
From: O'Malley Vincent
Sent: Tuesday 24 August 2021 12:56
To: Chamberlain Greg
Cc: Nea Christian
Subject: RE: Re. Reactive Maintenance- KY-N86-021.00 Curraduff Bridge

Hi Greg,
Having reviewed the content of the email received from Paul O'Donoghue, I accept your reasoned determination as set out below.
Sincerely
Vincent

From: Chamberlain Greg [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday 24 August 2021 10:42
To: O'Malley Vincent [REDACTED]
Cc: Nea Christian [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Re. Reactive Maintenance KY-N86-021.00 Curraduff Bridge

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 23rd August, 2021, and entitled Re. Reactive Maintenance- KY-N86-021.00 Curraduff Bridge 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: Monday 23 August 2021 19:26
To: Chamberlain Greg [REDACTED]
Cc: Nea Christian [REDACTED]; Daly, Vincent [REDACTED]; Jennings, Martin [REDACTED]
Subject: Re. Reactive Maintenance KY N86 021.00 Curraduff Bridge

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Greg

Re. Reactive Maintenance- KY-N86-021.00 Curraduff Bridge

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 (Curraduff Bridge; KY-N86-021.00) – proposed works include repairs to the parapet wall and removal of tree branches from the watercourse (see attached photo). Curraduff Bridge is located on the N86 west of Blennerville / Tralee, Co. Kerry. The bridge is a 3-arch masonry structure.

Works will take 4 days to complete.

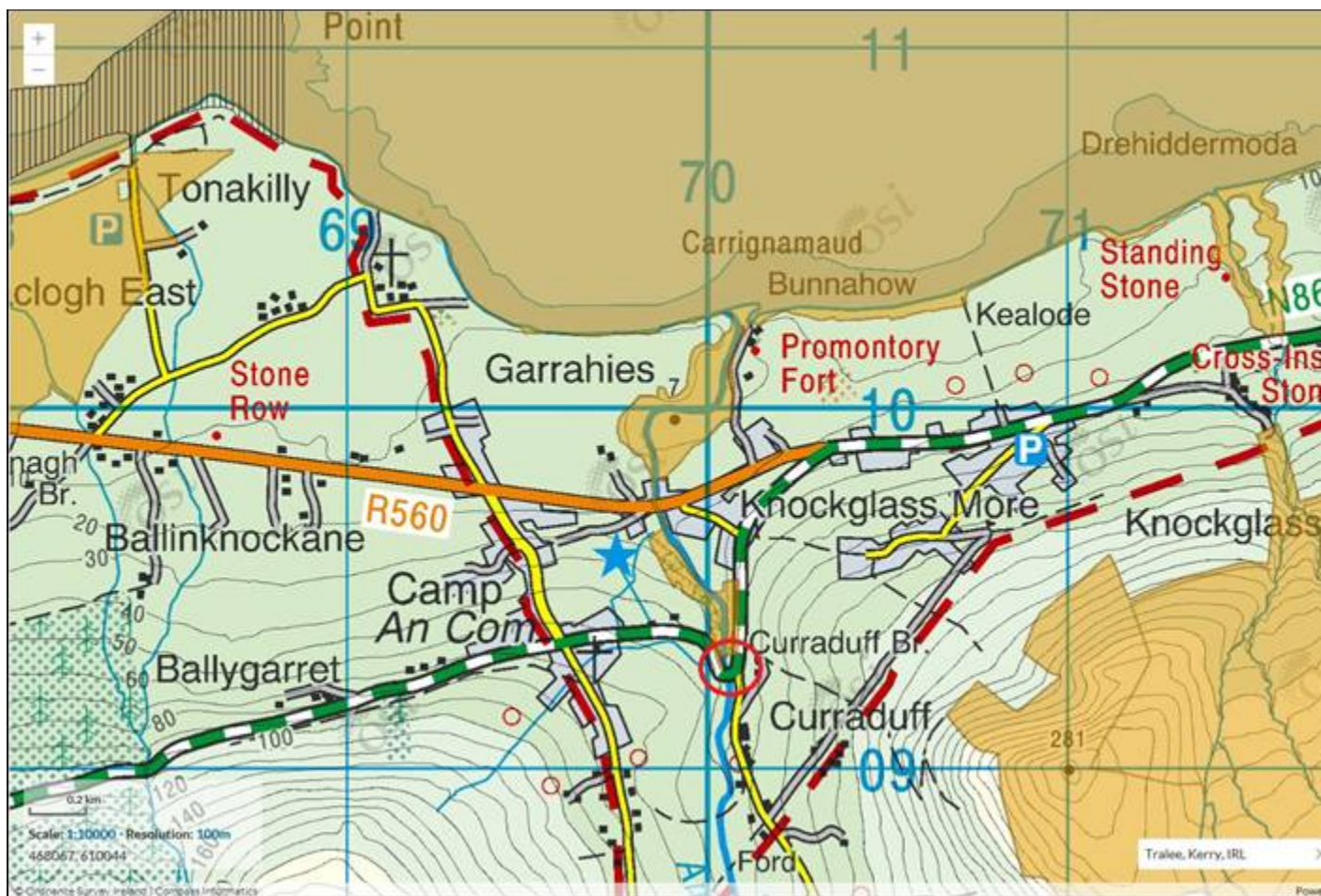


Figure 1. Site Location (Source: NBDC mapviewer).

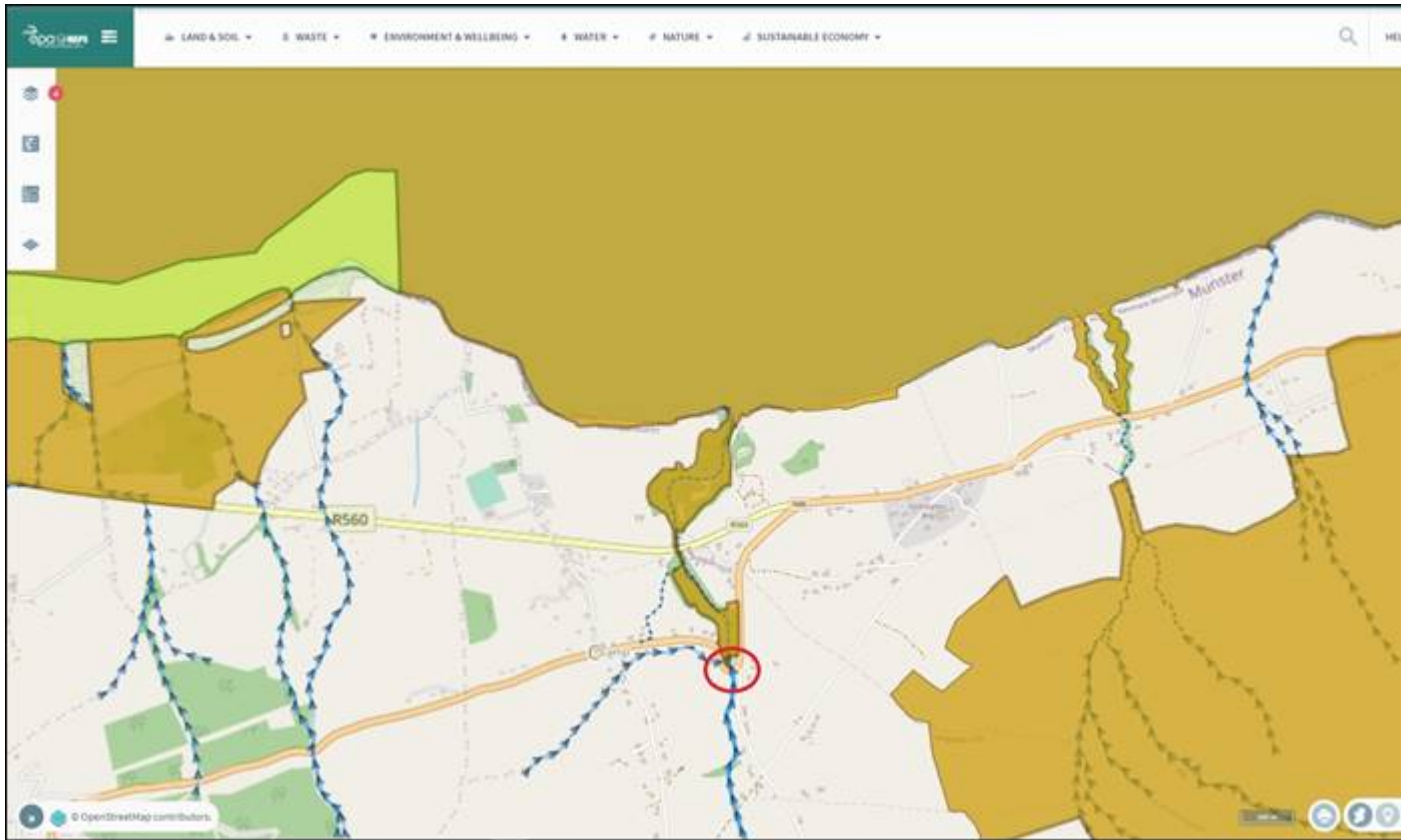


Figure 2. Site Location (Source: EPA Maps).

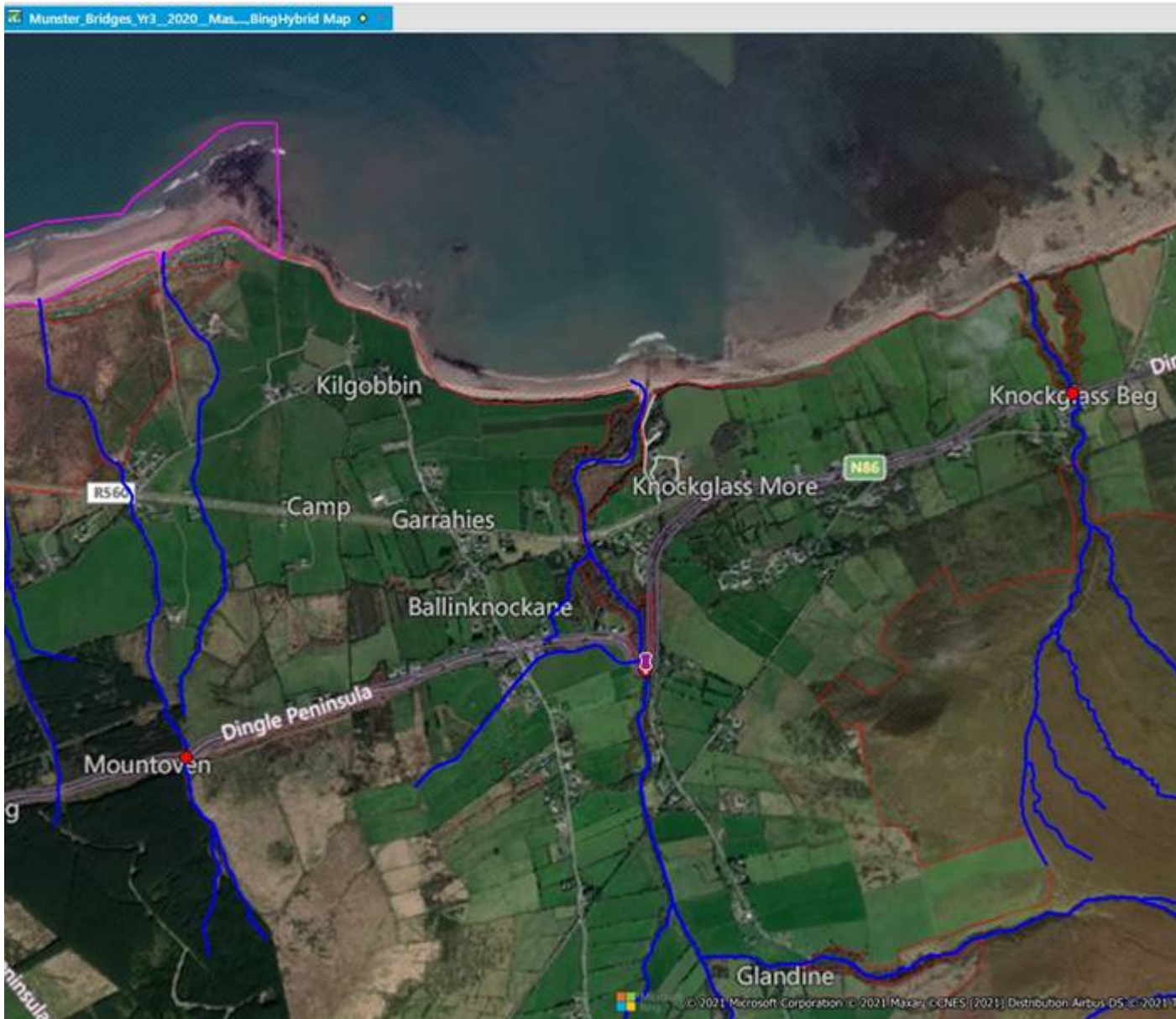


Figure 3. Site Location.

Scope of Works

It is proposed to repair crash damage to the parapet of Curraduff Bridge (KY-N86-021.00). It is also proposed to remove tree branches from the watercourse (see attached photo). The proposed scope of works is as follows: -

Parapet repair

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. A tubular handrail will be secured to the bridge parapet (H fixing with scaffold tubes) and post driven into ditch at other side
5. Loose material to be removed using shovels and wheelbarrows.

6. Mechanical breaking to be carried out using kango hammer to be used where necessary.
7. Any loose material will be put into tonne bags and removed off site.
8. Parapet wall will be rebuilt using existing stone.
9. Site clean-up.

A traffic control system will be put in place to facilitate safe work to repair the parapet. Mortar will be mixed on a nearby layby away from the river.

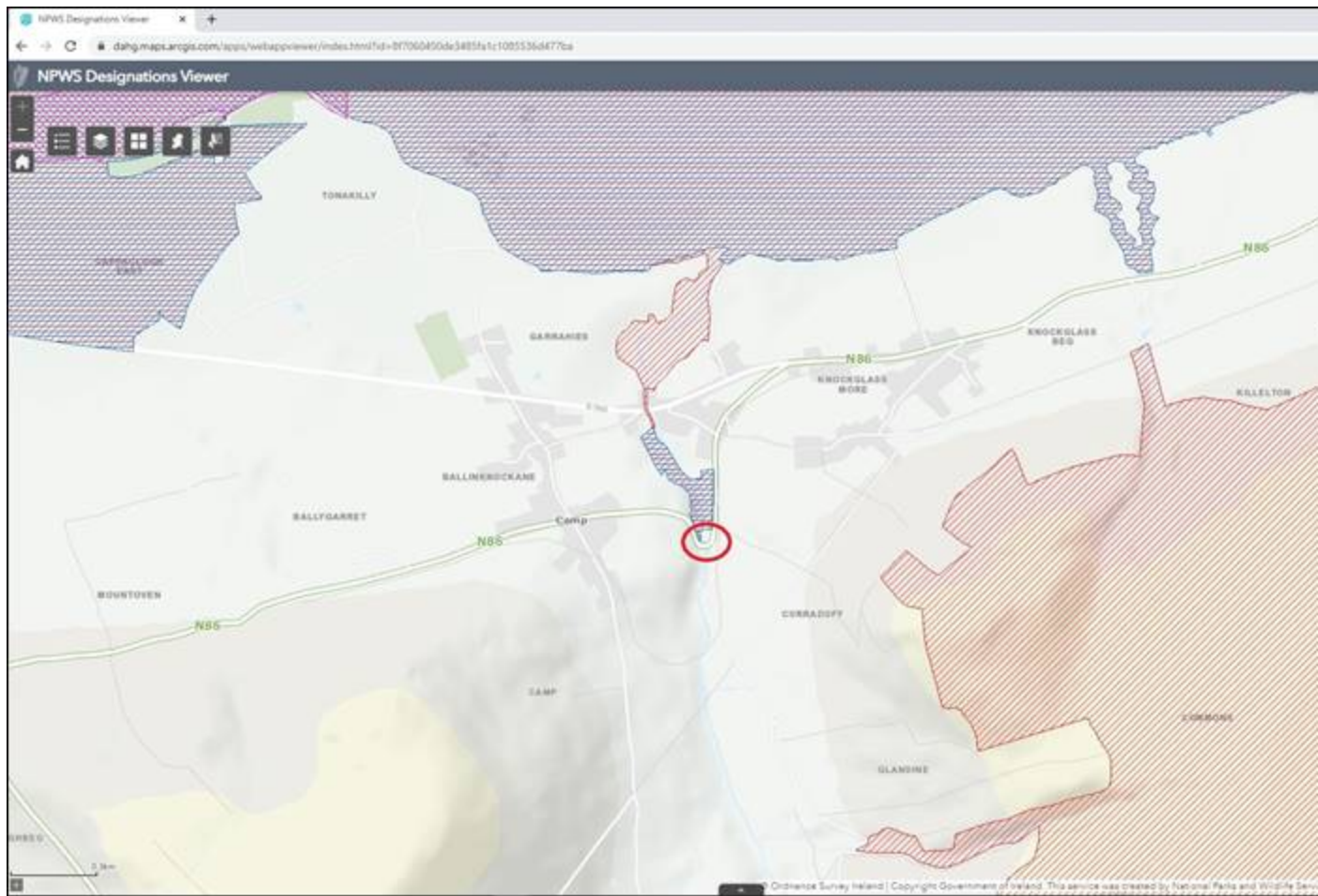
Tree removal

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. The weather will be monitored before the works commence.
4. The removal of trees will only be carried out when water levels are low.
5. The tree will be cut into manageable sized pieces by workers on foot.
6. Once cut, the timber will be removed by hand from the watercourse.
7. The timber will then be loaded into 1 tonne bags and removed off site.
8. All branches and limbs will be removed from the watercourse by hand.
9. No refuelling will be done within 20m of the watercourse.
10. Site clean-up.

No vehicles will be permitted to access the river during works.

Ecological Characteristics

The bridge is located on the Finglas River [Kerry] - 23F03, a 4th order stream which discharges to Tralee Bay. It's River Waterbody WFD Status 2013-2018 is defined as Good. It is located at the boundary of Tralee Bay And Magharees Peninsula, West To Cloghane SAC (002070). The bridge location is not located within Tralee Bay Complex SPA (004188), which at its nearest is located just over 1km west of where the Finglas River (Kerry) reaches the bay. A short stretch of wooded river valley along the Finglas River downstream of the bridge is also within Tralee Bay And Magharees Peninsula, West To Cloghane pNHA. While the designated site boundaries adjoin the southwestern corner of the bridge, the working area underneath the bridge is not itself located with a European site.



There are no records of invasive plant species at the Curraduff Bridge – 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). Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam are, however, present along the R560 downstream of Curraduff Bridge, while Japanese knotweed has been recorded on the N86 west of Curraduff Bridge.

Otter (*Lutra lutra*) have been recorded from (National Otter Survey of Ireland 2010/12) Bunnahow where the Finglas River (Kerry) reaches the bay (Source: NBDC). Signs of Otter were recorded at the bridge during the 2020 bat survey (attached). The river is not in a Margaritifera Sensitive Area, nor does it support White-clawed crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*). As noted access to the river will be limited to workers on foot – who will assist with the cutting up and removal of fallen branches from the river. Works will only take place during daylight hours. Impacts to Otter are limited to short-term disturbance of Otter during daylight hours when works are taking place. Significant impacts to Otter using the Finglas River are not anticipated.

Curraduff Bridge does provide roosting opportunities for bat (see accompanying Bat Report from 2020). The parapet wall to be repaired does not offer suitable roosting opportunities for bats. Work under the bridge involve removal of tree branches from the watercourse. These works will not interfere with the bridge structure over the river or areas used by roosting bats. While Dipper (*Cinclus cinclus*) have been noted to nest under the bridge, the proposed works period does not overlap with the nesting season for dipper, or for other notable species such as Grey wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*). No impact to breeding birds is anticipated.

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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