



**PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO SUPPORT SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT
OF VARIATION NO. 4 TO THE
MEATH COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2013-2019**

MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL

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|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
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CONTENTS

| | | |
|------------|--|-----------|
| 1 | INTRODUCTION | 3 |
| 1.1 | Appropriate Assessment Screening Report: Purpose and Process | 3 |
| 2 | EXISTING ENVIRONMENT..... | 4 |
| 3 | IDENTIFICATION OF EUROPEAN SITES, GENERIC THREATS AND PRESSURES | 4 |
| 3.1 | European Sites..... | 5 |
| 3.2 | Threats and Pressures..... | 24 |
| 4 | PROTECTIVE POLICIES & OBJECTIVES CONTAINED WITHIN THE MEATH COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (2013-2019) | 53 |
| 5 | CONCLUSION OF THE SCREENING PROCESS | 58 |
| | References | 59 |

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Appropriate Assessment Screening Report: Purpose and Process

Meath County Council is preparing Variation No. 4 to the adopted Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 (hereafter referred to as the “MCDP”). The key purpose of this Variation to the MCDP is to give expression to changes required as part of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015. The Variation of the plan includes a short textual paragraph for inclusion in the body of the MCDP and the addition of a new objective (HS OBJ6) in Chapter 3- Settlement Strategy and Housing.

In summary, the proposed Variation comprises the addition of a new objective, to address the Council’s approach to vacant sites, as well as background text to provide context for this addition. The proposed amendments to the existing Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 are detailed in Table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1: Proposed Amendments to the MCDP 2013-2019 (Variation No. 4)

| Table 1.1 Proposed Amendments to the MCDP (Variation No. 4) * |
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| <p>➤ <u>Section 3.6.2 Housing Strategy Vision and Aim</u></p> |
| <p>Insert a new paragraph at the end of Section 3.6.2 as follows:</p> <p><i>The Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 aims to incentivise urban regeneration and facilitate increased activity in the housing construction sector. Under the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, the Planning Authority is required to identify vacant sites that fall within the definition set by the Act, maintain a register of vacant sites and apply a levy in respect of such sites. The sustainable development of vacant sites in Meath will be promoted through the targeted application of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act, 2015 (Vacant Site Levy) in the following areas: Navan, Southern Environs of Drogheda, Maynooth Environs, Kilcock Environs, Dunboyne, Ashbourne, Kells, Trim and Dunshaughlin. It is proposed to optimise the impact of this initiative, by adopting a focused approach in these identified centres in Meath.</i></p> |
| <p>➤ <u>Chapter 3 – Settlement Strategy and Housing</u></p> |
| <p>Insert new objective on page 72 as follows:</p> <p><i>HS OBJ6 - To promote the sustainable development of vacant residential and regeneration sites in Navan, Southern Environs of Drogheda, Maynooth Environs, Kilcock Environs, Dunboyne, Ashbourne, Kells, Trim and Dunshaughlin through the application of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, Vacant Site Levy, on lands zoned for Town Centre, Regeneration and Residential uses.</i></p> |
| <p>*Additional text brought in through proposed Variation No. 4 is shown in red italic text</p> |

Proposed land use plans and proposed variations must undergo a formal “test” or “screening” to ascertain whether they are likely to result in any significant adverse effects on specific sites designated for their nature conservation importance. These sites are those designated under the European Commission’s Natura 2000 network of sites (hereafter “European sites”¹). These

¹ Natura 2000 sites are defined under the Habitats Directive (Article 3) as a European ecological network of special areas of conservation composed of sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II. The aim of the network is to aid the long-term survival of Europe’s most valuable and threatened species and habitats. In Ireland these sites are designed as *European sites* - defined under the Planning Acts and/or Birds and Habitats Regulations as (a) a candidate site of Community importance, (b) a site of Community importance, (c) a candidate special area of conservation, (d) a special area of conservation, (e) a candidate special protection

sites are designated on the basis of the presence of certain habitats and species that are deemed to be of international importance. The Irish Government and local planning authorities have a legal obligation to protect these sites.

The EC Habitats and Birds Directives are the framework for the designation of these sites. The EC Habitats Directive requires the "screening" of plans and projects under Article 6(3). If the screening process results in a judgement that likely significant effects may occur or cannot be ruled out, then a more detailed 'appropriate assessment' (AA) is required.

Scott Cawley Ltd. was appointed by Meath County Council to analyse the proposed Variation during early stages of preparation and prepare an AA Screening Report to inform the Council's own AA Screening.

2 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

The Meath County Development Plan, associated Area Plans, and supporting documents represent a comprehensive planning framework for the county for the Plan period 2013-2019.

In terms of geographical location, County Meath is situated in north Leinster, along the east coast of Ireland. It occupies a land area of over 230,000 hectares and is the second largest county in Leinster. It borders Dublin to the south and this geographical proximity and the strong functional relationship between the two counties results in Meath being a vital component of the Greater Dublin Area.

County Meath is located within 4 river catchments; the Upper Shannon, Boyne, Newry, Fane, Glyde and Dee, Nanny-Delvin, and the Liffey and Dublin Bay river catchments. According to the EPA's online Map Viewer, a large number of rivers flow through the county including the River Boyne, and River Blackwater (Kells). Monitoring of the County's rivers indicates that quality ranges from "High Status (Q4-5, Q5)" to "Poor Status (Q2-3, Q3)".

A number of groundwater bodies are present within the County's boundary- most of which are described as "Poorly productive bedrock" with "Productive fissured bedrock" also present around the Trim area. The level of vulnerability to groundwater contamination from human activities ranges from 'low' to 'extreme' and 'rock at or near the surface'. The bedrock of the area includes 'Shale and Sandstone,' 'Massive unbedded lime-mudstone,' 'Dark limestone and shale ('calp)', 'Calcareous red-mica greywacke', 'Dark limestone, mudstone, sandstone', 'Basalt and tuff', 'Tuff, tuffaceous siltstone, mudstone' and 'Limestone and calcareous sandstone'.

3 IDENTIFICATION OF EUROPEAN SITES, GENERIC THREATS AND PRESSURES

As part of the analysis of the proposed Variation, all European sites (SACs and SPAs) within the zone of influence of the MCDP's boundary were identified. Any Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) and proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) which were deemed to act as connecting features to European Sites were identified. NHAs, pNHAs and other designated sites such as Nature Reserves, Wildfowl Sanctuaries and Ramsar sites do not form part of the European site network, however they often provide an important supporting role to the network, particularly when it comes to fauna species which often do not obey site boundaries. A list of all European sites, NHAs and pNHAs located within the MCDP's Zone of Influence can be found in Section 3.1.

area, or (f) a special protection area. They are commonly referred to in Ireland as candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

Threats and pressures to the integrity of the European sites and hence the sensitivities of the Qualifying Interests (QI) and Special Conservation Interests (SCI) of the European sites within the zone of influence of the MCDP have been identified. Threats and pressures for QI bird species were extracted from “Annex 2: Bird Species’ status and trends reporting format for the period 2008-2012” (NPWS, 2008), while those for habitats and protected species (except birds) were taken from “The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland: Habitat Assessments Volume 2, Version 1.1” (NPWS, 2013) and “The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland: Species Assessments Volume 3, Volume 1.1” (NPWS, 2013). Information on the parameters contributing to achieving and/or maintaining favourable conservation condition were largely compiled from a range Site Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) downloaded from the NPWS website, but is also based on professional judgement. Generic threats and pressures to key environmental and ecological conditions required for QIs/SCIs can be found in Section 3.1 also.

3.1 European Sites

The analyses identified 8 SACs and 4 SPAs within the County’s Boundary –

- Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC
- River Boyne and Blackwater SAC
- Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC
- Mount Heavy Bog SAC
- White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC
- Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC
- Killyconny Bog (Cloughbally) SAC
- Monybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC
- Boyne Estuary SPA
- River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA
- Lough Sheelin SPA
- River Boyne and Blackwater SPA

In addition, the following 14 SACs and 13 SPAs were deemed to be outside the County Boundary but within the Zone of Influence of the MCDP, and as such were assessed also:

- Ardagullion Bog SAC
- Garriskil Bog SAC
- Lough Lene SAC
- Lough Ennell SAC
- Raheenmore Bog SAC
- The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC
- Ballynafagh Bog SAC
- Ballynafagh Lake SAC
- North Dublin Bay SAC
- Baldoyle Bay SAC
- Malahide Estuary SAC
- Rogerstown Estuary SAC
- Clogher Head SAC
- Dundalk Bay SAC
- Stabannan-Braganstown SPA
- North Bull Island SPA
- South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA
- Baldoyle Bay SPA
- Rogerstown Estuary SPA
- Skerries Islands SPA
- Malahide Estuary SPA
- Dundalk Bay SPA
- Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA
- Garriskil Bog SPA
- Lough Derraghvarragh SPA
- Lough Ennell SPA
- Rockabill SPA

Figures 1.1 - 1.4 show all European sites within 15km of the MCDP boundary. Information regarding these European Sites located within 15km of the MCDP are outlined in Table 2.1.1.

Table 2.1.1. European Sites within 15km of the MCDP.

| European Sites within the MCDP's Boundary and surrounding area | | | |
|--|---|-----------|--|
| Site Code | Special Areas of Conservation | Site Code | Special Protection Areas |
| Sites within County Meath | | | |
| 001957 | Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC | 004080 | Boyne Estuary SPA |
| 002299 | River Boyne and Blackwater SAC | 004158 | River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA |
| 001398 | Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC | 004065 | Lough Sheelin SPA |
| 002342 | Mount Heavy Bog SAC | 004232 | River Boyne and Blackwater SPA |
| 001810 | White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC | | |
| 002120 | Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC | | |
| 000006 | Killyconny Bog (Cloughbally) SAC | | |
| 002340 | Monybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC | | |
| Sites within 15km | | | |
| 002341 | Ardagullion Bog SAC | 004091 | Stabannan-Braganstown SPA |
| 000679 | Garriskil Bog SAC | 004006 | North Bull Island SPA |
| 002121 | Lough Lene SAC | 004024 | South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA |
| 000685 | Lough Ennell SAC | 004016 | Baldoyle Bay SPA |
| 000582 | Raheenmore Bog SAC | 004015 | Rogerstown Estuary SPA |
| 000925 | The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC | 004122 | Skerries Islands SPA |
| 000391 | Ballynafagh Bog SAC | 004025 | Malahide Estuary SPA |
| 001387 | Ballynafagh Lake SAC | 004026 | Dundaik Bay SPA |
| 000206 | North Dublin Bay SAC | 004061 | Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA |
| 000199 | Baldoyle Bay SAC | 004102 | Garriskill Bog SPA |
| 000205 | Malahide Estuary SAC | 004043 | Lough Derraghvarragh SPA |
| 000208 | Rogerstown Estuary SAC | 004044 | Lough Ennell SPA |
| 001459 | Clogher Head SAC | 004014 | Rockabill SPA |
| 000455 | Dundaik Bay SAC | | |

The Qualifying Interests of the European Sites within 15km of the MCDP boundary are presented in Table 2.1.2 below.

Table 2.1.2 Qualifying Interests of European sites within the MCDP's Zone of Influence

| Qualifying Interests of European sites within the zone of influence of the MCDP | |
|--|---|
| Site Name: | Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC |
| Site Code: | 001957 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Estuaries [1130] ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] ▪ Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] ▪ Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330] ▪ Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] ▪ Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120] ▪ Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] |
| <small>Source: (NPWS, 2012) Conservation Objectives: Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC 001957. Version 1.0. (13/10/2012)</small> | |
| Site Name: | River Boyne and Blackwater SAC |
| Site Code: | 002299 |

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|--|--|
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alkaline fens [7230] ▪ 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] ▪ River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099] ▪ Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106] ▪ Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC [002299] (15/08/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Rye Water Valley/Carlton SAC |
| Site Code: | 001398 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220] ▪ Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo angustior</i>) [1014] ▪ Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>) [1016] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2015) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Rye Water Valley/Carlton SAC [001398] (13/02/2015)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Mount Heavy Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 002342 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active raised bogs [7110] ▪ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] ▪ Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150] |
| Source: NPWS (2016) <i>Conservation Objectives: Mount Hevey Bog SAC 002342. Version 1. (21/03/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: / | White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC |
| Site Code: | 001810 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp. [3140] ▪ <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC [001810] (15/08/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC |
| Site Code: | 002120 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp. [3140] ▪ <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC [002120] (15/08/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Killyconny Bog (Cloughbally) SAC |
| Site Code: | 000006 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active raised bogs [7110] ▪ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2015) <i>Conservation Objectives for Killyconny Bog (Cloughbally) SAC [000006] Version 1. (02/11/2015)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Monybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC |
| Site Code: | 002340 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active raised bogs [7110] ▪ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] ▪ Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2015) <i>Conservation Objectives for Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC [002340] Version 1. (25/02/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Boyne Estuary SPA |
| Site Code: | 004080 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] ▪ Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) [A195] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Boyne Estuary SPA 004080</i> . Version 1. (26/02/2013) | |
| Site Name: | River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA |
| Site Code: | 004158 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] ▪ Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA 004158</i> Version 1. (21/09/2012) | |
| Site Name: | Lough Sheelin SPA |
| Site Code: | 004065 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005] ▪ Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059] ▪ Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061] ▪ Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Sheelin SPA [004065]</i> (15/08/2016) | |
| Site Name: | River Boyne and Blackwater SPA |
| Site Code: | 004232 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kingfisher (<i>Alcedo atthis</i>) [A229] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA [004232]</i> (15/08/2016) | |
| Site Name: | Ardagullion Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 002341 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active raised bogs [7110] ▪ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] ▪ Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] |
| Source: NPWS (2015) <i>Conservation Objectives: Ardagullion Bog SAC 002341</i> . Version 1. (06/11/2015) | |
| Site Name: | Garriskil Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 000679 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active raised bogs [7110] ▪ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] ▪ Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] |
| Source: NPWS (2015) <i>Conservation Objectives: Garriskil Bog SAC 000679</i> . Version 1. (02/11/2015) | |
| Site Name: | Lough Lene SAC |
| Site Code: | 002121 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp. [3140] ▪ <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Lene SAC [002121]</i> (15/08/2016) | |
| Site Name: | Lough Ennell SAC |
| Site Code: | 000685 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alkaline fens [7230] |

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| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Enell SAC [000685]</i> (15/08/2016) | |
| Site Name: | Raheenmore Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 000582 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active raised bogs [7110] ▪ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] ▪ Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] |
| Source: NPWS (2015) <i>Conservation Objectives: Raheenmore Bog SAC 000582. Version 1.</i> (02/11/2015) | |
| Site Name: | The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC |
| Site Code: | 000925 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for The Long Derries SAC [000925]</i> (15/08/2016) | |
| Site Name: | Ballynafagh Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 000391 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Active raised bogs [7110] ▪ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] ▪ Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] |
| Source: NPWS (2015) <i>Conservation Objectives: Ballynafagh Bog SAC 000391. Version 1.</i> (10/11/2015) | |
| Site Name: | Ballynafagh Lake SAC |
| Site Code: | 001387 |
| Distance: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alkaline fens [7230] ▪ Vertigo moulinsiana (Desmoulin's Whorl Snail) [1016] ▪ Euphydryas aurinia (Marsh Fritillary) [1065] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Ballynafagh Lake SAC [001387]</i> (15/08/2016) | |
| Site Name: | North Dublin Bay SAC |
| Site Code: | 000206 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] ▪ Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] ▪ Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330] ▪ Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] ▪ Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] ▪ Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120] ▪ Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] ▪ Humid dune slacks [2190] ▪ <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> (Petalwort) [1395] |
| Source: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: North Dublin Bay SAC 000206.</i> (06/11/2013) | |
| Site Name: | Baldoyle Bay SAC |
| Site Code: | 000199 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] ▪ Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330] ▪ Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] |
| Source: NPWS (2012) <i>Conservation Objectives: Baldoyle Bay SAC 000199. Version 1.0.</i> (19/11/2012) | |
| Site Name: | Malahide Estuary SAC |

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| Site Code: | 000205 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] ▪ Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] ▪ Spartina swards (<i>Spartina maritima</i>) [1320] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330] ▪ Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] ▪ Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120] ▪ Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] |
| Source: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Malahide Estuary SAC 000205. (27/05/2013)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Rogerstown Estuary SAC |
| Site Code: | 000208 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Estuaries [1130] ▪ Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] ▪ Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330] ▪ Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] ▪ Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120] ▪ Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] |
| Source: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Rogerstown Estuary SAC 000208. (14/08/2013)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Clogher Head SAC |
| Site Code: | 001459 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230] ▪ European dry heaths [4030] |
| Source: NPWS (2017) <i>Conservation Objectives: Clogher Head SAC 001459. Version 1. (27/01/2017)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Dundalk Bay SAC |
| Site Code: | 000455 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Estuaries [1130] ▪ 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] ▪ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330] ▪ Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] |
| Source: NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives for Dundalk Bay SAC 000455. (19/07/2011)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Stabannan-Braganstown SPA |
| Site Code: | 004091 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Stabannan- Braganstown SPA [004091] (15/08/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | North Bull Island SPA |
| Site Code: | 004006 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] ▪ Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] ▪ Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] ▪ Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] |

| | |
|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] ▪ Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] ▪ Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] ▪ Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2015) <i>Conservation Objectives for North Dublin Bay SPA [004024] Version 1 (09/03/2015)</i> | |
| Site Name: | South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA |
| Site Code: | 004024 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] ▪ Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] ▪ Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] ▪ Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2015) <i>Conservation Objectives for South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA [004024] Version 1 (09/03/2015)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Baldoyle Bay SPA |
| Site Code: | 004016 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] ▪ Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Baldoyle Bay SPA 004016. Version 1. (27/02/2013)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Rogerstown Estuary SPA |
| Site Code: | 004015 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043] ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] ▪ Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] ▪ Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |

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|---|---|
| Source: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Rogerstown Estuary SPA 004015. (20/05/2013)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Skerries Islands SPA |
| Site Code: | 004122 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] ▪ Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>) [A018] ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Purple Sandpiper (<i>Calidris maritima</i>) [A148] ▪ Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] ▪ Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Skerries Islands SPA [004122] (15/08/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Malahide Estuary SPA |
| Site Code: | 004025 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005] ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] ▪ Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] ▪ Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067] ▪ Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069] ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] ▪ Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Malahide Estuary SPA 004025. Version 1. (16/08/2013)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Dundalk Bay SPA |
| Site Code: | 004026 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005] ▪ Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043] ▪ Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] ▪ Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] ▪ Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] ▪ Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053] ▪ Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] ▪ Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065] ▪ Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069] ▪ Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] ▪ Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] ▪ Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] ▪ Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] ▪ Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] ▪ Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] ▪ Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] ▪ Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] ▪ Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] ▪ Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] ▪ Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] ▪ Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] ▪ Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182] ▪ Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: NPWS (2011) <i>Conservation Objectives for Dundalk Bay SAC 004026. (19/07/2011)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA |

| | |
|---|---|
| Site Code: | 004061 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059] ▪ Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA [004061] (15/08/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Garriskill Bog SPA |
| Site Code: | 004102 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Garriskill Bog SPA [004102] (15/08/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Lough Derraghvarragh SPA |
| Site Code: | 004043 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038] ▪ Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059] ▪ Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061] ▪ Coot (Fulica atra) [A125] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Derraghvarragh SPA [004043] (15/08/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Lough Ennell SPA |
| Site Code: | 004044 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059] ▪ Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061] ▪ Coot (Fulica atra) [A125] ▪ Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] |
| Source: (NPWS, 2016) <i>Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Ennell SPA [004044] (15/08/2016)</i> | |
| Site Name: | Rockabill SPA |
| Site Code: | 004014 |
| Qualifying Interests: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Purple Sandpiper (Calidris maritima) [A148] ▪ Roseate Tern (Sterna dougallii) [A192] ▪ Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193] ▪ Arctic Tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194] |
| Source: NPWS (2013) <i>Conservation Objectives: Rockabill SPA 004014. Version 1 (08/05/2013)</i> | |

These European sites were regarded to have viable source-pathway-receptor relationships with the plan area and therefore any likelihood of significant impacts either in isolation or combination with elements of the MCDP or other plans and projects, could not be ruled out immediately.

Sites of national importance were also considered throughout this screening exercise. 14 NHA and 63 pNHA sites are located within the MCDP's zone of influence. These sites are presented in Table 2.1.3 below.

Maps of the pNHA and NHA sites are presented in Figures 2.1 - 2.4 (overleaf). These national sites have been analyzed, including their ecological interests and they were not deemed to have a relationship with the European sites

Table 2.1.3 Natural Heritage Areas within the zone of influence of the MCDP

| Natural Heritage Areas and proposed Natural Heritage Areas within a 15km buffer of the Scheme's Boundary | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Site Code | Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) | Distance from MCDP's Boundary |
| Sites within County Meath | | |
| 001580 | Girley Bog | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001324 | Jamestown Bog | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001582 | Molerick Bog | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 002342 | Mount Heavv Bog | Within MCDP's boundary |
| Sites within 15km buffer of CDP boundary | | |
| 000985 | Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough | 3.97 km |
| 000684 | Lough Derravaragh | 9.34 km |
| 000694 | Wooddown Bog | 12.83 km |
| 002323 | Milltownpass Bog | 2.59 km |
| 000677 | Cloncrow Bog (New Forest) | 13.27 km |
| 000570 | Black Castle Bog | 1.22 km |
| 001388 | Carbury Bog | 6.06 km |
| 001393 | Hodgestown Bog | 8.94 km |
| 001218 | Skerries Islands NHA | 9.49 km |
| 002341 | Ardagullion Bog | 13.64 km |
| Site Code | proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) | |
| Sites within County Meath | | |
| 001594 | Ballyhoe Lough | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001573 | Ballynabarny Fen | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001579 | Balrath Woods | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001957 | Boyne Coast and Estuary | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001862 | Boyne River Islands | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001592 | Boyne Woods | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001558 | Breaky Loughs | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 000552 | Corstown Loughs | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 000553 | Crewbane Marsh | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001576 | Cromwells Bush Fen | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001861 | Dowth Wetland | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001578 | Duleek Commons | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 000006 | Kilconny Bog (Cloghbally) | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001804 | King Williams Glen | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 000554 | Laytown Dunes / Nanny Estuary | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001814 | Lough Naneagh | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 000987 | Lough Sheelin | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001587 | Mentrim Lough | Within MCDP's boundary |

| | | |
|---|---|------------------------|
| 000557 | Rathmoylan Esker | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001589 | Rossnaree Riverbank | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 002103 | Royal Canal | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001398 | Rye Water Valley / Carton | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001591 | Slane Riverbank | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001593 | Thomastown Bog | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001357 | Trim Wetlands | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001810 | White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 000556 | Lough Shesk | Within MCDP's boundary |
| 001594 | Ballyhoe Lough | Within MCDP's boundary |
| Sites within 15km buffer of CDP boundary | | |
| 001203 | Knock Lake | 4.75 km |
| 001204 | Bog of the Ring | 2.53 km |
| 002000 | Loughshinny Coast | 11.47 km |
| 000207 | Rockabill Island | 14.19 km |
| 001616 | Louth Hall and Ardee Woods | 3.74 km |
| 004091 | Strabannan- Braganstown | 7.69 km |
| 001856 | Dunany Point | 13.94 km |
| 001801 | Barmeath Woods | 9.66 km |
| 001454 | Ardee Cutaway Bog | 0.59 km |
| 001805 | Melifont Abbey Woods | 1.05 km |
| 001293 | Blackhall Woods | 5.74 km |
| 000208 | Rogerstown Estuary | 9.15 km |
| 000205 | Malahide Estuary | 8.31 km |
| 001208 | Feltrim Hill | 10.16 km |
| 000199 | Baldoyle Bay | 14.55 km |
| 000178 | Santry Demesne | 7.85 km |
| 000206 | North Dublin Bay | 12.73 km |
| 000128 | Liffey Valley | 2.41 km |
| 000390 | Ballina Bog | 1.54 km |
| 001391 | Donadea Wood | 6.85 km |
| 001387 | Ballynafagh Lake | 10.32 km |
| 000391 | Ballynafagh Bog | 11.18 km |
| 002104 | Grand Canal | 4.94 km |
| 000925 | The Long Derries, Edenderry | 9.12 km |
| 000582 | Raheenmore Bog | 12.91 km |
| 000685 | Lough Ennell | 12.03 km |
| 000690 | Lough Sheever Fen/ Slevin's Lough Complex | 16.42 km |
| 000679 | Garriskil Bog | 15.19 km |
| 000672 | Aghalasty Fen | 2.32 km |
| 000686 | Lough Glore | 1.33 km |
| 000681 | Hill of Mael and the Rock of Curry | 2.99 km |
| 000992 | Lough Gowna | 9.85 km |
| 000008 | Lough Ramor | 2.13 km |
| 001608 | Monalty Lough | 6.18 km |
| 001671 | Spring and Corcrin Lough | 6.98 km |

Figure 2.3. National Sites within 15km of the Meath County Development Plan (2013-2019) Boundary.

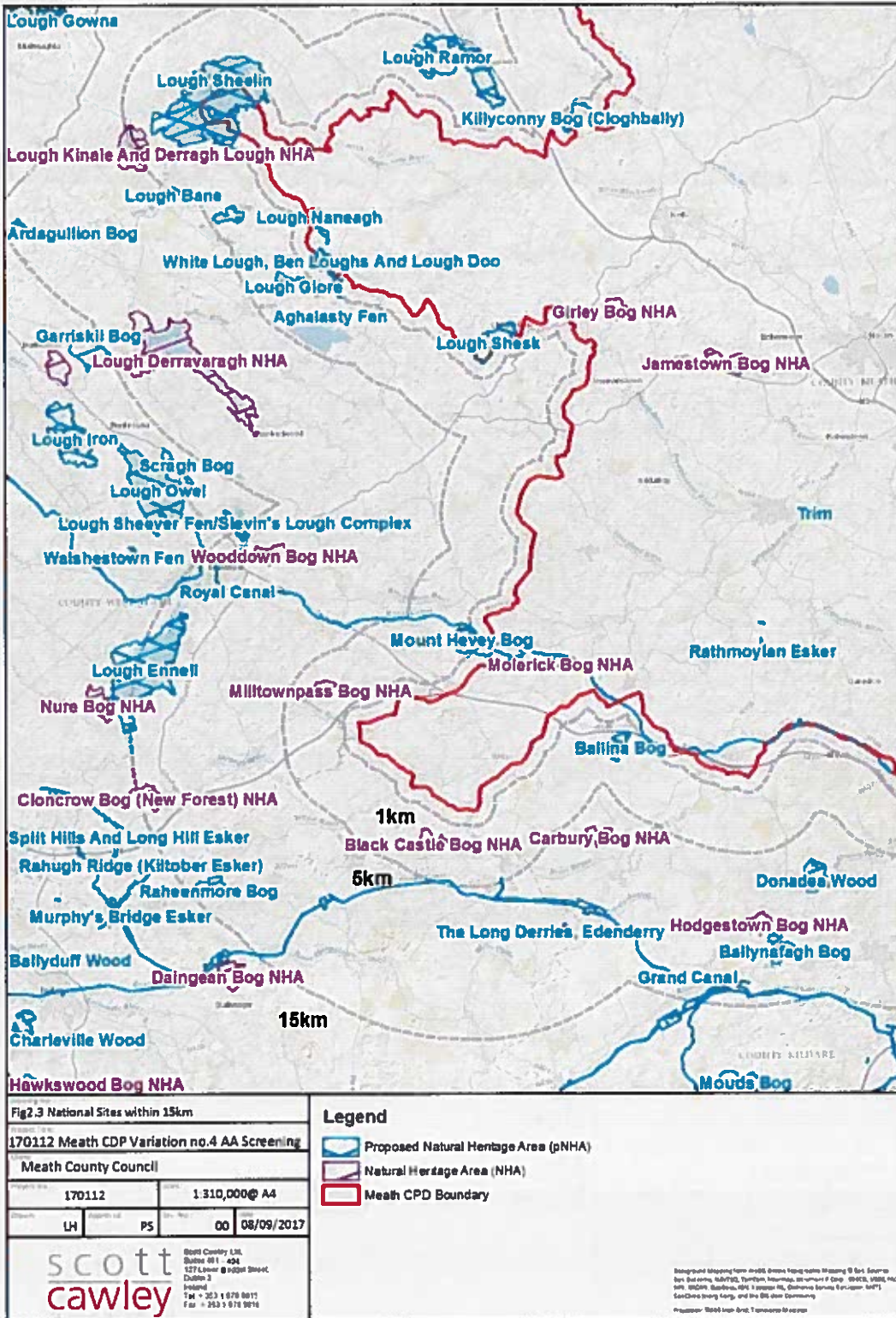


Figure 2.4. National Sites within 15km of the Meath County Development Plan (2013-2019) Boundary.



3.2 Threats and Pressures

The threats to, and pressures on, the integrity of the 39 European sites, as obtained from relevant published NPWS materials are displayed below (Table 2.2.1), followed by generic threats and pressures specific to their Qualifying Interests. None of the threats and pressures listed below would be regarded to be potential consequences of implementing the proposed Plan and its associated variations.

Table 3.2.1 Threats and Pressures

| Threats and Pressures | |
|--|---|
| Site Specific Threats/Pressures: | |
| Site Name: | Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC |
| Site Code: | 001957 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm, cyclone • Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general • Storage of materials • Invasive non-native species • Biocenotic evolution, succession • Urbanised areas, human habitation • Other human intrusions and disturbances • Disposal of inert materials • Pollution to surface waters (limnic, terrestrial, marine & brackish) • Removal of sediments (mud...) • Bridge, viaduct • Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages • Vandalism • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Disposal of household / recreational facility waste • Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits • Off-road motorized driving |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for the Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC [001957]</i> | |
| Site Name: | River Boyne and Blackwater SAC |
| Site Code: | 002299 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other sport / leisure complexes • Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions • Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees • Disposal of industrial waste • Industrial or commercial areas • Roads, motorways • Other discharges • Invasive non-native species • Other human intrusions and disturbances • Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general • Pollution to surface waters (limnic, terrestrial, marine & brackish) |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of hedges and copses or scrub • Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals • Cultivation • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities • Stock feeding • Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits • Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees) • Sand and gravel extraction • Other patterns of habitation • Fertilisation • Storage of materials |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for the River Boyne and Blackwater SAC [002299] | |
| Site Name: | Rye Water Valley / Carton SAC |
| Site Code: | 001398 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertilisation • Grazing • Sylviculture, forestry • Modifying structures of inland water courses • Dispersed habitation • Grazing • Roads, motorways • Fertilisation • Removal of hedges and copses or scrub • Continuous urbanisation |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for the Rye Water Valley/ Carton SAC [001398] | |
| Site Name: | Mount Hevey Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 002342 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general • Invasive non-native species • Mechanical removal of peat • Paths, tracks, cycling tracks • Parasitism • Disposal of household / recreational facility waste • Canalisation & water deviation • Railway lines, TGV • Introduced genetic material, GMO |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Mount Hevey Bog SAC [002342] | |
| Site Name: | White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC |
| Site Code: | 001810 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture activities not referred to above • Trapping, poisoning, poaching • Fertilisation • Disposal of inert materials |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities • Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing • Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC [001810]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC |
| Site Code: | 002120 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of hedges and copses or scrub |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Tullaghanrock Bog SAC [002354]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Killyconny Bog (Cloughbally) SAC |
| Site Code: | 000006 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garbage and solid waste • Forest planting on open ground • Game/ bird breeding station • Fertilisation • Vandalism • Mining and quarrying • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities • Intensive cattle grazing • Paths, tracks, cycling tracks • Fences, fencing • Fire and fire suppression • Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general • Off-road motorized driving |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Kilconny Bog (Cloughbally) SAC [000006]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Monybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC |
| Site Code: | 002340 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other sport / leisure complexes • Hunting • Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions • Forestry clearance • Mechanical removal of peat • Invasive non-native species • Disposal of household / recreational facility waste • Burning down |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Monybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC [002340]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Boyne Estuary SPA |
| Site Code: | 004080 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urbanised areas, human habitation • Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture • Leisure fishing • Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh • Golf course |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Invasive non-native species • Modification of hydrographic functioning, general • Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Boyne Estuary SPA [004080]</i> | |
| Site Name: | River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA |
| Site Code: | 004158 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Continuous urbanisation |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA [004158]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Lough Sheelin SPA |
| Site Code: | 004065 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal breeding, • Fertilisation • Leisure fishing • Sylviculture, forestry |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Lough Sheelin SPA [004065]</i> | |
| Site Name: | River Boyne and Blackwater SPA |
| Site Code: | 004232 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads, motorways • Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions • Dispersed habitation • Urbanised areas, human habitation |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for River Boyne and Blackwater SPA [004232]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Ardagullion Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 002341 |
| Threats/Pressures: | None |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Ardagullion Bog SAC [002341]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Garriskil Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 000679 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry clearance • Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures • Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general • Removal of hedges and copses or scrub • Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing • Removal of hedges and copses or scrub |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Garriskil Bog SAC [000679]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Lough Lene SAC |
| Site Code: | 002121 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters • Fertilisation |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture activities not referred to above • Piers / tourist harbours or recreational piers • Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Lough Lene SAC [002121] | |
| Site Name: | Lough Ennell SAC |
| Site Code: | 000685 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry clearance • Modifying structures of inland water courses • Point source or irregular noise pollution • Hunting • Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters • Paths, tracks, cycling tracks • Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing • Pole fishing • Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities • Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general • Competition • Intensive cattle grazing • Light pollution |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000 Data Form for Lough Ennell SAC [000685] | |
| Site Name: | Raheenmore Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 000582 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing / cutting of grassland • Grazing • Removal of hedges and copses or scrub • Fertilisation • Roads, motorways |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000 Data Form for Raheenmore Bog SAC [000582] | |
| Site Name: | The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC |
| Site Code: | 000925 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest planting on open ground • Dispersed habitation • Sand and gravel extraction • Hunting • Removal of hedges and copses or scrub • Trampling, overuse, • Disposal of inert materials • Motorised vehicles • Roads, motorways • Mechanical removal of peat • Paths, tracks, cycling tracks • Grazing • Railway lines, TGV • Storage of materials |

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| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000 Data Form for The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC [000925] | |
| Site Name: | Ballynafagh Bog SAC |
| Site Code: | 000391 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other patterns of habitation • Improved access to site • Peat extraction • Forest planting on open ground • Other human intrusions and disturbances • Other patterns of habitation • Fire and fire suppression |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000 Data Form for Ballynafagh Bog SAC [000391] | |
| Site Name: | Ballynafagh Lake SAC |
| Site Code: | 001387 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisure fishing • Grazing |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000 Data Form for Ballynafagh Lake SAC [001387] | |
| Site Name: | North Dublin Bay SAC |
| Site Code: | 000206 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisure fishing • Nautical sports • Bait digging / collection • Invasive non-native species • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Urbanised areas, human habitation • Golf course • Grazing • Discharges • Industrial or commercial areas |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000 Data Form for North Dublin Bay SAC [000206] | |
| Site Name: | Baldoyle Bay SAC |
| Site Code: | 000199 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf course • Bait digging / collection • Hunting • Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Discharges • Urbanised areas, human habitation • Roads, motorways • Eutrophication (natural) • Invasive non-native species |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000 Data Form for Baldoyle Bay SAC [000199] | |
| Site Name: | Malahide Estuary SAC |
| Site Code: | 000205 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh • Nautical sports |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urbanised areas, human habitation • Hunting • Fertilisation • Roads, motorways • Golf course |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000 Data Form for Malahide Estuary SAC [000205]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Rogerstown Estuary SAC |
| Site Code: | 000208 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive non-native species • Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh • Fertilisation • Golf course • Grazing • Bait digging / collection • Dispersed habitation • Roads, motorways • Nautical sports • Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals • Discharges • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Erosion |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000 Data Form for Rogerstown Estuary SAC [000208]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Clogher Head SAC |
| Site Code: | 001459 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire and fire suppression • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Factory • Grazing |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000 Data Form for Clogher Head SAC [001459]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Dundalk Bay SAC |
| Site Code: | 000455 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discharges • Grazing • Industrial or commercial areas • Invasive non-native species • Urbanised areas, human habitation • Shipping lanes • Cultivation • Fertilisation • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general • Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits • Leisure fishing |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000 Data Form for Dundalk Bay SAC [000455]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Stabannan-Braganstown SPA |
| Site Code: | 004091 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads, motorways • Grazing |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivation • Fertilisation |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000 Data Form for Stabannan-Braganstown SPA [004091] | |
| Site Name: | North Bull Island SPA |
| Site Code: | 004006 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discharges • Bait digging / collection • Shipping lanes • Nautical sports • Golf course • Continuous urbanization • Other patterns of habitation • Industrial or commercial areas • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Bridge, viaduct • Roads, motorways |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for North Bull Island SPA [004006] | |
| Site Name: | South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA |
| Site Code: | 004024 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nautical sports • Bait digging / collection • Eutrophication (natural) • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Leisure fishing • Urbanised areas, human habitation • Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh • Discharges • Roads, motorways • Industrial or commercial areas |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary [004024] | |
| Site Name: | Baldoyle Bay SPA |
| Site Code: | 004016 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf course • Eutrophication (natural) • Hunting • Roads, motorways • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Urbanised areas, human habitation • Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh • Invasive non-native species • Fertilisation • Bait digging / collection |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for the Baldoyle Bay SPA [004016] | |
| Site Name: | Rogerstown Estuary SPA |
| Site Code: | 004015 |

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| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nautical sports • Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general • Dispersed habitation • Invasive non-native species • Bait digging / collection • Golf course • Grazing • Disposal of industrial waste • Hunting • Disposal of household / recreational facility waste • Fertilisation |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for the Rogerstown Estuary SPA [004015]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Skerries Islands SPA |
| Site Code: | 004122 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for the Skerries Islands SPA [004122]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Malahide Estuary SPA |
| Site Code: | 004025 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railway lines, TGV • Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh • Fertilisation • Paths, tracks, cycling tracks • Railway lines, TGV • Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles • Urbanised areas, human habitation • Invasive non-native species • Nautical sports • Railway lines, TGV • Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh • Industrial or commercial areas |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) <i>NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Malahide Estuary SPA [004025]</i> | |
| Site Name: | Dundalk Bay SPA |
| Site Code: | 004026 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fertilisation ▪ Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general ▪ Leisure fishing ▪ Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits ▪ Dispersed habitation ▪ Nautical sports ▪ Grazing ▪ Industrial or commercial areas ▪ Urbanised areas, human habitation ▪ Shipping lanes ▪ Discharges ▪ Roads, motorways ▪ Invasive non-native species |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Dundalk Bay SPA [004026] | |
| Site Name: | Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA |
| Site Code: | 004061 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hunting ▪ Leisure fishing ▪ Sylviculture, forestry ▪ Animal breeding ▪ Fertilisation |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA [004061] | |
| Site Name: | Garriskill Bog SPA |
| Site Code: | 004102 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forest planting on open ground ▪ Railway lines, TGV ▪ Fire and fire suppression ▪ Modifying structures of inland water courses ▪ Grazing ▪ Restructuring agricultural land holding |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Garriskill Bog SPA [004102] | |
| Site Name: | Lough Derraghvarragh SPA |
| Site Code: | 004043 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sylviculture, forestry ▪ Animal breeding, ▪ Fertilisation ▪ Leisure fishing ▪ Hunting |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Lough Derraghvarragh SPA [004043] | |
| Site Name: | Lough Ennell SPA |
| Site Code: | 004044 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fertilisation ▪ Urbanised areas, human habitation ▪ Nautical sports ▪ Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles ▪ Sylviculture, forestry ▪ Leisure fishing ▪ Hunting ▪ Dynamite |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Lough Ennell SPA [004044] | |
| Site Name: | Rockabill SPA |
| Site Code: | 004014 |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nautical sports ▪ Other forms of transportation and communication |
| Source: (NPWS, undated) NATURA 2000- Standard Data Form for Rockabill SPA [004014] | |
| Threats and Pressures | |
| Habitat Specific Threats/Pressures: | |

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| Habitat Name: | Estuaries [1130] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic and terrestrial, marine and brackish) ▪ Nautical sports ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Bottom culture ▪ Suspension culture ▪ Estuarine and coastal dredging ▪ Other outdoor sports and leisure activities ▪ Piers/ tourist harbours or recreational piers ▪ Slipways |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic and terrestrial, marine and brackish) ▪ Nautical sports ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Bottom culture ▪ Suspension culture ▪ Hand collection ▪ Estuarine and coastal dredging ▪ Other outdoor sports and leisure activities |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agriculture activities not referred to above ▪ Removal of beach materials ▪ Piers/ tourist harbours or recreational piers ▪ Walking/horseriding and non-motorised vehicles ▪ Off-road motorised driving ▪ Other human intrusions and disturbances ▪ Trampling, overuse ▪ Intensive maintenance of public parks/ cleaning of beaches ▪ Garbage and solid waste ▪ Dumping, depositing of dredged deposits ▪ Sea defence or coast protection works, tidal barges ▪ Reduction or loss of specific habitat features ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Erosion ▪ Silting up ▪ Intensive cattle grazing |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters ▪ Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh ▪ Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general ▪ Walking/horseriding and non-motorised vehicles ▪ Intensive sheep grazing ▪ Species composition change (succession) ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intensive cattle grazing ▪ Paths, tracks and cycle tracks ▪ Erosion ▪ Modification of hydrographic functioning, general ▪ Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intensive grazing ▪ Sand and gravel extraction ▪ Paths, tracks and cycle tracks ▪ Disposal of household/ recreational facility waste ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Sport and leisure structures ▪ Trampling, overuse ▪ Intensive maintenance of public parks/ cleaning of beaches ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Estuarine and coastal dredging ▪ Sea defence and coastal protection works, tidal barrages ▪ Erosion ▪ Species composition change (succession) ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions ▪ Fences, fencing |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intensive grazing ▪ Sand and gravel extraction ▪ Paths, tracks and cycle tracks ▪ Disposal of household/ recreational facility waste |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Sport and leisure structures ▪ Trampling, overuse ▪ Intensive maintenance of public parks/ cleaning of beaches ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Estuarine and coastal dredging ▪ Sea defence and coastal protection works, tidal barrages ▪ Erosion ▪ Species composition change (succession) ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions ▪ Fences, fencing |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |
| Habitat Name: | Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural intensification ▪ Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing ▪ Forest and plantation management and use ▪ Trampling, overuse ▪ Garbage and solid waste ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Sea defence and coastal protection works, tidal barrages ▪ Species composition change (succession) ▪ Intensive grazing ▪ Sand and gravel extraction ▪ Roads, paths and railroads ▪ Discontinuous urbanisation ▪ Disposal of household/ recreational facility waste ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Sport and leisure structures ▪ Erosion ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |
| Habitat Name: | Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intensive cattle grazing ▪ Paths, tracks, cycling tracks ▪ Erosion ▪ Modification of hydrographic functioning, general ▪ Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits |

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| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Humid dune slacks [2190] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural intensification ▪ Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing ▪ Intensive grazing ▪ Forest and plantation management and use ▪ Sand and gravel extraction ▪ Roads, paths and railroads ▪ Discontinuous urbanisation ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Sport and leisure structures ▪ Trampling, overuse ▪ Invasive, non-native species ▪ Sea defence or coast protection works, tidal barrages ▪ Species composition change (succession) ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions ▪ Erosion ▪ Disposal of household/ recreational facility waste |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Spartina swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>) [1320] |
| Threats/Pressures: | Not available |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sand and gravel extraction ▪ Removal of beach materials ▪ Pipe lines ▪ Disposal of inert materials ▪ Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles ▪ Trampling, overuse ▪ Garbage and solid waste ▪ Other forms of pollution ▪ Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general ▪ Sea defence or coast protection works, tidal barrages ▪ Changes in abiotic condition |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Sand and gravel extraction |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sea defence or coast protection works, tidal barrages ▪ Paths, tracks, cycling tracks ▪ Sea-level changes ▪ Non-intensive sheep grazing ▪ Railway lines, TGV ▪ Slipways ▪ Piers/ tourist harbours or recreational piers ▪ Discharges ▪ Disposal of household/ recreational facility waste ▪ Disposal of industrial waste ▪ Structures, buildings in the landscape ▪ Other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters ▪ Collapse of terrain, landslide ▪ Flooding and rising precipitations |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |
| <p>Habitat Name:</p> | <p>European dry heaths [4030]</p> |
| <p>Threats/Pressures:</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural intensification ▪ Non-intensive cattle grazing ▪ Non-intensive sheep grazing ▪ Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing ▪ Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees) ▪ Mining and quarrying ▪ Wind energy production ▪ Roads, paths and railroads ▪ Dispersed habitation ▪ Walking, horse riding and non-motorised vehicles ▪ Off-road motorised driving ▪ Fences, fencing ▪ Air pollution, air borne pollutants ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Problematic native species ▪ Burning down ▪ Erosion ▪ Damage by herbivores (including game species) ▪ Collapse of terrain, landslide ▪ Species composition change (succession) ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions ▪ Changes in biotic conditions |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |

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| Habitat Name: | Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp. [3140] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agriculture and forestry activities ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities ▪ Pollution to surface waters by industrial plants ▪ Diffuse groundwater pollution due to non-sewered population ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to other sources not listed ▪ Pollution to surface waters by storm overflows ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters ▪ Surface water abstractions for public water supply ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Active raised bogs* [7110] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water abstractions from groundwater ▪ Peat extraction ▪ Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees) ▪ Fire and fire suppression ▪ Mining and quarrying ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Problematic native species ▪ Grazing ▪ Motorised vehicles |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water abstractions from groundwater ▪ Peat extraction ▪ Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees) ▪ Fire and fire suppression ▪ Mining and quarrying ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Problematic native species ▪ Grazing ▪ Motorised vehicles |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-intensive sheep grazing |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Artificial planting on open ground (non-native species) ▪ Hand cutting of peat ▪ Mechanical removal of peat ▪ Air pollution, air-borne pollutants ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Burning down existing vegetation ▪ Water abstractions from groundwater ▪ Erosion ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions ▪ Changes in biotic conditions |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |
| Habitat Name: | Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites)* [6210] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Species composition change (succession) ▪ Problematic native species ▪ Fertilisation ▪ Intensive cattle grazing ▪ Walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles ▪ Garbage and solid waste ▪ Intensive horse grazing ▪ Stock feeding ▪ Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing ▪ Agricultural intensification |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |
| Habitat Name: | Alkaline fens [7230] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water abstractions from groundwater ▪ Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh ▪ Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities ▪ Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing ▪ Water abstractions from surface water ▪ Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Diffuse surface pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities ▪ Peat extraction ▪ Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees) ▪ Agricultural intensification ▪ Restructuring agricultural land holding ▪ Roads, motorways ▪ Disposal of household/ recreational facility waste |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Problematic native species ▪ Garbage and solid waste ▪ Grazing in forests/ woodland |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Habitat Name: | Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general ▪ Abandonment of pastoral systems ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities ▪ Trampling, over-use ▪ Roads, motorways ▪ Intensive grazing ▪ Water abstractions from groundwater ▪ Surface water abstractions for agriculture ▪ Collapse of terrain, landslide ▪ Intensive maintenance of public parks, cleaning of beaches ▪ Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures ▪ Continuous urbanisation ▪ Other outdoor sports and leisure activities ▪ Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees) ▪ Speleology ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Disposal of household/ recreational facility waste ▪ Other sport/leisure complexes ▪ Groundwater pollution by leakages from waste disposal sites |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Species Specific Threats/Pressures: | |
| Species Name: | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roads, motorways ▪ Professional passive fishing ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish) |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3. Version 1.1.</i> | |

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| Species Name: | Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural intensification ▪ Intensive sheep grazing ▪ Fertilisation ▪ Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees) ▪ Forest replanting (non-native trees) ▪ Use of fertilisers (forestry) ▪ Peat extraction ▪ Disposal of household/ recreational facility waste ▪ Disposal of industrial waste ▪ Intensive fish farming, intensification ▪ Poaching ▪ Pollution to surface waters by industrial plants ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Modification of hydrographic functioning, general ▪ Water abstraction from surface waters ▪ Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes ▪ Predation ▪ Threats and pressures from outside the Member State |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Species Name: | Marsh Fritillary (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>) [1065] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural intensification ▪ Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing ▪ Species composition change (succession) ▪ Forest planting on open ground ▪ Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures ▪ Anthropogenic reduction of habitat connectivity ▪ Peat extraction |
| Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3. Version 1.1.</i> | |
| Species Name: | White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Leisure fishing ▪ Dredging/ removal of limnic sediments ▪ Management of aquatic and bankside vegetation of drainage purposes ▪ Introduction of disease (microbial pathogens) |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic and terrestrial, marine and brackish) |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |
| Species Name: | River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dredging/ removal of limnic sediments ▪ Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits ▪ Reduction in migration/ migration barriers ▪ Other point source pollution to surface water ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities ▪ Bait digging/ collection |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |
| Species Name: | Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo angustior</i>) [1014] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing ▪ Intensive grazing ▪ Car parks and parking areas ▪ Stock feeding ▪ Intensive sheep grazing ▪ Paths, tracks and cycling tracks ▪ Camping and caravans ▪ Modification of hydrographic functioning, general |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |
| Species Name: | Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>) [1016] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abandonment of pastoral systems, lack of grazing ▪ Shipping lanes ▪ Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh ▪ Species composition change (succession) ▪ Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits ▪ Dredging/ removal of limnic sediments ▪ Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes ▪ Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |
| Species Name: | Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) [1395] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No threats or pressures |
| <p>Source: (NPWS, 2013) <i>The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3. Version 1.1.</i></p> | |

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| Species Name: | Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities • Utility and service lines • Renewable abiotic energy use • modification of cultivation practices • Agriculture activities not referred to above • Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture • Other human intrusions and disturbances • Marine water pollution • Other forms of pollution • invasive non-native species • Other ecosystem modifications |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions ▪ Other ecosystem modifications |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions ▪ Other ecosystem modifications |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions ▪ Marine water pollution |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions ▪ Other ecosystem modifications |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions ▪ Other ecosystem modifications |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions ▪ Other ecosystem modifications |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Changes in biotic conditions ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish) ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial) ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Other forms of pollution |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Other ecosystem modifications ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |

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| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ human induced changes in hydraulic conditions ▪ Other ecosystem modifications ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Roads, paths and railroads |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Roads, paths and railroads |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) [A043] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ modification of cultivation practices ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial) ▪ Utility and service lines ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Other forms of pollution ▪ Agriculture activities not referred to above |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial) ▪ Marine water pollution |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>) [A018] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Marine water pollution |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Purple Sandpiper (<i>Calidris maritima</i>) [A148] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Other ecosystem modifications ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) [A184] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish) ▪ Marine water pollution |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Marine water pollution |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |

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| Species Name: | Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Other ecosystem modifications |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>) [A059] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish) ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial) ▪ Changes in biotic conditions ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Other forms of pollution |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) [A038] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Utility and service lines ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Modification of cultivation practices ▪ Agriculture activities not referred to above ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Other forms of pollution |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Changes in biotic conditions ▪ Modification of cultivation practices ▪ Annual and perennial non-timber crops ▪ 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 ▪ Grazing ▪ Agriculture activities not referred to above ▪ Forest planting on open ground ▪ Other forms of pollution |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interspecific faunal relations ▪ Changes in abiotic conditions |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Other ecosystem modifications |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Invasive non-native species ▪ Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No known threats or pressures |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial) ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish) ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Other forms of pollution |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Marine and freshwater aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Modifications of cultivation practices |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marine and freshwater aquaculture ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions ▪ Other ecosystem modifications ▪ Modification of cultivation practices |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No known threats or pressures |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) [A053] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No known threats or pressures |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>) [A061] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No known threats or pressures |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>) [A065] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No known threats or pressures |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) [A067] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Changes in biotic conditions ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish) ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial) ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Marine and freshwater aquaculture ▪ Other forms of pollution |
| Source: | |
| http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No known threats or pressures |

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| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |
| Species Name: | Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] |
| Threats/Pressures: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities ▪ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial) ▪ Renewable abiotic energy use ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish) ▪ Marine water pollution ▪ Other forms of pollution ▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions |
| Source: http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/Converters/run_conversion?file=ie/eu/art12/envuvesya/IE_birds_reports-14328-144944.xml&conv=343&source=remote#A206_B | |

4 PROTECTIVE POLICIES & OBJECTIVES CONTAINED WITHIN THE MEATH COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (2013-2019)

The following “protective” policies and objectives were extracted from the Meath County Development Plan (2013-2019). They are regarded as the strategic policies and objectives for the County. Protective measures contained in the County Development Plan, which set out to protect ecological networks and resources will, help to prevent any adverse effects on European sites (and their supporting networks) which may arise as a result of implementing the proposed Variation No. 4 to the MCDP.

Chapter 4: Economic Development Strategy

ED POL 12: *“To ensure any port related development proposals are subject to full environmental assessment including Strategic E DSnvironmental Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment, as required”.*

ED POL 18: *“To recognise and develop the full potential of biomass for energy production and manufacturing including the export of green electricity to the national grid. The Development Plan acknowledges that such enterprises are more readily accommodated in rural areas due to the extent of lands required to ensure security of supply of raw materials and that proximity to the medium to high voltage national electricity transmission network for green electricity exportation is a key locational consideration for development proposers. All proposals for biomass energy production and manufacturing will require screening to determine if a full Appropriate Assessment of the likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites, is required”.*

ED POL 30: *“To promote the development of sustainable tourism and encourage the provision of a comprehensive range of tourism facilities, subject to satisfactory location, siting and design criteria, the protection of environmentally sensitive areas and areas identified as sensitive landscapes in the Landscape Character Assessment for the county”.*

ED POL 43: *“To support developments which will enable and encourage countryside recreation and an increased appreciation of the natural environment, through facilitating the development of community walks, off road trails / rural trail developments, parks and other outdoor amenities and recreational infrastructure. All proposals will require screening to determine if a full Appropriate Assessment of the likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites, is required”.*

Chapter 5: Social Strategy

SOC POL 38: *“To protect the integrity of Natura 2000 sites during the identification of suitable sites for recreation, in particular in terms of their design and use”.*

Chapter 6: Transportation

TRAN OBJ 8: *“To promote and explore the development of the following linkages within the lifetime of the Development Plan subject to the appropriate environmental assessments, including Appropriate Assessment of the likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EC Habitats Directive;*

(i) To explore the feasibility of developing former disused transportation corridors for cycle / greenways.

- (ii) To provide the development of a cycle / greenway on the disused Navan – Kingscourt rail line in conjunction with Cavan County Council subject to the completion of a feasibility study obtaining the necessary statutory planning consent, landowner co-operation and the securing of the necessary funding.**
- (iii) To provide for the development of the Trim – Navan – Slane – Drogheda cycle / greenway along the River Boyne subject to obtaining the necessary statutory planning consent, the carrying out of Appropriate Assessment, landowner cooperation and the securing of the necessary funding.**
- (iv) To develop a system of cycle / greenways, subject to the availability of resources, along the banks of the Boyne and Blackwater Rivers, in such a manner so as not to significantly negatively impact on the conservation status of the Natura 2000 site either alone or in combination with other objectives in this or other plans.**
- (v) To explore the development of the following cycle/greenway options as part of the Dublin Galway cycle network a) along the Royal Canal located within the administrative area of Meath County Council in consultation with relevant agencies or b) along the former N4 (R148) located within the administrative area of Meath County Council in consultation with relevant agencies or c) Combinations of the above”.**

TRAN OBJ 9: “To encourage pedestrian access to certain areas of Natura 2000 sites for their appreciation and in a manner so as not to impact negatively on the sites’ integrity or long term conservation status”.

TRAN POL 32: “To ensure that all road plans and project proposals in the County which could, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, undergo an Appropriate Assessment in accordance with Article 6 (3) of the EC Habitats Directive”.

Chapter 7: Water, Drainage and Environmental Services

WS SO 4: “To upgrade existing water and wastewater facilities, where deficient, in order to meet the Drinking Water Regulations, the Urban Wastewater Directives/Regulations, the discharge license regulations and the EU Water Framework Directive, or any future amendment thereof”.

WS SO 5: “To develop a Water Services Strategic Plan under Section 36 of the Water Services Act 2007, to ensure that adequate provision of drinking water and wastewater treatment is made to meet existing and future planned development needs in the County”.

WS SO 7: “To undertake Appropriate Assessment of the likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EC Habitats Directive for proposals for the abstraction of water from Natura 2000 sites”.

WS SO 8: “To ensure that in so far as is reasonably practicable, waste water treatment plants are operated in compliance with their Waste Water Discharge Licenses / Certificates of Authorisation, in order to protect water quality”.

WS POL 34: *“To consult, where necessary, with Inland Fisheries Ireland, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and other relevant agencies in the construction of flood alleviation measures in County Meath”.*

WS OBJ 13: *“To design flood relief measures to protect the conservation objectives of Natura 2000 sites and to avoid indirect impacts of conflict with other qualifying interests or Natura 2000 sites”.*

WS OBJ 15: *“To seek to ensure that construction works are designed so as not to result in surface water runoff into cSAC or SPAs either directly or indirectly via a watercourse”.*

Chapter 8: Energy and Communications

EC POL 18: *“To generally avoid the location of overhead lines in Natura 2000 sites unless it can be proven that they will not affect the integrity of the site in view of its conservation objectives i.e. by carrying out an appropriate assessment in accordance with Article 6(3) of the E.C. Habitats Directive”.*

EC OBJ 1: *“To ensure that all plans and projects associated with the generation or supply of energy or telecommunication networks will be subject to an Appropriate Assessment Screening and those plans or projects which could, either individually or in-combination with other plans and projects, have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site (or sites) undergo a full Appropriate Assessment”.*

Chapter 9: Cultural and Natural Assets

CSA SP 2: *“To ensure that features of Meath’s natural heritage and green infrastructure that provide ecosystem services are protected; that biodiversity is conserved and where possible enhanced, and; that the character of landscapes are maintained and enriched, and that tourist and recreational uses are facilitated in a sensitive manner”.*

CSA SP 4: *“To implement, in partnership with the County Meath Heritage Forum, relevant stakeholders and the community, the County Meath Heritage Plan and any revisions thereof”.*

NH POL 1: *“To protect, conserve, and seek to enhance the County’s biodiversity”.*

NH OBJ 1: *“To implement, in partnership with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, relevant stakeholders and the community, the objectives and actions of Actions for Biodiversity 2011-2016; Ireland’s National Biodiversity Plan that relate to the remit and functions of Meath County Council and the County Meath Biodiversity Plan and any revisions thereof”.*

NH POL 5: *“To permit development on or adjacent to designated Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, National Heritage Area or those proposed to be designated over the period of the plan, only where an assessment carried out to the satisfaction of the Meath County Council, in consultation with National Parks and Wildlife Service, indicates that it will have no significant adverse effect on the integrity of the site”.*

NH POL 6: *“To have regard to the views and guidance of the National Parks and Wildlife Service in respect of proposed development where there is a possibility that such development may have an impact on a designated European or National site or a site proposed for such designation”.*

NH POL 7: *“To undertake appropriate surveys and collect data to provide an evidence-base to assist Meath County Council in meeting its obligations under Article 6 of the Habitats Directives, subject to available resources”.*

NH OBJ 2: *“To ensure an Appropriate Assessment in accordance with Article 6(3) and Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, and in accordance with the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities, 2009 and relevant EPA and European Commission guidance documents, is carried out in respect of any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site(s), either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of the site’s conservation objectives”.*

NH OBJ 3: *“To protect and conserve the conservation value of candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, National Heritage Areas and proposed Natural Heritage Areas as identified by the Minister for the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and any other sites that may be proposed for designation during the lifetime of this Plan”.*

GI OBJ 3: *“To encourage, pursuant to Article 10 of the Habitats Directive, the management of features of the landscape, such as traditional field boundaries, important for the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network and essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species”.*

NH POL 8: *“To seek to ensure that development does not have a significant adverse impact, incapable of satisfactory avoidance or mitigation, on plant, animal or bird species protected by law”.*

NH POL 11: *“To seek to ensure that peatland areas which are designated (or proposed for designation) as NHAs, SACs or SPAs are conserved for their ecological, archaeological, cultural and educational significance”.*

NH OBJ 4: *“To work in partnership with relevant stakeholders on a suitable peatland site(s) to demonstrate best practice in sustainable peatland conservation, management and restoration techniques and to promote their heritage and educational value subject to Ecological Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Screening as appropriate”.*

NH POL 13: *“To encourage the retention of hedgerows and other distinctive boundary treatments in rural areas and prevent loss and fragmentation, where possible. Where removal of a hedgerow, stone wall or other distinctive boundary treatment is unavoidable, mitigation by provision of the same type of boundary will be required”.*

NH OBJ 10: *“To undertake conservation works in accordance with best practice on the coastal dune systems subject to ecological impact assessment and Appropriate Assessment Screening as appropriate”.*

NH POL 26: *“To require that development proposal, on both designated and undesignated sites, enhance and appropriately integrate with the natural environment, respecting and complementing the habitats, biodiversity, landscape and natural heritage of the area”.*

Chapter 10: Rural Development

RUR DEV SO 9: *“To ensure that plans and projects associated with rural development will be subject to an Appropriate Assessment Screening and those plans or projects which could, either individually or in-combination with other plans and projects, have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site (or sites) undergo a full Appropriate Assessment”.*

RD POL 16: *“To promote forestry development of appropriate scale and character whilst ensuring that the development does not have a negative visual impact on the countryside or cause pollution or degradation to wildlife habitats, natural waters or areas of ecological importance”.*

RD POL 18: *“To promote the avoidance of deforestation or commercial afforestation within Natura 2000 sites unless directly relating to the management of the site for its qualifying interests”.*

RD POL 21: *“To ensure that projects associated with the extractive industry carry out screening for Appropriate Assessment in accordance with Article 6(3) of the E.C. Habitats Directive, where required”.*

RD POL 27: *“To ensure that development for aggregates / mineral extraction, processing and associated processes does not significantly impact in the following areas:*

- i. Existing & Proposed Special Areas of Conservation (SACs);*
- ii. Special Protection Areas (SPAs);*
- iii. Natural Heritage Areas and Proposed Natural Heritage Areas;*
- iv. Other areas of importance for the conservation of flora and fauna;*
- v. Areas of significant archaeological potential;*
- vi. In the vicinity of a recorded monument, and;*
- vii. Sensitive landscapes.*
- viii. World Heritage Sites”.*

RD POL 52: *“To ensure wastewater treatment plants discharging into the Boyne catchment or to coastal Natura 2000 sites are suitably maintained and upgraded in advance of any additional loadings beyond their capacity in order to protect water quality, as required”.*

RD POL 53: *“To promote good practice with regard to the siting and design of septic tanks and the maintenance of existing tanks. A high level of scrutiny will be placed on applications within 2km of watercourses in the Boyne catchment. Proposals in this area shall not have an adverse impact on local water quality that could affect the qualifying interests of the cSAC and SPA”.*

5 CONCLUSION OF THE SCREENING PROCESS

Following an examination, analysis and evaluation of the relevant information, including in particular, the nature of the Variation and its potential relationship with European sites, as well as considering other plans and projects, and applying the precautionary principle, it is the professional opinion of the authors of this report that it is possible to rule out likely significant effects on all European sites. This judgement has been reached for the reason outlined below.

The AA screening process has identified that 39 European Sites lie within the potential zone of influence of the proposed Variation. European Sites are not deemed to be at risk of likely significant effects from the proposed Variation. While linkages between the European sites and the CDP area do exist, the absence of a source of an impact is regarded as the limiting factor in this situation. The Variation will not result in any changes to zonings of land and merely outlines the approach the Council will take to vacant sites within the CDP area, upon adoption of the variation. Therefore, no source for potential impacts on European sites exist.

For this reason, it is the professional opinion of the authors of this report that the proposed Variation No. 4 to the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 does not require an Appropriate Assessment.

However, the authors of this report acknowledge that it is for Meath County Council, as the competent authority, to carry out a screening for AA and to reach one of the following determinations:

- a) AA of the proposed development is required if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European sites;
- b) AA of the proposed development is not required if it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European sites.

Meath County Council will be required to issue a determination as to whether they are of the opinion that there are likely significant effects of the implementation of Variation No. 4 independently and in combination with other plans and projects. This determination will be published alongside the Adopted Variation No. 4.

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