

AA SCREENING REPORT – APPENDIX I

SUMMARY DETAILS OF EUROPEAN SITES CONSIDERED DURING THE AA SCREENING PROCESS

FOR

PROPOSED VARIATION No. 1

TO THE

ATHY TOWN DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012-2018

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF
ARTICLE 6(3) OF THE EU HABITATS DIRECTIVE**

for: Kildare County Council

Áras Chill Dara
Devoy Park
Naas
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JULY 2016

Introduction

This appendix presents background summary data relating to each European Site (cSACs and SPAs) that was considered during the Appropriate Assessment screening process undertaken for Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Athy Town Development Plan 2012-2018. Data presented has been collated from various sources made available by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Sites are presented in two separate lists, firstly SACs and secondly SPAs. All Sites within each list are sorted according to NPWS Site Code. The principal sources of information include the following:

- *Site Synopses*
- *NATURA 2000 Standard Data Forms*
- *Conservation Objective (Generic Versions)*
- *Detailed Site Specific Conservation Objectives and supporting documents (where available)*

Data presented on each Site includes:

- *Site Name*
- *Site Code*
- *County*
- *SSCO Published or not (as of December 2015)*
- *SSCO Version reference used during AA*
- *Location relevant to the Plan area*
- *Qualifying Interests (QIs) in the case of SACs:*
 - *Listed Annex I habitats for which Site is selected - abbreviated version as used by NPWS*
 - *(2013)¹*
 - *Listed Annex II species for which Site is selected - common English name*
 - *Special Conservation Interests (SCIs) in the case of SPAs:*
 - *Listed Annex I birds for which Site is selected (Annex I SCIs) - common English name*
 - *Non – annex birds for which Site is selected (Non Annex I SCIs) - common English name*

¹ NPWS (2013). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Overview Volume I. Unpublished Report, National Parks and Wildlife Services.

Summary data relating to all relevant cSACs sorted according to Site name

Site Name:	River Barrow And River Nore SAC
Site Code:	2162
County(s):	Carlow, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Offaly, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	Within Study Area
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2011) Conservation objectives for River Barrow And River Nore SAC [002162]. Generic Version 1.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estuaries • Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide • Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand • Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) • Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) • Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation • European dry heaths • Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels • Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) • Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles • Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Spartina</i> swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>) • Allis shad (<i>Alosa alosa</i>) • Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) • Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) • Desmoulin's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>) • Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) • Killarney Fern (<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i>) • Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera durrovensis</i>) • Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) • European river lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) • Twait shad (<i>Alosa fallax</i>) • White clawed crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>)

Site Name:	Ballyprior Grassland SAC
Site Code:	2256
County(s):	Laois
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	c. 10.6 km from Study Area
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Ballyprior Grassland SAC [002256]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco Brometalia</i>)(*important orchid sites)
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	