



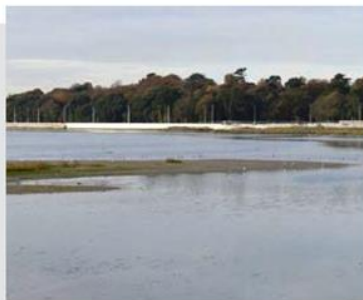
LEINSTER BRIDGES NON-ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

AA Screening Report

Mattock Bridge (MH-N51-008.00)



November 2025



Leinster Bridges Non-Routine Maintenance

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1. DESCRIPTION OF THE STRUCTURE

Mattock Bridge three-span masonry arch bridge spanning the Mattock River, east of Slane, Co. Meath. The bridge is c. 24.8m in length. The primary land use in the area is agriculture. A recent collision has resulted in damage to the eastern parapet. This is displayed in Plate 1 below.

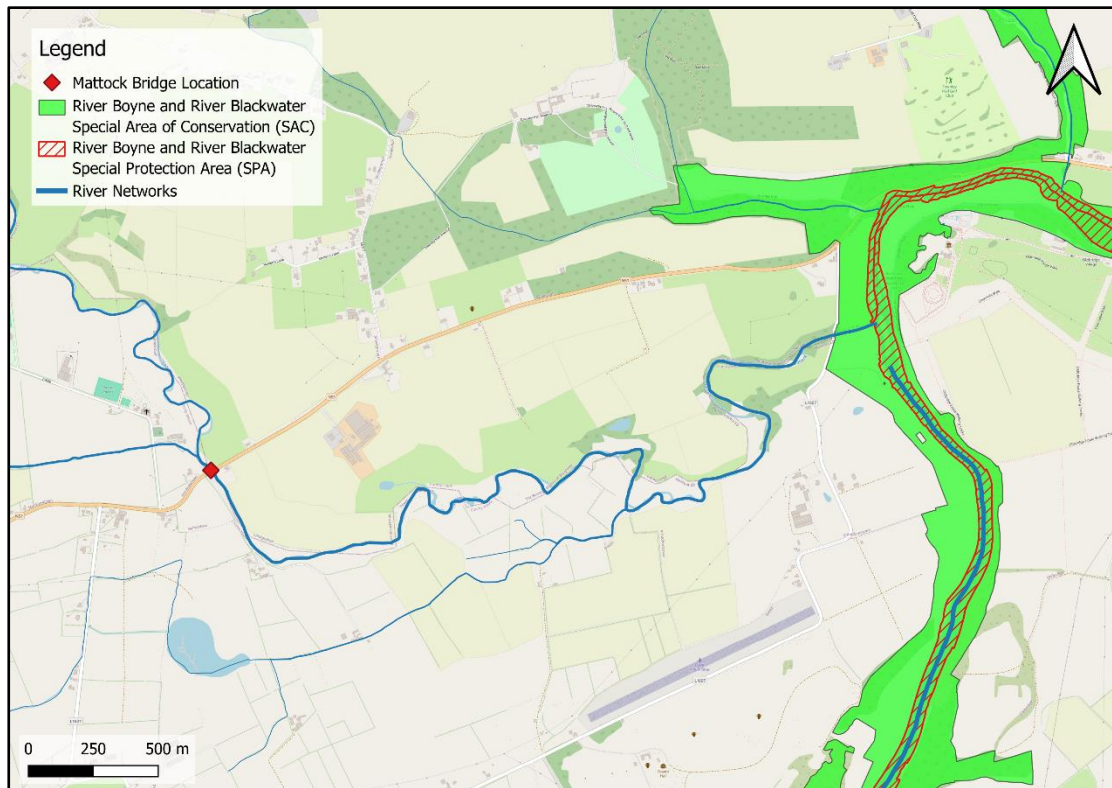
2. PHOTOGRAPHS



Plate 1 **Damage to the eastern parapet and damaged mesh fencing (bottom only).**

3. LOCATION OF THE STRUCTURE

The structure is located on the N51, and passes over the over the Mattock River in Co. Meath, approximately 4.6km east of Slane.



4. THE PROPOSED WORKS

The proposed works for Mattock Bridge are presented below:

The dislodged parapet sections will be recovered from the ground (0.5m^3). The parapet section which has sustained damage (0.7m^3) will be removed and disposed of. The masonry parapet section ($1.4\text{m} \times 0.6\text{m} \times 0.45\text{m}$ (HxLxW)) will be rebuilt by hand using stone and mortar. A new semi-circular coping section to match the existing coping section (200mm height, 450mm width, 0.6m length) will be installed. This will either be pre-cast, or cast in-situ using formwork. Minor repair will be undertaken at the existing coping section (25mm depth, 300 length, 250mm width). A timber post and tensioned mesh fencing will be installed along the profile of the masonry parapet at the location of repairs. This will extend down the side road running parallel to the Mattock River to join the existing steel post fencing, which will be reset vertically where fallen. Fill material and topsoil for regrading works to be installed from edge of pavement to edge of existing steel post fencing (300mm depth).

The works will be undertaken during day-light hours, and are expected to take 2-3 days to complete.

5. APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING

The River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC is located 2.3km east and 4.1km downstream of the proposed works. The River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA is located 2.4km east and 4.3km downstream of the proposed works. No other Natura 2000 Sites are located within 15km of Mattock Bridge.

6. ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS

The proposed works will be undertaken entirely over land and are c. 15m from the river, and do not create a risk for negative water quality impacts. Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) is present along the river banks at the location of the proposed development works. The works will be entirely on road edge, on hardstanding of the road and on the grassy areas at the roadside. The proposed works will not come in close proximity to the riverbank. Therefore, the proposed works will not result in the spread of this species.

Given this, the scale of the proposed works, and the distance between the proposed works and the nearest European sites, there will be no impacts to any European sites as a result of the proposed works.

7. CONCLUSION

Considering the nature and scale of the works, the location the European sites, Roughan & O'Donovan can advise TII, as the competent authority, to conclude that the proposed works will not lead to likely significant effects on any European Site.

It is the considered opinion of ROD, that, in making its AA Screening determination in respect of the proposed works, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, as the Competent Authority in this case, may determine that, given the nature and scale of the proposed works, the location of the works relative to European sites, and the sensitivities of the Qualifying Interests of those sites, that the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is not likely to significantly affect the integrity of any European site.

8. OTHER ECOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS (NOT RELATED TO APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT)

Designated Sites

The table below lists the designated sites, other than European sites, within 15 km of Mattock Bridge.

Site Name	Location relative to Mattock Bridge
King William's Glen pNHA	3.2km northeast
Crewbane Marsh pNHA	3.9km southwest
Dowth Wetland pNHA	4.1km southeast
Boyne River Island pNHA	5.5km east
Rossnaree Riverbank pNHA	5.8km southwest
Boyne Woods pNHA	7.8km west
Slane Riverbank pNHA	8.6km west
Thomastown Bog pNHA	10.1km south
Duleek Commons pNHA	10.2km southeast
Mellifont Abbey Woods pNHA	11.8km north
Balrath Woods pNHA	14.6km southwest

Bats

The ecological site visit to Mattock Bridge found no features which could be used by roosting bats.

Invasive Species

Himalayan Balsam is present along the river banks at the location of the proposed development works. The works will be entirely on the ground, on hardstanding of the road and on the grassy areas at the roadside. The proposed works will not come in close proximity to the riverbank. Therefore, the proposed works will not result in the spread of this species.