

# **APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT**

**for**

**Proposed amendment No.1 to the Tralee MDLAP  
2018-2024**

**incorporating the Fenit Village Design Masterplan**



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## 1. Summary

This Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment Screening Report considers the likelihood of significant effects on European Natura 2000 sites arising from the proposed amendment No.1 to the Tralee Municipal District Local Area Plan (MDLAP) 2018-2024, incorporating a Design Masterplan for Fenit Village.

The Masterplan consists of a design brief for the most effective presentation, management and development of two key sites in the village of Fenit: the greenfield site including O' Sullivan's Hotel (the Central Core) and the seafront public realm centred on the playground, railway terminus and entrance to the beach (the Terminus). Supporting contextual details and particulars are included (historical, cultural, planning, environmental and engineering).

The existing Local Area Plan (LAP) for Fenit is contained in Section 3.4 of the Tralee Municipal District Local Area Plan 2018-2024. The masterplan is in accordance the strategic ambitions of the Tralee Municipal District Local Area Plan which seeks to upgrade the R558 to improve access to the port and also to improve the leisure and urban realm offering in the settlement. Development Objectives FT-I-01, FT-O-01 and FT-TE-01 of the LAP relate. It is not proposed to amend any of the above.

This report concludes that significant effects on European sites are not likely to arise as a result of this amendment, by itself or in combination with other plans or projects, for the following reasons:-

- The minor nature of the proposed amendment,
- The location of the proposed masterplan area on serviced urban lands located outside of European Natura 2000 sites and the separation distances between same,
- The existing and permitted conditions in the area, including the long-established residential, transport, industrial and recreational uses,
- The nature and limited scale of the works supported by the proposed amendment and masterplan,
- That the masterplan does not contain land use zoning objectives, nor does it confer development consent for any particular project. Land use zoning and development objectives remain as outlined in the adopted Tralee Municipal District Local Area Plan 2018-2024, for which an Appropriate Assessment was undertaken,
- There are no realistic viable pathways for significant effects that may arise due to the implementation of the proposals supported in the masterplan or amendment. The absence of tangible pathways for effects ensures that there will be no significant effects to European Natura 2000 sites,
- There would be no significant direct or indirect impact on qualifying habitat or species associated with Natura 2000 sites likely to arise as a result of the proposed amendment.

## 2. Introduction

### 2.1. Overview

The overall aim of the assessment is to assess the consequences that can be reasonably foreseen by the implementation of the proposed Amendment No.1 to the Tralee MDLAP 2018-2024 and the proposals supported in the Fenit Village Masterplan 2021 and to determine whether or not significant effects on Natura 2000 sites are likely to arise.

It is noted that the Amendment is being prepared pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. This report should therefore be read within the context of the Tralee Municipal District Local Area Plan 2018-2024 and its associated Environmental Reports including the Appropriate Assessment.

### 2.2. Introduction to Stage One Screening

Screening is used to identify whether the Plan, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site. This screening assessment follows European Commission guidance which recommends that screening follow a four step process as outlined below:-

**Step one:** Determine whether the plan is directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site. If it is, then no further assessment is necessary.

**Step two:** Describe the plan and other plans and projects that, 'in combination', have the potential to have significant effects on a European site.

**Step three:** Identify the potential effects on the European site.

**Step four:** Assess the significance of any effects on the European site.

Within this report assessment and identification of potential effects on European Sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor model, 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 mechanism is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

- Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from proposed works.
- Pathway(s) – e.g. waterway connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats.
- Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites. In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features which 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 Proposed Plan which is known to have interactions with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor.

As part of this Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment Screening process regard was had to the following information, documents, datasets: -

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (2010 revision) (now the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government).
- Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities. Circular NPWS 1/10 & PSSP 2/10.
- Assessment of Plans and Projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological Guidance on the Provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission, (2021); hereafter referred to as the EC Article 6 Guidance Document.
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitat's Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission (EC Environment Directorate-General, 2000 updated draft April 2015).
- Guidance Document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC. Clarification of the Concepts of Alternative Solutions, Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest, Compensatory Measures, Overall Coherence. Opinion of the European Commission (European Commission, January 2007).
- Ordnance Survey of Ireland mapping and aerial photography available from [www.osi.ie](http://www.osi.ie), bing maps and Google Earth
- Online data available on European sites as held by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) from [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie)
- Natura 2000 standard Data forms
- Information on water quality in the area available from [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie)
- Information on the River Basin Districts from [www.wfdireland.ie](http://www.wfdireland.ie)
- Information on soils, geology and hydrogeology in the area available from [www.gsi.ie](http://www.gsi.ie)
- Information on the status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland (National Parks & Wildlife Service, 2019)
- Kerry County Council internal GIS Datasets
- Birdwatch information on Ireland Birds of Conservation Concern 2014-2019 and Bird Sensitivity Mapping
- Publicly accessible plans, strategies, development consent documents, case law and biodiversity datasets

The following guiding principles and case law have been taken into consideration in the preparation of this screening report:-

- Nature and Biodiversity Cases: Ruling of the European Court of Justice. European Commission (2006).
- Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Rulings of the European Court of Justice. Ecosystems Ltd (2014).
- It is not necessary, in order to trigger the requirement to proceed to stage 2 appropriate assessment, that the proposed development will “definitely” have significant effects on the protected site but such a requirement will arise if it is a “mere probability” that such an effect exists (Waddenzee, para. 41). This was developed by the CJEU in Waddenzee (at para. 43) where the court

stated that the requirement to carry out an appropriate assessment will be satisfied if there is a “probability or a risk” that the development will have “significant effects” on the protected site.

- The Habitats Directive is underpinned by the precautionary principle. Accordingly, where there is “doubt as to the absence of significant effects” an appropriate assessment must be carried out (Waddenzee, para. 44). The requirement to conduct an appropriate assessment will arise where, at the screening stage, it is ascertained that the particular development is “capable of having any effect” (albeit this must be any “significant effect”) on the European site (para. 46 of the opinion of Advocate General Sharpston in Sweetman). The “possibility” of there being a “significant effect” on the European site will give rise to a requirement to carry out an appropriate assessment for the purposes of Article 6(3). There is no need to “establish” such an effect and it is merely necessary to determine that there “may be” such an effect (para. 47 of opinion of Advocate General Sharpston in Sweetman).
- In order to meet the threshold of likelihood of significant effect, the word “likely” in Article 6(3) and s. 177U(1) should be read as being less than the balance of probabilities. The test does not require any “hard and fast evidence that such a significant effect was likely”. It merely has to be shown that there is a “possibility” that this significant effect is likely (per Haughton J in Alen-Buckley, para. 83).
- The assessment of whether there is a risk of “significant effect” on the European site must be made in light, inter alia, of the “characteristics and specific environmental conditions of the site concerned” by the relevant plan or project.
- While the threshold at the screening stage of Article 6(3) and s. 177U is “very low” (Opinion of Advocate General Sharpston in Sweetman, para. 49; judgment of Finlay Geoghegan J. in Kelly, para. 30), nonetheless it is a threshold which must be met before it is necessary to proceed to the stage 2 appropriate assessment stage.”
- Where a plan or project is likely to undermine the conservation objectives of the site concerned, it must necessarily be considered likely to have a significant effect on the site. Waddenzee Ruling (C-127/02 para. 48).

### **3. Consideration of the need for AA Screening**

As the proposed plan is a land use plan and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any Natura 2000 site, Appropriate Assessment screening is required.

## **4. Description of the plan and other plans and projects of relevance.**

### **4.1. Introduction**

This is the second step of the Stage One Screening process and provides a description of the plan and other plans and projects that, 'in combination', have the potential to have significant effects on a European or Natura 2000 site.

### **4.2. Description of the plan and plan area**

As outlined in the local area plan for Fenit the village has a number of different functions, including residential, transport, recreation and industry - many of which are linked to the sea and port facilities. Fenit had a recorded population of 538 in the 2018 census and is promoted as a growth village in the Tralee MD Local Area Plan. The village is a popular destination for visitors using the beaches and walks, with their spectacular views over Tralee Bay. Fenit pier is located adjacent to Locke's beach and is also a popular walking and recreational fishing destination linking the pier with the village. There is a long tradition of open water sea swimming in Fenit. Local swimming clubs swim between the old diving board location and Locke's beach in both the summer and winter months. In addition to its recreational value, the pier services the working port and marina. Fenit also has active angling, sailing, and watersports clubs and a popular playground which adjoins the proposed site. The trailhead for the Tralee to Fenit greenway which is currently under construction adjoins the playground. Public toilets are also located here which serve the village, playground and blue flag beach.

Permitted developments and activities in the area include:-

- Tralee to Fenit Greenway
- Maintenance dredging and disposal at sea from Fenit harbour and marina
- Fenit diving boards
- Fenit WWTP

The Masterplan supported by the proposed Amendment consists of a design brief for the most effective presentation, management and development of two key sites in the village of Fenit: the greenfield site including O' Sullivan's Hotel (the Central Core) and the seafront public realm centred on the playground, railway terminus and entrance to the beach (the Terminus). Supporting contextual details and particulars are included (historical, cultural, planning, environmental and engineering). Proposals within these areas include:-

#### **Central Core**

- Localised realignment and upgrade of the R588 roadway to facilitate improved port access.
- Provision of a village green fronted by residential development

- 2 layout options outlined one retaining and one demolishing O’Sullivan’s Bar. This results in 2 route layout options for the R558 roadway. It is intended that one of these options will be removed following the public consultation process for the proposed Amendment and consideration of submissions and observations received by the Council.

### **The Terminus**

- Upgraded and coordinated public realm and open space area, including provision of amenity areas and casual trading area.
- Upgraded beach access and seating arrangements including improved ramp access
- Rearrangement of parking facilities and provision of bicycles stands.
- Demolition of the existing toilet block and replacement with a new beach facility building incorporating showers, toilets, lockers and a roof top lifeguard station.

## 5. Potential effects on Natura 2000 Sites

### 5.1. Introduction

This is the third step of Appropriate Assessment Screening Process, the purpose of which is to identify potential effects on Natura 2000 sites.

### 5.2. Identification of Natura 2000 sites in the vicinity and preliminary screening exercise

The spatial scope of the plan is limited by the small geographical scale of the masterplan. Notwithstanding this, it is general practice, when screening a plan for compliance with the Habitats Directive, to identify all European sites within the functional area of the plan itself and within 15km of the boundaries of the plan area.

Based on the above approach, a total of 13 European Natura 2000 sites, comprising 8 SACs and 5 SPAs have been included for preliminary assessment. These are presented in Table 5.1. Following on from this a preliminary screening exercise was undertaken for these sites having regard to their qualifying interests (QI's) / Species of Conservation Interest (SCI's) and to their Conservation Objectives as outlined and available for viewing on the NPWS website (NPWS.ie). The results of the preliminary screening exercise are presented in Table 5.2.

**Table 5.1 Natura 2000 sites within potential zone of influence of the plan area**

SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Akeragh, Banna And Barrow Harbour, 000332</li> <li>• Castlemaine Harbour, 000343</li> <li>• Mount Brandon, 000375</li> <li>• Tralee Bay And Magharees Peninsula, West To Cloghane, 002070</li> <li>• Ballyseedy Wood, 002112</li> <li>• Slieve Mish Mountains 002185</li> <li>• Magharee Islands, 002261</li> <li>• Kerry Head Shoal, 002263</li> </ul>
SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tralee Bay Complex (includes former Lough Gill SPA 004011 and Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SPA 004079), 004188</li> <li>• Castlemaine Harbour 004029</li> <li>• Magharee Islands 004125</li> <li>• Dingle Peninsula, 004153</li> <li>• Kerry Head 004189</li> </ul>

**Above: Table 5.1 Natura 2000 sites located within the potential zone of influence of the plan area.**

**Table 5.2 Preliminary Screening Exercise**

Site Name and Code and Distance to plan area	Qualifying Interests (* denotes a priority habitat)	Preliminary Assessment
<p>Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC 002070</p> <p>SAC adjoins Fenit</p>	<p><b>Habitats</b></p> <p>1130 Estuaries</p> <p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1150 Coastal lagoons*</p> <p>1160 Large shallow inlets and bays</p> <p>1170 Reefs</p> <p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</p> <p>1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand</p> <p>1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i>)</p> <p>1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>)</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)*</p> <p>2170 Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>)</p> <p>2190 Humid dune slacks</p> <p>6410 <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)</p> <p>91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)*</p> <p><b>Species</b></p> <p>1395 Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>)</p> <p>1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</p>	<p>While Locke's beach which adjoins the Terminus is not located within the SAC, the SAC is located downstream of the settlement and adjoins it further to the east.</p> <p>Having regard to the proximity of the SAC to the settlement and the hydrological connectivity, the potential for significant effects on this SAC will be considered further in this assessment.</p>
<p>Akeragh, and Harbour 000332 C. 670m</p> <p>Banna Barrow SAC</p>	<p><b>Habitats</b></p> <p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand</p> <p>1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i>)</p> <p>1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>)</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline</p>	<p>Having regard to the proximity of the SAC to the settlement and to the Fenit WWTP discharge point, the potential for significant effects on this SAC will be considered further in this assessment.</p>

	with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) 2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)* 2190 Humid dune slacks 4030 European dry heaths	
Slieve Mountains 002185 C. 4.5Km	Mish SAC <b>Habitats</b> 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> 4030 European dry heaths 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths 8110 Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels ( <i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i> ) 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation 8220 Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation <b>Species</b> 1421 Killarney Fern ( <i>Trichomanes speciosum</i> )	This Natura 2000 site is located a considerable distance from the plan area and there are no realistic viable pathways for impact. Potential for significant effects on this Natura 2000 site can be ruled out with certainty.
Magharee Islands SAC 002261 C.6.7Km	<b>Habitats</b> 1170 Reefs	This Natura 2000 site is located a considerable distance from the plan area and there are no realistic viable pathways for impact. Potential for significant effects on this Natura 2000 site can be ruled out with certainty.
Mount Brandon SAC 000375 C. 11Km	<b>Habitats</b> 1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts 3110 Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains ( <i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i> ) 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</i> 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> 4030 European dry heaths 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths 6230 Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental	This Natura 2000 site is located a considerable distance from the plan area and there are no realistic viable pathways for impact. Potential for significant effects on this Natura 2000 site can be ruled out with certainty.

		<p>Europe)*</p> <p>7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog)</p> <p>8110 Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>)</p> <p>8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</p> <p>8220 Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</p> <p><b>Species</b></p> <p>1421 Killarney Fern (<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i>)</p> <p>1029 Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)</p>	
<p>Castlemaine Harbour 000343 C.12.5Km</p>	SAC	<p><b>Habitats</b></p> <p>1130 Estuaries</p> <p>1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</p> <p>1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts</p> <p>1310 <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand</p> <p>1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i>)</p> <p>1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>)</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</p> <p>2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)*</p> <p>2170 Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>)</p> <p>2190 Humid dune slacks</p> <p>91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)*</p> <p><b>Species</b></p> <p>1106 Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)</p> <p>1099 River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>)</p> <p>1395 Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>)</p> <p>1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</p> <p>1095 Sea Lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)</p>	<p>This Natura 2000 site is located a considerable distance from the plan area and there are no realistic viable pathways for impact. Potential for significant effects on this Natura 2000 site can be ruled out with certainty.</p>
Ballyseedy Wood		<b>Habitats</b>	This Natura 2000 site is

SAC 002112 C.13.5Km	91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)*	located a considerable distance from the plan area and there are no realistic viable pathways for impact. Potential for significant effects on this Natura 2000 site can be ruled out with certainty.
Tralee Bay SPA Complex 004188 C.450m	<b>Birds</b> A052 Teal ( <i>Anas crecca</i> ) A054 Pintail ( <i>Anas acuta</i> ) A137 Ringed Plover ( <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> ) A157 Bar-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> ) A142 Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) A048 Shelduck ( <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> ) A053 Mallard ( <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> ) A149 Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> ) A169 Turnstone ( <i>Arenaria interpres</i> ) A130 Oystercatcher ( <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> ) A062 Scaup ( <i>Aythya marila</i> ) A182 Common Gull ( <i>Larus canus</i> ) A156 Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) A179 Black-headed Gull ( <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> ) A141 Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) A140 Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) A144 Sanderling ( <i>Calidris alba</i> ) A160 Curlew ( <i>Numenius arquata</i> ) A050 Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) A038 Whooper Swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> ) A162 Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) A046 Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) <b>Habitats</b> Wetlands	Having regard to the proximity of the SPA to the settlement, the potential for significant effects on this SPA will be considered further in this assessment.
Magharee Islands SPA 004125 C.7.5Km	<b>Birds</b> A182 Common Gull ( <i>Larus canus</i> ) A014 Storm Petrel ( <i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i> ) A018 Shag ( <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> ) A193 Common Tern ( <i>Sterna hirundo</i> ) A045 Barnacle Goose ( <i>Branta leucopsis</i> ) A195 Little Tern ( <i>Sterna albifrons</i> ) A194 Arctic Tern ( <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> )	This Natura 2000 site is located a considerable distance from the plan area and there are no realistic viable pathways for impact. Potential for significant effects on this Natura 2000 site can be ruled out with certainty.
Dingle Peninsula	<b>Birds</b>	This Natura 2000 site is

SPA 004153 C.10Km	A346 Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ) A103 Peregrine ( <i>Falco peregrinus</i> ) A009 Fulmar ( <i>Fulmarus glacialis</i> )	located a considerable distance from the plan area and there are no realistic viable pathways for impact. Potential for significant effects on this Natura 2000 site can be ruled out with certainty.
Castlemaine Harbour 004029 C.13Km	<b>Birds</b> A346 Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ) A062 Scaup ( <i>Aythya marila</i> ) A017 Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> ) A065 Common Scoter ( <i>Melanitta nigra</i> ) A144 Sanderling ( <i>Calidris alba</i> ) A046 Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) A050 Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) A130 Oystercatcher ( <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> ) A157 Bar-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> ) A162 Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) A001 Red-throated Diver ( <i>Gavia stellata</i> ) A054 Pintail ( <i>Anas acuta</i> ) A137 Ringed Plover ( <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> ) A053 Mallard ( <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> ) A164 Greenshank ( <i>Tringa nebularia</i> ) A169 Turnstone ( <i>Arenaria interpres</i> ) <b>Habitats</b> Wetlands	This Natura 2000 site is located a considerable distance from the plan area and there are no realistic viable pathways for impact. Potential for significant effects on this Natura 2000 site can be ruled out with certainty.
Kerry Head SPA 004189 C. 13Km	<b>Birds</b> A346 Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> ) A009 Fulmar ( <i>Fulmarus glacialis</i> )	This Natura 2000 site is located a considerable distance from the plan area and there are no realistic viable pathways for impact. Potential for significant effects on this Natura 2000 site can be ruled out with certainty.

**Above: Table 5.2 Preliminary Screening Exercise**

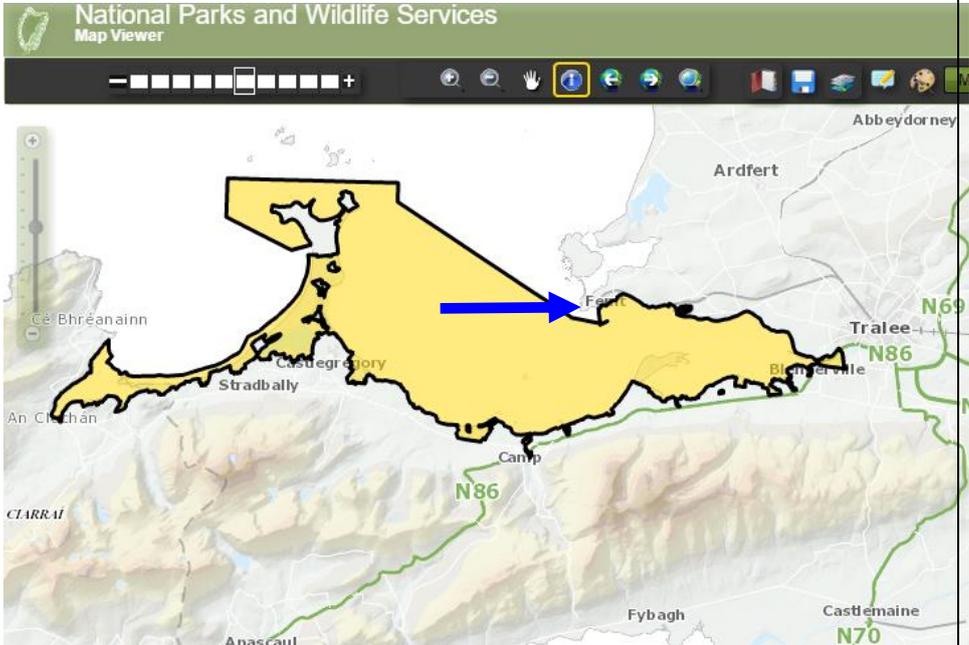
### Results of preliminary screening exercise

Following a preliminary screening exercise, the following European (Natura 2000) Sites will be considered further in this Appropriate Assessment screening report:-

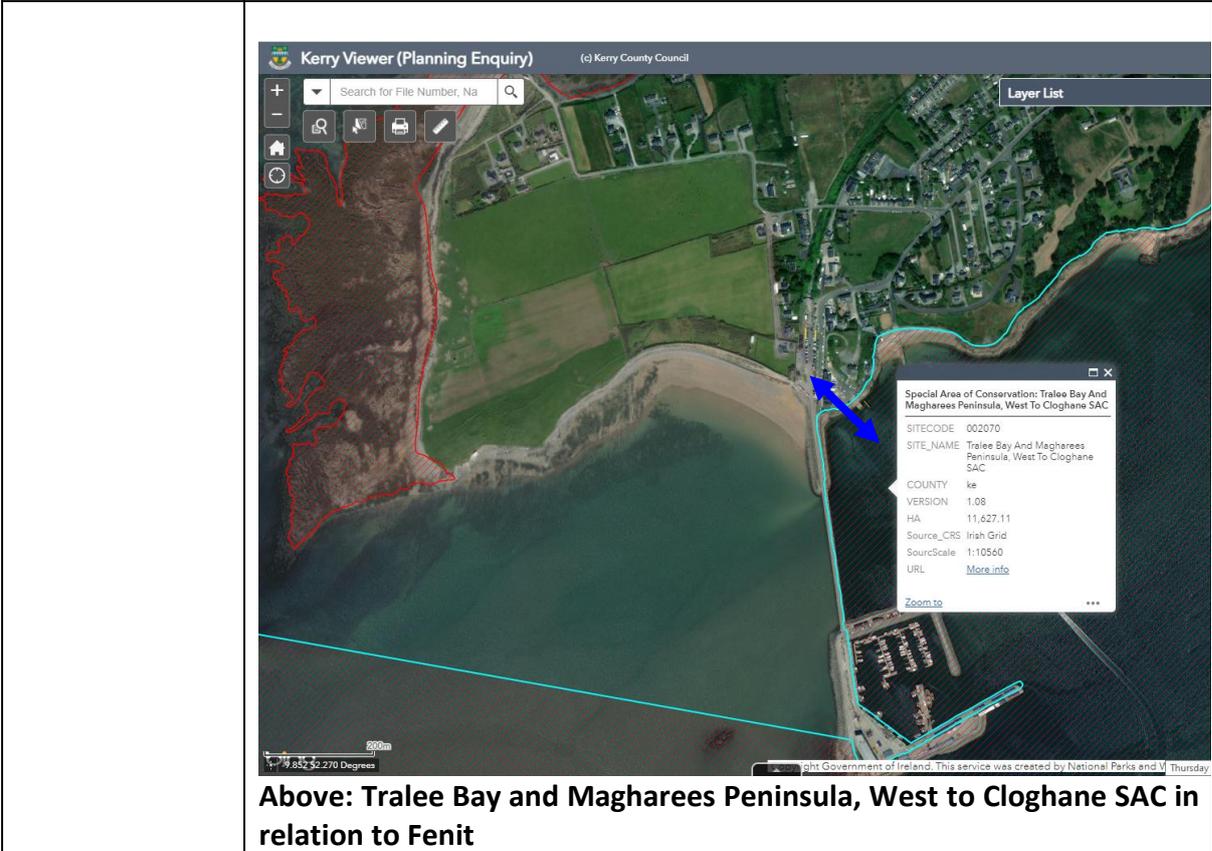
- Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC Site Code 002070 – adjoins Fenit settlement
- Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC Site Code 000332- located c.670m away
- Tralee Bay Complex SPA Site Code 004188 located c.450m away

Further information on these Natura 2000 sites is outlined below. The potential for impact on other European (Natura 2000) sites can be ruled out with certainty as there is no realistic viable pathway for impact on same.

### Description of Natura 2000 sites

<b>Description of the Natura 2000 Site</b>	<b>Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC (Site Code 002070)</b>
<b>Name</b>	Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC (Site Code 002070)
<b>Site designation status</b>	Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Natura 2000 site highlighted in yellow. Fenit located by the blue arrow.	 <p><b>Above: Location of Fenit (blue arrow) in relation to the Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC (yellow)</b></p>

Description of the Natura 2000 Site	Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC (Site Code 002070)
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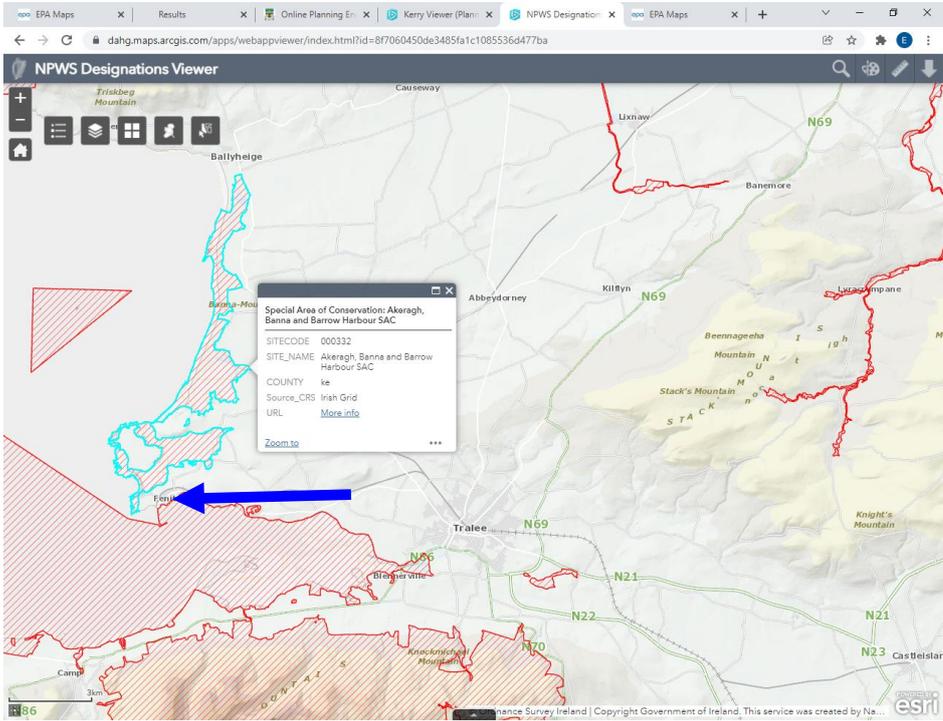
**Above: Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC in relation to Fenit**

Natura 2000 Site Description	<p>This large site stretches from Tralee town westwards to Fenit Harbour and Cloghane, encompassing Tralee Bay, Brandon Bay and the Magharees Peninsula. It includes extensive mudflats at the eastern end, the beaches of Derrymore Island, the sand dunes and lagoons of the Magharees Peninsula as well as the rocky headlands at its end. The site includes two Statutory Nature Reserves, Tralee Bay and Derrymore Island, and much of the estuarine part of the site has been designated an SPA.</p> <p>Both the Tralee and Brandon (Owenmore) estuaries feature wide expanses of sheltered intertidal flats, often fringed with saltmarsh vegetation. The majority of Tralee Bay is shallow and composed of sublittoral sediments. In the more sheltered areas of the bay, there is a variety of important sublittoral sediment communities in which a number of rare species occur.</p> <p>More information on this Natura 2000 site is available from the NPWS and on-line at: <a href="http://www.NPWS.ie">www.NPWS.ie</a></p>
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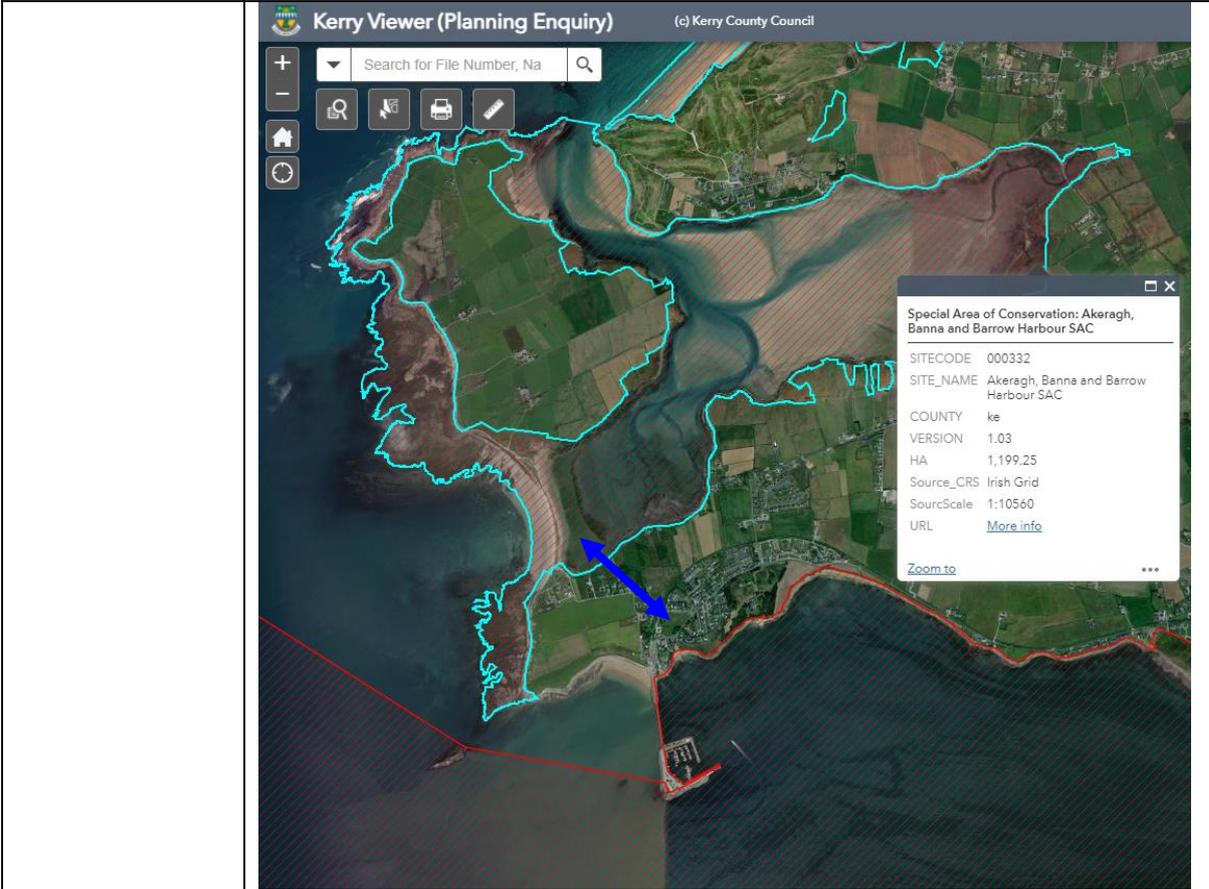
Qualifying species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]</li> <li>• Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1395]</li> </ul>
Qualifying habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estuaries [1130]</li> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</li> </ul>

Description of the Natura 2000 Site	Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC (Site Code 002070)
	<p>[1140]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal lagoons [1150]</li> <li>• Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]</li> <li>• Reefs [1170]</li> <li>• Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]</li> <li>• Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]</li> <li>• Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310]</li> <li>• Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330]</li> <li>• Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]</li> <li>• Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120]</li> <li>• Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]</li> <li>• Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salix arenariae</i>) [2170]</li> <li>• Humid dune slacks [2190]</li> <li>• <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) [6410]</li> <li>• Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>) [91E0]</li> </ul>
Non-qualifying species and habitats of interest	<p>Additional Special Conservation Interests:</p> <p>Several relatively rare plant species are also present and a good number of Red Data Book species. Tralee Bay, including Lough Gill, is an internationally important wetland for wintering waders and wildfowl. The presence of a number of Red Data Book species including the largest population of Natterjack Toads in Ireland, is notable.</p>
Unit size	11,632.15Ha
Condition / threats	<p>The dunes face pressures from intensive farming practices and recreational use by visitors to the site. The most threatening activities include fertilisation of the species rich dune grasslands, overgrazing, and trampling of areas of dunes adjacent to tourist facilities (e.g. caravan parks). These activities may lead to severe erosion of the dune system and eutrophication of the dune grasslands and dune slacks. Parts of the dune system are also vulnerable to invasion by Sea Buckthorn (<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>).</p> <p>Agricultural run-off from areas of fertilised dune grasslands in the vicinity of Lough Gill pose a continued threat to the nutrient status of the lagoon; algal blooms and fish kills have occurred in the past. Removal of sand has also occurred and poses a threat to the integrity of the system.</p> <p>Generally, the intertidal areas are relatively robust, although certain</p>

Description of the Natura 2000 Site	Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC (Site Code 002070)
	communities are vulnerable. For example, <i>Spartina</i> has spread widely, and may oust less vigorous colonisers of mud and may also reduce the area of mudflat available to feeding birds. Other activities, such as land reclamation and aquaculture, pose potential threats in terms of damage to habitats and potential disturbance to wintering birds. Domestic and industrial wastes are discharged into inner Tralee Bay, but water quality is generally satisfactory - except in the inner bay reflecting the sewage load from Tralee Town. Further industrial development along the bay in the vicinity of Tralee Town and Fenit and water polluting operations are potential threats.

Description of the Natura 2000 Site	Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC (Site Code 000332)
Name	Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC (Site Code 000332)
Site designation status	Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Natura 2000 site highlighted in yellow. Fenit located by the blue arrow.	 <p data-bbox="480 1816 1423 1888"><b>Above: Location of Fenit in relation to the Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC which is outlined in blue</b></p>

Description of the Natura 2000 Site	<b>Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC (Site Code 000332)</b>
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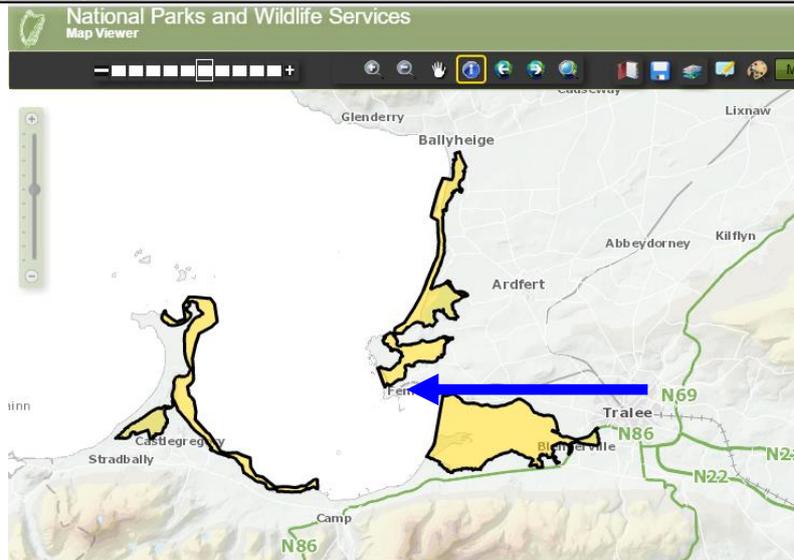
**Above: Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC in relation to Fenit**

Natura 2000 Site Description	<p>The site covers a 10 km stretch of coast running southwards from Ballyheigue to Fenit, Co. Kerry. A good diversity of coastal habitats occur, including rocky shore, shingle and sandy beaches, sand dunes, salt marshes, intertidal sand and mud flats, dry heath and dry grassland, wet grassland and reed beds. Akeragh Lough, formerly a brackish lagoon, has silted up since the 1970s and is now mostly wet grassland and swamp vegetation. The underlying geology is limestone and as a result the sandy soil is calcareous in nature and has a high shell fragment content. Recreation and grazing (cattle and rabbits) are the primary landuses.</p> <p>The site is of importance mainly for the diversity of sand dune and salt marsh habitats. Of particular note are the fixed dunes which are substantial in area and of good quality in the southern part of site. There is an interesting transition through a series of dune communities, including humid dune slacks, to salt marsh communities at Carrahane Strand. The site supports important concentrations of wintering waterfowl, including <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> and <i>Limosa lapponica</i>, both listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive. The sand flats, salt marsh and dunes support important invertebrate communities including</p>
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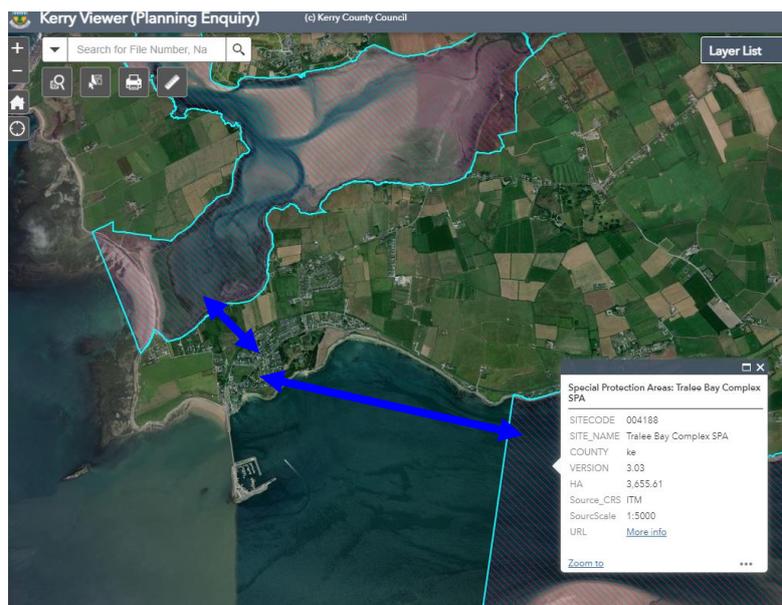
<b>Description of the Natura 2000 Site</b>	<b>Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC (Site Code 000332)</b>
	nationally threatened species.  More information on this Natura 2000 site is available from the NPWS and on-line at: <a href="http://www.NPWS.ie">www.NPWS.ie</a>
Qualifying species	-
Qualifying habitats	1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand 1330 Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i> ) 1410 Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) 2110 Embryonic shifting dunes 2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) 2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)* 2190 Humid dune slacks 4030 European dry heaths
Non-qualifying species and habitats of interest	Additional Special Conservation Interests:  Important for wintering waders and wildfowl.
Unit size	1,199Ha
Condition / threats	The site faces pressures from intensive farming practices and recreational use. The most important impacts and activities with high effect on the site, include grazing, human disturbance, removal of beach materials, camping and caravans and golf course related activities.

<b>Natura 2000 Site: Tralee Bay Complex SPA (Site Code 004188)</b>	
Name	Tralee Bay Complex SPA (Site Code 004188)
Site designation status	Special Protection Area (SPA)
Natura 2000 site highlighted in yellow. Fenit located by the blue arrow.	

**Natura 2000 Site: Tralee Bay Complex SPA (Site Code 004188)**



**Above: Location of proposed site in relation to the Tralee Bay Complex SPA**



**Above: Tralee Bay Complex SPA in relation to Fenit**

Natura 2000 Site Description

This Natura 2000 site is an amalgamation and extension to the following previously designated Natura 2000 sites: [Lough Gill](#) SPA (Site Code 004011), [Tralee Bay](#) SPA (Site Code 004018) and [Akeragh, Banna & Barrow Harbour](#) SPA (Site Code 004079).

Inner Tralee Bay is well sheltered by the Derrymore Island peninsula. The intertidal sediments vary from muddy sands on the upper shore to firm rippled sands on the lower, more exposed shore. The sediments have a diverse macro-invertebrate fauna, with such species as Cockle

Natura 2000 Site: Tralee Bay Complex SPA (Site Code 004188)	
	<p>(<i>Cerastoderma edule</i>), Lugworm (<i>Arenicola marina</i>), Ragworm (<i>Hediste diversicolor</i>), Baltic Tellin (<i>Macorna balthica</i>) and Shrimp (<i>Crangon crangon</i>) occurring. The intertidal flats have extensive beds of Eelgrass (<i>Zostera</i> spp.).</p> <p>Tralee Bay Complex SPA is of high ornithological importance as it annually supports over 20,000 wintering waterbirds, including an international important population of Light-bellied Brent Geese and nationally important populations of 21 other species. It is of note that three of the species that regularly occur, Whooper swan, Golden Plover and Bar-tailed Godwit, are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive.</p> <p>More information on this Natura 2000 site is available from the NPWS and on-line at: <a href="http://www.NPWS.ie">www.NPWS.ie</a></p>
Qualifying species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038]</li> <li>• Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046]</li> <li>• Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048]</li> <li>• Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050]</li> <li>• Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052]</li> <li>• Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053]</li> <li>• Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054]</li> <li>• Scaup (<i>Aythya marila</i>) [A062]</li> <li>• Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130]</li> <li>• Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137]</li> <li>• Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140]</li> <li>• Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141]</li> <li>• Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142]</li> <li>• Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144]</li> <li>• Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149]</li> <li>• Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156]</li> <li>• Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157]</li> <li>• Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160]</li> <li>• Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162]</li> <li>• Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169]</li> <li>• Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179]</li> <li>• Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182]</li> <li>• Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</li> </ul>
Qualifying habitats	Wetlands
Non-qualifying species and habitats of interest	-
Unit size	The Tralee Bay Complex SPA is located along the coast of north Co. Kerry between Ballyheige in the north, Tralee in the

<b>Natura 2000 Site: Tralee Bay Complex SPA (Site Code 004188)</b>	
	east and Stradbally in the west. The site includes the inner part of Tralee Bay, including Derrymore Island, the inlets of Barrow Harbour and Carrahane Strand, Akeragh Lough, Lough Gill, and much of the intertidal habitat from Scraggane Point at the northern end of the Magharees Peninsula around the coast to south of Ballyheige.
Condition / threats	Part of Tralee Bay SPA is a Statutory Nature Reserve and there appears to be no serious threats to the wintering birds within this area. However, the intertidal areas receive somewhat polluted water via the River Lee and there may be some disturbance from walkers, free-running dogs, sailing activities and bait-digging. Land reclamation also poses a threat in certain areas as does the spread of exotic species (habitat loss / alteration).

### **5.3. Potential Impacts**

As outlined in the European Commission Environment Directorate General document “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”, impacts that could potentially occur through the implementation of the Strategy can be categorised under a number of headings: -

- Loss / reduction of habitat area (e.g. due to the development of new projects);
- Disturbance to Key Species (e.g. increased public access to protected sites, at operational stage or during the construction phase of infrastructure projects);
- Habitat or species fragmentation;
- Reduction in species density;
- Changes in key indicators of conservation value such as changes in water quality / quantity (e.g. alteration to drainage regime in sensitive wetland areas; run-off of pollutants during construction and operation of developments).

Within the context of the proposed amendment and masterplan, the possibility of Habitat loss or fragmentation can be ruled out with certainty, given the separation distances between the proposals and the boundaries of designated sites. Having reviewed the proposals and the conservation objectives of Natura 2000 sites in the vicinity, it is considered that the only realistic potentially viable impacts are as follows:-

- Reduction in water quality arising from construction and or operational aspects of the proposals – which could possibly impact water quality a key indicator of conservation value in the Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC and in the Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC
- Disturbance of Otter associated with the Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC
- Disturbance of wintering waterbirds associated with the Tralee Bay Complex SPA

## **6. Assessment of the significance of potential impacts on Natura 2000 Sites**

This is the fourth and final step of the Appropriate Assessment Screening exercise and involves an assessment of the significance of potential impacts on Natura 2000 Sites. It is important to note that the proposed Amendment and Masterplan represents a minor amendment to the Tralee MDLAP. The land use zoning objectives for the area remain as outlined in the adopted Local Area Plan for the area. Furthermore, it is not proposed to delete any policies or objectives from the existing MDLAP.

### **Water quality impact consideration**

It is considered that the proposed masterplan, in combination with other plans and projects is not likely to significantly effect water quality within the Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC or the Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC either during the construction or operational phases of the proposals supported by the amendment or masterplan.

Construction stage works could result in an amount of sediment contained in soiled water run-off entering Tralee Bay. However, the effects of same are not likely to be felt within the Bay given the assimilative, dispersion and dilution capacities available. Moreover, estuarine environments are naturally turbid. Risk of contamination arising from other construction activities is considered to be negligible and not significant. Regarding potential operational stage impacts, it is noted that it is not proposed to modify the land use zonings or population allocation for the settlement as part of this amendment. It is also noted that connections to the Fenit WWTP is subject to agreement with Irish Water, that the amendment and masterplan provide for the provision of Sustainable Urban Drainage measures and that advanced plans are in place to upgrade the WWTP serving the overall settlement. Potential for effects on qualifying interest species and habitats associated with Natura 2000 sites in the vicinity by way of water quality impacts can be ruled out with certainty.

### **Otter and wintering waterbird disturbance**

The works supported by the amendment and masterplan will result in the release of some limited fugitive noise emissions / increased human activity for the duration of the construction phase and the operational phases (of the projects supported in the Masterplan). Notwithstanding this, it is considered that there is no realistic potential for significant wildlife disturbance to arise as a result of the amendment and masterplan. Neither of the two key sites in the village which are the focus of the Masterplan are located within designated sites or are otherwise of significant importance to qualifying interest species.

The waterfront (terminus) site is subject to an existing high-level array of year-round human activity. Existing operations in the area include port activities, fishing vessels, and various recreational and village activities. The greenfield (central core) site is located within the urban core of the settlement and does not constitute key habitat for any species associated with the Natura 2000 site designations in the area. The

central core greenfield site was surveyed for wintering waterbirds during the winter of 2018/2019, as part of a wider bird survey for the area. A total of two SCI water bird species for the Tralee Bay Complex SPA were recorded utilising this field throughout the entire 6-month survey period. These were curlew and common gull, and both were recorded in small and insignificant numbers within the context of the SPA (four curlew and five common gull). There are more favourable habitats and fields for SCI waterbirds located in the wider area. It can be said with certainty that this field is not regularly used by large assemblages of SCI and that the field is therefore of low importance for SCI.

## **7. Appropriate Assessment Screening Conclusion**

### **Conclusion**

Kerry County Council, as Competent Authority, concludes that significant effects on European sites are not likely to arise as a result of this proposed amendment and masterplan, by itself or in combination with other plans or projects, for the reasons outlined below. It is considered that an Appropriate Assessment is therefore not required in this instance. Measures intended to avoid or reduce negative effects on European Natura 2000 sites have not been relied upon in reaching this conclusion.

### **Reasons for conclusion**

- The minor nature of the proposed amendment,
- The location of the proposed masterplan area on serviced urban lands located outside of European Natura 2000 sites and the separation distances between same,
- The existing and permitted conditions in the area, including the long-established residential, transport, industrial and recreational uses,
- The nature and limited scale of the works supported by the amendment and masterplan,
- That the masterplan does not contain land use zoning objectives, nor does it confer development consent for any particular project. Land use zoning and development objectives remain as outlined in the adopted Tralee Municipal District Local Area Plan 2018-2024, for which an Appropriate Assessment was undertaken,
- There are no realistic viable pathways for significant effects that may arise due to the implementation of the proposals supported in the masterplan or amendment. The absence of tangible pathways for effects ensures that there will be no significant effects to European Natura 2000 sites,
- There would be no significant direct or indirect impact on qualifying habitat or species associated with Natura 2000 sites likely to arise as a result of the proposed amendment.

## Appendix A: Summary overview of the 2019 conservation status of habitats and species

The following tables are sourced from the NPWS 2019 report entitled The Status of Protected EU Habitats and Species in Ireland. Volume 1: Summary Overview. This report is available online at <https://www.npws.ie/publications/article-17-reports/article-17-reports-2019>.

Code	Common name	2007 Overall Status	2013 Overall Status and operator	2019 Overall Status and trend	2019 Range	2019 Area	2019 Structure & Functions	2019 Future Prospects
1110	Sandbanks	●	●	=	=	=	=	●
1130	Estuaries	●	▲	▼	=	=	▼	●
1140	Tidal mudflats and sandflats	●	▲	▼	=	=	▼	●
1150	Lagoons*	●	=	▼	=	=	▼	●
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	●	▲	▼	=	=	▼	●
1170	Reefs	●	▼	=	=	=	=	●
1180	Submarine structures made by leaking gases			=	=	=	=	●
1210	Drift lines	●	▼	▼	=	▼	=	●
1220	Vegetated shingle	●	=	=	=	=	=	●
1230	Vegetated sea cliffs	●	=	=	=	=	=	●
1310	Salicornia mud	●	▼	=	=	=	=	●
1320	Spartinion	●						
1330	Atlantic salt meadows	●	=	▼	=	▼	=	●
1410	Mediterranean salt meadows	●	=	▼	=	▼	=	●
1420	Halophilous scrub	●	▼	▼	▼	▼	=	●
2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	●	=	=	=	=	=	●
2120	Marram dunes (white dunes)	●	=	=	=	▼	=	●
2130	Fixed dunes (grey dunes)*	●	=	▼	=	=	▼	●
2140	Empetrum dunes*	●	=	=	=	=	=	●
2150	Dune heath*	●	=	=	=	=	=	●
2170	Dunes with creeping willow	●	=	=	=	=	=	●
2190	Dune slacks	●	▼	▼	▼	▼	=	●
21A0	Machair*	●	=	=	=	▼	=	●
3110	Oligotrophic isoetid lake habitat	●	▼	=	=	=	=	●
3130	Mixed Najas flexilis lake habitat	●	=	▼	=	=	▼	●
3140	Hard water lakes	●	▼	▼	=	=	▼	●
3150	Rich pondweed lake habitat	●	=	=	=	=	=	●
3160	Acid oligotrophic lakes	●	▼	=	=	=	×	●
3180	Turloughs*	●	=	=	=	=	=	●
3260	Vegetation of flowing waters	●	▼	▼	=	=	▼	●
3270	Chenopodium rubri	●	●	=	=	=	=	●

STATUS: ● Favourable ● Unfavourable-Inadequate ● Unfavourable-Bad ● Unknown

TREND: ▲ Improving = Stable ▼ Declining × Unknown

\* priority habitat. Please note "Spartinion" was not considered post-2007 as this habitat is comprised of non-native species.

Code	Common name	2007 Overall Status	2013 Overall Status and operator	2019 Overall Status and trend	2019 Range	2019 Area	2019 Structure & Functions	2019 Future Prospects
4010	Wet heaths	●	▬	▼	▬	▼	▬	●
4030	Dry heaths	●	▬	▬	▬	▼	▬	●
4060	Alpine and subalpine heath	●	▲	▲	▬	▼	▲	●
5130	Juniper scrub	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
6130	Calaminarian grasslands	●	▬	▼	▼	▼	▼	●
6210	Orchid-rich calcareous grassland*	●	▬	▼	▬	▼	▬	●
6230	Species-rich Nardus grassland*	●	▼	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
6410	Molinia meadows	●	▼	▼	▼	▼	▬	●
6430	Hydrophilous tall-herb swamp	●	▬	▼	▼	▼	▬	●
6510	Hay meadows	●	▬	▼	▼	▼	▼	●
7110	Raised bog (active)*	●	▼	▼	▬	▼	▼	●
7120	Degraded raised bogs	●	▼	▼	▬	▼	▼	●
7130	Blanket bog (active)*	●	▼	▼	▬	▼	▼	●
7140	Transition mires	●	×	▬	▬	▬	×	●
7150	Rhynchosporion depressions	●	▼	▼	▬	▼	▼	●
7210	Cladium fens*	●	×	▬	▬	▬	×	●
7220	Petrifying springs*	●	▬	▼	▬	▬	▼	●
7230	Alkaline lens	●	×	▼	▬	▼	×	●
8110	Siliceous scree	●	▲	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
8120	Eutric scree	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
8210	Calcareous rocky slopes	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
8220	Siliceous rocky slopes	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
8240	Limestone pavement*	●	▬	▬	▬	▼	▲	●
8310	Caves	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
8330	Sea caves	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
91A0	Old oak woodland	●	▲	▼	▬	▼	▬	●
91D0	Bog woodland*	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
91E0	Alluvial woodland*	●	▲	▼	▬	▼	▼	●
91J0	Yew woodland*	●	▲	▬	▬	▬	▬	●

STATUS: ● Favourable ● Unfavourable-Inadequate ● Unfavourable-Bad ● Unknown

TREND: ▲ Improving ▬ Stable ▼ Declining × Unknown

\* priority habitat. Please note "Spartinion" was not considered post-2007 as this habitat is comprised of non-native species.

Code	Species name	Amnes	2007 Overall Status	2013 Overall Status and operator	2019 Overall Status and trend	2019 Range	2019 Population	2019 Habitat for the species	2019 Future Prospects
0985	Killamey fern ( <i>Vandenboschia speciosa</i> )	II, IV	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1528	Marsh saxifrage ( <i>Saxifraga hirculus</i> )	II, IV	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1833	Slender naiad ( <i>Najas flexilis</i> )	II, IV	●	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	●
6216	Slender green feather moss ( <i>Hemitocaulis vermicosus</i> )	II	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1395	Petalwort ( <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> )	II	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1376	Mohr ( <i>Lithothamnium coralloides</i> )	V	●	▲	▼	▬	▬	▼	●
1377	Mohr ( <i>Phymatholthon calcareum</i> )	V	●	▲	▼	▬	▬	▼	●
1400	White cushion moss ( <i>Leucobryum glaucum</i> )	V	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1409	Sphagnum genus ( <i>Sphagnum</i> spp.)	V	●	▬	▬				
1413	Lycopodium group ( <i>Lycopodium</i> spp.)	V	●	▬	▬				
1378	Cladonia subgenus cladina ( <i>Cladonia</i> ( <i>Cladina</i> ) subsp.)	V	●	▬	▬				
1013	Geyer's whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> )	II	●	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	●
1014	Narrow-mouthed whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo angustior</i> )	II	●	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	●
1016	Desmoulin's whorl snail ( <i>Vertigo mouliniana</i> )	II	●	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	●
1024	Kerry slug ( <i>Geomalacus maculatus</i> )	II, IV	●	●	▲	▲	▲	▬	●
1029	Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> )	II, V	●	▼	▼	▬	▼	▼	●
1990	Nore pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera durroverensis</i> )	II, V	●	▼					
1092	White-clawed crayfish ( <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> )	II, V	●	▬	▼	▼	▼	▬	●
1065	Marsh fritillary ( <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> )	II	●	▼	▲	▲	▲	▬	●
1095	Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> )	II	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1096	Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> )	II	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1099	River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> )	II, V	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
5046	Killamey shad ( <i>Alosa killarneyensis</i> )	II, V	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1103	Twiste shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> )	II, V	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
5076	Pollan ( <i>Coregonus pollan</i> )	V	●	×	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1106	Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	II, V	●	▬	▬	▬	▼	▬	●
6284	Natterjack toad ( <i>Epidaeina calamita</i> )	IV	●	▲	▬	▬	×	▲	●
1213	Common frog ( <i>Rana temporaria</i> )	V	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1223	Leatherback turtle ( <i>Demochelys coriacea</i> )	IV	●	▬	▬	×	×	▬	▬
1303	Lesser horseshoe bat ( <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> )	II, IV	●	●	▼	▼	▲	▼	●
1309	Common pipistrelle ( <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> )	IV	●	●	▲	▬	▲	▬	●
5009	Soprano pipistrelle ( <i>Pipistrellus nyctemus</i> )	IV	●	●	▲	▬	▲	▬	●
1317	Nathusius' pipistrelle ( <i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i> )	IV	●	▬	▬	×	▬	▬	▬
1322	Natterer's bat ( <i>Myotis nattereri</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●

STATUS: ● Favourable ● Unfavourable-Inadequate ● Unfavourable-Bad ● Unknown ● Vagrant  
TREND: ▲ Improving ▬ Stable ▼ Declining × Unknown

Code	Species name	Annex	2007 Overall Status	2013 Overall Status and operator	2019 Overall Status and trend	2019 Range	2019 Population	2019 Habitat for the species	2019 Future Prospects
1314	Daubenton's bat ( <i>Myotis daubentonii</i> )	IV	●	●	▲	▬	▲	▬	●
1330	Whiskered bat ( <i>Myotis mystacinus</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1326	Brown long-eared bat ( <i>Plecotus auritus</i> )	IV	●	●	▲	▬	▲	▬	●
1331	Leisler's bat ( <i>Nyctalus leisleri</i> )	IV	●	●	▲	▬	▲	▬	●
1334	Mountain hare ( <i>Lepus timidus</i> )	V	●	●	▬	▬	▬	✖	●
1355	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> )	II, IV	●	●	▲	▬	▲	▬	●
1357	Pine marten ( <i>Martes martes</i> )	V	●	●	▲	▲	▲	▲	●
1364	Grey seal ( <i>Halichoerus grypus</i> )	II, V	●	●	▲	▬	▲	▬	●
1365	Harbour seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> )	II, V	●	●	▬	▬	▬	▬	●
1345	Humpback whale ( <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> )	IV	●	●	●	▬	✖	▬	●
1349	Common bottlenose dolphin ( <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> )	II, IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
1350	Common dolphin ( <i>Delphinus delphis</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
1351	Harbour porpoise ( <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> )	II, IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
2027	Killer whale ( <i>Orcinus orca</i> )	IV	●	●	●	▬	✖	▬	●
2029	Long-finned pilot whale ( <i>Globicephala melas</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
2030	Risso's dolphin ( <i>Grampus griseus</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
2031	White-sided dolphin ( <i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
2032	White-beaked dolphin ( <i>Lagenorhynchus albobristis</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
2034	Striped dolphin ( <i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
2035	Cuvier's beaked whale ( <i>Ziphius cavirostris</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
2038	Sowerby's beaked whale ( <i>Mesoplodon bidens</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
2018	Minke whale ( <i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
2021	Fin whale ( <i>Balaenoptera physalus</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
5020	Blue whale ( <i>Balaenoptera musculus</i> )	IV	●	●	●	▬	✖	▬	●
2024	Sperm whale ( <i>Physeter macrocephalus</i> )	IV	●	●	▬	▬	✖	▬	●
5033	Northern bottlenose whale ( <i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i> )	IV	●	●	●	▬	✖	▬	●
2019	Sei whale ( <i>Balaenoptera borealis</i> )	IV	●	●	●	▬	✖	▬	●
1348	Northern right whale ( <i>Eubalaena glacialis</i> )	IV	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
2020	False killer whale ( <i>Pseudorca crassidens</i> )	IV	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
2037	True's beaked whale ( <i>Mesoplodon minor</i> )	IV	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
2022	Pygmy sperm whale ( <i>Kogia breviceps</i> )	IV	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
5029	Beluga/White whale ( <i>Delphinapterus leucas</i> )	IV	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
5034	Gervais' beaked whale ( <i>Mesoplodon europaeus</i> )	IV	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
1102	Allos shad ( <i>Alosa alosa</i> )	II, V	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
1320	Brandt's bat ( <i>Myotis brandtii</i> )	IV	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

STATUS: ● Favourable ● Unfavourable-Inadequate ● Unfavourable-Bad ● Unknown ● Vagrant

TREND: ▲ Improving ▬ Stable ▼ Declining ✖ Unknown

## Appendix B: Summary overview of the conservation status of bird species

The following information is sourced from the Birds of Conservation Concern Report BOCCI3, Colhoun and Cummins (2013).

Bird Species	Status BoCCI3 2014-2019
Red-throated Diver ( <i>Gavia stellata</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Great Northern Diver ( <i>Gavia immer</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Little Grebe ( <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding/wintering)
Great Crested Grebe ( <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding/wintering)
Fulmar ( <i>Fulmarus glacialis</i> )	<b>Green</b> (breeding)
Manx Shearwater ( <i>Puffinus puffinus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Storm Petrel ( <i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Leach's Storm-petrel ( <i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding)
Gannet ( <i>Morus bassanus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding/wintering)
Shag ( <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Grey heron ( <i>Ardea cinerea</i> )	<b>Green</b> (breeding/wintering)
Bewick's Swan ( <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> )	<b>Red</b> (wintering)
Whooper Swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Greylag Goose ( <i>Anser anser</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Barnacle Goose ( <i>Branta leucopsis</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Shelduck ( <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding/wintering)
Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> )	<b>Red</b> (wintering)
Gadwall ( <i>Anas strepera</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding/wintering)
Teal ( <i>Anas crecca</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding/wintering)
Mallard ( <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> )	<b>Green</b> (wintering)
Pintail ( <i>Anas acuta</i> )	<b>Red</b> (wintering)
Shoveler ( <i>Anas clypeata</i> )	<b>Red</b> (wintering)
Pochard ( <i>Aythya farina</i> )	<b>Red</b> (wintering)
Tufted Duck ( <i>Aythya fuligula</i> )	<b>Red</b> (wintering)
Scaup ( <i>Aythya marila</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Eider ( <i>Somateria mollissima</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding/wintering)
Common Scoter ( <i>Melanitta nigra</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding)
Goldeneye ( <i>Bucephala clangula</i> )	<b>Red</b> (wintering)
Red-breasted Merganser ( <i>Mergus serrator</i> )	<b>Green</b> (breeding/wintering)

**Appendix B:** Summary overview of the conservation status of bird species

Hen Harrier ( <i>Circus cyaneus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Merlin ( <i>Falco columbarius</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Peregrine ( <i>Falco peregrinus</i> )	<b>Green</b> (breeding)
Corncrake ( <i>Crex crex</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding)
Coot ( <i>Fulica atra</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding/wintering)
Oystercatcher ( <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding/wintering)
Ringed Plover ( <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> )	<b>Green</b> (wintering)
Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding/wintering)
Grey Plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding/wintering)
Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Sanderling ( <i>Calidris alba</i> )	<b>Green</b> (wintering)
Purple Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris maritima</i> )	<b>Green</b> (wintering)
Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding/wintering)
Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Bar-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Curlew ( <i>Numenius arquata</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding/wintering)
Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding/wintering)
Greenshank ( <i>Tringa nebularia</i> )	<b>Green</b> (wintering)
(Ruddy) Turnstone ( <i>Arenaria interpres</i> )	<b>Green</b> (wintering)
Black Headed Gull ( <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding)
Common Gull ( <i>Larus canus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Lesser Black-backed Gull ( <i>Larus fuscus</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Herring Gull ( <i>Larus argentatus</i> )	<b>Red</b> (breeding)
Kittiwake ( <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Sandwich Tern ( <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Roseate Tern ( <i>Sterna dougallii</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Common Tern ( <i>Sterna hirundo</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Arctic Tern ( <i>Sterna paradisaea</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Guillemot ( <i>Uria aalge</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Razorbill ( <i>Alca torda</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Puffin ( <i>Fratercula arctica</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Kingfisher ( <i>Alcedo atthis</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Chough ( <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (breeding)
Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> )	<b>Amber</b> (wintering)
Wetland & Waterbirds	-

## Appendix B: Summary overview of the conservation status of bird species

# Appendix C: Generic threats and pressures to Natura 2000 sites

## **A Agriculture**

- A01 Cultivation
- A02 Modification of cultivation practices
  - A02.01 Agricultural intensification
  - A02.02 Crop change
  - A02.03 Grassland removal for arable land
- A04 Grazing
  - A04.01 Intensive grazing
  - A04.02 Non-intensive grazing
  - A04.03 Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing
- A05 Livestock farming and animal breeding (without grazing)
  - A05.01 Animal breeding
  - A05.03 Lack of animal breeding
- A06 Annual and perennial non-timber crops
  - A06.03 Biofuel production
  - A06.04 Abandonment of crop production

## **B Silviculture, forestry**

- B01 Forest planting on open ground
  - B01.01 Forest planting on open ground (native trees)
  - B01.02 Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees)
- B02 Forest and Plantation management & use
  - B02.01 Forest replanting
    - B02.01.01 Forest replanting (native trees)
    - B02.01.02 Forest replanting (non-native trees)
  - B02.02 Forestry clearance
  - B02.03 Removal of forest undergrowth
  - B02.04 Removal of dead and dying trees
  - B02.05 Non- intensive timber production (leaving dead wood/ old trees untouched)
  - B02.06 Thinning of tree layer
- B03 Forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth

## **C Mining, extraction of materials and energy production**

- C01 Mining and quarrying
  - C01.01 Sand and gravel extraction
    - C01.01.01 Sand and gravel quarries
    - C01.01.02 Removal of beach materials
  - C01.02 Loam and clay pits
  - C01.03 Peat extraction
    - C01.03.01 Hand cutting of peat
    - C01.03.02 Mechanical removal of peat
  - C01.04 Mines
    - C01.04.01 Open cast mining

- C01.04.02 Underground mining
- C01.05 Salt works
  - C01.05.01 Abandonment of salt pans (salinas)
  - C01.05.02 Conversion of salt pans
- C01.06 Geotechnical survey
- C01.07 Mining and extraction activities not referred to above
- C02 Exploration and extraction of oil or gas
  - C02.01 Exploration drilling
  - C02.02 Production drilling
  - C02.03 Jack-up drilling rig
  - C02.04 Semi-submersible rig
  - C02.05 Drill ship
- C03 Renewable abiotic energy use
  - C03.01 Geothermal power production
  - C03.02 Solar energy production
  - C03.03 Wind energy production
  - C03.04 Tidal energy production

#### **D Transportation and service corridors**

- D01 Roads, paths and railroads
  - D01.01 Paths, tracks, cycling tracks
  - D01.02 Roads, motorways
- D02 Utility and service lines
  - D02.01 Electricity and phone lines
    - D02.01.01 Suspended electricity and phone lines
    - D02.01.02 Underground/submerged electricity and phone lines
  - D02.02 Pipe lines
  - D02.03 Communication masts and antennas
  - D02.09 Other forms of energy transport
- D03 Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions
  - D03.01 Port areas
    - D03.01.04 Industrial ports
  - D03.02 Shipping lanes
    - D03.02.01 Cargo lanes
    - D03.02.02 Passenger ferry lanes (high speed)
  - D03.03 Marine constructions
- D04 Airports, flightpaths

#### **E Urbanisation, residential and commercial development**

- E01 Urbanised areas, human habitation
  - E01.01 Continuous urbanisation
  - E01.03 Dispersed habitation
- E02 Industrial or commercial areas
  - E02.01 Factory
  - E02.02 Industrial stockage
  - E02.03 Other industrial / commercial area
- E03 Discharges

- E03.01 Disposal of household / recreational facility waste
- E03.02 Disposal of industrial waste
- E03.03 Disposal of inert materials
- E03.04 Other discharges
  - E03.04.01 Coastal sand suppletion/ beach nourishment
- E04 Structures, buildings in the landscape
  - E04.01 Agricultural structures, buildings in the landscape
  - E04.02 Military constructions and buildings in the landscape
- E05 Storage of materials
- E06 Other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities
  - E06.01 Demolishment of buildings & human structures

### **G Human intrusions and disturbances**

- G01.01 Nautical sports
  - G01.01.01 Motorised nautical sports
- G01.03 Motorised vehicles
- G02 Sport and leisure structures
  - G02.03 Stadium
  - G02.04 Circuit, track
  - G02.06 Attraction park
- G05.03 Penetration/ disturbance below surface of the seabed

### **H Pollution**

- H04 Air pollution, air-borne pollutants
  - H04.02 Nitrogen-input
  - H04.03 Other air pollution
- H06 Excess energy
- H07 Other forms of pollution

### **I Invasive, other problematic species and genes**

- I01 Invasive non-native species
- I02 Problematic native species

### **J Natural System modifications**

- J01 Fire and fire suppression
- J02 Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
  - J02.01 Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general
- J03 Other ecosystem modifications
  - J03.01 Reduction or loss of specific habitat features

### **L Geological events, natural catastrophes**

- L01 Volcanic activity
- L09 Fire (natural)

### **M Climate change**

- M01 Changes in abiotic conditions
  - M01.01 Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes)

M01.02 Droughts and less precipitations  
M01.03 Flooding and rising precipitations  
M01.04 pH-changes  
M01.05 Water flow changes (limnic, tidal and oceanic)  
M01.06 Wave exposure changes  
M01.07 Sea-level changes  
M02 Changes in biotic conditions  
M02.01 Habitat shifting and alteration  
M02.02 Desynchronisation of processes  
M02.03 Decline or extinction of species  
M02.04 Migration of species (natural newcomers)

**XO Threats and pressures from outside the Member State**