



**An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán**
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

18th May 2021

Mr. Vincent O'Malley,
Transport Infrastructure Ireland,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

via email to: [REDACTED]

Re: Submission of Natura Impact Statement to the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media pursuant to the requirements of Regulation 42(9)(c) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (as amended).

Coolturk Bridge (MO-N59-006.00), County Mayo

Dear Mr. O'Malley,

The Department is in receipt of your email dated 6th April 2021 in respect of Coolturk Bridge, Co. Mayo and has reviewed the Natura Impact Statement (NIS) referred to the Minister in this regard. The Department notes that the site is hydrologically linked to the River Moy Special Area of Conservation (SAC Site Code 002298), 2.8km downstream.

Matters related to Appropriate Assessment

The Department considers the assessment carried out in the NIS to be satisfactory and notes the mitigation measures proposed to ensure that the proposed project will not have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site alone or in combination with other plans or projects. The Department advises that these measures be fully incorporated into the project at implementation phase, and that they must be carried out in full as part of project implementation.

Other matters

The Department notes that the proposed works will be carried out between July 1st to Sept. 30th inclusive. The Department highlights that this is within the nesting period for

An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra,
90 Sráid an Rí Thuaidh, Margadh na Feirme, Baile Átha Cliath 7, D07 N7CV
National Parks and Wildlife Service,
90 North King Street, Smithfield, Dublin 7, D07 N7CV
[REDACTED]



birds (1st March to 31st August). The Department recommends that nest searches are carried out prior to commencement of works.

It is important to highlight that the Grey Wagtail (Red listed Bird of Conservation Concern in Ireland (BoCCI)) nests within river banks and under bridges. Kingfisher (Annex I species under the EU Birds Directive and Amber-listed BoCCI) breed in vertical banks along streams and rivers.

Yours sincerely,

Gerry Clabby
Head of Ecological Assessment

