

From: [O'Malley Vincent](#)
To: [Nea Christian](#)
Cc: [Phelan Sarah-Jane](#)
Subject: RE: MO-N60-006.00
Date: Thursday 24 September 2020 16:56:22

Christian,
Having reviewed the content of Atkins email I am happy to accept the reasoned determination as set out below.
Sincerely
Vincent O'Malley

From: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday 24 September 2020 15:26
To: O'Malley Vincent <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Phelan Sarah-Jane <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: MO-N60-006.00

Vincent,
Having reviewed Paul's email below and having regard to the very 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 dated the 18th of September, 2020, and entitled 'FW: MO-N60-006.00', 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: O'Donoghue, Paul <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday 18 September 2020 12:22
To: Nea Christian <[REDACTED]>
Cc: O'Malley Vincent <[REDACTED]>; Phelan Sarah-Jane <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: MO-N60-006.00

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Christian

Re. MO-N60-006.00

Morning. The following works are extremely small in scale. It is proposed to repair a 2m2 section of retaining wall which runs along the roadside (see photos); adjoined by an area of amenity grassland (see attached photos) close to Balla Town Bridge (see Plate 1 & 2), below). The works are not part of the bridge proper, nor do they adjoin the watercourse, but instead are located on a section of roadside wall.

Balla Town Bridge is located in the village of Balla on the N60 Castlebar to Claremorris road. The bridge crosses a non-EPA recognised watercourse, which flows to Loughnaminoe Stream. The stream follows a convoluted path before joining the Manulla / Meander River just downstream of Ballinafad Bridge where it also enters the River Moy SAC. (ca. 8.9km downstream). The village is located ca. 0.5km to the west of Balla Turlough SAC (000463) which is designated for Turloughs [3180] (see Plate 1 & 2).

There are no protected species or invasive species at the works area. There are no records of pearl mussel in the vicinity of the works. The wall is not suitable for use by roosting bats. As can be seen on the accompanying photo the damaged section of wall is adjoined by amenity grassland (see photo).

In summary, the works are not within a Natura 2000 site; nor are they over a watercourse which is linked downstream to a Natura 2000 sites. The location, type and scale of works are such that there would be no impact to a Natura 2000 site. I don't think this scale of work requires AA Screenings, but details are included above for your records. If you have no objection, I will tell the Contractor's that they can proceed and that a detailed AA Screening is not required.

Regards

Paul



Plate 1. Balla Town Bridge (red circle); Balla Turlough SAC to the right. [© NBDC MapViewer]



Plate 2. Balla Town Bridge (purple marker); Balla Turlough SAC to the right. [© Bing Maps]

Paul O' Donoghue *BSc PhD CEnv MCIEEM*
Principal Ecologist
Ireland

[Redacted text block]



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