

Chamberlain Greg

From: O'Malley Vincent
Sent: Wednesday 26 January 2022 16:05
To: Chamberlain Greg
Cc: Nea Christian
Subject: RE: Tarmon East Crossroads [KY-N69-024.00]

Greg,

After reviewing the content of the Atkins email and your response regarding the confluence points of the Galey and Feale in relation to the [REDACTED] area, I accept the reasoned determination as set out below.

Sincerely
Vincent

From: Chamberlain Greg [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday 25 January 2022 16:34
To: O'Malley Vincent [REDACTED]
Cc: Nea Christian [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Tarmon East Crossroads [KY-N69-024.00]

Vincent

Having reviewed Paul's email below and having regard to the nature of the works, I recommend that the following reasoned determination can be made:

Having performed screening for Appropriate Assessment in respect of the proposed reactive maintenance works detailed in the email received from Paul O'Donoghue dated the 25th January, 2022, and entitled Re. Tarmon East Crossroads [KY-N69-024.00] I accept the recommendations of Atkins that the proposed reactive maintenance works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site in view of the best scientific knowledge and the site's conservation objectives. I determine that an Appropriate Assessment of these proposed works is not required, as it can be excluded on the basis of objective scientific information following the screening done that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European site.

Kind Regards

Greg

From: O'Donoghue, Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday 25 January 2022 13:16
To: Chamberlain Greg [REDACTED]
Cc: Nea Christian [REDACTED]; Daly, Vincent [REDACTED]; Jennings, Martin [REDACTED]; Nickelsen, Emma [REDACTED]
Subject: Tarmon East Crossroads [KY-N69-024.00]

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Greg

The bridge location is illustrated here (bridge location circled in Red).



Tarmon East Crossroads [KY-N69-024.00] is located on the N69 to the south of Tarbert, Co. Kerry. The bridge crosses a watercourse labelled by the EPA as Tyshe 23 [Code : IE_SH_23T03050]. The nearest EPA water quality station is to the southwest as Gabbets Bridge, where water is assigned a Q3-4 value in 2017. The watercourse crossed by the bridge at Tarmon East Crossroads flows to the southwest to join the Galey River, which joins the River Feale downstream of Listowel; it ultimately enters the Shannon Estuary south of Ballybunion ca. 30km d/s of bridge. To the north Shannon Estuary is at its closest 4km to the north.

Proposed Works

Following a recent vehicle impact, a partial rebuild of the west parapet is required at this structure. Masonry reconstruction off the existing base is required 0.6m below the rubbing strip level over a length of 0.8m. From rubbing strip level, the wall needs to be rebuilt (1.5m long x 1.06m high x 0.25m deep) tying in with the remaining masonry block on flat. A small concrete repair is required at the corner of the rubbing strip where it has been damaged following the impact. The wall is then to be rendered to match the existing on both faces. Debris in the water course is to be removed from site. *[This bridge was subject to repair works in October 2020 when a full rebuild of the western parapet was required].*

The approach to parapet repairs will be as follows (see attached Method Statement): -

1. Inland Fisheries Ireland will be contacted to notify them of the works.
2. Vikron used on all tools/ equipment etc before and after entering a watercourse.
3. Pedestrian barriers to be installed around the works area for the duration of the works.
4. Scaffold to be erected over watercourse to provide a safe working platform.
5. A Plywood shelf will be fitted to bridge the gap between the scaffold and spandrel.

6. A geotextile will be fitted on the shelf to stop any mortar/ render entering the watercourse.
7. Loose material to be removed using shovels and wheelbarrows where possible.
8. Mechanical breaking to be carried out using kango hammer to be used where necessary.
9. Any loose material will be put into tonne bags and removed off site.
10. Parapet wall will be rebuilt from the inside.
11. Site clean-up

The new parapet will be built with block work; there will be no concrete pour. Works will take 3-4 days.

Ecological Characteristics

The stream discharges to Lower River Shannon SAC (002165). The qualifying interests of these sites are as follows: -

- Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time [1110]
- Estuaries [1130]
- Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]
- Coastal lagoons [1150]
- Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]
- Reefs [1170]
- Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]
- Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]
- Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]
- Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*) [1330]
- Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) [1410]
- Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitriche-Batrachion* vegetation [3260]
- Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*) [6410]
- Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) [91E0]

- *Petromyzon marinus* (Sea Lamprey) [1095]
- *Lampetra planeri* (Brook Lamprey) [1096]
- *Lampetra fluviatilis* (River Lamprey) [1099]
- *Salmo salar* (Salmon) [1106]
- *Tursiops truncatus* (Common Bottlenose Dolphin) [1349]
- *Lutra lutra* (Otter) [1355]

The River Feale does not discharge to the River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA (Code: 004077); nor to Kerry Head SPA, which is located to the south of where the Feale joins the outer part of Shannon Estuary (close to Ballybunion).

None of the habitats for which Lower River Shannon SAC has been designated are present in at the works area. Otter have been recorded on a stream at Tarmon, to the east of Tarmon East Crossroads, in 1982 (R063441; Vincent Wildlife Trust, Otter Survey of Ireland 1982) (Source: NBDC). The proposed works are to replace a parapet wall – this is not a suitable roost site for bats.

This stream is not within a pearl mussel sensitive area. As noted it is linked to the Galey River which joins the River Feale

Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), Indian balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) or Giant rhubarb (*Gunnera* sp.) have not been recorded from the bridge location (Source: NBDC).

As noted, the proposed works are not within a Natura 2000 site, but they are on a small watercourse which discharges to Lower River Shannon SAC. Consequently, no direct or indirect impacts to a Natura 2000 site will occur as a result of the works, either alone or in combination with other projects.

Atkins Findings -

This Screening for Appropriate Assessment is based on the best available scientific information. It is concluded that the proposed project poses no likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites. Thus, it is recommended that it is not necessary for the proposed project to proceed to Appropriate Assessment.

Findings of TII Appropriate Assessment -

Can you please provide a Reasoned Determination?

Paul O' Donoghue BSc PhD CEnV MCIEEM
Associate Director, Ecology
Ireland

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