From: O"Malley Vincent
To: Nea Christian
Cc: Phelan Sarah-Jane
Subject: RE: RE. TO270 Munster Reactive Maintenance Works – Year 3_3 - Derryquay East Bridge KY-N86-012.00
Date: Wednesday 28 October 2020 22:48:48

Christian/Sarah-Jane,
Having reviewed the content and attachments of Atkins email, I accept the reasoned determination as set out below.
Sincerely
Vincent O'Malley

From: Nea Christian <[redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday 28 October 2020 12:57
To: O'Malley Vincent <[redacted]>
Cc: Phelan Sarah-Jane <[redacted]>
Subject: FW: RE. TO270 Munster Reactive Maintenance Works – Year 3_3 - Derryquay East Bridge KY-N86-012.00

Vincent,

Having reviewed Paul's email below and having regard to the minor nature and extent of the works, the presence of a buffer distance and the qualifying interests of the European sites, 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 27th of October 2020, and entitled '*RE. TO270 Munster Reactive Maintenance Works – Year 3_3 - Derryquay East Bridge KY-N86-012.00'*, 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,

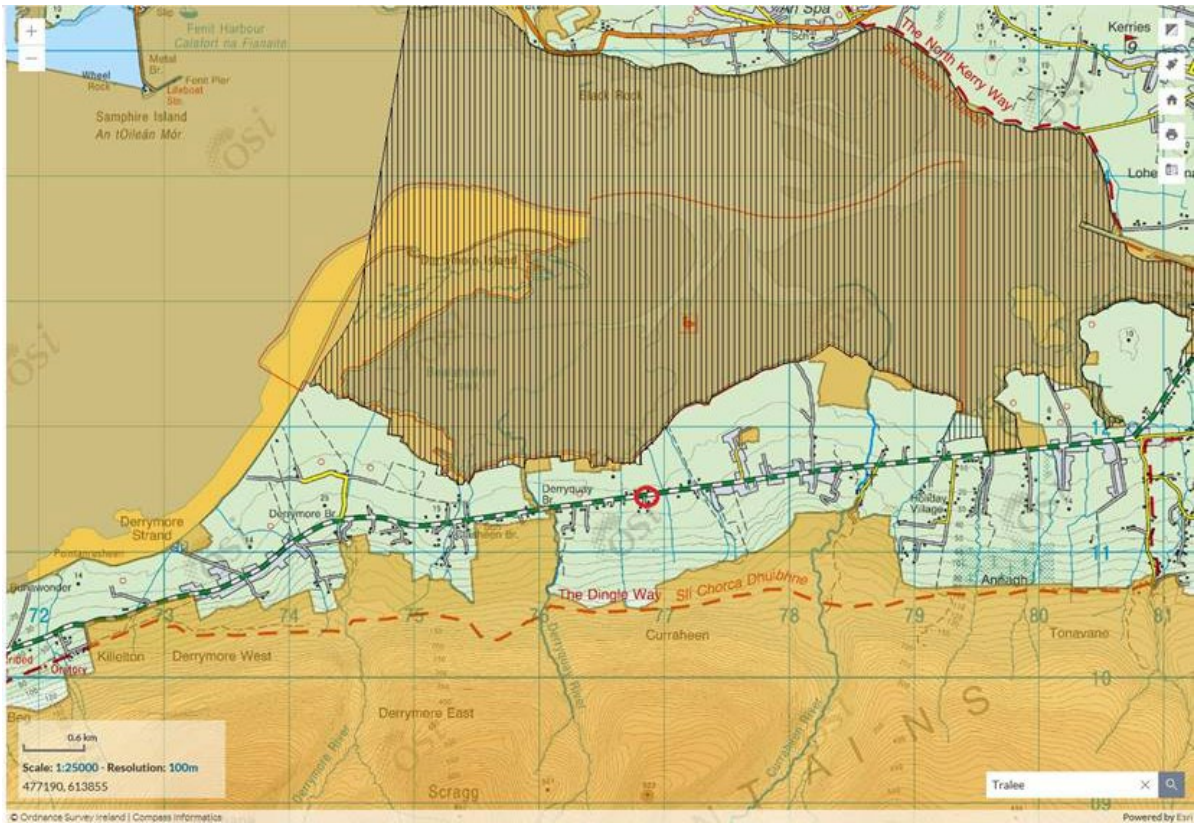
Christian.

From: O'Donoghue, Paul <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday 27 October 2020 12:54
To: Nea Christian <[redacted]>
Cc: O'Malley Vincent [redacted]; Phelan Sarah-Jane [redacted]
Subject: RE. TO270 Munster Reactive Maintenance Works – Year 3_3 - Derryquay East Bridge KY-N86-012.00

Christian

RE. TO270 Munster Reactive Maintenance Works – Year 3_3 - Derryquay East Bridge KY-N86-012.00

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



Derryquay East Bridge [KY-N86-012.00] is located on the N86 to the west of Tralee. The bridge crosses a small watercourse which rises on the hillside to the south of the N86 and flows under the road to reach inner Tralee Bay, to the east of Derrymore Island. This small stream, which is of a hillside drainage feature, is not recorded on EPA Maps [https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/]

Proposed Works

Following a recent flooding event, the approach embankment wall at this structure has collapsed over a length of 4.5m – see attached photographs. The proposed solution is the installation of suitably sized rock armour over the full length of the collapse which measures up to 1m deep and 1m high. Large stones are to be placed by hand lined up along the bank and smaller stone infilled behind. The rock will be placed flush with the existing wingwall thus preventing any further erosion of the riverbed behind the wall. The existing debris in the riverbed is to be removed by hand and disposed off-site. A full method statement is attached.

Installation of rock armour 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. Loose material to be removed using shovels and wheelbarrows where possible.
4. Mechanical breaking to be carried out using kango hammer to be used where necessary.
5. Any loose material will be put into tonne bags and removed off site.
6. Rock Armor will be delivered to site using small truck.
7. A hi-ab on the truck will unload the rock armour onto the embankment.
8. Once works area has been cleaned and prepared rock armour will be positioned by hand in line with the existing embankment.
9. Smaller rock armour will then be infilled behind the larger stone to fill any voids.
10. Site clean-up.

As can be seen on the attached flow the works are on a very small watercourse; sealed sand bags will be used to direct water away from the works area. Works will take 2-3 days to complete.

Ecological Characteristics

The stream discharges to Tralee Bay And Magharees Peninsula, West To Cloghane SAC (002070). The qualifying interests of these sites are as follows: -

- Estuaries [1130]
- Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]
- Coastal lagoons [1150]
- Large shallow inlets and bays [1160]
- Reefs [1170]
- Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]
- Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]
- Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]
- Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]
- Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]
- Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120]
- Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]
- Dunes with Salix repens ssp. argentea (Salicion arenariae) [2170]
- Humid dune slacks [2190]
- 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]
- Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355]
- Petalophyllum ralfsii (Petalwort) [1395]

The stream also discharges to Tralee Bay Complex SPA (004188). The qualifying interests of these sites are as follows: -

Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]; Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053]; Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]; Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062]; Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]; Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182] & Wetland and Waterbirds [A999].

None of the habitats for which the SAC has been designated are recorded at Derryquay East Bridge. There are no records of otter from the small stream (Source: NBDC). Otter have been recorded on the Derryquay River to the west (Q760114) (Source: NBDC). The embankment wall along upstream side of the river is not suitable as a roosting site for bats. The bridge itself will not be impacted – this is a low concrete culvert with a masonry parapet wall also unsuitable for use by bats. This stream is not within a pearl mussel sensitive area.

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 Tralee Bay And Magharees Peninsula, West To Cloghane SAC and Tralee Bay Complex SPA. Consequently, no direct impacts to a Natura 2000 site will occur as a result of the works. Works will take place in the dry, with the small stream isolated from the works area by sealed sandbags. As noted works will take 2-3 days. The appointed Contractor will be required to monitor the 10 day weather forecast to ensure periods of heavy rain do not coincide with the proposed works. Consequently, no indirect impacts to a Natura 2000 site will occur as a result of the proposed works.

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*
Principal Ecologist
Ireland

[redacted]
