

[REDACTED]

From: O'Malley Vincent
Sent: Monday 23 May 2022 16:22
To: Nea Christian
Cc: Phelan Sarah-Jane; Watt Robbie
Subject: RE: Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

Christian,
Having reviewed the email and attachments, I accept the reasoned determination as set out below.
Sincerely
Vincent

From: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday 20 May 2022 09:57
To: O'Malley Vincent <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Phelan Sarah-Jane <[REDACTED]>; Watt Robbie <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

Vincent,
Having reviewed the information contained within this email chain and having regard to the minor nature and extent of the works, I recommend that the following reasoned determination can be made:

“Having performed screening for Appropriate Assessment in respect of the proposed reactive maintenance works detailed in the email chain initiated by the email received from Paul O’Donoghue dated the 27th of April 2022, and entitled ‘Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).’, I accept the recommendations of Atkins that the proposed reactive maintenance works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site in view of the best scientific knowledge and the site’s conservation objectives. I determine that an Appropriate Assessment of these proposed works is not required, as it can be excluded on the basis of objective scientific information following the screening done that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European site.”

Kind regards,
Christian.

From: Watt Robbie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 19 May 2022 17:19
To: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Cc: O'Malley Vincent <[REDACTED]>; Phelan Sarah-Jane <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

Hi Christian,

The additional information provided further supports the conclusion that the works will not result in LSE on any European sites.

Thanks,

Robbie

From: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday 19 May 2022 10:26
To: Watt Robbie <[REDACTED]>
Cc: O'Malley Vincent <[REDACTED]>; Phelan Sarah-Jane <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

Hi Robbie,
Could you please give me your view on this when you get a chance?

Kind regards,

Christian.

From: O'Donoghue, Paul <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday 16 May 2022 10:04
To: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Watt Robbie <[REDACTED]>; Phelan Sarah-Jane <[REDACTED]>; Daly, Vincent <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

Christian

No problem. See answers below.

- Yes works will only be undertaken during daylight. They will take 3-4 days to complete. There will be no requirement for lighting.
- The roadside parapet to be repaired does not include suitable crevices for bats – as can be seen on the accompanying photos it is tightly mortared with no crevices. The bridge was surveyed for bats in 2020. Crevices were identified for retention under the arch - I've attached the bat report from 2020 which includes some photos. Note also that Lesser horseshoe bats are free-hanging when in a roost, so they do not use small crevices in bridge masonry as other bat species do (such as Daubenton's bat). No works to the arch of the bridge etc. are to be undertaken. A daytime torch survey for roosting bats on the roadside parapet was therefore not deemed necessary.
- All works are to be undertaken on the road / embankment above the river. The damaged area of parapet is restricted to the roadside parapet, which is largely over the riverbank rather than the river. (see attached photos). Apart from recovery of some fallen stone there is no reason for workers to enter the river. While Otter prints were noted under the arch during the 2020 bat survey, no further evidence of Otter was noted. As noted works will only be during daytime. There are no works within the river that might impeded passage by Otter along the river. Works will be of short duration; 3-4 days.

Don't hesitate to give me a call if you have any questions.

Paul

From: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 2022-05-13 12:40
To: O'Donoghue, Paul <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Watt Robbie <[REDACTED]>; Phelan Sarah-Jane <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

Hi Paul,

Apologies for the delay in relation to this issue – I overlooked Robbie’s email in my in-tray. I would be grateful if you could provide responses to Robbie’s queries highlighted below.

Kind regards,

Christian.

From: Watt Robbie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday 4 May 2022 10:49
To: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Phelan Sarah-Jane <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

Hi Christian,

Comment from Atkins on the following points could be useful to assist the reasoned determination:

- What is the anticipated duration of the works and will works only be undertaken during daylight hours?
- Signs of otter were noted. Were any potential otter resting sites recorded?
- What were the results of the daytime torch survey for roosting bats on the bridge crevice’s?

Assuming that the works will be of short duration (max c. 7 days) undertaken during daylight hours, no natal otter holts are present within the ZoI and the bridge crevices did not support roosting lesser horseshoe bats a conclusion of no LSEs is reasonable. Further comment below.

The bridge is c. 700m upstream of the Kenmare River SAC. Potential effects pathways exist via pollution of the watercourse and disturbance/displacement of qualifying interests otter and lesser horseshoe bat. These potential effects are discussed below:

- Pollutants released during the works effecting habitats and species, whether in the SAC or in potential supporting habitat of the Owreagh River – there is negligible potential for the works to release pollutants into the watercourse. The works will be undertaken by hand using stone and mortar. The section of the bridge to be repaired is not directly above the watercourse. No LSEs are anticipated
- Disturbance/displacement of otter - As works will be temporary and undertaken during daylight hours commuting otter will not be discouraged from using the watercourse. While signs of otter were recorded no potential resting sites were noted. No LSEs are anticipated.
- Disturbance/displacement of lesser horseshoe bats - The 2020 bat survey determined that no dawn/dusk bat surveys were required but noted crevice features under the bridge that may be used by single roosting bats. No roosting bats were recorded in a subsequent torch survey of the crevices (TBC).

Thanks,

Robbie

From: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday 27 April 2022 11:28
To: Watt Robbie <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Phelan Sarah-Jane <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

Hi Robbie,
I’d be grateful if you could review below.

Kind regards,

Christian.

From: O'Donoghue, Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 April 2022 09:48
To: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

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Christian

Re. Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00).

In accordance with the Munster Bridge Term Maintenance Contract No. 3, Clause 4.18 the Contractor has been asked to undertake repairs to the damaged parapet at Lomanagh South Bridge (KY-N70-050.00) – see Figure 1. The damage is to the same area as was Screened in October 2021 and subsequently repaired.

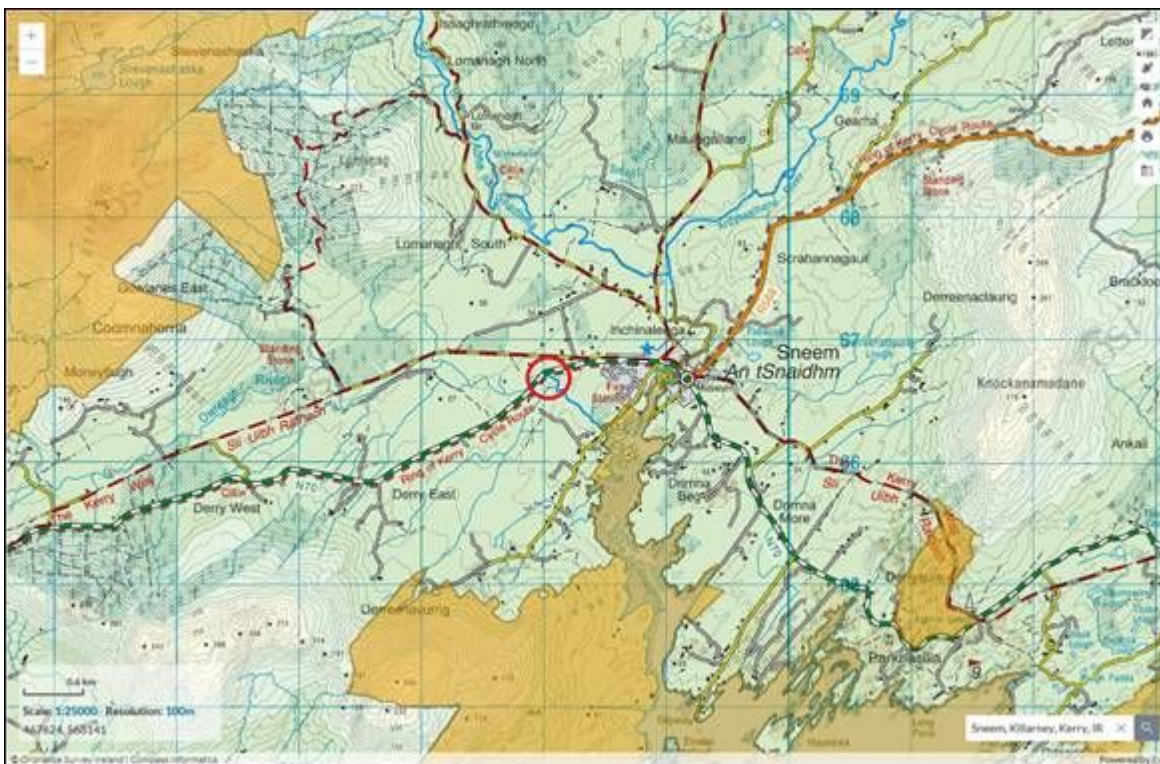


Figure 1 Location of Lomanagh South Bridge [Source: NBDC mapviewer].

Proposed Works

As you can see in the attached photographs, following a vehicle impact, a section of parapet have been damaged. The proposed repair is a like for like rebuild measuring 2.2m long x 1.02m high x 0.43m deep. A like for like masonry repair is required matching the existing coping. The masonry debris is to be removed from the river bed in front of the wall and where possible reused in the repair. Where not possible similar stone will be sourced for use on site. The damaged warning sign is also to be replaced.

The areas noted above are to be taken down and fully rebuilt. Repointing of displacement cracks caused by the impact is not acceptable.

Proposed work methods are as follows: -

- Set up TTMP as per plan. The road will be reduced to one lane over the area of works. We will use the closed off lane to temporarily store materials for the duration of the works.
- Safety barriers and cones to be placed around the works area.
- Set up scaffold around works area (CSCS certified). Scaffold legs will be kept out of the water.
- Once the scaffold is complete sheets of plywood will be fixed to the scaffold planks to bridge the gap between the scaffold and parapet. The plywood will then be covered in a geo-textile to ensure no rubble or mortar enters the watercourse.
- Damaged stone will be removed by hand in controlled manner. Old stone will be retained and re-used where possible.
- Stone will be stored on site in tonne bags.
- All stone and mortar which has fallen into the river bed will be removed by hand (see attached photo).
- Once the damaged areas have been removed re-construction works can begin. The repair will be carried out to match existing.
- Re-instate damaged section of wall.
- Once the damaged section of the wall has been re-built repointing works will then be complete.
- De-mobilisation will begin after the repointing has been completed.
- Materials will be removed off site
- Scaffolding will then be removed.
- TTMP to be removed when works are fully complete.
- Mortar for new and repointing existing masonry work shall be NHL5 lime mortar Mix Reference (a) in accordance with Table 24/4 of Transport Infrastructure Ireland Publication CC-SPW-02400.
- If the temperature is below 4° no work with lime mortar should be carried out (preparation work such as cleaning/hacking out of joints can still be done).
- All joints to be tamped with stiff brush once mortar is stiff
- All stonemasons to have attended 'Masonry Arch Bridge Repair Workshop' or be members of the Guild of Master Craftsmen
- Site clean-up

Ecology Constraints

The bridge is located on the N70 in the townland of Lomanagh South to the west of Sneem, Co. Kerry. It crosses the Owreagh River, a short 4th order river which discharges to the Sneem River estuary south of Sneem (EPA Code - 21O05). River Waterbody WFD Status 2013-2018 at the bridge is defined as Good.

It is not located within a European site. Sneem River estuary to which the Owreagh River discharges is within the Kenmare River SAC (002158). The qualifying interests of Kenmare River SAC can be viewed at - <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/002158>. Killarney National Park, Macgillycuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC (000365) is located ca. 3km to the northwest of the bridge and will not be impacted by the proposed works.

The bridge is located within the Sneem – Owreagh Margaritifera sensitive area.

[REDACTED]

Signs of Otter (*Lutra lutra*) were recorded from the river at Lomanagh South Bridge in 2005 (Source: NPWS otter survey; NBDC) and 2010 (Source: National Otter Survey of Ireland 2010/12; NBDC) – it is assumed that Otter occur within the Owreagh River. Signs of Otter were also recorded during the 2020 bat survey.

There are no records of Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Indian balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) or Giant-rhubarb (*Gunnera* sp.) (the latter is commonly encountered along the road side west of Sneem). A single plant of *Rhododendron ponticum* can be seen growing a short distance from the bridge on Google StreetView.

The bridge is located on the boundary of 2 no. 1km grid squares. Lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) have been recorded from the western square - V6766. There are no records from V6866 (Source: NBDC). The results of a bat survey undertaken in 2020 are attached.

[REDACTED]

Works are restricted to the parapet. There are no instream works. Stone work that has fallen into the river will be recovered by hand.

Atkins Findings -

This Screening for Appropriate Assessment is based on the best available scientific information. It is concluded that the proposed project poses no likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites, either alone or in combination with other projects. Thus, it is recommended that it is not necessary for the proposed project to proceed to Appropriate Assessment.

Findings of TII Appropriate Assessment -

Can you please provide a Reasoned Determination?

Paul

Paul O' Donoghue BSc PhD CEnV MCIEEM
Associate Director, Ecology
Ireland

[REDACTED]

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