

Clare County Council Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management

STEP 1. Description of the project/proposal and local site characteristics:

(a) File Reference No:	Carrigaholt – Amigo’s footpath
(b) Brief description of the project or plan:	<u>Footpath Works in Carrigaholt.</u> Construct a new footpath to connect West Street Carrigaholt with Amigo’s Carvan Park located on the outskirts of the village, and associated accommodation works. <u>Please note:</u> • Overall length of footpath is c. 350 linear metres. • Footpath will be constructed at the side of the existing public road (L-2004). • c. 10 new lighting columns will be erected. • Accommodation works for affected landowners will be required – new gates, new boundary walls or fences, piping of existing drains etc. • Existing public road may have to be resurfaced and relined when footpath has been completed.
(c) Brief description of site characteristics:	Ditches / agricultural lands adjacent to the public road (L-2004).
(d) Relevant prescribed bodies consulted: e.g. DHLGH (NPWS), EPA, OPW	Environmental Assessment Officer in the Planning Department of Clare County Council
(e) Response to consultation:	Screening for Appropriate Assessment to be prepared taking into consideration the potential for any downstream impacts in terms of water quality which may impact the Qualifying Interests of the receiving environment.

STEP 2. Identification of relevant European sites within the Zone of Influence using Source-Pathway-Receptor model and compilation of information on Qualifying Interests and Conservation Objectives.

This section identifies the European Sites within the likely Zone of Influence of the application. For plans an initial 15km zone of influence (NPWS-DAHG)¹ is recommended. For projects, the distance could be much less than 15km, and in some cases less than 100m, but this must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with reference to the nature, size and location of the project, the sensitivities of the ecological receptors, and the potential for in combination effects. The potential for direct physical connectivity and hydrological and sub-catchment connectivity should be considered.

European Site Name/Site Code	List of Qualifying Interest/Special Conservation Interest ¹	Distance from proposed development ² (km)	Connections (Source- Pathway- Receptor)	Considered further in screening Y/N
Lower River Shannon SAC 002165	Please see Appendix A	c. 0.5	Yes	Yes
Kerry Head Shoal SAC 002263		c.25	No	No
River Shannon & River Fergus Estuaries SPA 004077	Please see Appendix B	c. 5	Yes	Yes
Illlaunonearaun SPA 004114		c. 5	No	No
Kerry Head SPA 004189		c. 15	No	No
Loop Head SPA 004119		c. 16	No	No

¹ Short paraphrasing and/or cross reference to NPWS is acceptable – it is not necessary to reproduce the full text on the QI/SCI.

² If the site or part thereof is within the European site or adjacent to the European site, state here.

¹ European Sites that are more than 15km from the proposal may have to be considered. For example in the case of sites with water dependent habitats or species and where a proposal could affect water quality or quantity it may be necessary to consider the full extent of the upstream and/or downstream catchment.

STEP 3. Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

(a) Identify all potential direct and indirect impacts that may have an effect on the conservation objectives of a European site, taking into account the size and scale of the project under the following headings:

Impacts:	Possible Significance of Impacts: (duration/magnitude etc.)
Construction phase e.g. - Vegetation clearance - Demolition - Surface water runoff from soil excavation/infill/landscaping (including borrow pits) - Dust, noise, vibration - Lighting disturbance - Impact on groundwater/dewatering - Storage of excavated/construction materials - Access to site - Pests	While there are European sites downstream of the proposed works (SAC 002165 & SPA 004077) there is no risk of significant effects based on the following: - Short duration of works. <i>(less than 10 weeks)</i> - Daytime works only. - No requirement for vegetation clearance. - The limited scale of the works. - The absence of the requirement for excavation or significant construction related elements.
Operational phase e.g. - Direct emission to air and water - Surface water runoff containing contaminant or sediment - Lighting disturbance - Noise/vibration - Changes to water/groundwater due to drainage or abstraction - Presence of people, vehicles and activities - Physical presence of structures (e.g. collision risks) - Potential for accidents or incidents	While there are European sites downstream of the proposed works (SAC 002165 & SPA 004077) there is no risk of significant effects to arise through the operational phase based on the following: - No additional drainage required. - The lighting columns will be installed in line with the guidance as contained in the Bat Conservation Trust Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night Guidance Note 08/2023 and in particular the lighting level which will be 2,700 kelvin or less. - The works will not lead to an increase in vehicle numbers or movements. - The design will reduce the potential for vehicular accidents and increase safety of pedestrians. - The new footway will be constructed mainly along and adjacent to existing macadam roadway.
In-combination/Other	While there are European sites downstream of the proposed works (SAC 002165 & SPA 004077) there is no risk of in-combination effects as there are no other projects within the Zone of Influence which in-combination could lead to significant effects on the associated European Sites.

(b) Describe any likely changes to the European site:

Examples of the type of changes to give consideration to include:

• Reduction or fragmentation of habitat area • Disturbance to QI species • Habitat or species fragmentation • Reduction or fragmentation in species density • Changes in key indicators of conservation status value (water or air quality etc.) • Changes to areas of sensitivity or threats to QI • Interference with the key relationships that define the structure or ecological function of the site	The proposed works are not located either within or adjacent to any European Site therefore there is no risk of significant effects to arise or changes to the European site which could lead to significant effects.
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(c) Are 'mitigation' measures necessary to reach a conclusion that likely significant effects can be ruled out at screening?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Step 4. Screening Determination Statement

The assessment of significance of effects:
Describe how the proposed development (alone or in-combination) is/is **not likely** to have **significant** effects on European site(s) in view of its conservation objectives.

The works are not located within or adjacent to any European site having reviewed the available data within the 500m buffer. Given the limited scale, nature and duration of the works there is no risk of significant effects to arise in-directly to those European sites located downstream. Standard Construction related best practise methods and measures will be utilised on site which will ensure there is adequate protection to the receiving environment in terms of construction stage run-off. This does not correspond to Mitigation Measures which are necessary to remove the risk of significant effects on the associate European Sites.

Conclusion:

	Tick as Appropriate:	Recommendation:
(i) It is clear that there is no likelihood of significant effects on a European site.	☒	<u>The proposal can be screened out: Appropriate assessment not required.</u>
(ii) It is uncertain whether the proposal will have a significant effect on a European site.	☐	☐ Request further information to complete screening ☐ Request NIS ☐ Refuse planning permission
(iii) Significant effects are likely.	☐	☐ Request NIS ☐ Refuse planning permission

Signature and Date of Recommending Officer:	 Alan Kennelly, SEE.	6 th October 2025
Signature and Date of the Decision Maker:		

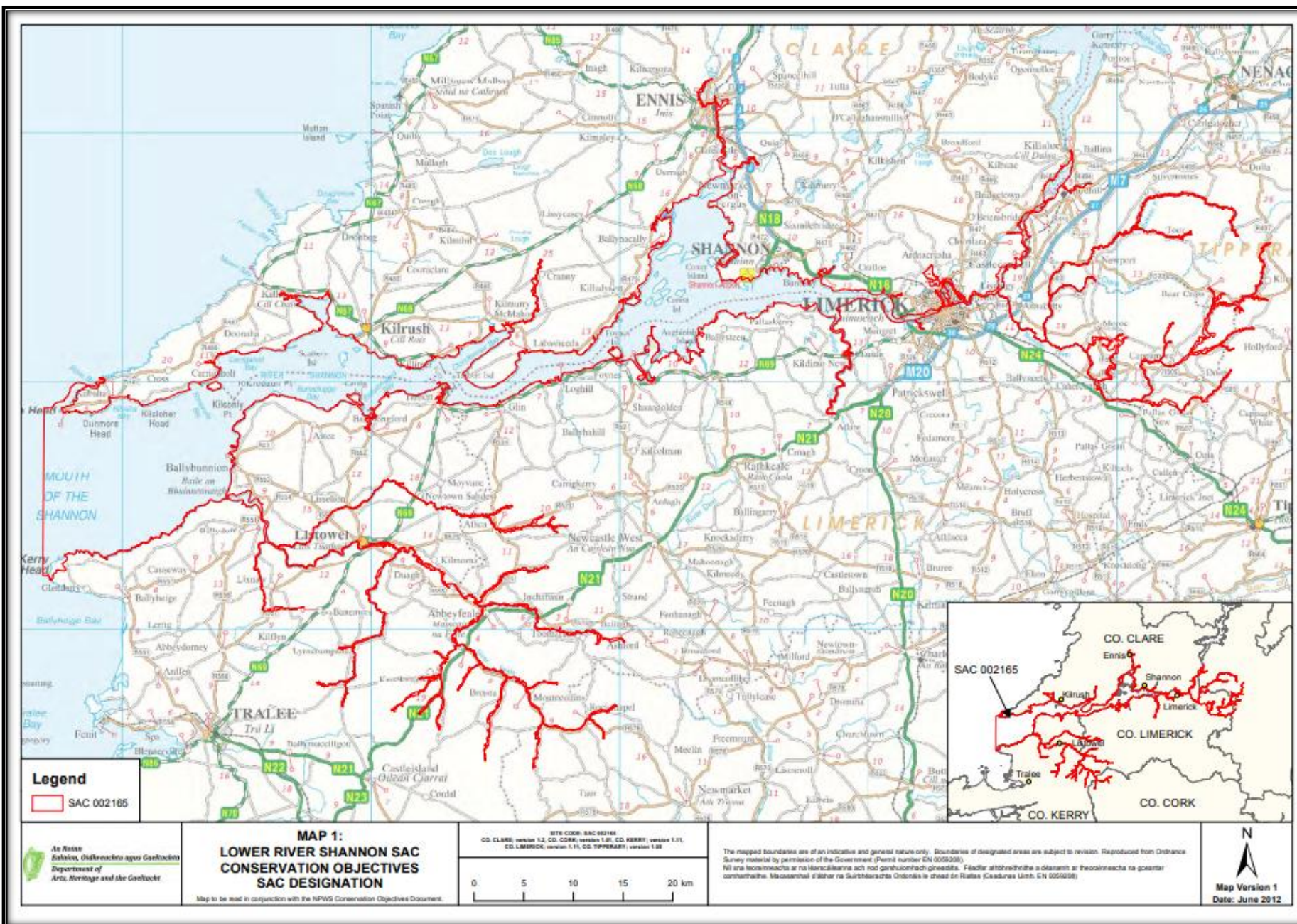
Appendix A

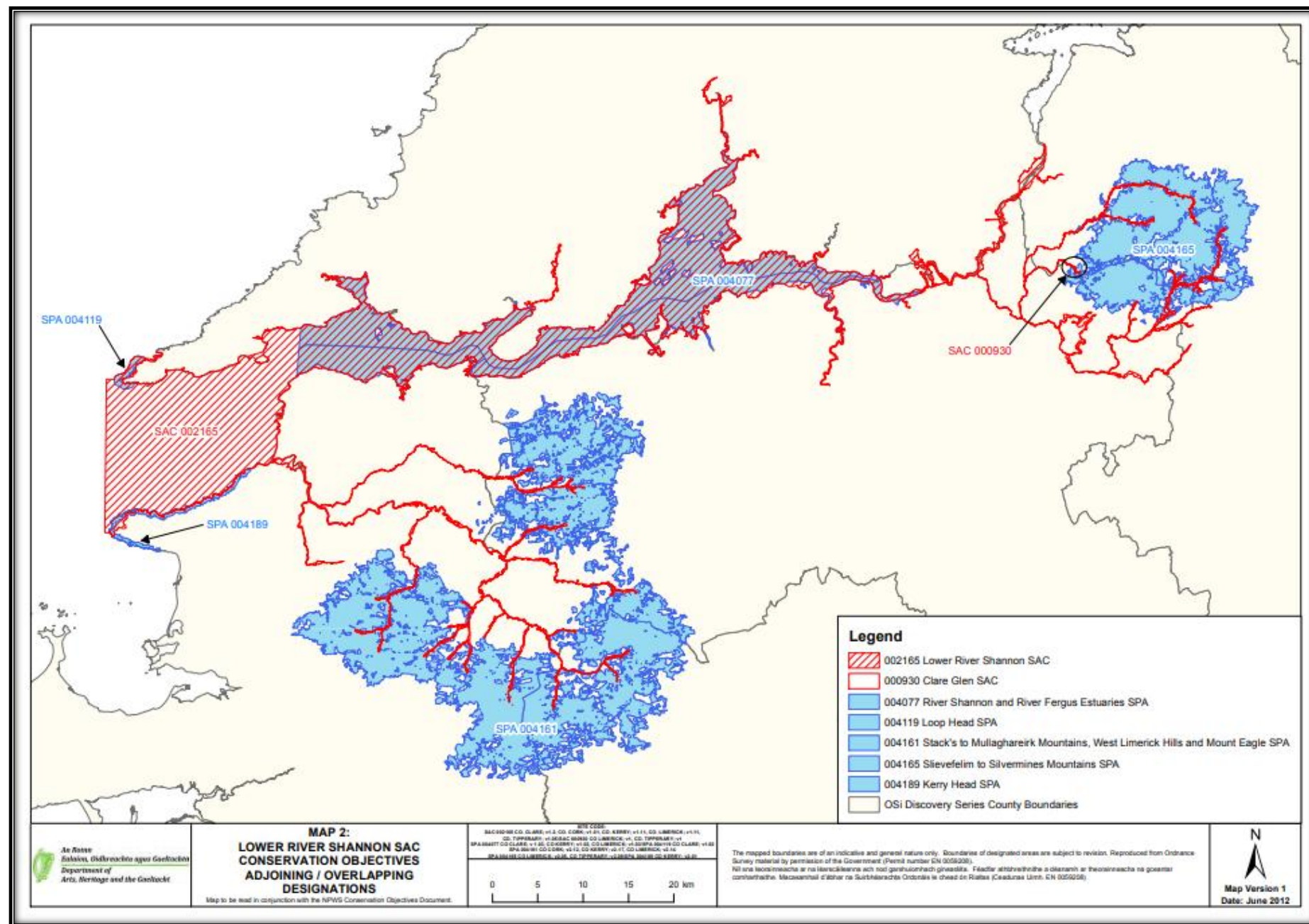
Lower River Shannon SAC
002165

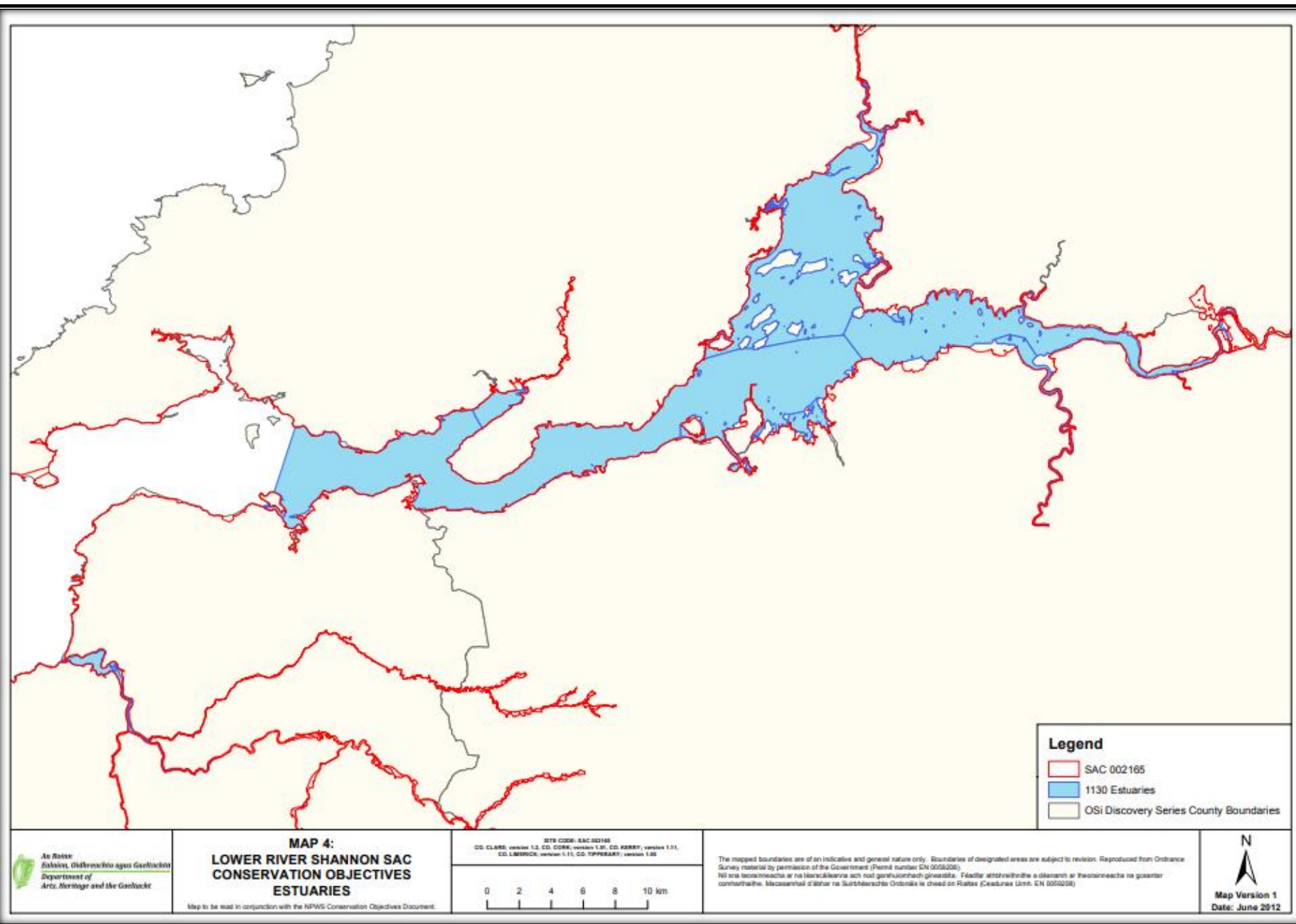
Qualifying Interests
Conservation Objectives

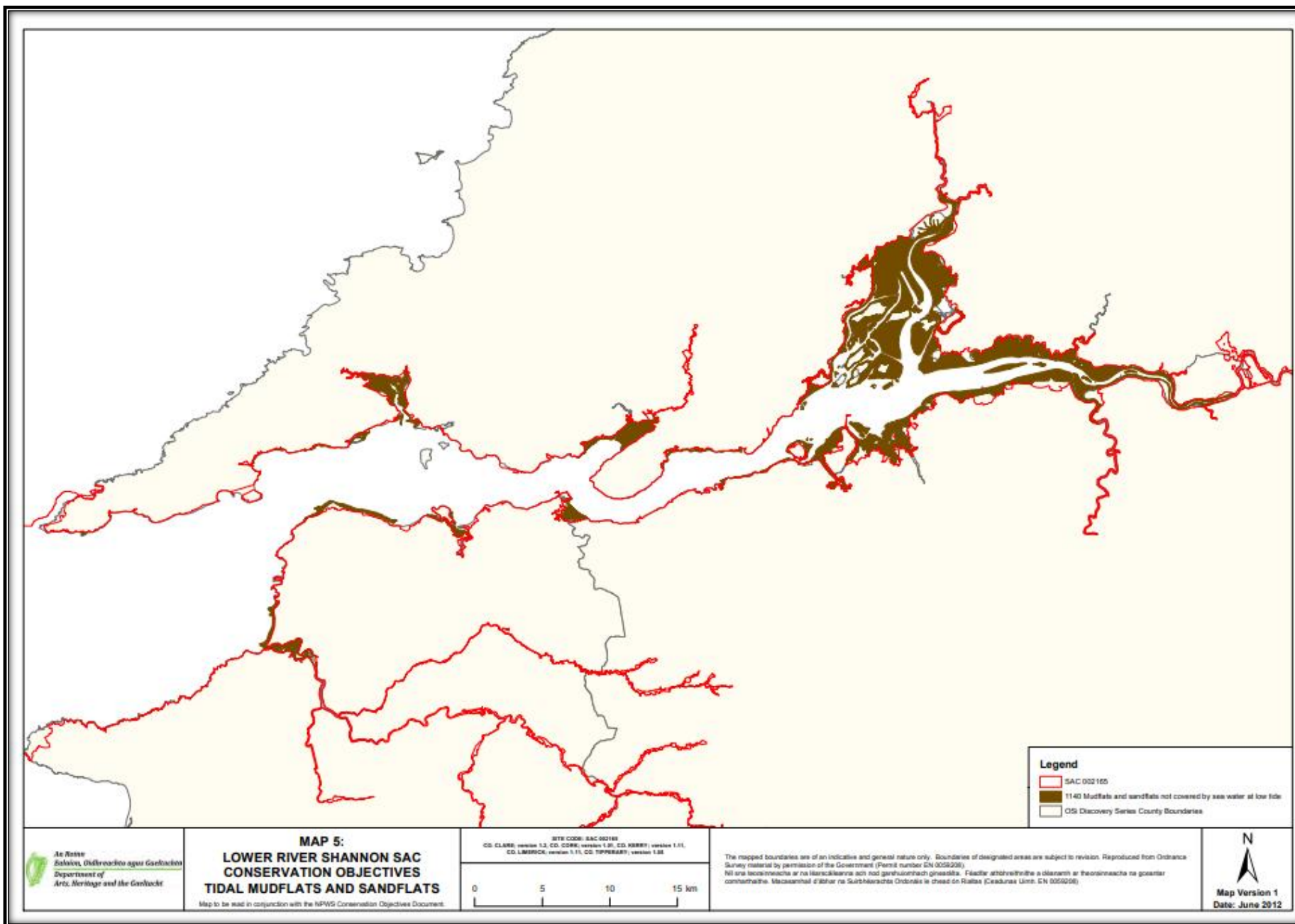


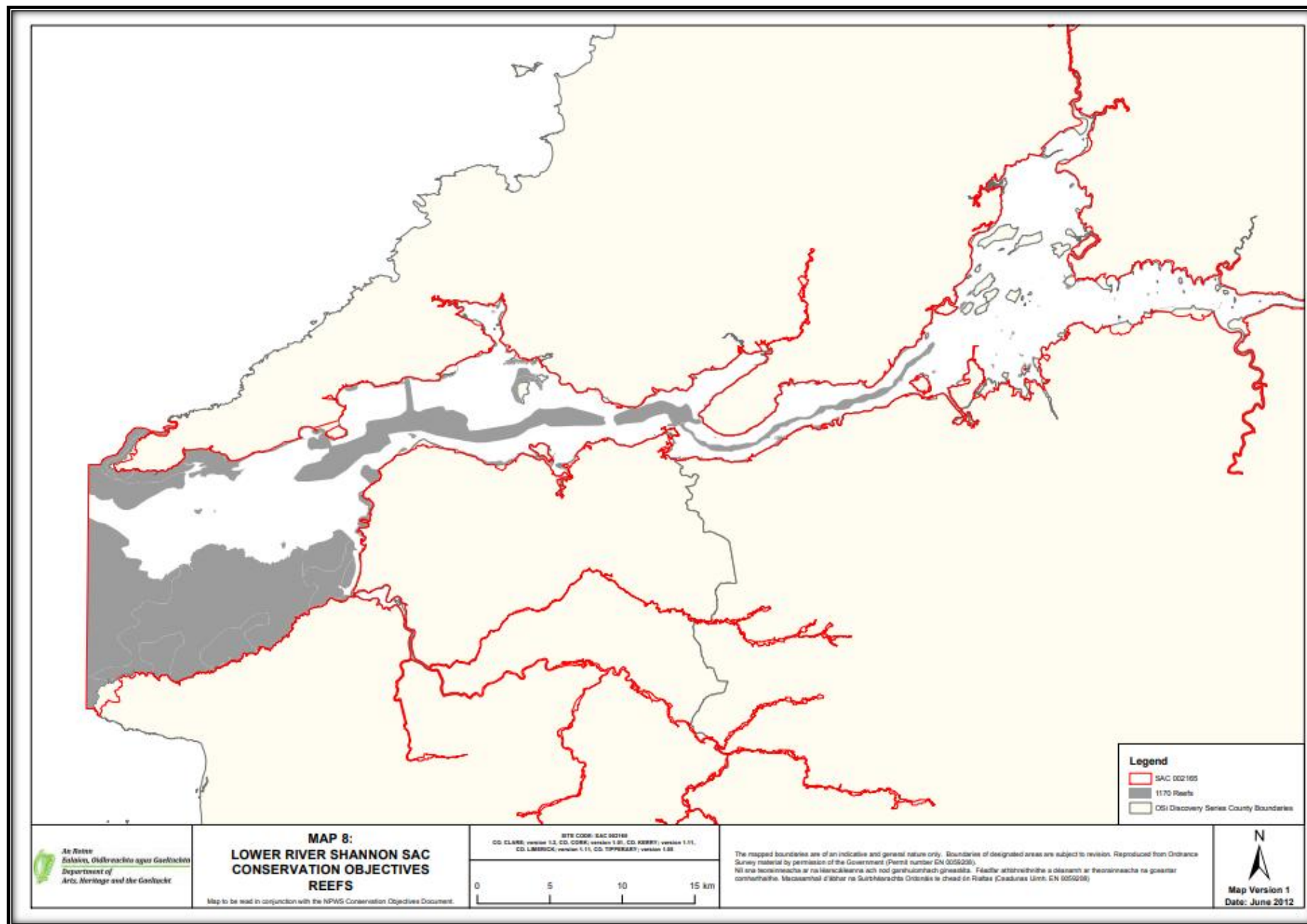
Map of Shannon Estuary with location of proposed footpath shown.
 Proposed footpath is located adjacent to the L-2004 local primary road.
 Proposed footpath will connect Carrigaholt village (*West Street*) with Amigo's caravan park.
 Proposed footpath is c. 350 linear metres.

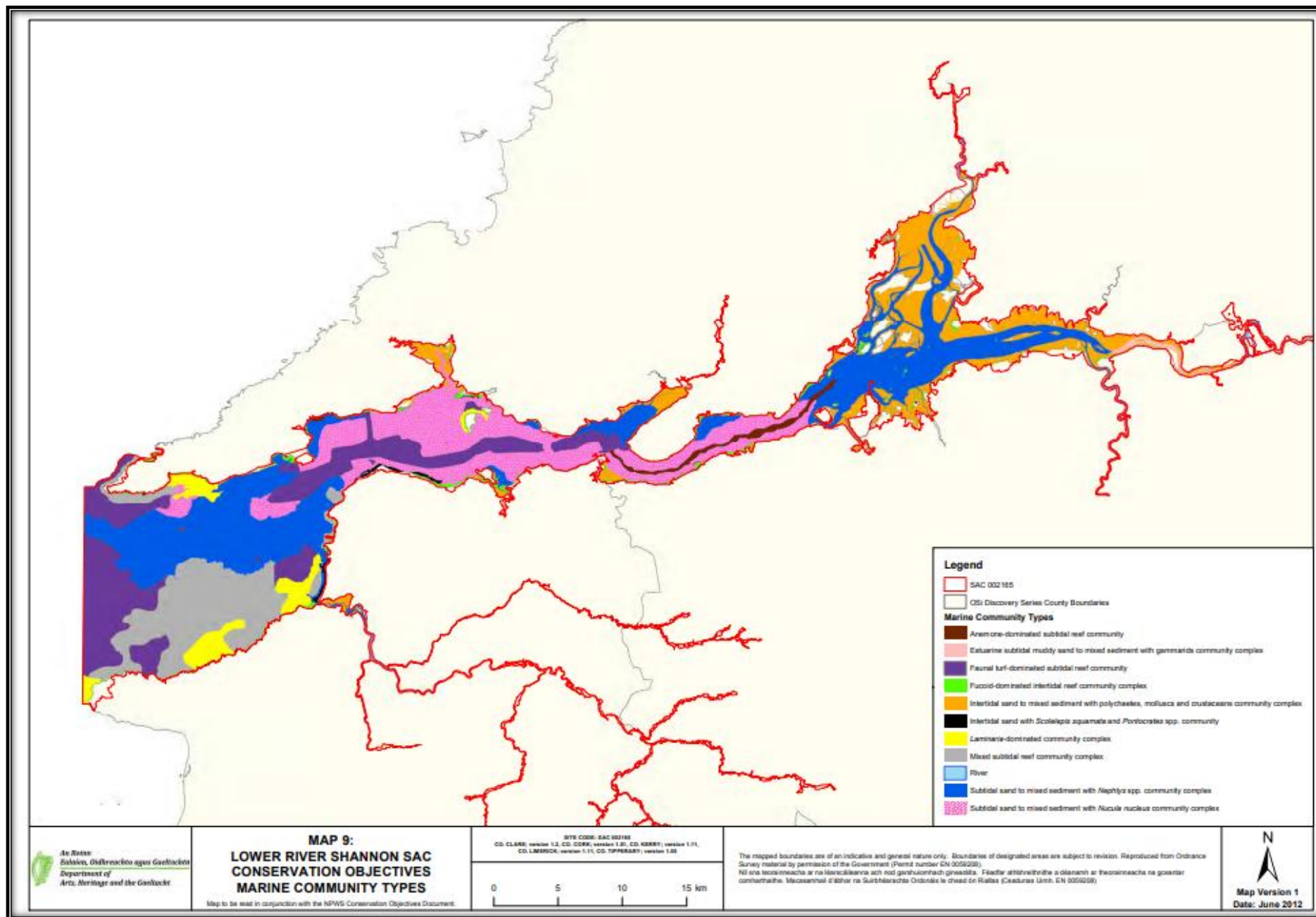


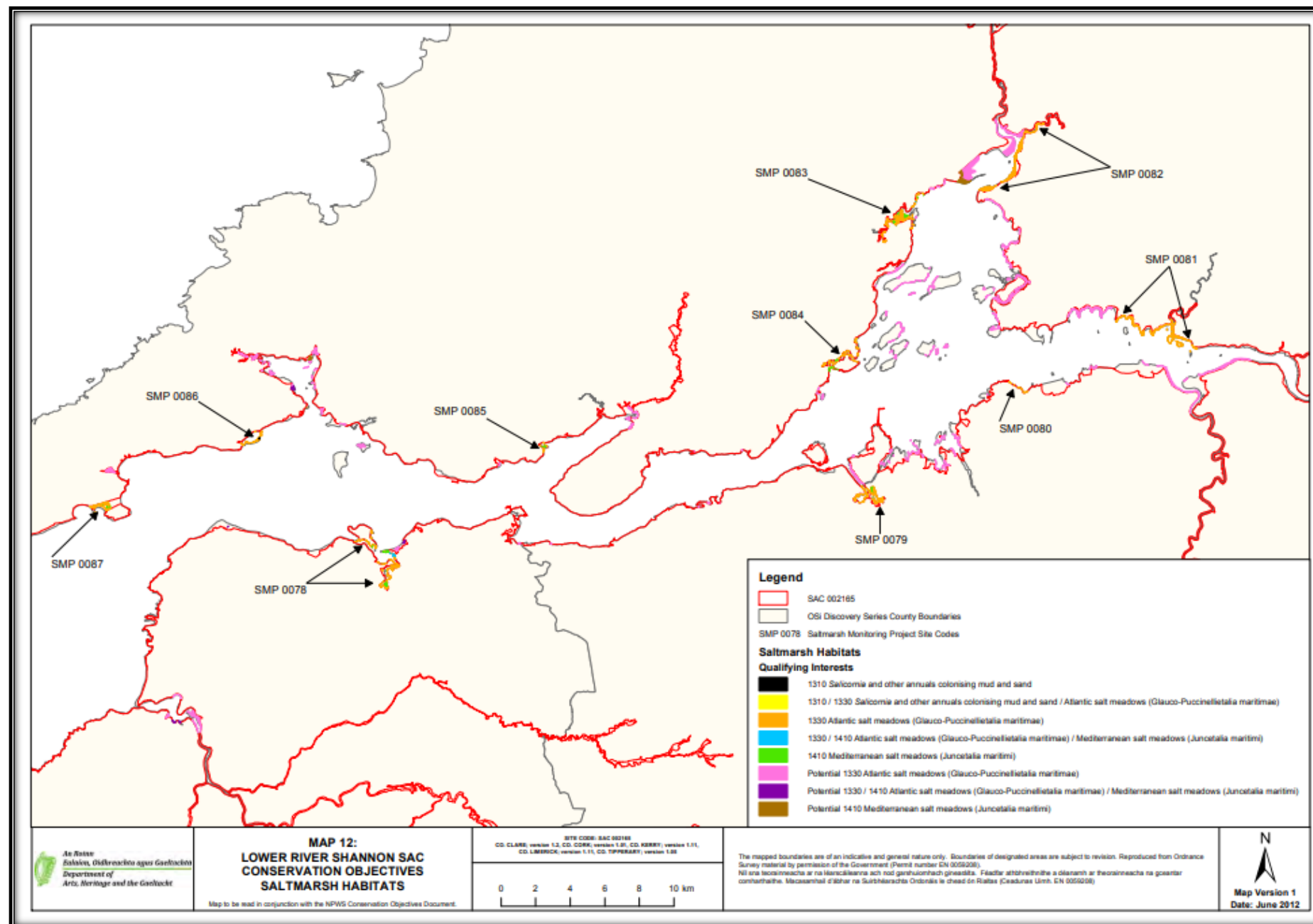


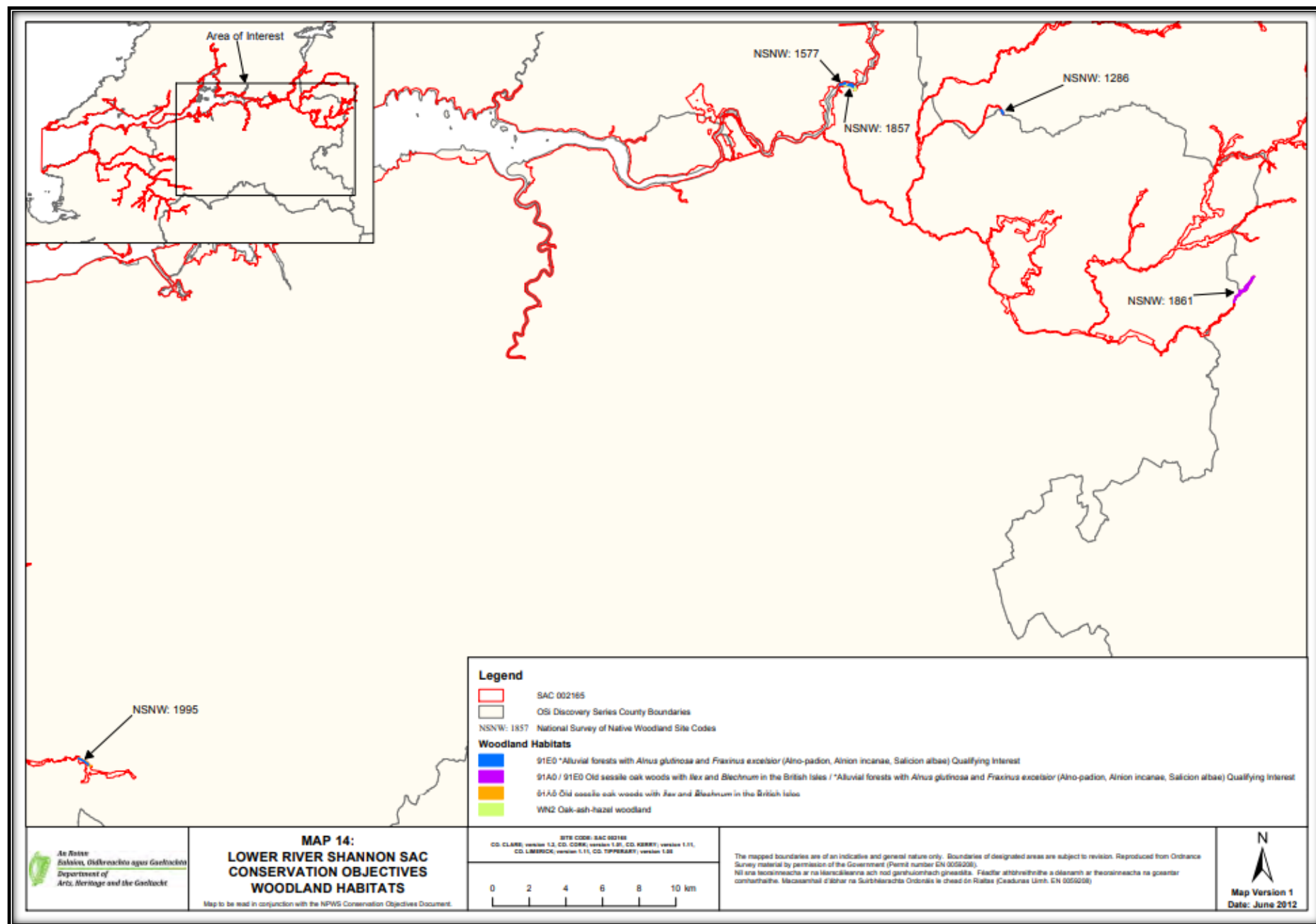


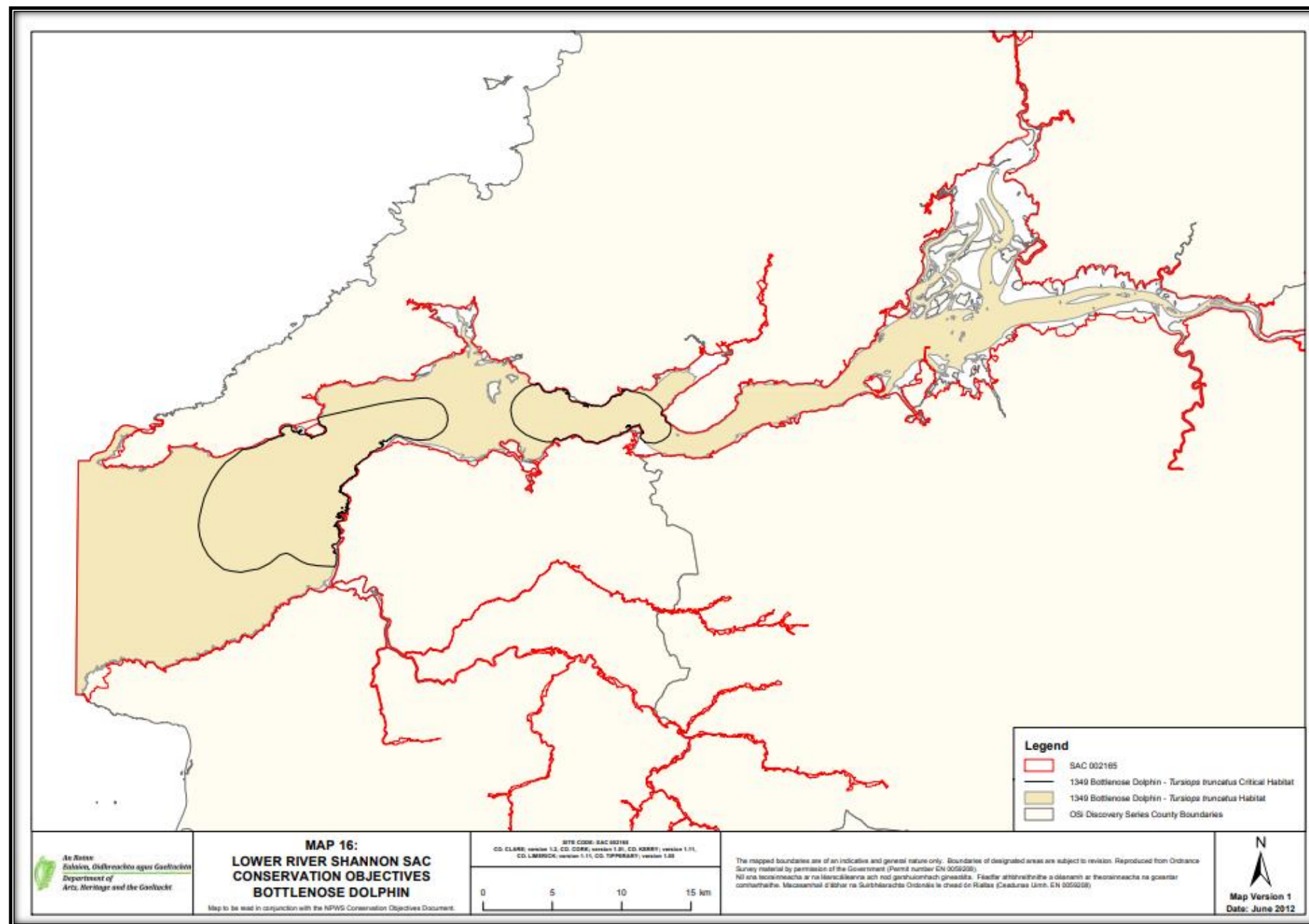


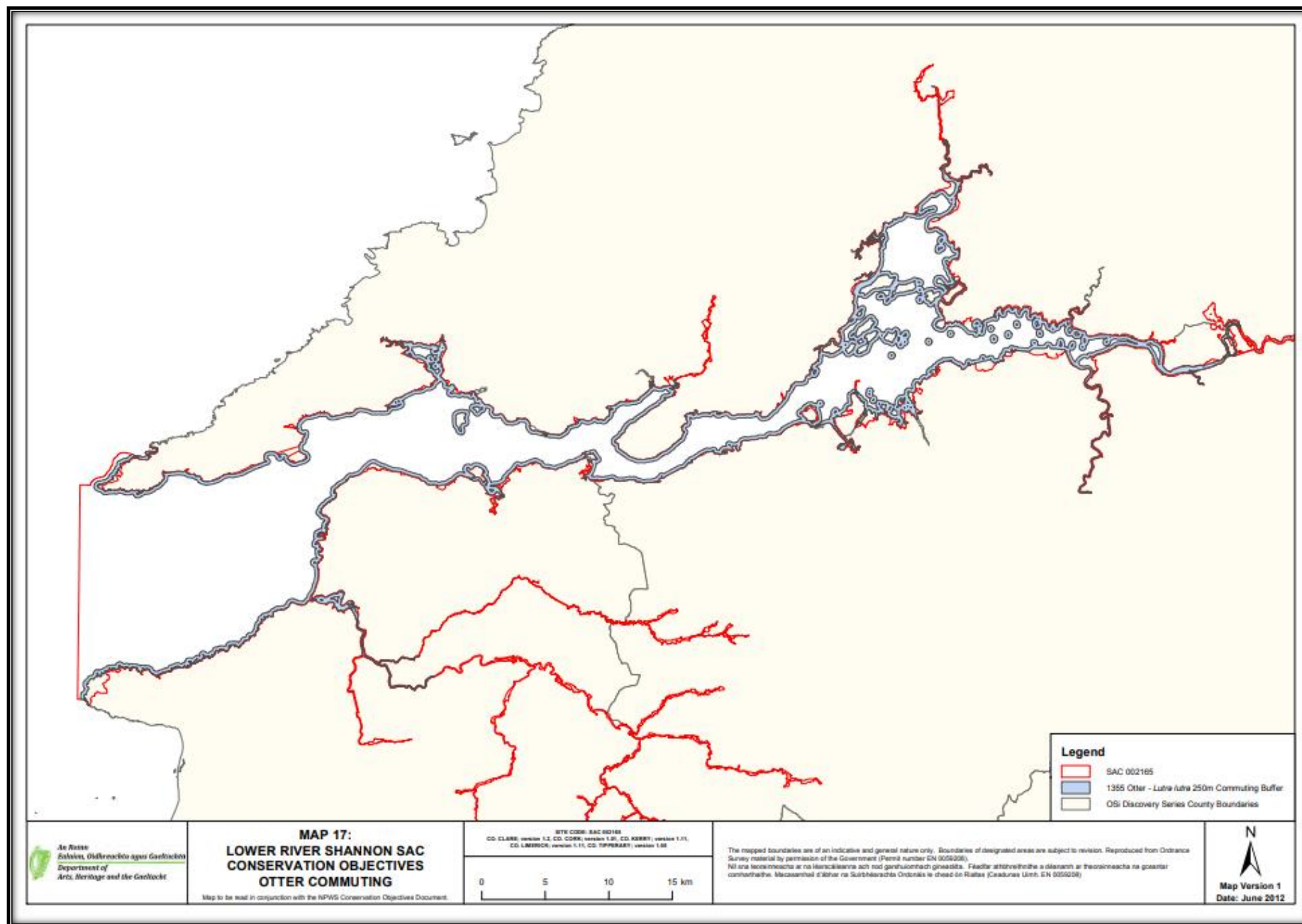












CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110]

Estuaries [1130]

Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]

Coastal lagoons [1150]

Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]

Reefs [1170]

Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]

Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]

Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]

Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*) [1330]

Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) [1410]

Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation [3260]

Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*) [6410]

Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*) [91E0]

Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]

Petromyzon marinus (Sea Lamprey) [1095]

Lampetra planeri (Brook Lamprey) [1096]

Lampetra fluviatilis (River Lamprey) [1099]

Salmo salar (Salmon) [1106]

Tursiops truncatus (Common Bottlenose Dolphin) [1349]

Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]

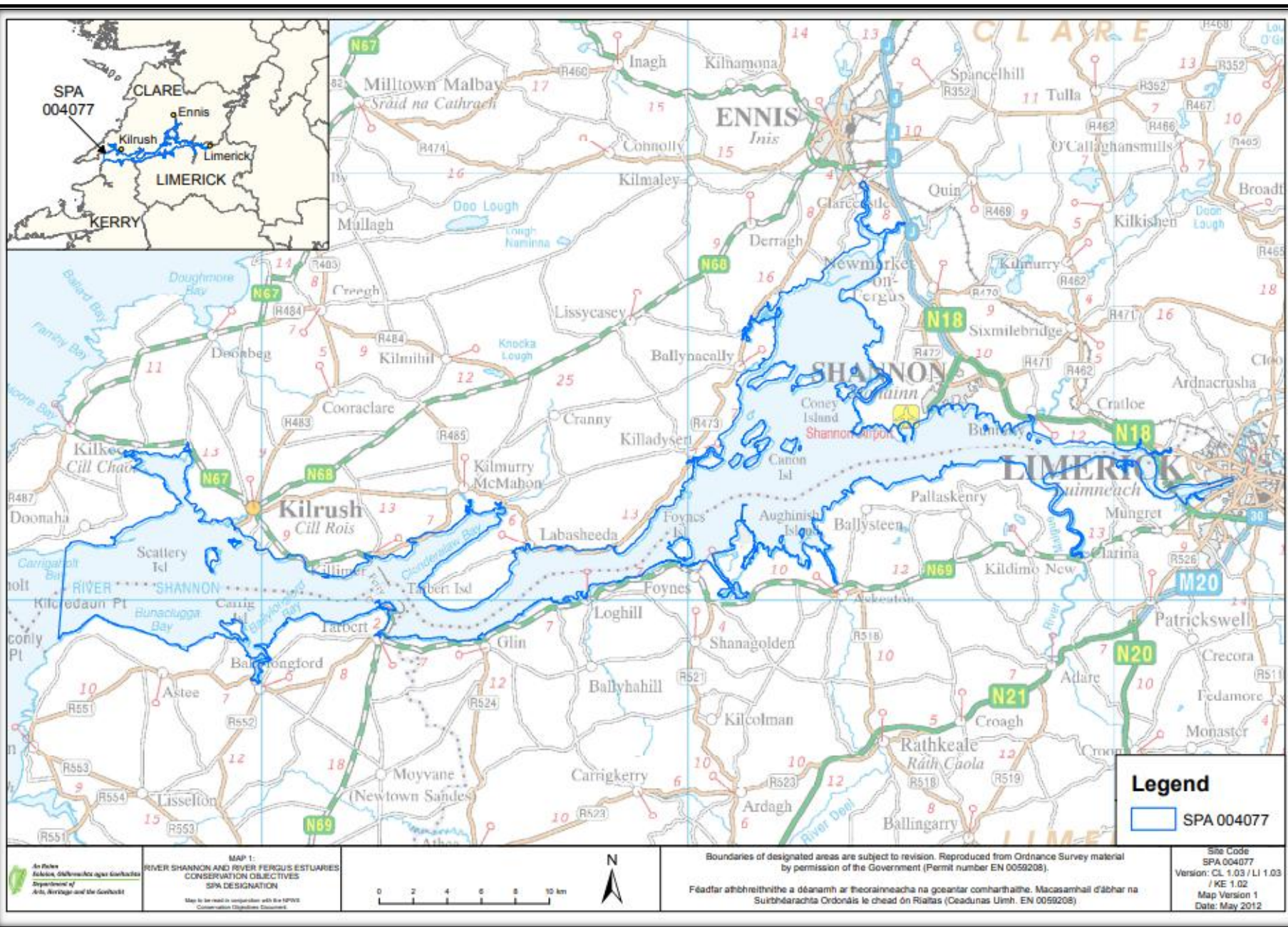
Appendix B

River Shannon &
River Fergus Estuaries SPA
004077

Qualifying Interests
Conservation Objectives



Map of Shannon Estuary with location of proposed footpath shown.
Proposed footpath is located adjacent to the L-2004 local primary road.
Proposed footpath will connect Carrigaholt village (*West Street*) with Amigo's caravan park.
Proposed footpath is c. 350 linear metres.



An tAon
 Leictéir, d'ádhlaíocht agus d'ádhlaíocht
 Department of
 Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

MAP 1:
 RIVER SHANNON AND RIVER FERGUS ESTUARIES
 CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES
 SPA DESIGNATION
 Map to be read in conjunction with the NPWS
 Conservation Objectives Document

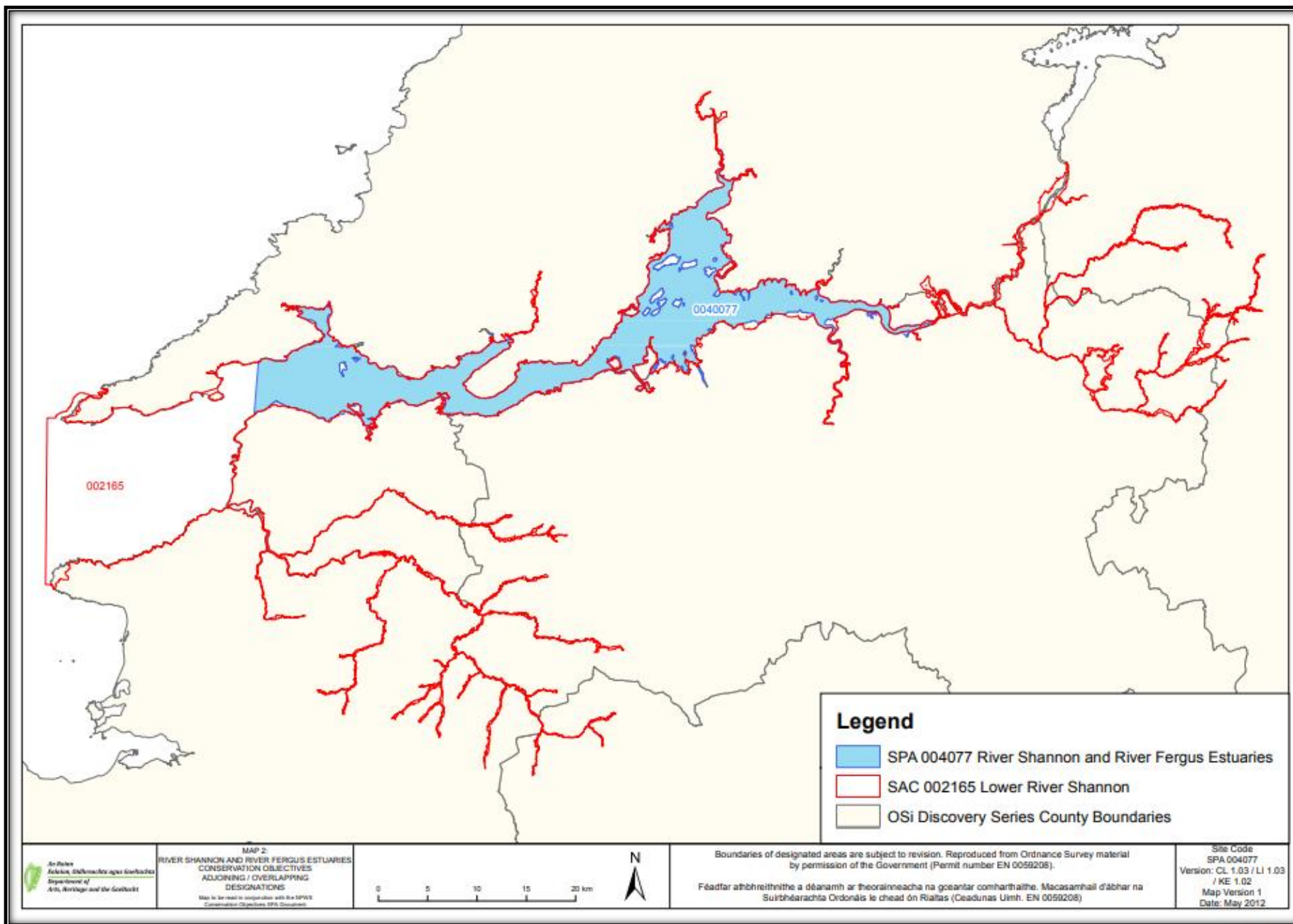
0 2 4 6 8 10 km



Boundaries of designated areas are subject to revision. Reproduced from Ordnance Survey material by permission of the Government (Permit number EN 0059208).

Féadfar athbheithne a déanamh ar theorainneacha na gceantar comharthaíthe. Macasamhail d'ábhar na Suithéaracha Ordónáis le cead ón Rialtas (Ceadúnas Uimh. EN 0059208)

Site Code
 SPA 004077
 Version: CL 1.03 / LI 1.03
 / KE 1.02
 Map Version 1
 Date: May 2012



CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) [A017]
Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*) [A038]
Light-bellied Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) [A046]
Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*) [A048]
Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) [A050]
Teal (*Anas crecca*) [A052]
Pintail (*Anas acuta*) [A054]
Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) [A056]
Scaup (*Aythya marila*) [A062]
Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) [A137]
Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) [A140]
Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) [A141]
Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) [A142]
Knot (*Calidris canutus*) [A143]
Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) [A149]
Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) [A156]
Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) [A157]
Curlew (*Numenius arquata*) [A160]
Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) [A162]
Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) [A164]
Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) [A179]
Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]