Cavan

Comhairle Contae an Chabháin
Cavan County Council

Cavan County Council
Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

Natura Impact Report/ Appropriate Assessment

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

CAVAN LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2024-2029

Natura Impact Report

Prepared for:

Cavan County Council

Cavan

Comhairle Contae an Chabháin
Cavan County Council

Date: **February 2024**

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Natura Impact Report for the Cavan Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

REVISION CONTROL TABLE, CLIENT, KEYWORDS AND ABSTRACT

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Abstract: Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this Natura Impact Report for the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This Natura Impact Report (NIR) was prepared in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Cavan Local Authority Climate Action Plan (LACAP) 2024-2029 in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the "Habitats Directive").

This report is part of the AA process that was undertaken alongside the preparation of the LACAP.

1.2 Post Draft Plan Consultation Modifications

This document is the final NIR produced on adoption of the LACAP. An earlier draft version of this report has been updated having regard to the consultation submissions made during the Draft Plan consultation period, recommendations made in the Chief Executive (CE) Report on consultation submissions, and the modifications made to the original draft version of the LACAP that was put on display for consultation. The updates made to the report were clerical or minor and non-material in nature and have not changed the parameters of the environmental/ecological assessment undertaken or the environmental mitigation defined.

The Plan modifications arising from the consultation process, the CE Report, and the post consultation plan-making process were screened for AA. The AA Screening Report for the post consultation Plan modifications are presented in Appendix 3. The Plan modifications were determined to be non-material and did not introduce any additional environmental/ecological effects not previously considered and mitigated during the SEA and AA processes.

An AA Conclusion Statement will now be prepared on how the AA process shaped the content of the final plan.

1.3 Legislative Context

The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the "favourable conservation status" of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as European sites which form the Natura 2000 Network.

AA is required by the Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act (as amended). AA is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European site. These sites consist of SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.

1.4 Approach

The AA is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and grey literature[1] was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives (including spatial data collected for the most recent Article 17 conservation status reporting cycle, 2019).

In addition to being informed by these reports, the NIR was also informed by the Council's County Development Plan and associated SEA Environmental Report and AA Natura Impact Report.

All of these data sources are likely to be useful for AAs that must be undertaken for lower-tier plans/projects under the Plan.

The ecological desktop study completed for the AA of the LACAP comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites within 15km of the LACAP boundary with identification of potential pathways links for specific sites (if relevant) greater than 15km from the LACAP boundary;
- Review of the NPWS site synopsis and conservation objectives for European sites with identification of potential pathways from the LACAP area; and
- Examination of available information on protected species.

There are four main stages in the AA process as follow:

Stage One: Screening

The process that identifies the likely impacts upon a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is proposed to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage Three.

Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions

The process that examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site.

[1] Various documents where publishing, in journals for example, is not the primary activity of the producing body. Examples include: conference presentations; regulatory data; unpublished trial data; government publications; and dissertations/theses.

Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain

An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

The Habitats Directive promotes a hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation and compensatory measures. This approach aims to avoid any effects on European sites by identifying possible effects early in the plan-making process and avoiding such effects. Second, the approach involves the application of mitigation measures, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse effects on the site(s) remain. If potential effects on European sites remain, the approach requires the consideration of alternative solutions. If no alternative solutions are identified and the plan/project is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, then compensation measures are required for any remaining adverse effect(s).

The assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor model[2], where, in order for an effect to be established all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the model is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features that are known to be utilised by the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the LACAP provision that is known to interact with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor. This report provides information on whether direct, indirect and cumulative adverse effects could arise from the LACAP.

The NIR exercise has been prepared taking into account legislation including the aforementioned legislation and guidance including the following:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009;
- "Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission 2018;
- "Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission Environment DG, 2002; and
- "Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission, 2000; and
- Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management; OPR Practice Note PN01; Office of the Public Regulator, 2021.

[2] Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from proposed works; Pathway(s) – e.g. groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites

The scope of the AA was informed by the submissions received on the scope of the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment[3] (SEA) process being undertaken on the LACAP, including a submission from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht that provided various information and suggestions relevant to the AA.

[3] Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme before a decision is made to adopt it.

2. DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2.1 Overview

The Cavan LACAP 2024-2029 provides a five-year framework to:

- Actively translate national climate policy to local circumstances with the prioritisation and acceleration of evidence-based measures,
- Assist in the delivery of the climate neutrality objective at local and community levels,
- Identify and deliver a Decarbonisation Zone (DZ) within the local authority area to act as a test bed for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures in a specifically defined area. This will be done through the identification of projects and outcomes that will assist in the delivery of the National Climate Objective[4].

The preparation of the LACAP was informed by a process of public participation and consultation. The LACAP represents an important policy document that will form the foundations to support and facilitate coordinated climate action, which is focused on local, area specific issues.

The Plan is set within the context of the strategic framework and is guided by the most recent approved national long term climate action strategy and sectoral adaptation plans as well as the County Development Plan (CDP).

Figure 2-1 illustrates the functional area and boundary of Cavan County Council.

2.2 Context setting background to Cavan County Council's Role and the LACAP

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 provides a statutory underpinning to climate action in Ireland. It specifies the requirement to develop a national Climate Action Plan (CAP) (and update it every year), a National Adaptation Framework (NAF), a National Long Term Climate Action Strategy and Sectoral Adaptation Plans (SAPs). It also specifies a series of carbon budgets and the associated sectoral emission ceilings. It sets out actions that must be taken to ensure delivery of commitments and a target to reduce GHG by 51% by 2030 and to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2050.

Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 defines the requirement for Local Authorities to prepare individual LACAPs for their functional area. The purpose of LACAPs will be to deliver effective climate action and mitigation at local authority and community levels. Local Authority County Development Plans must also be aligned with their LACAP.

The LACAPs are statutory plans that must be subject to SEA under the SEA Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC) to determine their effect on the environment, and AA under Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) to determine if their implementation is likely to have significant effects on any Natura 2000 sites.

[4] This is known as the National 2050 Climate Objective which establishes the national objective of achieving a competitive, low-carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050.

Legend

Local Authority Boundaries

Local Authority Boundary

CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	2.1
CLIENT:	CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL
DATE: 26/07/2023	**SCALE:** 1:312,500 @ A3

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0 2 4 8 km

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2.3 Cavan County Council's Role with regard to Climate Action and the LACAP

Local authorities are key drivers in advancing climate policy at the local level. The LACAP will help Cavan County Council to address, in an integrated way, the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change adaptation and strengthen the alignment between national climate policy and the delivery of effective local climate action.

Cavan County Council is free to determine their own approach to the style and structure of their climate action plan but must demonstrate alignment with the key principles of the national Climate Action Plan and subject to compliance with all relevant guidelines ensuring that the local plan is ambitious, action-focused, evidence-based, participative and transparent.

2.4 Purpose and Scope of the LACAP 2024-2029

2.4.1 Need for the Plan

Cavan County's Local Authority Climate Action Plan (2024-2029) considers specific adaptation and mitigation measures across key themes including Governance and Leadership, Built Environment and Transport, Natural Environment and Green Infrastructure, Communities: Resilience and Transition, and Sustainability and Resource Management.

2.4.2 Overview of the LACAP

The Vision for Cavan County Council is:

> *"That Cavan County Council will be a climate resilient and low carbon organisation that inspires, leads and supports ambitious action to achieve a Climate Neutral Local Economy."*

The Mission for Cavan County Council is:

> *"To lead by example, support and inspire climate action amongst its citizens to ensure Cavan remains an attractive, competitive, and sustainable place to live, visit and do business.*
>
> *All Council departments will receive appropriate information and engagement regarding their assigned responsibilities within this Plan. This approach ensures a well-coordinated and all-encompassing response to climate action-related initiatives.*
>
> *The Council will actively interact with citizens, businesses and communities to enhance understanding of climate change, promote climate literacy, and facilitate necessary shifts in behaviour.'*

Cavan County Council has prepared the Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 (CAP), to set out how the local authority can help tackle climate change and promote a range of mitigation, adaptation and other climate action measures, to help deliver on the national climate obligations and the Government's overall National Climate Objective, which seeks to;

> *pursue and achieve, by no later than the end of 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy.*

More broadly in helping to deliver on national climate obligations the plan also assists to:

- Signal Cavan County Council's commitment to address climate change and the environmental, social and economic challenges.
- Help communities living in Cavan to understand and effectively respond to climate change impacts.
- Support Cavan County to transition to a climate neutral local economy where activities don't have a negative impact on the climate.
- Ensure Cavan makes a meaningful contribution towards national and global climate action targets under the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals.
- Position the County to stay competitive and attractive to live, work and visit in the transition to climate neutrality.
- Demonstrate leadership through influence, coordination facilitation, raising awareness, advocacy and cultivating necessary partnerships.
- Support the Cavan Town Decarbonising Zone (DZ) as a test bed for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures.

The Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 and the Local Authority Climate Action Plan Guidelines, published by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications in March 2023, and has taken account of relevant national climate legislation and policy.

The Plan assumes an organisational focus as well as a countywide focus on climate action.

The Plan sets out how Cavan County Council will be responsible for enhancing climate resilience, increasing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, across its own assets, services and infrastructure, to which it is fully accountable for, whilst also demonstrating a broader role of influencing, advocating and facilitating other sectors, to meet their own climate targets and ambitions. This is necessary to ensure that the environmental, social and economic benefits that come with climate action, can be fully realised.

This presents an opportunity for Cavan County Council to consider our role as a facilitator and an enabler in confronting the challenges of climate change. We have a key role to play as an influencer within County Cavan, working with the wider community and local businesses to promote positive climate action.

The overall objectives of the LACAP are:

- The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 sets a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030, on a 2018 baseline.
- A 50% energy efficiency target to meet by 2030, in respect of a 2009 baseline.
- Cavan County Council to be a climate resilient, low carbon and environmentally sustainable organisation that leads, supports and inspires ambitious and just climate action across the county.

2.4.2.1 LACAP Geographic Area

The LACAP area covers the County Council's entire boundary, and all actions are set to be completed within the boundary. Where actions require collaborative efforts with neighbouring County Councils, these will be considered; however, these are thought to be captured within the LACAP (and SEA/AA processes) for each of the neighbouring County Councils.

The geographic scope of the LACAP, therefore, is the County Council boundary, and the SEA study area extends to 15km beyond this to consider wider reaching environmental impacts as can be seen in Figure 2-2.

2.4.2.2 Decarbonising Zone

Cavan Town has been designated as the DZ for Cavan County Council.

3. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

3.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any potential significant affects to European sites from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the "'conservation objectives", "Qualifying Interests" (QIs) and/ or "Special Conservation Interests" (SCIs) of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European Site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The following NPWS Generic Conservation Objectives have been considered in the screening:

- For SACs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected; and
- For SPAs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Where available, Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat[5] or species[6] at that site have been considered.

3.2 Identification of Relevant European Sites

The Department of the Environment (2009) Guidance on AA recommends a 15 km buffer zone to be considered. Although sites beyond this buffer zone would be considered if relevant, a review of all sites within this zone has allowed the conclusion to be made that in the absence of significant hydrological links the characteristics of the LACAP will not impose effects beyond the 15 km buffer. The assessment process also considers hydrogeological processes and possible effects to ground water with respect to ground water sensitive habitats and species.

[5] Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.
[6] The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

Details of European sites that occur within 15 km of the LACAP boundary are provided in Table 3-1. European sites and EPA Rivers Catchments are also mapped in Figure 3-1 below. Information on QIs, SCIs and site-specific vulnerabilities and sensitivities (see Appendix I) and background information (such as that within Ireland's Article 17 Report to the European Commission, site synopses and Natura 2000 standard data forms) have been considered by both the AA screening assessment (provided under this section) and Stage 2 AA (provided under Section 4). Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following National Parks and Wildlife Service documents:

- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Killyconny Bog (Cloghbally) SAC [IE0000006] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC [IE0000007] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Melvin SAC [IE0000428] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC [IE0000584] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Garriskil Bog SAC [IE0000679] Version 1.
- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Corratirrim SAC [IE0000979] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Arroo Mountain SAC [IE0001403] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Kilroosky Lough Cluster SAC [IE0001786] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC [IE0001810] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Gill SAC [IE0001976] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Boleybrack Mountain SAC [IE0002032] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC [IE0002120] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Lough Lene SAC [IE0002121] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Derragh Bog SAC [IE0002201] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC [IE0002203] Version 9.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC [IE0002299] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC [IE0002340] Version 1.
- NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives for Ardagullion Bog SAC [IE0002341] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Derravaragh SPA [IE0004043] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Oughter SPA [IE0004049] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA [IE0004061] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Sheelin SPA [IE0004065] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Garriskil Bog SPA [IE0004102] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA [IE0004232] Version 9.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Donegal Bay SPA [IE0004151] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Lough Forbes Complex SAC [IE0001818] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Lough Ree SAC [IE0000440] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives for River Shannon Callows SAC [IE0000216] Version 1.

- NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC [IE0002241] Version 1.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Lower River Shannon SAC [IE0002165] Version 1.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA [IE0004101] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Ree SPA [IE0004064] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Middle Shannon Callows SPA [IE0004096] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for River Suck Callows SPA [IE0004097] Version 9.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA [IE0004058] Version 9.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA [IE0004077] Version 1.
- DAERA (2015) Upper Lough Erne SAC Conservation Objectives UK0016614 Version 2
- DAERA (2015) Upper Lough Erne SPA Conservation Objectives (UK9020071) Version 3. DAERA (2015) Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC Conservation Objectives (UK0030116) Version 2.
- NPWS (2022) Generic Conservation Objectives for Lough Iron SPA [IE0004046] Version 9.
- NPWS (2020) Conservation Objectives for Stabannon-Braganstown SPA [IE004091] Version 7.
- NPWS (2013) Conservation Objectives for Boyne Estuary SPA [IE004080] Version 1.
- NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives for Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC [IE001957] Version 1.
- NPWS (2011) Conservation Objectives for Dundalk Bay SAC [IE000455] Version 1.
- NPWS (2011) Conservation Objectives for Dundalk Bay SPA [IE004026] Version 1.

The assessment considers available conservation objectives. Since conservation objectives focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential effects of the LACAP against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.

3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening

3.3.1 Is the LACAP Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The overarching objective of the LACAP is not the nature conservation management of the sites, but to provide for coherent and coordinated approach to climate action within the County. Therefore, the LACAP is not considered to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites.

3.3.2 Elements of the LACAP with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

The LACAP provides a framework for the sustainable development of the Council boundary area. There are a number of environmental sensitivities within the area and an assessment of effects indicates the potential effects relate to the following:

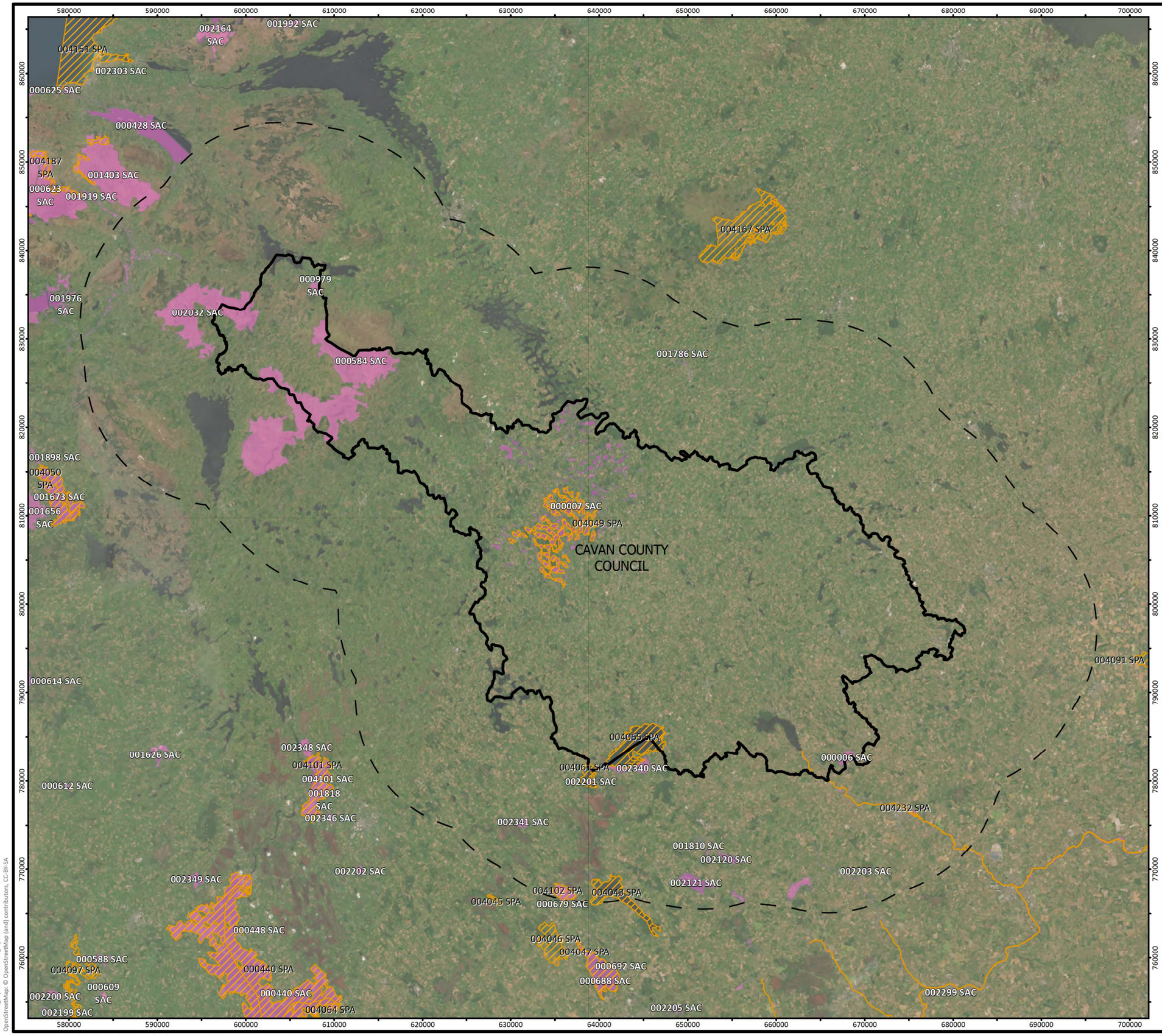
- *Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:*
  - *Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna;*
  - *Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and*
  - *Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species.*
- *Potential interactions if effects upon environmental vectors such as water and air.*
- *Adverse effects from tourism, amenity and recreation.*
- *Damage to the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource.*
- *Adverse effects upon the status of water bodies arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology.*
- *Increase in the risk of flooding.*
- *Emissions to air including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions.*

The elements of the LACAP with the highest potential to give rise to the effects indicated above are associated with construction phase elements of the implementation of the LACAP. The operational phase elements of the LACAP are consistent with the existing condition of the area. All policies and objectives are considered in this assessment with respect to the ecological integrity of each of the European sites identified. Considering the sensitivities/vulnerabilities of the QIs and SCIs in relation to all potential sources for effects and potential pathways for such effects. Where sources and pathways for effects are identified potential effects will be assessed in relation to the SSCOs.

3.3.3 Screening of Sites

Table 3.1 examines whether there is potential for effects on European sites considering information provided above, including Appendix I. Sites are screened out based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- The existence of potential for pathways for significant effects, such as hydrological links, LACAP proposals and the site to be screened;
- The distance of the relevant site from the LACAP boundary; and
- The existence of a link between identified threats or vulnerabilities at a site to potential impacts that may arise from the LACAP.



Legend

- Local Authority Boundaries
- Local Authority Boundary - 15km Buffer
- Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protected Areas

CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	3.1
CLIENT:	CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL
DATE:	15/08/2023
SCALE:	1:422,500 @ A3

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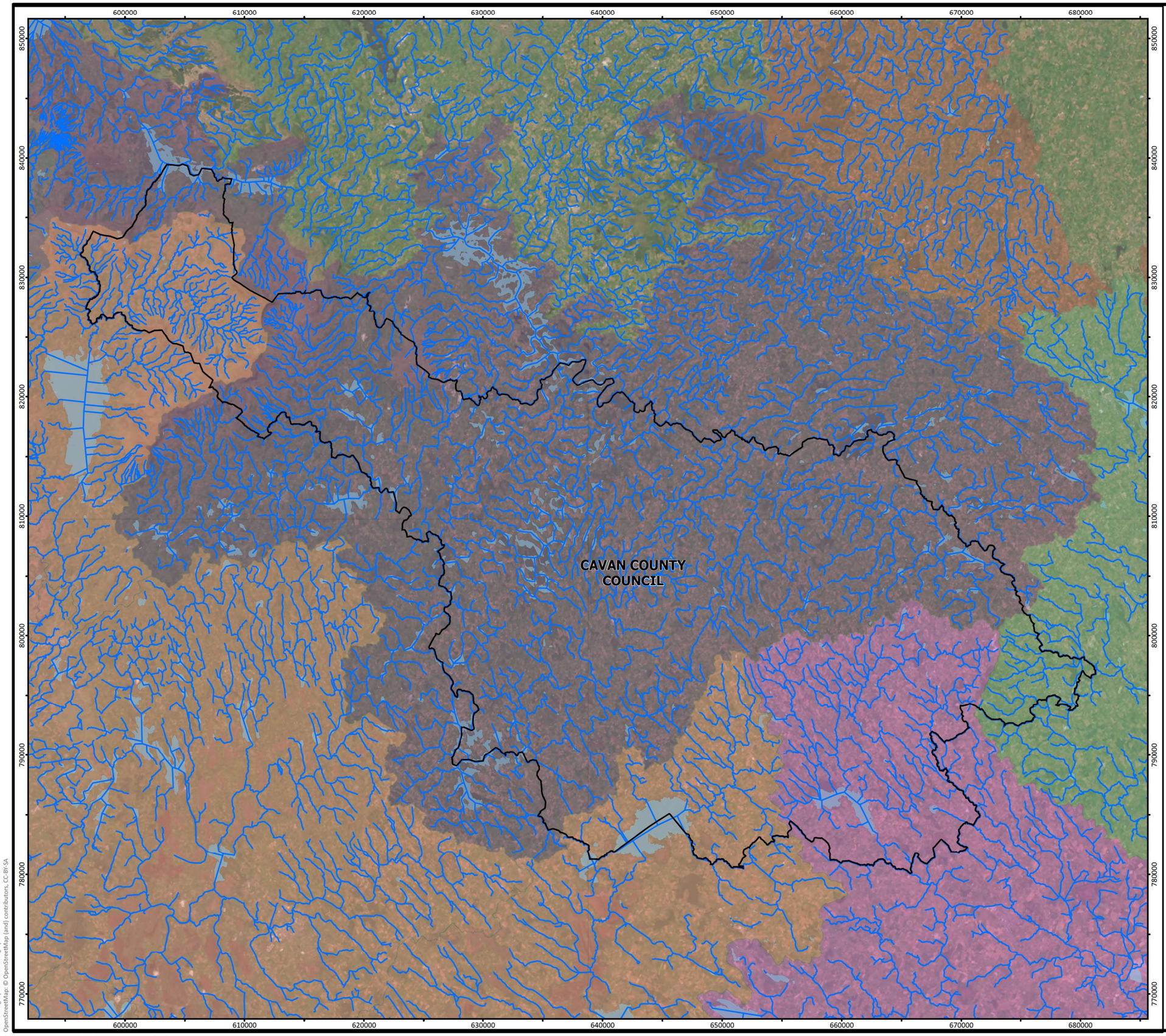

Legend

- Local Authority Boundaries
- Rivers

WFD Catchments

Catchment Name

- Boyne
- Erne
- Lough Neagh & Lower Bann
- Newry, Fane, Glyde and Dee
- Sligo Bay & Drowse
- Upper Shannon

Hydrology

CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL
Local Authority Climate Action Plans

FIGURE NO:	3.2
CLIENT:	CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL
DATE:	15/08/2023
SCALE:	1:312,500 @ A3

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Table 3-1: Screening of European sites which have ecological pathways for potential effects

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000006	Killyconny Bog (Cloghbally) SAC	0	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	The European Site overlaps with the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000007	Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC	0	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Bog woodland [91D0]	The European Site is located within the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
000584	Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC	0	Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], European dry heaths [4030], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Petrifying springs with tufa formation	The European Site overlaps with the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			(Cratoneurion) [7220], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Slender green feather-moss (Hamatocaulis vernicosus) [6216], Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110]	Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000979	Corratirrim SAC	0	Limestone pavements [8240]	The European Site is located within the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002032	Boleybrack Mountain SAC	0	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]	The European Site overlaps with the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Alkaline fens [7230], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106]	The European Site overlaps with the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004049	Lough Oughter SPA	0	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]	The European Site is located within the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004061	Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA	0	Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059]	The European Site overlaps with the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004065	Lough Sheelin SPA	0	Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	The European Site overlaps with the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	0	Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) [A229]	The European Site overlaps with the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
UK9020071	Upper Lough Erne SPA	0	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	The European Site is located immediately adjacent to the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Special Conservation Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
UK0016614	Upper Lough Erne SAC	0	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], 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], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355]	The European Site is located immediately adjacent to the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
UK0030116	Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC	0	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Freshwater pearl mussel Margaritifera margaritifera [1029]	The European Site is located immediately adjacent to the Cavan County LACAP area.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002340	Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC	0.01	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	The European Site is located within 500 m of the Cavan County LACAP area. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. Thus, there is the potential for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002201	Derragh Bog SAC	0.86	Bog woodland [91D0], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of approximately 860 m between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
001810	White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC	6.41	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092]	There is a separation distance of approximately 6.41 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP and no hydrological connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
001976	Lough Gill SAC	6.97	River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]	There is a separation distance of approximately 6.97 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP and no hydrological connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
002120	Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC	8.22	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092]	There is a separation distance of approximately 8.22 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP and no hydrological connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002341	Ardagullion Bog SAC	8.66	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	There is a separation distance of approximately 8.66 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
001786	Kilroosky Lough Cluster SAC	8.88	Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.	There is a separation distance of approximately 8.88 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			[3140], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092]	Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
002203	Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC	10.69	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	There is a separation distance of approximately 10.69 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
002121	Lough Lene SAC	10.91	White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140]	There is a separation distance of approximately 10.91 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP and no hydrological connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	No	No

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000679	Garriskil Bog SAC	11.4	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	There is a separation distance of approximately 11.4 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
004043	Lough Derravaragh SPA	11.91	Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	This European Site is within 15 km of the area of Cavan County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000428	Lough Melvin SAC	13.19	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]	There is a separation distance of approximately 13.19 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP and no hydrological connection is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. At this distance, there are no pathways for significant effects to this European Site and its Qualifying Interests as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	No	No
004102	Garriskil Bog SPA	13.35	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	This European Site is within 15 km of the area of Cavan County LACAP which is within the known foraging range of the SCI species. Therefore, there is a pathway for potential effects. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001403	Arroo Mountain SAC	13.7	European dry heaths [4030], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii) [8120],	There is a separation distance of approximately 13.7 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP and a potential groundwater connection is present.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010]	The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004046	Lough Iron SPA	17.69	Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	There is a separation distance of approximately 17.69 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 31.35 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001818	Lough Forbes Complex SAC	19.12	Active raised bogs [7110], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion	There is a separation distance of approximately 19.12 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 65.87 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			albae) [91E0], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004101	Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA	19.12	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	There is a separation distance of approximately 19.12 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 65.89 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004091	Stabannon-Braganstown SPA	19.46	Tundra swan (Cygnus columbianus bewickii) [A037], Greenland white-fronted goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Greylag goose (Anser anser) [A043], Northern lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Greylag goose (Anser anser) [A043]	There is a separation distance of approximately 19.46 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 23.34 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004026	Dundalk Bay SPA	25.08	Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Greenland white-fronted goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Ruff (Philomachus pugnax) [A151], Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Common goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Northern pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Northern lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Greylag goose (Anser anser) [A043], Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Great crested grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Great northern diver (Gavia immer) [A003], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Redthroated diver (Gavia stellata) [A001], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069],	There is a separation distance of approximately 25.08 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 42.06 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179], Greylag goose (Anser anser) [A043]			
000455	Dundalk Bay SAC	25.25	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Estuaries [1130], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)) [1330], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]	There is a separation distance of approximately 25.25 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 42.06 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004151	Donegal Bay SPA	27.19	Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) [A003], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	There is a separation distance of approximately 27.19 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 83.38 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
000440	Lough Ree SAC	33.39	Alkaline fens [7230], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Active raised bogs [7110], Bog woodland [91D0], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Limestone pavements [8240]	There is a separation distance of approximately 33.39 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 85.98 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004064	Lough Ree SPA	33.39	Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]	There is a separation distance of approximately 33.39 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 85.99 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	35.86	Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus) [A179], Great cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Ringed plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Common redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Little tern (Sterna albifrons) [A195], Mew gull (Larus canus) [A182], Eurasian oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Eurasian teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Eurasian wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Common shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Red-breasted merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Eurasian curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Northern lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Common greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Ruddy turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Grey plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Red knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Bar-tailed godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], European golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]	There is a separation distance of approximately 35.86 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 64.59 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	36.69	Estuaries [1130], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310], Shifting dunes (Embryonic shifting dunes) [2110], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria ("white dunes") [2120],	There is a separation distance of approximately 36.69 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 64.84 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Atlantic salt meadows (Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)) [1330], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") [2130]	Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	53.16	Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Alkaline fens [7230], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Limestone pavements [8240], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510]	There is a separation distance of approximately 53.16 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 120.01 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	53.16	Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Corncrake (Crex crex) [A122], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]	There is a separation distance of approximately 53.16 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 120.01 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	53.59	Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	There is a separation distance of approximately 53.59 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 143.55 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	92.68	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Alkaline fens [7230], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Limestone pavements [8240], Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]	There is a separation distance of approximately 92.68 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 179.46 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
				There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	92.68	Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	There is a separation distance of approximately 92.68 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 179.49 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	125.96	Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Estuaries [1130], Coastal lagoons [1150], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus) [1349], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410],	There is a separation distance of approximately 125.96 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 219.99 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Reefs [1170], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]	There is the potential for significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.		
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	148.81	Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062], Dunlin (Calidris	There is a separation distance of approximately 148.81 km between this European Site and the area of Cavan County LACAP, and a hydrological connection of 249.74 km (in-stream distance) is present. The LACAP provides for actions which may result in land use change and infrastructure development etc. Therefore, there is potential for effects such as hydrological interactions, land take, disturbance etc. Which could affect European Sites. There is the potential for significant effects to the Special Conservation Interests of this European site as a result of activities proposed under the LACAP.	Yes	Yes

Site Code	Site Name	Distance (km)	Qualifying Feature (Qualifying Interests and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential Effects	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
			alpina) [A149], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]			

3.4 In-combination effects with Other Plans and Programmes

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely affect European sites. Appendix II outlines a selection of plans or projects that may interact with the Plan to cause in-combination effects to European sites. These plans, programmes, strategies etc. were considered throughout the assessment.

The LACAP sits within a hierarchy of statutory documents setting out public policy for, among other things, land use planning, infrastructure, sustainable development, recreation, environmental protection and environmental management, which have been subject to their own environmental assessment processes, as relevant. The Plan must comply with relevant higher-level strategic actions and will, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions.

The National Planning Framework (NPF) sets out Ireland's planning policy direction for the next 20 years. The NPF is to be implemented through Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSESs) and lower tier Development Plans and Local Area Plans. The RSES for the Northern and Western Region sets out objectives for land use planning, tourism, infrastructure, sustainable development, environmental protection and environmental management that have been subject to environmental assessment and must be implemented through the LACAP. Section 18, Part 3 of the Climate Acts 2015-2021 and Section 10 (2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) require that local authorities take account of their LACAPs when preparing a County Development Plan. Local authorities must be cognisant of this provision and forge a strong link between spatial planning and positive climate action ensuring that land-use planning and development integrates considerations of adaptation and mitigation.

In order to be realised, projects included in the LACAP (in a similar way to other projects from any other sector) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework.

All projects within the LACAP area and receiving environment will be considered in combination with any and all lower tier projects that may arise due to the implementation of the LACAP. Given the uncertainties that exist with regard to the scale and location of developments facilitated by the LACAP, it is recognised that the identification of in-combination effects is limited and that the assessment of in-combination effects will need to be undertaken in a more comprehensive manner at the project-level.

Additional information on the in-combination effects relationship with other plans and programmes is provided at Appendix 2.

3.5 AA Screening Conclusion

The effects that could arise from the LACAP have been examined in the context of several factors that could potentially affect the integrity of any European site. On the basis of the findings of this Screening for AA, it is concluded that the LACAP:

- Is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site; and
- May, if unmitigated, have significant adverse effects on 37 no.) European sites.

Therefore, a Stage 2 AA is required for the LACAP (see Section 4 of this report). An AA Screening Determination undertaken by the planning authority accompanies this report and the LACAP.

3.5.1 Transboundary Effects

The effects of the LACAP, as considered and identified, may be transmitted to protected sites situated in Northern Ireland which are within the zone of influence of the local authority functional area also, such as: Upper Lough Erne SPA (UK9020071), Upper Lough Erne SAC (UK0016614), Claddagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC (UK0030116), Cuilcagh Mountain SAC (UK0016603) and West Fermanagh Scarplands SAC (UK0030300).

4. STAGE 2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Introduction

The Stage 2 AA assesses whether the LACAP alone, or in-combination with other plans, programmes, and/or projects, would result in adverse effects on the integrity of the 37 European sites brought forward from screening (those considered on Table 3-1 for which there is "Potential Pathway for Significant Effects" and/or "Potential for In-Combination Effects"), with respect to site structure, function and/or conservation objectives.

4.2 Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected

The AA Screening identified 37 European sites with pathway receptors for potential effects arising from the implementation of the LACAP. Appendix I characterises each of the qualifying features of the ALL European sites brought forward from Stage 1 in context of each of the sites' vulnerabilities. Each of these site characterisations were taken from the NPWS website[7].

4.3 Identifying and Characterising Potential Significant Effects

The following parameters can be used when characterising impacts[8]:

- Direct and Indirect Impacts - An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a Plan/Project.
- Magnitude - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.
- Extent - The area over that the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.
- Duration - The time that the effect is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource or feature.
    - Temporary: Up to 1 Year;
    - Short Term: The effects would take 1-7 years to be mitigated;
    - Medium Term: The effects would take 7-15 years to be mitigated;
    - Long Term: The effects would take 15-60 years to be mitigated; and
    - Permanent: The effects would take 60+ years to be mitigated.
- Likelihood – The probability of the effect occurring taking into account all available information.
    - Certain/Near Certain: >95% chance of occurring as predicted;
    - Probable: 50-95% chance as occurring as predicted;
    - Unlikely: 5-50% chance as occurring as predicted; and
    - Extremely Unlikely: <5% chance as occurring as predicted.

[7] Last accessed 17th July 2023; https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites

[8] These descriptions are informed by publications including: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2016) "Guidelines for ecological impact assessment"; Environmental Protection Agency (2002) "Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements"; and National Roads Authority (2009) "Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Roads Schemes".

- Ecologically Significant Impact - An impact (negative or positive) on the integrity of a defined site or ecosystem and/or the conservation status of habitats or species within a given geographic area.
- Integrity of a Site - The coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is an aim of NPWS to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) have been prepared for a number of European sites. These detailed SSCOs aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes that define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

> *Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'*
>
> *Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable'.*

Generic Conservation Objective for SACs:

> *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species that the SAC has been selected.*

One generic Conservation Objective for SPAs:

> *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.*

4.3.1 Types of Potential Effects

Assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted utilising a standard source-pathway model (see approach referred to under Sections 1.3 and 3). The 2001 European Commission AA guidance outlines the following potential changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site: loss/reduction of habitat area; habitat or species fragmentation; disturbance to key species; reduction in species density; changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); and climate change. Each of these potential changes are considered below and in Table 4.1 with reference to the QIs/SCIs of all of the European sites brought forward from Stage 1 of the AA process (see Section 3).

4.3.1.1 Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area

The LACAP provides for action related to climate action and generally seeks to reduce CO2 emissions through coordination, advocacy, awareness etc. Many of the actions also relate to land use change or the provision of infrastructure developments such as green energy and active travel projects. The exact spatial location of these projects is not fully developed within the plan. The development of all infrastructural have associated construction phase effects which include land take, habitat destruction, disturbance effects, light pollution, dust, hydrological interactions, airborne pollution, excessive noise etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects due to construction on the ecological integrity of any European site.

As identified above LACAP boundary has several European sites within it; therefore, there is potential for effects to European sites through urbanisation and direct habitat loss on foot of the implementation of the LACAP; however, several mitigation measures have been integrated into the LACAP to ensure that its implementation will not result in the loss of any habitat necessary for the ecological integrity of any European site; namely list of actions to avoid habitat loss N14[9], N3[10], N4[11], N16[12], N6[13], N7[14], N8[15] and N10[16] etc.

[9] Carry out and require planting of native trees, hedgerows and vegetation on all new developments. All planting should be pollinator friendly and in accordance with the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and Pollinator Guidelines for Communities.
[10] Internal pesticide usage - carry out a survey to examine and quantify use as well as suitability and applicability of use. Create a policy surrounding future use of pesticides and herbicides. Select pilot areas across urban and rural sites and provide training through MD's. Ensuring these substances are only used to a degree that does not cause significant effects on the receiving environment, such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity or European sites.
[11] Prepare guidelines for Invasive Alien Species Management. These guidelines shall be developed by a competent ecology team, and shall have due regard to the need to appropriately manage and prevent the spread of invasive species.
[12] Develop a native tree strategy to outline vision and plan for long term planning, protection and maintenance of native trees, hedgerows and woodlands. Highlight the importance of cultivation and propagation of disease resistant plants e.g. plants resistant to diseases such as ash dieback.
[13] Audit all local authority land, carry out ecological/habitat surveys and highlight areas at risk and those suitable for restoration and enhanced carbon storage, also identifying potential wildlife corridors for protection through statutory plan.
[14] Conduct County wetland survey and implement recommendations in terms of conservation and restoration of wetlands.
[15] Assist with a feasibility assessment to determine if it is possible to identify waterbodies that are both particularly vulnerable to extreme water events associated with climate change having due regard for environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, and cultural heritage related sensitivities.
[16] Prepare a roadside hedgerow management tool kit that informs staff on the value of hedgerows and outlines best practise in their management, having due regard to native hedgerows.

Additionally, the environmental governance section of the LACAP sets out a number of measures which will ensure the protection of biodiversity throughout the implementation of the plan such as:

- Promote climate action projects that support and maximise environmental co-benefits, such as biodiversity protection and enhancement; improved air, water or soil quality; or enhanced recreation, amenity and cultural heritage value, to ensure win-win benefits are gained.
- Support or facilitate climate action related projects and initiatives which seek to make improvements in soil structure, management and health by increasing soil organic carbon - which will create the environmental co-benefits of improving flood resilience by enhancing water holding capacity of soils and increasing the level of GHG sequestration associated with land use functions.
- Ensure all development underpinned or supported by climate action is planned and implemented in a manner that appropriately considers the potential for environmental co-benefits, potential environmental impacts and environmental protection requirements. No climate action related development project that is likely to have a significant negative effect on the receiving environment shall be supported.
- Flood defence projects or related maintenance works supported by plan actions shall be carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-biodiversity related co-benefits, and shall have due regard for the protection and enhancement of rare, protected or important habitats and species.
- Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-cultural heritage co-benefits, and do not result in unauthorised physical damage to cultural, archaeological or architectural features, or unauthorised or inappropriate alteration of the context of sensitive cultural heritage features.
- Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action water quality co-benefits, and align with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive and relevant River Basin Management Plan.
- Promote climate action projects that support protected trees, hedgerows and other habitats such as wetlands, floodzones which contribute to green infrastructure.
- Support opportunities to improve ecological connectivity of non-designated habitats and sites to improve overall ecosystem resilience and functioning while supporting climate action within the county.
- Ensure all projects supported by the council have taken the necessary precautions to identify and manage invasives species, particularly with regard to Schedule III species. No climate action related development project that is likely to cause the spread of invasives species listed in Schedule III shall be supported.
- Support opportunities to support peatland restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance while achieving climate targets through the implementation of the climate actions within the plan.

These policies ensure that there will be no loss of habitat or supporting habitat for species that are necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the plan.

4.3.1.2 Habitat or species Fragmentation

As previously stated, the LACAP provides for infrastructure developments which have associated effects. These effects could result in the fragmentation of habitat and or species through light pollution, habitat loss, removal of stepping stone habitats etc. This is particularly relevant for linear projects such as active travel schemes. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure that there are no significant adverse effects in relation to fragmentation on the ecological integrity of any European site.

The LACAP recognises the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. The LACAP provides actions to minimise potential fragmentation and to facilitate the enhancement of ecological corridors such as hedgerows; mitigation measures such as N14[17], N16[12], N6[13] and N10[16] etc. (see full list of measures reproduced at Section 5 of this report). Lighting is a particular issue for biodiversity - particularly with regard to linear projects, therefore the following action was required to ensure there would be no significant impacts in this regard: BE6[18].

Further to these provisions there are actions related to specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as waterways, wetlands and peatlands etc. These actions apply to all plans, programmes and/or projects that may arise due to the implementation of the LACAP and will ensure that habitat or species fragmentation will not occur in relation to the connectivity of the ecological resources necessary to maintain the ecological integrity of European sites throughout the lifetime of the LACAP.

4.3.1.3 Disturbance to Key Species

Disturbance effects are cause by any activity that has potential to alter the movement patterns/distribution of species. Disturbance effects can relate to direct disturbance through human activity/movement or noise pollution. This is particularly relevant in relation to tourism and recreation in general, which could be influenced by the LACAP due to the provision of active travel schemes and other green initiatives within the LACAP; from the perspective that many of the tourism destinations or attractions in the area are in or adjacent to European sites.

[17]Carry out and require planting of native trees, hedgerows and vegetation on all new developments. All planting should be pollinator friendly and in accordance with the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and Pollinator Guidelines for Communities.
[18] Deliver the Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project in Cavan as part of PLEEP Scheme to reduce GHG emissions and energy usage of Public Lighting. Ensure potential actions maintain/control or reduce existing lumen levels and spectral range to avoid effects on biodiversity.

The LACAP accounts for noise pollution effects through its policies and objectives affording protection to European sites by ensuring any projects that arise from the implementation of the LACAP avoid or minimise noise in compliance with the Environmental Noise Directive and associated National Regulations through the Cavan County Council Noise Action Plan 2019 - 2023. Actions to ensure the protection of habitat quality with respect to disturbance effects from noise and other sources have been built into the LACAP; namely TR20[19], TR2[20], TR4[21], TR5[22] and TR21[23] etc. (further details see Section 5).

These measures are robust to ensure that any sensitive habitat features or species will be identified and only compliant applications will be granted. All of the policies related to positive effects for Biodiversity are detailed in Section 5.

4.3.1.4 Reduction in species density

Species densities are reliant on species distributions, habitat condition, connectivity of ecological resources and availability of resources such as prey/food. The LACAP introduces potential sources for effects to affect these four determinant factors for species densities in the form of construction phase effects such as habitat destruction, visitor movements/access, hydrological interaction or operational effects such as disturbance effects, habitat encroachment, trampling etc. However, the LACAP contains provisions to enhance biodiversity, landscape and the environment within Council boundary N13[24], N14[17], N16[12], N7[14] and N10[16] etc. Similarly, the LACAP the role of non-designated sites for the maintenance and enhancement of European sites due to the connectivity and accessibility of ecological resources. Further to these provisions there are actions related to specific ecological resources and/or habitats such as N14[17], N4[11], N16[12], N6[13], N7[14] etc. These actions apply to all plans, programmes and projects that may arise due to the implementation of the plan. Measures relating to light pollution, noise pollution, habitat loss and fragmentation are addressed above (further detailed in Section 5).

[19] Develop, adopt & implement Local Transport Plans for additional towns (possibly Cootehill & Virginia) with an emphasis on the promotion of sustainable transport modes and modal shift whist ensuring these plans are:
- Designed to mitigate potential environmental and ecological impacts associated with supported active travel infrastructure.
- Support the carrying out of environmental/biodiversity enhancement during the active travel development process.

[20] Continue to promote the use and development of initiatives to encourage sustainable mobility transport modes within the county. Engage with multimodal facilitators regarding suitability and implementation of such initiatives in appropriate towns.

[21] Work with and support the National Transport Authority, Rural Link, Bus Eireann and Cavan Transport Co-ordination Unit in the delivery and expansion of public transport initiatives the county. Including Routes and collection locations whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.

[22] Increase the number of safe routes to school schemes in county. Promotion of schemes and engagement with Boards of Management having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage etc.

[23] Update cycling strategy for Cavan town and all of County Cavan and promotion of same. Identify deficiencies in the network for each town.; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage etc.

[24] Pilot a biodiversity-inclusive design for a social housing estate with green roofs, green walls, wetland & pond SUDS, green car parking, nest boxes in facades, grasslands, and wildlife-friendly shrubs and trees in open space having appropriate regard to relevant planning and environmental protection criteria.

In addition to this the LACAP identifies actions to protect and improve water quality interactions (see below for further details) which can influence species densities. There are also a number of provisions relating to protective buffer zones, further assessment requirements as well as commitments to increasing water quality standards etc. These measures are detailed across the LACAP.

4.3.1.5 Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value

Water quality is the primary macro indicator of conservation value. The LACAP contains many robust actions to ensure the protection of both surface and ground water quality. Development within the vicinity of groundwater or surface water dependant European sites will not be permitted where there is potential for a likely significant effect on the groundwater or surface water supply to the European sites. Action that specifically relate to the protection of water quality which account for potential effects to European sites include BE17[25], N7[14] and N8[15] etc. Similarly, emissions to air have potential to adversely affect the conservation status of European sites; however, the LACAP contains actions – such as TR20[19], TR2[20], TR4[21], TR5[22] and TR21[23] etc. – which account for this.

Additionally, the actions provide broader scope to ensure the protection of the wider landscape associated with riparian zones and habitats sensitive to hydrological interactions; such as N13[24] and N7[14].

[25] Resolve local flooding issues utilising OPW and Department of Transport funding (Drainage programme, Climate Adaptation and Resilience Works, OPW Minor Works Scheme, having due regard to the protection of biodiversity and European sites and avoidance of habitat fragmentation.

4.3.1.6 Climate change

The LACAP is specifically focused on climate action and most of the actions within the plan are aimed at reducing carbon emissions and move towards renewable energy sources; G4[26], G9[27], G12[28], G26[29], BE2[30], BE3[31], BE1[32], BE8[33], BE9[34], BE11[35], BE14[36] and BE15[37] etc.

Therefore, there are no sources for significant effects to climate change factors identified within the LACAP having regard for the measures identified above and in Section 5 below. Therefore, there are no changes projected to arise from climate change to the degree that it would affect the QIs or SCIs of the European sites considered.

4.4 Transboundary Effects

In the absence of any mitigation, the identified effects, as presented in the preceding section have the potential to also impact Northern Irish protected sites facing the same threats and pressures within the zone of influence of the local authority functional area.

[26] Mainstream Climate Action policy as an integral component in the Corporate Plan objectives to insure due consideration within local authority activities and the delivery of functions and services.
[27] Climate Action will be incorporated into the PMDS process
[28] Examination of current home working configuration in addition to smarter working practices to reduce employees travel time or distance travelled. Review remote working policy with consultation with all staff
[29] Adapt a cloud technology first approach to reduce the volume of energy used by physical servers and ancillary infrastructure such as cooling systems. Steps will be taken to ensure the cloud provider chosen has sustainability- and carbon-goals that align with the overall objective of this plan.
[30] Public Buildings- Implement sensor lighting in all common areas and corridors of suitable public buildings
[31] Cavan County Council will assign an entity to compile an asset register which will detail all council owned buildings and lands. This register can then be utilised to assist with achievement of net zero and sustainability proofing of council owned buildings. The register will be updated routinely.
[32] Prepare and implement a programme of measures for Council Buildings/Facilities to assist in achieving a 51% reduction in non-electrical related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and to improve adaptation to climate change.
[33] Ensure that all new council public buildings are built to Net Zero Standards having due regard to the need to ensure renewable energy development forming part of this project will not have any significant negative environmental effect.
[34] Use Gap to Target tool to inform decisions and continue retrofitting council owned buildings to reduce emissions such as Electricity, Thermal and Transport and improve energy efficiency having due regard for environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity; and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures, during any retrofitting works. Assist, advocate and educate external stakeholders on emissions reduction measures.
[35] Investigate potential for application of solar PV on council owned car parks and investigate feasibility of installing on all appropriate Council/ Public buildings where it is confirmed through a glint and glare assessment that such solar development will not have any potential impact on sensitive receptors
[36] Ensure all new build social housing by Cavan County Council met minimum A2 Building Energy Rating standard to reduce GHG emissions and Energy consumption; having due regard to the need to ensure renewable energy development forming part of this project will not have any significant negative environmental effect.
[37] Continue retrofitting and upgrading works of existing social housing units to BER B2 rating to reduce GHG emissions, energy consumption having regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity.

Table 4-1: Characterisation of Potential Effects arising from the subject land area

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000006	Killyconny Bog (Cloghbally) SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to recreation, unsocial behaviour, mining/ resource extraction, infrastructure, forestry, hydrological interactions, agriculture, burning, waste management, land use management, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000007	Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to land use management, invasive species, hydrological interactions, forestry, habitat fragmentation, recreation, and waste management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, infrastructure, direct interaction with species and populations, recreation, flooding, land use change, land use management, hydrological interactions, waste management, mining/ resource extraction, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000440	Lough Ree SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, forestry, waste management, flooding, agriculture, direct interaction with species and populations, recreation, changes in abiotic conditions, invasive species, habitat fragmentation, land use management, and infrastructure.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000455	Dundalk Bay SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to direct interaction with species and populations, waste management, flooding, hydrological interactions, coastal protection, land use change, recreation, erosion, agriculture, forestry, habitat fragmentation, land use management, succession, migration, damage to seabed surface, competition, and invasive species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000584	Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, poor conservation measures, waste management, agriculture, infrastructure, erosion, forestry, mining/ resource extraction, burning, recreation, hydrological interactions, direct interaction with species and populations, land use management, and succession. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
000679	Garriskil Bog SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to invasive species, succession, hydrological interactions, burning, agriculture, and mining/ resource extraction. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
000979	Corratirrim SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to invasive species, land use change, forestry, agriculture, land use management, recreation, poor conservation measures, succession, hydrological interactions. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001403	Arroo Mountain SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to burning, infrastructure, forestry, erosion, mining/ resource extraction, recreation, agriculture, invasive species, and landslides. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001786	Kilroosky Lough Cluster SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to agriculture, invasive species, hydrological interactions, recreation, waste management, and habitat fragmentation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
001818	Lough Forbes Complex SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, waste management, agriculture, land use management, direct interaction with species and populations, recreation, and invasive species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to recreation, infrastructure, coastal defence, land use management, hydrological interactions, waste management, unsocial behaviour, invasive species, change in abiotic conditions, extreme weather events, succession, erosion, direct interaction with species and populations, land use change, and mining/ resource extraction. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002032	Boleybrack Mountain SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, predation control, succession, land use management, infrastructure, mining/ resource extraction, burning, agriculture, parasitism, hydrological interactions, recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, and energy production. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, land use management, land use change, waste management, agriculture, forestry, mining/ resource extraction, recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, aquaculture, invasive species, and hydrological interactions. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
002201	Derragh Bog SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to succession, hydrological interactions, burning, invasive species, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to hydrological interactions, agriculture, commercial shipping, infrastructure, waste management, invasive species, changes in abiotic conditions, land use change, land use management, succession, recreation, flooding, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, agriculture, waste management, recreation, land use change, land use management, hydrological interactions, forestry, mining/ resource extraction, habitat fragmentation, direct interaction with species and populations, and invasive species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
002340	Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to infrastructure, recreation, hydrological interactions, forestry, mining/ resource extraction, invasive species, direct interaction with species and populations, and waste management. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004026	Dundalk Bay SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, invasive species, commercial shipping, infrastructure, hydrological interactions, waste management, agriculture, habitat fragmentation, land use management, and land use change. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004043	Lough Derravaragh SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture, forestry, recreation, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004046	Lough Iron SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to forestry and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004049	Lough Oughter SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to direct interaction with species and populations, recreation, forestry, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004061	Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to forestry, agriculture, direct interaction with species and populations, and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004064	Lough Ree SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, agriculture, direct interaction with species and populations, forestry, and invasive species. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004065	Lough Sheelin SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to forestry, recreation, and agriculture. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to commercial shipping, recreation, land use management, agriculture, aquaculture, and infrastructure. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to aquaculture, land use change, land use management, recreation, hydrological interactions, waste management, invasive species, and infrastructure. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004091	Stabannan-Braganstown SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture and infrastructure. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agriculture, recreation, land use management, direct interaction with species and populations, and infrastructure. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to land use management, land use change, agriculture, recreation, forestry, and direct interaction with species and populations. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004101	Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to recreation, direct interaction with species and populations, agriculture, and forestry. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004151	Donegal Bay SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to aquaculture, agriculture, infrastructure, land use management, and recreation. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to habitat fragmentation, infrastructure, land use management, and hydrological interactions. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc.

Site Code	Site Name	Characterisation of Potential Effects
		Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
UK9020071	Upper Lough Erne SPA	The known threats and pressures of this SPA relate to agricultural practices, waste management, abiotic and biotic changes, recreation and other direct land use practices. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
UK0016614	Upper Lough Erne SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, agricultural practices, hydrological interactions, waste management, pollution, invasive species, direct interaction with species and populations through hunting and collection, recreation and other direct land use practices. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.
UK0030116	Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC	The known threats and pressures of this SAC relate to forestry, mining/ resource extraction, energy production, commercial fishing, recreation, hydrological interactions, invasive species, waste management, and changes in abiotic conditions. The LACAP provides for actions related to climate action which seek to coordinate and facilitate a reduction in carbon emissions. Some of the actions support the development of infrastructure which could result in effect to European sites such as land take, hydrological interactions, alterations to land use etc. Therefore, mitigation measures are required to ensure no such impacts will affect the ecological integrity of the Europeans site. These measures are detailed in section 5 below.

5. MITIGATION MEASURES

This section outlines measures that have been incorporated into the LACAP in order to mitigate against potential effects to European sites as identified above. The LACAP was prepared in an iterative manner whereby the Plan and AA documents have informed subsequent versions of the other. These mitigation measures ensure that there will be no significant effects to the ecological integrity of any European site from implementation of the LACAP. The mitigation measures most relevant to the protection of European sites are identified in Table 5-1 and Table 5-2 below.[38] Some of these measures, many of which were integrated into the current Plan through the SEA and AA processes for that Plan, have been retained and/or updated.

The plan making process was carried out in parallel with the SEA and AA processes. Regular communication and interaction took place between the environmental assessment team and the plan making team. Environmental considerations that came to light during the SEA and AA processes, including consultation processes, were regularly communicated to the plan making team during the plan making process. As necessary, environmental mitigation measures to ameliorate the potential negative environmental effects of implementing the LACAP were developed and then integrated into the LACAP. Much of the environmental mitigation was embedded in the plan early on in the process as a result of this. This process was carried out in an iterative manner to ensure optimal plan making and environmental outcomes. Environmental considerations were also integrated into the plan so as to facilitate maximizing identified positive environmental effects of the LACAP.

Mitigation measures have been proposed that maximize the co-benefits of climate action for other environmental components such local air quality, human health, biodiversity, water quality and other interrelated areas (i.e., win-win solutions).

Additional text clarifying environmental protection related obligations and environmental enhancement opportunities has been attached to a variety of defined actions in the plan (as seen in Table 5-1). This text has been shaped to ensure that environmental considerations are appropriately taken into account during plan implementation. This text has also been shaped to ensure plan implementation generates the minimum level of negative environmental effects and the maximum level of positive environmental effects.

Several environmental governance principles were established to ensure plan implementation generates the minimum level of negative environmental effects and the maximum level of positive environmental effects (as seen in Table 5-2). These environmental governance principles shall underpin and guide plan implementation and shall apply to and be integrated into all actions/activities which result due to the implementation of the plan.Due to the inter-relationship between various environmental components, environmental mitigation measures defined for one component can also serve to benefit another environmental component.

[38] For a complete assessment of the Plan, against all environmental components (These components comprise biodiversity, fauna, flora, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors), refer to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.

Table 5-1: Recommendations integrated into the Plan

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
TR1	Continue to roll-out Active Travel Infrastructure maximising available funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA). Priority projects include cycle lane from Cavan Hospital to Cavan Bus Station, Virginia footbridge, Pedestrian/Cyclist Safety Improvements Station Road, Cootehill.	This action will underpin and promote the carrying out of active travel related development. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Continue to roll-out Active Travel Infrastructure maximising available funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA). Priority projects include cycle lane from Cavan Hospital to Cavan Bus Station, Virginia footbridge, Pedestrian/Cyclist Safety Improvements Station Road, Cootehill; having appropriate regard to environmental sensitivities such as European sites and biodiversity.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
TR3	Progress the delivery of Greenway Infrastructure in line with the National Cycle Network (NCN) Priority projects at present include: 40km Greenway (Cavan to Ballyconnell, Cavan to Ulster Canal) and Cavan Town Urban Greenway Phase 2. Implement phase 2 of Cavan Town fully segregated greenway	This action supports the development of additional green infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Progress the delivery of Greenway Infrastructure in line with the National Cycle Network (NCN) Priority projects at present include: 40km Greenway (Cavan to Ballyconnell, Cavan to Ulster Canal) and Cavan Town Urban Greenway Phase 2. Implement phase 2 of Cavan Town fully segregated greenway having due regard to opportunities to enhance tourism, recreation and cultural heritage value associated with the route, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, local air quality, biodiversity, European sites, and cultural heritage related sensitivities.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
TR4	Work with and support the National Transport Authority, Rural Link, Bus Eireann and Cavan Transport Co-ordination Unit in the delivery and expansion of public transport initiatives the county. Including Routes and collection locations.	The delivery of an expanded, safe public transport network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of public transport infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to profound significant environmental effects (depending the scale, extent and character of the development), including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts.	Work with and support the National Transport Authority, Rural Link, Bus Eireann and Cavan Transport Co-ordination Unit in the delivery and expansion of public transport initiatives the county. Including Routes and collection locations whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure such projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
TR5	Increase the number of safe routes to school schemes in county. Promotion of schemes and engagement with Boards of Management.	This action has the potential to encourage modal shift and the use of active travel networks. This action supports the development of additional cycling infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional cycling infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Increase the number of safe routes to school schemes in county. Promotion of schemes and engagement with Boards of Management having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage etc.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
TR7	Become a partner to the National Transport Authority administered Smarter Travel Programme and partake with associated initiatives such as the Smarter Travel Mark	This action has the potential to support a modal shift and reduction in vehicle related GHG emissions within the Local Authority. In the absence of any mitigation, potential works involved in the construction of additional transportation infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.	Become a partner to the National Transport Authority administered Smarter Travel Programme and partake with associated initiatives such as the Smarter Travel Mark; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage etc.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
TR8	Develop an EV strategy for County Cavan & implement actions/recommendation as identified	The development of this strategy has the potential to lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Develop an EV strategy for County Cavan & implement actions/recommendation as identified having due regard to ensuring disabled access to EV charging, and environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage.
TR9	Develop a fleet management strategy ensuring alignment to the CAP	This action has the potential to support the reduction of vehicle related emissions in the County.	Develop a fleet management strategy ensuring alignment to the CAP. Whilst ensuring energy/fuel used to power local authority vehicles is sustainably sourced, and appropriate end-of-life management practices are in place for Electric Vehicles.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
TR14	Purchase EV's as replacement fleet vehicles where suitable and available on the market in line with decarbonisation strategy	This action has the potential to support the reduction of vehicle related emissions in the County.	Purchase EV's as replacement fleet vehicles where suitable and available on the market in line with decarbonisation strategy. Whilst ensuring energy/fuel used to power local authority alternative vehicles is sustainably sourced, and appropriate end-of-life management practices are in place for Electric Vehicles.
TR20	Develop, adopt & implement Local Transport Plans for additional towns with an emphasis on the promotion of sustainable transport modes and modal shift	This action will underpin and promote sustainable transport modes and modal shift. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of an expanded safe active travel network has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Develop, adopt & implement Local Transport Plans for additional towns with an emphasis on the promotion of sustainable transport modes and modal shift whist ensuring these plans are: - Designed to mitigate potential environmental and ecological impacts associated with supported active travel infrastructure. - Support the carrying out of environmental/biodiversity enhancement during the active travel development process.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
TR21	Update cycling strategy for Cavan town and all of County Cavan and promotion of same. Identify deficiencies in the network for each town.	This action has the potential to support a modal shift and reduction in vehicle related GHG emissions within the Local Authority. In the absence of any mitigation, potential works involved in the construction of additional cycling infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.	Update cycling strategy for Cavan town and all of County Cavan and promotion of same. Identify deficiencies in the network for each town.; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage etc.
TR22	Design and implement a transportation/mobility plan for Virginia and Bailieborough	This action has the potential to support a modal shift and reduction in vehicle related GHG emissions within the Local Authority. In the absence of any mitigation, potential works involved in the construction of additional transportation infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.	Design and implement a transportation/mobility plan for Virginia and Bailieborough; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage etc. Whilst ensuring prioritising sustainable transport.
TR23	Finalise land use transportation plan for Cavan Town	This action has the potential to support a modal shift and reduction in vehicle related GHG emissions within the Local Authority. In the absence of any mitigation, potential works involved in the construction of additional transportation infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts.	Finalise land use transportation plan for Cavan Town; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, cultural heritage etc. Whilst ensuring prioritising sustainable transport.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
N4	Prepare guidelines for Invasive Alien Species Management	The implementation of this action is likely to generate some degree of positive effects for biodiversity, flora and fauna. Inappropriate or improper invasive species management could lead to negative environmental impacts on biodiversity.	Prepare guidelines for Invasive Alien Species Management. These guidelines shall be developed by a competent ecology team, and shall have due regard to the need to appropriately manage and prevent the spread of invasive species.
S2	Increase the number of solar bins across the County	This action has the potential to positively effect waste management. The development of solar bins has the potential to result in negative glint and glare impacts on sensitive environmental receptors.	Increase the number of solar bins across the County where it is confirmed through a glint and glare assessment that such solar development will not have any potential glint and glare impact on sensitive receptors.
S20	Support and promote the Signpost Advisory Programme to support climate and sustainability actions on farms	The action has the potential to lead to a slight positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements. It could also lead to positive environmental effects on biodiversity, flora and fauna generally. This action could lead to the development of renewable energy development and building retrofits on farms within the LA region that could have a variety of slight to potentially significant negative environmental effects, including biodiversity impacts.	Support and promote the Signpost Advisory Programme to support climate and sustainability actions on farms, having due regard to environmental sensitivities in the area such as European Sites, water quality, air quality, and biodiversity related sensitivities.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-TR5	Identify suitable locations for EV charging points at across the Cavan Town DZ	This action has the potential to increase the uptake in Electric Vehicles and will support a modal shift and reduction in vehicle related GHG emissions. The expansion of the EV charging network will lead to the development of multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the local authority's functional area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Identify suitable locations for EV charging points at across the Cavan Town DZ; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, and cultural heritage.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-TR7	Engage with the relevant authorities to support the electrification of Local Link	This opportunity will lead to the development of an EV charging network with multiple charging points and ancillary electrical infrastructure including grid connection routes across the extent of the DZ area. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional charging point infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of a good network of charging infrastructure has the potential to promote the use of sustainable travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this opportunity relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Engage with the relevant authorities to support the electrification of Local Link; whilst advocating and exerting influence to support sustainability and environmental protection considerations being embedded into the project.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-TR8	Promote, support & incentivise safe cycling/walking routes for schools within DZ area.	This action has the potential to encourage modal shift and the use of active travel networks. This action supports the development of additional cycling infrastructure. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the construction of additional active travel infrastructure have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction) and biodiversity impacts. This action also has the potential to generate some degree of positive environmental effect due to a reduction in vehicle use.	Promote, support & incentivise safe cycling/walking routes for schools within DZ area; having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites local air quality, and cultural heritage.
DZ-TR9	Increase pedestrianised space in Cavan Town	This action will promote the development of safe sustainable and active travel networks. This action has the potential to encourage modal shift and the use of active travel modes and networks. It will help fully realise the potential positive environmental effects associated with sustainable/active travel. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in the reallocation/pedestrianising of road space have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), biodiversity impacts and traffic and transport impacts (through the temporary creation of traffic diversions and congestion).	Increase pedestrianised space in Cavan Town; having appropriate regard to environmental sensitivities such as traffic and transport constraints and aspects, the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality and cultural heritage.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-TR10	Implement phase two of the Cavan Town fully segregated greenway	This action will promote the development of green infrastructure. The development of green infrastructure has the potential to have wide ranging slight to very significant positive effects on biodiversity, and slight to significant positive effects on tourism and recreation amenity and water quality and hydrology. Green infrastructure can also support GHG sequestration leading to a slight positive effect on the climate environment. In absence of appropriate design and mitigation, the development of green infrastructure could potentially result in negative environmental effects, including negative construction related effects, negative effects on biodiversity or negative effects on cultural heritage assets.	Implement phase two of the Cavan Town fully segregated greenway; whilst having appropriate regard to planning and environmental considerations.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-TR11	Support a private service provider in carrying out a feasibility to assess the potential for a Park and Ride facility within the DZ.	This is a study based action that could support the development of park and ride facilities. In the absence of any mitigation, works involved in constructing park and ride facilities have the potential to generate a range of slight to significant environmental effects, including noise impacts, local air quality impacts (through the generation of construction dust), impacts on water quality (through the run-off of silt and cement based products during construction), and biodiversity impacts. The delivery of expanded sustainable/active travel networks has the potential to promote the use of sustainable and active travel modes in the community, encourage modal shift and support the reduction of vehicle related emissions. This is likely to have a slight to moderate positive environmental effect - having regard to the share of GHG emission reductions that can be supported via this action relative to national GHG emission reduction targets and requirements.	Support a private service provider in carrying out a feasibility to assess the potential for a Park and Ride facility within the DZ; having appropriate regard to planning and environmental protection considerations.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-N1	Develop a green infrastructure masterplan for Cavan Town to coordinate planning for and enhancement of the natural environment, biodiversity and green areas	In absence of appropriate design and mitigation, the development of green infrastructure could potentially result in negative environmental effects, including negative construction related effects, negative effects on biodiversity or negative effects on cultural heritage assets.	Develop a green infrastructure masterplan for Cavan Town to coordinate planning for and enhancement of the natural environment, biodiversity and green areas, having due regard for environmental protection considerations and opportunities for climate action co-benefits.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-N4	Support the creation of public and connected green spaces in Cavan Town to enhance health and wellbeing and biodiversity (e.g. pocket parks)	Inappropriate design or planning, or a lack of appropriate environmental mitigation may result in unintended construction or operational phase impacts on sensitive environmental receptors, such as the receiving biodiversity, human, noise, traffic or water environment.	Support the creation of public and connected green spaces in Cavan Town to enhance health and wellbeing and biodiversity (e.g. pocket parks), having due regard for planning and development policy and environmental protection considerations during the master planning and development process.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-N5	Support green infrastructure and nature based solutions such as sustainable urban drainage systems to improve climate resilience	In the absence of any mitigation, such development could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on: water quality and the hydrology of water bodies; biodiversity, including flora and fauna reliant on aquatic eco-systems; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust), the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise), and the receiving human environment.	Support green infrastructure and nature based solutions such as sustainable urban drainage systems to improve climate resilience, having due regard to environmental sensitivities including water quality, biodiversity, European sites, riparian corridors and aquatic ecology, visual amenity and recreation and amenity value.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-N6	Promote rain-water harvesting, reuse of grey water and green roofs and walls.	This action may support refurbishment or retrofitting of housing and building stock. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Retrofitting works may also negatively affect the appropriate conservation of protected structures. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.	Promote rain-water harvesting, reuse of grey water and green roofs and walls, having due regard for environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity; and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures, during any retrofitting works.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-N7	Hold a one-stop-shop event to promote appropriate retrofitting of private buildings and increase community understanding of climate action	This action may support refurbishment or retrofitting of housing and building stock. There is the potential for light and air pollution during retrofitting works. Retrofitting works may also negatively affect the appropriate conservation of protected structures. Therefore there is also scope for there to be negative effects if unmitigated.	Hold a one-stop-shop event to promote appropriate retrofitting of private buildings and increase community understanding of climate action

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-S4	Support the development of sustainable and circular economy infrastructure	Supported waste management infrastructure could lead to the creation of unintended negative environmental effects, including slight to significant traffic, noise, odour or nuisance related effects, if inappropriately designed or located, or in the absence of appropriate environmental mitigation.	Support the development of sustainable and circular economy infrastructure, whilst ensuring such infrastructure is appropriately located and designed and operates in accordance with the provisions of the Waste Management Act and in a manner that does not cause negative environmental impacts or localize nuisance.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-S6	Partake in any such feasibility study of the potential for district heating for Cavan Town	In the absence of any mitigation, development that this could action could lead to, which will include extensive pipe laying works, could potentially have a variety of significant, negative environmental effects, including effects on: water quality, biodiversity, flora and fauna; the receiving air environment (due to the generation of construction dust), the receiving noise environment (due to the generation of construction phase noise), and the receiving human environment.	Partake in any such feasibility study of the potential for district heating for Cavan Town, ensuring this study has appropriate regard to planning and environmental protection considerations.

Action Reference	Original Action	Potentially Significant Adverse Effect, if Unmitigated, including:	Recommendations integrated into the Plan, included in:
DZ-S9	To maximise the development potential of the Corranure Landbank as a renewable energy hub	This action will support the development of renewable energy technologies at the site, which could lead to a variety of slight to potentially significant localised environmental impacts, including impacts on biodiversity, landscape character and visual amenity, the receiving noise environment; or construction-related effects.	To maximise the development potential of the Corranure Landbank as a renewable energy hub, ensuring environmental considerations are integrated into the design phase to promote win-win outcomes for aspects such as biodiversity.

Table 5-2: Environmental Mitigation Measures related Environmental Governance Principles suggested for inclusion in the plan - specifically the plan implementation section

Promote climate action projects that support and maximise environmental co-benefits, such as biodiversity protection and enhancement; improved air, water or soil quality; or enhanced recreation, amenity and cultural heritage value, to ensure win-win benefits are gained.
Support or facilitate climate action related projects and initiatives which seek to make improvements in soil structure, management and health by increasing soil organic carbon - which will create the environmental co-benefits of improving flood resilience by enhancing water holding capacity of soils and increasing the level of GHG sequestration associated with land use functions.
Ensure all development underpinned or supported by climate action is planned and implemented in a manner that appropriately considers the potential for environmental co-benefits, potential environmental impacts and environmental protection requirements. No climate action related development project that is likely to have a significant negative effect on the receiving environment shall be supported.
Flood defence projects or related maintenance works supported by plan actions shall be carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-biodiversity related co-benefits, and shall have due regard for the protection and enhancement of rare, protected or important habitats and species.
Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action-cultural heritage co-benefits, and do not result in unauthorised physical damage to cultural, archaeological or architectural features, or unauthorised or inappropriate alteration of the context of sensitive cultural heritage features.
Ensure climate action related projects are carried out in a manner that promotes climate action water quality co-benefits, and align with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive and relevant River Basin Management Plan.
Promote climate action projects that support protected trees, hedgerows and other habitats such as wetlands, floodzones which contribute to green infrastructure.
Support opportunities to improve ecological connectivity of non-designated habitats and sites to improve overall ecosystem resilience and functioning while supporting climate action within the county.
Ensure all projects supported by the council have taken the necessary precautions to identify and manage invasives species, particularly with regard to Schedule III species. No climate action related development project that is likely to cause the spread of invasives species listed in Schedule III shall be supported.
Support opportunities to support peatland restoration, rehabilitation and maintenance while achieving climate targets through the implementation of the climate actions within the plan.

6. CONCLUSION

Stage 1 AA Screening and Stage 2 AA of the Cavan Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 has been carried out. Implementation of the LACAP has the potential to result in effects to the integrity of any European sites, if unmitigated.

The risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European sites have been addressed by the inclusion of mitigation measures that will prioritise the avoidance of effects in the first place and mitigate effects where these cannot be avoided. In addition, all lower-level plans and projects arising through the implementation of the LACAP will themselves be subject to AA when further details of design and location are known.

In-combination effects from interactions with other plans and projects was considered in the assessment and the mitigation measures incorporated into the plan are seen to be robust to ensure there will be no significant adverse effects as a result of the implementation of the LACAP either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects.

Having incorporated mitigation measures, it is concluded that the Cavan Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 is not foreseen to give rise to any significant adverse effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects[39]. This evaluation is made in view of the conservation objectives of the habitats or species, for which these sites have been designated.

6.1 Transboundary Effects

All potential effects that may be transmitted to European sites in Northern Ireland will also be appropriately mitigated with the adoption of the defined mitigation. Mitigation measures have been adopted to ensure that the environmental effects of Plan Action are controlled at the source. Thus, it can be concluded that the LACAP is not foreseen to have any significant adverse effects on designated European sites situated in Northern Ireland, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

[39] Except as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, viz. There must be: a) no alternative solution available, b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the plan to proceed; and c) Adequate compensatory measures in place.

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APPENDIX 1

Background information to European sites

Appendix 1 - Table 1: Quality and site characteristics of European sites considered in the assessment

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000584	Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC	One of the more extensive areas of intact montane blanket bog in Ireland with exceptionally well developed vegetation cover in flat plateau areas including dystrophic lakes hummock and hollow complexes and large areas of wet heath and to a lesser extent dry heath. Inland cliffs support a range of locally rare mountain plants. The site is an important breeding area for several upland birds.	An extensive area of upland composed of Yoredale shales and Carboniferous Sandstones straddling the international boundary with Northern Ireland and covered with montane blanket bog wet heath humid grassland with some small oligotrophic lakes and numerous headstreams and flushes. Inland cliffs of shales occur at the higher elevations and include important fossil remains notably goniatites.
001810	White Lough Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC	Although small this is a good example of an oligotrophic system which is not showing any obvious signs of eutrophication. Noted for its diversity of marginal wetland vegetation. Interest of site is increased by presence of Austropotamobius pallipes and Lutra lutra.	Site is on the headwaters of the River Deel and close to Loughs Bane and Lene. It is situated in a narrow poorly drained valley. Comprises a chain of interlinked lakes of which White Lough is the largest. Lakes are surrounded by wetland vegetation which includes Phragmites swamp Cladium swamp and wet woodland. Some dry broad-leaved woodland is within the site.
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	The site contains many Annexed habitats including the most extensive area of estuarine habitat in Ireland. A good range of Annexed species are also present including the only known resident population of Tursiops truncatus in Ireland all three Irish species of lamprey and a good population of Salmo salar. A number of birds listed on the EU Birds Directive either winter or breed in the site. The site is internationally important for waterfowl with more than 50000 individuals occurring in winter. Several species listed in the Irish Red Data Book are present perhaps most notably the only known Irish populations of Scirpus triqueter.	A very large long site approximately 14 km wide and 120 km long encompassing: the drained river valley which forms the River Shannon estuary; the broader River Fergus estuary plus a number of smaller estuaries e.g. Poulnasherry Bay; the freshwater lower reaches of the Shannon River between Killaloe and Limerick plus the freshwater stretches of much of the Feale and Mulkear catchments; a marine area at the mouth of the Shannon estuary with high rocky cliffs to the north and south; ericaceous heath on Kerry Head and Loop Head; and several lagoons. The underlying geology ranges from Carboniferous limestone (east of Foynes) to Namurian shales and flagstones (west of Foynes) to Old Red Sandstone (at Kerry Head). The salinity of the system varies daily with the ebb and flood of the tide and with annual rainfall fluctuations seasonally.
002203	Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC	The Degraded Raised Bog in Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC is of conservation significance as it has the potential for restoration to Active Raised Bog which is a priority habitat in the EU and one that is scarce and under threat in Ireland.	Girley (Drewstown) Bog (002203) consists of 32.26 ha of raised bog (15.05 ha of high bog and 17.21 ha of cutover bog) which occupies the south-western part of Girley Bog NHA (001580). Girley Bog is a Midland type raised bog developed in a basin.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Despite the relatively small area of Degraded Raised Bog present the restoration actions have resulted in active redevelopment of the habitat towards Active Raised Bog which add significantly to the diversity and scientific value of the site. The site is being actively managed for conservation as part of the Coillte EU LIFE Project and most of the required restoration measures have already been carried out. However some significant threats remain and an After LIFE management plan is being developed for the future conservation management of the SAC. The SAC is located within the raised bog Girley Bog NHA (001580) the conservation management of which should support the maintenance and improvement of Degraded Raised Bog in the SAC. It is estimated that restoration works carried out on the SAC will in turn benefit the conservation of 0.5 ha of Active Raised Bog and the restoration of 0.5 ha of Degraded Raised Bog in the adjacent area of Girley Bog NHA (001580).	The SAC is bounded by open high bog on its northern and eastern sides by agricultural land on its western side and by cutover bog with forestry on its southern side. Most of the SAC and all of the high bog included in the SAC was completely covered by coniferous forestry which has been recently clear-felled as part of the restoration program for the site. Most of the conifers in the SAC were removed and the associated intensive drainage system was blocked by 2013 as part of an EU LIFE funded Coillte project (Demonstrating Best Practice in Raised Bog Restoration in Ireland) so as to raise the water table and restore Active Raised Bog (ARB) on the site. With the clear-felling of conifers and blocking of drains water-levels have risen and remain high throughout most of the year. As a consequence raised bog vegetation including typical sphagnum species has returned to the wetter areas of the high bog. Overall the high bog appears to be re-wetting with limited areas of wet flats and hummock/hollows. However the majority of the restored areas have not yet developed vegetation characteristic of the wettest conditions and there is a considerable amount of conifer and birch regeneration occurring in these areas. Two areas in the north-east of the site covering 2.28 ha have been identified by hydrological modelling as Degraded Raised Bog (7120) (DRB) habitat. They now have standing surface water in the hollows and pools for most of the year with considerable areas of rapidly regenerating bog mosses. These wet areas with regenerating Sphagnum moss are expected to develop into Active Raised Bog habitat within 20 years. However to ensure that these areas reach their full potential it will be necessary to block the boundary drains in consultation with other stakeholders. The cutover bog to the south of the site is generally drier and is developing into wet and dry woodland dominated currently by Downy Birch scrub with occasional conifers from the former plantation. Cherry Laurel Rhododendron and conifers are regenerating strongly in this area and are subject to ongoing control programs.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
004026	Dundalk Bay SPA	Estuaries and particularly intertidal sand and mud flats are very well represented at this site and support the largest concentration of wintering waterfowl on the east coast (regularly in excess of 20000 wintering waterfowl). The bay has internationally important populations of Branta bernicila hrota Calidris canutus Limosa limosa and Limosa lapponica. It is the top site in the country for Calidris canutus with over 38% of the national total. A further 13 species have populations of national importance with particular notable numbers for Haematopus ostralegus (12.4% of national total) Calidris alpina (8.4% of national total) and Vanellus vanellus (7.4% of national total). Dundalk Bay is an important roost site for Anser anser and small numbers of Anser albifrons flavirostris. Shallow bay waters support divers grebes and diving duck with nationally important populations of Podiceps cristatus and Mergus serrator. This bay is a regular site for passage waders such as Philomachus pugnax Calidris ferruginea and Tringa erythropus. It is also an important site for wintering gulls especially Larus ridibundus and Larus canus. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the waterfowl species and habitat quality for most of the estuarine habitats is very good. Wintering bird populations have been well monitored in recent years.	The site is a large bay-like estuarine complex extending c.15 km from north to south and on average of 4-5 km in width. It contains the estuaries of a number of moderately sized rivers principally the Castletown the Flurry the Fane and the Glyde/Dee. These rivers drain fairly intensive agricultural catchments and the Castletown flows through Dundalk town and serves the port. The site contains the largest expanse of intertidal flats on the east coast and has a very marked tidal range. The sediments are predominantly sands though fine muds or muddy sands occur in the sheltered areas at Dundalk and Ballymascanlan. Salt marshes are well represented especially in the more sheltered areas such as the estuaries of the Castletown and Flurry rivers. Spartina is frequent in parts. Post-glacial raised beaches are a feature of the shoreline.
004064	Lough Ree SPA	Lough Ree is one of the most important Midland sites for wintering waterfowl with nationally important populations of Anas penelope Anas crecca Anas acuta Anas clypeata Aythya fuligula and Bucephala clangula. Nationally important populations of Pluvialis apricaria and Vanellus are also associated with the lake. Regionally important numbers of Cygnus and Anser albifrons flavirostris are also found in the vicinity of the lake. The site supports a nationally important population of Sterna hirundo. Larus ridibundus breeds (nationally important) and Larus fuscus and Larus canus have bred in the past (recent census information is poor).	Situated on the River Shannon between Lanesborough and Athlone Lough Ree is the third largest lake in the Republic of Ireland. It lies in an ice-deepened depression in Carboniferous Limestone. Some of its features (including the islands) are based on glacial drift. The main inflowing rivers are the Shannon Inny and Hind and the main outflowing river is the Shannon. The greater part of Lough Ree is less than 10 m in depth but there are six deep troughs running from north to south reaching a maximum depth of about 36 m just west of Inchmore. The lake has a very long indented shoreline and hence has many sheltered bays. It also has a good scattering of islands most of which are included in the site. The lake is classified as a mesotrophic system.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Lough Ree is an important site for breeding duck and grebes with Aythya fuligula and Podiceps cristatus having populations of national importance. Of particular note is that it is one of the two main sites in the country for breeding Melanitta nigra a Red Data Book species. The woodland around the lake is a stronghold for Sylvia borin and this scarce species probably occurs on some of the islands within the SPA. Lutra lutra is frequent within the site and the fish Coregonus autumnalis pollan occurs.	The water of Lough Ree tends to be strongly peat-stained restricting macrophytes to depths of less than 2 m. Swamp vegetation especially of Phragmites australis occurs in the sheltered areas around the lake. The swamp often grades to species-rich calcareous fen or freshwater marsh. Lowland wet grassland some of which floods in winter is found in abundance around the shore. Some of the islands are wooded.
004065	Lough Sheelin SPA	Despite very variable water quality in recent decades Lough Sheelin remains a very important site for wintering waterfowl and especially diving duck. It supports nationally important populations of four species: Podiceps cristatus Aythya ferina Aythya fuligula and Bucephala clangula. A range of other species occur in relatively low numbers including Cygnus olor Anas platyrhynchos and Fulica atra.	Lough Sheelin is a medium- to large-sized lake with a maximum length of 7 km. The lake lies at the top of the Inny River a main tributary of the River Shannon. It is a typical limestone lake and is fairly shallow (maximum depth 14 m). The trophic status of the lake has varied greatly since the 1970s due to pollution from mainly agricultural sources. It was recently (1998-2000) classified as a highly eutrophic system. Swamp vegetation occurs along parts of the shoreline. There are some very small offshore islands which are mostly wooded. The lake was formerly one of the top trout fisheries in the country.
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	This is the most important coastal wetland site in the country and regularly supports in excess of 50000 wintering waterfowl. It has internationally important populations of Calidris alpina Limosa and Tringa totanus. A further 16 species have populations of national importance. The site is particularly significant for Calidris alpina (11% of national total) Pluvialis squatarola (7.5% of total) Vanellus (6.5% of total) Tringa totanus (6.1% of total) and Tadorna tadorna (6.0% of total). It has Cygnus cygnus Pluvialis apricaria and Limosa lapponica in significant numbers. The site was formerly frequented by a population of Anser albifrons flavirostris but these have now abandoned the area. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the wintering birds and habitat quality for most of the estuarine habitats is good.	The River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries form the largest estuarine complex in Ireland. The site comprises all of the estuarine habitat west from Limerick City and south from Ennis extending west as far as Killadysert and Foynes on the north and south shores of the Shannon respectively (a distance of some 25 km from east to west). Also included are several areas in the outer Shannon estuary notably Clonderalaw Bay and Poulnasherry Bay. The site has vast expanses of intertidal flats. The main macro-invertebrate community is a Macoma-Scrobicularia-Nereis community which provides a rich food resource for the wintering birds. Eelgrass (Zostera spp.) is present in places. The intertidal flats are often fringed with salt marsh vegetation areas which provide important high tide roost sites for the birds. In the innermost parts of the estuaries the tidal channels or creeks are fringed with species such as Phragmites australis and Scirpus spp. Spartina anglica is frequent in parts.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000006	Killyconny Bog (Cloghbally) SAC	Killyconny Bog is a rather small raised bog site located in the north-east of the country. The site contains good examples of the priority Annex I habitat active raised bog and the non-priority habitat degraded raised bog (capable of regeneration). The uncut high bog area is surrounded by extensive cutover surfaces and a portion of this cutover has been planted with conifers. Although the site is rather damaged at present due to drainage effects it remains one of the largest extant areas of relatively intact raised bog in the north-east of the country and thus is of considerable ecological and biogeographical importance.	The underlying geology of this site consists of lower paleozoic shales and grits which generally have a low permeability with clays and clayey limestone tills dominating the subsoils. The bog consists of two small peat basins which have fused over a low drumlin ridge.
000007	Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC	The site contains substantial areas of natural eutrophic lakes and bog woodland. Plant species of limited distribution in Ireland but which achieve local prominence include Stratoites aloides Saggitaria saggitifolia Butomus umbellatus Rumex hydrolapathum and two species of duckweed Lemna gibba and Lemna polyrhiza. The lake system provides optimum habitat for Lutra and supports an important population. Part of the site is designated SPA. The Annex I Cygnus and Anser albifrons flavirostris are both very stable in their numbers here. Wildfowl Sanctuaries occupy approximately 5% of the site. The area is also listed as a Ramsar Site. The Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs complex connects with the cross border Upper Lough Erne which is proposed as a SAC in Northern Ireland.	The Lough Oughter complex at over 5000 ha comprises a maze of small to medium sized lakes and river sections and is considered the best inland example of a flooded drumlin landscape. The River Erne is the main inflowing and outflowing river. The lakes are classified as naturally eutrophic. Most are relatively shallow (<10 m) with well developed marginal vegetation including swamp marshes and wet woodland. There are many small islands within the lakes.
000679	Garriskil Bog SAC	Garriskil Bog SAC is a site of considerable conservation significance comprising two subsites Garriskil Bog and Derrya Bog which contain raised bog a rare habitat in the EU and one that is becoming increasingly scarce and under threat in Ireland. It contains good examples covering significant areas of the EU Habitats Directive Annex I habitats Active Raised Bog (7110) Degraded Raised Bog (7120) which is being restored to the priority Annex 1 habitat Active raised bog (7110) and Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion (7150).	Garriskil Bog SAC (347.71 ha) consists of two raised bog sites. The main area is Garriskil Bog which covers 324.81 ha and lies 3 km east of Rathowen in Co. Westmeath A small outlier Derrya Bog covers 22.90 ha and lies 2.2 km to the east of Garriskil on the northern shore of Lough Derravaragh. Both bogs are remnants of the large river floodplain bogs which developed where the River Inny enters and leaves Lough Derravarragh.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The site already supports a large area of high quality raised bog microhabitats which is unusual for a site in the east Midlands including some very well developed hummock/hollow complexes and has a large area with the potential for restoration to Active Raised Bog. Although the Derrya Bog subsite of the SAC is small (22.3 ha) and lacks annex habitats it has been restored and has the potential to support the retention of Active Raised Bog and the restoration of Degraded Raised Bog to Active Raised Bog in Lough Derravaragh Bog NHA (000684). Ireland has a high proportion of the total EU resource of Atlantic raised bog (over 50%) and so has a special responsibility for its conservation at an international level.	Garriskil Bog is considered to be an excellent example of a Midland raised bog and it includes 170.26 ha of uncut raised bog and 154.55 ha of surrounding hinterland which includes 109 ha of cutover bog. Derrya Bog which is part of Lough Derravaragh Bog NHA (000684) has been restored as part of an EU LIFE project. The site consists of 2.5 ha of high bog and 20.4ha of cutover most of which was afforested in the 1970s. All the conifer plantations were recently clear-felled and restored by drain-blocking. The bedrock geology of both sites is carboniferous limestone. Garriskil Bog is a large raised bog with 51.7% of the original bog still present. It contains a large wet high quality central core of Active Raised Bog (ARB) amounting to 50.87ha. There are extensive well developed systems of pools and hummocks present. Outside the Active Raised Bog area pool complexes are rare and where they do occur they tend to be dominated by shallow open water or algal mats. In a number of places the high bog is being invaded by Downy Birch (Betula pubescens) and pines. The large areas of old cutover bog provides an additional habitat where Purple Moor-grass and Heather dominate along with cottongrasses while in some parts Downy Birch woodland is developing. Along the north-east margin of the high bog a narrow band of fen-grassland occurs. Past drainage of the bog associated with arterial drainage of the Inny and Riffey rivers and peat cutting has unfavourably impacted on the site and lead to widespread subsidence and drying out. The northern area of the site was also affected in the 1990s by intensive surface drainage which directly affected the area of Active Raised Bog reducing it from 71.23 to 45.12 ha. Those drains were blocked by NPWS in the late 1990s and by 2014 the area of Active Raised Bog had increased by 5.75 ha to 50.87 ha. There has been no turf cutting since the 1990s and though burning has caused damage in the past there has been no severe fire in recent years. Grazing cattle have caused some local poaching damage to the bog surface. The Derrya outlier is within Lough Derravaragh Bog NHA (000684).

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			Lough Derravaragh Bog is a remnant of a larger area of bog much of which has now been cutover and reclaimed for forestry and agriculture with only 48 ha (approximately 40%) of high bog remaining. A small area of Active Raised Bog habitat (4.61 ha) is present and based on hydrological modelling an area of 2.1 ha is considered to be Degraded Raised Bog. In Derrya Bog both the high bog and cutover were planted with a closed canopy plantation of Sitka Spruce (Picea sitchensis) in the 1980s. This conifer plantation was clear-felled in 2011 and the drains were blocked with peat dams in 2013 as part of an EU LIFE project. As a consequence water-levels have risen and some raised bog vegetation has returned to the wetter areas of the high bog. These areas contain Ling Heather Hare's tail Cotton-grass (Eriophorum vaginatum) Bilberry Purple Moor-grass and Tormentil (Potentilla erecta) with the Bog mosses Sphagnum palustre and in the wet drains Sphagnum recurvum. There is some scattered Birch and Sitka Spruce regenerating and these are being controlled. On the cutover now that the conifers have been clear-felled it is expected that most of this area will develop into dry native broadleaf woodland but 4.5 ha may be wet enough to support Wet Birch woodland and 1.44 ha of Alder (Alnus glutinosa) - Willow (Salix spp.) woodland along the western cutover. A site specific restoration plan has been developed for Garriskil Bog SAC to help meet the national conservation objectives for raised bogs. One of the key objectives of that plan is to restore the area of Active Raised Bog to 84.9 ha. The area of Active Raised Bog was reported as 50.9 ha during the latest monitoring survey (Fernandez et al 2014a) and it has been concluded that there is 31.6 ha of Degraded Raised Bog on the high bog which can be restored to Active Raised Bog with the appropriate restoration measures. There is also long-term potential for 2.4 ha of bog peat-forming habitats (BPFH) to develop if restoration measures are undertaken on cutover areas. Detailed conservation objectives have yet to be developed for the Derrya Bog subsite of the SAC but will be produced as part of the restoration plan for the Lough Derravaragh Bog NHA site.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			Derrya Bog is being actively managed for conservation by the landowner Coillte as part of an EU LIFE Project and most of the required restoration measures have already been carried out. An After LIFE management plan is being developed by Coillte for the future conservation management of that part of the SAC. Garriskil Bog is part of the current NPWS Restoring Active Raised Bog in Irelands SAC Network 2016-2020 (LIFE NAT/IE/000032).
001786	Kilroosky Lough Cluster SAC	Typical marl lakes with good Chara beds and moderate to good quality in a catchment where many wetlands have been drained or damaged. A zone of Cladium mariscus fen occurs at each of the lakes though this is limited in extent. Interesting diversity of species including a population of Austropotamobius pallipes and a Red Data Book plant Pyrola rotundifolia.	A series of four calcareous oligo-mesotrophic lakes developed in drumlin hollows surrounded by reedswamp and fen vegetation with some wet woodland and poor agricultural wet grassland. Well developed Chara beds occur on the marl covered lake beds.
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	While the site has a good diversity of coastal habitats including fixed dunes most have been modified in some way. The containment of the main tidal channel has altered the tidal pattern which affects the functioning of the various estuarine habitats. Both dune systems were formerly far more extensive but much of the stable areas have now been converted to golf courses. Site is important for wintering waterfowl supporting nine species in nationally important numbers including Pluvialis apricaria an Annex I EU Birds Directive species. Sterna albifrons breeds or attempts to breed in most years.	This moderately sized coastal site which is situated below the town of Drogheda comprises most of the estuary of the Boyne River a substantial river which drains a large catchment. On the seaward side the site extends north and south for several kilometres to include the remaining intact areas of dune systems at Baltray and Mornington as well as the adjacent beaches and intertidal sand flats. The main channel of the Boyne is contained by training walls for navigable purposes. As well as intertidal sand and mud flats the inner part of the site has salt marshes and Spartina swards.
002032	Boleybrack Mountain SAC	This site supports an excellent diversity of montane habitats over a fairly extensive area. Active blanket bog dry heath and wet heath are particularly well represented with good examples also of Molinia meadows and dystrophic lakes. In addition the site contains some areas of scrub (at low elevations) streams and cliff.	Boleybrack mountain is an extensive area of montane habitat which occurs along the Cavan/Leitrim border a few kilometres north of Lough Allen. The dominant bedrock within the site is a sedimentary gritstone which contains seams of coal in places. This coal has been mined in the past. The site is dominated by heath and blanket bog with dystrophic/oligotrophic lakes scrub and inland cliff covering a small proportion of the site area. Coniferous forestry is frequent on the lower slopes of the mountain and forms the site boundary in many places.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Although much of the surrounding low-lying land has been afforested with conifers the quality of the remaining upland area is good with relatively low levels of disturbance from damage such as grazing and burning. The site supports breeding Pluvialis apricaria and Lagopus. It also has a number of scarce plant species for the area notably Vaccinium vitis-idea and Vaccinium oxycoccus. The site is also important from a scenic perspective and is one of a number of important upland heath/blanket bog sites which occur close to the border with Northern Ireland.	
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Lough Derg is of importance for both breeding and wintering birds. The islands support nationally important breeding colonies of Sterna hirundo Phalacrocorax carbo Podiceps cristatus and probably Aythya fuligula. It is a traditional site for nesting Larus ridibundus but there is no recent survey information. In winter the lake is particularly important for diving ducks with nationally important populations of Aythya fuligula and Bucephala clangula occurring. Cygnus olor also has a population of national importance whilst a range of other species occur in lesser numbers including Cygnus cygnus Anas crecca Fulica atra and Vanellus vanellus. A flock of Anser albifrons flavirostris has traditionally used the site where they feed on grassy islands but birds have seldom been recorded in recent years.	Lough Derg is the largest of the Shannon Lakes being some 40 km long. Its maximum breadth across the Scarriff Bay-Youghal Bay transect is 13 km but for most of its length it is less than 5 km wide. The lake is relatively shallow at the northern end being mostly 6 m in depth but in the middle region it has an axial trench and descends to over 25 m in places. The narrow southern end of the lake has the greatest average depth with a maximum of 34 m. The greater part of the lake lies on Carboniferous limestone but the narrow southern section is underlain by Silurian strata. Most of the lower part of the lake is enclosed by hills on both sides the Slieve Aughty Mountains to the west and the Arra Mountains to the east. The northern end is bordered by relatively flat agricultural country. The lake shows the high hardness levels and alkaline pH to be expected from its mainly limestone catchment basin and it has most recently been classified as a mesotrophic system. The lake has many small islands especially on its western and northern sides. The shoreline is often fringed with swamp vegetation. Aquatic vegetation includes a range of charophyte species.
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. Along with its main tributaries the River Suck and River Brosna it represents one of the most important wetland systems in the country.	The site follows the River Shannon from Athlone just below Lough Ree to Portumna just above Lough Derg a distance of over 50 km. It includes much of the flood plain of the river varying in width from approximately 0.5 km to up to 1.5 km in places. A weir at Meelick divides the flooding regime. The main habitat present is humid grassland improved to varying extents that is seasonally flooded.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		It is of International Importance for wintering waterfowl as numbers regularly exceed the 20000 threshold (mean of 34985 for the 5 winters 1994/94-1998/99). Of particular note is the presence of an Internationally Important population of Cygnus cygnus. A further five species have populations of national importance: Cygnus olor Anas penelope Pluvialis apricaria Vanellus vanellus and Limosa limosa. There is a well documented spring passage of Limosa limosa along the river valley. The Shannon callows are also of high importance for breeding birds. In particular it has the largest concentration of Crex crex in Ireland. Since 1991 a conservation programme involving annual monitoring of population size practical habitat management and publicity has been in operation. Coturnix coturnix a very rare species in Ireland also breeds in the grasslands. Several wader species notably Vanellus vanellus Gallinago gallinago and Tringa totanus have important breeding populations though these have declined substantially since the 1980s. The scarce breeding species Anas clypeata nests in small numbers each year. The callows is one of the very few sites in Ireland where Limosa limosa has bred. The habitats also support a range of ground nesting passerine species notably Locustella naevia and Alauda arvensis. In autumn and winter Circus cyaneus is a regular visitor.	The less improved areas are species-rich. The grassland is used mainly for pasture but some is used for hay-making. The river channel is fringed by swamp and marsh vegetation. There is an extensive system of drainage channels many of which support a diverse flora. The callows often border raised bogs some of which are still intact.
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	This site is the largest area of semi-natural floodplain grassland in Ireland and Britain and has very many features of a natural ecosystem. It has been placed among the most 'natural' floodplains in western Europe. It is subject to regular and prolonged annual winter flooding. Wooded alluvial islands which flood regularly occur at one location. A number of Red Data Book and scarce plant species occur on the site the scarce species including Leucojum aestivum Sium latifolium Botrychium lunaria and Lemna gibba. In addition the site contains a very wide variety of native plant species.	The River Shannon is the largest river in Ireland and its central route drains a large percentage of the whole country. It has proved too powerful to be tamed by drainage schemes in the past and this central section is still free to flood the surrounding lowlands in winter. It is a well-used agricultural resource of low intensity during the summer. This floodplain functions as a semi-natural meadow/marsh habitat (used for grazing or hay-making). There is an extensive system of surface drains. The site is linear running for about 50 km at an average width of about 0.75 km (but reaching 1.5 km in several places).

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		A small area of limestone pavement at Clorhane is of particular importance as it is the only example of this habitat in the region. Along with its tributary the Little Brosna (designated separately) this is one of the great waterfowl sites in Ireland with huge numbers of a wide range of species occurring in winter with a mean peak of 34985 waterbirds recorded from 1995/96 to 1999/00. This is the third highest for an inland site in Ireland. The highest is the Little Brosna which is an extension to the Middle Shannon Callows. Only three estuarine sites are higher. In 1996/97 one species was of International Importance (Whooper Swan) and six species were of National Importance. A small flock of Anser albifrons flavirostris regularly use a few locations on the site and these are part of the Internationally Important flocks of both the Little Brosna and the River Suck. It is one of very few significant inland sites in Britain or Ireland for Calidris alpina. It is the top site in the country for Cygnus olor and close to that for Cygnus cygnus Vanellus vanellus and Pluvialis apricaria. The E.U. Birds Directive Annex I species Circus cyaneus regularly uses the site for hunting in autumn and winter. Perhaps even more important are its nesting Crex crex Coturnix coturnix and breeding waders. In 1987 1204 pairs of breeding waders were recorded (including adjacent parts of the Shannon) mainly Vanellus vanellus Gallinago gallinago Numenius arquata and Tringa totanus. Crex crex has one of its last strongholds here with 70 and 66 calling birds present in 1998 and 1999 respectively. The Shannon Callows is one of the few areas in Ireland where Coturnix coturnix breeds. Numbers vary between years but up to 14 males have been heard. There are high populations of ground-nesting passerines such as Alauda arvensis Anthus pratensis Locustella naevia and Emberiza schoeniclus on the site. The River Shannon Callows is a breeding site for two Red Data Book waterbird species: Limosa limosa islandica and Anas clypeata. The Red Data Book species Anas acuta has also bred on the site though its current status is unknown.	For about half its length it borders raised bogs most of which are in the process of large-scale peat harvesting. Esker ridges lie adjacent to the callows in some places. There are areas of both relict and active levees. A weir at Meelick divides the flooding regime. Ecological diversity is caused and maintained by multiple ownership variation in the flooding regime due to the topography of the callows hundreds of kilometres of drainage ditches differences in the amount of peat and alluvium in the soils and by the extensive nature of the site. The main habitat on the site is humid grassland managed for hay and pasture and these areas have the same management regime as the lowland hay meadows and Molinia meadows.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The E.U. Birds Directive Annex I species Falco columbarius bred on the site in 1996. Large rivers flowing unfettered through lowland floodplains are now rare anywhere in Europe. This river and its associated habitats are of the highest conservation importance.	
000428	Lough Melvin SAC	Lough Melvin part of which lies in Northern Ireland is an important example of an oligotrophic-mesotrophic lake system. Sections of the main inflowing rivers and all of the outflowing river are included in site. It has a typical aquatic and emergent flora. The site is of great importance for fish conservation with three genetically distinct populations of brown trout (Salmo trutta) - ?ferox? ?gillaroo? ?sonaghen? as well as Salvelinus alpinus and important populations of Salmo salar. It may be one of the last examples in north-western Europe of a natural post-glacial salmonid lake. The site supports a population of Lutra lutra and has four Red Data Book plant species notably Trollius europaeus. Martes martes has been reported from the site in recent times.	Lough Melvin is a large lake over 12 km in length and up to 3 km in width. The lake lies in a glaciated valley with average depth of 8.5 m and a maximum of 45 m. The underlying rock is limestone. The lake is fed by several main rivers - the Ballagh the Glenaniff the County and the Roogagh (lies in Northern Ireland) plus numerous small streams. The lake drains into Donegal Bay via the Drowes River. Marginal vegetation is mainly wet grassland but there are significant areas of wet woodland and some swamp and fen vegetation. Several large islands occur. Landuse in surrounding areas is mainly agricultural though there are substantial areas of forestry. Some areas of bog and heath occur in the catchment.
000440	Lough Ree SAC	One of the largest and most important lakes in Ireland Lough Ree is an excellent example of a natural eutrophic system. The woodlands at the site are considered the best in the midlands. The site also contains very good examples of degraded raised bog much of which retain a typical raised bog flora and which could be improved by restoration works. Bog woodland is also represented though some of this is planted Pinus species. A further area of wet woodland on cutover peat is notable for the abundance of Frangula alnus. Good to moderate examples of alkaline fens and calcareous dry grasslands also occur. Limestone pavement with species-rich woodland occurs at Rathcline. Several Red Data plant species occur. Lutra lutra is frequent on the site and the fish Coregonus autumnalis pollan has been recorded. It is an important bird site for wintering and breeding waterfowl and has a colony of Sterna hirundo.	A large mesotrophic moderate-eutrophic lake situated in an ice deepened depression in carboniferous limestone on the River Shannon. Greater part is less than 10 m in depth but there are deep troughs from north to south of depths between 17-33 m. Lough Ree has a long and much indented shoreline mostly stony with some gravel and sand. In parts reed swamp alkaline fen bog freshwater marshes wet and dry grassland and wet woodland occurs. Numerous islands some wooded occur in the lake. Dry broad-leaved woodland of good quality is included in site. Lough Ree is surrounded by agricultural land of moderate to high intensity and is close to Athlone town. Eutrophication may be a problem but at present Lough Ree is less affected than other midland lakes notably Lough Derg.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		It is of particular importance for the breeding population of Melanitta nigra as it is one of only three sites for the species in Ireland. Water quality of the lake is considered good.	
001403	Arroo Mountain SAC	The north-facing limestone cliffs of Arroo Mountain and the 'slips' below them are very important for the rich arctic-alpine vascular plant and bryophyte floras they support. A number of very rare species are found springs and flushes some of which have tufa formations occur amongst the calcareous rocky habitats. The main interest of the summit vegetation lies with the extensive area of good quality almost intact wet heath found there; here also are found several good but small examples of intact mountain blanket bog. Falco peregrinus nest on the cliffs while Pluvialis apricaria on blanket bog in the north-eastern section of the plateau.	A large mountain complex comprised of blanket bog wet and dry heath humid and dry calcareous grassland flushes streams small lakes wooded ravines limestone gorges limestone scree and steep limestone cliffs which have developed on the sides and summit of an undulating plateau of carboniferous limestone overlain by shale. Post-glacial slippage of sections of cliff has formed an interesting geomorphological feature at the northern end of the site. Numerous swallow holes are found on the plateau. The site includes several megalithic monuments and tombs of archaeological interest.
001818	Lough Forbes Complex SAC	Lough Forbes Complex is an extensive and important midland site which contains significant examples of the Annex I habitats natural eutrophic lake active raised bog alluvial woodlands degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. Other habitats of note occurring include mixed ash/oak woodland dry grassland and cutover raised bog. In many areas there are good examples of relatively undisturbed transitions from lake and river to adjoining terrestrial habitats such as wet grassland and raised bog. The lake callow and raised bog areas provide feeding and roosting sites for a flock of wintering Anser albifrons flavirostris. The site is within a breeding territory of Falco columbarius.	A complex of naturally eutrophic lake fed by the River Shannon and Rinn River with extensive reed bed development and natural transitions to flooded grasslands marsh and two active raised bogs. The Castle Forbes estate on the eastern shore of the lake is extensively planted with mature semi-natural woodland including some stands of old oak wood. The site is located in the north central midlands at a low elevation and overlies Carboniferous Limestone with a variable thickness of glacial tills.
002120	Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC	A small but diverse marl lake with well developed Chara communities including such species as Chara globularis C. contraria C. rudis and C. curta. Water quality is good with no apparent signs of pollution. The lake formerly had a good population of Austropotamobius pallipes but the entire population had become extinct by 1987 probably due to crayfish fungus plague. Habitat for crayfish remains suitable and there are plans for a reintroduction scheme.	The site is situated in a shallow valley on the headwaters of the River Deel. It comprises Lough Bane and two smaller lakes. Water level has dropped since the start of the 20th century exposing soft marl deposits. The lakes have well developed marginal swamp and fen vegetation. Parts of shoreline are wooded with mainly deciduous species. The site includes some areas of dry calcareous grassland. Surrounding areas are mostly semi-improved to improved pasture fields. Some afforestation has occurred in the area in recent times.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
002121	Lough Lene SAC	A small to medium sized hard water marl lake in a fairly natural condition. A single sampling indicated a diverse Charophyte community including two marl lake indicators (Chara curta C. pendunculata). Water quality is generally good though likely to have received increased loading of nutrients from agricultural catchment in recent years. The site supported Austropotamobius pallipes prior to 1987 before eradication by crayfish fungus Aphanomyces astaci. A re-introduction programme has been successful and the species is now breeding again at the site. The site supports wintering waterfowl notably Aythya ferina which occur in nationally important numbers.	Situated in an area of Carboniferous limestone Lough Lene is a small to medium sized marl lake. Maximum length is 4.5 km and maximum depth is 20 m. Two small streams feed the lake and the main outflowing river is the River Deel which drains eastwards into the Boyne catchment. Lake is naturally oligotrophic though tends towards mesotrophic conditions at times. Shoreline mostly stony but areas of well developed marsh swamp and wet woodland vegetation occur in the sheltered areas at both the eastern and western ends. Situated in a fairly intensive agricultural catchment.
002201	Derragh Bog SAC	This Coillte owned site was never afforested and the main conservation problem for the bog was drying out due to drainage associated with peat cutting in the past and possibly the arterial drainage of the River Inny. The drainage also has facilitated the spread of birch and the invasive conifer Lodgepole Pine onto the bog. The main drains associated with the turf cutting were blocked in 2013/14 and the Lodgepole Pine (and birch where necessary) were controlled in 2014 as part of an E.U. funded Coillte LIFE project Demonstrating Best Practice in Raised Bog Restoration in Ireland. The objective of that project was to raise the water table and restore Active Raised Bog and Bog Woodland on the site. With the blocking of drains the cutover bog appears to be re-wetting water-levels in some areas now remain high throughout the year and limited areas of wet flats and hollows are developing. As a consequence raised bog vegetation is improving in quality and bog mosses (Sphagnum spp.) including the rare Sphagnum pulchrum are regenerating. However the majority of the recently cutover areas have not yet developed vegetation characteristic of the wet bog conditions. This situation is expected to improve over time as the bog surface becomes wetter.	Derragh Bog SAC 002201 consists of 37.62 ha of raised bog (8.33 ha of high bog and 29.29 ha of cutover). It includes most of the raised bog system known as Derragh Bog which occurs within Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough NHA (000985). The western and southern boundary of the site is contiguous with the boundary of Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA (site code 004061).This bog is an example of a floodplain raised bog which borders two lakes Lough Kinale to the west and Derragh Lough to the south the River Inny to the east and wet agricultural grassland to the north. There is a full transition from the high bog to cutover bog to semi-natural birch woodland fen swamp and lake. The underlying geology of both lakes and bog is carboniferous limestone. There is a small (0.19ha) example of immature Bog Woodland habitat that is part of a mosaic with non-typical raised bog vegetation on the eastern cutover of the SAC. It consist of a Downy birch (Betula pubescens) dominated wooded flush and invasive Lodgepole Pine (Pinus contorta) on old cutover with deep peat. An area of 0.64 ha of Degraded Raised Bog is expected to develop into Active Raised Bog in three locations on the old cutover in the long term. The area of the high bog has vegetation typical of a relative dry Midland raised bog. Much of the recent cutover area is drier with a low bog moss cover and there is some encroaching Downy Birch and Lodgepole Pine seedlings.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Derragh Bog SAC is a site of conservation significance comprising raised bog a rare habitat in the E.U. and one that is becoming increasingly scarce and under threat in Ireland. Although Derragh Bog is a small example of a raised bog its development in close association with the lakes and their floodplains and the relatively intact wetland transition between the two systems make it unusual in a western European context. In addition its location towards the north-eastern extreme of the range of raised bogs in Ireland and its close proximity to Moneybeg and Clare Island cSAC (002340) increases its ecological importance. The site is being actively managed for conservation as part of the Coillte E.U. LIFE Project. Ireland has a high proportion of the total E.U. resource of Atlantic raised bog (over 50%) and so has a special responsibility for its conservation at an international level.	In the older cutover there is an undulating surface with a complete vegetation cover and wet to very wet depressions. The cutover bog generally grades down to Birch (Betula spp.) woodland with Willow (Salix spp.) Common Gorse (Ulex europaeus) and Bracken (Pteridium aquilinum) along the bog margins which border the River Inny and the lake shores. Along the lake shores the bog grades into rich fen and swamp habitats with alder willow and wet grassland with Purple Moor-grass communities. These almost intact wetland transitions between raised bogs and lakes are extremely rare in Western Europe.
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	The main channel of the Boyne contains a good example of alluvial woodland of the Salicetum albo-fragilis type which has developed on three alluvium islands. Alkaline fen vegetation is well represented at Lough Shesk where there is a very fine example of habitat succession from open water to raised bog. The Boyne and its tributaries is one of Ireland's premier game fisheries and offers a wide range of angling from fishing for spring salmon and grilse to sea trout fishing and extensive brown trout fishing. The site is one of the most important in eastern Ireland for Salmo salar and has very extensive spawning grounds. The site also has an important population of Lampetra fluviatilis though the distribution or abundance of this species is not well known. Lutra lutra is widespread throughout the site. Some of the grassland areas along the Boyne and Blackwater are used by a nationally important winter flock of Cygnus cygnus. Several Red Data Book plants occur within the site with Pyrola rotundifolia Poa palustris and Juncus compressus. Also occurring are a number of Red Data Book animals notably Meles meles Martes martes and Rana temporaria.	This site comprises most of the freshwater element of the River Boyne from upriver of the Boyne Aqueduct at Drogheda the Blackwater River as far as Lough Ramor and the principal Boyne tributaries notably the Deel Stoneyford and Tremblestown Rivers. This system drains a considerable area of Cos. Meath and Westmeath and smaller areas of Cavan and Louth. The underlying geology is Carboniferous Limestone for the most part with areas of Upper Lower and Middle well represented. In the vicinity of Kells Silurian Quartzite is present while close to Trim are Carboniferous Shales and Sandstones. The rivers flow through a landscape dominated by intensive agriculture mostly of improved grassland but also cereals. Much of the river channels were subject to arterial drainage schemes in the past. Natural flood-plains now exist along only limited stretches of river though often there is a fringe of reed swamp freshwater marsh wet grassland or deciduous wet woodland. Along some parts notably between Drogheda and Slane are stands of tall mature mixed woodland. Substantial areas of improved grassland and arable land are included in site for water quality reasons.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		The River Boyne is a designated Salmonid Water under the EU Freshwater Fish Directive.	There are many medium to large sized towns adjacent to but not within the site.
004049	Lough Oughter SPA	Lough Oughter is of importance for a range of wintering waterfowl. Of particular note is an internationally important population of Cygnus cygnus that is based in the area and which use the lakes as a roost. A population of Anser albifrons flavirostris of regional importance also roost on the lakes. The site supports nationally important wintering populations of four species: Podiceps cristatus Cygnus olor Anas penelope and Bucephala clangula plus a range of other wintering species such as Anas crecca and Aythya fuligula. Lough Oughter is at the centre of the breeding range of Podiceps cristatus in Ireland and the site supports in excess of 10% of the estimated national breeding total. A small colony of Sterna hirundo occurs within the site.	Lough Oughter is a medium-sized lake that extends over a wide area. Its situation in submerged drumlin country accounts for the extremely ramified nature of its basin. The main feeders to the lake are the River Erne and the Annalee River. These flow over relatively insoluble rock (Ordovician and Silurian strata) so that the lake water is only moderately hard despite the fact that most of the immediate surroundings are on Carboniferous limestone. Lough Oughter is a shallow lake (maximum depth 10 m) and is considered to be a naturally eutrophic system. Since the 1970s the lake has however shown clear signs of organic enrichment and has most recently been classified as hypertrophic (though chlorophyll levels have dropped markedly in recent years). The lakes have a well-developed aquatic flora. Around much of the shorelines there are swamp and marsh communities. In places wet woodland is well-developed at the lake margins.
004102	Garriskil Bog SPA	Garriskil bog is a medium-sized raised bog site which contains good examples of the Annex 1 habitats active raised bog degraded raised bog and depressions on peat substrates (Rhynchosporion). A large proportion of the uncut high bog (c. 40%) comprises very wet active raised bog an unusually high figure for raised bogs in the eastern half of the country. The site is in the range of the midland lakes flock of wintering Anser albifrons flavirostris which is centred on four major lakes (Derravaragh Iron Owel and Ennel). There are 16 known feeding sites mostly on intensively managed grassland. In the past the site has been utilised by the geese but nowadays use of raised bogs is rare. Falco columbarius has been noted at Garriskil during the breeding season. Gallinago gallinago Numenius arquata and Tringa totanus also breed. Tyto alba has been recorded hunting along the margins of the bog and Lagopus lagopus is occasional.	Site lies 3 km west of Lough Derravaragh in Co. Westmeath. It is bounded to the southeast and southwest by the rivers Inny and Riffey. The bog is underlain by calcareous shales with a low permeability. A substantial area of uncut high bog remains though much of this is classified as degraded raised bog. Old cutaway bog surrounds the high bog and parts of this are dominated by Betula pubescens scrub.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
000455	Dundalk Bay SAC	Estuaries and particularly intertidal sand and mud flats are well represented at this site. The site contains the largest expanse of intertidal flats on the east coast. The bay is fringed in places by salt marshes with good examples of Salicornia sand flats Atlantic salt meadows and to a lesser extent Mediterranean salt meadows. The quality of estuarine habitats is generally good. The site has excellent examples of perennial vegetation of stony banks with the Red Data Book plant Crambe maritima. The site is of high importance for wintering waterfowl with internationally important populations of Branta bernicla hrota Calidris canutus and Limosa lapponica. It also supports nationally important populations of a further 16 species including Pluvialis apricaria. The overall site is also of international importance as it regularly has in excess of 20000 wintering waterfowl.	The site is a large bay-like estuarine complex extending c.15 km from north to south and on average between 2-3 km in width. It contains the estuaries of a number of moderately sized rivers principally the Castletown the Flurry the Fane and the Glyde/Dee. These rivers drain fairly intensive agricultural catchments and the Castletown flows through Dundalk town and serves the port. The site has a marked tidal range. The estuaries of the Castletown and Flurry rivers are well sheltered and have extensive salt marshes. Post-glacial raised beaches are a feature of the shoreline. Some agricultural fields which adjoin the bay are included in the site for ornithological interests.
000979	Corratirrim SAC	The site supports a small but well developed area of limestone pavement which includes areas of 'clints' and 'grykes' and some shattered limestone. The site has a reasonably good limestone flora including the scarce Cystopteris fragilis. An important outlier for this habitat the site is the only documented example in eastern Ireland. Good transition is shown to associated habitats including acidic heath and grassland. The legally protected and Red Data species Pseudorchis albida has been recorded as well as a number of other scarce species for the county. The site is on the border with Co. Fermanagh Northern Ireland.	The site is located in the north-west of Co. Cavan where Carboniferous limestone underlies the shales and grits that form the Cuilcagh Mountains. At Corratirrim the limestone protrudes and results in an interesting diversity of habitats. In addition to limestone pavement the principal habitats are heath and acidic grassland on peat and mineral soils. In hollows and at the base of slopes the heath is wet and bog mosses (Sphagnum spp.) occur.
001976	Lough Gill SAC	An important example of a lake which appears to be naturally eutrophic. Quality generally good though blooms of blue-green algae in recent years indicate some artificial enrichment. Significant areas of alluvial forest occur along the Garvoge River (Osmunda - Salicetum atrocinerea type) and at the mouth of the River Bonet (Carici remotae - Fraxientum type).	Lough Gill is a moderate to large sized lake lying immediately east of Sligo town. It is fed by the River Bonet and drains into the sea via the Garvogue River a short wide and slow flowing river which passes through Sligo town. The lake lies along the junction between old metamorphic rocks to the south and limestone to the north. The water of the lake is thus influenced by both acidic and alkaline inputs although nearly all the basin lies over limestone. The lake is 8 km by 2-3 km and has an area of 1400 ha.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Old oak woodland of varying quality is well scattered along the shoreline and on some of the islands and is an important example of this habitat for western Ireland. At least six Red Data Book plant species have been recorded from site. Site has three species of lamprey and Austropotamobius pallipes. The lake and its associated rivers support an important population of Salmo salar. Lutra lutra has a good population within the site. Of minor importance for birds though the site has a small breeding colony of Sterna hirundo. A wide range of rare or scarce invertebrates are known from the site as well as several Red Data Book mammal species including Martes martes.	It is a deep lake with maximum depth at 31 m. Islands are a feature of the lake. Much of the shoreline is wooded and there is also some swamp vegetation wet grassland and scrub along the shoreline. The lake is an important salmonid and coarse fishery and is used for a range of recreational activities. The site also includes the Shanvans and Owenmore rivers.
002241	Lough Derg North-East Shore SAC	This site supports a wide range of habitats including Alkaline fens Juniper scrub formations limestone pavement Yew woodlands alluvial woodlands and Cladium fen. It also supports the only known population in the country for the Irish Red Data Book species Inula salicina. Other scarce plant species found here include Sorbus aria and Rhamnus catharticus. The endangered fish species Coregonus autumnalis has its European stronghold in Lough Derg. The open water areas of the lake itself are important for wintering wildfowl. Goat island holds a breeding colony of Sterna hirundo. A subflock of Anser albifrons flavirostris uses the callow lands around Slevoir Bay in Winter. A good population of Cygnus olor occurs.	This site incorporates part of the water body of Lough Derg and includes most of the northern lake shore and approximately one-third of the northeast shoreline. Lough Derg itself is the lowest order lake on the River Shannon and is one of the largest freshwater bodies in Ireland. Most of the lake overlies Carboniferous Limestone which outcrops along the shores but some old Red Sandstone occurs on the eastern side. The site is of high scenic value and is a well known angling and tourism area.
002340	Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC	This site contains good examples of active raised bog degraded raised bog and Rhynchosporion vegetation. The areas of raised bog support a well-developed peatland flora and contain a number of wet pool areas. Of the two areas it appears that Moneybeg Bog contains higher quality raised bog habitat although the margins of Moneybeg have a more extensive surrounding cutover area. Along the northern edge of Clareisland Bog there is a well-preserved and relatively undisturbed transition from raised bog to lakeshore scrub which is a rare feature in Irish raised bogs.	Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs are two small raised bogs separated by approximately 400 metres which are situated along the southern shores of Lough Sheelin. Most of the site area lies within Co. Westmeath with a small portion lying within Co. Meath. Clareisland Bog is long and narrow in outline while Moneybeg has a more ovoid shape. The areas of uncut high bog are classified mainly as degraded raised bog. The high bog is surrounded by cutover areas. There has been some planting of conifers in the cutover margins in recent decades. Land surrounding the site to the south is dominated by agricultural grassland.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		These raised bogs occur close to the north-easterly limits of raised bog distribution in the Republic of Ireland and this increases their conservation value.	The main road which runs between the villages of Finnea and Ross traverses both areas of bog.
002341	Ardagullion Bog SAC	Although Ardagullion Bog is rather small in terms of raised bog sites the bog retains a relatively large and wet central area which is classified as active bog. The structure of the active bog is good having a high cover of Sphagnum including the rather rare S. imbricatum a classic pool/hummock system and a wet flush. The remainder of the high bog is a typical example of degraded raised bog. A substantial area of Rhynchosporion vegetation is present most of which is associated with the wet central active area. A number of other relatively intact raised bogs lie to the south thus forming an interlinked complex of sites.	Ardagullion is a small raised bog located 6 km north-east of Edgeworthstown Co. Longford. The site comprises a substantial area of uncut high bog though much of this is classified as degraded. The site includes areas of conifer plantation and recently felled plantation - such areas have been included in order to protect the hydrological integrity of uncut high bog areas. Although there are a number of old drains on the high bog surface most of these have infilled with vegetation. Surrounding areas of cutover support areas of Betula pubescens scrub while parts have been converted to pasture grassland of varying quality.
004043	Lough Derravaragh SPA	Lough Derravaragh is one of the most important midland lakes for wintering waterfowl. It supports nationally important populations of Tachybaptus ruficollis Cygnus olor Aythya ferina Aythya fuligula and Fulica atra. The Aythya ferina population is of particular note as it represents over 6% of the national total. At times the lake is utilised by the internationally important midland lakes population of Anser albifrons flavirostris. A regionally important population of Cygnus cygnus occurs along with a range of other species such as Podiceps cristatus Anas penelope and Bucephala clangula.	Lough Derravaragh is a medium- to large-sized lake of relatively shallow water (maximum depth 23 m). It extends along a SE-NW axis for approximately 8 km. The Inny River a tributary of the River Shannon is the main inflowing and outflowing river. It is a typical limestone lake with water of high hardness and alkaline pH. It is classified as a mesotrophic system. A notable feature is the range of charophytes that occur in the lake (8 species recorded). A range of marginal habitats have been created as a result of drainage of the River Inny. At the western end of the lake are extensive areas of swamp dominated by Phragmites australis. Elsewhere along the shore there is freshwater marsh vegetation dominated by Carex spp. Deciduous woodland fringes the lake at some areas.
004046	Lough Iron SPA	Lough Iron is one of the most important Midland lakes for wintering waterfowl. It supports an internationally important population of Anser albifrons flavirostris and is the main feeding site for this flock which uses a suite of Midland lakes.	Lough Iron is a small- to moderately-sized Midland lake. It is situated on the Inny River which flows from Lough Derravaragh approximately 5 km to the north-east. Lough Owel occurs a few kilometres to the south-east and is hydrologically connected to Lough Iron by a stream. The underlying geology is limestone and the lake is mesotrophic in character.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		It also has nationally important populations of Cygnus cynus Anas penelope Anas crecca Anas clypeata and Pluvialis apricaria and regionally important numbers of a range of other species including Anas acuta Aythya ferina Aythya fuligula and Fulica atra. The site is of particular value as it provides both feeding and roost sites for the various species.	Drainage of the River Inny in the 1960s has led to a dramatic drop in the level of the lake and this in turn has led to the development of freshwater marsh and wet grassland on what was previously lake bed. The dominant wetland plant species along the margins of the lake are Phragmites australis and Phalaris arundinacea. Molinia caerulea forms large expanses of wet grassland above the lake shore. There are also patches of calcareous fen and some wet woodland dominated by Betula pubescens. The lake is surrounded by agricultural land much of which is managed intensively - the grassland fields which are used by geese and swans for feeding purposes are included in the site. These are also used by duck species such as Anas penelope and waders. Some conifer plantations along the western shore of the lake are included in the site to provide screening for feeding birds.
004061	Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA	Despite very variable water quality in recent decades Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough remain an important site for wintering waterfowl especially diving duck. The site supports nationally important populations of two species: Aythya ferina and Aythya fuligula. A large population of Cygnus olor occurs. Fulica atra whilst still occurring in substantial numbers formerly had a population of national importance. A range of other species are found in relatively low numbers including Podiceps cristatus and Anas platyrhynchos. Birds commute between this site and the nearby and much larger Lough Sheelin.	Lough Kinale is a relatively small lake that is situated immediately downstream of Lough Sheelin and is at the top of the catchment of the Inny River a main tributary of the River Shannon. Derragh Lough a much smaller system is connected to Lough Kinale and the Inny River outlet. This is a typical limestone system and is very shallow (maximum depth of Kinale is c. 4 m). The trophic status of the lake has varied greatly since the 1970s due to pollution from mainly agricultural sources. It was recently (1998-2000) classified as a highly eutrophic system. Lough Kinale has two main basins almost separated by swamp formations. Reed swamp is frequent around the lakes with a calcium-rich small sedge marsh present along parts of the shore. The lake was formerly an important trout fishery. Areas of bog occur around the margins of the lakes in places but some of these have been planted with conifers.
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	The Boyne Estuary is one of the most important sites for wintering waterfowl on the east coast. It has a total of 10 species with populations of national importance - of particular note is that it supports 7.0% of the national total of Calidris canutus and 4.0% of the total for Pluvialis apricaria.	This moderately-sized coastal site which is situated below the town of Drogheda comprises most of the estuary of the Boyne River a substantial river which drains a large catchment. Apart from one section which is over 1 km wide the width is mostly less than 500 m.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
		Other species which have populations of national importance include Tadorna tadorna Haematopus ostralegus Vanellus vanellus Limosa limosa Tringa totanus and Arenaria interpres. The site provides both feeding and roosting areas for the birds. Sterna albifrons bred in the past but successful breeding has not occurred since 1996.	The main river channel which is navigable and dredged is defined by training walls the latter being breached in places. Intertidal flats occur on the sides of the channelled river. The sediments vary from fine muds in the innermost areas to sandy muds or sands towards the mouth. The linear stretches of intertidal flats to the north and south of the river mouth are mainly sands. Intertidal areas are fringed by salt marshes in the inner sheltered areas. Spartina is frequent on the flats and salt marshes.
UK0016614	Upper Lough Erne SAC	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Lutra lutra for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.	The open waters of the main lough and smaller satellite loughs contain a variety of aquatic communities typical of natural eutrophic lakes. In addition, the shallow sheltered shores support extensive swamp, fen and marsh communities. Behind the open grazed foreshore is species-rich grassland, which occasionally extends back into the old adjacent field systems. Alluvial woodland is found where the shoreline is ungrazed or only very lightly grazed, while occasionally the dryer soils of the drumlins behind support a natural Oak woodland; this is particularly well developed within the Crom Estate to the south and the small island to the north of the Lough. Such diversity of good habitats and communities is reflected in the very large number of rare and notable plants and insects flourishing here: the woods being particularly important for breeding passerines and home for some notable mammals.
UK9020071	Upper Lough Erne SPA	Upper Lough Erne contributes to the maintenance of the geographic range of the Annex 1 Greenland white-fronted goose population of Northern Ireland through supporting regionally important numbers. It also supports an important assemblage of breeding birds including common tern and in the past supported breeding corncrake. Both are Annex 1 species. Over winter the area regularly supports: Cygnus cygnus (Iceland/UK/Ireland) 3.4% of the all-Ireland population 5 year peak mean, 1991/2-1995/6	The open waters of the main lough and smaller satellite loughs contain a variety of aquatic communities typical of natural eutrophic lakes. In addition, the shallow sheltered shores support extensive swamp, fen and marsh communities. Behind the open grazed foreshore is species-rich grassland, which occasionally extends back into the old adjacent field systems. Alluvial woodland is found where the shoreline is ungrazed or only very lightly grazed, while occasionally the dryer soils of the drumlins behind support a natural Oak woodland; this is particularly well developed within the Crom Estate to the south and the small island to the north of the Lough.

Site Code	Site Name	Quality of Site	Other Site Characteristics
			Wintering Whooper Swan generally utilise improved or semi-improved grassland close to water bodies used for roosting. Foraging in flooded fields and of emergent vegetation in shallower lakes is common. The site regularly supports large numbers of over-wintering and breeding birds important in an all-Ireland context in addition to internationally important numbers of wintering Whooper Swan Cygnus cygnus, which has been recognised by its SPA designation.
UK0030116	Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC	The river is of particular importance for its associated fauna, as it is one of the few rivers in Northern Ireland that still retains a significant and viable population of the Fresh Water Pearl Mussel Margaritifera margaritifera. Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Margaritifera margaritifera for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.	Within County Fermanagh the 14.88km length of river has two distinct forms. The upper half is typical of fast-flowing dynamic rivers with beds of Stream Water Crowfoot Ranunculus penicillatus var. penicillatus, whilst the lower half of the river is slow-flowing and very deeply dredged as it nears Upper Lough Erne.

Appendix 1 - Table 2: Background data for European sites considered in the assessment; including the Qualifying features (Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests) and the known threats and pressures as recorded by the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000006	Killyconny Bog (Cloghbally) SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]	G01, G05.04, C01, D01.01, G05.09, B01, J02, A04.01.01, A08, J01, G01.03.02, H05.01, J02.01, F06.01	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Vandalism, Mining and quarrying, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Fences, fencing, Forest planting on open ground, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Intensive cattle grazing, Fertilisation, Fire and fire suppression, Off-road motorized driving, Garbage and solid waste, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Game or bird breeding station
000007	Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Bog woodland [91D0]	A10.01, I01, H01.05, J02.01.03, B01.02, E01.03, H01.04, B01.01, G01, M01.03, H01.03	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Invasive non-native species, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Dispersed habitation, Diffuse pollution to surface waters via storm overflows or urban run-off, Forest planting on open ground (native trees), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Flooding and rising precipitations, Other point source pollution to surface water
000216	River Shannon Callows SAC	Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) [6510], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Alkaline fens [7230], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Limestone pavements [8240], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]	J02.04.01, A10.01, C01.03.02, A08, A04.01, J02.05, G01, A07, D01.01, A03.03, G05.01, K03.04, J02.11, F03.01, A04.03, J02.01, B06, A03, J02.05.02, A04.02.05, B02.02	Flooding, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Mechanical removal of peat, Fertilisation, Intensive grazing, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Abandonment or lack of mowing , Trampling, overuse, Predation, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Hunting, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Grazing in forests or woodland.

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
				Mowing or cutting of grassland, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Forestry clearance
000428	Lough Melvin SAC	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130]	A08, B02, A04, I01, H01.05, A10.01	Fertilisation, Forest and Plantation management & use, Grazing, Invasive non-native species, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
000440	Lough Ree SAC	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210], Alkaline fens [7230], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Active raised bogs [7110], Bog woodland [91D0], Limestone pavements [8240]	H02.06, B02, H01.08, J02.04, A04, K03.05, G01.01, H06.03, F02.03, L08, I01, G01.02, G02.09, F03.01, A08, E01.03, A03.03, D03.01.02, J02.11.02	Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Forest and Plantation management & use, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Flooding modifications, Grazing, Antagonism arising from introduction of species, Nautical sports, Thermal heating of water bodies, Leisure fishing, Inundation (natural processes), Invasive non-native species, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Wildlife watching, Hunting, Fertilisation, Dispersed habitation, Abandonment or lack of mowing , Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Other siltation rate changes
000455	Dundalk Bay SAC	Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Estuaries [1130], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]	F05, E03.01, J02.04.01, H01, J02.12.01, H01.06, J02.04, J03.01, H02.06, G01, K01.01, H04.02, H05, J03.02, K02, H05.01, G01.01.01, J02.01.02, G02.09, F02.03.01, J02.01.03, M02.04,	Illegal taking or removal of marine fauna, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Flooding, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to transport and infrastructure without connection to canalization or sweepers, Flooding modifications, Reduction or loss of specific habitat features, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Erosion, Nitrogen-input, Soil pollution and solid waste (excluding discharges).

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
			E03.03, G02, G05.02, K04.01, I01	Anthropogenic reduction of habitat connectivity, Biocenotic evolution, succession, Garbage and solid waste, Motorized nautical sports, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Wildlife watching, Bait digging or collection, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Migration of species (natural newcomers), Disposal of inert materials, Sport and leisure structures, Shallow surface abrasion or mechanical damage to seabed surface, Competition (flora), Invasive non-native species
000584	Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8220], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Slender green feather-moss (Hamatocaulis vernicosus) [6216], Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas - and submountain areas in Continental Europe [6230], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], Transition mires and quaking bogs [7140], Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) [8110], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060], European dry heaths [4030], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130]	A01, G05.07, H05.01, A04.02.03, D01.01, A04.01.02, K01.01, B, C01.03, J01, A04.01.03, G05.01, G01.02, G01.03.02, H01.05, F03.02.02, D01.02, I02, G05.09, B02.01, B01.02, A07	Cultivation, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Garbage and solid waste, Non intensive horse grazing, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Intensive sheep grazing, Erosion, Sylviculture, forestry, Peat extraction, Fire and fire suppression, Intensive horse grazing, Trampling, overuse, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Off-road motorized driving, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Taking from nest (e.g. falcons), Roads, motorways, Problematic native species, Fences, fencing, Forest replanting, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals
000679	Garriskil Bog SAC	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Active raised bogs [7110]	I01, I02, J02.15, J01.01, C01.03.02, A04.02.01	Invasive non-native species, Problematic native species, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Burning down, Mechanical removal of peat, Non intensive cattle grazing
000979	Corratirrim SAC	Limestone pavements [8240]	I01, A10.02, B01, A04.01.04, B02.01.02, A05.02, A10.01, G01, A07,	Invasive non-native species, Removal of stone walls and embankments, Forest planting on open ground, Intensive goat grazing, Forest replanting (non native trees), Stock feeding, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub.

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
			X, G05.07, I02, A10, H02.06	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, No threats or pressures, Missing or wrongly directed conservation measures, Problematic native species, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities
001403	Arroo Mountain SAC	Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation [8210], Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii) [8120], Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220], European dry heaths [4030], Alpine and Boreal heaths [4060]	J01.01, D01.01, B02, K01.01, C01.01.01, G01.03.02, C01.03.01, A04.02.02, C01.03.02, I01, L05	Burning down, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Forest and Plantation management & use, Erosion, Sand and gravel quarries, Off-road motorized driving, Hand cutting of peat, Non intensive sheep grazing, Mechanical removal of peat, Invasive non-native species, Collapse of terrain, landslide
001786	Kilroosky Lough Cluster SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092]	A02.01, I01, J02.06, F02.03, G02, E03.03, E01.03, X, H01	Agricultural intensification, Invasive non-native species, Water abstractions from surface waters, Leisure fishing, Sport and leisure structures, Disposal of inert materials, Dispersed habitation, No threats or pressures, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)
001810	White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092]	A04.03, A11, E03.03, G01, A08, F03.02.03, J02.01	Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Disposal of inert materials, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Fertilisation, Trapping, poisoning, poaching, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general
001818	Lough Forbes Complex SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Active raised bogs [7110], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Natural eutrophic lakes with	J02.15, H02.06, A03.03, F03.01, J02.07.02, A04.03, G02.09, A03.02, F02.03, I01	Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural and forestry activities, Abandonment or lack of mowing , Hunting, Groundwater abstractions for public water supply, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Wildlife watching, Non intensive mowing, Leisure fishing, Invasive non-native species

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150]		
001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Estuaries [1130], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria - white dunes [2120], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]	G01.02, E01, J02.12.01, H01, G05.04, I01, E05, E03.01, D01.01, D01.05, J02, G03, L07, J02.01.03, J02.12, K02, E03.03, J03.03, G05, J02.02, G01.03.02	Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Vandalism, Invasive non-native species, Storage of materials, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Bridge, viaduct, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Interpretative centres, Storm, cyclone, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general, Biocenotic evolution, succession, Disposal of inert materials, Reduction, lack or prevention of erosion, Other human intrusions and disturbances , Removal of sediments (mud...), Off-road motorized driving
001976	Lough Gill SAC	Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], 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], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) * important orchid sites [6210]	G01.01.01, X, J02.05.02, B, E01.03, B06, D01.01, A10.01, J02.10, E01.01, E03.03, I01	Motorized nautical sports, No threats or pressures, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Sylviculture, forestry, Dispersed habitation, Grazing in forests or woodland, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Continuous urbanisation, Disposal of inert materials, Invasive non-native species

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
002032	Boleybrack Mountain SAC	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix [4010], European dry heaths [4030], Blanket bogs * if active bog [7130], Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds [3160], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410]	B01, F03.02.04, I02, A04.03, D02.02, B02, C01.03.02, J01.01, A07, K03.02, J02.06.02, D01, G01.02, A04.02.01, A04.01.02, F03.02.02, C03.03, C01.01.01, A04.02.02, A10, B	Forest planting on open ground, Predator control, Problematic native species, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Pipe lines, Forest and Plantation management & use, Mechanical removal of peat, Burning down, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Parasitism (fauna), Surface water abstractions for public water supply, Roads, paths and railroads, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Non intensive cattle grazing, Intensive sheep grazing, Taking from nest (e.g. falcons), Wind energy production, Sand and gravel quarries, Non intensive sheep grazing, Restructuring agricultural land holding, Sylviculture, forestry
002120	Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092]	A10.01, J02.06.02	Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Surface water abstractions for public water supply
002121	Lough Lene SAC	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140], White-clawed crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes) [1092]	H01.08, A11, A08, D03.01.02, X, A04.03	Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Fertilisation, Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, No threats or pressures, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing
002165	Lower River Shannon SAC	Estuaries [1130], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], Coastal lagoons [1150], Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230], Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) [1095], Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) [1029], Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) [1096], Large shallow inlets and bays [1160], Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus) [1349], Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils	G01.01, J02.01.02, D01.01, E01, J02.01.01, E03, F01, A08, F03.01, A04, J02.12.01, J02.10, I01, C01.01.02, C01.03.01, B, F02.03, H04, K02.03	Nautical sports, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Polderisation, Discharges, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fertilisation, Hunting, Grazing, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Invasive non-native species, Removal of beach materials, Hand cutting of peat, Sylviculture, forestry, Leisure fishing, Air pollution, air-borne pollutants, Eutrophication (natural)

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		(Molinion caeruleae) [6410], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220], Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355], Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330], Reefs [1170]		
002201	Derragh Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Bog woodland [91D0]	I02, J02.15, J01.01, I01, B02.02	Problematic native species, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Burning down, Invasive non-native species, Forestry clearance
002203	Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	J01.01, I02, J02.15, I01, J02.01, B02.02	Burning down, Problematic native species, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Invasive non-native species, Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general, Forestry clearance
002241	Lough Derg, North-East Shore SAC	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles [91J0], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210], Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130], Alkaline fens [7230], Limestone pavements [8240]	C01, M01.03, A04.01, A08, K02.01, M01.02, J02.01.03, H01, G02.09, A04.02.05, I01, D01.01, B02.01.01, H01.08, D03.01.02, K02.03, M01.01, G01, J02.10, J02, I02, A10.01	Mining and quarrying, Flooding and rising precipitations, Intensive grazing, Fertilisation, Species composition change (succession), Droughts and less precipitations, Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Wildlife watching, Non intensive mixed animal grazing, Invasive non-native species, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Forest replanting (native trees), Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Piers or tourist harbours or recreational piers, Eutrophication (natural), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities.

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
				Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Problematic native species, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub
002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC	Alkaline fens [7230], Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) [1106], River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) [1099], Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355]	E02, A05.02, E03.02, G01, J02.05.02, J02.15, A01, E05, A03, B01.02, C01.01, G05.06, A08, G02.10, J02.10, A07, J02, H01, J02.11, E03.04, D01.02, A10.01, E01.04, D01.05, G05, I01	Industrial or commercial areas, Stock feeding, Disposal of industrial waste, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Cultivation, Storage of materials, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees), Sand and gravel extraction , Tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees, Fertilisation, Other sport or leisure complexes, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Other discharges, Roads, motorways, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Other patterns of habitation, Bridge, viaduct, Other human intrusions and disturbances , Invasive non-native species
002340	Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	G02.10, J01.01, J02.15, B02.02, C01.03.02, I01, F03.01, E03.01	Other sport or leisure complexes, Burning down, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Forestry clearance, Mechanical removal of peat, Invasive non-native species, Hunting, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste
002341	Ardagullion Bog SAC	Active raised bogs [7110], Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120], Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150]	X, J02.15	No threats or pressures, Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004026	Dundalk Bay SPA	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Herring Gull (Larus argentatus) [A184], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069], Greylag Goose (Anser anser) [A043], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182], Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]	G01.01, F02.03, I01, D03.02, E02, J02.11, A04, E03, E01.03, G01.02, J02.12, E01, D01.02, A08	Nautical sports, Leisure fishing, Invasive non-native species, Shipping lanes, Industrial or commercial areas, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Grazing, Discharges, Dispersed habitation, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Dykes, embankments, artificial beaches, general, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Roads, motorways, Fertilisation
004043	Lough Derravaragh SPA	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	A08, B, A05.01, F02.03, F03.01	Fertilisation, Sylviculture, forestry, Animal breeding, Leisure fishing, Hunting
004046	Lough Iron SPA	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]	B, A04, A08	Sylviculture, forestry, Grazing, Fertilisation

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004049	Lough Oughter SPA	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]	F03.01, F02.03, B, A08, A05.01, G01.01	Hunting, Leisure fishing, Sylviculture, forestry, Fertilisation, Animal breeding, Nautical sports
004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061]	F02.03, G01.01, F03.01, A08	Leisure fishing, Nautical sports, Hunting, Fertilisation
004061	Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA	Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	B, A05.01, F03.01, A08, X, F02.03	Sylviculture, forestry, Animal breeding, Hunting, Fertilisation, No threats or pressures, Leisure fishing
004064	Lough Ree SPA	Common tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Coot (Fulica atra) [A125], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065], Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]	F02.03, A04, F03.01, G01.02, B, G01.01, A08, I01	Leisure fishing, Grazing, Hunting, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Sylviculture, forestry, Nautical sports, Fertilisation, Invasive non-native species
004065	Lough Sheelin SPA	Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059], Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061], Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005]	B, F02.03, A08, A05.01	Sylviculture, forestry, Leisure fishing, Fertilisation, Animal breeding
004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164].	E03, G01.01, F01, E02, D03.02, E01, A08	Discharges, Nautical sports, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Industrial or commercial areas, Shipping lanes, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Fertilisation

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
		Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162], Teal (Anas crecca) [A052], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137], Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056], Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017], Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]		
004080	Boyne Estuary SPA	Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141], Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143], Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169], Little Tern (Sterna albifrons) [A195], Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]	F01, J02.01.02, F02.03, G02.01, G01.02, J02.05, J02.11, I01, E01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh, Leisure fishing, Golf course, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Modification of hydrographic functioning, general, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Invasive non-native species, Urbanised areas, human habitation
004091	Stabannan-Braganstown SPA	Greylag goose (Anser anser) [A043]	A04, A08, A01, A02, D01.02	Grazing, Fertilisation, Cultivation, Modification of cultivation practices, Roads, motorways
004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA	Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050], Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156], Corncrake (Crex crex) [A122], Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	A08, A04, G01.01, E01, D01.01, A04.03, F02.03, D01.05, G01.02, A03, F03.01	Fertilisation, Grazing, Nautical sports, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Abandonment of pastoral systems lack of grazing, Leisure fishing, Bridge, viaduct, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Mowing or cutting of grassland, Hunting

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
004097	River Suck Callows SPA	Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140], Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395], Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038], Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]	A08, A04, E01.03, B, F02.03, G01.01, F03.01, A03	Fertilisation, Grazing, Dispersed habitation, Sylviculture, forestry, Leisure fishing, Nautical sports, Hunting, Mowing or cutting of grassland
004101	Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	G01.01, F02.03, F03.01, A04, B	Nautical sports, Leisure fishing, Hunting, Grazing, Sylviculture, forestry
004102	Garriskil Bog SPA	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]	A10, D01.04, J02.05.02, B01, A04, J01	Restructuring agricultural land holding, Railway lines, TGV, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Forest planting on open ground, Grazing, Fire and fire suppression
004151	Donegal Bay SPA	Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046], Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) [A003], Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065]	F01, A04, D01.02, E01.01, G01.02, G01.01, A08	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Grazing, Roads, motorways, Continuous urbanisation, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Nautical sports, Fertilisation
004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA	Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) [A229]	X, E01.03, D01.02, E01, J02	No threats or pressures, Dispersed habitation, Roads, motorways, Urbanised areas, human habitation, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
UK0016614	Upper Lough Erne SAC	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation [3150], 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], Otter (Lutra lutra) [1355]	B02, B06, F03, G01, G02, H01, H04, I01, J02	Forest and plantation management & use, grazing in forests/ woodland, hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, sport and leisure structures, pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), air pollution, air-borne pollutants, invasive non-native species, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
UK9020071	Upper Lough Erne SPA	Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]	A02, A04, D02, G01, H01, M01, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, grazing, utility and service lines, outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), changes in abiotic conditions, changes in biotic conditions
UK0030116	Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260], Freshwater pearl mussel Margaritifera [1029]	B02, C01, C03, F02, H01, I01, J02, M01	Forest and plantation management & use, mining and quarrying, renewable abiotic energy use, fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), invasive non-native species, human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, changes in abiotic conditions

Appendix 1 - Table 3: Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Freshwater Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera)	[1029]	In stream works, hydrological and morphological alterations, sediment and enrichment, pollution due urbanisation etc. Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
White-clawed Crayfish (Austropotamobius pallipes)	[1092]	Poor substrate quality due to increased growth of algal and macrophyte vegetation as a result of severe nutrient enrichment, as well as physical siltation.	Invasive species, disease, surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
Sea Lamprey(Petromyzon marinus)	[1095]	Barriers to upstream migration (e.g. weirs), which limit access to spawning beds and juvenile habitat are main threats to this species.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity.
Brook Lamprey (Lampetra planeri)	[1096]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
River Lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis)	[1099]	Channel maintenance, barriers, passage obstruction, gross pollution and specific pollutants.	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
Salmon (Salmo salar)	[1106]	Marine survival rates are of concern for the populations.	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	[1110]	None identified by the NPWS in the 2019 publication of the Status of EU protected habitats and species in Ireland.	None identified.
Estuaries	[1130]	Pollution, fishing /aquaculture and habitat quality.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	[1140]	Aquaculture, fishing, bait digging, removal of fauna, reclamation of land, coastal protection works and invasive species, particularly cord-grass; hard coastal defence structures; sea-level rise.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Coastal lagoons	[1150]	Eutrophication. Modification of hydrological glow and drainage.	Erosion and silting up. Accumulation of seaweed. Land use management resulting in hydrological interactions.
Large shallow inlets and bays	[1160]	Pressures on the habitat include nutrient enrichment, dredging and invasive alien species. Overall Status is assessed as Bad and deteriorating, a genuine decline since the 2013 assessment of Inadequate and improving, and is based on more detailed information.	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity, surface water runoff, discharge etc. On site management activities.
Reefs	[1170]	Professional fishing; taking for fauna; taking for flora; water pollution; climate change; and change in species composition.	Sensitive to disturbance and pollution.
Annual vegetation of drift lines	[1210]	Grazing; sand and gravel extraction; recreational activities; coastal protection works.	Overgrazing and erosion. Changes in management.
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	[1220]	Disruption of the sediment supply, owing to the interruption of the coastal processes, caused by developments such as car parks and coastal defence structures including rock armour and sea walls. The removal of gravel.	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity and gravel removal.
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	[1230]	A number of significant pressures were identified, including trampling by walkers, invasive non-native species, gravel extraction, and sea-level and wave exposure changes due to climate change. There have been no significant losses in sea cliff habitat since the Directive came into force.	Land use activities such as tourism and/or agricultural practices. Direct alteration to the habitat or effects such as burning or drainage.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	[1310]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Marine water dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Infilling, reclamation, invasive species.
Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	[1330]	Overgrazing; erosion; invasive species, particularly common cordgrass (Spartina anglica); infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Bottlenose Dolphin (Tursiops truncatus)	[1349]	Pressures acting on the species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as impacts arising from geophysical seismic exploration or from local/regional prey removal from fisheries.	Large vessel movement effecting distributions. Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.
Otter (Lutra lutra)	[1355]	Decrease in water quality: Use of pesticides; fertilization; vegetation removal; professional fishing (including lobster pots and fyke nets); unting; poisoning; sand and gravel extraction; mechanical removal of peat; urbanised areas; human habitation; continuous urbanization; drainage; management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes; and canalization or modifying structures of inland water course.	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.
Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	[1410]	Over-grazing by cattle or sheep; infilling and reclamation.	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development and reclamation.
Embryonic shifting dunes	[2110]	Natural erosion processes exacerbated by recreation and sand extraction. Coastal protection interfering with natural processes.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with white dunes(Ammophila arenaria)	[2120]	Recreation and coastal defences, which may interfere with local sediment dynamics.	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	[2130]	Recreation; overgrazing and inappropriate grazing: non-native plant species, particularly sea buckthorn (Hippophae rhamnoides).	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	[3110]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation (Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea)	[3130]	Nutrient enrichment; afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of muskgrass(Chara spp.)	[3140]	Hydrological changes, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation	[3150]	Hydrological changes, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	[3160]	Nutrient alterations; management shifts in the associated peatland habitat, afforestation; waste water; invasive alien species; sport and leisure activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution
Water courses of plain to montane levels with vegetation(Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion)	[3260]	Hydrological and morphological changes, water quality, enrichment, and surface water discharges from industrial site and/or agriculture.	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change and direct physical interactions.
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	[4010]	Reclamation, afforestation and burning; overstocking; invasion by non-heath species; exposure of peat to severe erosion.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
European dry heaths	[4030]	Afforestation, overburning, over-grazing, under-grazing and bracken invasion.	Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Changes in management. Changes in nutrient status.
Alpine and Boreal heaths	[4060]	Abandonment; overgrazing; burning; outdoor recreation; quarries; communication networks; and wind farm developments.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	[5130]	Overgrazing, erosion, scrub clearance, inappropriate land use management, and succession processes.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)* important orchid sites	[6210]	Land reclamation, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	[6230]	Bracken encroachment, succession, inappropriate grazing, afforestation; drainage; and infrastructural development.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	[6410]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	[6510]	Agricultural intensification; drainage; abandonment of pastoral systems.	Changes in management such as grazing regime. Changes in nutrient or base status. Changes to vegetation composition. Introduction of alien species.
Active raised bogs	[7110]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	[7120]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	[7130]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Transition mires and quaking bogs	[7140]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface water interactions. Groundwater isolated system with sensitivities related to the bog basin. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	[7150]	Drainage; burning; peat extraction; overgrazing; afforestation; erosion; and climate change.	Surface and ground water interactions. Drainage and land use management are the key things.
Calcareous fens with species of mariscus sedge and bog cotton (Cladium mariscus and Caricion davallianae)	[7210]	Hydrological changes, pollution to surface waters, urbanisation, roads development, groundwater interactions, grazing and cultivation practices and the inappropriate use of pesticides.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	[7220]	Ground water interactions, on site management activities.	Surface and groundwater dependant. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Highly sensitive to pollution.
Alkaline fens	[7230]	Land reclamation, peat extraction; afforestation; erosion and landslides triggered by human activity; drainage; burning and infrastructural development.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Inappropriate management.
Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)	[8110]	Overgrazing, undergrazing and succession were recorded as medium-importance pressures in this reporting period, and Structure and functions were again assessed as Inadequate, the trend is considered to be stable rather than improving. This change is due to improved knowledge and the habitat is considered to have been stable since before the last assessment.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii)	[8120]	Overgrazing and pressures associated with the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb (Epilobium brunnescens).	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8210]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	[8220]	Pressures associated with the non-native invasive species New Zealand willowherb (Epilobium brunnescens).	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Limestone pavements	[8240]	Overgrazing; extractive industries; recreational activities and improved access.	Erosion, overgrazing and recreation.
Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	[91A0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.
Bog woodland	[91D0]	The introduction of alien species; sub-optimal grazing patterns; general forestry management; increases in urbanisation and human habitation adjacent to oak woodlands; and the construction of communication networks through the woodland.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.

Qualifying Interests	EU Code	Current threats to Qualifying Interests	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
Alluvial forests with Alder and Ash (Alnus glutinosa, Fraxinus excelsior, Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	[91EO]	Inappropriate grazing levels; invasive species; and clearance for agriculture or felling for timber.	Surface and groundwater dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological changes. Changes in management.
Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	[91J0]	Invasive Species; erosion and accretion.	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.

Appendix 1 - Table 4: Known threats and pressures related to the qualifying interests from each Special Area of Conservation as per article 17 reporting from the National Parks and Wildlife Services

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A003	Great Northern Diver	Gavia immer	C03, F02, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A004	Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis ruficollis	G01, H01, H03, J02	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A005	Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristatus cristatus	F01, F02, G01, H01, H03	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution
A017	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo carbo	C03, F02, F03, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A038	Whooper Swan	Cygnus cygnus	A02, A11, C03, D02, G01, H07	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other forms of pollution
A043	Greylag Goose	Anser anser	A02, A11, C03, D02, F03, G01, H07	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other forms of pollution
A046	Light-Bellied Brent Goose	Branta bernicla hrota	A02, A11, C03, D02, F01, G01, G05, H03, H07, I01, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Other Human intrusions and disturbances , Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Other Ecosystem Modifications

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A048	Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	F01, F02, G01, H03, M01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A050	Eurasian Wigeon	Anas penelope	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, I01, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A052	Eurasian Teal	Anas crecca crecca	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A053	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A054	Northern Pintail	Anas acuta	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A056	Northern Shoveler	Anas clypeata	C03, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution
A059	Common Pochard	Aythya ferina	C03, F03, G01, H01, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A061	Tufted Duck	Aythya fuligula	C03, F03, G01, H01, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A062	Greater Scaup	Aythya marila	C03, F01, F02, F03, G01, H01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution
A065	Common Scoter	Melanitta nigra nigra	A04, C03, F02, G01, H01, H03, I01, K03, M02	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Invasive non-native species, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A067	Common Goldeneye	Bucephala clangula	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, M02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Changes in biotic conditions
A069	Red-Breasted Merganser	Mergus serrator	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A122	Corncrake	Crex crex	A03.01, A04.01, K03.04, M01.03	Intensive Mowing or intensification, Intensive grazing, Predation, Flooding and rising precipitations
A125	Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra atra	C03, G01, H01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)
A130	Eurasian Oystercatcher	Haematopus ostralegus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A137	Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A140	European Golden Plover	Pluvialis apricaria	A02, A04, B01, C01, C03, F01, G01, H03, J01, K03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Forest planting on open ground, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Fire and Fire suppression, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A141	Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A142	Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus	A02, C03, F01, G01, H03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A143	Knot	Calidris canutus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A144	Sanderling	Calidris alba	C03, F01, G01, H03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Changes in abiotic conditions
A149	Dunlin	Calidris alpina	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A156	Black-Tailed Godwit	Limosa limosa islandica	A02, C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A157	Bar-Tailed Godwit	Limosa lapponica	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A160	Curlew	Numenius arquata arquata	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A162	Common Redshank	Tringa totanus	C03, F01, F02, G01, H03, J02, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A164	Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	C03, F01, G01, H03, J02, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Changes in abiotic conditions
A169	Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres	C03, F01, G01, H03, J03, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A179	Black-Headed Gull	Larus ridibundus	A04, C03, F02, H03, J03, M01	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A182	Common Gull	Larus canus	A04, C03, F02, H03, J03, M01	Grazing, Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications, Changes in abiotic conditions
A184	European Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	C03, F02, H03, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, Marine water pollution, Other Ecosystem Modifications

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A193	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	C03, D01, D03, G01, I01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Invasive non-native species
A195	Little Tern	Sterna albifrons albifrons	C03, D01, I01, I02, M01	Renewable abiotic energy use, Roads, paths and railroads, Invasive non-native species, Problematic native species, Changes in abiotic conditions
A229	Common Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis	A11, D01, G01, H01, I01, J02	Agriculture activities not referred to above, Roads, paths and railroads, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions
A395	Greenland White-Fronted Goose	Anser albifrons flavirostris	A02, A04, A06, A11, B01, C03, D02, D05, F01, F03, G01, H03, H07, K03, M01, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Annual and perennial non-timber crops, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Forest planting on open ground, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Improved access to site, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in abiotic conditions, Changes in biotic conditions

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APPENDIX 2

Relationship with other plans and programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of inter-related Plans or Programmes, EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the Plan or Programme, Directive or Regulation to become familiar with the full details of each.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Level			
SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)	• Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. • Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	• Carry out and environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. • Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. • Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. • Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. • Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. • Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. • Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)	• Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	• All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4.	• For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. • The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. • Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made.	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	• Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. • Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. • Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. • Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.	• Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. • Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. • Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. • Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	• Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats. • Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. • The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution.	• Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. • Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas). • Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. • Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Bathing Water Directive (revised) 2006 [2006/7/EC]	• The purpose of this Directive is to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and to protect human health by complementing Directive 2000/60/EC	This Directive lays down provisions for: • the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality; • the management of bathing water quality; and • the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)	• Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and - preventing further such pollution.	Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State's NAP must include: • a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk • set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure	regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions	The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection.	The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors: • energy; • metal production and processing; • minerals; • chemicals; • waste management; • and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC	• The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and • the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest • Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs).	• The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. • Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
EU Renewable Energy Directive (EU/2018/2001)	• This Directive sets an overall European renewable energy target of 32% by 2030 and includes rules to ensure the uptake of renewables in the transport sector and in heating and cooling. • The directive sets common principles and rules for renewable energy support schemes, sustainability criteria for biomass and the right to produce and consume renewable energy and to establish renewable energy communities. • It also establishes rules to remove barriers, stimulate investments and drive cost reductions in renewable energy technologies and empowers citizens and businesses to participate in the clean energy transformation.	• The Directive promotes cooperation amongst EU countries (and with countries outside the EU) to help them meet their renewable energy targets. • The Directive specifies national renewable energy targets for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for renewables. • EU countries set out how they plan to meet these targets and the general course of their renewable energy policy in national renewable energy action plans. • Progress towards national targets is measured every two years when EU countries publish national renewable energy progress reports.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast)	This Directive establishes a common framework for the promotion of energy from renewable sources. It sets a binding European Union target for the overall share of energy from renewable sources in the Union's gross final consumption of energy in 2030: Member States shall collectively ensure that the share of energy from renewable sources in the Union's gross final consumption of energy in 2030 is at least 32%. Support schemes for energy from renewable sources shall be adopted by Member States. Provisions on joint projects between Member States and between Member States and third countries are laid down too.	The Directive lays down rules on financial support for electricity from renewable sources, on self-consumption of such electricity, on the use of energy from renewable sources in the heating and cooling sector and in the transport sector, on regional cooperation between Member States, and between Member States and third countries, on guarantees of origin, on administrative procedures and on information and training. It also establishes sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels. The latter include fuels produced from waste, from agricultural biomass and from forest biomass.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		The Commission shall monitor the origin of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels consumed in the European Union and the impact of their production, including the impact as a result of displacement, on land use in the Union and in the main third countries of supply.	
Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)	This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport.	This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refuelling points, and user information requirements.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Energy Efficiency Directive (EU) 2023/1791	The new directive introduces a series of measures to help accelerate energy efficiency, including embracing the "energy efficiency first" principle in the energy and non-energy policies.	• Establishing an EU legally-binding target to reduce the EU's final energy consumption by 11.7% by 2030 (relative to the 2020 reference scenario). This includes for each Member State the requirement to set its indicative national contribution based on objective criteria reflecting national circumstances. If the national contributions do not add up to the EU target, an ambition gap mechanism is applied by the Commission. • Increasing annual energy savings from 0.8% (at present) to 1.3% (2024-2025), then 1.5% (2026-2027) and 1.9% from 2028 onwards. That's an average of 1.49% of new annual savings for the period from 2024-2030. • Obliging Member States to prioritise vulnerable customers and social housing within the scope of their energy savings measures.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Introducing an annual energy consumption reduction target of 1.9% for the public sector as a whole. • Extending the annual 3% buildings renovation obligation to all the levels of public administration. • Introducing a different approach, based on energy consumption, for business to have an energy management system or to carry out an energy audits. • Bringing in a new obligation to monitor the energy performance of data centres, with an EU-level database collecting and publishing data. • Promoting local heating & cooling plans in larger municipalities. • Progressively increasing the efficient energy consumption in heat or cold supply, also in district heating.	
EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)	This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner.	• The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas: • Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; • The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; • The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; • Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; • Safety of offshore oil and gas operations.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)	The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments.	The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: • Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at • sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value. • An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. • A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision making. • Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	• Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. • Supporting EU-level GI projects. • Improving access to finance for GI projects. • Improving information and promoting innovation.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			environmental protection and management.
UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	• links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and • recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.	• sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them; • each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage; • encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management
UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity	An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	The Convention has three main goals: • the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); • the sustainable use of its components; and • the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change	It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.	The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)	The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol. At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.	• The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). • EU member states implement measures to improve on or compliment the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. • Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package	• Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020. • Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels. • Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%. • Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency.	Four pieces of complimentary legislation: • Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps. • Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU. • Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020. • Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy	• A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries. • Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario.	• To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030: • A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS). • New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries. • First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive)	• The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). • Sets new air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives.	• Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. • Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the

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Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)	• Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values. • Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM10) or up to five years (NO2, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. • The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.	• Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures. • Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public. • Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases. • Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution.	regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to: • Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; • Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	• Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks • Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community	• Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment • Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. • Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. • Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	• Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. • Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain “good status” of water bodies. • Promote sustainable water usage. • The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: • The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive • Sampling Drinking Water Directive • Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive • Shellfish Directive • Freshwater Fish Directive	• Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. • Achieve "good status" for all waters. • Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. • Involve the public and streamline legislation. • Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. • Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. • Recover costs for water services.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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	• Groundwater Directive • Dangerous Substances Directive		
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	• Protect, control and conserve groundwater. • Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. • Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals.	• Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. • Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Drinking Water Directive (2020/2184)	• The recast Drinking Water Directive is the EU's main law on drinking water. It concerns the access to and the quality of water intended for human consumption to protect human health. • The EU adopted the recast Drinking Water Directive in December 2020 and the Directive entered into force in January 2021. Member States have to transpose the Directive into national law and comply with its provisions by 12 January 2023. The recast Drinking Water Directive will further protect human health thanks to updated water quality standards, tackling pollutants of concern, such as endocrine disruptors and microplastics, and leading to even cleaner water from the tap for all.	Key features of the revised Directive are: • reinforced water quality standards, in line or, in some cases, even more stringent than the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations • tackling emerging pollutants, such as endocrine disruptors and PFAs, as well as microplastics • a preventive approach favouring actions to reduce pollution at source by introducing the risk-based approach • measures to ensure better access to water, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised groups • measures to promote tap water, including in public spaces and restaurants, to reduce (plastic) bottle consumption • harmonisation of the quality standards for materials and products in contact with water • measures to reduce water leakages and to increase transparency of the sector	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	• This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. • The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges.	• Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment. • Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges. • Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU	Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.	• Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent. • Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. • Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		• The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. • The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. • The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. • The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives that are not of significant relevance to the SEA for the Guidelines. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing • knowledge and new needs.	
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)	The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.	The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)	The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co- operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.	• The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties. • The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co- operation between states and regions.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')	It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.	• (I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; • (II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; • (III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and • (IV) Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)	• Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time.	• Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. • Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

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	• A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations.	• Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. • Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. • Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned.	environmental protection and management.
European Landscape Convention 2000	The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes.	• Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. • Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020)	It identifies three key objectives: • to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital • to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy • to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment- related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing	Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals): • Better implementation of legislation. • Better information by improving the knowledge base. • More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy. • Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		• Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme: • To make the Union's cities more sustainable. • To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively.	
Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)	The convention has three main aims: • to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats • to promote cooperation between states • to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species	The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also: • Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. • Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucus. • Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. • Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon. • Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co- operation with other organisations. • Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bali Road Map (2007)	The overall goals of the project are twofold: • To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and	The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks: • mitigation • adaptation • technology	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

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	• To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities.	• financing	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cancun Agreements (2010)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover: • Mitigation • Transparency of actions • Technology • Finance • Adaptation • Forests • Capacity building	Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.	• The following actions were committed to by governments at this conference: • Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020); • Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets; • Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt; • Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and • Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU Common Agricultural Policy	• To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and • To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living.	• ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future; • Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources; • Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)(as amended)	Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.	The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely: • Registration, • Evaluation, • Authorisation; and • Restriction of chemicals. REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Stockholm Convention	The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.	• Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention • Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention • Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention • Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		• To target additional POPs • Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance	
Ramsar Convention	The Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".	Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: • Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; • Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; • Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European 2020 Strategy for Growth	Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities: • Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation; • Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy; • Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion.	In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020: 1. 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed; 2. 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D; 3. the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right); 4. the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree; 5. 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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The European Green Deal (EGD) 2019	The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people's quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind.	• It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution. • It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. • In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed on 4th March 2020 to bring about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Level			
Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework, and the National Development Plan (2021 - 2030)	• The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between. • The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people.	The National Planning Framework published alongside the National Development Plan yields ten National Strategic Outcomes as follows: 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. Sustainable Mobility 5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 6. High-Quality International Connectivity 7. Enhanced Amenity and Heritage 8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [In Preparation]	The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will: • Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; • Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and,	In preparation.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates • the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.		
Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2022 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development.	• Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. • There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. • Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large scale projects. • Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011	The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	• The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. • These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. • Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)	These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.	• They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. • The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C- 418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Waste Management Act 1996, as amended	To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.	• The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009 (S.I 296 of 2009)	The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels	Actions: • Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). • Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. • Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 366 of 2016)	To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.	The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values. • Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution. • Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established	
S.I. No. 113/2022 - European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022	• The purpose of the Regulations is to provide a basic set of measures to ensure the protection of • waters, including drinking water sources, against pollution caused by nitrogen and phosphorus from • agricultural sources, with the primary emphasis on the management of livestock manures and other • fertilisers. The set of measures also provide some basic safeguards against possible harmful impacts • on water quality arising from agricultural expansion. This basic set of measures has been strengthened • over the last two reviews and this new programme provides a further strengthened set of measures • to help reduce nitrogen and phosphorus losses from agriculture and contribute to improvements in • water quality.	The Regulations include measures such as: • Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited • Limits on the land application of fertilisers • Storage requirements for livestock manure; and • Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
National legislation transport the Industrial Emissions Directive: • Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992, amended by the Protection of the Environment Act 2003; and • Environmental Protection Agency (Integrated Pollution Control) (Licensing) Regulations 2013. • European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992)(Amendment) Regulations 2020 • Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. • European Union (Industrial Emissions) Regulations 2013	• The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection. This legislation transposes the provision of the Directive	The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors: • energy; • metal production and processing; • minerals; • chemicals; • waste management; • and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
• Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing) Regulations 2013. Environmental Protection Agency (Licensing Fees) Regulations 2013			
Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008 (S.I. 79 of 2008)	• These Regulations provide for transposition of the EU Bathing Water Directive 2006 (Directive 2006/7/EC of 15 February 2006) which aims: • To improve health protection for bathers • To establish a more pro-active approach to management of bathing waters, and • To promote increased public involvement and dissemination of information to the public.	• The Regulations establish a new classification system for bathing water quality based on four classifications "poor", "sufficient", "good" and "excellent" and generally require that a classification of at least "sufficient" be achieved by 2015 for all bathing waters. • Local authorities must take appropriate measures with a view to improving waters which are classified as "poor" and increasing the number of bathing waters classified as "good" or "excellent". • A permanent advice against bathing must be issued in a case where a bathing water is classified as "poor" for five consecutive years. • Local authorities are required annually to identify bathing waters, establish a monitoring calendar, carry out the specified monitoring, report the results to the EPA, carry out appropriate management measures where necessary and provide information to the public. • There must be public participation in the identification of waters and the general implementation of the Regulations.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• The EPA is required by the Regulations to classify bathing waters, generally on the basis of the monitoring results for the four preceding bathing seasons, and to publish an annual report in relation to bathing water quality. • Monitoring by local authorities is to commence not later than 2011 with a view to ensuring that a classification is assigned to bathing waters not later than 2015. • Private controllers of access lands may be required to contribute towards the costs incurred by a local authority or the EPA.	
Bathing Water Quality (Amendment) Regulations 2011 (S.I 351 of 2011)	This Regulation defines further the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Further defines the minimum number of bathing water samples required to carry out a bathing water quality assessment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021	An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.	When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to:	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment • entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective, • The policy of the Government on climate change, • Climate justice, • Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any • international agreement referred to in section 2; and • The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas • emissions, prepared by the Agency.	environmental protection and management.
Climate Action Plan 2023	The Climate Action Plan 2023 provides a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting Ireland on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021.	The Plan lists the actions needed to deliver on our climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated annually, to ensure alignment with Ireland's legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Ireland's Second National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (2022 - 2024)	• National Implementation Plan 2022 - 2024 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). • The first version of the Plan (2018 – 2020) provided a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the • 169 targets. It also included a 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets.	The Plan identifies five strategic objectives to guide implementation: • To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development; • To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs; • Greater partnerships for the Goals; • To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms; and • Strong reporting mechanisms	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Clean Air Strategy for Ireland (2023)	The Clean Air Strategy provides the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	• Through this document Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. • The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. • The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. • In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount, this is a strong theme of the Strategy.	Implementation of the Guidelines need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EirGrid 's Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation Programme 2017 - 2022	• EirGrid 's mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland.	Grid25, EirGrid 's roadmap to uprate the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• "Our vision is of a grid developed to match future needs, so it can safely and reliably carry power all over the country to the major towns and cities and onwards to every home, farm and business where the electricity is consumed and so it can meet the needs of consumers and generators in a sustainable way."		
All Island Grid Study 2008	• The All Island Grid Study is the first comprehensive assessment of the ability of the electrical power system and, as part of that, the transmission network ("the grid") on the island of Ireland to absorb large amounts of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. • The objective of this five-part study is to assess the technical feasibility and the relative costs and benefits associated with various scenarios for increased shares of electricity sourced from renewable energy in the all island power system.	Key conclusions of the study: • The presented results indicate that the differences in cost between the highest cost and the lowest cost portfolios are low (7%), given the assumptions made and costs included in the Study. • All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to significant reductions of CO2 emissions compared to portfolio 1 • All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to reductions on the dependency of the all island system on fuel and electricity imports. • The limitations of the study may overstate the technical feasibility of the portfolios analysed and could impact the costs and benefits resulting. Further work is required to understand the extent of such impact. • Timely development of the transmission networks, requiring means to address the planning challenge, is a precondition for implementation of the portfolios considered. • Market mechanisms must facilitate the installation of complementary, i.e. flexible, dispatchable plant, so as to maintain adequate levels of system security.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)	• The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users. • It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity.	• A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; • Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism • to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, • domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; • Greenways that provide a substantially segregated offroad experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and • Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and • Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Water Resources Plan (2021)	• The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. • The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment.	The key objectives of the plan are to: • Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions • Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry • Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland's water resources	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		• Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events • Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water • Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies • Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater	
Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	• Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. • The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.	This Strategy therefore addresses issues including: • A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; • Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; • The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; • Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; • Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety; • Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and • Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and **National Landscape Character**	• The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. • Landscape Strategy Vision: "Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning."	The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to: • Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; • Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape; • Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape; • Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2021 - 2027	This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published. Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended, sets out the overarching	The revised Plan makes 20 recommendations under the following topics: • Policy and Regulation • Prevention • Collection and Treatment • Implementation	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period: • To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally; • To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a • view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste; • To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export; • To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management.		
National Ports Policy 2013	The core objective of National Ports Policy is to facilitate a competitive and effective market for maritime transport services.	National Ports Policy introduces clear categorisation of the ports sector into Ports of National Significance (Tier 1), Ports of National Significance (Tier 2) and Ports of Regional Significance.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Aviation Policy 2015	Specifically, the principal goals of this National Aviation Policy are:	The National Aviation Policy commits to: • Maintaining safety as the number one priority in Irish aviation and ensuring that safety regulation is robust, effective and efficient;	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• To enhance Ireland's connectivity by ensuring safe, secure and competitive access responsive to the needs of business, tourism and consumers; • To foster the growth of aviation enterprise in Ireland to support job creation and position Ireland as a recognised global leader in aviation; and • To maximise the contribution of the aviation sector to • Ireland's economic growth and development.	• Creating conditions to encourage the development of new routes and services, particularly to new and emerging markets; • Ensuring a high level of competition among airlines operating in the Irish market; • Optimising the operation of the Irish airport network to ensure maximum connectivity to the rest of the world; • Ensuring that the regulatory framework for aviation reflects best international practice and that economic regulation facilitates continued investment in aviation infrastructure at Irish airports to support traffic growth; • Supporting the aircraft leasing and aviation finance sectors to maintain Ireland's leading global position in these spheres; and • Maintaining a safe and innovative general aviation sector to support Ireland's broader aviation industry	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines	The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.	The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025	The vision is: "*A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where*	These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive: • Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

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	wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility."	• Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities • Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing • Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025	The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work.	The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025: • Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year • net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; • 250,000 people employed in tourism; and • 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Strategy for Northern Ireland: 10 Year Plan	• This Strategy will be published in 2024. • The plan sets out a 10-year plan for the growth of the tourism sector in Northern Ireland., with an aim to increase the value of tourism to the economy by 50-75% compared to 2019.	The strategic goals and core themes of the Strategy are: • Innovative • Inclusive • Sustainable • Attractive • Collaborative The document identifies the key challenges and drivers for growth.	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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	• Vision is to "Establish Northern Ireland as a year-round world class destination which is renowned for its authentic experiences, landscape, heritage and culture and which benefits communities, the economy and the environment, with sustainability at its core." • This Plan may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.		
Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012	A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.	Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) 2021	• NIFTI is the Department of Transport's framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network to support the delivery of the National Strategic Outcomes. • The NIFTI will guide transport investment in the years ahead to enable the National Planning Framework, support the Climate Action Plan, and promote social, environmental and economic outcomes throughout Ireland.	The four investment priorities stated in NIFTI are: • Mobility of people and goods in urban areas. • Protection and renewal. • Enhanced regional and rural connectivity. • Decarbonisation.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans (including transport)	NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur	• Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change. • Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance based actions. • Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change. • Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Governments White Paper 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' (2015 – 2030)	The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050.	2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning: • Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95% • Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Wildlife Act of 1976 **Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000**	The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.	• Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems • Give statutory protection to NHAs • Enhances wildlife species and their habitats • Includes more species for protection	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Actions for Biodiversity (2017-2021) Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan	Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally.	• To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors. • To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity. • To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystems services. • To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside. • To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment. • To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species. • To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Broadband Plan (2012)	Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland.	The Plan sets out: • A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High Speed Broadband. • Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. • The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. • A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)	• Sets out comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process. • Ensures flood risk is a key consideration in preparing land use plans and in the assessment of planning applications. • Implementation of the Guidelines is through actions at national, regional, local authority and site-specific levels. • Planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are required to have regard to the Guidelines in carrying out their functions under the Planning Acts.	• Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding. • Avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface water run-off. • Ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains. • Avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth. • Improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders. • Ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature conservation • are complied with at all stages of flood risk management. The 2009 Flood Risk Management Guidelines were amended by Circular PL 2/2014 (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government) that provides advice on the use of OPW flood mapping in assessing planning applications and clarifies some advice from the 2009 Guidelines.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003) **European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations**	• Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. • Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. • Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions.	• Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans. • Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs. • Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014) **European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)(as amended)**		• Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. • Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. • Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. • Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. • Outlines surface water quality standards. • Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.	environmental protection and management.
Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 to 1990	The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.	The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to: • Prosecute for water pollution offences. • Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. • Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. • issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; • Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects. • Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Water Services Act 2007 **Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012** **Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013** **Water Services Act 2017**	• Provides the water services infrastructure. • Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. • Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and wastewater supply. • Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and wastewater services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.	Key strategic objectives include: • Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. • Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services. • Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards • Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary wastewater treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive. • Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures. • Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. • Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services. • Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER.	Implementation of the Guidelines need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Irish Water's (now known as Uisce Eireann) Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed	This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and	Six strategic objectives as follows: • Meet Customer Expectations. • Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply. • Provide Effective Management of Wastewater. • Protect and Enhance the Environment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Capital Investment Plan (2020 - 2024)	identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term.	• Support Social and Economic Growth. • Invest in the Future.	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas 2017 - 2022	Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs	• Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning. • Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Harvest 2020	Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas.	Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Agri-vision 2015 Action Plan	Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			environmental protection and management.
Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) **Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS)** **Green, Low-Carbon, Agri- environment Scheme (GLAS)**	• Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. • GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring.	• Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. • Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. • Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. • Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. • Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Rural Development Programme	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas	At a more detailed level, the programme also: • Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; • Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and • Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Forestry Programme 2023 – 2027	The new Forestry Programme 2023-2027 came into force in 2023, as soon as State Aid approval by the European Commission has been received. The new Programme sets out increased support for a number of schemes.	The proposed Forestry Programme 2023-2027 contains a series of eight different interventions: • Forest creation; • Agroforestry; • Infrastructure and technology investments;	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Sustainable forest management; • Developing skills and empowering the forest sector for sustainable forest management; • Open forests - social, cultural and heritage forests; • Climate resilient reforestation; • Reconstruction.	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
River Basin Management Plan	River Basin Management Plans set out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters.	• Aim to protect and enhance all water bodies in the RBD and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive. • Identify and manages water bodies in the RBD. • Establish a programme of measures for monitoring and improving water quality in the RBD. • Involve the public through consultations.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)	This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.	Objectives of the Strategy: • To give direction to Ireland's approach to peatland • management. • To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils. • To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. • To ensure that Ireland's peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsible.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. • To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required. • To provide a framework for determining and ensuring the most appropriate future use of cutover and cutaway bogs. To ensure that specific actions necessary for the achievement of its objectives are clearly identified and delivered by those involved in or responsible for peatlands management or for decisions affecting their management.	
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.	CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020	The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows: • Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner.	Three high level goals of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified: • To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. • To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources.	environmental protection and management.
Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2018/2001: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017-2030	This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: • AFV forecasts • Electricity targets • Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets • Hydrogen targets • Biofuels targets • LPG targets • Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: • 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. • 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. • 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high end value added product development.	environmental protection and management.
Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) NI	The SPPS consolidates some twenty separate policy publications into one document and sets out strategic subject planning policy for a wide range of planning matters. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two-tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development.	• The overall objective of the planning system is to further sustainable development and improve well-being for the people of the North.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Policy Framework **For Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030**	• This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. • By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors.	This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport: • Reduce overall travel demand • Maximise the efficiency of the transport network • Reduce reliance on fossil fuels • Reduce transport emissions • Improve accessibility to transport These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage (2019)	• Heritage in Ireland ranges from private homes, commercial and public buildings, national monuments, underwater and buried archaeology and the physical and cultural settings of all of these.	The five adaptation goals for built and archaeological heritage in Ireland are: 1. To improve understanding of each heritage resource and its vulnerability to climate change	Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• This plan considers not only those structures and sites that have been statutorily listed, but all man-made assets that have historical, aesthetic and cultural value, but does not consider natural heritage. Aims to: • Build adaptive capacity within the sector • Reduce the vulnerability of built and archaeological heritage to climate change • Identify and capitalise on the various potential opportunities for the sector.	2. To develop and mainstream sustainable policies and plans for climate-change adaptation of built and archaeological heritage 3. To conserve Ireland's heritage for future generations 4. To communicate and transfer knowledge 5. To exploit the opportunities for built and archaeological heritage to demonstrate value and secure resources	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Heritage related legislation: • National Monuments Act 1930 as amended; • Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999; and • The Heritage Act 2018.	Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the LACAPs. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.	Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the LACAPs. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
All-Island Strategic Rail Review	The Review aims to inform policy and future strategy for the railways in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland.	The Review sets out six high-level goals which aim to use rail as effectively as possible to: • contribute to decarbonisation; • improve All Island connectivity between major cities; • enhance regional accessibility; • stimulate economic activity; • encourage sustainable mobility; and achieve economic and financial feasibility.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Regional/ County/Local Level			
Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies provide a long-term regional level strategic planning and economic framework in support of the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Fingal County Council; Dublin City Council; South Dublin County Council; Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Louth County Council; Kildare County Council; Meath County Council; Wicklow County Council; Longford County Council; Laois County Council; Offaly County Council; and Westmeath County Council. The Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Tipperary County Council, Wexford County Council, Kerry County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council. The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its eight constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council, Leitrim County Council, Sligo County Council, Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council, Mayo	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		County Council, Roscommon County Council, and Galway County Council.	
Regional Development Strategy 2035 (Northern Ireland)	• Spatial strategy for the future development of Northern Ireland. • Strategic planning framework to facilitate and guide public and private sectors. • This Plan may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	Aims to provide long-term policy direction with a strategic spatial perspective.	Implementation of the Guidelines need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2022-2042)	It sets out how transport will be developed across the region, covering Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare, over the period of the strategy and has been approved by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in accordance with the relevant legislation. This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	They set out a number of core principles deriving from the strategic vision, which are: • Dublin as the capital city of Ireland and a major European centre shall grow and progress, competing with other cities in the EU, and serving a wide range of international, • national, regional and local needs. • The Dublin and Mid-East Regions will be attractive, vibrant locations for industry, commerce, recreation and tourism and will be a major focus for economic growth within the Country. • The GDA, through its ports and airport connections will continue to be the most important entry/exit point for the country as a whole, and as a Gateway between the European Union and the rest of the World. Access to and through the GDA will continue to be a matter of national importance.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Development in the GDA shall be directly related to investment in integrated high quality public transport services and focused on compact urban form. • Development within the existing urban footprint of the Metropolitan Area will be consolidated to achieve a more compact urban form • Development in the Hinterland Area will be focused on the high quality integrated growth and consolidation of development in key identified towns, separated from each other by extensive areas of strategic green belt land devoted to agriculture and similar uses.	
Transport Strategy for the Cork Metropolitan Area 2040	The Strategy addresses all transport modes and its objective will be to provide a long-term strategic planning framework for the integrated development of transport infrastructure and services in the Cork Metropolitan Area, over the next two decades. This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	It will be used to inform transport investment levels and investment prioritisation over both the longer and shorter terms and will be able to inform sustainable integrated land use and transport policy formulation at the strategic (Metropolitan Area) level and at the local level.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan	• Sets out a ten year cycling strategy for Counties Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow • Plan to increase regions cycle network dramatically	Aims to identify and determine: • The Urban Cycle Network at the Primary, Secondary and Feeder level • The Inter-Urban Cycle Network linking the relevant sections of the Urban Network including the elements of the National Cycle Network within the Greater Dublin Area including linkages to key transport locations outside of urban areas such as airports and ports	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• The Plan refers to the EuroVelo International Cycle Route Network of the European Cyclists Federation is a network of 15 long distance cycle routes connecting and uniting the whole European continent. Two of these routes are in Ireland • including EV2 from Galway through Dublin to London, Berlin, Warsaw and Moscow. • This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	• The Green Route Network being cycle routes for development of tourist, recreational and leisure purposes.	
Dublin to Galway Greenway Plan	• Develop a segregated cycling and walking trail to international standards, extending from Dublin City to Galway which is of a scale that will allow Ireland to harness the potential of an identified growing tourism market for cycling. • This route forms part of an interconnected National Cycle Network of high quality, traffic free, inter urban routes, which will establish Ireland as a quality international tourism destination for a broad range of associated recreational activities and pursuits. • This Strategy may or may not be directly relevant to the LACAP, however, is considered influential in the context of national climate action delivery.	To provide a segregated, substantially off road cycle route from Dublin City to Clifden via Galway City, maximising the use of – where feasible – existing and approved routes and disused railway line corridors and to also use existing plans and/or permitted projects where these have been subject to a consent process that has previously included the carrying out or screening for SEA, EIA and AA.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Local Transport Plans and Strategies	• Local Transport Plans and Strategies relevant to a particular local authority functional area provide a more granular framework for the delivery of sustainable transport systems in accordance with higher-level plans.	• To promote sustainable transport. • To promote integrated and proper transport planning. • To promote safe travel. • To promote the active travel infrastructural development. • To encourage modal shift.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Quality Management Plans	• Ensure that the quality of waters covered by the plan is maintained. • Maintain and improve the quantity and quality of water included in the Plan scope.	• Monitoring of water bodies against quality standards. • Outlines management programmes for water catchments. • Purpose is to maintain and improve the quantity and quality of groundwater.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs	Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: • To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site • To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest • To describe the site and its management • To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site • To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives	• Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. • These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Groundwater Protection Schemes	A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.	A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP)	The overarching vision for each LECP is: "to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities"	The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Development Plans, Local Area Plans, Planning Schemes	• Outlines planning objectives for land use development (including transport objectives). • Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. • Sets out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area.	• Identifies future infrastructure, development and zoning required. • Protects and enhances amenities and environment. • Guides planning authority in assessing proposals. • Aims to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. • Aims to promote sustainable development. • Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Green Infrastructure Plans/Strategies	• Promotes the maintenance and improvement of green infrastructure in an area.	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	• Aims to protect and enhance biodiversity and habitats.		and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Biodiversity Action Plans	Aims to protect, conserve, enhance and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services across all spectrums.	• Outlines the status of biodiversity and identifies species of importance. • Outlines objectives and targets to be met to maintain and improve biodiversity. • Aims to increase awareness.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Heritage Plans	Aims to highlight the importance of heritage at a strategic level.	• Manage and promote heritage as well as increase awareness. • Aim to conserve and protect heritage.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
County Landscape Character Assessments	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	• Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. • Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub- Basin Management Plans	• Identifies the current status of the species and the reason for loss or decline. • Identifies measure required to improve or restore current status.	• Identifies pressures on Freshwater Pearl Mussels for each of the designated populations in Ireland. • Outlines restoration measures required to ensure favourable conservation status.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans	• Produced by Local Authorities. • Outlines areas local flood risk. • Sets out measures to manage and prevent flood risk at a local level.	Not applicable	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Shellfish Pollution Reduction Programmes	Aims to improve water quality and ensure the protection or improvement of designated shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth and contribute to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man.	• Identifies key and secondary pressures on water quality in designated shellfish areas. • Outlines specific measures to address identified key and secondary pressures on water quality. • Addresses the specific pressures acting on water quality in each area.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
			achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Regional Waste Management Plans	These plans (for the Connacht-Ulster, Southern, and Eastern-Midlands regions) give effect to national and EU waste policy, and address waste prevention and management (including generation, collection and treatment) over the period 2015-2021.	To manage wastes in a safe and compliant manner, a clear strategy, policies and actions are required.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Noise Action Plans	The Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland.	The main purpose of the Noise Action Plan is to: • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems • Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects • Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Newry Mourne and Down Local Development Plan	Northern Irish Local Development Plans plans set out how an area should look in the future by deciding the type and scale of development and where buildings should be allowed.	The LDP provides a plan framework to support economic and social needs in the local authority functional area, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The LDP will inform the general public,	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	The aim of the plans is to make sure there is enough land available for the area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features. Through the development plan, councils can identify the best locations for new homes, businesses and infrastructure while also protecting places of value to people or wildlife. The plans are an important consideration in dealing with planning applications and should help guide decision making.	statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide development decisions; and will be the primary consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the District.	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Local Development Plan	Northern Irish Local Development Plans plans set out how an area should look in the future by deciding the type and scale of development and where buildings should be allowed. The aim of the plans is to make sure there is enough land available for the area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features. Through the development plan, councils can identify the best locations for new homes, businesses and infrastructure while also protecting places of value to people or wildlife. The plans are an important consideration in dealing with planning applications and should help guide decision making.	The LDP provides a plan framework to support economic and social needs in the local authority functional area, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The LDP will inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide development decisions; and will be the primary consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the District.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Fermanagh Local Development Plan	Northern Irish Local Development Plans plans set out how an area should look in the future by deciding the type and scale of development and where buildings should be allowed.	The LDP provides a plan framework to support economic and social needs in the local authority functional area, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The LDP will inform the general public,	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	The aim of the plans is to make sure there is enough land available for the area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features. Through the development plan, councils can identify the best locations for new homes, businesses and infrastructure while also protecting places of value to people or wildlife. The plans are an important consideration in dealing with planning applications and should help guide decision making.	statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide development decisions; and will be the primary consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the District.	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Mid Ulster Local Development Plan	Northern Irish Local Development Plans plans set out how an area should look in the future by deciding the type and scale of development and where buildings should be allowed. The aim of the plans is to make sure there is enough land available for the area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features. Through the development plan, councils can identify the best locations for new homes, businesses and infrastructure while also protecting places of value to people or wildlife. The plans are an important consideration in dealing with planning applications and should help guide decision making.	The LDP provides a plan framework to support economic and social needs in the local authority functional area, in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing the delivery of sustainable development. The LDP will inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will guide development decisions; and will be the primary consideration in the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land in the District.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
The Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (as amended)	Prohibits the intentional killing, taking or injuring of certain wild birds and wild animals or the intentional destruction, uprooting or picking of certain wild plants.	• Protection of wild birds, their nests and eggs, the prohibition of certain methods of killing or taking wild birds and the sale of live or dead wild birds or eggs. • Protection of captive birds.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• Prohibition of certain methods of killing or taking wild animals, the use of spring traps, and the sale of live or dead wild animals as well as providing protection for wild plants and prohibiting the sale of invasive, non-native species. • Also covers: the protection of deer, the sales and purchases of venison and the prevention of poaching; the possession of pesticides harmful to wildlife; wildlife refuges; and the possession of articles for purposes of committing certain offences. With regard to enforcement, it includes details regarding the power of wildlife inspector to enter premises and to examine specimens and take samples, false statements made for obtaining registration or licence and penalties and forfeitures.	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
The Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011	This Act requires every public body to promote the conservation of biodiversity and defines functions of public bodies in Northern Ireland with respect to the conservation of biodiversity. It also contains provisions for the conservation of wild fauna and flora and habitats. The Act amends the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 and the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002.	• To make provision about biodiversity. • To amend the wildlife (Northern Ireland) order 1985 and part 4 of the environment (Northern Ireland) order 2002. • To abolish game licences and game dealers' licences. • To prohibit hare coursing events. To amend the game preservation act (Northern Ireland) 1928; and for connected purposes.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended)	These regulations transpose the requirements of the EC 'Habitats' Directive and aspects of the 'Wild Birds' Directive in relation to Northern Ireland. Provide for the protection of sites in the UK that support habitats and species in need of conservation across Europe and full protection of species of European importance whether occurring within designated sites or not.	Protects certain birds, plants, animals, marine life and their habitats, including Natura 2000 sites, through creating criminal offences and changing planning requirements.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002	The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 is the primary piece of environmental legislation in Northern Ireland. The order sets out a range of requirements for the protection and management of the environment, including the prevention and control of pollution, the conservation of natural habitats and biodiversity, and the regulation of waste management. The order applies to a wide range of activities, including industrial and commercial activities, waste management, agriculture, and construction. It also establishes the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), which is responsible for enforcing the order and regulating activities that may have an impact on the environment. The NIEA has the power to investigate environmental incidents, issue enforcement notices, and prosecute individuals and organisations that breach environmental regulations.	The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 places a range of obligations on individuals and organisations to protect and manage the environment. These obligations include reporting environmental incidents, obtaining permits, and complying with environmental standards. Evidence requirements under the order may include: 1. Reporting requirements 2. Permit requirements 3. Compliance monitoring Enforcement action	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
The Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017	The purpose of these regulations is to promote sustainable development by considering and mitigating the potential environmental effects of projects before they are approved. The regulations require a systematic and transparent assessment process, enabling decision-makers to make informed choices based on the environmental implications of proposed developments.	The regulations apply to a wide range of projects, including infrastructure developments, industrial facilities, energy projects, and certain agricultural and waste management activities. The regulations mandate that developers or project proponents carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as part of the planning process. The EIA involves the identification, prediction, and evaluation of potential environmental effects, such as impacts on air, water, biodiversity, human health, and cultural heritage. The assessment also considers alternative options and potential mitigation measures.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		Additionally, the regulations emphasize public participation, ensuring that affected individuals and organizations have the opportunity to provide input and express their concerns during the assessment process.	
The Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) for Northern Ireland	The SPPS is a statement, consolidating some twenty separate policy publications into one document, of the Department's policy on important planning matters that should be addressed across Northern Ireland. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two-tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development. It sets the strategic direction for councils to bring forward detailed operational policies within their new Local Development Plans.	The provisions of the SPPS must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Development Plans, and are also material to all decisions on individual planning applications and appeals. The SPPS has a policy objective to "seek to further the conservation, enhancement and restoration of the abundance, quality, diversity and distinctiveness of the region's natural heritage"	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 2: Natural Heritage (2013)	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 2 sets out the Department of the Environment's planning policies for the conservation, protection and enhancement of Northern Ireland's natural heritage. PPS 2 replaces 'Planning and Nature Conservation (1997)' and supersedes Policies SP16 and DES4 in 'A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland (1993).	Objectives of PPS2 include: • to seek to further the conservation, enhancement and restoration of the abundance, quality, diversity and distinctiveness of the region's natural heritage; and to contribute to rural renewal and urban regeneration by ensuring developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and contributing to a high quality environment.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 18: Renewable Energy	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 18 sets out the Department's planning policy for development that generates energy from renewable resources and that requires the submission of a planning application. In addition the PPS encourages the integration of renewable	The aim of this Statement is to facilitate the siting of renewable energy generating facilities in appropriate locations within the built and natural environment in order to achieve Northern Ireland's renewable energy targets and to realise the benefits of renewable energy. The objectives of the Statement are:	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	energy technology and greater application of the principles of Passive Solar Design in the design, siting and layout of new development.	• to ensure that the environmental, landscape, visual and amenity impacts associated with or arising from renewable energy development are adequately addressed; • to ensure adequate protection of the Region's built and natural, and cultural heritage features; and to facilitate the integration of renewable energy technology into the design, siting and layout of new development and promote greater application of the principles of Passive Solar Design.	achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Biodiversity Strategy for NI to 2020	A strategy for Northern Ireland to meet its international obligations and local targets to protect biodiversity and ensure that the environment can continue to support our people and economy.	The objectives of the Biodiversity Strategy are to: i) maintain healthy ecosystems, ii) address adverse pressure, iii) increase prosperity and well-being, and engage society in biodiversity conservation and develop partnerships.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Draft Environment Strategy	The Environment Strategy is intended to be an overarching document setting out Northern Ireland's environmental priorities for the coming decades and will form part of the Green Growth agenda.	This Strategy focuses on several Strategic Context/Drivers: i) Sustainability ii) Global Climate & Biodiversity Action iii) Green Growth Strategy iv) Environmental Governance & Co-operation v) Agriculture & Environment vi) Marine Environment Built & Historic Environment	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Northern Ireland Peatland Strategy 2021-2040	The strategy identifies the ecosystem services provided by healthy peatlands, including climate regulation and adaptation, specialised	The document outlines six strategic objectives: i) Conserve peatlands & prevent degradation	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	biodiversity, good water quality, flood alleviation and a historical archive. The strategy also highlights the role peatlands play as a unique landscape for recreation and education.	ii) Restoration of degraded areas to functioning peatland ecosystems (designated & non-designated sites) iii) Supporting Sustainable Peatland Management iv) Knowledge Sharing & Research v) Communication, Education & Access Governance, Implementation & Funding	and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
The Draft Green Growth Strategy	The Strategy establishes Northern Ireland's Green Growth vision and principles and sets out commitments to tackling the climate crisis.	One of the key commitments of the Green Growth Strategy is to develop Northern Ireland's first Climate Action Plan. 10 Executive Commitments have been set out in the Strategy. Green Growth considers climate targets but also the wider environment and green jobs.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Northern Ireland Energy Strategy 2050 (Northern Ireland Energy Strategy 'Path to Net Zero Energy')	The Strategy sets a long-term vision of net zero carbon and affordable energy for Northern Ireland. It is also about growing the economy and supporting the 10X Economic Vision.	The energy strategy sets a target of 70% of local electricity supplies coming from renewable sources by 2030 and includes a plan to fully decarbonise by 2050. The Energy Strategy is centred around delivering on five key principles: • Placing you at the heart of our energy future • Grow the green economy • Do more with less • Replace fossil fuels with renewable energy Create a flexible, resilient and integrated energy system	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
The Draft Marine Plan for Northern Ireland 2018	The Plan informs and guides the regulation, management, use and protection of Northern Ireland's marine area. It is a single document made up of two plans, one for the inshore region and one for the offshore region.	Marine Plan Objectives • To promote the sustainable development of productive activities, which support employment at all skill levels while fully considering the requirements of other marine interests.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		• To help realise the potential of energy resources and energy storage within the marine area, while fully considering the requirements of other marine interests. • To promote the development of vibrant, accessible and sustainable coastal communities. • To promote the marine resource, its recreational value and its wider economic, environmental and social benefits to all. • To promote the preservation and enjoyment of marine related heritage assets. • To promote a healthy, resilient and adaptable marine ecosystem and an ecologically coherent network of Marine Protected Areas. • To contribute towards climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. To continue to develop a sound marine evidence base in a co-ordinated manner, to increase understanding and to support the development, monitoring and review of marine plans.	bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Towards an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy for Northern Ireland 2006 - 2026	Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) aims to establish sustainable levels of economic and social activity in our coastal areas while protecting the coastal environment. ICZM seeks to reconcile the different policies that have an effect on the coast and to establish a framework that facilitates the integration of the interests and responsibilities of those involved in the development, management and use of the coast.	The Strategy is based on the several key principles: • Sustainable development • Precautionary principle Ecosystem approach	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Northern Irish Local Development Plans	These Northern Ireland plans make sure there is enough land available for each area's housing,	Northern Irish Local Development Plans for Northern Irish local authorities bordering Ireland include:	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
for Northern Irish local authorities bordering Ireland	employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features.	• Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council's Local Development Plan 2030 • Mid Ulster District Council's Local Development Plan 2030 • Derry City and Strabane District Council's Local Development Plan 2032 • Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Local Development Plan 2030 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Local Development Plan 2030	environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.
Northern Ireland River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs)	• The NI River Basin Management Plans take an integrated approach to the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. • They apply to groundwater and to all surface water bodies, including rivers, lakes, transitional (estuarine) and coastal waters out to one nautical mile. • River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) as required by the regulations were published in 2009 and 2015 for each River Basin District within Northern Ireland.	The Plans identified where Northern Ireland's water environment is in good or excellent condition and set out objectives for improvement or prevention of deterioration.	Implementation of the Climate Action Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection.

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
& PLANNING

APPENDIX 3

Appropriate Assessment Screening of Plan Modifications

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

AA Screening Report For Modifications To The Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

Prepared for:

Cavan County Council

Cavan

Comhairle Contae an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Date: **January 2024**

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Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for Modifications to the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

REVISION CONTROL TABLE, CLIENT, KEYWORDS AND ABSTRACT

User is responsible for Checking the Revision Status of This Document

Rev. No.	Description of Changes	Prepared by:	Checked by:	Approved by:	Date:
1	Final	EV/NSC	RD	AT	25/01/2024

Client: Cavan County Council

Keywords: Appropriate Assessment Screening Report, Appropriate Assessment, AA, Natura Impact Report, LACAP, Climate Action Plan Implementation Plan.

Abstract: Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this AA Screening Report for Modifications to the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029 to Cavan County Council.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This is the Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report for modifications to the Cavan County Council (CCC) Local Authority Climate Action Plan (referred to as either the 'LACAP' or the 'Plan') 2024 - 2029.

Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 sets out the provisions governing the establishment and operation of a LACAP. The broad purpose of a LACAP will be to define adaptation and mitigation measures at local level to support the reduction of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions within a local authority as an organization and throughout the local community. LACAPs shall be implemented over a five-year period.

1.2 Plan-making Process to Date

A draft version of the LACAP was prepared. This document was accompanied by a Draft Natura Impact Report (NIR) which considered, evaluated and presented the environmental effects of the Draft LACAP on European sites and presented mitigation measures to avoid or minimise identified effects. This AA process was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Habitats Directive[1] and transposing national legislation.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was also undertaken on the Draft LACAP in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive[2] and transposing national legislation. A Draft SEA Environmental Report which considered the effects of the Draft LACAP on the environment was therefore prepared also. The Draft NIR suitably informed this report.

A period of consultation has been undertaken in relation to the Draft LACAP, the Draft SEA Environmental Report and the Draft NIR. Statutory environmental authorities, interested stakeholders and members of the public were invited to make submissions in connection with the Draft LACAP and the associated Draft SEA Environmental Report and Draft NIR.

All submissions made on this documentation have been reviewed by CCC. These submissions were taken into consideration prior to finalisation of the LACAP. CCC have prepared a Chief Executive Report on the submissions received. This document details the submissions received, CCC responses to the submissions, and Plan Action modifications arising following consideration of the submissions.

1.3 Purpose of this Assessment

An AA Screening Assessment must be carried out on all modifications made to the Draft LACAP Actions arising following consideration of submissions. The purpose of this assessment is to identify whether the Plan Action modifications will result in additional effects on European sites not previously considered in the AA process to date, and to inform whether or not a full AA is required on the Plan Action modifications. This AA Screening Assessment considers changes the binding 'Actions' defined within the Plan.

[1] Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.
[2] Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment

This report documents the AA Screening undertaken to identify the need for full AA in this case. This report accompany the documented Plan Action modifications.

This report should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

1. The Cavan County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.
2. The Draft NIR for the Cavan County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.
3. The Draft SEA Environmental Report for the Cavan County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.
4. Cavan County Council LACAP Submissions Chief Executive Report.
5. The SEA Screening Report for modifications to Cavan County Council LACAP 2024 - 2029.

2. APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING METHODOLOGY

2.1 Legislative Requirements

Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the "favourable conservation status" of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Habitats Directive as above and Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable among them. These two designations are collectively known and referred to as European sites.

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect such sites. Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for AA. These requirements are implemented in the Republic of Ireland by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). Specifically, Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states:

> *"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (Natura 2000 sites) but likely to have significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public".*

Therefore, the AA process is an assessment of the following key concepts:

- Whether a plan or project can be excluded from AA requirements because it is directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site.
- Whether the project will have a potentially significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, in view of the site's conservation objectives or if residual uncertainty exists regarding potential impacts.

The provisions of Article 6(3) do not apply where the proposed plan or project is 'connected with or necessary to the management of the site'. Where a formal consent process applies, the AA process is concluded by the relevant competent authority making a determination in accordance with article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.

2.2 Guidance

The assessment was conducted in accordance with the following guidance:

- Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (European Commission, 2002).

- This document was updated by Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Commission Notice (2021) Brussels, 28.9.2021 C(2021) 6913 final;
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin (2009, updated 2010);
- Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Commission (2018). Brussels, (2019/C 33/01). OJ C 33, 25.1.2019;
- Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 28. European Commission 2013;
- OPR Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, Office of the Planning Regulator (2021).

The AA screening is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and 'grey' literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife Website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives. The EPA Envision Map-viewer (www.epa.ie) and available reports were also reviewed:

- Definitions of conservation status, integrity and significance used in this assessment are defined in accordance with 'Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC' (EC, 2000).
- The conservation status of a natural habitat is defined as the sum of the influences acting on a natural habitat and its typical species that may affect its long-term natural distribution, structure and functions as well as the long-term survival of its typical species;
- The conservation status of a species is defined as the sum of the influences acting on the species concerned that may affect the long-term distribution and abundance of its population;
- The integrity of a European Site is defined as the coherence of the site's ecological structure and function, across its whole area, or the habitats, complex of habitats and/or populations of species for which the site is or will be classified; and
- Significant effect should be determined in relation to the specific features and environmental conditions of the protected site concerned by the plan or project, taking particular account of the site's conservation objectives.

2.3 Assessment Process and Approach

A Draft NIR has been produced for the CCC Draft LACAP. This report contains the information on the receiving environment, European sites, and potential effects of the Draft LACAP on European sites. The report also defines mitigation measures designed to avoid and minimise effects on European sites. The information contained in this Draft NIR has been referred to during the carrying out of the AA Screening Assessment documented in this report.

This assessment commences with a description of the Plan Action modifications being considered. The type of impacts that are likely due to the Plan Action modifications are then identified and evaluated having regard to nature and characteristics of the Plan Action modifications. The overall AA process will be completed in a revised full NIR at the end of the plan development process incorporating all interim steps, modifications and reports/assessments.

An ecological desktop study has been completed for the AA Screening Assessment of the Plan Action modifications, which comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites that may be impacted by Plan Action modifications.
- Identification of European sites pathways.
- Review of the NPWS site synopses and conservation objectives for relevant European sites.
- Examination of available information on protected species.

This desktop assessment mainly involved a review of the Draft NIR produced for the Draft LACAP.

The process of determining the likelihood of significant effects from a plan or a project on European sites is an iterative process centred around a Source-Pathway-Receptor (S-P-R) model. In order for an effect to be established, all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the mechanism is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

- Source(s) – e.g., pollutant run-off, noise, removal of vegetation etc.;
- Pathway(s) – ecological connectivity linkages e.g., groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and,
- Receptor(s) – ecological resources supporting the qualifying habitats and species of European sites.

In the context of this report, a receptor is an ecological feature that is known to be utilised by the Qualifying Interests (QI) or Special Conservation Interests (SCI) of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the Plan Action modifications that is known to interact with ecological processes. A pathway is any connection or link between the source and the receptor[3].

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the Conservation Objectives, QIs and/ or SCIs of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European site has been designated and afforded protection. SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The likelihood of significant effects, including in-combination effects, on European Sites is then interrogated having regard to the nature and characteristics of Plan Action modifications, environmental pathways, and the sensitivity of relevant European sites.

Where significant effects are determined to be likely, or where there is uncertainty regarding the likelihood of significant effects, the Plan Action modification must be will be subject to Stage 2 AA and the preparation of a Natura Impact Report (NIR).

[3] Qualifying interest or special conservation interests of the European site in question and the known sensitivities of these key ecological receptors

Having regard to the European Commission Communication on the Precautionary Principle (European Commission, 2000) the:

> *"absence of scientific evidence on the significant negative effect of an action cannot be used as justification for approval of this action. When applied to Article 6(3) procedure, the precautionary principle implies that the absence of a negative effect on Natura 2000 sites has to be demonstrated before a plan or project can be authorised. In other words, if there is a lack of certainty as to whether there will be any negative effects, then the plan or project cannot be approved."*

This AA screening is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and 'grey' literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife Website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives.

3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

A summary of Plan Action modifications arising following consideration of consultation submissions is provided in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1: Summary of Plan Action Modifications

Action	Summary of Modification
G5	The following Action has been added to the Plan: "Assist with the 2024 mid term review of the Cavan Cuilcagh Lakelands Geo Park Development Plan to ensure continuity of climate focused objectives with Climate Action Plan."
TR15	This action has been amended to add the following text: "with alternatives such as HVO or biomethane"
N10	The Action has been amended to add the text "particularly heritage hedgerows" as follows: "Prepare a roadside hedgerow management tool kit that informs staff on the value of hedgerows, particularly heritage hedgerows and outlines best practise in their management, having due regard to native hedgerows"
N12	The following new Action has been added to the Plan: "Develop a tree and woodland plan to increase tree cover on council owned land, using appropriate species to store carbon, support nature, improve soils and water quality, and aid in flood protection and urban design. Aim to increase areas of public land under forestry through schemes such as Forest Creation on public lands."
N16	The following text has been added to the Action: "Highlight the importance of cultivation and propagation of disease resistant plants e.g. plants resistant to diseases such as ash dieback"
N17	The following new Action has been added to the Plan: "Promote not-for-profit tree planting programmes for targeted ecological improvements, ground stabilisation as a means of climate change mitigation, and carbon sequestration over the lifetime of the planted species"
N21	The following new action has been added to the Plan: "Promote public education to increase awareness of the importance of bogs as both hydrological and carbon sinks, explaining their ability to reduce the effects of surface water run off during rainfall events and their ability to provide a subsequent slow release of water to the receiving environment. Awareness should be increased of the benefits of rewetting bogs and how these actions can be taken by landowners"
C1	The action has been amended to include the following text: "Food production in community gardens"

4. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any likely significant effects to European Sites from the Plan Action modifications, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

The following has been considered when carrying out the AA Screening Assessment of Plan Action modifications to the Draft LACAP.

- The likely significant effect on the environment and European sites of implementing the Draft LACAP.
- The likely significant effect on the environment and European sites of implementing the Plan Action modifications.
- The mitigation measures defined in Section 5 of the Draft NIR.

Therefore, the Plan Action modifications must be considered in relation to the current Draft LACAP which has already been subject to SEA and AA considerations. All Plan Action modifications are considered therefore in the context of potential additional sources for impacts/effects which were not previously considered.

The first stage of the Screening process in this case involved interrogating Plan Action modifications to ascertain the materiality of the modifications and whether the modifications will result in the occurrence of additional effects on European sites not previously considered in the AA process to date.

4.2 Assessment Criteria

The following parameters are described when characterising impacts (following CIEEM (2016), EPA (2002) and NRA (2009)):

- **Direct and Indirect Impacts -** An impact can be caused either as a direct or as an indirect consequence of a proposed development.
- **Magnitude** - Magnitude measures the size of an impact, which is described as high, medium, low, very low or negligible.
- **Extent** - The area over which the impact occurs – this should be predicted in a quantified manner.
- **Duration** - The time for which the effect is expected to last prior to recovery or replacement of the resource or feature.
    - Temporary: Up to 1 Year;
    - Short Term: The effects would take 1-7 years to be mitigated;
    - Medium Term: The effects would take 7-15 years to be mitigated;
    - Long Term: The effects would take 15-60 years to be mitigated; and
    - Permanent: The effects would take 60+ years to be mitigated.
- **Likelihood** - The probability of the effect occurring taking into account all available information.
    - Certain/Near Certain: >95% chance of occurring as predicted;
    - Probable: 50-95% chance as occurring as predicted;
    - Unlikely: 5-50% chance as occurring as predicted; and
    - Extremely Unlikely: <5% chance as occurring as predicted.

The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidelines for ecological impact assessment (2016) define: an ecologically significant impact as an impact (negative or positive) on the integrity of a defined site or ecosystem and/or the conservation status of habitats or species within a given geographic area; and the integrity of a site as the coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is an aim of NPWS to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

SSCOs have been prepared for a number of European Sites. These detailed SSCOs aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes which define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

> *Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when: 'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'*
> *Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when: 'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable'.*

Generic Conservation Objectives for SACs have been provided as follows:

- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected.

One generic Conservation Objective has been provided for SPAs as follows:

- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

EC guidance[4] outlines the types of effects that may affect European sites. These include effects from the following activities:

- Land take;
- Resource Requirements (Drinking Water Abstraction Etc.);
- Emissions (Disposal to Land, Water or Air);

[4] Assessment of plans and Projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, European Commission Environment DG, 2001.

- Excavation Requirements;
- Transportation Requirements;
- Duration of Construction, Operation, Decommissioning.

In addition, the guidance outlines the following likely changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site:

- Reduction of Habitat Area.
- Disturbance to Key Species.
- Habitat or Species Fragmentation.
- Reduction in Species Density.
- Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.).
- Climate Change.

4.3 Elements of the Plan Modifications with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

An evaluation of the potential environmental implications of each Plan Action modification has been carried out. This evaluation is presented in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1: Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification

Action	Summary of Modification	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification
G5	The following Action has been added to the Plan: "Assist with the 2024 mid term review of the Cavan Cuilcagh Lakelands Geo Park Development Plan to ensure continuity of climate focused objectives with Climate Action Plan."	This action clarifies the resourcing support to be provided in relation to the Cavan Cuilcagh Lakelands Geo Park Development Plan. This action introduces no new environmental effects not already considered/mitigated against through the AA process.
TR15	This action has been amended to add the following text: "with alternatives such as HVO or biomethane"	This amended action provides clarification on the type of fuels considered for use for the HGV fleet. It continues to support the local authority reducing its organisational GHG emissions. This amendment will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
N10	The Action has been amended to add the text "particularly heritage hedgerows" as follows: "Prepare a roadside hedgerow management tool kit that informs staff on the value of hedgerows, particularly heritage hedgerows and outlines best practise in their management, having due regard to native hedgerows"	This amended action provides clarification on the type of hedgerows that are of particular importance to provide information on in the hedgerow management tool kit. The action continues to generate some degree of positive effects for biodiversity, flora and fauna. This amendment will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
N12	The following new Action has been added to the Plan: "Develop a tree and woodland plan to increase tree cover on council owned land, using appropriate species to store carbon, support nature, improve soils and water quality, and aid in flood protection and urban design. Aim to increase areas of public land under forestry through schemes such as Forest Creation on public lands."	This additional action has the potential to lead to positive environmental effects for biodiversity, landscape and visual amenities, water, and soil. The action is in keeping with existing NBS related action defined in the plan. It clarifies the action to be undertaken on Council land specifically. This action introduces no new environmental effects not already considered/mitigated against through the AA process.
N16	The following text has been added to the Action: "Highlight the importance of cultivation and propagation of disease resistant plants e.g. plants resistant to diseases such as ash dieback"	This amendment clarifies the focus of promotional/awareness based activity under the action. The amendment will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.

Action	Summary of Modification	Evaluation of Potential Environmental Implications of each Plan Action Modification
N17	The following new Action has been added to the Plan: "Promote not-for-profit tree planting programmes for targeted ecological improvements, ground stabilisation as a means of climate change mitigation, and carbon sequestration over the lifetime of the planted species"	This engagement-based action will not give rise to negative environmental effects. The action is in keeping with existing NBS related action defined in the plan. It clarifies the action to be undertaken on Council land specifically. It has the potential to produce slight positive effects for biodiversity, soil, climate, and water quality. It does not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process
N21	The following new action has been added to the Plan: "Promote public education to increase awareness of the importance of bogs as both hydrological and carbon sinks, explaining their ability to reduce the effects of surface water run off during rainfall events and their ability to provide a subsequent slow release of water to the receiving environment. Awareness should be increased of the benefits of rewetting bogs and how these actions can be taken by landowners"	This initiative is engagement based and will not give rise to real environmental effects in and off itself. The guidance provided by the Council under the intiative will serve to inform the public on the importance of peatland environments, carbon seequestration, and peatland restoration initiatives. This additional action will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.
C1	The action has been amended to include the following text: "Food production in community gardens"	The update to this action broadens the range of topics this awareness initiative will provide information and guidance on. This will have no discernable environmental effect in and of itself but, if successful, may lead to slight reductions in GHG emissions in the County and lead to greater community engagement in community food production. This additional action will not introduce any significant environmental effects not already considered and mitigated against in the AA process.

4.1 Summary of the Evaluation

The Plan Action modifications are broadly intended to provide clarification on existing information and give better effect to the LACAP having regard to the consultation process. They will not result in any additional sources for likely, significant environmental effects, including effects on ecological processes or European sites, not already considered by the existing NIR for the Draft LACAP.

The Plan Action modifications will not introduce any of the following types of additional environmental effect that have the potential to affect European sites.

- Land take;
- Resource Requirements (Drinking Water Abstraction Etc.);
- Emissions (Disposal to Land, Water or Air);
- Excavation;
- Transportation;
- Construction, Operation, Decommissioning activities.

The Plan Action modifications will not result in any of the following types of change that may occur at a European site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site:

- Reduction of Habitat Area.
- Disturbance to Key Species.
- Habitat or Species Fragmentation.
- Reduction in Species Density.
- Changes in Key Indicators of Conservation Value (Water Quality Etc.).
- Climate Change impact.

Further assessment is therefore not required.

4.2 Other Plans and Programs

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely impact upon European Sites. There are no additional sources for effects identified within the Proposed amendments; therefore, there are no in-combination effects.

5. CONCLUSION

Stage 1 Screening for AA of Plan modifications was carried out to determine the need for a full AA for the Plan modifications to the Draft LACAP in this case. It has been demonstrated that implementation of the Plan modifications are not foreseen to have any significant effects on any European Site.

The principal reasons the Modifications to the Draft LACAP do will not give rise to any likely significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects, are as follows:

- The modifications are only intended to provide clarification on existing Climate Actions defined in the Draft LACAP and make the LACAP more operative and focussed.
- The modifications are not material and will not result in any additional, likely significant environmental effects, including effects in ecological processes or European sites, not already considered in the NIR for the Draft LACAP.

It is concluded in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of conservation objectives, that the Modifications to the Draft LACAP will not give rise to any likely significant effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Consequently, a Stage 2 AA is not required for the Plan modifications.

6. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 1

Author Details

Author Details

Lead Author - Andrew Torsney is a Principal Ecologist with over 12 years' experience working on major national and local scale projects. Andrew graduated from University College Dublin in 2011 with a B.Sc. degree in Zoology and obtained Master's degree in Biodiversity and Conservation from the University of Leeds in 2012. He has a range of ecological skills which include habitat mapping, ecological surveying, data interpretation and report writing. Andrew is a vegetative plant specialist, who has a wealth of experience classifying riparian habitats and identifying rare floral species. Andrew has a vast knowledge of riparian and freshwater ecosystems and undertakes freshwater surveys regularly. Andrew holds 4 national protected species licenses and has a lot of experience optioning surveying licenses for aquatic species such as the white clawed crayfish. He is also a Bat specialist with a wealth of experience, in acoustic surveying and monitoring of bats. Throughout Andrews's career he has worked on a number of large-scale multifaceted projects such as the Killaloe to Dublin water supply project NIS. For this work, Andrew designed and oversaw all ecological field work relating to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and AA.

Andrew has been the principal ecologist for a range of projects including the AA of the National Wind Energy Guidelines, a number of AAs for County Councils and a range of large-scale infrastructure projects.

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