

Chamberlain Greg

From: O'Malley Vincent
Sent: Monday 26 July 2021 11:00
To: Chamberlain Greg
Cc: Nea Christian
Subject: RE: Ballyseedy Stock Underpass [KY-N22-001.00]

Hi Greg,

Having reviewed the content of the email from Atkins, I am happy to accept the reasoned determination set out below.

Sincerely
Vincent

From: Chamberlain Greg [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday 26 July 2021 10:41
To: O'Malley Vincent [REDACTED]
Cc: Nea Christian [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Ballyseedy Stock Underpass [KY-N22-001.00]

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 22nd July, 2021, and entitled Re. Ballyseedy Stock Underpass [KY-N22-001.00] [Reactive Maintenance] 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: Thursday 22 July 2021 17:15
To: Chamberlain Greg [REDACTED]
Cc: Nea Christian [REDACTED]; Daly, Vincent [REDACTED]
Subject: Ballyseedy Stock Underpass [KY-N22-001.00]

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Greg

Re. Ballyseedy Stock Underpass [KY-N22-001.00]

In accordance with the Munster Bridge Term Maintenance Contract No. 3, the Contractor appointed to Munster bridges has been asked to undertake Reactive Maintenance works to Ballyseedy Stock Underpass KY-N22-001.00. This is a dry underpass crossing under the N22 to the east of Tralee, Co. Kerry; just south of the junction with the N70.



Figure 1. Site Location (Source: NBDC mapviewer).

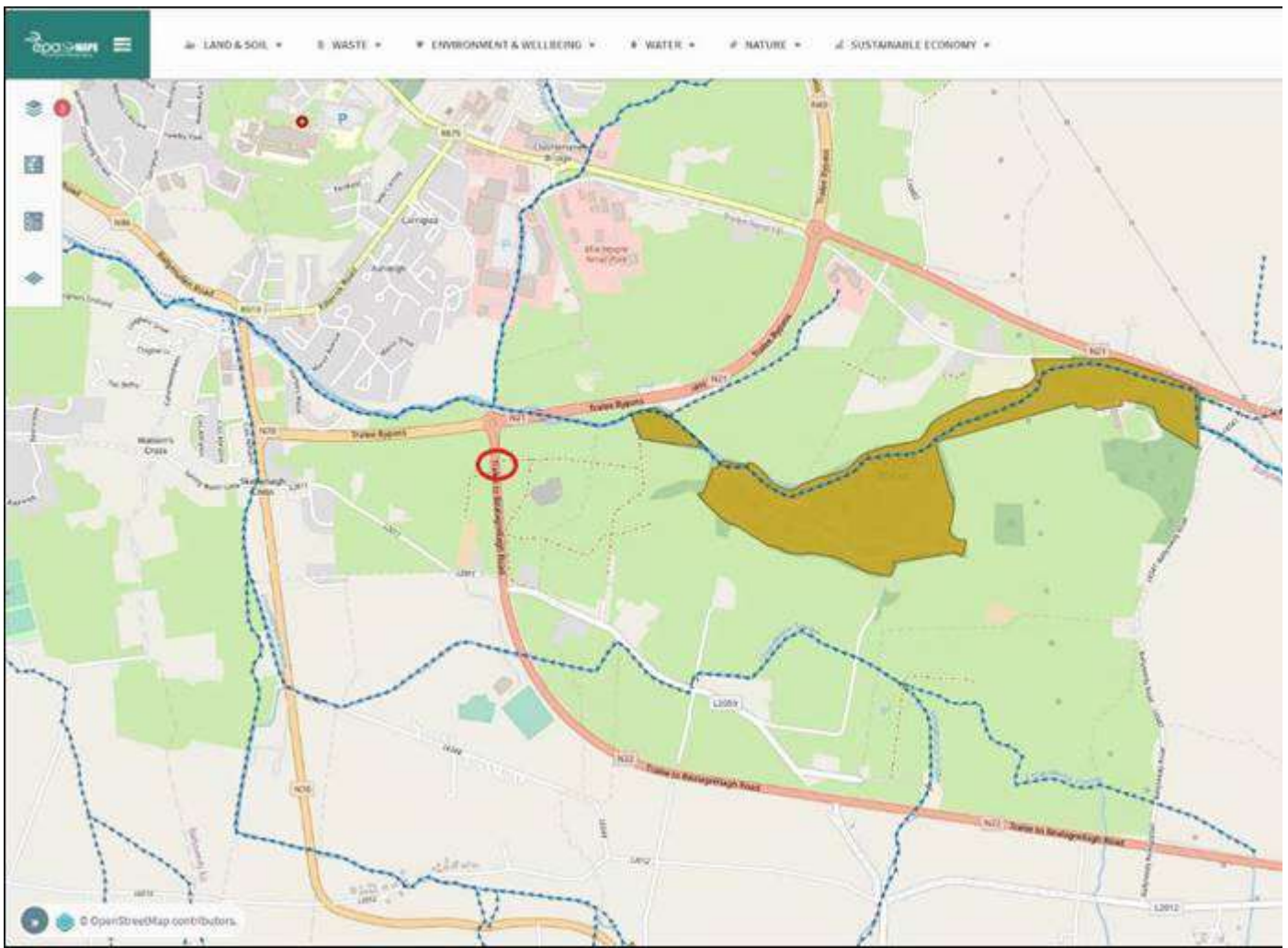


Figure 1. Site Location – and location of drains and watercourses (Source: EPA mapviewer).

Scope of Works

It is proposed to install access ramps to the farm underpass on both sides (which is severely rutted up due to cow movements through the structure), installing some water holding tanks at both ends of the structure and constructing a small retaining wall at the SE corner. A full set of design drawings is attached. Photographs of the underpass are included in the attached PI report. The water holding tanks will be emptied by the farmer (agreement between Kerry and landowner). The water will be spread across his land holding.

The works will be limited to the footprint of the culvert and approach ramps. Cumnor are required to dispose of the existing unsuitable material from the ramps. Cumnor will be pumping the concrete from hard shoulder over the culvert however they may be able to get access down to the ramps through the landowners private access roads. However, as noted there is no watercourses at the culvert – hence no risk of liquid cement spillage affecting any watercourses.

Ecological Characteristics.

The underpass is not located within a European site. Ballyseedy Wood SAC (002112) is located 485m northeast of the works area; while the Slieve Mish Mountains SAC (002185) is located 1.7km to the south. To the west of Tralee there are two further European sites: Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West To Cloghane SAC (002070) / Tralee Bay Complex SPA (004188) (ca. 28.km west).

The underpass is not located close to a watercourse. EPA mapping does not identify any watercourses close to the underpass. The nearest watercourses are the River Lee ca. 165m to the north of the site, and a tributary of the Lee, the Lissardboola Stream 660m to the south. There does not appear to be a connection to either of these

watercourses. The River Lee is not a Margaritifera sensitive area; nor does it support records of White-clawed crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*).

There are no records of invasive plant species at the farm underpass – such as Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*); Himalayan knotweed (*Persicaria wallichii*); Giant knotweed (*Fallopia Sachalinensis*); Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*); Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) or Giant rhubarb (*Gunnera sp.*) (Source: NBDC mapviewer).

There are no records of protected species, such as otter (*Lutra lutra*) or badger (*Meles meles*) at the farm underpass (Source: NBDC mapviewer). The underpass does not provide roosting opportunities for bat (see photos in accompanying PI Report). As noted the underpass is a dry structure and does not support any aquatic habitats.

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, either alone or in combination with other projects. 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

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

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