



18<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Mr. Vincent O'Malley,  
Transport Infrastructure Ireland,

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**Re: Submission of Natura Impact Statement to the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media pursuant to the requirements of Regulation 42(9)(c) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (as amended).**

*Boherduff Bridge (MO-N17-012.00), County Mayo*

Dear Mr. O'Malley,

The Department is in receipt of your email dated 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 in respect of Boherduff Bridge (MO-N17-012.00), Co. Mayo and has reviewed the Natura Impact Statement (NIS) referred to the Minister in this regard. The Department notes that the site is hydrologically linked to Lough Carra/Mask Complex Special Area of Conservation (SAC 001774), 53km downstream.

#### Matters related to Appropriate Assessment

The Department considers the assessment carried out in the NIS to be satisfactory and notes the mitigation measures proposed to ensure that the proposed project will not have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site alone or in combination with other plans or projects. The Department advises that these measures be fully incorporated into the project at implementation phase, and that they must be carried out in full as part of project implementation.

#### General Ecological Concerns

The Department notes that the proposed works will be carried out between July 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> inclusive. The Department highlights that this is within the nesting period for

**An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra,**  
**90 Sráid an Rí Thuaidh, Margadh na Feirme, Baile Átha Cliath 7, D07 N7CV**  
National Parks and Wildlife Service,  
90 North King Street, Smithfield, Dublin 7, D07 N7CV

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birds (1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> August). The Department recommends that nest searches are carried out prior to commencement of works.

It is important to highlight that the Grey Wagtail (Red listed Bird of Conservation Concern in Ireland (BoCCI)) nests within river banks and under bridges. Kingfisher (Annex I species under the EU Birds Directive and Amber-listed BoCCI) breed in vertical banks along streams and rivers.

Yours sincerely,

Gerry Clabby  
Head of Ecological Assessment

