

## Leinster Bridges Reactive Maintenance

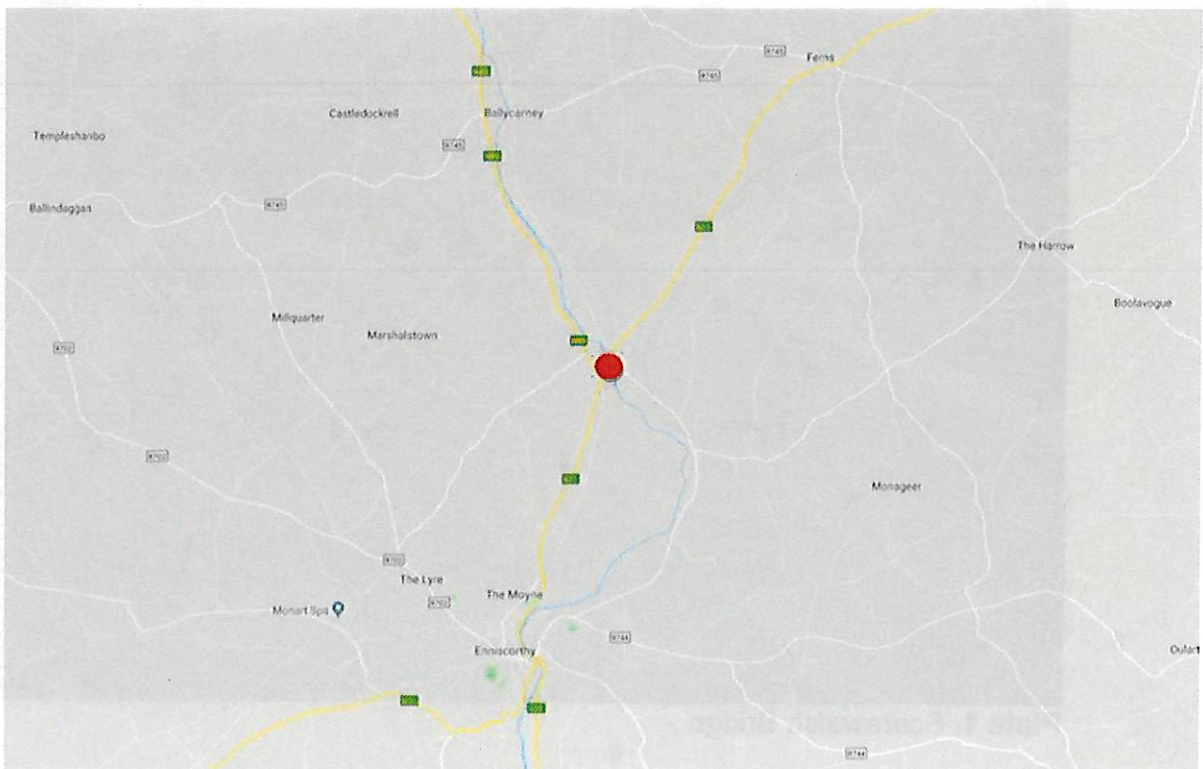
---

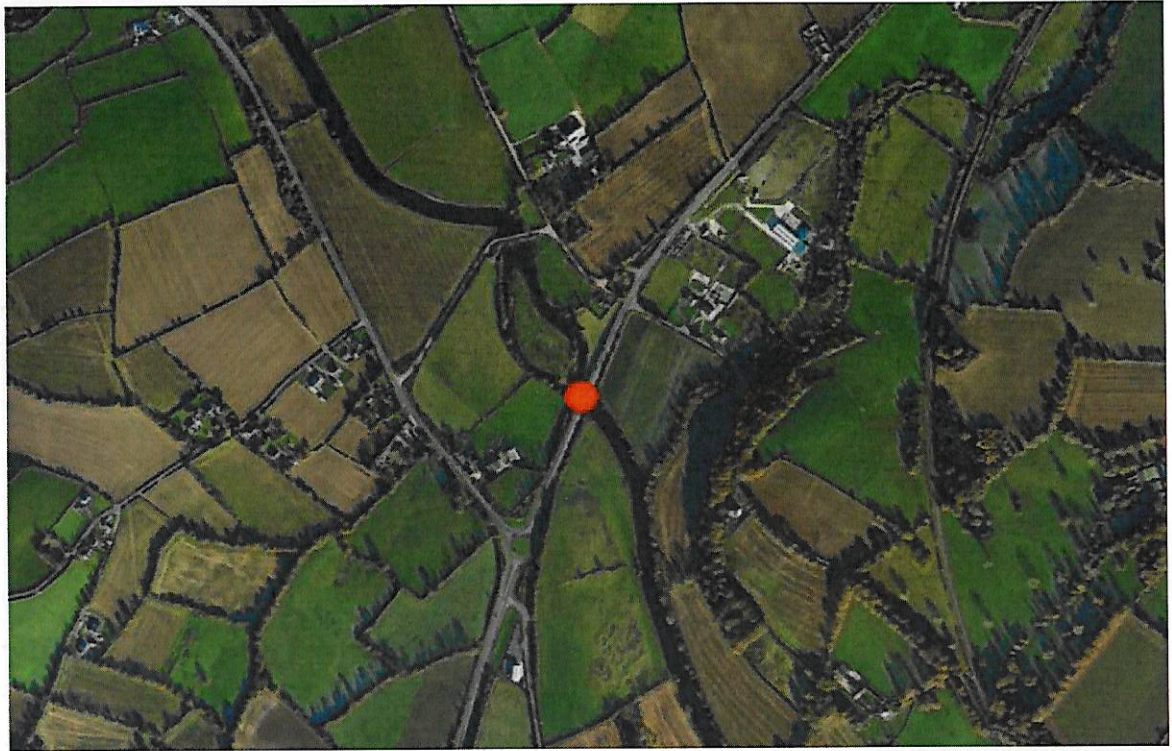
<b>To</b>	: Aidan Farrell Peter King Christian Nea Vincent O'Malley Liam Duffy Nino Belarmaric John Briody
<b>From</b>	: Patrick O'Shea
<b>Date</b>	: 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2018
<b>Structure ID</b>	: WX-N11-008.00
<b>Structure Name</b>	: Scarawalsh Bridge
<b>Subject</b>	: Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

---

### 1. Maps

Bridge carrying the N11 over the River Slaney 6km north of Enniscorthy and 6km south of Ferns.





## 2. Photographs



Plate 1. Scarawalsh Bridge



**Plate 2. Damaged mesh on parapet**



**Plate 3. Damaged mesh on parapet**

### 3. Proposed Works

Screening for Appropriate Assessment was carried out for the following routine maintenance works by TII on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018. The routine maintenance works included the following elements:

- Vegetation removal from within 1m of wingwalls on all sides (60 m<sup>2</sup>).
- Sweep and clean deck (115 m<sup>2</sup>)
- Clean expansion joints (40 m)

The reactive works proposed in this report are:

- Replace damaged parapet mesh, approx. 13 no. panels (26 m) on both parapets and remove and replace approx. 2 no. damaged mesh panels from the southeast corner.

### 4. Appropriate Assessment Screening

The Natura 2000 sites within 15 km of Scarawalsh Bridge are:

- Slaney River Valley SAC (000781)
- Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA (004076)
- Blackstairs Mountains SAC (000770)

Scarawalsh Bridge crosses the River Slaney, which is part of the Slaney River Valley SAC. The lower reaches of the River Slaney, 8.5 km downstream, are designated as the Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA. Scarawalsh Bridge is, thus, within one Natura 2000 Site and hydrologically linked to another. Therefore, the potential for impacts on these sites is discussed further.

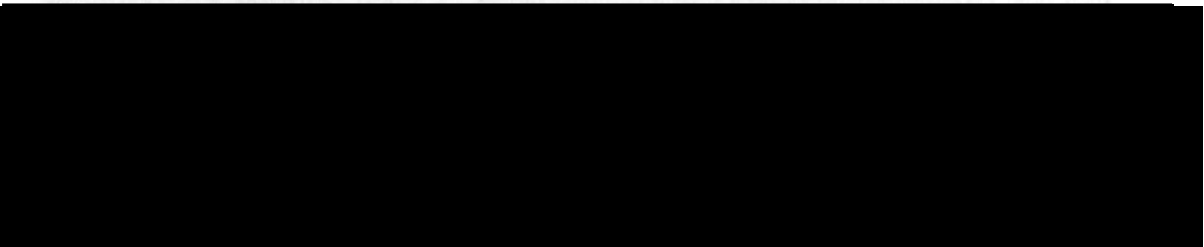
The Blackstairs Mountains SAC is 12.7 km west of Scarawalsh Bridge. Scarawalsh Bridge is not hydrologically linked to this site and, therefore, there is no risk of impacts on this SAC.

### 5. Ecological Constraints

#### Other Designated Sites

Scarawalsh Bridge is within the Slaney River Valley pNHA and close to two other pNHAs, the Clone Fox Covert pNHA (2.3 km north) and Ballynabarney Wood pNHA (3.4 km south). Scarawalsh Bridge has no hydrological connection to the latter two pNHAs.

#### Freshwater Pearl Mussel



#### Bats

Scarawalsh Bridge has no features which could be used by roosting bats.

#### Invasive Species



## 6. Description of Natura 2000 Sites

Slaney River Valley SAC		
Qualifying Interests:	Nearest location relative to Scarawalsh Bridge	Pathways
Estuaries [1130]	11.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]	>28 km downstream	Yes - hydrological
Watercourses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitans</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260]	Immediate proximity	Yes - hydrological
Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]	c. 4.5 km	No hydrological link.
Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0]*	c. 2 km	No hydrological link.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029]		
Sea Lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095]	Potentially in immediate proximity	Yes - hydrological
Brook Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096]	Potentially in immediate proximity	Yes - hydrological
River Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099]	Potentially in immediate proximity	Yes - hydrological
Twait Shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> ) [1103]	Potentially in immediate proximity	Yes - hydrological
Atlantic Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106]	Potentially in immediate proximity	Yes - hydrological
European Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355]	Potentially in immediate proximity	Yes - hydrological
Common (Harbour) Seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ) [1365]	Potentially in immediate proximity	Yes - hydrological

Wexford Harbour and Slobbs SPA		
Qualifying Interests:	Nearest location relative to Scarawalsh Bridge	Pathways
Little Grebe ( <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> ) [A004]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Great Crested Grebe ( <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> ) [A005]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> ) [A017]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Grey Heron ( <i>Ardea cinerea</i> ) [A028]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Bewick's Swan ( <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> ) [A037]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Whooper swan ( <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> ) [A038]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Light-bellied Brent Goose ( <i>Branta bernicla hrota</i> ) [A046]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Shelduck ( <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> ) [A048]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) [A050]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Teal ( <i>Anas crecca</i> ) [A052]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Mallard ( <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> ) [A053]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Pintail ( <i>Anas acuta</i> ) [A054]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Scaup ( <i>Aythya marila</i> ) [A062]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Goldeneye ( <i>Bucephala clangula</i> ) [A067]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Red-breasted Merganser ( <i>Mergus serrator</i> ) [A069]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Hen Harrier ( <i>Circus cyaneus</i> ) [A082]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Coot ( <i>Fulica atra</i> ) [A125]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Oystercatcher ( <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> ) [A130]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity

Wexford Harbour and Slobbs SPA		
Qualifying Interests:	Nearest location relative to Scarawalsh Bridge	Pathways
Golden plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Grey plover ( <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ) [A141]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus</i> ) [A143]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Sanderling ( <i>Calidris alba</i> ) [A144]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> ) [A149]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ) [A156]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Bar-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> ) [A157]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Curllew ( <i>Numenius arquata</i> ) [A160]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Redshank ( <i>Tringa totanus</i> ) [A162]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Black-headed Gull ( <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> ) [A179]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Lesser Black-backed Gull ( <i>Larus fuscus</i> ) [A183]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Little Tern ( <i>Sterna albifrons</i> ) [A195]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity
Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ) [A395]	8.5 km downstream	Yes - hydrological connectivity



## 7. Impact Assessment

### Impacts During Construction

As shown in the table above, there is the potential for impacts on the Qualifying Interests of the Slaney River Valley SAC and the Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA. However, the works will take place entirely on the bridge deck and will not involve work over the watercourse. No paints, solvents or other chemicals will be used that could lead to a deterioration in water quality.

### Impacts During Operation

There will be no risk of ongoing pollution, changes to the hydrological regime or disturbance as a result of the works. Therefore, there are no anticipated impacts of the proposed works during operation.

## 8. Conclusion

Based on the information provided above and considering the location and sensitivities of the Qualifying Interests of Natura 2000 Sites where potential pathways of risk exist, Roughan & O'Donovan can advise TII, as the competent authority, to conclude that the proposed works will not lead to likely significant effects on the Slaney River Valley SAC, the Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA or any other Natura 2000 Site.

Having performed screening for Appropriate Assessment in respect of the proposed reactive maintenance works detailed in this document entitled *Appropriate Assessment Screening Report* relating to Scarawalsh Bridge, County Wexford, I accept the recommendations of Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers 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.

 26/11/2018

**Dr. Vincent O'Malley**

*Head of the Environmental Policy and Compliance Section  
Transport Infrastructure Ireland*

