

## Nea Christian

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**From:** O'Malley Vincent  
**Sent:** Tuesday 21 January 2020 16:43  
**To:** Nea Christian  
**Subject:** RE: Re. Reactive Maintenance works at MO-N05-015.00 Cloonlee River Culvert

Christian,  
Having reviewed the attachments, I am happy to accept the reasoned determination as set out below.  
Sincerely  
Vincent

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**From:** Nea Christian [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday 15 January 2020 16:29  
**To:** O'Malley Vincent [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Re. Reactive Maintenance works at MO-N05-015.00 Cloonlee River Culvert

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 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2020 and entitled 'Re. Reactive Maintenance works at MO-N05-015.00 Cloonlee River Culvert', 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,

Christian.

*Christian Nea* B.E., LL.B., LL.M., C.Eng., M.I.E.I.  
Chartered Engineer

Senior Engineer (Environment)  
Environmental Policy and Compliance Section,  
Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Parkgate Business Centre, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8.  
[REDACTED]

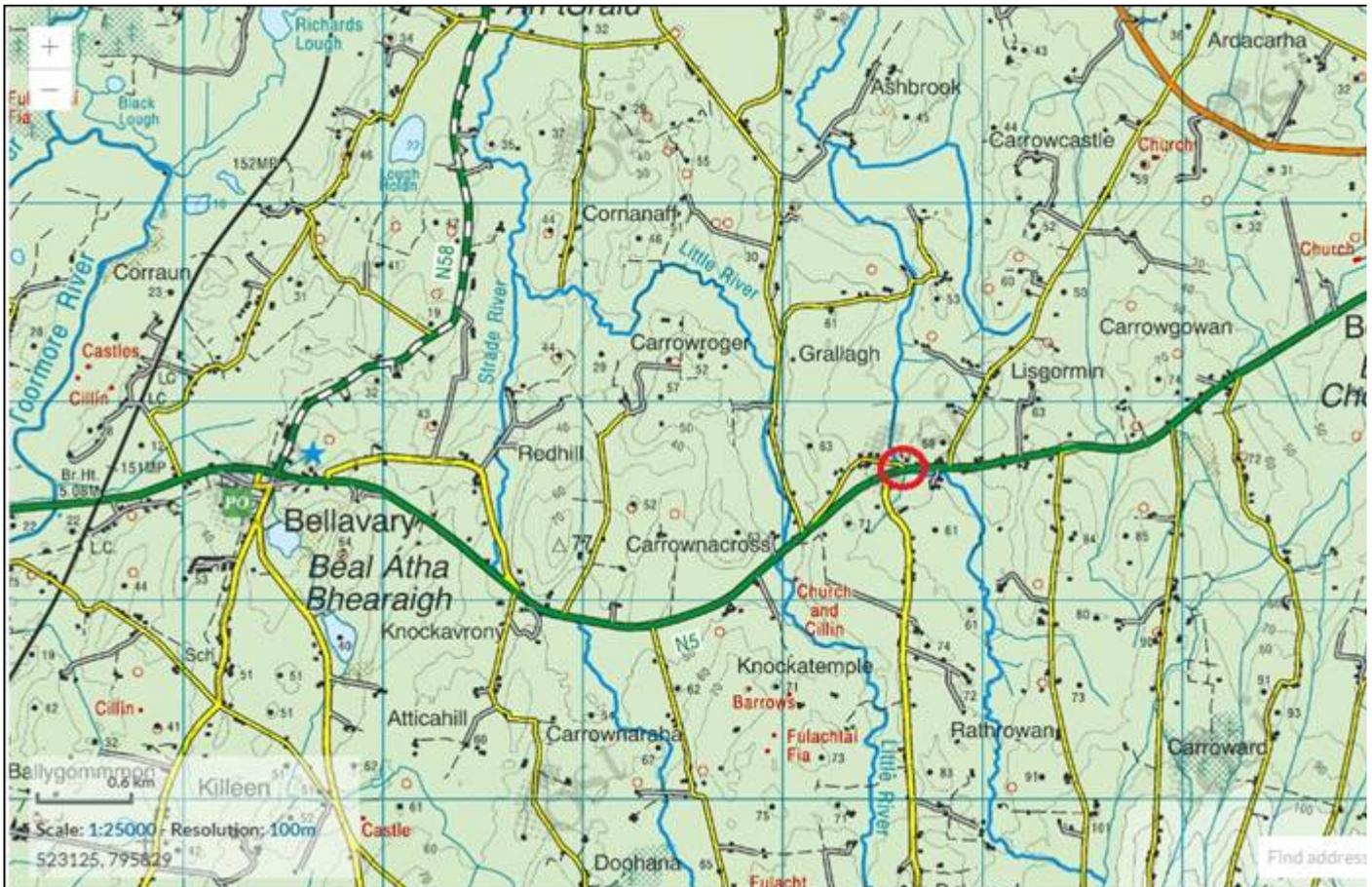
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**From:** O'Donoghue, Paul [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday 10 January 2020 14:51  
**To:** Nea Christian [REDACTED]; O'Malley Vincent [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re. Reactive Maintenance works at MO-N05-015.00 Cloonlee River Culvert

Christian

## Re. Reactive Maintenance works at MO-N05-015.00 Cloonlee River Culvert

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



[Source: NBDC maps].

**Cloonlee River Culvert** is located on the N05 approximately half way between Bellavary and Bohola, Co. Mayo. It spans the upper reaches of the Cloonlee River, a tributary of the River Moy; the section culverted under the N05 is labelled the Oughtagh 34 by the EPA. The confluence with the Moy is over 5km downstream of the culvert. (Note: River Names are taken from EPA Maps - <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/>).

**Proposed Works:** Clearance of watercourse. Accumulated vegetation has become stuck on the upstream side of the arch. In all ca. 7m<sup>2</sup> of vegetation is to be removed (vegetation extends approx. 1.75m into pipe). Vegetation to be removed is accessible on foot with 1 man required to remove the vegetation by hand. No machinery will be used. No rooted vegetation is to be removed from the river channel. Any vegetation removed will be collected and taken off site for appropriate disposal. Work is of very short duration.

**Ecological Characteristics:**

Cloonlee River Culvert is not in an SAC / SPA, or in a site of national importance (e.g. pNHA / NHA). The confluence of the Cloonlee River, on which it is located with the River Moy, is over 5km downstream of the culvert. At this point the Moy is designated as the River Moy SAC (002298).

Qualifying interests of the River Moy SAC are as follow: -

Active raised bogs [7110]

Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]

Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]

Alkaline fens [7230]

Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles [91A0]

Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]

*Austropotamobius pallipes* (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092]

*Petromyzon marinus* (Sea Lamprey) [1095]

*Lampetra planeri* (Brook Lamprey) [1096]

*Salmo salar* (Salmon) [1106]

*Lutra lutra* (Otter) [1355]

None of the habitats for which River Moy SAC has been designated are located at / adjoining Cloonlee River Culvert.

There are no records of Otter from the watercourse at Cloonlee River Culvert; there was a roadkill on the N05 ca. 1.5km to the west (Grid Ref. M266939). Otter are widespread within the catchment of the River Moy, so they are likely to use the river at Cloonlee. However, the work is of such small scale and short duration that negative impacts are not likely.

White-clawed crayfish has been recorded from this location (M276946); the site location is labelled as Bridge near Carrowgowan House.

The bridge is not in a *Margaritifera* Sensitive Area and there are no records of Freshwater pearl mussel at the bridge or downstream of it.

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

Water quality was noted to be Q4 (Good) by the EPA at the Bridge near Carrowgowan House on the OUGHTAGH\_010; i.e. sampling station is just upstream of the culvert in 2004. River Waterbody WFD Status 2013-2018 in this section of river is described by the EPA as *Good*. water quality in this section of river is described as *Not At Risk*.

There are no works to the bridge itself.

Negative impacts to the qualifying interests of River Moy SAC are not anticipated.

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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. 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?**

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

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