

Nea Christian

From: Phelan Sarah-Jane
Sent: Wednesday 4 December 2019 14:45
To: O'Donoghue, Paul; Duffy Liam
Cc: Nea Christian; [REDACTED]; O'Malley Vincent
Subject: FW: Re. Reactive Maintenance works at Dalgan River Bridge (MO-N60-014.00)

Paul, Liam,

Please find reasoned determination below in respect of the proposed reactive maintenance works at Dalgan River Bridge (MO-N60-014.00).

Kind Regards,

Sarah-Jane

Dr. Sarah-Jane Phelan
Ecologist
Environmental Policy & Compliance
Transport Infrastructure Ireland
D08 DK10
[REDACTED]
<http://www.tii.ie/technical-services/environment/>

From: O'Malley Vincent [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday 4 December 2019 14:41
To: Phelan Sarah-Jane [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Re. Reactive Maintenance works at Dalgan River Bridge (MO-N60-014.00)

Sarah-Jane,
Having reviewed the documentation associated with these works, I am happy to accept the reasoned determination set out below.
Sincerely
Vincent

Dr. Vincent O'Malley,
Head of Environmental Policy & Compliance,
Parkgate Business Centre,
Parkgate Street,
Dublin,
D08 DK10,
Ireland,
[REDACTED]
www.tii.ie

From: Phelan Sarah-Jane [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday 4 December 2019 11:11
To: O'Malley Vincent [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Re. Reactive Maintenance works at Dalgan River Bridge (MO-N60-014.00)

Vincent,

Having reviewed Paul's email below (with figures attached) and having regard to the minor nature 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 received from Paul O'Donoghue PhD dated the 3rd of December, 2019, and entitled 'Re. Reactive Maintenance works at Dalgan River Bridge (MO-N60-014.00)', I accept the recommendations of Atkins Limited 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,

Sarah-Jane

Dr. Sarah-Jane Phelan
Ecologist
Environmental Policy & Compliance
Transport Infrastructure Ireland
D08 DK10

<http://www.tii.ie/technical-services/environment/>

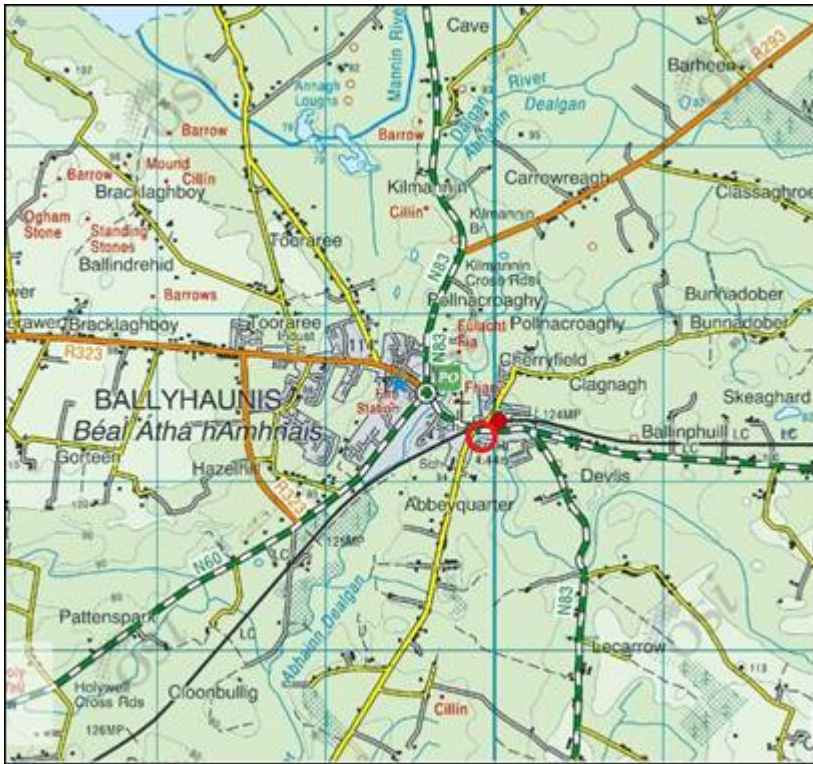
From: O'Donoghue, Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday 3 December 2019 16:45
To: O'Malley Vincent [REDACTED]; Phelan Sarah-Jane [REDACTED]
Cc: Nea Christian [REDACTED]
Subject: Re. Reactive Maintenance works at Dalgan River Bridge (MO-N60-014.00)

Dear Vincent / Sarah-Jane

Re. Reactive Maintenance works at Dalgan River Bridge (MO-N60-014.00)

Bridge Location

The structure location is illustrated here (bridge location circled in Red).



© NBDC.

Dalgan River Bridge is located on the N60 in Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo. It spans a minor order tributary of the Dalgan River. The Dalgan ultimately joins the Clare River which discharges into the eastern side of Lough Corrib. The lake is designated as Lough Corrib SPA (004042) / Lough Corrib SAC (000297) / Lough Corrib pNHA (000297). The main channel of the Dalgan River ca. 10.7 km downstream of the bridge is within Lough Corrib SAC.

Photographs of the bridge are included in the attached PI Report.

Proposed Works

A small tree / tree limb is lodged in the watercourse under the bridge at the upstream elevation of the bridge and is to be removed. The tree is visible under the concrete deck extension to the bridge but may extend to some extent under original masonry arch structure - the extent of the blockage is shown in the image below. The obstruction will be removed by hand and therefore will require access to the river.



Ecological Characteristics

The bridge is not within an SAC or SPA; nor is it within a NHA / pNHA. It spans a minor order tributary of the Dalgan River. The Dalgan ultimately joins the Clare River which discharges into the eastern side of Lough Corrib. As noted, the main channel of the Dalgan River ca. 10.7 km downstream of the bridge is within Lough Corrib SAC. Water quality on the stream – labelled by the EPA as DALGAN_010 – is defined as At Risk under the Water Framework Directive risk assessment of rivers. The nearest EPA monitoring station is on the Dalgan River at Ballyhaunis Bridge – in 2018 water quality at this location was Q3-4.

Otter has been recorded from Kilmannin Bridge (M5080) on the Dalgan River upstream of Ballyhaunis in 1990 (Source: NBDC; Badger and Habitats Survey of Ireland). It is likely to use the river at the proposed location. However, the tree is currently partially blocking free passage under the bridge.

The bridge location is not within a *Margaritifera* sensitive area.

White clawed crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*) has been recorded at Ballyhaunis Bridge on the Dalgan River (M496794) in 1989 (Source: NBDC; EPA River Biologists' Database). As can be seen in the above photograph the blockage is located next to what appears to be a surface water discharge pipe. The substrate in the environs of the blockage appears heavily silted and this area appears to support poor - negligible quality habitat for crayfish.

Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Indian balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) and Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) have not been recorded from the bridge location (Source: NBDC).

There are no works to the bridge itself – while the obstruction is predominantly under the concrete section of the bridge - hence no risk to bats from its removal.

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. 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?

Regards

Paul

Paul O' Donoghue *BSc PhD CEnV MIEEM*
Principal Ecologist
Ireland



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