

Notice of proposed project pursuant to Regulation 42(13) of the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011)¹

I. The location, including the townland and county, to which the application relates

The project is proposed in the townlands of Curraheen and Curraheen Little in County Kerry.

II. The nature and extent of the proposed project

The purpose of the proposed works is to remedy defects to original works that were carried out in 2023 to remedy slope failure within a section of embankment on the N70 national road at this location.

Erosion, scour and embankment slippage are proposed to be addressed and recurrence of same prevented by reinforcement of the stream bed and the stream banks/toes of the embankments with rock armour (of grade HMA300-1000) and reprofiling of the embankments, along with thinning of the topsoil layer to 100mm throughout (except where greater depth is required for tree/shrub planting).

The dimensions of the stream channel will be reinstated as per the design of the original works, i.e., preserving the current horizontal alignment over its length of 49.75m and low-flow wetted width of 2.00m, and restoring the design bed level, with a typical gradient of 1:20.82 (4.80%). The top 400mm of the existing substrate material will be salvaged and reinstated. In addition, c. 6 no. stone baffles 1,500mm long × 500mm wide × 500mm deep (embedded 350mm deep into the stream bed) will be installed from alternating sides of the channel, typically at 7.5m centres. The final placement of baffles and spacing will be determined on site under the supervision and advice of the Contractor's ecologist and a Fisheries Officer from Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI). These baffles are intended to provide flow sinuosity and variation to encourage in-stream habitat heterogeneity and facilitate fish passage.

Further details on the nature and extent of the proposed reactive maintenance works are contained within *Munster Term Maintenance Contract No. 4 – Curraheen Little Embankment Defects – Natura Impact Statement* (Rev. 1, WS Atkins Ireland Limited, 9th April 2024).

III. The possible decisions

Transport Infrastructure Ireland will determine pursuant to Regulation 42(11) of the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011) and Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive as to whether or not the proposed reactive bridge maintenance works would adversely affect the integrity of a European site.

IV. Where and when the documents may be viewed

The Natura Impact Statement and a map of the proposed project may be viewed online on Transport Infrastructure Ireland's website (<https://www.tii.ie/>).

The Natura Impact Statement and a map of the proposed project may be viewed free of charge by appointment at the offices of Transport Infrastructure Ireland at the following address:

Parkgate Business Centre,
Parkgate Street,
Dublin 8,
D08 DK10,
Ireland.

Appointments for viewing can be arranged by writing to the above postal address or emailing: EnvironmentalPolicyCompliance@tii.ie

¹ Regulation 42(13) of the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011), as substituted by Regulation 6(b) of the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (S.I. No. 293 of 2021).

The Natura Impact Statement and a map of the proposed project may also be purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of such making available. Requests to purchase hard copies may be made to the above email and postal addresses.

V. A person may make submissions or observations to the public authority within 30 days from the date of the notice

The public may make submissions or observations in writing concerning the proposed project (within 30 days from the date of this notice) to Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

Submissions or observations may be sent by email to the following email address: EnvironmentalPolicyCompliance@tii.ie

Alternatively, submissions or observations may be sent by mail to:

Environmental Policy and Compliance Section,
Transport Infrastructure Ireland,
Parkgate Business Centre,
Parkgate Street,
Dublin 8,
D08 DK10,
Ireland.

VI. Any other details on public participation

Transport Infrastructure Ireland shall have regard to any submissions or observations received from the public.

Personal data contained in submissions or observations will be processed in accordance with TII's Data Protection Notice which is available on www.tii.ie.

Submissions or observations may be passed to our third-party service providers, including Atkins, for their analysis, consideration and response. Such analysis, consideration and response may be documented.

VII. Any other information the public authority considers relevant

Some information contained within the Natura Impact Statement could, if made publicly available, pose a risk to the conservation of protected species or habitats. For this reason, this information has been redacted. Personal data has also been redacted pursuant to the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation.

Date: 23 April 2024.