

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT (ADDENDUM TO AA NATURA IMPACT REPORT) APPENDIX I

SUMMARY DETAILS OF EUROPEAN SITES

FOR

PROPOSED MATERIAL ALTERATIONS

TO THE

DRAFT KILDARE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-2023

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

for: Kildare County Council

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Introduction

This appendix presents background summary data relating to each European Site (cSACs and SPAs) that was considered during the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Draft Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 and AA Screening for the Proposed Material Alterations. 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 September 2015)*
- *SSCO Version reference used during AA*
- *Location relevant to the Plan area*
- *Previously reported threats*
- *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 Overview Volume I. Unpublished Report, National Parks and Wildlife Services.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:	Ballynafagh Bog SAC
Site Code:	391
County(s):	Kildare
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	Within Study Area
Threats:	The bog has been damaged by afforestation, mechanised peat-cutting and drainage. These three activities pose the main threats to the survival of raised bogs. In addition, a significant proportion of the bog surface was badly damaged by fire in the mid- 1990s.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: Ballynafagh Bog SAC [000391]. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active raised bogs • Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration • Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	

Site Name:	Pollardstown Fen SAC
Site Code:	396
County(s):	Kildare
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	Within Study Area
Threats:	Medium Rank- Mining and quarrying, Sand and gravel extraction- Outside site Low Rank- Sylviculture forestry- Inside site Medium Rank- disposal of household / recreational facility waste- Outside site Low Rank- Hunting- Inside site Low Rank- Leisure fishing- Inside site Medium Rank- dispersed habitation-Outside site Low Rank- electricity and phone lines - Inside site Low Rank- fire and fire suppression - Inside site High Rank Grazing-Outside site Medium Rank -Grazing Inside site
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Pollardstown Fen SAC [000396]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calcareous fens • Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) • Alkaline fens
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cladium mariscus • Caricion davallianae • Vertigo geyeri • Vertigo angustior • Vertigo moulinsiana

Site Name:	Red Bog, Kildare SAC
Site Code:	397
County(s):	Kildare
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	Within Study Area
Threats:	Gravel extraction, drainage and eutrophication of the wetland from agricultural activities in the surrounding lands all pose a threat to the site.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Red Bog, Kildare SAC [000397]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition mires and quaking bogs • Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation • Active raised bogs
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	

Site Name:	Ballynafagh Lake SAC
Site Code:	1387
County(s):	Kildare
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	Within Study Area
Threats:	High Rank- Leisure Fishing –Inside site Low Rank- Grazing –Inside site Medium Rank- Grazing- Outside site
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Ballynafagh Lake SAC [001387]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alkaline fens

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition mires and quaking bogs
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vertigo moulinsiana • Euphydrias aurinia

Site Name:	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC
Site Code:	1398
County(s):	Kildare, Meath
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	Within Study Area
Threats:	<p>Low Rank- Grazing- Outside site</p> <p>Medium Rank- Modifying structures of inland water courses -Inside Site</p> <p>Low Rank- Fertilisation- Outside site</p> <p>Medium Rank- Continuous Urbanisation- Outside site</p> <p>Low Rank- Dispersed Habitation- Outside site</p> <p>Medium Rank- Sylviculture, forestry- Inside site</p> <p>Low Rank- Grazing- Inside site</p> <p>Low Rank- Roads, Motorways- Outside site</p> <p>Low Rank- Fertilisation- Inside site</p> <p>Low Rank- Removal of hedges and copses or scrub- Inside site</p>
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC [001398]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petrifying springs
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desmoulin's whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana); • Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (Vertigo angustior)

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
Threats:	<p>The main threats to the site and current damaging activities include high inputs of nutrients into the river system from agricultural run-off and several sewage plants, over-grazing within the woodland areas, and invasion by non-native species, for example Cherry Laurel (Prunus laurocerasus) and Rhododendron (Rhododendron ponticum). The water quality of the site remains vulnerable. Good quality water is necessary to maintain the populations of the Annex II animal species listed above. Good quality is dependent on controlling fertilisation of the grasslands, particularly along the Nore. It also requires that sewage be properly treated before discharge. Drainage activities in the catchment can lead to flash floods which can damage the many Annex II species present. Capital and maintenance dredging within the lower reaches of the system pose a threat to migrating fish species such as lamprey and shad. Land reclamation also poses a threat to the salt meadows and the populations of legally protected species therein.</p>
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 (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) • Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) • Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation • European dry heaths • Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels • Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) • Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles • Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spartina swards (Spartinion maritimae) • Allis shad (Alosa alosa) • Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) • Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri) • Desmoulin's whorl snail (Vertigo moulinsiana) • Freshwater Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) • Killarney Fern (Trichomanes speciosum) • Freshwater Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera durrovensis) • Otter (Lutra lutra) • European river lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) • Twait shad (Alosa fallax)

	White clawed crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>)
Site Name:	Mouds Bog SAC
Site Code:	2331
County(s):	Kildare
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	Within Study Area
Threats:	Current land use on the site consists of peat-cutting, with extensive active industrial peat moss production in the western section of the remaining high bog. Domestic turf cutting is widely practised along the southern margin of the bog, in the southwest corner and in the centre of the northern edge. Apart from the western cutover margin, the high bog is not being actively drained. Some small areas of the cutover have been reclaimed for agriculture in recent years. Burning has taken place in the recent past, and there is extensive damage in the west of the site due to industrial peat production. These are all activities that have resulted in loss of habitat and damage to the hydrological status of the site, and pose a continuing threat to its viability. Despite the damaging effects the high bog has retained some wet areas largely due to the topography of the site.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: Mouds Bog SAC [002331]. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active raised bogs • Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration • Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	
Site Name:	Slaney River Valley SAC
Site Code:	781
County(s):	Carlow, Wexford, Wicklow
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	1640m from Study Area
Threats:	Waste water outflows, runoff from intensive agricultural enterprises, a meat factory at Clohamon, a landfill site adjacent to the river, and further industrial development upstream in Enniscorthy and in other towns could all have potential adverse impacts on the water quality unless they are carefully managed. The spread of exotic species is reducing the quality of the woodlands.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2011) Conservation objectives for Slaney River Valley SAC [000781]. Generic Version 1.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estuaries; • Floating river vegetation; • Old oak woodlands; • Residual alluvial forests*; • Tidal mudflats;
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlantic Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>); • Brook Lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>); • Common Seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>); • Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>); • Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>); • River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>); • Sea Lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>); • Twaite Shad (<i>Alosa fallax</i>)
Site Name:	The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC
Site Code:	925
County(s):	Offaly
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	610m from Study Plan Area
Threats:	At the western section of this site activities connected with the harvesting of peat occur. The eastern section of the site is grazed by cattle and horses. Grazing is Version date: 24.09.2013 2 of 2 000925_Rev13. Doc essential for the preservation of the rare orchid, but over-grazing needs to be avoided. Shooting and motorbike scrambling are other activities occurring. Although gravel extraction has helped create habitats for some plant species, this could result in excessive damage if uncontrolled. Dumping of rubbish and old railway tracks is undesirable, as is interference with Badger setts.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC [000925]. 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):	

Site Name:	Glenasmole Valley SAC
Site Code:	1209
County(s):	Dublin
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	6480m from Study Area
Threats:	Medium Rank- Sylviculture, forestry –Outside site Medium Rank- Fertilisation -Outside site Medium Rank- Grazing –Inside site Medium Rank- Leisure fishing–Inside site High Rank- Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions–Inside site High Rank- Invasive non-native species–Inside site Medium Rank- Grazing –Outside site Medium Rank- Fertilisation –Inside site
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Glenasmole Valley SAC [001209]. 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 (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites) • Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) • Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	

Site Name:	Holdenstown Bog SAC
Site Code:	1757
County(s):	Wicklow
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	3040m from Study Area
Threats:	High Rank- Grazing- Outside site Medium Rank- Fertilisation- Outside site High Rank- Infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits- Inside site Medium Rank- Dispersed habitation- Outside site Medium Rank- Grazing- Inside site High Rank - Cultivation- Outside site
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Holdenstown Bog SAC [001757]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition mires and quaking bogs
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	

Site Name:	Wicklow Mountains SAC
Site Code:	2122
County(s):	Dublin, Wicklow
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	3320m from Study Area
Threats:	In the last 40 years, forestry has become an important land use in the uplands, and has affected both the wildlife and the hydrology of the area. Amenity use is very high, with Dublin city close to the site. Peat erosion is frequent on the peaks. This may be a natural process, but is likely to be accelerated by activities such as grazing.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Wicklow Mountains SAC [002122]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea • Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds • Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix • European dry heaths • Alpine and Boreal heaths • Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe) • Blanket bogs (* if active bog) • Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsetalia ladani) • Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation • Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation • Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lutra lutra

Site Name:	Mountmellick SAC
Site Code:	2141
County(s):	Laois
SSCO's published:	No

Location:	8730m from Study Area
Threats:	Restoration of disused sections of canal without due consideration of the species is a threat
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Mountmellick SAC [002141]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>

Site Name:	Ballyprior Grassland SAC
Site Code:	2256
County(s):	Laois
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	2790m from Study Area
Threats:	Recent damage has occurred to parts of the site and some damaged habitat has been excluded. South of the site, recent afforestation has resulted in loss of contiguous grassland habitat.
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):	

Site Name:	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC
Site Code:	2299
County(s):	Cavan, Louth, Meath, Westmeath
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	390m from Study Area
Threats:	The spreading of slurry and fertiliser poses a threat to the water quality of this salmonid river and to the lakes. In the more extensive agricultural areas sheep grazing is carried out.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC [002299]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alkaline fens • Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> • <i>Salmo salar</i> • <i>Lutra lutra</i>

Site Name:	Mount Hevey Bog SAC
Site Code:	2342
County(s):	Meath, Westmeath
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	4130m from Study Area
Threats:	The great bulk of the site has been heavily exploited in the past by drainage and turf cutting and some areas have been reclaimed. Current land use of the site consists of domestic peat cutting and grazing. Peat cutting is restricted to the cutover areas to the west. There is no active peat cutting at the high bog margins. The area of high bog is small, but is quite intact with no active peat cutting or drainage. The cutover to the east of the high bog has been reclaimed for agriculture and cattle graze on these grasslands and the improved grassland on the mineral ridge to the north. Damaging activities associated with these land uses include drainage and occasional burning. These activities have resulted in habitat loss and damage to the hydrological status of the high bog and pose a continuing threat to its viability
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Mount Hevey Bog SAC [002342]. Generic Version, 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active raised bogs • Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration • Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i>
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	

Site Name:	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC
Site Code:	1957
County(s):	Louth, Meath
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	>15000m from Draft Plan Area
Threats:	This site has been somewhat modified by human activities. The river is regularly dredged to accommodate cargo ships, which causes disturbance to the bird, fish and invertebrate communities in the estuary. Several factories operate upstream from the estuary and pollution and disturbance associated with them has had an impact on the

	ecology of the area. There is a proposal to create a deep water facility at the north end of Mornington Dunes on the mouth of the Boyne estuary.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2012) Conservation objectives for Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC [001957]. 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 maritima</i>) • Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) • Embryonic shifting dunes • Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) • Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	

Site Name:	North Dublin Bay SAC
Site Code:	0206
County(s):	Dublin
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	>15000m from Study Area
Threats:	The main land uses of this site are amenity activities and nature conservation. The North Bull Island is the main recreational beach in Co. Dublin and is used throughout the year.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2013) Conservation objectives for North Dublin Bay SAC [000206]. Generic Version 1.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlantic salt meadows • Drift lines • Dune slack • Embryonic shifting dunes • Fixed dunes (grey dunes)* • Marram dunes (white dunes) • Mediterranean salt meadows • Salicornia mud • Tidal mudflats
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>)

Site Name:	South Dublin Bay SAC
Site Code:	0210
County(s):	Dublin
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	>15000m from Study Area
Threats:	At low tide the inner parts of the south bay are used for amenity purposes. Baitdigging is a regular activity on the sandy flats. At high tide some areas have windsurfing and jet-skiing
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2013) Conservation objectives for South Dublin Bay SAC [000210]. Generic Version 1.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tidal mudflats
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	

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

Site Name:	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA
Site Code:	4063
County(s):	Kildare, Wicklow
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	Within Study Area
Threats:	Medium Rank- Sylviculture, forestry –Outside site Medium Rank- Fertilisation–Outside site Low Rank-Removal of hedges and copses or scrub –Inside site Low Rank- Dispersed habitation–Outside site Low Rank- Sand and gravel quarries–Outside Low Rank- Fertilisation–Inside site Low Rank- Cultivation –Outside site Low Rank- Mowing / cutting of grassland –Outside site Medium Rank- Grazing–Outside site Low Rank- Paths, tracks, cycling tracks –Outside site
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA [004063]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>) • Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>)

Site Name:	Wicklow Mountains SPA
Site Code:	4040
County(s):	Wicklow
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	5720m from Study Area
Threats:	Medium Rank- Paths, tracks, cycling tracks -Inside site High Rank- Sylviculture, forestry –Outside site Medium Rank- Peat extraction–Inside site High Rank- Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles –Inside site Medium Rank –Grazing –Inside site
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Wicklow Mountains SPA [004040]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) • Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)

Site Name:	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA
Site Code:	4232
County(s):	Meath, Cavan, Louth, Westmeath
SSCO's published:	No
Location:	370m from Study Area
Threats:	High Rank- Roads, motorways–Outside site Medium Rank- Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions –Inside site High Rank- Roads, Motorways –Inside site High Rank- Urbanised areas, human habitation –Outside site High Rank- Dispersed habitation–Outside site
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA [004232]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kingfisher (<i>Alcedo atthis</i>)

Site Name:	Boyne Estuary SPA
Site Code:	4080
County(s):	Louth, Meath
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	>15000m from Study Area
Threats:	In general, the site has been modified by human activities. The river is regularly dredged to accommodate cargo ships, which can cause disturbance to the bird, fish and invertebrate communities in the estuary. Several factories operate upstream from the estuary and pollution and disturbance associated with these has had an impact on the ecology of the area. Significant developments within the site could cause disturbance to the wintering birds. Nowadays there are no significant shooting pressures as the site is a Wildfowl Sanctuary
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2013) Conservation objectives for Slaney River Valley SAC [004080]. Generic Version 1.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	

Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) • Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) • Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) • Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) • Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) • Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) • Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) • Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) • Redshank (<i>Tringa tetanus</i>) • Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) • Little Tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>)
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Site Name:	North Bull Island SPA
Site Code:	4006
County(s):	Dublin
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	>15000m from Study Area
Threats:	The main landuses of this site are amenity activities and nature conservation. The North Bull Island is one of the main recreational beaches in Co. Dublin and is used throughout the year.
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: North Bull Island SPA [004006]. Version1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) • Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) • Black-headed Gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) • Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) • Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) • Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) • Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) • Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) • Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) • Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) • Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) • Redshank (<i>Tringa tetanus</i>) • Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) • Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) • Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) • Teal (<i>Anas cracca</i>) • Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) • Wetlands & Waterbirds

Site Name:	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA
Site Code:	4024
County(s):	Dublin
SSCO's published:	Yes
Location:	>15000m from Study Area
Threats:	High Rank- Discharges –Inside site High Rank- Industrial or commercial areas–Outside site Medium Rank- Nautical Sports–Inside site High Rank- Walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles –Outside site Medium Rank- Poole fishing–Inside site High Rank- Walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles–Inside site High Rank- Urbanised areas, human habitation –Outside site Medium Rank- Leisure Fishing–Inside site Medium Rank- Eutrophication (natural)–Inside site High Rank- Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh- Outside site
SSCO Version:	NPWS (2015) Conservation Objectives: South Dublin Bay and River Tolka SPA [004024]. Version1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Habitat QI's (Annex I Habitats):	
Species QI's (Annex II Species):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) • Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) • Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) • Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) • Black-headed Gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>) • Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) • Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) • Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) • Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)• Redshank (<i>Tringa tetanus</i>)• Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>)• Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>)• Wetlands & Waterbirds |
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