some cliff-top vegetation (a typical maritime sward) and the adjacent sea area to a distance of 500 m from the cliff base.
004031	Inner Galway Bay SPA	Galway Bay is one of the most important ornithological sites in the western region. It supports internationally important wintering populations of Gavia immer and Branta bernicla hrota and regularly occurring nationally important populations of an additional 16 species most notably Mergus serrator (6.7% of national total) Charadrius hiaticula (3.3% of total) Anas clypeata (2.9% of total) and Limosa lapponica (2.5% of total). It supports the largest and the most regular population of Gavia arctica in the country. The bay is an important wintering site for gulls and is of national significance for at least Larus canus. Breeding birds of note are Phalacrocorax carbo Sterna sandvicensis and Sterna hirundo. The site provides both feeding and roost sites for most of the species though some birds commute to areas outside of the site. The birds of Galway Bay have been monitored annually since 1980/81. The site has one of the largest populations of Phoca vitulina in the country.	Galway Bay SPA is a very large marine-dominated site situated on the west coast of Ireland. The inner bay is protected from exposure to Atlantic swells by the Aran Islands and Black Head. Subsidiary bays and inlets (e.g. Poulnaclough Aughinish and Kinvarra Bays) add texture to the patterns of water movement and sediment deposition which lends variety to the marine habitats and communities. The terraced Carboniferous (Viséan) limestone platform of the Burren sweeps down to the shore and into the sublittoral. The long shoreline is noted for its diversity with complex mixtures of bedrock shore shingle beach sandy beach and fringing salt marshes. Intertidal sand and mud flats occur around much of the shoreline with the largest areas being found on the sheltered eastern coast between Oranmore Bay and Kinvarra Bay. Seagrass beds lie off Finavarra Point. A number of small islands composed of glacial deposits are included such as Deer Island along with some rocky islets.
004041	Ballyallia Lough SPA	The site supports a good diversity of wintering waterfowl including swans dabbling duck diving duck and some waders. Habitat quality is good and the site provides both feeding and roost sites for the birds. Seven of the species have populations of national importance: Anas penelope Anas strepera Anas crecca Anus platyrhynchos Anas clypeata Fulica atra and Limosa limosa. The Anas clypeata population is the largest in the country (9.6% of all-Ireland total) while that of Anas strepera is also very notable (10.3% of all-Ireland total).	Ballyallia Lake is a relatively small naturally eutrophic lake set in Carboniferous limestone. The site is located on the River Fergus a little north of Ennis town. It is a shallow system but can rise substantially during winter floods. A low-lying flood plain of wet grassland and rough pasture grazing to the west is included within the site. Substantial areas of improved grassland used by feeding waterfowl are also included. Intensively farmed land occurs to the north and south. The lake is used for a range of recreational activities.

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		There is a regularly occurring flock of Cygnus cygnus. Some of the birds especially Limosa limosa commute to the nearby River Fergus-River Shannon estuary. The site is a Wildfowl Sanctuary.	
004056	Lough Cutra SPA	Lough Cutra is a long-established breeding site for Phalacrocorax carbo. The colony is of regional importance though has been of national importance in the past. The lake supports wintering waterfowl including Cygnus cygnus though numbers are relatively low.	Lough Cutra is a large oligo-mesotrophic lake lying on limestone but with much sediment washed down from the sandstone hills to the east (Slieve Aughty Mountains). The Owendalulleegh River is the main inflowing river. The shoreline is often stony or sandy though in places it is peat fringed. Marginal wetland vegetation includes well-developed reed beds in sheltered bays as well as localised patches of swamp and fen vegetation. Woodland occurs around much of the lake shore. Much of this is planted though wet woodland with native species is also represented. The lake has a number of islands some of which are wooded. The surrounding land is mostly agricultural mainly pasture grassland. Lough Cutra Castle which supports hibernating Rhinolophus hipposideros is adjacent to the site.
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	This is the most important coastal wetland site in the country and regularly supports in excess of 50000 wintering waterfowl. It has internationally important populations of Calidris alpina Limosa limosa and Tringa totanus. A further 16 species have populations of national importance. The site is particularly significant for Calidris alpina (11% of national total) Pluvialis squatarola (7.5% of total) Vanellus vanellus (6.5% of total) Tringa totanus (6.1% of total) and Tadorna tadorna (6.0% of total). It has Cygnus cygnus Pluvialis apricaria and Limosa lapponica in significant numbers. The site was formerly frequented by a population of Anser albifrons flavirostris but these have now abandoned the area. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the wintering birds and habitat quality for most of the estuarine habitats is good.	The River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries form the largest estuarine complex in Ireland. The site comprises all of the estuarine habitat west from Limerick City and south from Ennis extending west as far as Killadysert and Foynes on the north and south shores of the Shannon respectively (a distance of some 25 km from east to west). Also included are several areas in the outer Shannon estuary notably Clonderalaw Bay and Poulnasherry Bay. The site has vast expanses of intertidal flats. The main macro-invertebrate community is a Macoma-Scrobicularia-Nereis community which provides a rich food resource for the wintering birds. Eelgrass (Zostera spp.) is present in places. The intertidal flats are often fringed with salt marsh vegetation areas which provide important high tide roost sites for the birds. In the innermost parts of the estuaries the tidal channels or creeks are fringed with species such as Phragmites australis and Scirpus spp. Spartina anglica is frequent in parts.

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004114	Illaunonearaun SPA	The site is of importance as a haunt for the wintering population of Branta leucopsis which frequents the west Clare coastline (Mutton Island being the main site). Numbers vary though at times exceed the threshold for national importance. This is near the southern limit of the range of Branta leucopsis in Ireland. The site is also of note as a breeding site for seabirds with populations of Phalacrocorax carbo Larus fuscus and Larus marinus.	Illaunonearaun is a small island located approximately 300 m off the west Clare coast. It is a low-lying island surrounded by low cliffs and a rocky shore. Several islets occur off the north-west shore. The sea surrounding the island to a distance of 200 m where seabirds forage bathe and socialise is included in the site. The island is dominated by a maritime grassland sward.
004181	Connemara Bog Complex SPA	The Connemara Bog Complex SPA supports nationally important populations of four species. Of particular note are the populations of Pluvialis apricaria and Falco columbarius which represent 18% and 1.8-3.6% of the all-Ireland totals respectively.	The Connemara Bog Complex SPA is a large site encompassing the majority of the south Connemara lowlands Co. Galway. The site is bounded to the north by the Galway-Clifden road and stretches as far east as the Moycullen-Spiddal road. The site contains a wide range of habitats - extensive tracts of western blanket bog form the core interest but there are also areas of heath woodland lakes rivers and streams. The Connemara Bog Complex SPA is underlain predominantly by various Galway granites with small areas along the northern boundary of Lakes Marble schist and gneiss.
000016	Ballycullinan Lake SAC	The site supports a typical example of Cladium mariscus fen in a calcareous lake system. The fen occurs in association with Phragmites swamp. The structure and functionality appear good. The occurrence of limestone pavement within the site adds to its conservation value. The lake is of interest for the alga Cladophora sauteri which forms spherical aggregations that sometimes become buoyant and float. The scarce Mercurialis perennis occurs in scrub woodland. The site supports wintering Gallinago gallinago and small numbers of wildfowl.	Ballycullinan Lough is a small and shallow calcareous lake with marl deposits. Also included in the site are three smaller lakes to the north-east - Cragmoher Drumcavan and Shanvally Loughs. Swamp vegetation surrounds almost the entire margin of Ballycullinan Lough and extends out into the shallows. The three smaller lakes have little open water being dominated by swamp. The swamp community merges with freshwater marsh and wet grassland in places. Limestone pavement and scrub woodland with patches of calcareous grassland occupy the northern part of the site.
000032	Dromore Woods and Loughs SAC	The great value of this area lies in the mosaic of vegetation types: scrub limestone pavement lakes lake shore communities reed beds and grassland. Between them there is a great wealth of plants and a variety of habitats for animals. 9% of the site consists of the Annex I priority habitat limestone pavement with 13% cover for naturally eutrophic lakes also Annex I. Eutrophic tall herb vegetation is also	Dromore Lough and surrounding woodland is situated on the southern edge of the Clare limestone. It is a continuation of the Burren landscape although at a lower elevation. The natural vegetation is Corylus avellana and Fraxinus excelsior wood but this has been interplanted with exotic conifers.

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		represented. Lutra lutra (Annex II) and Martes martes (Red Data Book) are both recorded within this site. The population of Rhinolophus hipposideros is of International Importance and one of the largest breeding sites in the country. Wintering waterfowl populations are of local importance.	There are small areas of limestone pavement and a series of naturally eutrophic lakes with extensive marginal grasslands fen and scrub. An outbuilding at Dromore House provides a summer breeding site for Rhinolophus hipposideros. The site plays host to an important invertebrate fauna and provides ideal habitat for Martes martes and Meles meles both Red Data Book species.
000261	Derrycrag Wood Nature Reserve SAC	The site is of importance since it contains fragments of an ancient oak woodland which until the 1940s was one of the most extensive in Ireland. The relatively fertile soils support the Coryletosum subassociation of the Blechno-Quercetum a community type which is uncommon in Ireland. The site acts as a refuge for flora and fauna which are otherwise scarce in the locality. The banks of the Woodford River support the Irish Red Data Book species Frangula alnus as well as a number of relatively rare herbs. The site provides an excellent opportunity to re-create an oak woodland.	This site is dominated by a coniferous plantation which contains fragments of old oak woodland. The original ground flora persist beneath the conifers especially where mature Pinus sylvestris occurs. The Woodford River traverses the north-eastern part of the site. The underlying rock is Old Red Sandstone overlain in places by drift. The soils vary from thin acidic podzols to deeper gleyed brown earths.
000297	Lough Corrib SAC	The site is of immense importance for the occurrence of scarce and specialised habitats as well as animal and plant species. Lough Corrib is the second largest oligotrophic lake in the country and is a superb example of a hardwater system. The site holds 14 Annex I habitats 6 of these are priority Annex I habitats of the EU Habitats Directive 5 Red Data Book plant species also Drepanocladus vernicosus and Lutra lutra and a rare chironomid Corynorera ambigua good populations of Margaritifera margaritifera Austropotamobius pallipes Petromyzon marinus and Lampetra planeri. The site also supports an important population of Salmo salar. Important for wintering and breeding birds with Anser albifrons flavirostris Sterna hirundo and Sterna paradisea.	Lough Corrib is situated directly north of Galway city and is the second largest lake in Ireland. The lake supports extensive Chara beds many wooded islands and large areas of swamp and fen in the shallow south-east section which lies on limestone. The north-west part is deeper wider and more oligotrophic. Shore is mainly karst bog and small areas of callow. The surroundings are farmland and holiday-home areas. Most of the main rivers and their tributaries which flow into the lake are included within the site including the Abbert Clare Cong Cornamona Dalgan Drimeen Grange Owenwee Owenriff and Sinking rivers. The River Corrib flows from the southern point of the lough into the sea at Galway city.
001275	Inisheer Island SAC	The island is important for the presence of the priority habitats limestone pavement orchid rich calcareous grasslands and lagoons along with three further annexed habitats. The rocky grasslands play host to the protected species Viola hirta.	Inisheer is the smallest of the three Aran Islands situated approximately 10km off the west coast of County Clare. The island is a geological extension of the karstic carboniferous region of the Burren.

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		Traditional agricultural in the form of rye cultivation is still carried on and provides habitat for a number of rare and threatened arable weeds including Lolium temulentum and Bromus racemosus. Three pairs of Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax breed on the island.	Upper carboniferous limestone strata interleaved with layers of shale and clay form these exposed islands which rise to a maximum of 64m. The land surface is divided up by a network of fissures varying from fine to deep clefts. The soil cover is thin with pockets of rendzina between the bare limestone.
001913	Sonnagh Bog SAC	One of the last remaining intact areas of highland blanket bog in the Slieve Aughty Mountains containing good examples of deep blanket bog peat without Molinia caerulea. A small lake and flush communities associated with streams add diversity to the site. Lagopus lagopus have been reported from this site and Gallinago gallinago is regular in winter.	A relatively isolated example of highland blanket bog situated on a plateau (300m) in the sandstone Slieve Aughty Mountains. Site contains a small lake and the headstreams of the Boleyneendorrish River.
002034	Connemara Bog Complex SAC	The site is of exceptional scientific value as it provides (with the exception of the Glenamoy Bog complex) the best example of a relatively unmodified lowland blanket bog habitat in Ireland. The primary interest of this site lies in the blanket bog and in the associated habitats of quaking bog flushes Rhynchosporion vegetation dystrophic bog pools and fens. Excellent examples of lagoons occur with highly diverse assemblages of flora and fauna. The site also includes areas of reef. There are four Annex II species of flora and fauna including Salmo salar Najas flexilis and Lutra lutra and a total of 11 legally protected plant species. The site is of particular conservation importance for Salmo salar with excellent grilse and spring salmon rivers and lakes and extensive spawning habitat. The site has ornithological importance with five Annex I Bird Directive species. The nesting Falco columbarius and Pluvialis apricaria within the site constitute a high proportion of the national totals for the species. Additional areas are included in the site under EU LIFE funded restoration projects.	A vast area of lowland Atlantic blanket bog providing one of the best examples of this habitat type in Ireland. The majority of land in the area is still quite intact and is of immense botanical and zoological interest. The underlying rock in the area is predominantly granite with areas of gneiss and gabbro to the west of the site. There are numerous oligotrophic lakes throughout the site with the Roundstone area providing an excellent example of a lake-studded blanket bog environment. Dystrophic pools are also encountered throughout the site in association with other habitats including alkaline fens quaking bog transition mires deciduous woodland wet and dry heaths scrub semi-improved grassland wet grassland and river habitats.
002126	Pollagoona Bog SAC	This site is important as it represents a good example of a relatively intact saddle blanket bog. Variation is displayed in micro-topography structure and in species composition.	This is a small intact saddle blanket bog. Adjacent areas of formerly afforested peatland are included in the site as part of an EU LIFE funded restoration project.

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002157	Newgrove House SAC	As > 150 Lesser Horseshoe Bats (Rhinolophus hipposideros) hibernate at this site it is a site of international importance.	The bats roost in a section of a cellar beneath the former Newgrove House. They gain access through a hole in the ground and fly along a stone passageway to roost in a dome shaped cellar. Site includes the surrounding pasture fields hedgerows and some areas of mixed woodland. The hedgegrows and woodland margins are ideal for foraging and commuting bats. A former lake has been totally reclaimed.
002246	Ballycullinan Old Domestic Building SAC	This site supports a maternity colony of Rhinolophus hipposideros of international importance. Numbers have gradually increased in recent years with 115 individual bats in 1999. The roost lies within the core area of the distribution of the species in Ireland.	This site is situated to the east of Ballycullinan Lough in County Clare. It includes some derelict dwellings one of which is used by Rhinolophus hipposideros in summer. The area surrounding the buildings is poor pasture with overgrown hedgerows and scrub. This provides suitable foraging habitat for the bats and some of it is included in the site.
002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC	Silvermines West is a substantial upland area dominated by wet heath with smaller areas of dry heath blanket bog (incl. degraded bog) acid grassland scrub and outcropping rock. The site has been selected for the presence of the Annex 1 habitat wet heath. The site is one of the largest remaining unafforested upland areas in the north Tipperary area a large proportion of the adjoining uplands having been afforested in recent decades. The quality of the site is high due to the relatively low levels of burning and grazing in the recent past. Site is used as foraging habitat by part of the important Circus cyaneus population that nests in the Silvermine-Slievefeelim uplands.	This is an upland site dominated by heath grassland and blanket bog habitats. The dominant bedrocks within the site are Silurian sandstones and shales which outcrop frequently especially at higher elevations with old red sandstone at lower elevations. Deposits of minerals such as zinc lead and copper - now largely exhausted - occur along the northern boundary of the site where the older rocks meet limestone. Extensive disused mine workings - dominated by a large tailings pond - lie along the north-eastern boundary and some areas within the site show indications of disturbance from these past mining works. Most of the adjoining mountain ridge to the east has been afforested with conifers.
002293	Carrowbaun Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs SAC	Along with Coole and Peterswell turloughs this turlough complex forms the third major area where streams descending from the Slieve Aughty Mountains disappear into the underlying limestone and as such is an essential element in the drainage system in this internationally important karstic region.	This site is situated in the limestone lowlands of south Galway. It consists of three separate turlough-type marshes in Carrowbaun East and Newhall and the channel between Ballylee Castle and Pollanoween in which the Streamstown and Ballylee Rivers sink. The systems are linked at times of high flood.

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		Despite the vegetation in Newhall and Carrowbaun having been modified by drainage works and heavy grazing there are places where a good zonation of communities occur including stands of conservation value. The Ballylee component is much improved for agriculture and the main interest is at the sink area at the western end. When in flood the site is of local to regional importance for wintering waterfowl including Cygnus cygnus and Cygnus columbianus and also has nesting Gallinago gallinago. Small breeding colonies of Rhinolophus hipposideros and Plecotus auritus occur in Ballylee Castle.	The lowest part of the Carrowbaun site is at the northern end where topographical ridges enclose two arms of wetland. Newhall lies in a broad peaty depression with gravel deposits at the southern end. At high water levels there is flooding northwards into Carrowbaun West. The Ballylee River is confined between a limestone ridge and drift deposits on the south-eastern side and has formed a channel through whose floor the water sinks. In flood it travels further south-west and disappears in a tangled rocky area covered in scrub. Small amounts of groundwater feed the Carrowbaun and Newhall wetlands and there is very little noticeable flow in summer. Swallow holes occur at Pollaleen which introduces water from nearby Lough Coy as well as at Carrowbaun and at two places in the south-west end. Adjacent areas of wet grassland and improved grassland are included in the site for water quality reasons. Much of the site is grazed.
004042	Lough Corrib SPA	The site is of international importance for wintering Aythya ferina but also qualifies for international importance because it regularly supports well in excess of 20000 waterfowl. It is one of the top five sites in the country for wintering waterfowl. Of particular importance is that it is the most important site in the country for Aythya ferina Aythya fuligula and Fulica atra supporting 21% 46% and 13% of the respective national totals. It also has nationally important populations of wintering Cygnus olor Anas strepera Anas clypeata Pluvialis apricaria and Vanellus vanellus. The lake is a traditional site for Anser albifrons flavirostris. Small numbers of Cygnus cygnus winter. Lough Corrib is a traditional breeding site for gulls and terns. There are nationally important colonies of Sterna hirundo and Sterna paradisaea as well as Larus ridibundus and Larus canus. Considerable higher numbers of gulls bred in the 1970s and 1980s. Whilst only colonised in the 1970s/80s by nesting Melanitta nigra Lough Corrib now supports approximately half of the national population of this rare duck which is a Red Data Book species.	Lough Corrib is the largest lake in the Republic of Ireland. The lake can be divided into two parts: a relatively shallow basin underlain by Carboniferous limestone in the south and a larger deeper basin underlain by more acidic granite schists shales and sandstones to the north. The main inflowing rivers are the Black Clare Dooghta Cregg Owenriff and the channel from Lough Mask. The main outflowing river is the Corrib which reaches the sea at Galway City. Lough Corrib is classified as a mesotrophic system and overall water quality is considered to be satisfactory. The shallow lime-rich waters of the southern basin of the lake support one of the most extensive beds of charophytes (Chara spp.) in Ireland which occur mixed with submerged pondweeds (Potamogeton spp.). Large areas of reedswamp vegetation dominated by varying mixtures of Phragmites australis and Scirpus lacustris occur around the margins of the lake. Reedswamp usually grades into species-rich marsh vegetation. Of particular note are the extensive beds of Cladium mariscus that have developed over the marly peat deposits in sheltered bays.

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		The population has been stable since the mid 1990s. Lough Corrib supports a range of species listed on Annex II of the E.U. Habitats Directive including Lutra lutra Salmo salar and Najas flexilis.	The lake has numerous islands from rocky islets to larger islands with grassland or woodland. The surrounding lands are mostly pastoral farmland to the south and east and bog and heath to the west and north. Lough Corrib is an internationally renowned salmonid fishery.
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Lough Derg is of importance for both breeding and wintering birds. The islands support nationally important breeding colonies of Sterna hirundo Phalacrocorax carbo Podiceps cristatus and probably Aythya fuligula. It is a traditional site for nesting Larus ridibundus but there is no recent survey information. In winter the lake is particularly important for diving ducks with nationally important populations of Aythya fuligula and Bucephala clangula occurring. Cygnus olor also has a population of national importance whilst a range of other species occur in lesser numbers including Cygnus cygnus Anas crecca Fulica atra and Vanellus vanellus. A flock of Anser albifrons flavirostris has traditionally used the site where they feed on grassy islands but birds have seldom been recorded in recent years.	Lough Derg is the largest of the Shannon Lakes being some 40 km long. Its maximum breadth across the Scarriff Bay-Youghal Bay transect is 13 km but for most of its length it is less than 5 km wide. The lake is relatively shallow at the northern end being mostly 6 m in depth but in the middle region it has an axial trench and descends to over 25 m in places. The narrow southern end of the lake has the greatest average depth with a maximum of 34 m. The greater part of the lake lies on Carboniferous limestone but the narrow southern section is underlain by Silurian strata. Most of the lower part of the lake is enclosed by hills on both sides the Slieve Aughty Mountains to the west and the Arra Mountains to the east. The northern end is bordered by relatively flat agricultural country. The lake shows the high hardness levels and alkaline pH to be expected from its mainly limestone catchment basin and it has most recently been classified as a mesotrophic system. The lake has many small islands especially on its western and northern sides. The shoreline is often fringed with swamp vegetation. Aquatic vegetation includes a range of charophyte species.
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. Along with its main tributaries the River Suck and River Brosna it represents one of the most important wetland systems in the country. It is of International Importance for wintering waterfowl as numbers regularly exceed the 20000 threshold (mean of 34985 for the 5 winters 1994/94-1998/99). Of particular note is the presence of an Internationally Important population of Cygnus cygnus.	The site follows the River Shannon from Athlone just below Lough Ree to Portumna just above Lough Derg a distance of over 50 km. It includes much of the flood plain of the river varying in width from approximately 0.5 km to up to 1.5 km in places. A weir at Meelick divides the flooding regime. The main habitat present is humid grassland improved to varying extents that is seasonally flooded. The less improved areas are species-rich. The grassland is used mainly for pasture but some is used for hay-making.

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		A further five species have populations of national importance: Cygnus olor Anas penelope Pluvialis apricaria Vanellus vanellus and Limosa limosa. There is a well documented spring passage of Limosa limosa along the river valley. The Shannon callows are also of high importance for breeding birds. In particular it has the largest concentration of Crex crex in Ireland. Since 1991 a conservation programme involving annual monitoring of population size practical habitat management and publicity has been in operation. Coturnix coturnix a very rare species in Ireland also breeds in the grasslands. Several wader species notably Vanellus vanellus Gallinago gallinago and Tringa totanus have important breeding populations though these have declined substantially since the 1980s. The scarce breeding species Anas clypeata nests in small numbers each year. The callows is one of the very few sites in Ireland where Limosa limosa has bred. The habitats also support a range of ground nesting passerine species notably Locustella naevia and Alauda arvensis. In autumn and winter Circus cyaneus is a regular visitor.	The river channel is fringed by swamp and marsh vegetation. There is an extensive system of drainage channels many of which support a diverse flora. The callows often border raised bogs some of which are still intact.
004107	Coole-Garryland SPA	This site is of international importance for Cygnus cygnus which use the site for both feeding and roosting purposes though the flock also visits other feeding areas outside of the site. It was formerly of importance for Cygnus columbarius bewickii but birds have not been present in recent winters reflecting a decline that has occurred throughout the country. A good diversity of other wintering birds occurs notably Anas penelope which is close to the threshold for national importance. Also present are Anas crecca Anas clypeata Aythya ferina Vanellus vanellus and Numenius arquata. Coole Lough has particular significance for wintering waterfowl as during prolonged dry spells it is one of the few sites in the catchment which retains open water. The ecology of the site has been studied in detail.	The Coole-Garryland SPA is situated in a low-lying karstic limestone area west of Gort. It comprises a series of turloughs which are fed by springs and a partly submerged river surrounded by woodland pasture and limestone heath. Coole Lough is the largest and most permanent of the turloughs retaining some water throughout the year. Water levels vary greatly depending on rainfall and this has consequences on the numbers of birds present. During prolonged dry spells higher numbers of some species are present as birds from other sites in the catchment are attracted to the permanent waters of Coole Lough. Excessive flood conditions reduce the potential feeding areas though birds still roost on the lakes.

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000014	Ballyallia Lake SAC	This small shallow lake is a typical example of a natural eutrophic lake. The diversity of habitat around the lake is low and some of the marginal wetland habitats have been damaged by agricultural improvements. The quality of the water may also have deteriorated due to agricultural intensification in the area in recent years. The site is a very important bird site with a high diversity and some important populations of wintering waterfowl. Of note is the internationally important population of Shoveler and the nationally important population of Gadwall. Breeding birds include Great Crested Grebe and Coot.	Ballylallia Lake is situated on the River Fergus about 4km north of Ennis. It is a shallow (max. depth 7.8 m) eutrophic calcareous lake with relatively clear water. The bottom is muddy sand rocky in the shallows. Low-lying areas of rough pasture occur to the west and south with higher sloping ground to the north and east. Lough Girroga situated less than 1km to the south forms part of the site.
000020	Black Head-Poulsallagh Complex SAC	This site has an excellent diversity of typical Burren habitats with many rare plant species. The site is of particular value for the fine examples of high level Arctostaphylos uva-ursi heaths and for the presence of the only river found in the high Burren. This river the Caher is noted for its partly intermittent nature and the degree of development of tufa deposits. A superb and extensive example of a highly exposed vegetated shingle bank occurs at Poulsallagh with substrate ranging from large limestone boulders to pebbles. The littoral reef communities are important biogeographical variations of intertidal rocky shores extremely exposed to wave action and the area includes the best examples of this shore type in the country. The caves are the best known extensive network of caves that are connected to the sea in Ireland. While little is known of their biological diversity it is considered that they exist in a very natural state. The occurrence of Petalophyllum ralfsii adds to the interest of the site as does the presence of Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax.	The Black Head-Poulsallagh complex encompasses a complete range of rocky Burren habitats from coastal glacially planed limestone pavements to high level heaths. The limestone pavement includes smooth blocky and shattered types. Erratics of Galway granite occur especially around Black Head which is the main glaciated area of the Burren. A mosaic of typical Burren habitats are found including calcareous grasslands heaths and scrub. The Caher River is a shallow limestone spring-fed system with important tufa deposits of considerable thickness located to the west of the site. The shores are gently sloping stepped limestone pavements over most of the site but at Black Head the shore is narrow and very steeply stepped. There are numerous shallow rockpools on the shore. Black Head gives some protection to the shores immediately to the east but the west facing shores are extremely exposed to wave action. The shore has scattered cobbles and a number of pools are affected by these cobbles acting as mills in the pools causing severe scouring. In the most extreme cases there is a very impoverished flora and fauna present.

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000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	This site is at the extreme end of two ranges in variation of the turlough habitat i.e., wetness and trophic status. It has a greater area of annual vegetation than any other site and this includes Rorippa islandica a rare species found in 10-20 turloughs. Wildfowl numbers are high for its size especially Aythya ferina and Cygnus olor. There is no effective drainage of the site and though over enriched its nutrient balance could be restored.	Lough Gash is a late-draining turlough in a hollow just to the west of Newmarket-on-Fergus. It is flooded into August in most years and this results in the dominance of annual plant species which form an ungrazed stand 60cm high. This is surrounded by a fringe of amphibious species. Channels have been dug at the western and southern corners but these have little drainage effect. There are some wildfowl nesting. An inflow comes through the town on the east side and has a nutrient enriching effect.
000057	Moyree River System SAC	The Moyree river system is the best example of a karstic river after the Caher River in Ireland. The river exhibits an excellent example of nutrient gradients associated with silt deposition. Several good examples of active stream caves occur. 57% of the site consists of the Annex I priority habitat limestone pavement and its associated calcareous grasslands and scrub. A fine example of alkaline fen occurs within the flood plain of the river. A colony of the Annex II species Rhinolophus hipposideros occurs within the site. Salmo trutta was recorded from the river and Clossiana euphrosyne a butterfly species generally confined to a few localities in the west of Ireland was noted on site. The secluded nature of the river valley is ideal for sheltering wildfowl and other fauna which include Lutra lutra and Martes martes a Red Data Book species.	The Moyree River is a slow moving river which follows a partially subterranean course through a lowland karst region on the fringe of the eastern Burren. It is sheltered on the east by gentle sloping limestone outcrops and ash woodland and to the west by low undulating drumlin hills. Where the stream first emerges a small relatively eutrophic area of flood plain grassland is developed on alluvial soils. Further downstream the soils are fen peat and marl and fen vegetation dominated by Schoenus nigricans occurs.
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC	This is an important example of a natural limestone cave with a good diversity of features. As >50 Lesser Horseshoe Bats have been recorded at this site it is a site of international importance. It is also important as it is at the eastern limit of this species' distribution in Ireland.	This site is a natural limestone cave situated in a field south of a school in Quin Co. Clare. A large entrance leads to a wide chamber from which three passages radiate. Two of these soon become blocked but a route to the left leads into a passage which has been used by >50 Lesser Horseshoe Bats as a winter hibernation site. Cave habitats include slow moving water thick mud boulders pools of water rock walls and roof.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and Britain and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. It has been placed among the most 'natural' floodplains in western Europe. It is subject to regular and prolonged annual winter flooding. Wooded alluvial islands which flood regularly occur at one location. A number of Red Data Book and scarce plant species occur on the site the scarce species including Leucojum aestivum Sium latifolium Botrychium lunaria and Lemna gibba. In addition, the site contains a very wide variety of native plant species. A small area of limestone pavement at Clorhane is of particular importance as it is the only example of this habitat in the region. Along with its tributary the Little Brosna (designated separately) this is one of the great waterfowl sites in Ireland with huge numbers of a wide range of species occurring in winter with a mean peak of 34985 waterbirds recorded from 1995/96 to 1999/00. This is the third highest for an inland site in Ireland. The highest is the Little Brosna which is an extension to the Middle Shannon Callows. Only three estuarine sites are higher. In 1996/97 one species was of International Importance (Whooper Swan) and six species were of National Importance. A small flock of Anser albifrons flavirostris regularly use a few locations on the site and these are part of the Internationally Important flocks of both the Little Brosna and the River Suck. It is one of very few significant inland sites in Britain or Ireland for Calidris alpina. It is the top site in the country for Cygnus olor and close to that for Cygnus cygnus Vanellus vanellus and Pluvialis apricaria. The E.U. Birds Directive Annex I species Circus cyaneus regularly uses the site for hunting in autumn and winter. Perhaps even more important are its nesting Crex crex Coturnix coturnix and breeding waders. In 1987 1204 pairs of breeding waders were recorded (including adjacent parts of the Shannon) mainly Vanellus vanellus Gallinago gallinago Numenius arquata and Tringa totanus. Crex crex has one of its last strongholds here with 70 and 66 calling birds present in 1998 and 1999 respectively.	The River Shannon is the largest river in Ireland and its central route drains a large percentage of the whole country. It has proved too powerful to be tamed by drainage schemes in the past and this central section is still free to flood the surrounding lowlands in winter. It is a well-used agricultural resource of low intensity during the summer. This floodplain functions as a semi-natural meadow/marsh habitat (used for grazing or hay-making). There is an extensive system of surface drains. The site is linear running for about 50 km at an average width of about 0.75 km (but reaching 1.5 km in several places). For about half its length it borders raised bogs most of which are in the process of large-scale peat harvesting. Esker ridges lie adjacent to the callows in some places. There are areas of both relict and active levees. A weir at Meelick divides the flooding regime. Ecological diversity is caused and maintained by multiple ownership variation in the flooding regime due to the topography of the callows hundreds of kilometres of drainage ditches differences in the amount of peat and alluvium in the soils and by the extensive nature of the site. The main habitat on the site is humid grassland managed for hay and pasture and these areas have the same management regime as the lowland hay meadows and Molinia meadows.

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		The Shannon Callows is one of the few areas in Ireland where Coturnix coturnix breeds. Numbers vary between years but up to 14 males have been heard. There are high populations of ground-nesting passerines such as Alauda arvensis Anthus pratensis Locustella naevia and Emberiza schoeniclus on the site. The River Shannon Callows is a breeding site for two Red Data Book waterbird species: Limosa limosa islandica and Anas clypeata. The Red Data Book species Anas acuta has also bred on the site though its current status is unknown. The E.U. Birds Directive Annex I species Falco columbarius bred on the site in 1996. Large rivers flowing unfettered through lowland floodplains are now rare anywhere in Europe. This river and its associated habitats are of the highest conservation importance.	
000242	Castletaylor Complex SAC	Site contains an excellent example of an extreme oligotrophic turlough and good examples of Dryas and Juniperus heaths calcareous grassland and some limestone pavement. The transition from the wetland to the surrounding habitats is particularly well shown. A range of scarce plants occur including Frangula alnus a Red Data species as well as typical Burren species such as Gentiana verna. The site also has breeding Vanellus vanellus. The diversity of specialised habitats all in good quality in a relatively small area makes this site of particular importance.	Situated c.4km south-east of Kilcolgan and set on undulating limestone topography this site comprises a range of habitats in a relatively small area. The western half of the site is dominated by Caranavoodaun turlough but also has good examples of heaths calcareous grassland and limestone pavement. The eastern half is dominated by dry broad-leaved woodland and scrub. The surrounding lands are mostly of low to moderate intensity pasture with some afforestation immediately to the south. The turlough has no significant wintering bird populations because of the nutrient-poor conditions.
000268	Galway Bay Complex SAC	The site has very important and good quality examples of large shallow inlets and bays intertidal mud and sandflats and reefs. The area has the country's only recorded example of the littoral community characterized by Fucus serratus with sponges ascidians and red seaweeds on tide-swept lower eulittoral mixed substrata. Sublittorally the area has Ireland's only reported piddock bed an extensive maerl bed of Phymatolithon calcareum an oyster bed and seagrass beds.	The Galway Bay Complex is a very large marine-dominated site situated on the west coast of Ireland. The inner part of the south bay is protected from exposure to Atlantic swells by the Aran Islands and Black Head. Subsidiary bays and inlets (e.g. Poulnaclough Aughinish and Kinvara Bays) add texture to the patterns of water movement and sediment deposition which lends variety to the marine habitats and communities. The terraced Carboniferous (Visean) limestone platform of the Burren sweeps down to the shore and into the sublittoral.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		A host of rare marine organisms occur including the sea urchin Paracentrotus lividus the sponge Mycale contarenii the red algae Phyllophora sicula and Rhodymenia delicatula. Lagoons are particularly well represented and varied in type size and salinity. Of especial importance are the rare karstic rock lagoons of which the site holds all but one of the examples known from the mainland of Ireland. Good quality salt marshes of both Atlantic and Mediterranean types are well represented and occur along with perennial vegetation of stony banks. A very good though limited example of calcareous grassland rich in orchids occurs and there are examples of alkaline fen and Juniperus communis scrub of moderate quality. Two Red Data Book stoneworts occur Chara canescens and Lamprothamnium papulosum and also two Red Data Book vascular plants - Crambe maritima and Hyoscyamus niger. The site has one of the largest populations of Phoca vitulina in the country and provides optimum habitat for Lutra lutra. Galway Bay is a very important ornithological site with an internationally important wintering population of Branta bernicla hrota and regular nationally important populations of a further 16 species including Gavia immer Gavia arctica Pluvialis apricaria and Limosa lapponica. Breeding birds of note are Phalacrocorax carbo Sterna sandvicensis and Sterna hirundo.	West of Galway city the bedrock geology is granite. The long shoreline is noted for its diversity with complex mixtures of bedrock shore shingle beach sandy beach and fringing salt marshes. Other habitats which occur in small amounts include lagoon fen turlough dry grassland wet grassland and deciduous woodland.
000308	Loughatorick South Bog SAC	The largest of three highland blanket bogs in the Slieve Aughty mountains with vegetation intermediate between lowland and mountain blanket bog a relatively rare habitat type in Ireland. Remarkably intact blanket bog with a range of altitudinal topographic and vegetation variation and including the most western station for Andromeda polifolia on an upland blanket bog. Site used by Lagopus lagopus and Gallinago gallinago.	A highland blanket bog encompassing the summits of Scalp (317m) and Bohatch Mountain (379m) at the southern end of the Old Red Sandstone Slieve Aughty mountain range. The site incorporates the headstreams of the Coos Conra and Bow river catchments and includes a range of upland habitats i.e. blanket bog heath rock outcrop fens flushes and Molinia grassland.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000318	Peterswell Turlough SAC	The Blackrock section of the site is the deepest turlough known and one of the few large ones that is river-fed. The vegetation is in very good condition and while not very diverse includes two types not widely found. These are Rhamnus woodland and late-exposed mud with Limosella. The Bullaunagh section is a broader valley which floods in winter. Between the two turloughs the Limepark area has notable turlough woodland along the narrow river gorge with a large area of Ash woodland on limestone pavement at the west. Winter bird numbers are thought to be significant. The internationally important population of Whooper Swans at the Lough Coy catchment use the turloughs in this site. Three Red Data Book plant species are found in the site.	Peterswell (Blackrock and Bullaunagh) Turlough lies in limestone in an elongated depression close to the edge of the Slieve Aughty mountains. It is fed largely by surface flow from the Kilchreest River but has no corresponding outflow. The Blackrock section is a deep basin dry in summer with woodland and sloping rocks on the S.E. side. The fluctuation of water level is extreme and in some years the waterbody is 18m deep.
000439	Tory Hill SAC	This site has an excellent diversity of habitats all of good quality over a relatively small area. The calcareous grassland and fen habitats which are represented at the site are rare in the county. The calcareous grassland is particularly species-rich and has some locally scarce species including Arabis hirsuta and Ophrys apifera. An area of limestone heath-scrub on the western flank of Tory Hill is remarkable for the occurrence of a stand of Taxus baccata which is a feature now rare in Ireland. Tory Hill has geological and geomorphological importance and represents an excellent example of a landform that is rare outside of the Burren. The site has been the subject of palaeoecological investigations and has high educational potential.	Tory Hill is an isolated limestone outcrop rising to 112 m. It is an excellent example of an end-moraine. Of particular geomorphological note are ice marks that are clearly visible on the solid rock of its northern flank. Soil is a coarse calcareous drift. Most of the hill is dominated by deciduous scrub and woodland with a well developed heath-scrub complex occurring on its western flank. Some limestone pavement occurs in association with the calcareous grassland. Lough Nagirra is a small lake that is surrounded by swamp and fen vegetation and wet grassland.
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC	This is an old oak woodland which was clear-felled and left to regenerate naturally resulting in a rather dense and even-aged stand. The understorey is also dense which along with recent grazing has resulted in an impoverished ground flora. The wood is unmanaged and provides a haven for species such as Martes martes while ditches within the site support an abundant population of Rana temporaria. The association with other semi-natural habitats notably wet grassland and bog is of value.	This site is dominated by deciduous woodland on a west facing slope. Although probably of ancient origin it was clear-felled around 50 years ago and left to regenerate naturally. The diversity of the site is enhanced by an area of species-rich grassland a small stream and a small area of raised bog.

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001021	Carrowmore Point to Spanish Point and Islands SAC	The site holds a very high number of littoral reef communities. Some have extremely high species richness e.g., 85 species in the sublittoral fringe and 80 species in the lower eulittoral south of Cloghaunichy Point. There are uncommon species in the intertidal (Paracentrotus lividus and Bifurcaria bifurcata). Sublittorally the area is important for its deep exposed reef communities that are characterized by unusual and delicate erect sponges the fragile anthozoan Eunicella verrucosa the rare sponge Tetilla zetlandica and the anthozoan Parazoanthus axinellae. Lough Donnell is a good example of a moderately large oligohaline percolation lagoon. The floral and faunal communities are not particularly rich but include an important brackish element with five lagoonal specialists and it is the most northerly station of one relatively rare species (Notonecta viridis). The site has significant examples of vegetated shingle and stony banks all of which are very exposed. The site has a good example of petrifying springs with tufa formations with several species of bryophyte typical of the Cratoneurion. The springs occur along seepage zones in clay sea cliffs. A population of Branta leucopsis of international importance winters on Mutton Island and Hydrobates pelagicus may still breed. Phalacrocorax carbo breeds on Mattle Island. The site holds nationally important wintering populations of Charadrius hiaticula Calidris maritima Calidris alba Calidris alpina and Arenaria interpres. Cygnus cygnus and Pluvialis apricaria occur in small numbers.	This site stretches for over 10 km of the west Clare coast. It consists mostly of marine waters which are exposed to the full force of Atlantic swells from the west. Tidal streams are weak to moderate. Bedrock is composed of Carboniferous Lower Devonian Shales and Sandstones Carboniferous Slate Series and Calciferous Sandstone Series. Several islands are included, the largest of which is Mutton Island. Mutton Island is uninhabited and is dominated by a maritime grassy sward. The mainland shoreline is mostly rocky or stony though there are several sandy beaches and areas of intertidal flats. Lough Donnell is a shallow sedimentary lagoon with a large cobble barrier.
001912	Glendree Bog SAC	One of only three intact blanket bog sites known in the Slieve Aughty Mountains of value as an example of a scarce transitional highland type containing ombrotrophic zones with no Molinia caerulea. Considerable diversity within the site with Schoenus nigricans flush vegetation and good examples of oligotrophic upland lakes the largest of which Lough Ea is a traditional roosting site for Anser albifrons flavirostris.	A highland blanket bog underlain by Old Red Sandstone in the Slieve Aughty Mountains. Site contains three upland oligotrophic lakes the largest of which is Lough Ea and includes the headstream of the Glendree River. Minerotrophic flush and heath vegetation also occur. Site is surrounded on three sides by commercial forestry plantation.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
001926	East Burren Complex SAC	This large site is of immense importance for the diversity and quality of Annex I habitats (12 in total) five of which are priority. Of particular note are the limestone pavement calcareous grasslands (orchid rich) and heaths and hard water lakes and associated Cladium fens. Taxus baccata occurs as a component of woodland on limestone pavement in some areas. The site also includes an area of alluvial woodland. The site has an internationally important population of Rhinolophus hipposideros a major colony of Euphydryas aurinia and Lutra lutra. Several Red Data Book plant species occur. The Red Data Book fish species Salvelinus alpinus has been recorded from L. Inchiquin. Four Annex I Bird Directive species occur.	This site encompasses the largest expanse of limestone pavement in the country - this ranges from typical flat open paving with sparse vegetation at high levels such as at Mullagh More to often scrub covered broken paving at the lower altitudes. Associated with the limestone pavement are well-developed calcareous heaths and grasslands. In the limestone areas surface drainage is largely absent. The south and south-east of the site is dominated by a series of wetlands which run from Corofin to Kilmacduagh. These range from open lakes to dense swamp vegetation. For water quality reasons areas of improved pasture are included in site.
002117	Lough Coy SAC	The site is an excellent example of a eutrophic turlough exposed to a large volume of water over the winter season and a considerable fluctuation in level. Vegetation zonation is well developed and a number of rare plants occur. The site is in a natural condition and there is little outside influence on the habitat apart from grazing and a little gravel removal. The site is one of several turloughs in the area used by wintering waterfowl including Cygnus cygnus and an inland flock of Calidris alpina. Usage varies according to water levels.	Lough Coy occupies an oval basin in the limestone just west of the Gort-Loughrea road. It is a turlough with a permanent central lake which reduces in area during the summer. The immediate catchment of Lough Coy is very small and the turlough would seem to be fed almost solely by water from Peterswell turlough to the north and its feeding river. A main swallowhole occurs in the north-western corner of the basin. At times of low water extensive mudflats are exposed at Lough Coy on which a distinctive annual vegetation develops. The sides of the basin are closely grazed though there are numerous rocks and a little scrub. At high water levels some water escapes southwards where it joins a small permanent flow from Ballynabucky. The southern sector has further swallow holes and the area is characterised by small stands of wetland vegetation often on peat over marl. Areas of improved grassland are included in the site for hydrological reasons.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002245	Old Farm Buildings Ballymacrogan SAC	This site is a maternity colony for Rhinolophus hipposideros. Approximately 80 individual bats were counted on emergence in June 2000 although numbers have exceeded 100 (threshold for international importance) in the past. It lies within the core area of the distribution of the species in Ireland. Long-term conservation prospects are excellent.	Site comprises a series of stone outbuildings. Lesser horseshoe bats (Rhinolophus hipposideros) were originally found in an outbuilding which was in a derelict condition. An adjacent building was subsequently restored by a conservation organisation (Vincent Wildlife Trust) to provide better roosting conditions for the bats. Since completion the bats have successfully moved into the restored building. The bats roost in the attic/loft space. The habitat surrounding the site provides poor quality foraging for the bats but there are numerous commuting routes (along hedgerows and stone walls) to feeding areas elsewhere.
002247	Toonagh Estate SAC	This site is a maternity colony for Rhinolophus hipposideros. Over 90 individual bats were counted in August 1999. It lies within the core area of the distribution of the species in Ireland.	This site is situated c.5 km north-west of Ennis in Co. Clare. A stable provides a nursery roost for lesser horseshoe bats (Rhinolophus hipposideros). The bats utilise the roof space of the building. Conditions have been made more suitable by measures to temporarily darken the roost during summer (carried out by Dúchas). Surrounding habitat is estate parkland with improved pasture and mature trees. This provides good foraging habitat for the bats and is included in the site.
002319	Kilkishen House SAC	An internationally important hibernaculum of Rhinolophus hipposideros is present in the basement of the house. This winter roost is in good condition and provides stable and undisturbed hibernating conditions for the bats. A summer roosting site in the roof is in poor condition and is vulnerable to further dereliction. Foraging areas have not yet been established. The site also supports a population of Myotis nattereri.	The site consists of a two-storey over-basement mansion which is currently disused and a surrounding copse of woodland. It is surrounded by parkland with mature trees. Extensive areas of woodland and a small lake are found within 500 m of the site.
002343	Tullaher Lough and Bog SAC	The main ecological interest of this site is provided by a small area of uncut raised bog. This area though small is one of the most westerly examples of raised bog habitat in Ireland. Although the raised bog has been subject to cutting the surface is wet and has a healthy Sphagnum cover. The area of active bog is surrounded by degraded raised bog.	Tullaher Lough and Bog is a large diverse site which is dominated by cutover bog. The site is situated 3 km south-west of Doonbeg village Co. Clare and is underlain by grey siltstone and sandstone. While the main habitat within the site is cutover bog the main ecological interest is provided by areas of raised bog lake and fen habitats.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Rhynchosporion vegetation is also represented but is largely restricted to the areas of wet bog. Two small lakes occur and these support a well-developed aquatic flora which includes nationally rare species such as Eriocaulon aquaticum and Elatine hexandra. Substantial areas of fen and transition mire occur close to the lakes and these are of good quality. The site is the focal point for a small but well-established population of Anser albifrons flavirostris. This population is of particular note as it is now the most south-westerly flock in the country. Cygnus cygnus and several other waterfowl species occur in small numbers.	The western margins of the site comprise a mosaic of wet and semi-improved or improved agricultural grassland which are used by feeding geese.
002351	Moanveanlagh Bog SAC	This site is of importance for the presence of active raised bog degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. Although the condition of these habitats is poor due to peat-cutting and burning and with only a very small area of active bog the site is important because it is the best remaining example of a raised bog in the south-west of the country. The presence of the scarce Sphagnum species S. imbricatum and S. fuscum is also noteworthy.	Moanveanlagh Bog is a medium-sized raised bog located on the Kerry/Limerick border 4 km east of Listowel town. The site overlies Namurian shales and grits which is unusual as most Irish raised bogs overlie limestone. There is intensive peat-cutting along the margins and this has resulted in the widespread drying out of the high bog surface. Part of the cutover had been converted to pasture grassland of varying quality. The insectivorous plant species Sarracenia purpurea has been introduced to the site and now covers a large proportion of the site surface.
004119	Loop Head SPA	The site supports a good diversity of breeding seabirds. Rissa tridactyla and Uria aalge have populations of national importance while there are locally important populations of Fulmarus glacialis and Alca torda. Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax (several pairs) breed within the site and use the maritime heath above the cliffs for feeding. It is a traditional site for Falco peregrinus.	Loop Head is situated at the most westerly point of Co. Clare. The site includes the shoreline and cliffs some adjoining maritime grassland and heath and the adjacent marine area to a distance of 500 m from the shore (where seabirds feed bathe and socialise). The vertical cliffs are impressive extending for up to 5 km and rising to approximately 60 m and highly exposed to the open seas of the Atlantic ocean. They are composed of Carboniferous grits and flags. A number of islets and stacks occur notably Gull Island and Dermot and Grania's Rock. A lighthouse is situated on the headland.

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004142	Cregganna Marsh SPA	Cregganna Marsh is of importance as it is the principal alternative feeding site for the nationally important population of Anser albifrons flavirostris that is based at nearby Rahasane turlough. Numbers using Cregganna Marsh vary between winters but in most winters the qualifying threshold for national importance is exceeded.	Cregganna Marsh is situated just south of Oranmore and close to Galway City. The site comprises a basin with marsh and wet grassland habitat in the lower areas. It is fed by a local calcareous spring. At times of high rain the area floods. The fields above the low-lying ground are mainly improved grassland and are included within the site to lessen disturbance to the feeding geese. Small areas of scrub dry grassland and exposed limestone rock are also present.
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	Supports c. 3% of the all-Ireland population of Circus cyaneus and among the top 5 most important sites in the country for the species. Habitat excellent for both nesting and foraging purposes. Also has nesting Falco peregrinus Falco columbarius and Lapopus lagopus the latter a Red Data Book species. Falco columbarius probably nests but a survey is required.	This is an extensive upland site that occurs in Counties Tipperary and Limerick. Much of the site is over 200 metres in altitude rising to 694 m at Keeper Hill. The site is underlain mainly by Silurian-aged Sandstones. Several important rivers rise within the site including the Mulkear Bilboa and Clare rivers. Approximately half of the site is afforested including both first and second rotation plantations and clear fell areas. Roughly one-quarter of the site is unplanted blanket bog and heath with both wet and dry heath present. The remainder of the site is largely rough grassland that is used for hill farming. Some stands of deciduous woodland also occur especially in the river valley.
004182	Mid-Clare Coast SPA	An important population of Branta leucopsis which at times exceeds the threshold for national importance winters on Mutton Island. Site is of particular importance for wader species of rocky and sandy shores with nationally important wintering populations of Charadrius hiaticula Calidris maritima Calidris alba Calidris alpina and Arenaria interpres. The Calidris maritima and Arenaria interpres populations are regularly the largest in the country and comprise 11.5% and 4.3% of the respective all-Ireland totals. Gavia immer is regular in winter. Mutton and Mattle Islands support a range of breeding seabirds with a nationally important population of Phalacrocorax carbo as well as populations of Phalacrocorax aristotelis Larus canus Larus fuscus Larus argentatus Larus marinus and Cepphus grylle.	The site stretches for approximately 14 km of the west coast of Clare from Spanish Point to Rinnammryal just west of Doonbeg. The mainland shoreline which is highly exposed to the force of the Atlantic is mostly rocky and stony with well-developed littoral reed communities. There are several sandy beaches such as at white strand as well as areas of intertidal flats. The site has significant examples of vegetated shingle and stony banks all of which are very exposed. Several islands are included the largest of which is Mutton Island a medium sized uninhabited island situated approximately 1 km from Lurga Point. Mutton Island is dominated by a grassy sward with some low cliffs at the west side. Mattle Island is a small island situated approximately 2 km south of the larger Mutton Island. It is a low-lying island rising to only 12 m in the central area.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			A group of littoral reefs occur to the north of Mutton Island notably Carrickaneelwar and Seal Rock. A large marine area which has very good examples of sub-tidal reefs is included in the site.
004220	Corofin Wetlands SPA	Corofin Wetlands SPA is of high ornithological importance for supporting nationally important numbers of Cygnus cygnus and Limosa limosa supporting 1.3% and 2.4% of the all-Ireland population respectively. Corofin Wetlands supports a further 3 species of national importance; Tachybaptus ruficollis (3.3% of all-Ireland population) Anas penelope (3.2%) and Anas crecca (1.8%). It is also notable for its wintering Anas strepera population.	Corofin Wetlands SPA incorporates the lakes Inchiquin Lough Atedaun and Lough Cullaun and associated calcareous wetlands. The site extends south-westwards to include the floodplain of the River Fergus to the west of Corofin Co. Clare. The site contains some of the best areas of oligotrophic limestone wetlands to be found in the Burren.
000019	Ballyogan Lough SAC	The site supports a typical example of Cladium mariscus fen in a calcareous lake system. The fen occurs in association with Phragmites swamp and Schoenus fen and is adjacent to acidic cutover bog. The structure and functionality of the Cladium fen appears good. The occurrence of a substantial area of limestone pavement within the site adds to its conservation value.	The site is located in the eastern part of the Burren complex. It lies within a wedge shaped basin with low hills on both sides. Ballyogan Lough is a small and shallow calcareous lake with marl deposits. Also included in site is Moyree Lough and several other very small loughs. The lakes are fringed by swamp and fen vegetation which merges with an extensive area of cutover bog in the north-eastern sector of the site. The cutover bog varies in wetness and in places supports fen communities. An extensive area of limestone pavement and scrub woodland with patches of calcareous grassland occupies the south-western part of the site.
000036	Inagh River Estuary SAC	The salt marshes at this site particularly Atlantic salt meadows and Salicornia sand flats are well represented and of good quality. The area formerly had extensive sand dunes but the greater part of these are now developed as golf courses and excluded from site. Areas of Ammophila dunes and fixed dunes remain but these are very limited in extent and of only moderate quality. The site formerly had wintering Anser albifrons flavirostris and still has regionally important numbers of a range of waterfowl species including Pluvialis apricaria.	The site comprises the estuaries of the River Inagh and the Dealagh River. The tidal sections of these rivers merge at O'Brien's Bridge and then flow through a narrow channel between two sand dune spits and into Liscannor Bay. The most frequent habitat at the site is wet grassland which occurs behind the salt marshes and along the river channels. Some swamp vegetation occurs along the river channels and there are areas of mixed woodland and wet woodland just below Ennistimon. On the seaward side of the dune spits there are sandy beaches and a boulder beach. The intertidal sand flats to the low tide mark are included.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	Curraghchase House is one of just two known Lesser Horseshoe sites (Rhinolophus Hipposideros) in County Limerick. As the number of bats is >50 all year round it is a site of international importance. The woodlands include areas of both alluvial forests and Taxus baccata woods. While both have been disturbed by planting with commercial forest they still retain key diagnostic characters and species and both areas display natural regeneration. The occurrence of Taxus woods is of particular note due to the very limited distribution in Ireland for this habitat.	The site consists largely of mixed woodland (Deciduous- native and non-native; commercial conifers). Lakes and fens run the length of the woods. The site is on a limestone ridge overlain by glacial drift. Lesser Horseshoe Bats inhabit the cellars of the former mansion Curraghchase House. The bats are present throughout the year. The surrounding woodland and wetland habitats are ideal for foraging bats.
000231	Barroughter Bog SAC	Barroughter bog is a small raised bog site which contains good examples of the priority Annex I habitat active raised bog and the non-priority habitats degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). The bog lies along the western shores of Lough Derg and as a result there are some good vegetation transitions between the lake margins and high bog evident. The locally rare plant species Sphagnum pulchrum and Rhynchospora fusca have been recorded from wet pools and lawns on the high bog.	This site is underlain by dark grey muddy fossiliferous carboniferous limestones with a low permeability. The subsoils are dominated by limestone till with calcareous shell marl and pure sand in places. Overall, the limestone till has a low permeability. The bog formed in a floodplain of the adjacent lake and river and lies in a regional ground water discharge area. Upwelling is seen to the NE.
000248	Cloonmoylan Bog SAC	Cloonmoylan Bog is a large raised bog site which supports very good examples of the Annex I habitats active raised bog woodland degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. The site contains one of the largest remaining areas of uncut raised bog surface in east Galway. Of particular ecological note is the presence of large flushed area in the northern half of the site which contains areas of bog woodland. A number of relatively rare plant species i.e., Frangula alnus and Sphagnum pulchrum have been recorded growing within the site recently and these add to the ecological interest.	This site is predominantly underlain by dark grey muddy fossiliferous carboniferous limestones interbedded with calcareous shales. The Eastern section is underlain by walsortian carboniferous limestone. Both have low permeabilities. A SW/NE fault runs under the site. This is co-incident with a flush. The subsoils are predominately clay rich tills with low permeability. The bog lies in a basin separated from Lough Derg by a bedrock ridge.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000299	Lough Cutra SAC	The site supports an internationally important winter roost for Rhinolophus hipposideros. Maximum number recorded has been 93 individuals. Good quality foraging habitat surround the roost sites. The bats' summer roosting sites have not yet been established. Lough Cutra is a long-established breeding site for Phalacrocorax carbo. The colony is of regional importance though has been of national importance in the past. Lake supports wintering waterfowl including Cygnus cygnus though numbers are relatively low.	Lough Cutra is a large oligo-mesotrophic lake lying on limestone but with much sediment washed down from the sandstone hills to the east (Slieve Aughty Mountains). The Owendalulleegh River is the main inflowing river. The shoreline is often stony or sandy though in places it is peat fringed. Marginal wetland vegetation includes well-developed reed beds in sheltered bays as well as localised patches of swamp and fen vegetation. Woodland occurs around much of the lake shore. Much of this is planted though wet woodland with native species is also represented. The lake has a number of islands some of which are wooded. Lough Cutra Castle is included in the site as it supports hibernating bats. The winter bat roosts comprise a passageway underneath the Castle and a wine cellar. Parkland in the vicinity of the castle is included in the site for the benefit of the bats.
000319	Pollnaknockaun Wood Nature Reserve SAC	The site is important since it contains fragments of an ancient woodland which until recently was one of the most extensive in Ireland; the relatively fertile soils support the Coryletosum subassociation of the Blechno-Queretum a relatively rare community type in Ireland. The woodland acts as a refuge for flora and fauna which are otherwise scarce in the locality. Furthermore, the site provides an excellent opportunity to re-create an area of oak woodland.	This site is dominated by a coniferous plantation much of which has been recently clear-felled. Fragments of old oak woodland occur in blocks and bands particularly in the south-western part of the site (which is a nature reserve). Small areas of wet and mixed woodland also occur. The underlying rock is Old Red Sandstone. The soils vary from thin acidic podzols to deeper gleyed brown-earths.
000930	Clare Glen SAC	An important site for its remnants of old oak wood and an interesting and rich bryoflora including the only station in Ireland for Fissidens exiguus. The ravine includes a population of Trichomanes speciosum.	A steep-sided ravine cut into Old Red Sandstone surrounded by mixed woodland and pockets of old oak wood. The Clare river flows east to west through the ravine and incorporates a series of waterfalls fast-flowing ripples and pool sections. The site is of interest geologically for the stratigraphy of Old Red Sandstone and fossil ripple works.
001285	Kiltiernan Turlough SAC	The basin is split between two landowners and the level of land use is very different. The eastern (non-intensive) end is of fine quality and its vegetation is typical of a fairly dry turlough with considerable species diversity.	Kiltiernan is a simple linear depression running SW from the main Galway-Limerick road. There are small cliffs and rock outcrops with bushes at its eastern end but to the west these are replaced with smoother fields of pasture.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The Red Data Book plant species Viola persicifolia and Frangula alnus are found here in this section. The western end is part of an intensive dairy farm and there is little interest in the vegetation.	The basin slopes towards the NE so at this end there are a few semi-permanent pools. Conversely the SW end has other depressions that only flood in very high groundwater levels.
001321	Termon Lough SAC	Termon North is a eutrophic system unusual in that it retains a substantial area of water until late in the year. This means that the aquatic plant community has full reign to develop. The late exposure of water also means that the annuals such as Alopercurus aequalis can survive. Termon South or Termon Lough is without drainage. It is a good example of a turlough at the wet end of the range with one of the largest stands of reedswamp. Although rare species have not been found the relatively rare oligotrophic vegetation on marl does occur. Rosemeade Turlough is located north of Termon North. This turlough seems to be more typical than either of the Termon sites. The vegetation is uniform and flooded for a relatively short period in winter. The turlough is fringed on the western side by scrub including Rhamnus cartharticus. The rare Eurycercus glacialis is frequent with marsh snails and many invertebrate carnivores. Crustacean species diversity is relatively high also.	Termon North is an unusual turlough as it retains a substantial area of water until late in the year sometimes not drying out completely. This means that the aquatic community has full reign to develop resulting in a dense vegetation of Potamogeton and other species. The late exposure of the bed also means that annual terrestrial species are a feature in most years. Termon Lough is a wet turlough that seems to have become wetter since it was mapped in the 1890s. It lies in flattish morainic countryside on the Galway/Clare border. The main area is now a dense reedswamp underlain by marl deposits which show at the edges. Drier vegetation is of small extent though a small area of limestone pavement rises in the N.E. corner.
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC	The main importance of this site is in the population of Trichomanes speciosum that it holds. The species was first recorded here in 1852; in 1934 it was said to be found here "in more than one spot"; while in 1949 a "fine clump" of the plant was seen. The glen is quite species-rich and supports a rich flora of flowering plants ferns bryophytes and lichens. Prunus padus a threatened species in Ireland was reported from the site in 1881.	The site is situated on the western foothills of the Slievefelim Mountains. It comprises stands of oak woodland around Glenstal Castle and Abbey and extending north-eastwards along a narrow glen cut into Old Red Sandstone. The glen is approximately 1.5km long and narrows at its north-eastern end to a rocky ravine. A small stream runs the length of the glen along its floor.
002010	Old Domestic Building (Keevagh) SAC	As >100 Lesser Horseshoe Bats (Rhinolophus hipposideros) use this site as a summer breeding site it is a site of international importance. It is also important because it is situated along the eastern limit of the species' distribution in Ireland.	This site consists of a large two-storey derelict dwelling situated near Quin village County Clare. It is used by >100 Lesser Horseshoe Bats as a summer breeding site. The bats roost in the roof space. The surrounding mature trees and hedgerows are suitable foraging habitats for the bats.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002180	Gortacarnaun Wood SAC	This oak woodland is classified as Blechno-Quercetum petraeae var. coryletosum. It is a good example of the type and of significant size though it has been managed for timber extraction for a long period and there are few old trees. It has good canopy and understorey structure but ground layer is restricted due to shading and grazing. Regeneration is good. Similar sized woods are scarce.	Site is situated in the foothills of the Slieve Aughty Mountains approximately 2 km east of Lough Cutra. Northern boundary is marked by the Owendalulleegh River. While site is dominated by deciduous woodland there is an area of open heath habitat with colonising Betula trees and also an area of wetland vegetation with wet grassland flush and fen vegetation. A stream and some drains run through the site. Main landuses within site are woodland management and grazing. Surrounding areas are used for afforestation and rough grazing.
002241	Lough Derg North-East Shore SAC	This site supports a wide range of habitats including Alkaline fens Juniper scrub formations limestone pavement Yew woodlands alluvial woodlands and Cladium fen. It also supports the only known population in the country for the Irish Red Data Book species Inula salicina. Other scarce plant species found here include Sorbus aria and Rhamnus catharticus. The endangered fish species Coregonus autumnalis has its European stronghold in Lough Derg. The open water areas of the lake itself are important for wintering wildfowl. Goat island holds a breeding colony of Sterna hirundo. A subflock of Anser albifrons flavirostris uses the callow lands around Slevoir Bay in Winter. A good population of Cygnus olor occurs.	This site incorporates part of the water body of Lough Derg and includes most of the northern lake shore and approximately one-third of the northeast shoreline. Lough Derg itself is the lowest order lake on the River Shannon and is one of the largest freshwater bodies in Ireland. Most of the lake overlies Carboniferous Limestone which outcrops along the shores but some old Red Sandstone occurs on the eastern side. The site is of high scenic value and is a well-known angling and tourism area.
002250	Carrowmore Dunes SAC	The site displays an excellent example of intertidal reefs. The bedrock shore has high species diversity (96 species in the low shore and 121 species in the sublittoral frings) good zonation and with a wide variety of habitats due to the structure of the shore. The variety of habitats and the zonation are typical for this type of shore and therefore is a good example of this shore type. Rare species recorded are the shrimp Alpheus macrocheles and the red algae Phyllopohra sicula and Pterosiphonia pennata. The brown algae Bifurcaria bifurcata which has a limited distribution in Ireland also occurs at the site. The site is also important as it supports a good example of the priority Annex I habitat fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation.	The site is located on the west coast and comprises Doughmore Bay and part of the more sheltered Doonbeg Bay. Geologically the site is of Upper Carboniferous sandstone and shale. Doughmore Bay is a wide gently sloping bay with jagged bedrock to the north and south. The bedrock has boulders cobbles pebbles gravel and coarse sand in the large fissures and crevices that run horizontally along the shore. White Strand a fine sandy beach with extensive intertidal sand flats occurs between the bedrock shores. An extensive area of shallow marine water is included. The terrestrial component of the site comprises the remnant of a formerly more intact dune system and includes examples of embryonic shifting marram and fixed dunes.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Also present are the Annex I habitats embryonic shifting dunes and Marram dunes. The site is used in some cases intermittently for feeding and roosting by a variety of bird species. The site supports a population of the EU Habitats Directive Annex II mollusc species Vertigo angustior.	Soils are pure coarse grained sand at the beach which increase in organic content moving inland.
002295	Ballinduff Turlough SAC	Ballinduff Turlough offers an excellent range of vegetation types characteristic of turloughs with many communities well developed and little grazed. The prominence of Littorella uniflora in several different vegetation types the development of Rhamnus woodland and the unusual swallow hole and aquatic vegetation are the main features. The site supports part of an internationally important population of Cygnus cygnus and also at times Cygnus columbianus bewickii. A rare invertebrate species Eurycercus glacialis (Cladocera Chydoridae) occurs.	The site is situated in the limestone lowlands of South Galway. It occupies a narrow basin with rock outcrops in the northern half and drift to the south. The turlough is late-draining and a linear pool persists into summer in some years and re-floods easily. The site is probably controlled by a complex area of swallow holes and subsidence below the houses at Coolfin (to the west). The ground along the southern edge is very soft with temporary springs. During floods the site drains overland towards Coole Lough to which it is hydrologically connected. There is a transition in nutrient status apparent from NE-SW. For water quality reasons areas of improved grassland are included in the site.
002314	Old Domestic Buildings Rylane SAC	This site supports an internationally important summer roost of Rhinolophus hipposideros. The cottage is in good condition and provides stable and undisturbed summer roosting conditions for the bats. It is one of a number of maternity roosts known from within a 5km radius and is located in an area with a large population of lesser horseshoe bats. Foraging areas and winter hibernation sites have not yet been established although it may be linked to a known hibernaculum situated approximately 3km away (Newgrove House).	The site consists of a disused stone cottage situated approximately 5 km north-west of Tulla in Co. Clare. The site is surrounded by agricultural land.
002318	Knockanira House SAC	This site supports an internationally important summer roost of Rhinolophus hipposideros. Knockanira House is unused undisturbed and in relatively good condition. It is located in an area highly populated with lesser horseshoe bats. It is one of two known maternity roosts within a 5km distance where a combined total of up to 300 bats are counted each summer (approximately 200 in Newhall House and 100 in Knockanira House).	The site consists of an old two storey disused farm house situated approximately 10 km to the south-west of Ennis in Co. Clare. The bats roost in the attic. The site is surrounded by agricultural land with tree lines and hedgerows and some small copses of broadleaved woodland.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		However, a much larger number of lesser horseshoe bats are counted every winter from three SAC designated hibernacula within a similar 5km radius (up to 576 in Newhall Edenvale and 200 in Pouladatig - 776 in total). Foraging areas for the bats at Knockanira have not yet been established.	
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	Supports c. 21% of the all-Ireland population of Circus cyaneus which is the largest concentration in the country for the species. Habitat excellent for both nesting and foraging purposes. Asio flammeus a rare breeding bird in Ireland has nested in the past and has been recorded intermittently in recent years. Falco columbarius has a presence though the size of the population is unknown. Lagopus lagopus a Red Data Book species occurs.	This is a very large upland site centred on the borders between the counties of Cork Kerry and Limerick. The peaks are not notably high or indeed pronounced with a maximum of 451 m at Knockhefa. Many rivers rise within the site notably the Blackwater Feale Clydagh Oolagh and Smerlagh. The site consists of a variety of upland habitats though almost half (45%) is afforested. The coniferous forest includes first and second rotation plantations with both pre-thicket stands present as well as clearfell areas. A substantial part (28%) of the site is unplanted blanket bog and heath with both wet and dry heath present. The remainder of the site is largely rough grassland that is used for hill farming. Some areas of scrub and deciduous woodland occur especially within the river valleys.
004168	Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA	The site supports over 12% of the all Ireland population of Circus cyaneus and is among the top five sites in the country for this species. It provides excellent habitat for both nesting and foraging. The site also supports a breeding population Falco columbarius. The population size is not well known but is likely to exceed five pairs. Lagopus lagopus is found on many of the unplanted areas of bog and heath - this is a species that has declined in Ireland and is now Red-listed	The Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA is a very large site that extends southwards from just south of Loughrea County Galway to Scarriff in County Clare. The peaks are not notably high or indeed pronounced; this site rises to a maximum of 400 m at Maghera west of Lough Graney. The site includes many small- and medium-sized lakes notable Lough Graney and Lough Atorick; several important rivers rise in the site including the Owendalulleegh and Graney. Lough Derg occurs immediately to the south-east. The Slieve Aughty mountains are predominantly comprised of Old Red Sandstone but outliers of Lower Palaeozoic rocks provide occasional outcrops capping the hills. The site consists of a variety of upland habitats though approximately half is afforested. The coniferous forests include first and second rotation plantations with both pre-thicket and post-thicket stands present.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			Substantial areas of clear-fell are also present at any one time. Almost one-third of the site is unplanted blanket bog and heath with both wet and dry heath present. Well-developed blanket bog occurs at several locations notable Sonnagh Loughatorick South and Glendree. The remainder of the site is mostly rough grassland that is used for hill farming.
004189	Kerry Head SPA	The site supports an nationally important population of breeding Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax. The site is of particular note for the density of breeding pairs found. It also supports a nationally important population of Fulmarus glacialis.	Kerry Head SPA is situated on the south side of the mouth of the River Shannon in north Co. Kerry. It encompasses the sea cliffs from just west of Ballyheigue around the end of Kerry Head to the west and north-eastward as far as Kilmore. The site includes the sea cliffs and the land adjacent to the cliff edge (inland for 300 m). The high water mark forms the seaward boundary. Most of the site is underlain by Devonian siltstone sandstones and mudstones; a small section of the site has rocks of Carboniferous age.

Appendix 1 - Table 2 Background data for European sites considered in the assessment; including the Qualifying features (Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests) and the known threats and pressures as recorded by the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000014	Ballyallia Lake SAC	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150]	H01, X, A02.01, A08, K04.01, A10.01	Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), No threats or pressures, Agricultural intensification, Fertilisation, Competition (flora), Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
000016	Ballycullinan Lake SAC	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	A04, E01.03, A10.01, J02, A08, J02.01	Grazing, Dispersed habitation, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Fertilisation, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general
000019	Ballyogan Lough SAC	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	C01, K02.01, H02.07, H02.06, H01.08, A04.03, A04.02, H01.05, J01.01, I02, A04.01, A05.02, A10	Mining and quarrying, Species composition change (succession), Diffuse groundwater pollution due to non-sewered population, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Non intensive grazing, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Burning down, Problematic native species, Intensive grazing, Stock feeding, Restructuring agricultural land holding

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000020	Black Head-Poulsallagh Complex SAC	Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Petalwort (Petalophyllum ralfsii) [1395], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Limestone pavements [8240], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Reefs [1170], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130]	G01, D01.01, A10.01, K02.02, G05.01, C01.03.02, K04.01, A05.02, G02.08, A04.02.01, K02.01, E04.01, B07, A04.03, A08, C01.07	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Accumulation of organic material, Trampling, overuse, Mechanical removal of peat, Competition (flora), Stock feeding, Camping and caravans, Non intensive cattle grazing, Species composition change (succession), Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape, Forestry activities not referred to above, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fertilisation, Mining and extraction activities not referred to above
000030	Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	D05, B06, A10.01, B01.01, M02.03	Improved access to site, Grazing in forests or woodland, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Forest planting on open ground (native trees), Decline or extinction of species

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000032	Dromore Woods and Loughs SAC	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Limestone pavements [8240], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430]	D01.02, A04, A10, E03.03, E01.03, B, G01.02, J02, B01.01, A10.02, F02.03, G01.03, F03.02.04, A10.01, D01, G05, E03.01, G03, A08, F03.01, E06.02	Roads, motorways, Grazing, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Disposal of inert materials, Dispersed habitation, Sylviculture, forestry, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Forest planting on open ground (native trees), Removal of stone walls and embankments, Leisure fishing, Motorised vehicles, Predator control, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Roads, paths and railroads, Other human intrusions and disturbances , Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Interpretative centres, Fertilisation, Hunting, Reconstruction, renovation of buildings
000036	Inagh River Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120]	J02.12.01, J02.01.02, J02.11.02, A02.01, J02.05.02, M01.05, I01	Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Other siltation rate changes, Agricultural intensification, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Water flow changes (limnic, tidal and oceanic), Invasive non-native species
000037	Pouladatig Cave SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	A04	Grazing
000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC	Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270], Turloughs [3180]	A10.01, A04, H01.08, E01, F03.01, D01.02, A08	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Grazing, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Hunting, Roads, motorways, Fertilisation

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000054	Moneen Mountain SAC	Limestone pavements [8240], Turloughs [3180], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065]	E04.01, K02.02, A04.02.01, A10.01, K02.01, D01.01, A05.02, K04.01, A04.03, A08	Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape, Accumulation of organic material, Non intensive cattle grazing, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Species composition change (succession), Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Stock feeding, Competition (flora), Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Fertilisation
000057	Moyree River System SAC	Limestone pavements [8240], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Caves not open to the public [8310], Alkaline fens [7230], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355]	G01.02, H, A08, J02, J01, E04.01, J02.01, E03.01, E06.02, A10, A05.02, A04, A10.02, A04.02.01, A10.01, B01, E01, F03.01, I02	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Pollution, Fertilisation, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Fire and fire suppression, Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Reconstruction, renovation of buildings, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Stock feeding, Grazing, Removal of stone walls and embankments, Non intensive cattle grazing, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Forest planting on open ground, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Hunting, Problematic native species
000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	A10.01, A04, E01, G05.04, G01.04.03	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Grazing, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Vandalism, Recreational cave visits

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC	Desmoulin`s whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) [1016], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0]	B02, J02.02.01, G05.04, B02.01.01, G01	Forest and Plantation management & use, Dredging or removal of limnic sediments, Vandalism, Forest replanting (native trees), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities
000212	Inishmaan Island SAC	Machairs * in Ireland [21A0], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Limestone pavements [8240], Reefs [1170], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], European dry heaths [4030], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]	A08, C01.01, A04.02.01, E05, J02.12.01, J02.01.02, D01.01, F04, J01.01, G01, E04.01, A04.03, A10.01, I02	Fertilisation, Sand and gravel extraction , Non intensive cattle grazing, Storage of materials, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Taking or Removal of terrestrial plants, general, Burning down, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Problematic native species

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Alkaline fens [7230], Limestone pavements [8240], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355]	G05.01, J02.04.01, A04.02.05, B02.02, J02.01, D01.01, A10.01, G01, F03.01, A03.03, J02.05, A04.03, C01.03.02, A07, K03.04, J02.05.02, A03, A04.01, B06, J02.11, A08	Trampling, overuse, Flooding, Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Forestry clearance, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Hunting, Abandonment or lack of mowing , Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Mechanical removal of peat, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Predation, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Intensive grazing, Grazing in forests or woodland, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Fertilisation
000231	Barroughter Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	D05, E03.03, E03.01, B01, C01.03.02, J02.15, J02.10, X, J01.01	Improved access to site, Disposal of inert materials, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Forest planting on open ground, Mechanical removal of peat, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, No threats or pressures, Burning down
000238	Caherglassaun Turlough SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270], Turloughs [3180]	A04.01.01, A05.02, A10.01, A04, E03.01, J02.04.01, H01.08, H02.06, A08	Intensive cattle grazing, Stock feeding, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Grazing, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Flooding, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Fertilisation

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000242	Castletaylor Complex SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Limestone pavements [8240], Turloughs [3180]	X, A10.01, H02.06, J02.01, B01, A04.01.01, H01.08	No threats or pressures, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Forest planting on open ground, Intensive cattle grazing, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters
000248	Cloonmoylan Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Bog woodland [91D0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	A01, A04.01.01, A08, B01, B02.01.02, A04, D05, B02.02, A04.02.04, J01, A03, C01.03.02	Cultivation, Intensive cattle grazing, Fertilisation, Forest planting on open ground, Forest replanting (non native trees), Grazing, Improved access to site, Forestry clearance, Non intensive goat grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Mechanical removal of peat
000252	Coole-Garryland Complex SAC	Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Limestone pavements [8240], Turloughs [3180], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	E06.02, B02.02, I01, A04.01.01, J02.01.03, H01.08, J02.01, D01.02, H02.06, E03.03, J02.05, A10.01, A08, A04.01.02, J01.01, C03.03, C01.01, E03.01, J02.04.01	Reconstruction, renovation of buildings, Forestry clearance, Invasive non-native species, Intensive cattle grazing, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Roads, motorways, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Disposal of inert materials, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Fertilisation, Intensive sheep grazing, Burning down, Wind energy production, Sand and gravel extraction , Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Flooding

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000261	Derrycrag Wood Nature Reserve SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	D01.01, J01, B06, I01, B, A04.02	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Fire and fire suppression, Grazing in forests or woodland, Invasive non-native species, Sylviculture, forestry, Non intensive grazing
000268	Galway Bay Complex SAC	Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Alkaline fens [7230], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Turloughs [3180], Harbour seal (Phoca vitulina) [1365], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Coastal lagoons [1150], Limestone pavements [8240], Reefs [1170]	D01.01, J02.05.01, D03.01.04, G02.01, I01, F02.03.01, C01.01.02, J02.01.02, H01.05, F01, D03.01.01, A04.02.01, J02.02.02, H01.08, J02.12.01, A02.01, G01.01.02, E03.03, C01.01, D03, A04.02.02, D02.02, F06	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Modification of water flow (tidal & marine currents), Industrial ports, Golf course, Invasive non-native species, Bait digging or collection, Removal of beach materials, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Slipways, Non intensive cattle grazing, Estuarine and coastal dredging, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Agricultural intensification, Non-motorized nautical sports, Disposal of inert materials, Sand and gravel extraction , Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions, Non intensive sheep grazing, Pipe lines, Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above
000286	Kiltartan Cave (Coole) SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	G01.04.03, J02.04.01, E06.02, D01.02	Recreational cave visits , Flooding, Reconstruction, renovation of buildings, Roads, motorways

000297	Lough Corrib SAC	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Active raised bogs [7110], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Limestone pavements [8240], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Alkaline fens [7230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Bog woodland [91D0], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Slender naiad (Najas flexilis) [1833], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Slender green feather-moss (Hamatocaulis vernicosus) [6216]	C01.03.02, D01, A04.03, E03.01, A10.01, A08, C01.01, H01.08, B01, A02.01, A04, E01.03, D03.01.02, E01.01, I01, J02.01.03, G05, J02.15	Mechanical removal of peat, Roads, paths and railroads, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Fertilisation, Sand and gravel extraction , Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Forest planting on open ground, Agricultural intensification, Grazing, Dispersed habitation, Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Continuous urbanisation, Invasive non-native species, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Other human intrusions and disturbances , Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions

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000299	Lough Cutra SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	B02.01.01, H06.02, B03, A10.01, H06.01, B01.01, B02.02, E01.03, E06.02, A10	Forest replanting (native trees), Light pollution, Forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Noise nuisance, noise pollution, Forest planting on open ground (native trees), Forestry clearance, Dispersed habitation, Reconstruction, renovation of buildings, Restructuring agricultural land holding
000308	Loughatorick South Bog SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	A05.02, B01, C01.01.01, G01.02, H05.01, X, C01.03.02, A04, J01, B02, F03.01, G01.03.02	Stock feeding, Forest planting on open ground, Sand and gravel quarries, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Garbage and solid waste, No threats or pressures, Mechanical removal of peat, Grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Forest and Plantation management & use, Hunting, Off-road motorized driving
000318	Peterswell Turlough SAC	Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation [3270], Turloughs [3180]	H02.06, H01.08, A02.01, E03.03, J02.01.03, J02.10, A05.02, X, E03.01, A08, J02.01, B01, J02.05, A04	Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Agricultural intensification, Disposal of inert materials, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Stock feeding, No threats or pressures, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Fertilisation, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Forest planting on open ground, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Grazing

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000319	Pollnaknockaun Wood Nature Reserve SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	X, B, B03, A04.01.01, J01, B06, A04.02.04	No threats or pressures, Sylviculture, forestry, Forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth, Intensive cattle grazing, Fire and fire suppression, Grazing in forests or woodland, Non intensive goat grazing
000432	Barrigone SAC	Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Limestone pavements [8240], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	K02.01, X, A04.03	Species composition change (succession), No threats or pressures, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing
000439	Tory Hill SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	J02, J02.01.03, X, A04.02.04	Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, No threats or pressures, Non intensive goat grazing

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000606	Lough Fingall Complex SAC	Turloughs [3180], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Limestone pavements [8240], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	A04.02.01, A04.01.01, J02.01, A08, E03.03, A05.02, H02.06, C01, A04.03, J02.01.03, E03.01, A02.01, H01.08, J02.07.02, J02.05, A04.01	Non intensive cattle grazing, Intensive cattle grazing, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Fertilisation, Disposal of inert materials, Stock feeding, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Mining and quarrying, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Agricultural intensification, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Groundwater abstractions for public water supply, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Intensive grazing
000930	Clare Glen SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421]	I01, B02.04, J02.11, G01, X, B02.02	Invasive non-native species, Removal of dead and dying trees, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, No threats or pressures, Forestry clearance
000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230]	M02.01, A04.01, A04.02.01	Habitat shifting and alteration, Intensive grazing, Non intensive cattle grazing
000994	Ballyteige (Clare) SAC	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]	A04.03, A03.03, M01, A04.02	Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Abandonment or lack of mowing , Changes in abiotic conditions, Non intensive grazing

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000996	Ballyvaughan Turlough SAC	Turloughs [3180]	E01.03, A08, X, J02.06, A10.01	Dispersed habitation, Fertilisation, No threats or pressures, Water abstractions from surface waters, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
001013	Glenomra Wood SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	D05, A10.01, E01.03, B06, G05.06, B02, D02.01	Improved access to site, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Dispersed habitation, Grazing in forests or woodland, Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, Forest and Plantation management & use, Electricity and phone lines
001021	Carrowmore Point to Spanish Point and Islands SAC	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Coastal lagoons [1150], Reefs [1170], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]	G01.01, A04, G01.02, A08, F02.03, K01.02, C01.01, F06, J02.12.01	Nautical sports, Grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Fertilisation, Leisure fishing, Silting up, Sand and gravel extraction , Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages
001197	Keeper Hill SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	G01.03.01, D01.01, D02.03, X, K01.01, G01.03.02	Regular motorized driving, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Communication masts and antennas, No threats or pressures, Erosion, Off-road motorized driving
001275	Inisheer Island SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Reefs [1170], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Limestone pavements [8240], Coastal lagoons [1150], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	A02.01, C01.07, E04.01, D01.01, A10.01, A04.02.01, A04.03, I02	Agricultural intensification, Mining and extraction activities not referred to above, Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Non intensive cattle grazing, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Problematic native species

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001285	Kiltiernan Turlough SAC	Turloughs [3180]	A08, X, D01.02, A02.01, J02.05, H01.08, H02.06	Fertilisation, No threats or pressures, Roads, motorways, Agricultural intensification, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities
001313	Rosturra Wood SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	B06, B, A04, J01, X	Grazing in forests or woodland, Sylviculture, forestry, Grazing, Fire and fire suppression, No threats or pressures
001321	Termon Lough SAC	Turloughs [3180]	H01.08, H02.06, J02.05, A04.01.01, E03.03, A08, X, A10.01	Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Intensive cattle grazing, Disposal of inert materials, Fertilisation, No threats or pressures, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
001432	Glenstal Wood SAC	Killarney fern (Trichomanes speciosum) [1421]	I01, B02.03, K02.01	Invasive non-native species, Removal of forest undergrowth, Species composition change (succession)
001912	Glendree Bog SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	C01.03, B07, A01, A04, D01.01, B01, K01.01, G01.03.02, J01, B	Peat extraction, Forestry activities not referred to above, Cultivation, Grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Forest planting on open ground, Erosion, Off-road motorized driving, Fire and fire suppression, Sylviculture, forestry

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
001913	Sonnagh Bog SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	A05.02, B01, C01.03.02, B05, X, J01, A04.02	Stock feeding, Forest planting on open ground, Mechanical removal of peat, Use of fertilizers (forestry), No threats or pressures, Fire and fire suppression, Non intensive grazing
001926	East Burren Complex SAC	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Turloughs [3180], Alkaline fens [7230], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], Limestone pavements [8240]	I02, A10.01, A02, A04.02, D05, A05.02, D01.01, D01.02, G01, H01.08, A04.03, E03.01, A11, H01.05, A08, A10, A04.01, H02.06, H02.07, K02.01	Problematic native species, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Modification of cultivation practices, Non intensive grazing, Improved access to site, Stock feeding, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Roads, motorways, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Fertilisation, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Intensive grazing, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to non-sewered population, Species composition change (succession)

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002010	Old Domestic Building (Keevagh) SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	E01.03, A04, E06.02, X, K03.06, A10.01, E06.01, M02.03	Dispersed habitation, Grazing, Reconstruction, renovation of buildings, No threats or pressures, Antagonism with domestic animals, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Demolishment of buildings & human structures , Decline or extinction of species
002034	Connemara Bog Complex SAC	Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], European dry heaths [4030], Coastal lagoons [1150], Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia) [1065], Reefs [1170], Slender naiad (Najas flexilis) [1833], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Alkaline fens [7230]	C01.03.02, X, C01.03.01, J01, A04.01.02	Mechanical removal of peat, No threats or pressures, Hand cutting of peat, Fire and fire suppression, Intensive sheep grazing

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002091	Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC	Caves not open to the public [8310], Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	G05.04, A04	Vandalism, Grazing
002117	Lough Coy SAC	Turloughs [3180]	A10.01, J02.01.03, H02.06, J02.05, E03.03, H04.01, A08, H01.08, X	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Disposal of inert materials, Acid rain, Fertilisation, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, No threats or pressures
002126	Pollagoona Bog SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	L10, B02.02, J02, J01.01	Other natural catastrophes, Forestry clearance, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Burning down
002157	Newgrove House SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	B02.01.02, G05.09, E01.03, A04, A10.01	Forest replanting (non native trees), Fences, fencing, Dispersed habitation, Grazing, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	Coastal lagoons [1150], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Reefs [1170], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Estuaries [1130], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus) [1349], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]	K02.03, C01.03.01, F01, A08, J02.10, G01.01, F02.03, F03.01, H04, B, E01, J02.12.01, E03, J02.01.02, D01.01, I01, C01.01.02, J02.01.01, A04	Eutrophication (natural), Hand cutting of peat, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fertilisation, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Nautical sports, Leisure fishing, Hunting, Air pollution, air-borne pollutants, Sylviculture, forestry, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Discharges, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Invasive non-native species, Removal of beach materials, Polderisation, Grazing

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002180	Gortacarnaun Wood SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	B02, B02.05, B06, B02.06, B01, A04.02, I01, B02.02	Forest and Plantation management & use, Non- intensive timber production (leaving dead wood or old trees untouched), Grazing in forests or woodland, Thinning of tree layer, Forest planting on open ground, Non intensive grazing, Invasive non-native species, Forestry clearance
002181	Drummin Wood SAC	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0]	I01, B02.06, B02.02, B02, B01, B06, B02.05, A04.02	Invasive non-native species, Thinning of tree layer, Forestry clearance, Forest and Plantation management & use, Forest planting on open ground, Grazing in forests or woodland, Non- intensive timber production (leaving dead wood or old trees untouched), Non intensive grazing
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Limestone pavements [8240], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Alkaline fens [7230]	J02.10, K02.03, K02.01, I01, J02.01.03, J02, A10.01, M01.01, C01, I02, B02.01.01, A04.01, A04.02.05, H01, A08, D03.01.02, M01.02, H01.08, M01.03, G01, G02.09, D01.01	Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Eutrophication (natural), Species composition change (succession), Invasive non-native species, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes), Mining and quarrying, Problematic native species, Forest replanting (native trees), Intensive grazing, Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Fertilisation, Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Droughts and less precipitations, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Flooding and rising precipitations, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Wildlife watching, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002244	Ardrahan Grassland SAC	Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Limestone pavements [8240], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	E04, E03.03, A10.01, D01, A04.02.01, A08, A04.03, A04.01.03, A05.02	Structures, buildings in the landscape, Disposal of inert materials, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Roads, paths and railroads, Non intensive cattle grazing, Fertilisation, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Intensive horse grazing, Stock feeding
002245	Old Farm Buildings, Ballymacrogan SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	A04, A10.02, E04.01, A10.01, E01.03, K03	Grazing, Removal of stone walls and embankments, Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Dispersed habitation, Interspecific faunal relations
002246	Ballycullinan, Old Domestic Building SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	A04.02.05, E06.01, A10.01, G05	Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Demolishment of buildings & human structures , Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Other human intrusions and disturbances
002247	Toonagh Estate SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	E01.03, A04, E06.02, A10.01, I02	Dispersed habitation, Grazing, Reconstruction, renovation of buildings, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Problematic native species
002250	Carrowmore Dunes SAC	Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120], Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (Vertigo angustior) [1014], Reefs [1170]	A04, F06, C01.01, A08, K01.01, G01.01, A05.02	Grazing, Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above, Sand and gravel extraction , Fertilisation, Erosion, Nautical sports, Stock feeding

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC	European dry heaths [4030], Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae [6130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	J01, A04.02.04, D01.01, G01.02, X, C01.04, G01.03, A04.02.03	Fire and fire suppression, Non intensive goat grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, No threats or pressures, Mines, Motorised vehicles, Non intensive horse grazing
002263	Kerry Head Shoal SAC	Reefs [1170]	F06, F02.03	Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above, Leisure fishing
002264	Kilkee Reefs SAC	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Reefs [1170]	J02.12.01, F02.03, X, G05, G01.01	Sea defence or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Leisure fishing, No threats or pressures, Other human intrusions and disturbances , Nautical sports
002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210]	H02, X, E01.03, A08, J01, J02.01.02, A10.01	Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources), No threats or pressures, Dispersed habitation, Fertilisation, Fire and fire suppression, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002293	Carrowbaun, Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs SAC	Turloughs [3180]	J02.04.01, D01, E03.01, E03.03, H01.08, J02.01.03, A10.01, H02.06, J02.10, J02.05, A08, E06.02, E06.01, A02.01	Flooding, Roads, paths and railroads, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Disposal of inert materials, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Fertilisation, Reconstruction, renovation of buildings, Demolishment of buildings & human structures , Agricultural intensification
002294	Cahermore Turlough SAC	Turloughs [3180]	J02.05, A08, H02.06, J02.04.01, A10.01, J02.01.03, E03.03, A02.01, H01.08	Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Fertilisation, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Flooding, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Disposal of inert materials, Agricultural intensification, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters
002295	Ballinduff Turlough SAC	Turloughs [3180]	E03.03, H02.06, A10.01, A08, H01.08, A02.01, X, J02.05	Disposal of inert materials, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Fertilisation, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Agricultural intensification, No threats or pressures, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], European dry heaths [4030]	A04, C01.03.02, C01.01, G01.03.02, J02.01, D01.01, J01, G05.01, G01.02, A04.03, B02	Grazing, Mechanical removal of peat, Sand and gravel extraction , Off-road motorized driving, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Fire and fire suppression, Trampling, overuse, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Forest and Plantation management & use
002314	Old Domestic Buildings, Rylane SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	A10.01, B02.02, B01.01, A04, E06.01	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Forestry clearance, Forest planting on open ground (native trees), Grazing, Demolishment of buildings & human structures
002316	Ratty River Cave SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303], Caves not open to the public [8310]	A10.01, E06.01, A04	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Demolishment of buildings & human structures , Grazing
002317	Cregg House Stables, Crusheen SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	E06.02, X	Reconstruction, renovation of buildings, No threats or pressures
002318	Knockanira House SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	A04	Grazing
002319	Kilkishen House SAC	Lesser horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus hipposideros) [1303]	A04, A10.01, E06.01	Grazing, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Demolishment of buildings & human structures
002343	Tullaher Lough and Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140]	D01.02, A04, C01.03.01, A08, A03, J01, C01.03	Roads, motorways, Grazing, Hand cutting of peat, Fertilisation, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Fire and fire suppression, Peat extraction

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002351	Moanveanlagh Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	X, E03.01, I01, C01.03, J02.01, A01, D01.01, A04, J01	No threats or pressures, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Invasive non-native species, Peat extraction, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Cultivation, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Grazing, Fire and fire suppression
004005	Cliffs of Moher SPA	Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204], Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188], Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009], Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200], Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199], Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]	G03, H06.01, G01.02	Interpretative centres, Noise nuisance, noise pollution, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004031	Inner Galway Bay SPA	Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) [A003], Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Black-throated Diver (Gavia arctica) [A002], Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Grey Heron (Ardea cinerea) [A028], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Sandwich Tern (Sterna sandvicensis) [A191], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]	F01, F02.03, E03, E02, E01, F03.01, D01.02, G01.01, A04, J02.12, J02.01.02, A08, G01.02	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Leisure fishing, Discharges, Industrial or commercial areas, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Hunting, Roads, motorways, Nautical sports, Grazing, Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Fertilisation, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles
004041	Ballyallia Lough SPA	Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051]	G01.01, A04, G01.02, A08, E01	Nautical sports, Grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Fertilisation, Urbanised areas, human habitation

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004042	Lough Corrib SPA	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065], Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Arctic tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194]	F02.03, F03.01, G01.01, E01, A08, A04, B	Leisure fishing, Hunting, Nautical sports, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Fertilisation, Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry
004056	Lough Cutra SPA	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]	A08, B, F02.03, A04, F03.01	Fertilisation, Sylviculture, forestry, Leisure fishing, Grazing, Hunting
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067]	G01.01, A08, F02.03, F03.01	Nautical sports, Fertilisation, Leisure fishing, Hunting

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062], Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	G01.01, D03.02, F01, A08, E01, E02, E03	Nautical sports, Shipping lanes, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fertilisation, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Industrial or commercial areas, Discharges
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Corncrake (Crex crex) [A122], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	D01.01, A04, G01.02, D01.05, G01.01, A08, F03.01, F02.03, E01, A04.03, A03	Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Bridge, viaduct, Nautical sports, Fertilisation, Hunting, Leisure fishing, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Mowing or cutting of grassland

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004107	Coole-Garryland SPA	Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	A08, G03, A04, B, F03.01, K03, G01.02, E03.01, B03	Fertilisation, Interpretative centres, Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry, Hunting, Interspecific faunal relations, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth
004114	Illaunonearaun SPA	Barnacle goose (Branta leucopsis) [A045]	X	No threats or pressures
004119	Loop Head SPA	Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188], Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]	A04, G01.02	Grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles
004142	Cregganna Marsh SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	A04, E01.02, A08	Grazing, Discontinuous urbanisation, Fertilisation
004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	B, D01.01, A09, C01.03, D01.02, E01.03	Sylviculture, forestry, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Irrigation, Peat extraction, Roads, motorways, Dispersed habitation
004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]	B, D01.02, E01.03, A04, D01.01, C01.03	Sylviculture, forestry, Roads, motorways, Dispersed habitation, Grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Peat extraction
004168	Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082], Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098]	A04, D01.02, E01.03, B, D01.01, C01.03	Grazing, Roads, motorways, Dispersed habitation, Sylviculture, forestry, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Peat extraction

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004181	Connemara Bog Complex SPA	Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182], Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]	D01.02, G01.02, I01, E01.03, C01.03.02, B	Roads, motorways, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Invasive non-native species, Dispersed habitation, Mechanical removal of peat, Sylviculture, forestry
004182	Mid-Clare Coast SPA	Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Purple Sandpiper (Calidris maritima) [A148], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Barnacle goose (Branta leucopsis) [A045], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]	A04, G01.02, G01.01, F02.03	Grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Nautical sports, Leisure fishing
004189	Kerry Head SPA	Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346], Northern fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]	E05, A01, E04.01, A07, A04, A02, A04.03	Storage of materials, Cultivation, Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Grazing, Modification of cultivation practices, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing
004220	Corofin Wetlands SPA	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	A04, D01.02, E01.03, E01	Grazing, Roads, motorways, Dispersed habitation, Urbanised areas, human habitation

Appendix 1 - Table 3 Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (Vertigo angustior)	[1014]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (Vertigo moulinsiana)	[1016]	Loss of riverside and canalside habitat; exploitation of esker sites and drainage of wetlands, and sheep grazing and overexploitation of dune sites.	Changes to ground vegetation condition, groundwater dependent and is highly sensitive to hydrological changes.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera)	[1029]	In stream works, hydrological and morphological alterations, sediment and enrichment, pollution due urbanisation etc. Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Marsh Fritillary (Euphydryas aurinia)	[1065]	Declines in habitat quality lead to species decline.	Habitat management; land use change and drainage.
White-clawed Crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes)	[1092]	Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Invasive species, disease, surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Sea Lamprey(Petromyzon marinus)	[1095]	Barriers to upstream migration (e.g., weirs), which limit access to spawning beds and juvenile habitat are main threats to this species.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity.
Brook Lamprey (Lampetra planeri)	[1096]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
River Lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis)	[1099]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
Salmon (Salmo salar)	[1106]	Marine survival rates are of concern for the populations.	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	[1110]	None identified by the NPWS in the 2019 publication of the Status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland.	None identified.
Estuaries	[1130]	Pollution, fishing /aquaculture and habitat quality.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	[1140]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Coastal lagoons	[1150]	Eutrophication. Modification of hydrological glow and drainage.	Erosion and silting up. Accumulation of seaweed. Land use management resulting in hydrological interactions.
Large shallow inlets and bays	[1160]	Pressures on the habitat include nutrient enrichment, dredging and invasive alien species. Overall Status is assessed as Bad and deteriorating, a genuine decline since the 2013 assessment of Inadequate and improving, and is based on more detailed information.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity, surface water runoff, discharge etc. On site management activities.
Reefs	[1170]	Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	[1220]	Disruption of the sediment supply, owing to the interruption of the coastal processes, caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures including rock armour and sea walls. The removal of gravel.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity and gravel removal.
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	[1230]	A number of significant pressures were identified, including trampling by walkers, invasive non-native species, gravel extraction, and sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change. There have been no significant losses in sea cliff habitat since the Directive came into force.	Land use activities such as tourism and/or agricultural practices. Direct alteration to the habitat or effects such as burning or drainage.
Lesser horseshoe bat(Rhinolophus hipposideros)	[1303]	Habitat availability, range and roost availability.	Temperature fluctuations in their roosts. Resource availability. Habitat connectivity. Lighting and noise effects. Urbanisation.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	[1310]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Marine water dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Infilling, reclamation, invasive species.
Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	[1330]	Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass (Spartina anglica); infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops truncatus)	[1349]	Pressures acting on the species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as impacts arising from geophysical seismic exploration or from local/regional prey removal from fisheries.	Large vessel movement effecting distributions. Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Otter (Lutra lutra)	[1355]	Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; fertilization; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets); hunting; poisoning; sand and gravel extraction; mechanical removal of peat; urbanised areas; human habitation; continuous urbanization; drainage; management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes; and canalization or modifying structures of inland water course.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.
Harbour Seal(Phoca vitulina)	[1365]	Distance to human activities, accidental entanglement in fishing gear competition for prey resources, illegal killing, pollution and habitat degradation.	Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.
Petalwort(Petalophyllum ralfsii)	[1395]	There are no significant impacts affecting this species.	None identified.
Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	[1410]	Over-grazing by cattle or sheep; infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development and reclamation.
Killarney Fern (Trichomanes speciosum)	[1421]	Threatened by habitat loss, deliberate collection, encroachment of invasive or vigorous species, or indirectly by water pollution, removal of woodland or alteration of watercourses.	Land use management and direct impacts.
Slender Naiad(Najas flexilis)	[1833]	Enrichment from human induced pressures leading to eutrofication.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Embryonic shifting dunes	[2110]	Natural erosion processes exacerbated by recreation and sand extraction. Coastal protection interfering with natural processes.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with white dunes(Ammophila arenaria)	[2120]	Recreation and coastal defences, which may interfere with local sediment dynamics.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	[2130]	Recreation; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing: non-native plant species, particularly sea buckthorn (Hippophae rhamnoides).	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Machairs (* in Ireland)	[21A0]	Unsuitable grazing pressures are the key concern.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management. Mismanaged recreational activity.
Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	[3110]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation (Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea)	[3130]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of muskgrass(Chara spp.)	[3140]	Hydrological changes, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation	[3150]	Hydrological changes, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	[3160]	Nutrient alterations; management shifts in the associated peatland habitat, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution
Turloughs	[3180]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Water courses of plain to montane levels with vegetation(Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion)	[3260]	Hydrological and morphological changes, water quality, enrichment, and surface water discharges from industrial site and/or agriculture.	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change and direct physical interactions.
Rivers with muddy banks with vegetation(Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p.)	[3270]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	[4010]	Reclamation, afforestation and burning; overstocking; invasion by non-heath species; exposure of peat to severe erosion.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
European dry heaths	[4030]	Afforestation, overburning, over-grazing, under-grazing and bracken invasion.	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Alpine and Boreal heaths	[4060]	Abandonment; overgrazing; burning; outdoor recreation; quarries; communication networks; and wind farm developments.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	[5130]	Overgrazing, erosion, scrub clearance, inappropriate land use management, and succession processes.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Calaminarian grasslands of the Murawy galmanowa(Violetalia calaminariae)	[6130]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)* important orchid sites	[6210]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	[6230]	Bracken encroachment, succession, inappropriate grazing, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	[6410]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	[6430]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	[6510]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Active raised bogs	[7110]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	[7120]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	[7130]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Transition mires and quaking bogs	[7140]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	[7150]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and ground water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Calcareous fens with species of mariscus sedge and bog cotton (Cladium mariscus and Caricion davallianae)	[7210]	Hydrological changes, pollution to surface waters, urbanisation, roads development, groundwater interactions, grazing and cultivation practices and the inappropriate use of pesticides.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	[7220]	Ground water interactions, on site management activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Alkaline fens	[7230]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Limestone pavements	[8240]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Caves not open to the public	[8310]	Cave systems are mainly protected for the Lesser Horseshoe bat which require stable temperatures and limited disturbances. None reported to be significant.	None identified.
Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	[8330]	There are no pressures acting on this resource.	There are no pressures acting on this resource.
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	[91A0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Bog woodland	[91D0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	[91J0]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.

Appendix 1 - Table 4 Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A002	Black-throated Diver	Gavia arctica arctica	Xxp/Xxt	No threats and pressures identified by the NPWS
A003	Great Northern Diver	Gavia immer	C03, F02, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A004	Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis ruficollis	G01, H01, H03, J02	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A009	Northern Fulmar	Fulmarus glacialis	C03, F02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources
A017	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo carbo	C03, F02, F03, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A028	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea cinerea	H01, Xxp/Xxt	Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), No threats and pressures identified by the NPWS
A038	Whooper Swan	Cygnus cygnus	A02, A11, C03, D02, G01, H07	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other forms of pollution
A045	Barnacle Goose	Branta leucopsis	A11, C03, D02	Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A046	Light-Bellied Brent Goose	Branta bernicla hrota	A02, A11, C03, D02, F01, G01, G05, H03, H07, I01, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other Human intrusions and disturbances , Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A048	Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	F01, F02, G01, H03, M01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A050	Eurasian Wigeon	Anas penelope	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, I01, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A051	Gadwall	Anas strepera strepera	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A052	Eurasian Teal	Anas crecca crecca	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A053	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A054	Northern Pintail	Anas acuta	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A056	Northern Shoveler	Anas clypeata	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution
A059	Common Pochard	Aythya ferina	C03, F03, G01, H01, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A061	Tufted Duck	Aythya fuligula	C03, F03, G01, H01, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A062	Greater Scaup	Aythya marila	C03, F01, F02, F03, G01, H01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution
A065	Common Scoter	Melanitta nigra nigra	A04, C03, F02, G01, H01, H03, I01, K03, M02	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Invasive non-native species, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A067	Common Goldeneye	Bucephala clangula	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A069	Red-Breasted Merganser	Mergus serrator	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A082	Hen Harrier	Circus cyaneus	A02, B01, B02, C01, C03, F03, G01, I01, J01, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Forest planting on open ground, Forest and Plantation management & use, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species, Fire and Fire suppression, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A098	Merlin	Falco columbarius	A02, B01, B02, C03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Forest planting on open ground, Forest and Plantation management & use, Renewable abiotic energy use, Changes in biotic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A122	Corncrake	Crex crex	A03.01, A04.01, K03.04, M01.03	Intensive Mowing or intensification, Intensive grazing, Predation, Flooding and rising precipitations
A125	Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra atra	C03, G01, H01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)
A137	Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A140	European Golden Plover	Pluvialis apricaria	A02, A04, B01, C01, C03, F01, G01, H03, J01, K03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Forest planting on open ground, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Fire and Fire suppression, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A141	Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A142	Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus	A02, C03, F01, G01, H03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A143	Knot	Calidris canutus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A144	Sanderling	Calidris alba	C03, F01, G01, H03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A148	Purple Sandpiper	Calidris maritima maritima	C03, G01, H03, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A149	Dunlin	Calidris alpina	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A156	Black-Tailed Godwit	Limosa limosa islandica	A02, C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A157	Bar-Tailed Godwit	Limosa lapponica	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A160	Curlew	Numenius arquata arquata	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A162	Common Redshank	Tringa totanus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A164	Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	C03, F01, G01, H03, J02, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Changes in abiotic conditions
A169	Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres	C03, F01, G01, H03, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A179	Black-Headed Gull	Larus ridibundus	A04, C03, F02, H03, J03, M01	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A182	Common Gull	Larus canus	A04, C03, F02, H03, J03, M01	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A188	Kittiwake	Rissa tridactyla	C03, F02, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A191	Sandwich Tern	Sterna sandvicensis	C03, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Invasive non-native species
A193	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	C03, D01, D03, G01, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species
A194	Arctic Tern	Sterna paradisaea	C03, D01, G01, I01, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species, Changes in abiotic conditions
A199	Common Guillemot	Uria aalge albionis	C03, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine water pollution
A200	Razorbill	Alca torda	C03, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine water pollution
A204	Atlantic Puffin	Fratercula arctica	C03, H03, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine water pollution, Invasive non-native species
A346	Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax	A02, A04, E06, G01	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities
A395	Greenland White-Fronted Goose	Anser albifrons flavirostris	A02, A04, A06, A11, B01, C03, D02, D05, F01, F03, G01, H03, H07, K03, M01, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Annual and perennial non-timber crops, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Forest planting on open ground, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Improved access to site, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in abiotic conditions, Changes in biotic conditions

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APPENDIX 2

Relationship with other plans and programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the Directive, Regulation, Plan or Programme to become familiar with the full details of each.

Appendix 2 - Table 1: Other Plans and Programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of inter-related Plans or Programmes, EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive, and it is recommended to consult the Plan or Programme, Directive or Regulation to become familiar with the full details of each.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Level			
SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)	• Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. • Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	• Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. • Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. • Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. • Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. • Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. • Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. • Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)	• Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. • Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is	• All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. • For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4.	Annex III. • The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. • Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made.	regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	• Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. • Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. • Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. • Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.	• Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. • Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. • Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. • Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	• Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats. • Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. • The species included in Annex I shall be the	• Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. • Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas).	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution.	• Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. • Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance.	regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Bathing Water Directive (revised) 2006 [2006/7/EC]	The purpose of this Directive is to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and to protect human health by complementing Directive 2000/60/EC	This Directive lays down provisions for: • the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality; • the management of bathing water quality; and • the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)	Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and - preventing further such pollution.	Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State's NAP must include: • a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year • set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk • set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial	The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and	The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors: • energy;	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
emissions	land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection.	• metal production and processing; • minerals; • chemicals; • waste management; • and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.	and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC	• The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and • the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest • Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs).	• The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. • Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Renewable Energy Directive (EU/2018/2001)	• This Directive sets an overall European renewable energy target of 32% by 2030 and includes rules to ensure the uptake of renewables in the transport sector and in heating and cooling. • The directive sets common principles and rules for renewable energy support schemes, sustainability criteria for biomass and the right to produce and consume renewable energy and to establish renewable energy	• The Directive promotes cooperation amongst EU countries (and with countries outside the EU) to help them meet their renewable energy targets. • The Directive specifies national renewable energy targets for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for renewables. • EU countries set out how they plan to meet these targets and the general course of their renewable energy policy in national renewable energy action plans.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	communities. • It also establishes rules to remove barriers, stimulate investments and drive cost reductions in renewable energy technologies and empowers citizens and businesses to participate in the clean energy transformation.	• Progress towards national targets is measured every two years when EU countries publish national renewable energy progress reports.	
Directive 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast)	This Directive establishes a common framework for the promotion of energy from renewable sources. It sets a binding European Union target for the overall share of energy from renewable sources in the Union's gross final consumption of energy in 2030: Member States shall collectively ensure that the share of energy from renewable sources in the Union's gross final consumption of energy in 2030 is at least 32%. Support schemes for energy from renewable sources shall be adopted by Member States. Provisions on joint projects between Member States and between Member States and third countries are laid down too.	The Directive lays down rules on financial support for electricity from renewable sources, on self-consumption of such electricity, on the use of energy from renewable sources in the heating and cooling sector and in the transport sector, on regional cooperation between Member States, and between Member States and third countries, on guarantees of origin, on administrative procedures and on information and training. It also establishes sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels. The latter include fuels produced from waste, from agricultural biomass and from forest biomass. The Commission shall monitor the origin of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels consumed in the European Union and the impact of their production, including the impact as a result of displacement, on land use in the Union and in the main third countries of supply.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)	This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport.	This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refuelling points, and user information requirements.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Energy Efficiency Directive (EU) 2023/1791	The new directive introduces a series of measures to help accelerate energy efficiency, including embracing the "energy efficiency first" principle in the energy and non-energy policies.	• Establishing an EU legally binding target to reduce the EU's final energy consumption by 11.7% by 2030 (relative to the 2020 reference scenario). This includes for each Member State the requirement to set its indicative national contribution based on objective criteria reflecting national circumstances. If the national contributions do not add up to the EU target, an ambition gap mechanism is applied by the Commission. • Increasing annual energy savings from 0.8% (at present) to 1.3% (2024-2025), then 1.5% (2026-2027) and 1.9% from 2028 onwards. That's an average of 1.49% of new annual savings for the period from 2024-2030. • Obliging Member States to prioritise vulnerable customers and social housing within the scope of their energy savings measures. • Introducing an annual energy consumption reduction target of 1.9% for the public sector as a whole. • Extending the annual 3% buildings renovation obligation to all the levels of public administration. • Introducing a different approach, based on energy consumption, for business to have an energy management system or to carry out an energy audit. • Bringing in a new obligation to monitor the energy performance of data centres, with an EU-level database collecting and publishing data. • Promoting local heating & cooling plans in larger municipalities. • Progressively increasing the efficient energy consumption in heat or cold supply, also in district	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		heating.	
EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)	This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner.	• The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas: • Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; • The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; • The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; • Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; • Safety of offshore oil and gas operations.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (2014/89/EU)	This Directive establishes a framework for maritime spatial planning aimed at promoting the sustainable growth of maritime economies, the sustainable development of marine areas and the sustainable use of marine resources.	• Each Member State shall establish and implement maritime spatial planning. • In doing so, Member States shall take into account land-sea interactions. • The resulting plan or plans shall be developed and produced in accordance with the institutional and governance levels determined by Member States. This Directive shall not interfere with Member States' competence to design and determine the format and content of that plan or those plans. • Maritime spatial planning shall aim to contribute to the objectives listed in Article 5 and fulfil the requirements laid down in Articles 6 and 8. • When establishing maritime spatial planning, Member States shall have due regard to the particularities of the marine regions, relevant existing and future activities and uses and their impacts on the environment, as well as to natural resources, and shall also take into account land-sea interactions.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Member States may include or build on existing national policies, regulations or mechanisms that have been or are being established before the entry into force of this Directive, provided they are in conformity with the requirements of this Directive.	
UK Marine Policy Statement	• Achieving a sustainable marine economy • Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society • Living within environmental limits • Promoting good governance • Using sound science responsibly	The MPS will facilitate and support the formulation of Marine Plans, ensuring that marine resources are used in a sustainable way in line with the high level marine objectives and thereby: • Promote sustainable economic development; • Enable the UK's move towards a low-carbon economy, in order to mitigate the causes of climate change and ocean acidification and adapt to their effects; • Ensure a sustainable marine environment which promotes healthy, functioning marine ecosystems and protects marine habitats, species and heritage assets; and • Contribute to the societal benefits of the marine area, including the sustainable use of marine resources to address local social and economic issues	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009	• Aims to provide the legal mechanism to help ensure clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas by putting in place a new system for improved management and protection of the marine and coastal environment.	The Marine Act comprises eight key elements: • Marine Management Organisation (MMO) • Strategic Marine Planning System • Streamlined Marine Licensing System • Marine Nature Conservation • Fisheries Management and Marine Enforcement • Migratory and Freshwater Fisheries • Coastal Access • Coastal and Estuarine Management	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Marine (Northern Ireland) Act 2013	• Aims to provide for marine plans in relation to the Northern Ireland inshore region; to provide for marine conservation zones in that region; to make further provision in relation to marine licensing for certain electricity works in that region; and for connected purposes. This Act may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	The Marine Act sets out a new framework for Northern Ireland's seas based on a system of marine planning that will balance conservation, energy and resource needs; improved management for marine nature conservation and the streamlining of marine licensing for some electricity projects. The main provisions of the Act are outlined below: • Marine Planning • Nature Conservation • Marine Licensing	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)	The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030 and contains specific actions and commitments.	The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: • Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at • sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value. • An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. • A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision making. • Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.	
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	• Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. • Supporting EU-level GI projects. • Improving access to finance for GI projects. • Improving information and promoting innovation.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	• links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and • recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.	• sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them; • each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage; • encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity	An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	The Convention has three main goals: • the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); • the sustainable use of its components; and • the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change	It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.	The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)	The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol. At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.	• The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). • EU member states implement measures to improve on or compliment the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. • Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package	• Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020. • Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels. • Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%. • Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency.	Four pieces of complimentary legislation: • Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps. • Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU. • Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020. • Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy	• A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries. • Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario.	• To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030: • A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS). • New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries. • First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive) **Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)**	• The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). • Sets new air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives. • Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing	• Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. • Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria. • Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	compliance against limit values. • Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM_{10}) or up to five years (NO_2, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. • The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.	resulting from national and community measures. • Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public. • Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases. • Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution.	protection and management.
Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to: • Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; • Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	• Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks • Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community	• Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment • Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. • Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. • Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	• Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. • Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain “good status” of water bodies. • Promote sustainable water usage. • The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: • The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive • Sampling Drinking Water Directive • Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive • Shellfish Directive • Freshwater Fish Directive • Groundwater Directive	• Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. • Achieve "good status" for all waters. • Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. • Involve the public and streamline legislation. • Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. • Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. • Recover costs for water services.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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	• Dangerous Substances Directive		
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	• Protect, control and conserve groundwater. • Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. • Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals.	• Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. • Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Drinking Water Directive (2020/2184)	• The recast Drinking Water Directive is the EU's main law on drinking water. It concerns the access to, and the quality of water intended for human consumption to protect human health. • The EU adopted the recast Drinking Water Directive in December 2020 and the Directive entered into force in January 2021. Member States have to transpose the Directive into national law and comply with its provisions by 12 January 2023. The recast Drinking Water Directive will further protect human health thanks to updated water quality standards, tackling pollutants of concern, such as endocrine disruptors and microplastics, and leading to even cleaner water from the tap for all.	Key features of the revised Directive are: • reinforced water quality standards, in line or, in some cases, even more stringent than the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations • tackling emerging pollutants, such as endocrine disruptors and PFAs, as well as microplastics • a preventive approach favouring actions to reduce pollution at source by introducing the risk-based approach • measures to ensure better access to water, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised groups • measures to promote tap water, including in public spaces and restaurants, to reduce (plastic) bottle consumption • harmonisation of the quality standards for materials and products in contact with water • measures to reduce water leakages and to increase transparency of the sector	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	• This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. • The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges.	• Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment. • Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges. • Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU	Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.	• Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent. • Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. • Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		• The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. • The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. • The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. • The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives that are not of significant relevance to the SEA for the Guidelines. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing • knowledge and new needs.	
Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC), as amended	The aim of the European Union's ambitious Marine Strategy Framework Directive is to protect more effectively the marine environment across Europe.	The Directive provides various requirements, including: • Completion of an initial assessment of Irish marine waters; • Establishment of establish environmental targets and indicators; • Establishment of a monitoring programme; • Establishment of a programme of measures; and • Implementation of the programme of measures and monitoring programme. Implementation of the Directive is contributed towards by a set of detailed criteria and methodological standards that were revised in 2017 leading to a Commission Decision on "laying down criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters and specifications and standardised	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		methods for monitoring and assessment and repealing Decision 2010/477/EU". Annex III "Indicative lists of characteristics, pressures and impacts" of the Directive was amended in 2017.	
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)	The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.	The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)	The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co- operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.	• The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties. • The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co- operation between states and regions.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and	It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.	• (I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; • (II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes;	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the

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Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')		• (III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and • (IV) Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research.	Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)	• Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time. • A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations.	• Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. • Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage. • Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. • Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. • Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Landscape Convention 2000	The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic	• Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. • Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes.		
The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020)	It identifies three key objectives: • to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital • to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy • to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment- related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing	Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals): • Better implementation of legislation. • Better information by improving the knowledge base. • More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy. • Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies. • Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme: • To make the Union's cities more sustainable. • To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)	The convention has three main aims: • to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats • to promote cooperation between states • to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species	The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also: • Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. • Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucus. • Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. • Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co- operation with other organisations. • Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.	
Bali Road Map (2007)	The overall goals of the project are twofold: • To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and • To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities.	The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks: • mitigation • adaptation • technology • financing	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cancun Agreements (2010)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover: • Mitigation • Transparency of actions • Technology • Finance • Adaptation • Forests • Capacity building	Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.	• The following actions were committed to by governments at this conference: • Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020); • Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets;	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt; • Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and • Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries.	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Common Agricultural Policy	• To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and • To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living.	• Ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future; • Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources; • Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)(as amended)	Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.	The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely: • Registration, • Evaluation, • Authorisation; and • Restriction of chemicals. REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Stockholm Convention	The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.	• Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention. • Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the

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		are listed in Annex B to the Convention • Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention • Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner • To target additional POPs • Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance	regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ramsar Convention	The Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".	Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: • Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; • Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; • Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
OSPAR Convention	The mission of OSPAR is to conserve marine ecosystems and safeguard human health in the North-East Atlantic by preventing and eliminating pollution; by protecting the marine environment from the adverse effects of human activities; and by contributing to the sustainable use of the seas.	OSPAR's work is organised under six strategies: • Biodiversity and Ecosystem Strategy • Eutrophication Strategy • Hazardous Substances Strategy • Offshore Industry Strategy • Radioactive Substances Strategy	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental

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		• Strategy for the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme These six strategies fit together to underpin the ecosystem approach. For each strategy a programme of work is designed and implemented annually.	protection and management.
European 2020 Strategy for Growth	Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities: • Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation; • Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy; • Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion.	In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020: 1. 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 2. 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D; 3. the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); 4. the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 5. 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The European Green Deal (EGD) 2019	The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people's quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind.	• It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution. • It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. • In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed on 4th March 2020 to bring about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental

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			protection and management.
EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030 and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Commission's Communication on the energy transition of the fisheries and aquaculture sector as part of its Fisheries Policy Package	The main objectives of the measures defined in this communication are to promote the use of cleaner energy sources and reduce dependency on fossil fuels in the fisheries and aquaculture sector, in line with one of the ambitions of the European Green Deal to reach climate neutrality in the EU by 2050.	The communication defines various measures to support the sector in accelerating its energy transition, by improving fuel efficiency and switching to renewable, low-carbon power sources. A summary of the measures broadly proposed by the communication is presented below: • Creation of an Energy Transition Partnership for EU Fisheries and Aquaculture for the purpose of promoting collaboration and stakeholder engagement • Promotion of new innovative technologies and ways of operating • Improving energy efficiency Moving to renewable and zero or low-carbon energy sources (e.g., use of alternative fuels).	The communication noted the current dependency of the sector on fossil fuel based energy (e.g., marine diesel). It defines a vision for climate-neutral fisheries and aquaculture.

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National Level			
Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, and the National Development Plan (2021 - 2030)	• The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between. • The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people.	The National Planning Framework published alongside the National Development Plan yields ten National Strategic Outcomes as follows: 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. Sustainable Mobility 5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 6. High-Quality International Connectivity 7. Enhanced Amenity and Heritage 8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [In Preparation]	The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will: • Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; • Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, • Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.	In preparation.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	The core principle objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2022 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development.	• Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. • There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. • Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large scale projects. • Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011	• The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	• The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. • These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. • Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)	These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.	• They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. • The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C- 418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Waste Management Act 1996, as amended	To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.	The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009 (S.I 296 of 2009)	The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels	Actions: • Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). • Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. • Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 366 of 2016)	To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.	The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values. • Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution. • Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values • Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
S.I. No. 113/2022 - European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022	The purpose of the Regulations is to provide a basic set of measures to ensure the protection of waters, including drinking water sources, against pollution caused by nitrogen and phosphorus from agricultural sources, with the primary emphasis on the management of livestock manures and other fertilisers. The set of measures also provide some basic safeguards against possible harmful impacts on water quality arising from agricultural expansion. This basic set of measures has been strengthened over the last two reviews and this new programme provides a further strengthened set of measures to help reduce nitrogen and phosphorus losses from agriculture and	The Regulations include measures such as: • Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited • Limits on the land application of fertilisers • Storage requirements for livestock manure; and • Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	contribute to improvements in water quality.		
National legislation transport the Industrial Emissions Directive: • Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992, amended by the Protection of the Environment Act 2003; and • Environmental Protection Agency (Integrated Pollution Control) (Licensing) Regulations 2013. • European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992)(Amendment) Regulations 2020 • Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. • European Union (Industrial	The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection. This legislation transposes the provision of the Directive	The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors: • energy; • metal production and processing; • minerals; • chemicals; • waste management; • and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Emissions) Regulations 2013 • Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing)Regulations 2013. Environmental Protection Agency (Licensing Fees) Regulations 2013			
Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008 (S.I. 79 of 2008)	These Regulations provide for transposition of the EU Bathing Water Directive 2006 (Directive 2006/7/EC of 15 February 2006) which aims: • To improve health protection for bathers • To establish a more pro-active approach to management of bathing waters, and • To promote increased public involvement and dissemination of information to the public.	• The Regulations establish a new classification system for bathing water quality based on four classifications "poor", "sufficient", "good" and "excellent" and generally require that a classification of at least "sufficient" be achieved by 2015 for all bathing waters. • Local authorities must take appropriate measures with a view to improving waters which are classified as "poor" and increasing the number of bathing waters classified as "good" or "excellent". • A permanent advice against bathing must be issued in a case where a bathing water is classified as "poor" for five consecutive years. • Local authorities are required annually to identify bathing waters, establish a monitoring calendar, carry out the specified monitoring, report the results to the EPA, carry out appropriate management measures where necessary and provide information to the public. • There must be public participation in the identification of waters and the general implementation of the Regulations.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• The EPA is required by the Regulations to classify bathing waters, generally on the basis of the monitoring results for the four preceding bathing seasons, and to publish an annual report in relation to bathing water quality. • Monitoring by local authorities is to commence not later than 2011 with a view to ensuring that a classification is assigned to bathing waters not later than 2015. • Private controllers of access lands may be required to contribute towards the costs incurred by a local authority or the EPA.	
Bathing Water Quality (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (S.I 351 of 2011)	This Regulation defines further the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Further defines the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021	An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.	When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to: • The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		objective, • The policy of the Government on climate change, • Climate justice, • Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and • The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency.	
Climate Action Plan 2023	The Climate Action Plan 2023 provides a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting Ireland on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021.	The Plan lists the actions needed to deliver on our climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated annually, to ensure alignment with Ireland's legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's Second National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (2022 - 2024)	• National Implementation Plan 2022 - 2024 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). • The first version of the Plan (2018 – 2020) provided a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also included a	The Plan identifies five strategic objectives to guide implementation: • To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development; • To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs; • Greater partnerships for the Goals;	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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	'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets.	• To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms; and • Strong reporting mechanisms	
Clean Air Strategy for Ireland (2023)	The Clean Air Strategy provides the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	• Through this document Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. • The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. • The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. • In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount, this is a strong theme of the Strategy.	Implementation of the Guidelines need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EirGrid 's Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation Programme 2017 - 2022	• EirGrid 's mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland. • "Our vision is of a grid developed to match future needs, so it can safely and reliably carry power all over the country to the major towns and cities and onwards to every home, farm and business where the electricity is consumed and so it can meet the needs of consumers and generators in a sustainable way."	Grid25, EirGrid 's roadmap to uprate the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)	• The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users. • It also aims to increase the number and	• A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; • Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental

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	geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity.	activity tourism • to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, • domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; • Greenways that provide a substantially segregated offroad experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; • Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and • Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.	protection and management.
National Water Resources Plan (2021)	• The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. • The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment.	The key objectives of the plan are to: • Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions • Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry • Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland's water resources • Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events • Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water • Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies • Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development 2030	This multi-annual National Strategic Plan Sustainable Aquaculture Development (2022 – 2030) (NSPSA) overlaps with the EU's new 'Strategic guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture for the period 2021 to 2030', as well as the programming period (2021 to 2027) of the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF). As such, this plan provides the strategic vision and framework for funding under EMFAF, as well as other EU and national initiatives.	• Develop 'Designated Marine Area Plans' (DMAPs) for aquaculture to ensure that the sector is championed in Ireland's Marine Spatial Plan to facilitate investment in different forms of sustainable aquaculture. • More vigilant and responsive monitoring if aquatic diseases and food safety risks. • Develop a comprehensive human capacity plan for Irish aquaculture to promote the sector as an attractive career option, develop leadership, management and business capacity in the sector and provide the necessary skills required over the strategy time period. • Provide coordinated messaging on the sustainable, low carbon nature of Irish aquaculture production, supported by independent certification and open dialogue.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	• Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. • The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.	This Strategy therefore addresses issues including: • A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; • Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; • The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; • Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; • Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety;	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and • Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector.	
National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and **National Landscape Character Assessment**	• The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. • Landscape Strategy Vision: "Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning."	The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to: • Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; • Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape; • Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape; • Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2021 - 2027	This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the	The revised Plan makes 20 recommendations under the following topics: • Policy and Regulation • Prevention • Collection and Treatment	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the

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	previous plan was published. Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period: • To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally; • To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a • view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste; • To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export; • To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management.	• Implementation	regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Ports Policy 2013	The core objective of National Ports Policy is to facilitate a competitive and effective market for maritime transport services.	National Ports Policy introduces clear categorisation of the ports sector into Ports of National Significance (Tier 1), Ports of National Significance (Tier 2) and Ports of Regional Significance.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Aviation Policy 2015	Specifically, the principal goals of this National Aviation Policy are: • To enhance Ireland's connectivity by ensuring safe, secure and competitive access responsive to the needs of business, tourism and consumers; • To foster the growth of aviation enterprise in Ireland to support job creation and position Ireland as a recognised global leader in aviation; and • To maximise the contribution of the aviation sector to Ireland's economic growth and development.	The National Aviation Policy commits to: • Maintaining safety as the number one priority in Irish aviation and ensuring that safety regulation is robust, effective and efficient; • Creating conditions to encourage the development of new routes and services, particularly to new and emerging markets; • Ensuring a high level of competition among airlines operating in the Irish market; • Optimising the operation of the Irish airport network to ensure maximum connectivity to the rest of the world; • Ensuring that the regulatory framework for aviation reflects best international practice and that economic regulation facilitates continued investment in aviation infrastructure at Irish airports to support traffic growth; • Supporting the aircraft leasing and aviation finance sectors to maintain Ireland's leading global position in these spheres; and • Maintaining a safe and innovative general aviation sector to support Ireland's broader aviation industry	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines	The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.	The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025	The vision is: "A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility."	These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive: • Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life • Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities • Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing • Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Marine Planning Framework 2021	The NMPF is a key consideration for decision makers on all marine authorisations. The NMPF creates the overarching framework for decision making that is consistent, evidence based, and secures a sustainable future for the maritime area.	The National Marine Planning Framework is a succinct strategic document that will deal with, inter alia, the following environmental, social and economic issues: • Key marine activities such as fisheries, tourism, transport, offshore renewable energy generation, oil and gas exploration and production, aquaculture, and how they interact; • Climate change and related impacts; • Communities and health; • Cultural heritage; • Marine environment and biodiversity; • Transboundary interactions with other jurisdictions.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025	The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas and is a sector in which people want to work.	The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025: • Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year • net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; • 250,000 people employed in tourism; and • 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute

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			towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Strategy for Northern Ireland: 10 Year Plan	• This Strategy will be published in 2024. • The plan sets out a 10-year plan for the growth of the tourism sector in Northern Ireland., with an aim to increase the value of tourism to the economy by 50-75% compared to 2019. • Vision is to "Establish Northern Ireland as a year-round world class destination which is renowned for its authentic experiences, landscape, heritage and culture and which benefits communities, the economy and the environment, with sustainability at its core." This Plan may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	The strategic goals and core themes of the Strategy are: • Innovative • Inclusive • Sustainable • Attractive • Collaborative The document identifies the key challenges and drivers for growth.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012	A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.	Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) 2021	• NIFTI is the Department of Transport's framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network to support the delivery of the National Strategic Outcomes. • The NIFTI will guide transport investment in the years ahead to enable the National Planning Framework, support the Climate Action Plan, and promote social, environmental and economic outcomes throughout Ireland.	The four investment priorities stated in NIFTI are: • Mobility of people and goods in urban areas. • Protection and renewal. • Enhanced regional and rural connectivity. • Decarbonisation.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans (including transport)	NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur	• Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change. • Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance based actions. • Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change. • Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Governments White Paper 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' (2015 – 2030)	The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050.	2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning: • Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95% • Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Wildlife Act of 1976 **Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000**	The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.	• Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems • Give statutory protection to NHAs • Enhances wildlife species and their habitats • Includes more species for protection	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Actions for Biodiversity (2017-2021) Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan	Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally.	• To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors. • To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity. • To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystems services. • To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside. • To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment. • To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species. To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Broadband Plan (2012)	Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland.	The Plan sets out: • A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High Speed Broadband. • Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. • The strategy and interventions that will underpin	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		the successful implementation of these targets. • A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area.	regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)	• Sets out comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process. • Ensures flood risk is a key consideration in preparing land use plans and in the assessment of planning applications. • Implementation of the Guidelines is through actions at national, regional, local authority and site-specific levels. • Planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are required to have regard to the Guidelines in carrying out their functions under the Planning Acts.	• Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding. • Avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface water run-off. • Ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains. • Avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth. • Improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders. • Ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature conservation • are complied with at all stages of flood risk management. The 2009 Flood Risk Management Guidelines were amended by Circular PL 2/2014 (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government) that provides advice on the use of OPW flood mapping in assessing planning applications and clarifies some advice from the 2009 Guidelines.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of	• Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. • Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. • Identifies the competent authorities in	• Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans. • Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

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2003) **European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)** **European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)(as amended)**	charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions.	• Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies. • Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. • Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. • Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. • Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. • Outlines surface water quality standards. • Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 to 1990	The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.	The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to: • Prosecute for water pollution offences. • Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. • Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. • issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; • Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		• Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas.	
Water Services Act 2007 **Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012** **Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013** **Water Services Act 2017**	• Provides the water services infrastructure. • Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. • Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and wastewater supply. • Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and wastewater services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.	Key strategic objectives include: • Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. • Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services. • Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards • Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary wastewater treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive. • Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures. • Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. • Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services. • Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER.	Implementation of the Guidelines need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Irish Water's (now known as Uisce Eireann) Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated	This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the	Six strategic objectives as follows: • Meet Customer Expectations. • Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply. • Provide Effective Management of Wastewater. • Protect and Enhance the Environment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2020 - 2024)	short and medium term.	• Support Social and Economic Growth. • Invest in the Future.	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas 2017 - 2022	Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs	• Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning. • Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Harvest 2020	Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas.	Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Agri-vision 2015 Action Plan	Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) **Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS)** **Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)**	• Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. • GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring.	• Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. • Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. • Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. • Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. • Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Rural Development Programme	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas	At a more detailed level, the programme also: • Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; • Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and • Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as • non-agricultural activities	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Forestry Programme 2023 – 2027	The new Forestry Programme 2023-2027 came into force in 2023, as soon as State Aid approval by the European Commission has been received. The new Programme sets out increased support for a number of schemes.	The proposed Forestry Programme 2023-2027 contains a series of eight different interventions: • Forest creation; • Agroforestry; • Infrastructure and technology investments; • Sustainable forest management; • Developing skills and empowering the forest sector for sustainable forest management; • Open forests - social, cultural and heritage forests; • Climate resilient reforestation; • Reconstruction.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
River Basin Management Plan	River Basin Management Plans set out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters.	• Aim to protect and enhance all water bodies in the RBD and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive. • Identify and manages water bodies in the RBD. • Establish a programme of measures for monitoring and improving water quality in the RBD. • Involve the public through consultations.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)	This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.	Objectives of the Strategy: • To give direction to Ireland's approach to peatland • management. • To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils. • To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. • To ensure that Ireland's peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		responsible. • To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. • To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required. • To provide a framework for determining and ensuring the most appropriate future use of cutover and cutaway bogs. To ensure that specific actions necessary for the achievement of its objectives are clearly identified and delivered by those involved in or responsible for peatlands management or for decisions affecting their management.	
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.	CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020	The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows: • Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner.	Three high level goals of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified: • To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. • To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy. • To ensure that bioenergy developments do not	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources.	
Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2018/2001: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030	This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: • AFV forecasts • Electricity targets • Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets • Hydrogen targets • Biofuels targets • LPG targets • Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: • 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. • 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. • 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion. • The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high end value added product development.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) NI	The SPPS consolidates some twenty separate policy publications into one document and sets out strategic subject planning policy for a wide range of planning matters. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two-tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development.	The overall objective of the planning system is to further sustainable development and improve well-being for the people of the North.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Policy Framework For Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030	• This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. • By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors.	This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport: • Reduce overall travel demand • Maximise the efficiency of the transport network • Reduce reliance on fossil fuels • Reduce transport emissions • Improve accessibility to transport These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Coastal Change Management Strategy	The Government has adopted a policy to assess and manage coastal flood risk with regard to both existing risk and the potential impacts of climate change. This strategy will: • Provide a framework to determine the key decisions to be taken on how Ireland could best manage its coast, being aware of the future risks and the associated planning requirements.	Recommendations: • Enhancing governance and capacity building (a dual approach of both mitigation and adaptation measures) • Understanding the risk and identifying potential risk management options Developing management (a dual approach of both mitigation (tackling the cause) and adaptation measures) to coastal change	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• Provide a framework to best inform both where and how decisions regarding appropriate development / projects along the coast should be taken in the future, in coordination with investment in flood risk management.		
Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage (2019)	• Heritage in Ireland ranges from private homes, commercial and public buildings, national monuments, underwater and buried archaeology and the physical and cultural settings of all of these. • This plan considers not only those structures and sites that have been statutorily listed, but all man-made assets that have historical, aesthetic and cultural value, but does not consider natural heritage. Aims to: • Build adaptive capacity within the sector • Reduce the vulnerability of built and archaeological heritage to climate change • Identify and capitalise on the various potential opportunities for the sector	The five adaptation goals for built and archaeological heritage in Ireland are: 1. To improve understanding of each heritage resource and its vulnerability to climate change 2. To develop and mainstream sustainable policies and plans for climate-change adaptation of built and archaeological heritage 3. To conserve Ireland's heritage for future generations 4. To communicate and transfer knowledge To exploit the opportunities for built and archaeological heritage to demonstrate value and secure resources	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Heritage related legislation: • National Monuments Act 1930 as amended; • Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and	• Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the LACAPs. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.	Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the LACAPs. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

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Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999; and • The Heritage Act 2018.			
All-Island Strategic Rail Review	The Review aims to inform policy and future strategy for the railways in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland.	The Review sets out six high-level goals which aim to use rail as effectively as possible to: • contribute to decarbonisation; • improve All Island connectivity between major cities; • enhance regional accessibility; • stimulate economic activity; • encourage sustainable mobility; and achieve economic and financial feasibility.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Regional/ County/Local Level			
Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies provide a long-term regional level strategic planning and economic framework in support of the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Fingal County Council; Dublin City Council; South Dublin County Council; Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Louth County Council; Kildare County Council; Meath County Council; Wicklow County Council; Longford County Council; Laois County Council; Offaly County Council; and Westmeath County Council. The Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Tipperary County Council, Wexford County Council, Kerry County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council,	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council. The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its eight constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council, Leitrim County Council, Sligo County Council, Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council, Mayo County Council, Roscommon County Council, and Galway County Council.	
Regional Development Strategy 2035 (Northern Ireland)	• Spatial strategy for the future development of Northern Ireland. • Strategic planning framework to facilitate and guide public and private sectors. This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	Aims to provide long-term policy direction with a strategic spatial perspective.	Implementation of the Guidelines need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2022-2042)	It sets out how transport will be developed across the region, covering Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare, over the period of the strategy and has been approved by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in accordance with the relevant legislation. This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	They set out a number of core principles deriving from the strategic vision, which are: • Dublin as the capital city of Ireland and a major European centre shall grow and progress, competing with other cities in the EU, and serving a wide range of international, national, regional and local needs. • The Dublin and Mid-East Regions will be attractive, vibrant locations for industry, commerce, recreation and tourism and will be a major focus for economic growth within the Country. • The GDA, through its ports and airport connections will continue to be the most important entry/exit point for the country as a whole, and as a Gateway between the European Union and the rest of the	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		World. Access to and through the GDA will continue to be a matter of national importance. • Development in the GDA shall be directly related to investment in integrated high quality public transport services and focused on compact urban form. • Development within the existing urban footprint of the Metropolitan Area will be consolidated to achieve a more compact urban form. • Development in the Hinterland Area will be focused on the high quality integrated growth and consolidation of development in key identified towns, separated from each other by extensive areas of strategic green belt land devoted to agriculture and similar uses.	
Transport Strategy for the Cork Metropolitan Area 2040	The Strategy addresses all transport modes, and its objective will be to provide a long-term strategic planning framework for the integrated development of transport infrastructure and services in the Cork Metropolitan Area, over the next two decades. This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	It will be used to inform transport investment levels and investment prioritisation over both the longer and shorter terms and will be able to inform sustainable integrated land use and transport policy formulation at the strategic (Metropolitan Area) level and at the local level.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan	• Sets out a ten year cycling strategy for Counties Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow • Plan to increase regions cycle network dramatically • The Plan refers to the EuroVelo International Cycle Route Network of the European Cyclists Federation is a network of 15 long distance cycle routes connecting and uniting	Aims to identify and determine: • The Urban Cycle Network at the Primary, Secondary and Feeder level • The Inter-Urban Cycle Network linking the relevant sections of the Urban Network including the elements of the National Cycle Network within the Greater Dublin Area including linkages to key transport locations outside of urban areas such as airports and	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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	the whole European continent. Two of these routes are in Ireland • including EV2 from Galway through Dublin to London, Berlin, Warsaw and Moscow. This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	ports • The Green Route Network being cycle routes for development of tourist, recreational and leisure purposes.	
Dublin to Galway Greenway Plan	• Develop a segregated cycling and walking trail to international standards, extending from Dublin City to Galway which is of a scale that will allow Ireland to harness the potential of an identified growing tourism market for cycling. • This route forms part of an interconnected National Cycle Network of high quality, traffic free, inter urban routes, which will establish Ireland as a quality international tourism destination for a broad range of associated recreational activities and pursuits. This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	To provide a segregated, substantially off road cycle route from Dublin City to Clifden via Galway City, maximising the use of – where feasible – existing and approved routes and disused railway line corridors and to also use existing plans and/or permitted projects where these have been subject to a consent process that has previously included the carrying out or screening for SEA, EIA and AA.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Transport Plans and Strategies	• Local Transport Plans and Strategies relevant to a particular local authority functional area provide a more granular framework for the delivery of sustainable transport systems in accordance with higher-level plans.	• To promote sustainable transport. • To promote integrated and proper transport planning. • To promote safe travel. • To promote active travel infrastructural development.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental

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		To encourage modal shift.	protection and management.
Water Quality Management Plans	• Ensure that the quality of waters covered by the plan is maintained. • Maintain and improve the quantity and quality of water included in the Plan scope.	• Monitoring of water bodies against quality standards. • Outlines management programmes for water catchments. • Purpose is to maintain and improve the quantity and quality of groundwater.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Port Masterplans (such as Dublin Port Masterplan 2040 and 2017 Review)	• The Masterplan sets out a vision for the operations of the port and land utilisation. • The Masterplan is a non-statutory plan which has nonetheless been framed within the context of EU, national, regional and local development plan policies.	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs	Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: • To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site • To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest • To describe the site and its management • To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site • To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives.	• Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. • These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater	A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides	A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the	Implementation of the Climate Action

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Protection Schemes	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.	quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development.	Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP)	The overarching vision for each LECP is: "to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities"	The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Development Plans, Local Area Plans, Planning Schemes	• Outlines planning objectives for land use development (including transport objectives). • Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. • Sets out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area.	• Identifies future infrastructure, development and zoning required. • Protects and enhances amenities and environment. • Guides planning authority in assessing proposals. • Aims to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. • Aims to promote sustainable development. • Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Green Infrastructure Plans/Strategies	• Promotes the maintenance and improvement of green infrastructure in an area. • Aims to protect and enhance biodiversity and habitats.	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Biodiversity Action Plans	Aims to protect, conserve, enhance and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services across all spectrums.	• Outlines the status of biodiversity and identifies species of importance. • Outlines objectives and targets to be met to maintain and improve biodiversity. • Aims to increase awareness.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Heritage Plans	Aims to highlight the importance of heritage at a strategic level.	• Manage and promote heritage as well as increased awareness. • Aim to conserve and protect heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
County Landscape Character Assessments	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	• Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. • Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub- Basin	• Identifies the current status of the species and the reason for loss or decline.	• Identifies pressures on Freshwater Pearl Mussels for each of the designated populations in Ireland.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Management Plans	• Identifies measure required to improve or restore current status.	• Outlines restoration measures required to ensure favourable conservation status.	environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans	• Produced by Local Authorities. • Outlines areas local flood risk. • Sets out measures to manage and prevent flood risk at a local level.	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Shellfish Pollution Reduction Programmes	Aims to improve water quality and ensure the protection or improvement of designated shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth and contribute to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man.	• Identifies key and secondary pressures on water quality in designated shellfish areas. • Outlines specific measures to address identified key and secondary pressures on water quality. • Addresses the specific pressures acting on water quality in each area.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Regional Waste Management Plans	These plans (for the Connacht-Ulster, Southern, and Eastern-Midlands regions) give effect to national and EU waste policy, and address waste prevention and management (including generation, collection and treatment) over the period 2015-2021.	To manage wastes in a safe and compliant manner, a clear strategy, policies and actions are required.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Noise Action Plans	The Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland.	The main purpose of the Noise Action Plan is to: • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems • Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects • Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

FEHILY TIMONEY

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APPENDIX 3

Appropriate Assessment Screening of Plan Revisions

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

AA Screening Report For Modifications to the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

Prepared for:

Clare County Council

COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Date: **January 2024**

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Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for Modifications to the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

REVISION CONTROL TABLE, CLIENT, KEYWORDS AND ABSTRACT

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Client: Clare County Council (CCC)

Keywords: Appropriate Assessment Screening Report, Appropriate Assessment, AA, Natura Impact Report, LACAP, Climate Action Plan Implementation Plan.

Abstract: Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this AA Screening Report for Modifications to the Local Authority Climate Action 2024 - 2029 to Clare County Council (CCC).

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This is the Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report for modifications to the Clare County Council (CCC) Local Authority Climate Action Plan (referred to as either the 'LACAP' or the 'Plan') 2024 - 2029.

Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 sets out the provisions governing the establishment and operation of a LACAP. The broad purpose of a LACAP will be to define adaptation and mitigation measures at local level to support the reduction of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions within a local authority as an organization and throughout the local community. LACAPs shall be implemented over a five-year period.

1.2 Plan-making Process to Date

A draft version of the LACAP was prepared. This document was accompanied by a Draft Natura Impact Report (NIR) which considered, evaluated and presented the environmental effects of the Draft LACAP on European sites and presented mitigation measures to avoid or minimise identified effects. This AA process was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Habitats Directive[1] and transposing national legislation.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was also undertaken on the Draft LACAP in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive[2] and transposing national legislation. A Draft SEA Environmental Report which considered the effects of the Draft LACAP on the environment was therefore prepared also. The Draft NIR suitably informed this report.

A period of consultation has been undertaken in relation to the Draft LACAP, the Draft SEA Environmental Report and the Draft NIR. Statutory environmental authorities interested stakeholders and members of the public were invited to make submissions in connection with the Draft LACAP and the associated Draft SEA Environmental Report and Draft NIR.

All submissions made on this documentation have been reviewed by CCC. These submissions were taken into consideration prior to finalisation of the LACAP. CCC have prepared a Chief Executive Report on the submissions received. This document details the submissions received, CCC responses to the submissions, and Plan Action modifications arising following consideration of the submissions.

1.3 Purpose of this Assessment

An AA Screening Assessment must be carried out on all modifications made to the Draft LACAP Actions arising following consideration of submissions. The purpose of this assessment is to identify whether the Plan Action modifications will result in additional effects on European sites not previously considered in the AA process to date, and to inform whether or not a full AA is required on the Plan Action modifications. This AA Screening Assessment considers changes the binding 'Actions' defined within the Plan.

[1] Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.
[2] Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment

This report documents the AA Screening undertaken to identify the need for full AA in this case. This report accompanies the documented Plan Action modifications.

This report should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

1. The Clare County Council (CCC) LACAP 2024 - 2029.
2. The Draft NIR for the Clare County Council (CCC) LACAP 2024 - 2029.
3. The Draft SEA Environmental Report for the Clare County Council (CCC) LACAP 2024 - 2029.
4. Clare County Council (CCC) LACAP Submissions Chief Executive Report.
5. The SEA Screening Report for modifications to Clare County Council (CCC) LACAP 2024 - 2029.

2. APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING METHODOLOGY

2.1 Legislative Requirements

Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the "favourable conservation status" of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Habitats Directive as above and Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable among them. These two designations are collectively known and referred to as European sites.

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect such sites. Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for AA. These requirements are implemented in the Republic of Ireland by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). Specifically, Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states:

> *"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (Natura 2000 sites) but likely to have significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public".*

Therefore, the AA process is an assessment of the following key concepts:

- Whether a plan or project can be excluded from AA requirements because it is directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site.
- Whether the project will have a potentially significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, in view of the site's conservation objectives or if residual uncertainty exists regarding potential impacts.

The provisions of Article 6(3) do not apply where the proposed plan or project is 'connected with or necessary to the management of the site'. Where a formal consent process applies, the AA process is concluded by the relevant competent authority making a determination in accordance with article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.

2.2 Guidance

The assessment was conducted in accordance with the following guidance:

- Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (European Commission, 2002).

- This document was updated by Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Commission Notice (2021) Brussels, 28.9.2021 C(2021) 6913 final;
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin (2009, updated 2010);
- Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Commission (2018). Brussels, (2019/C 33/01). OJ C 33, 25.1.2019;
- Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 28. European Commission 2013;
- OPR Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, Office of the Planning Regulator (2021).

The AA screening is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and 'grey' literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife Website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives. The EPA Envision Map-viewer (www.epa.ie) and available reports were also reviewed:

- Definitions of conservation status, integrity and significance used in this assessment are defined in accordance with 'Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC' (EC, 2000).
- The conservation status of a natural habitat is defined as the sum of the influences acting on a natural habitat and its typical species that may affect its long-term natural distribution, structure and functions as well as the long-term survival of its typical species;
- The conservation status of a species is defined as the sum of the influences acting on the species concerned that may affect the long-term distribution and abundance of its population;
- The integrity of a European Site is defined as the coherence of the site's ecological structure and function, across its whole area, or the habitats, complex of habitats and/or populations of species for which the site is or will be classified; and
- Significant effect should be determined in relation to the specific features and environmental conditions of the protected site concerned by the plan or project, taking particular account of the site's conservation objectives.

2.3 Assessment Process and Approach

A Draft NIR has been produced for the CCC Draft LACAP. This report contains the information on the receiving environment, European sites, and potential effects of the Draft LACAP on European sites. The report also defines mitigation measures designed to avoid and minimise effects on European sites. The information contained in this Draft NIR has been referred to during the carrying out of the AA Screening Assessment documented in this report.

This assessment commences with a description of the Plan Action modifications being considered. The type of impacts that are likely due to the Plan Action modifications are then identified and evaluated having regard to nature and characteristics of the Plan Action modifications. The overall AA process will be completed in a revised full NIR at the end of the plan development process incorporating all interim steps, modifications and reports/assessments.

An ecological desktop study has been completed for the AA Screening Assessment of the Plan Action modifications, which comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites that may be impacted by Plan Action modifications.
- Identification of European sites pathways.
- Review of the NPWS site synopses and conservation objectives for relevant European sites.
- Examination of available information on protected species.

This desktop assessment mainly involved a review of the Draft NIR produced for the Draft LACAP.

The process of determining the likelihood of significant effects from a plan or a project on European sites is an iterative process centred around a Source-Pathway-Receptor (S-P-R) model. In order for an effect to be established, all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the mechanism is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

- Source(s) – e.g., pollutant run-off, noise, removal of vegetation etc.;
- Pathway(s) – ecological connectivity linkages e.g., groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and,
- Receptor(s) – ecological resources supporting the qualifying habitats and species of European sites.

In the context of this report, a receptor is an ecological feature that is known to be utilised by the Qualifying Interests (QI) or Special Conservation Interests (SCI) of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the Plan Action modifications that is known to interact with ecological processes. A pathway is any connection or link between the source and the receptor[3].

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the Conservation Objectives, QIs and/ or SCIs of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs, and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The likelihood of significant effects, including in-combination effects, on European Sites is then interrogated having regard to the nature and characteristics of Plan Action modifications, environmental pathways, and the sensitivity of relevant European sites.

Where significant effects are determined to be likely, or where there is uncertainty regarding the likelihood of significant effects, the Plan Action modification must be will be subject to Stage 2 AA and the preparation of a Natura Impact Report (NIR).

[3] Qualifying interest or special conservation interests of the European site in question and the known sensitivities of these key ecological receptors

Having regard to the European Commission Communication on the Precautionary Principle (European Commission, 2000) the:

> *"absence of scientific evidence on the significant negative effect of an action cannot be used as justification for approval of this action. When applied to Article 6(3) procedure, the precautionary principle implies that the absence of a negative effect on Natura 2000 sites has to be demonstrated before a plan or project can be authorised. In other words, if there is a lack of certainty as to whether there will be any negative effects, then the plan or project cannot be approved."*

This AA screening is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and 'grey' literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife Website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives.

3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

A summary of Plan Action modifications arising following consideration of consultation submissions is provided in Table 3-1:

Table 3-1: Summary of Plan Action Modifications

Action	Summary of Modification
BE1.9	The following new action to be included in the Built Environment section of the LACAP: Undertake a county wide review of built facilities (eg. trails, car parks, bus stops, public toilets, interpretative centres) enabling visitor and community access to our cultural and natural assets to form the basis for a development plan for the enhancement, monitoring, and adaptive management of such facilities to ensure the sustainable management of the projected increase in demand for access to these assets.
BE3.6	The following new action to be included in the Built Environment section of the LACAP: Municipal Districts to identify areas of concern within the Arterial Drainage network and Surface Water network that result in flooding of roads, properties and public assets with a view to creating a programme for maintenance of specific areas.
BE3.7	The following new action to be included in the Built Environment section of the LACAP: Carry out review of the Flood mapping for the Ennis area to identify areas of risk.
T1.2	The action below has been amended to include the words “climate resiliency”: Advance the delivery of the West Clare Railway Greenway, having due regard to climate resiliency, opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with the route, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, and cultural heritage related sensitivities.
T1.3	The action below has been amended to include “St Flannan’s and Lahinch Road”: Complete development of Ennis/Tulla Road, St Flannan’s and Lahinch Road active travel projects.
T1.6	The action below has been amended to include the words “and North Clare Integrated Transport and Traffic Plan” and exclude the words "in accordance with Area Based Transport Assessment guidance": Complete Ennis Local Transport Plan, Shannon Local Transport Plan and North Clare Integrated Transport and Traffic Plan ~~in accordance with Area Based Transport Assessment guidance~~.
T1.7	The action below has been amended to exclude the words "residential/urban": Expand 30km/h speed limit zones to more ~~residential/urban~~ areas of the County.
T1.11	The action below has been amended to include “(bus and rail)”: Engage with public transport providers to support enhanced public transport (bus and rail) outcomes including rural bus service expansion and service interconnectivity, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate

Action	Summary of Modification
	action benefits and co-benefits, and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
T1.12	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Support the introduction of interventions that enable the uptake of sustainable transportation in communities across Clare.
T1.13	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Undertake research, including engagement and mapping, into best practice street space allocation to support sustainable mobility in Ennis.
T1.14	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Collaborate and support Irish Rail and all stakeholders towards resolving the flooding issue at Ballycar.
T1.15	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Support and facilitate the opening/reinstatement of railway stations on the Western Railway Corridor within County Clare and in particular at Crusheen.
T1.16	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Advance the remediation/development of footpaths across the county to include remediated footpaths and new build footpaths.
C1.4	The action below has been amended to include the words “in particular youth representatives”: Utilise mechanisms of engagement between Clare County Council (CCC) and communities/sectors, in particular youth representatives, with respect to climate action policy and project development.
C2.11	The following new action is to be included in the Communities and Partnership section of the LACAP: Identification of co-benefits associated with climate action in the development of the Climate Action Implementation Plan and where feasible quantification of co-benefits.
N1.14	The following new action is to be included in the Natural Environment section of the LACAP: Research sites of high cultural and natural conservation value along the Clare coast to fully understand the implications of climate change and sea level rise and the potential approaches to mitigation, adaptation and building resilience, with an initial focus on the area of the Loop Head Peninsula which has been identified as a Decarbonisation Zone (DZ).
N1.15	The following new action is to be included in the Natural Environment section of the LACAP: Prioritise vulnerable heritage sites that are identified as being most at risk and determine key actions for their protection through the preparation of Conservation Management Plans.
N2.8	The following new action is to be included in the Natural Environment section of the LACAP: Support the National Parks and Wildlife service (NPWS), communities and other stakeholders in the creation of an MPA network and the designation of specific MPAs off the Clare coastline.

Action	Summary of Modification
N3.2	The action below has been amended to include the sentence after "green waste": Investigate the development of suitably located composting centres to promote circularity of green waste and support development of community gardens and allotments.

4. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any likely significant effects to European Sites from the Plan Action modifications, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

The following has been considered when carrying out the AA Screening Assessment of Plan Action modifications to the Draft LACAP.

- The likely significant effect on the environment and European sites of implementing the Draft LACAP.
- The likely significant effect on the environment and European sites of implementing the Plan Action modifications.
- The mitigation measures defined in Section 5 of the Draft NIR.

Therefore, the Plan Action modifications must be considered in relation to the current Draft LACAP which has already been subject to SEA and AA considerations. All Plan Action modifications are considered therefore in the context of potential additional sources for impacts/effects which were not previously considered.

The first stage of the Screening process in this case involved interrogating Plan Action modifications to ascertain the materiality of the modifications and whether the modifications will result in the occurrence of additional effects on European sites not previously considered in the AA process to date.

4.2 Assessment Criteria

The following parameters are described when characterising impacts (following CIEEM (2016), EPA (2002) and NRA (2009)):

- **Direct and Indirect Impacts -** An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a proposed development.
- **Magnitude** - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.
- **Extent** - The area over which the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.
- **Duration** - The time for which the effect is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource or feature.
    - Temporary: Up to 1 Year;
    - Short Term: The effects would take 1-7 years to be mitigated;
    - Medium Term: The effects would take 7-15 years to be mitigated;
    - Long Term: The effects would take 15-60 years to be mitigated; and
    - Permanent: The effects would take 60+ years to be mitigated.
- **Likelihood** - The probability of the effect occurring taking into account all available information.
    - Certain/Near Certain: >95% chance of occurring as predicted;
    - Probable: 50-95% chance as occurring as predicted;
    - Unlikely: 5-50% chance as occurring as predicted; and
    - Extremely Unlikely: <5% chance as occurring as predicted.

The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidelines for ecological impact assessment (2016) define: an ecologically significant impact as an impact (negative or positive) on the integrity of a defined site or ecosystem and/or the conservation status of habitats or species within a given geographic area; and the integrity of a site as the coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is an aim of NPWS to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

SSCOs have been prepared for a number of European Sites. These detailed SSCOs aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes which define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

> *Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'*
> *Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable'.*

Generic Conservation Objectives for SACs have been provided as follows:

- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected.

One generic Conservation Objective has been provided for SPAs as follows:

- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

EC guidance[4] outlines the types of effects that may affect European sites. These include effects from the following activities:

- Land take;
- Resource Requirements (Drinking Water Abstraction Etc.);
- Emissions (Disposal to Land, Water or Air);

[4] Assessment of plans and Projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission Environment DG, 2001.

- Excavation Requirements;
- Transportation Requirements;
- Duration of Construction, Operation, Decommissioning.

In addition, the guidance outlines the following likely changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site:

- Reduction of Habitat Area.
- Disturbance to Key Species.
- Habitat or Species Fragmentation.
- Reduction in Species Density.
- Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.).
- Climate Change.

4.3 Elements of the Plan Modifications with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

An evaluation of the potential environmental implications of each Plan Action modification has been carried out. This evaluation is presented in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1: Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification

Action	Summary of Modification	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification
BE1.9	The following new action to be included in the Built Environment section of the LACAP: Undertake a county wide review of built facilities (eg. trails, car parks, bus stops, public toilets, interpretative centres) enabling visitor and community access to our cultural and natural assets to form the basis for a development plan for the enhancement, monitoring, and adaptive management of such facilities to ensure the sustainable management of the projected increase in demand for access to these assets.	This is a research-related action and will have no real environmental effect when considered in isolation. The implementation of this action will promote effective climate resilience action, and is likely to have a slight positive effect on climate in general.
BE3.6	The following new action to be included in the Built Environment section of the LACAP: Municipal Districts to identify areas of concern within the Arterial Drainage network and Surface Water network that result in flooding of roads, properties and public assets with a view to creating a programme for maintenance of specific areas.	This is a research based action which does not introduce additional sources of environmental effects not already considered under the SEA and AA processes. It will serve to focus existing road maintenance services provided by the Council.
BE3.7	The following new action to be included in the Built Environment section of the LACAP: Carry out review of the Flood mapping for the Ennis area to identify areas of risk.	This is a research based action which does not introduce additional sources of environmental effects not already considered under the SEA and AA processes. It will serve to focus flood risk management activity generally.
T1.2	The action below has been amended to include the words “climate resiliency”: Advance the delivery of the West Clare Railway Greenway, having due regard to climate resiliency, opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with the route, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, and cultural heritage related sensitivities.	This amended action provides clarification to the text previously considered. This amendment is not likely to have any significant environmental effects not already considered in the SEA and AA process.

Action	Summary of Modification	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification
T1.3	The action below has been amended to include "St Flannan's and Lahinch Road": Complete development of Ennis/Tulla Road, St Flannan's and Lahinch Road active travel projects.	This amendment clarieis the active travel propjects supported by the plan. At high-level, the amendment does not result in the introduction of additional environmental effects not already considered under the SEA/AA process to date and mitigated against (e.g., via the defined Environmental Governance Principles). It is noted these active travel projects will be assessed for their environmental impact at project-level, once defined more speficially as development projects.
T1.6	The action below has been amended to include the words "and North Clare Integrated Transport and Traffic Plan" and exclude the words "in accordance with Area Based Transport Assessment guidance": Complete Ennis Local Transport Plan, Shannon Local Transport Plan and North Clare Integrated Transport and Traffic Plan ~~in accordance with Area Based Transport Assessment guidance~~.	This amendment clarifies the text of an action previously considered. It should be noted that the North Clare Integrated Transport and Traffic Plan will be subject to its own SEA and AA. This amendment will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the SEA and AA process.
T1.7	The action below has been amended to exclude the words "residential/urban": Expand 30km/h speed limit zones to more ~~residential/urban~~ areas of the County.	This amendment provides clarification that other areas than residential/urban areas will be applied with the new speed limit.
T1.11	The action below has been amended to include "(bus and rail)": Engage with public transport providers to support enhanced public transport (bus and rail) outcomes including rural bus service expansion and service interconnectivity, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action benefits and co-benefits, and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.	This amendment provides clarification to the text previously considered. This amendment is not likely to have any significant environmental effects not already considered in the SEA and AA process.
T1.12	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Support the introduction of interventions that enable the uptake of sustainable transportation in communities across Clare.	This action will support the uptake of sustainable transport. The adoption of this action can potentially result in reduced energy consumption and GHG emissions. The action is likely to have a slight positive effect on climate - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national

Action	Summary of Modification	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification
		GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. This action, as defined at high-level, does not introduce any additional sources of signficant environmental effects not previously considered under the SEA/AA process to date. The environmental effects of sustainable transport delivery related action have been considered and mitigated by way way of a series of Environmental Governance Principles under the SEA/AA process to date.
T1.13	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Undertake research, including engagement and mapping, into best practice street space allocation to support sustainable mobility in Ennis.	This research/study-related action will have no real environmental effect on its own. The action will support modal shift and the use of sustainable transport generally.
T1.14	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Collaborate and support Irish Rail and all stakeholders towards resolving the flooding issue at Ballycar.	This is an engagement related action which will have no real environmental effect in and off itself.
T1.15	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Support and facilitate the opening/reinstatement of railway stations on the Western Railway Corridor within County Clare and in particular at Crusheen.	This is an engagement/advocacy related action which will have no real environmental effect in and off itself.
T1.16	The following new action is to be included in the Transport section of the LACAP: Advance the remediation/development of footpaths across the county to include remediated footpaths and new build footpaths.	This action does not introduce additional environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against under the SEA and AA process to date. The SEA/AA processes have had appropriate regard to active travel related works and environmental already. Such potential effects have been mitigated by way of integrating environmental considerations into defined climate action and through the development of an Environmental Governance Principle frameowkr underpinning Plan action.

Action	Summary of Modification	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification
C1.4	The action below has been amended to include the words "in particular youth representatives": Utilise mechanisms of engagement between Clare County Council (CCC) and communities/sectors, in particular youth representatives, with respect to climate action policy and project development.	This amended action provides clarification to the text previously considered. It adds stakeholders and actions that are considered in this action. This amendment is not likely to have any significant environmental effects not already considered in the SEA and AA process.
C2.11	The following new action is to be included in the Communities and Partnership section of the LACAP: Identification of co-benefits associated with climate action in the development of the Climate Action Implementation Plan and where feasible quantification of co-benefits.	The action is generally supportive of the goals and objectives of the climate action plan. It is an action that is based on research and asseesment. It will not result in any real environmental impact in and off itself not already considered.
N1.14	The following new action is to be included in the Natural Environment section of the LACAP: Research sites of high cultural and natural conservation value along the Clare coast to fully understand the implications of climate change and sea level rise and the potential approaches to mitigation, adaptation and building resilience, with an initial focus on the area of the Loop Head Peninsula which has been identified as a Decarbonisation Zone (DZ).	This is a research related action and will have no real environmental effect when considered in isolation. The action will have a significant positive environmental effect on biodiversity, tourism, recreation and cultural heritage related benefits/effects.
N1.15	The following new action is to be included in the Natural Environment section of the LACAP: Prioritise vulnerable heritage sites that are identified as being most at risk and determine key actions for their protection through the preparation of Conservation Management Plans.	This action supports improving and protecting local heritage sites in the County. It is a research/study based action which will not result in real environmental effects in and off itself.
N2.8	The following new action is to be included in the Natural Environment section of the LACAP: Support the National Parks and Wildlife service (NPWS), communities and other stakeholders in the creation of an MPA network and the designation of specific MPAs off the Clare coastline.	This engagement/advocacy based action supports the protection of marine protected areas within the county. It does not introduce likely signficant environmental effects.

Action	Summary of Modification	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification
N3.2	The action below has been amended to include the sentence after "green waste": Investigate the development of suitably located composting centres to promote circularity of green waste and support development of community gardens and allotments.	The action promotes community gardens and allotments. It does not introduce likely signficant environmental effects. It is noted a framework of Environmental Governance Principles will serve to guide all acitvities and development supported by Plan action

4.1 Summary of the Evaluation

The Plan Action modifications are broadly intended to provide clarification on existing information and give better effect to the LACAP having regard to the consultation process. They will not result in any additional sources for likely, significant environmental effects, including effects on ecological processes or European sites, not already considered by the existing NIR for the Draft LACAP.

The Plan Action modifications will not introduce any of the following types of additional environmental effect that have the potential to affect European sites.

- Land take;
- Resource Requirements (Drinking Water Abstraction Etc.);
- Emissions (Disposal to Land, Water or Air);
- Excavation;
- Transportation;
- Construction, Operation, Decommissioning activities.

The Plan Action modifications will not result in any of the following types of change that may occur at a European site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site:

- Reduction of Habitat Area.
- Disturbance to Key Species.
- Habitat or Species Fragmentation.
- Reduction in Species Density.
- Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.).
- Climate Change impact.

Further assessment is therefore not required.

4.2 Other Plans and Programs

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely impact upon European Sites. There are no additional sources for effects identified within the Proposed amendments; therefore, there are no in-combination effects.

5. CONCLUSION

Stage 1 Screening for AA of Plan modifications was carried out to determine the need for a full AA for the Plan modifications to the Draft LACAP in this case. It has been demonstrated that implementation of the Plan modifications are not foreseen to have any significant effects on any European Site.

The principal reasons the Modifications to the Draft LACAP do will not give rise to any likely significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects, are as follows:

- The modifications are only intended to provide clarification on existing Climate Actions defined in the Draft LACAP and make the LACAP more operative and focussed.
- The modifications are not material and will not result in any additional, likely significant environmental effects, including effects in ecological processes or European sites, not already considered in the NIR for the Draft LACAP.

It is concluded in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of conservation objectives, that the Modifications to the Draft LACAP will not give rise to any likely significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Consequently, a Stage 2 AA is not required for the Plan modifications.

6. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 1

Author Details

Author Details

Lead Author - Andrew Torsney is a Principal Ecologist with over 12 years' experience working on major national and local scale projects. Andrew graduated from University College Dublin in 2011 with a B.Sc. degree in Zoology and obtained Master's degree in Biodiversity and Conservation from the University of Leeds in 2012. He has a range of ecological skills which include habitat mapping, ecological surveying, data interpretation and report writing. Andrew is a vegetative plant specialist, who has a wealth of experience classifying riparian habitats and identifying rare floral species. Andrew has a vast knowledge of riparian and freshwater ecosystems and undertakes freshwater surveys regularly. Andrew holds 4 national protected species licenses and has a lot of experience optioning surveying licenses for aquatic species such as the white clawed crayfish. He is also a Bat specialist with a wealth of experience, in acoustic surveying and monitoring of bats. Throughout Andrews's career he has worked on a number of large-scale multifaceted projects such as the Killaloe to Dublin water supply project NIS. For this work, Andrew designed and oversaw all ecological field work relating to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and AA.

Andrew has been the principal ecologist for a range of projects including the AA of the National Wind Energy Guidelines, a number of AAs for County Councils and a range of large-scale infrastructure projects.

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