

KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Appropriate Assessment Screening Report
Under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive

Of the
Reconstruction of Coastal Protection Works
along the L1033
in the townland of
Ballyheigue,
Ballyheigue
Co Kerry



June 2020

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1 Executive Summary

This report is an appropriate assessment screening of the proposed reconstruction of coastal protection works located along the L1033 in the townland of Ballyheigue, near Ballyheigue village, Co Kerry. The proposed reconstruction works relate to a c.30m stretch of shoreline that runs adjacent to the local access road L1033 known locally as the Kerry Head Road. The area is outside a designated European site but is in proximity to the Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC and the Kerry Head and Tralee Bay Complex SPAs.

The aim of this report is to ascertain if the proposed reconstruction works are likely to have a significant effect on a European Site (also known as a Natura 2000 – the terms are used interchangeably in this report) and therefore require an Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.

The screening for AA is recorded in this report. It has concluded that in accordance with the requirements of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, which requires public authorities to comply with the requirements of the Habitats Directive in the exercise of any of its functions or responsibilities, and on the basis of the objective information provided in this report, that the proposed reconstruction coastal works to the L1033 at Ballyheigue, Co Kerry, individually or in combination with other plans/projects is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (Natura 2000 site). An appropriate assessment is not required.

The reasons for the above conclusion are as follows:

- The project is outside European sites, no direct impact on annexed habitats or birds of SCI are identified,
- the habitat found within and in the vicinity of the proposed project is not annexed habitat or identified as functionally linked habitat for birds of SCI,
- The nature and scale of the works required to facilitate the re-construction of the project are not complex or technically difficult to achieve and significant effects were not identified to annexed habitats/birds of SCI from the works that would be required for this project either alone or in-combination with the other plans/projects in the vicinity.
- The proposed project will see the reconstruction of previously and partially existing coastal protection works that have been damaged in recent storm events, no disturbance/displacement of annexed habitats/birds of SCI were identified from either construction or operational stage of the project either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects in the vicinity.
- Finally, no in combination or cumulative impacts were identified between this project and/or other proposed/foreseeable projects/plans. The reconstruction of previously undertaken coastal protection works is located in lands of low ecological value with no potential to significantly effect a European site.

It should be noted that measures intended to avoid or reduce negative effects on the European sites have not been relied upon in reaching this conclusion.

2 Introduction

2.1 Introduction and Background

This report is an appropriate assessment screening of the proposed reconstruction of coastal protection works located along the L1033 in the townland of Ballyheigue, near the village of Ballyheigue, Co Kerry (Figure 2-1, Photo 1-4). The proposed works relate to a c.30m stretch of shoreline that runs adjacent to the L1033 (Figure 2-2 -Figure 2-4, Photo 1-4). The works entail the stabilisation of the existing cliff face to provide protection from the effects of coastal erosion at the site. The area was historically protected by a retaining wall. It has been severely eroded further to storm damage including recent storms in 2019 and 2020. The proposed works to reconstruct the existing coastal protection works at the location are shown in Figure 2-2 -Figure 2-4. These works are informed by an *Options Assessment Report, Ballyheigue Coastal Protection Report*, undertaken by Malachy Walsh for Kerry County Council (KCC) in April 2020 (here after called the *Options Report*).

The area of the proposed reconstruction works is outside European sites. Three European sites are in proximity namely Kerry Head SPA, Tralee Bay Complex SPAs and the Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC. The aim of this report is to screen the works to see if a significant effect on a European site is considered likely and an Appropriate Assessment required.

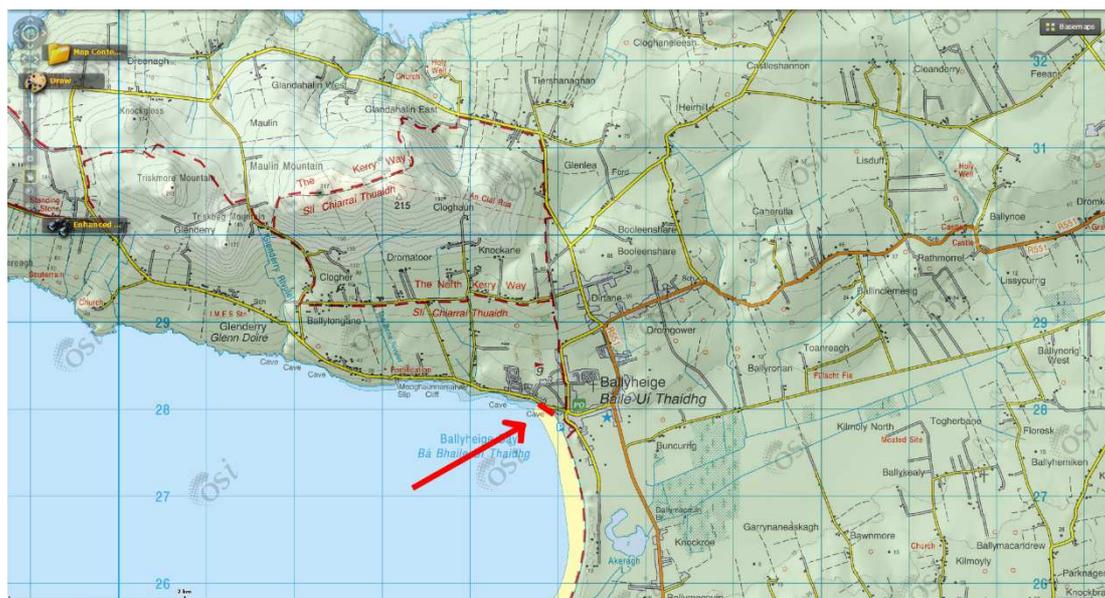


Figure 2-1 Location of the proposed works along the L1033, near Ballyheigue village, North Kerry.

2.2 The requirement for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening

This report is a requirement under the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC - *Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna*. The 'Habitats Directive' provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. It was transposed into Irish law by the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, SI 94/1997, amended by the Birds and Habitats Regulation SI No 477 of 2011.

The Habitats Directive indicates the need for plans and projects to be subject to an appropriate assessment if the plan or project is not directly connected with or

necessary to the management of a Natura 2000 site, but is likely to have a significant effect either individually or in combination with other plans or projects on Natura 2000 sites. This was reinforced in the ECJ ruling against Ireland in Case 418/04. Specifically, Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states:-

Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.

In summary, an AA screening is an evaluation of the potential significant effects of a plan/project on the conservation objectives of a European site. In a situation where it is not possible to fully demonstrate that significant effects on the site would not occur, an Appropriate Assessment is required. Plans/projects that require an AA can only then be permitted after having ascertained that there will be no adverse effect on the site integrity of a European site¹

2.3 Overview of Appropriate Assessment Screening Process

In the preparation of this assessment reference has been made to the following documents:-

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities (2009).
- European Commissions: *Managing Natura 2000 Sites. The provisions of Article 6, of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC*
- European Commission: *Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*
- Guidance document on Article 6(4) of 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC
- Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) Circular letter SEA 1/08 & NPWS 1/08 dated 15 February, 2008.
- Department of the Environment (1994). *Planning and Policy Guidance: Nature Conservation (PPG9)* (HMSO).
- The European Communities Birds and Habitats Regulation SI No 477 of 2011.

Further to the above, any project/plan must be screened for any potential significant effects on areas designated as Natura 2000 sites (normally called Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPAs)). This screening should be based on any ecological information available to the authority and an adequate description of the project and its likely environmental impacts/effects. The results of the screening should be recorded and made available to the public. In any case where, following screening, it is found that the project may have a significant effect, adopting a precautionary approach, an appropriate assessment of the project must be carried out.

¹ Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities (2009)

The European Commission's (2001) Methodological Guidance recommends a 4 stage approach in undertaking assessments under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive:-

Stage 1 Screening: Determining whether the project/plan 'either alone or in combination with other plans or projects' is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site.

Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment: Determining whether, in view of the site's conservation objectives, the plan/project 'either alone or in combination with other plans or projects' would have an adverse effect (or risk of this) on the integrity of the site. If not, the project/plan can proceed.

Stage 3: Assessment of Alternative Solutions: Where it has not been proven that measures considered will not avoid or mitigate the adverse affect on the Natura 2000 site, then an assessment of the alternatives will be required; and if none are acceptable then stage 4 is required to be considered.

Stage 4 Assessment where no Alternative Solutions Exist and where Adverse Impacts Remain This will involve assessment where the plan/project is considered to result in adverse impacts on the Natura 2000 site and no alternative solutions remain – the imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) test must be met before authorisation, permission or adoption of the plan/project is agreed. This includes the agreement of compensatory measures.

2.1 Introduction to AA Screening

The AA screening stage is used to identify whether the project, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site. This report follows European Commission (2001) guidance which recommends that screening should follow a four step process as outlined below:-

Step one: Determine whether the project is directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site. If it is, then no further assessment is necessary.

Step two: Describe the project and other projects that, 'in combination', have the potential to have significant effects on a European site.

Step three: Identify the potential effects on the European site.

Step four: Assess the significance of any effects on the European site.

As the project screened in this report is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any Natura 2000 site, this assessment will proceed to step two of the process.

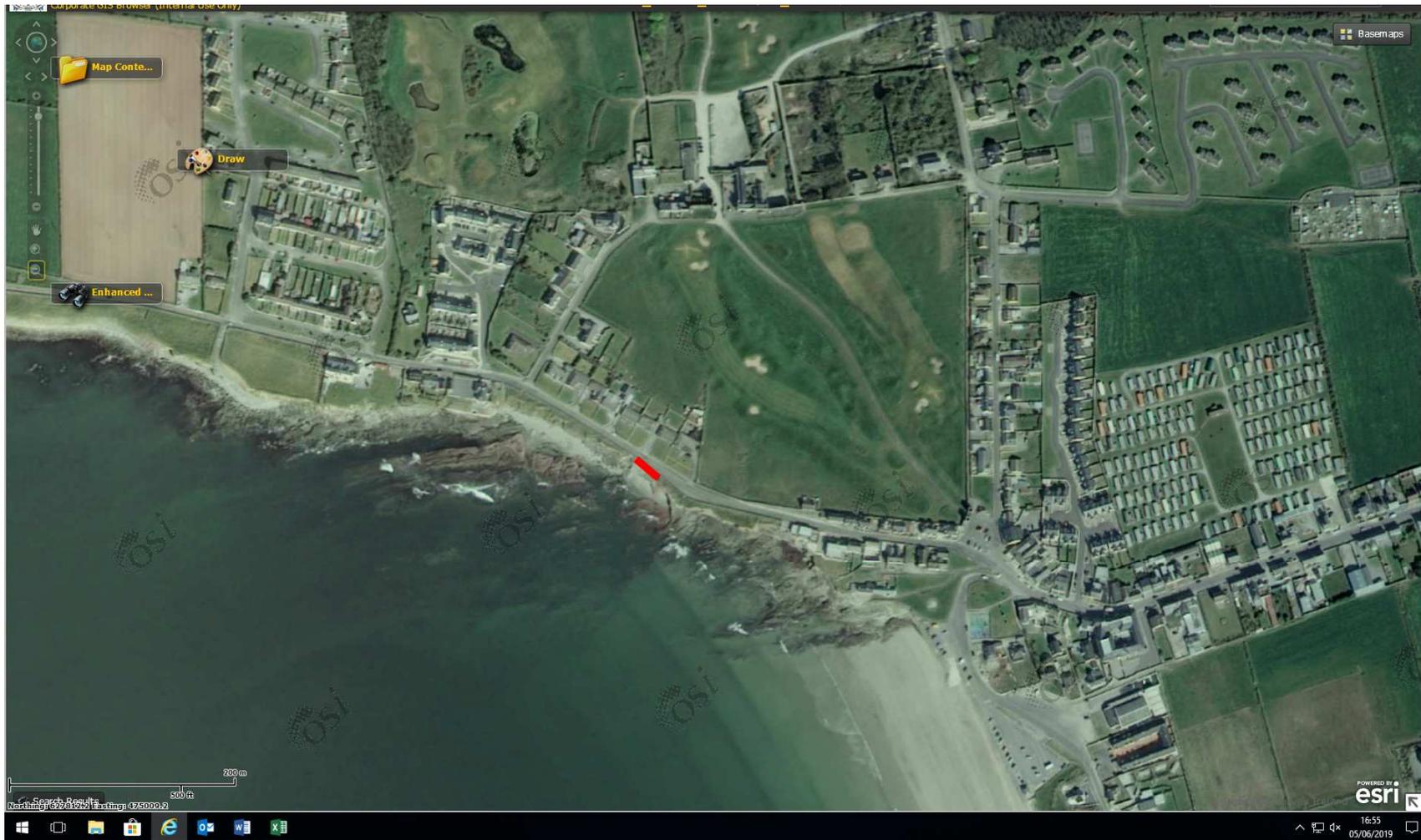


Figure 2-2 Map showing the location of the proposed reconstruction of coastal works along 30m of shoreline south of the L1033 to the west of Ballyheigue village.

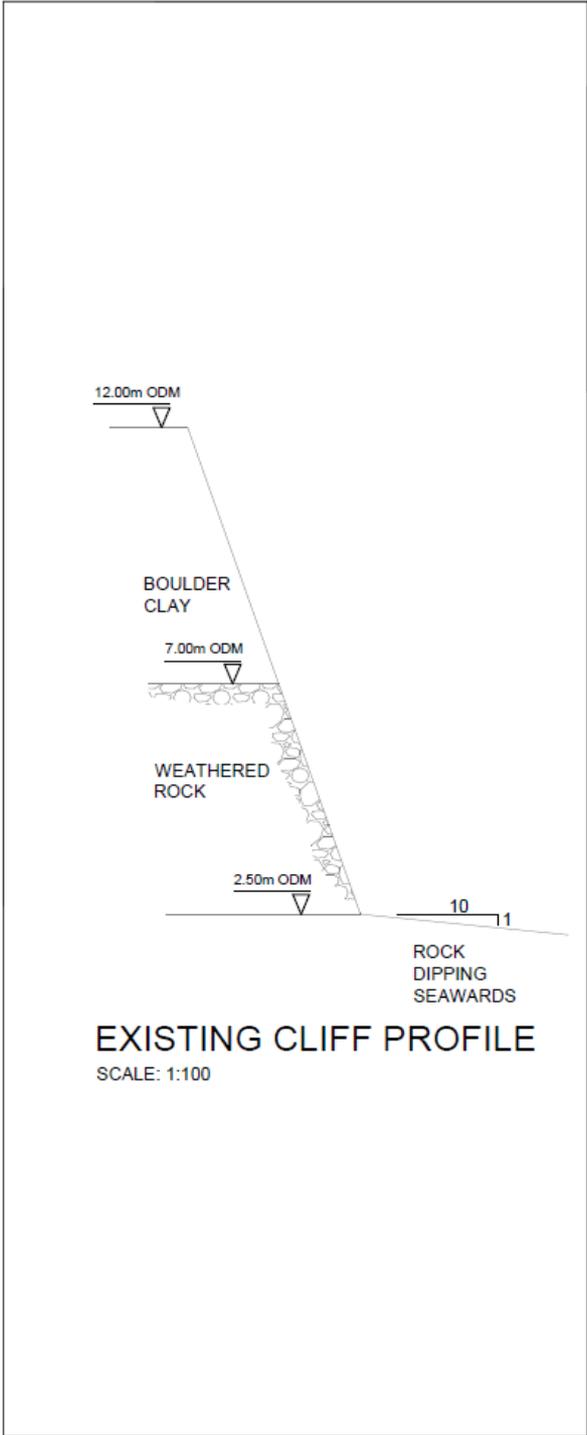
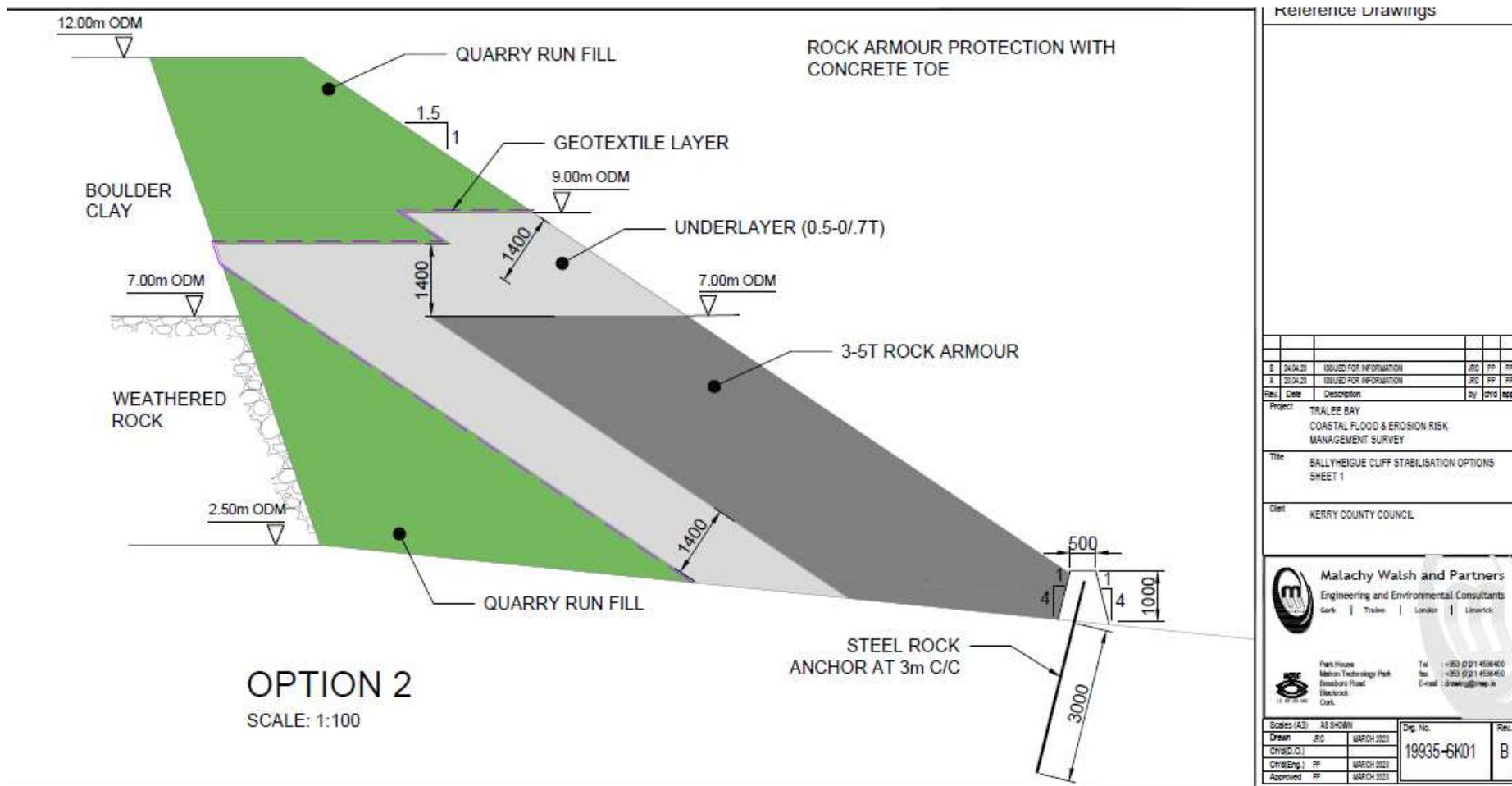


Figure 2-3 Details of the existing coastal protection works along the L1033.



Reference Drawings

Rev.	Date	Description	by	chkd	app
E	24.04.23	ISSUED FOR INFORMATION	JRC	PP	PP
A	23.04.23	ISSUED FOR INFORMATION	JRC	PP	PP

Project: TRALEE BAY
COASTAL FLOOD & EROSION RISK
MANAGEMENT SURVEY

Title: BALLYHEIGUE CLIFF STABILISATION OPTIONS
SHEET 1

Client: KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

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Scale:	As Shown	Eng. No.	Rev.
Drawn:	JRC	MARCH 2023	
Checked:	JRC	MARCH 2023	19935-6K01
Checked:	PP	MARCH 2023	B
Approved:	PP	MARCH 2023	

Figure 2-4 Details of the proposed reconstruction of coastal protection works along the L1033.

3 Description of the plan and other plans and projects that, 'in combination', have the potential to have significant effects on a European/Natura 2000 site

3.1 Step 2: Introduction

This is the second step of the screening process and provides a description of the project and other projects that, 'in combination', have the potential to have significant effects on a European/Natura 2000 site.

3.2 Site Location

The proposed works are located to the south of the L1033 in the townland of Ballyheigue, Co Kerry (Figure 2-1 & Figure 2-2) (Photo 1-4). The road is known locally as the Kerry Head Road and it provides access from Ballyheigue village to Kerry Head located to the west.

3.3 Description of the Project

The works proposed are to reconstruct and repair existing coastal protection works located along to the south of the L1033 for 30m. The coastal works are proposed along a 30m stretch of coastline as shown in Figure 2-2 -Figure 2-4. The works, described further below, are expected to be completed within a 4-6 week time-frame after commencement depending on weather and tides.

3.3.1 Reconstruction of Coastal protection works

As shown in Figure 2-2 -Figure 2-4 the coastal works are proposed along 30m of eroding shoreline located to the south of the L1033. The new works will tie-in with existing coastal works located to the east. The existing works consist of a now eroded stepped concrete retaining wall. The proposed reconstruction works are designed to prevent further undermining of the soft glacial till sea cliff which in turn is in danger of undermining the L1033. Further information on the project is contained in the aforementioned Options Report. The works will entail the following:

- It is proposed to build an access track from the entrance gate area east of the proposed repair works along the L1033 (photo 5&6),
- This would allow placement and compaction of quarry run fill up against the cliff face by excavator.
- This will then be covered/protected by a geotextile membrane before being further covered/protected with rock armour,
- The rock armour will typically consist of an underlayer consisting of 0.5/0.7 tonne approx. and an outside layer rock armour of 3/5 tonne approx. No concrete or other wet material will be required for this element of the works.
- The rock armour will be further protected with a concrete toe dowelled into the rock.
- The toe will require concrete. Batched concrete will arrive on site and will be poured immediately into prepared shutters on a low spring tide. This will allow maximum time for the concrete to cure.
- The concrete will cure almost immediately and due to the directional pour no spillage is considered likely. In the unlikely event that concrete will spill out of the shutter it will be immediately removed by work staff who will be monitoring the pour as is standard practice,

- No other wet working material is required for the remainder of the reconstruction works,
- This work will take approximately four to six weeks, subject to weather and tidal conditions.

3.4 Description of the Site of the Proposed Reconstruction Works

The site of the proposed reconstruction works is located outside European sites. The nearest European site is the Kerry Head SPA to the west. To the south is the Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC and Tralee Bay Complex SPA - Figure 3-1-Figure 3-2.

Site inspections were undertaken on May 13th, 2019 and again on June 12th, 2020 on a low incoming tide. The aim of the inspections was to undertake a baseline ecological survey and evaluate the nature conservation importance of the site. The survey informed the assessment of any direct, indirect and cumulative ecological implications or impacts of the proposed works presented in this report. Habitats were classed according to Fossit's 2000 *A Guide to Habitats in Ireland* and nomenclature according to Webb's 2012 *An Irish Flora* and Rose's 2006 *The Wild Flower Key*.

The line of the proposed coastal works is shown on Figure 2-2 -Figure 2-4 and Photos 1-4. The location of the access gate off the L1033 is shown in Photos 5 and the line of track in Photo 6. Site inspections classified the habitat as a combination of existing coastal constructions (CC1) and rocky sea cliffs (CS1). The former consists of existing coastal protection works that occur at this location namely an existing concrete stepped vertical retaining wall and existing rock armoury at ground level (Photo 1-4). It is proposed to extend these works for 30m as per the drawing shown in Figure 2-2 -Figure 2-4. The toe will be excavated into the rocky tidal area, classed as a moderately exposed rocky shore (LR2). In order to access the site, it is proposed to construct a minor access track from the L1033 down to the toe of the cliff. The existing cliff face rises from the existing rock armoury at ground level of c.8m. The cliff face is friable with little vegetation on the surface. On top of the cliff is a very narrow strip of coastal grassland that verges the L1033. In part no strip survives and the boundary between the road and cliff face is marked by a stone wall.

There is no watercourse in proximity, the closest is located 1km to the west. A stormwater pipe discharges at the top of the bank near the aforementioned access gate where it falls steeply to ground level behind existing rock armoury (Photo 5). The feature has no ecological value i.e. it has no fisheries potential. The infrastructure will remain and no works to it are proposed as part of the project screened in this report.

As discussed there are no European site designations at this area. The closest designation is the Kerry Head SPA located 1.6km to the west. Other European sites are considerable distance away running the length of Ballyheigue beach c. 1km to the south/southwest.

In relation to annexed species, the nearest cSAC – Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour is not designated for annexed species. The two relevant SPAs are designated for birds of SCI. The Tralee Bay Complex SPA is designated for wintering waders and wildfowl – considering the time of year of inspections no birds of SCI were recorded. This would be expected as the birds are predominately wintering waterfowl that do not breed in Ireland and are not found here in spring/summer months.

The Kerry Head SPA is designated for Fulmar and Chough. Neither species were recorded during site inspections but again this would not be unexpected considering the nature of habitat at the site of the proposed works.

3.5 Other Plans/Projects Alone or In-Combination that have a potential for significant effects.

'In combination' is taken to refer to the cumulative effect of influences acting on Natura sites from all plans and projects in the context of prevailing environmental conditions. Underlying environmental trends such as sea level rises, climate change and increased flood risk can also taken into account. The EU Commission's 1999 Guidelines for the Assessment of Indirect and Cumulative Impacts as well as Impact Interactions defined cumulative impacts in the context of EIA as impacts that result from incremental changes caused by other past, present or reasonably foreseeable actions together with the project. EU Commission's guidance notes cumulative effect is the combined effect of all developments taken together. In this context cumulative effect is not just the sum of the effects of one project plus the effect of another - it may be more, it may be less.

DoEHLG (2009) guidelines state that in combination effects should be considered and should include ex situ and in situ projects/developments. In the context of this report the aim of this section is to identify any other projects/plans that may alone or in-combination have a potential for significant effects on Natura 2000 sites.

At the time of writing a review of Kerry County Council public planning map viewer showed one recent planning application in the vicinity of the proposed development (20394)². It is for a housing development within Ballyheigue village, a decision is pending at the time of writing (June 2020). Several granted planning applications occur in the environs of the site. These predominately relate to residential developments and/or extensions/alterations to existing structures and/or agricultural use. In order to be granted planning permission these developments would have to adhere to the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

Further to this assessment no in-combination effects from other projects are considered likely with the project screened in this report. Taking account of existing and other reasonably foreseeable developments in the area, it is considered that the proposal in conjunction with those developments does not give rise to a negative cumulative impact. Therefore, the cumulative impacts of the proposal are considered to be negligible.

² Kerry County Council iplan (accessed 18/6/20).

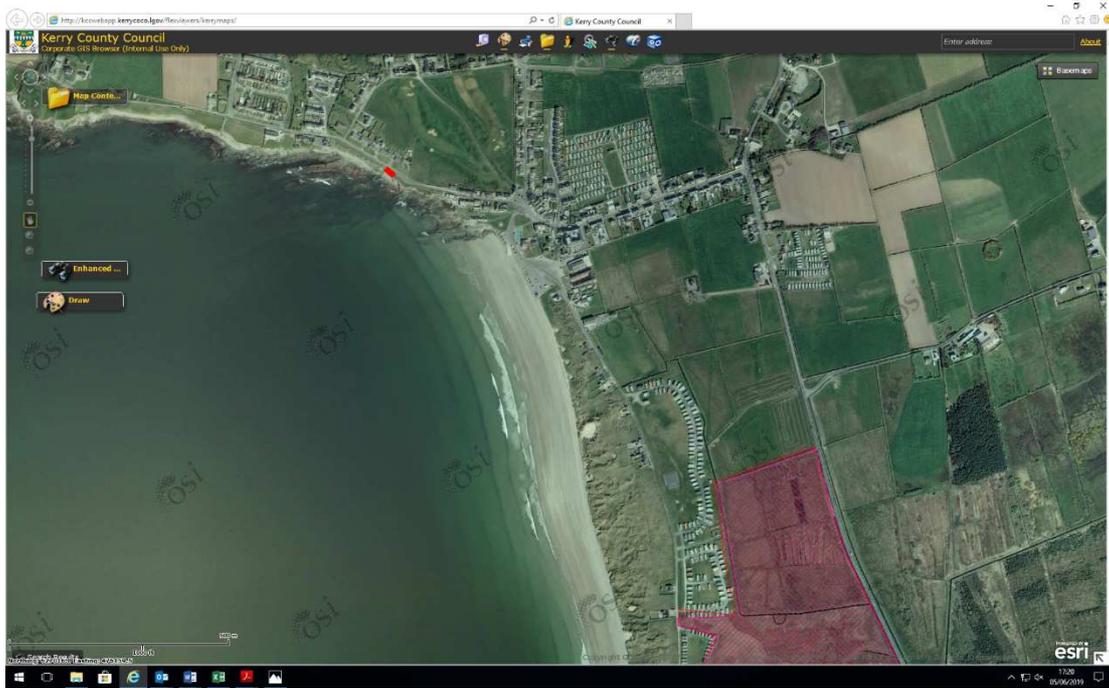


Figure 3-1 Location of the proposed works (red line) relative to the Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC and Tralee Bay Complex SPA to the south/southwest (hashed red) – the two site boundaries overlap.

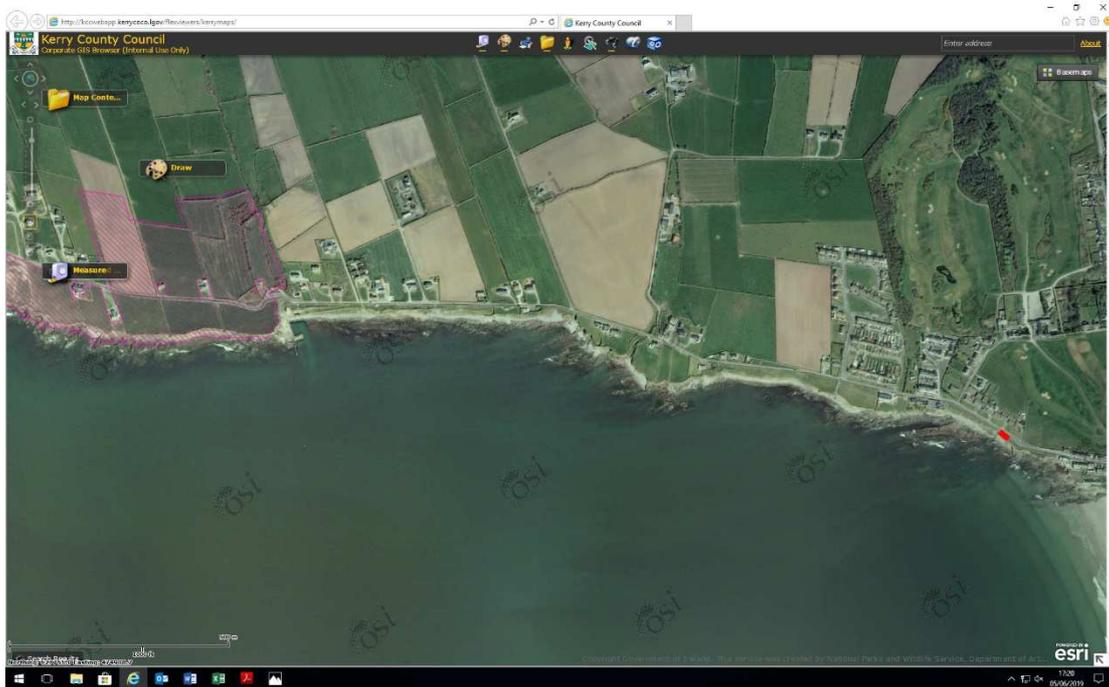


Figure 3-2 Location of the proposed works (red line) relative to the Kerry Head SPA to the west (hashed red)

4 Characteristics of the European (Natura 2000) Sites

4.1 Step 3: Introduction

This is the third step of Stage One Screening, the purpose of which is to map and tabulate the information available on all European sites within or immediately adjoining the proposed project. As part of this, reasons for site designation and environmental conditions necessary to support site integrity will be indicated, where possible. It should be noted that Natura 2000 sites include Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) as well as proposed sites awaiting approval – potential SPAs (pSPAs) and candidate SACs (cSACs).

4.2 Identification and consideration of European/Natura 2000 sites located within or immediately adjoining the project/plan area in situ and ex situ

There are a number of European sites which may potentially be significantly affected by the proposed reconstruction works. In this report European sites considered are those located within 15km from the proposed project. The European sites listed below in Table 4-1 are within or partially within 15km of the development site.

Table 4-1 European sites within 15km of the proposed development

Designation	Site Name and Code	Distance from European site to proposed development
cSAC	Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour	900m
	Lower Shannon	4km
	Magharee Island	5.5km
	Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula West to Cloghane	12km
	Kerry Head Shoal	13km
SPA	Tralee Bay Complex	970m
	Kerry Head	1.6km
	Magharee Islands	7km

4.3 European sites which may be significantly affected by the Project

This section aims to look in more detail at the European sites potentially significantly affected by the proposed project. Direct and indirect impacts have to be considered. Indirect impacts or secondary impacts are those that are not a direct result of the project³. Rather they are often produced away from the project as a result of a complex pathway. The likelihood for indirect impacts to significantly affect Natura 2000 sites will be relative to the “linkage” between an impact source and a specific site. The classic source-pathway-receptor model (SPR) applies in this context. Here the source refers to the confined or discrete point from which pollutants are discharged into the environment, the pathway is the route by which the particular pollutant then travels through the environment and the receptor is the location where the pollution event occurs.⁴ In the context of this assessment it is important to note that pathways are determined by natural hydrogeological characteristics and the nature of the pollutant, but can also be influenced by the presence of features resulting from human activities⁵.

³ *Guidelines for the Assessment of Indirect and Cumulative Impacts as well as Impact Interactions*, EU Commission, 1999.

⁴ *Guidance on the Authorisation of Discharges to Groundwater Version 1*, December 2011. EPA

⁵ *Ibid*

Indirect impacts in relation to this project and European sites can include those caused by:

- Physical proximity to Natura sites,
- Non-physical factors such as noise etc,
- Interference with hydrological processes, and
- Pollution.

The assessment in Table 4-2 uses this SPR model to assess potential indirect impacts judged to be most prevalent to this development - physical proximity; interference with hydrological process and disturbances to mobile species.

Table 4-2 Assessment of European sites within 15km of the proposed development.

Designation	Site Name and Code	Distance	Impact Pathway (including hydrological)
cSAC	Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour	900m	Yes – it is noted that the proposed development is located to the north of the cSAC across Ballyheigue Beach and outside the SAC designation. Notwithstanding this, considering the cSAC is designated for annexed sand dune habitat and the works relates to the repair of rock armoury, indirect effects could occur on sand dune habitat.
	Lower Shannon	4km	No – the works are considerable distance away and no hydrological connectivity
	Magharee Island	5.5km	
	Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula West to Cloghane	12km	
	Kerry Head Shoal	13km	
SPA	Tralee Bay Complex	970m	No – the SPA is designated for wintering birds that feed on the extensive mudflats and sandbanks of Tralee Bay and Brandon Bay. Although, the birds do occur outside the SPA designation and are known to use other habitats, the habitat where the works are proposed is not deemed to be functionally linked habitat for these wintering birds. It is an eroding cliff face located directly adjacent to a busy local access road.
	Kerry Head	1.6km	Yes – the proposed development is close to the SPA and the birds of SCI are known to breed and forage in the area.
	Magharee Islands	7km	No – considering the bird of special conservation interest

			for which the site is designated and the distance from the European site to the proposed project.
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Further to the screening process undertaken above the European sites considered most likely to be potentially significantly affected by the proposed works are:

- Kerry Head SPA
- Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC

These are the only European sites considered in the remainder of this report. They are described in greater detail in Appendix 1 and the site synopses are available on www.npws.ie.

4.4 Qualifying Interests and Conservation Status

Qualifying interests are the annexed habitats and species for which each Natura 2000 site has been designated. In Ireland 59 habitats are considered Annex I, 16 of which are priority habitats as they are in danger of disappearing across the EU. Twenty six species (other than birds) are listed under Annex II. Under Annex I of the Birds Directive 33 species of birds (also called Special Conservation Interests (SCI)) are listed as requiring special conservation measures because of their rarity, danger of extinction or vulnerability to habitat change⁶.

Of the European site considered in this report the qualifying interests, under Annex 1 (habitats) and Annex II (species) of the Habitats Directive, for that European site are listed below in Table 4-3.

Table 4-3 European sites and qualifying interests in the vicinity of the proposed works.

Designated European Site	Distance from European Site	Qualifying Interest	
		*Indicates Priority Habitat	
		Qualifying Habitat	Qualifying Species
Kerry Head	1.6km	-	Fulmar Chough
Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour	900m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210] • Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310] • Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330] • Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410] • Embryonic shifting dunes [2110] • Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120] • *Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey) 	-

⁶ *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland, Guidance for Planning Authorities*, DoEHLG, 2009

Designated European Site	Distance from European Site	Qualifying Interest *Indicates Priority Habitat
		dunes) [2130] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humid dune slacks [2190] • European dry heaths [4030]

4.5 Conservation Objectives for European sites.

Under Article 4(4) and Article 6(1) of the Habitats Directive appropriate measures must be undertaken within each Natura 2000 to ensure the habitats and species, i.e. the qualifying interests, for which the site was designated, are maintained in a *favourable conservation status*.

In relation to habitats, Article 1(e) of the Habitats Directive states favourable conservation status is achieved when:

- its natural range and the areas it covers within that range are stable or increasing,
- the specific structure and function which are necessary for its long-term maintenance are present and are likely to continue to exist in the foreseeable future,
- the conservation status of typical species that live in these habitat types is favourable as well.

In relation to species, Article 1(i) of the Habitats Directive states favourable conservation status is achieved when:

- populations are maintaining themselves over the long term and are no longer showing signs of continuing decline,
- their natural range is not being reduced,
- there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

Achieving *favourable conservation status* requires each Natura 2000 to have site specific conservation objectives. These are a statement of the overall nature conservation requirements of each site, expressed in terms of the favourable condition required for the habitats and/or species (i.e. the qualifying interests) for which the site was selected. For some Natura 2000 sites more detailed management plans have been drafted by NPWS with detailed specific conservation objectives (see <http://www.npws.ie>). This is the case for the Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC. However, the Kerry Head SPA does not have detailed COs. The conservation objectives for the SPA therefore focuses on maintaining the favourable conservation status of the qualifying interests (birds of SCI) for the site. This screening process will focus on assessing the likely significant effects of implementing the proposed project relative to the qualifying interests (birds of SCI) outlined in Table 4-3.

4.6 Identification of Potential Significant Effects to be Assessed in this Screening Report.

Describe the potential for significant effects on European sites as a result of the various elements of the project	
<p>Describe the individual elements of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans and projects) likely to give rise to impacts on European site by virtue of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size and scale • Distance from the European site or key features of the site • Resource requirements (water abstraction etc) • Emissions (disposal to land, water or air) • Excavation requirements • Transportation requirements • Duration of construction, operation, decommissioning • other 	<p>Size and Scale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The works entail the construction of a retaining wall along 30m of shoreline along the L1033 in the townland of Ballyheigue. The works are localised to a short stretch of coastline outside a European site. However considering the nature of the works, the reconstruction works could indirectly impact on sand dune habitat located along Ballyheigue beach. <p>Distance from European sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed works are outside European sites. The works however are relatively close to two European sites. <p>Resource Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials will be imported on site. The latter will include concrete and formwork. No significant effects on European sites are considered due to the resource requirements of the proposed development which will not involve any resources from the area. <p>Emissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be minor emissions from machinery (tracker and trucks) used in the works. No significant effects on European sites are considered due to emissions from the proposed development. • Concrete will be required for the works, if this spills into the coastal environment there could be an impact on coastal waters. <p>Excavation requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed works will entail excavation works along the proposed toe of reconstruction works – see Figure 2 2 -Figure 2 4. <p>Transportation requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation requirements will include the use of excavator/tracker and trucks to deliver material. There is an existing road that services the area and this will be used for the delivery and movement of all materials. • The construction of an access track from the road to the proposed toe of the structure will be required to facilitate the works. Again these works will be in proximity to European sites. <p>Duration of construction, operation, decommissioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The works are likely to take 4-6 weeks depending on tidal and weather conditions.

The assessment of the significance of the potential effects noted above will be addressed in the next section. This will be undertaken relative to the qualifying interests of the European sites within the zone of influence of the proposed development.

5 Assessment of the significance of any effects on European/Natura 2000 Sites

5.1 Introduction

This is the fourth and final step of Stage One Screening and involves an assessment of the significance of any significant effects, identified in the previous section, on European sites. In identifying the potential issues which could significantly affect sites a range of factors were taken into account, including the possibility of effects manifesting themselves in the short, medium and long-term, in combination effects and the potential impacts of climate change. In addition the precautionary principle was adhered to in the carrying out of this assessment.

5.2 Data sources, consultation, gaps and limitations

The appropriate assessment screening of potential significant effects on European sites in this study is based on consultation, a desktop review of literature, existing and relevant NPWS Natura 2000 Site Synopses Data, Qualifying Interests, Conservation Management Plans, the (draft) Conservation Objectives and Ireland's latest Article 17 reports on the status of protected species and habitats.

5.3 Assessment of Significance of Potential Effects on European Sites.

5.3.1 Defining Likely Significant Effects

The European Commission guidelines state the in order to assess the likely effects on Natura 2000 sites all elements of the project or plan must be identified. This section aims to identify elements of the works that have the potential or are likely to affect a Natura 2000 sites. Likely effects are considered at construction and operational phases and are assessed according to short-term, medium term, long-term and cumulative effects in combination with other plans and projects identified.

The definition of "likely effects" and significance have been identified and adapted from the European Commission's *Assessment of Plans and Projects significantly Affecting Natura 2000 sites, Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC* as:

- Loss/alteration of habitat
- Fragmentation of key species or habitats
- Disturbance and/or displacement of key species
- Water resource and quality

Further to this classification of significance factors, this section will assess the works relative to the factors listed above. The aim is to identify potential for significant effects on the qualifying interests of European sites listed in Table 4-3.

5.3.2 Loss/alteration of habitat

Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC

The proposed reconstruction works are outside the SAC and located 900m from the site boundary. No direct loss/alteration of habitat is considered likely.

The Kerry Head SPA

The Kerry Head SPA is not designated for annexed habitat.

5.3.3 Fragmentation of key species or habitats

Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC

The SAC is designated for a number of annexed sand dune habitats. These habitat types rely on the cyclic deposition and erosion of sand with larger coastal cells. Hard structures such as rock armoury and other coastal defences or infrastructure schemes can disturb these systems and indirectly impact on coastal habitats. In the context of these works however it is noted the works aim to reinstate what was previously existing coastal protection works. Furthermore, it is noted that the aforementioned Options Report states the area where the reconstruction works are proposed *lies on the west side of Ballyheigue Town. South of Ballyheigue the coastline has a north-south orientation and consists of a sandy beach fronting sand dunes as far south (9km) as the southern extremity of Banna Strand. West of Ballyheigue the coastline extends with a general east-west orientation towards Kerry Head. The shoreline from Kerry Head east to Ballyheigue consists of cliffs fronted by a rock outcrop foreshore. The cliff in the critical area just west of the town consists of a rock lower half and clay/glacial till type overburden on the upper half. The cliff in the area of interest is also fronted by a rock foreshore out towards a sandy sub tidal area. Wave action from the west has removed all but cobble sized material from the rock upper foreshore area. Historically, material that would have fallen from the oversteep cliff would be driven east by wave action towards the sandy beach at and south of Ballyheigue Town.*

Because the lower half of the cliff consists of rock and there is rock outcropping in the foreshore area fronting the critical section of cliff the present rate of retreat is slow and the quantity of sediment from the cliff face for the sediment budget for Tralee Bay would be very small. Therefore coast protection/ cliff stabilisation works that prevent erosion of these cliffs would be considered to have minimal impact on the sediment budget.

Considering therefore the reconstruction works proposed will have a minimal impact on sediment budget in the local coastal cell in which the works are proposed, no indirect impacts on annexed habitats are considered likely. There will be no indirect impacts on sand dune habitat namely the natural cyclic sedimentation/erosion processes that feed the habitats.

The Kerry Head SPA

The SPA is designated for two birds of SCI, Fulmar and Chough. Fulmar is a seabird that spends much of its life cycle out at sea. It nests in sheer, inaccessible and isolated cliff faces. The habitat found at where the proposed reconstruction works are proposed is not suitable breeding or foraging habitat for the species. Chough forage in coastal grassland with a tight sward including grazed fields and sand dune habitats. They nest on cliff edges and/or old buildings. Again the habitat found at the location of the proposed reconstruction works is not habitat likely to support breeding or foraging Chough. Chough would commute locally but the works would not infer with the bird's ability to continue to do so. As such the habitat at the location of the proposed reconstruction works is not functionally linked habitat for either bird of SCI.

5.3.4 Disturbance and/or displacement of key species Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC

No species are designated for this SAC.

The Kerry Head SPA

As noted in the preceding section the works proposed are not within functionally linked habitat for either birds of SCI. One species occurs at sea and is unlikely to be disturbed by works located along a coastal environment with pre-existing levels of disturbance from both the beach and the L1033. Similarly, Chough which commute locally and forage within the sand dunes to south at Ballyheigue beach will not be disturbed by temporary works undertaken along the L1033. No potential for the works to disturb/displace birds of SCI are identified.

5.3.5 Water resource and quality

As detailed no annexed habitats or supporting/functionally linked habitat has been identified as being affected by the proposed works. In relation to possible indirect impacts, the works are proposed within an area of land that is previously disturbed. It is noted that the ready-mixed concrete will be poured into formwork/shutters which cures quickly on site. This prevents any likely leakage or spillage of concrete. The works will be monitored by staff and any unlikely spillages will be quickly removed. The works will be undertaken at a low spring tide allowing maximum time for the works be undertaken on a low tide. No impacts on the coastal environment is likely to occur. In addition, the coast here is marine in nature where natural levels of turbidity occur in a dynamic marine environment. No other wet works are required to fulfil the project. Considering the nature, scale and works required to undertake the project, no indirect impacts on annexed habitats or birds of SCI are identified.

5.4 Summary of AA Screening

In conclusion to determine the potential significant effect, if any, of proposed reconstruction works along 30m of coastline along the L1033 an appropriate assessment screening report was undertaken. A summary of the screening is provided a matrix outlined below in Table 5-1.

Table 5-1 Screening matrix for the potential of the proposed project assessed in this report to significantly effect a European site⁷

Brief description of the Plan/Project	Reconstruction of coastal protection works as detailed in Section 3.3
Brief description of the European site(s)	Due to the scale and nature of the development the European sites considered most likely to be potentially significantly affected are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kerry Head SPA 2. Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC
Assessment Criteria	
Describe the individual elements of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans and projects) likely to give rise to impacts on European site(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential loss of supporting/functionally linked habitat outside the SPA • Disturbance/displacement of key species ie birds of SCI. • Indirect impacts on annexed habitats
Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) on the European site by virtue of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size and scale • Land-take • Distance from the European site or key features of the site • Resource requirements (water abstraction etc) • Emissions (disposal to land, water or air) • Excavation requirements • Transportation requirements • Duration of construction, operation, decommissioning • other 	See Section 3.3.
Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss/alteration of habitat • Fragmentation of key species or habitats • Disturbance and/or displacement of key species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No likely changes to European sites as a result of loss/alteration of supporting/functionally linked habitat. • No likely changes to European sites as a result of indirect loss/alteration of annexed habitats • No likely changes to the European site as a result of fragmentation of

⁷ Table template adapted from the European Commission's: *Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resource and quality 	<p>key species/habitats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No likely changes to European site as a result of disturbance/displacement of birds of SCI
<p>Describe any likely impacts on the European site as a whole in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interference with key relationships that define the structure of the site • Interference with key relations that define the function of the site 	<p>None identified - no likely impacts on the function and/or structure of European sites screened in this report</p>
<p>Provide indicators of significance as a result of the identification of effects set out above in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss/alteration of habitat • Fragmentation of key species or habitats • Disturbance and/or displacement of key species • Water resource and quality 	<p>Not applicable as no effects have been determined under each criteria in this report.</p>
<p>Describe from the above those elements of the project or plan, or combination of elements where the above impacts are likely to be significant or where the scale or magnitude of impacts are not known.</p>	<p>Not applicable as no effects have been determined under each criteria in this report.</p>

5.5 Conclusion

5.5.1 Conclusion Statement

Following the screening of the proposed reconstruction of coastal protection works for possible significant effects on the European sites detailed in this report, no significant effects were identified. In accordance with the requirements of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, which requires public authorities to comply with the requirements of the Habitats Directive in the exercise of any of its functions or responsibilities, and on the basis of the objective information provided in this report, that the proposed reconstruction coastal works to the L1033 at Ballyheigue, Co Kerry, individually or in combination with other plans/projects is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (Natura 2000 site). An appropriate assessment is not required.

5.5.2 Reasons for Conclusion

The reasons for the above conclusion are as follows:

- The project is outside European sites, no direct impact on annexed habitats or birds of SCI are identified,
- the habitat found within and in the vicinity of the proposed project is not annexed habitat or identified as functionally linked habitat for birds of SCI,

- The nature and scale of the works required to facilitate the re-construction of the project are not complex or technically difficult to achieve and significant effects were not identified to annexed habitats/birds of SCI from the works that would be required for this project either alone or in-combination with the other plans/projects in the vicinity.
- The proposed project will see the reconstruction of previously and partially existing coastal protection works that have been damaged in recent storm events, no disturbance/displacement of annexed habitats/birds of SCI were identified from either construction or operational stage of the project either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects in the vicinity,
- Finally, no in combination or cumulative impacts were identified between this project and/or other proposed/foreseeable projects/plans. The reconstruction of previously undertaken coastal protection works is located in lands of low ecological value with no potential to significantly effect a European site.

It should be noted that measures intended to avoid or reduce negative effects on the European sites have not been relied upon in reaching this conclusion.

6 Finding of No Significant Effects Report (FONSE)

6.1 Introduction

This Findings of No Significant Effects Report (FONSE) documents the conclusions of the appropriate assessment screening of the proposed reconstruction of coastal protection works along 30m of the L1033 located in the townland of Ballyheigue, Ballyheigue, Co Kerry.

6.2 Name and Location of European sites

The following European sites are within 15km of the development site.

Designation	Site Name and Code	Distance	Impact Pathway (including hydrological)
cSAC	Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour	900m	Yes – it is noted that the proposed development is located to the north of the cSAC across Ballyheigue Beach. Notwithstanding this, considering the cSAC is designated for annexed sand dune habitat and the works relates to the repair of rock armoury, indirect effects could occur.
	Lower Shannon	4km	No – the works are considerable distance away and no hydrological connectivity
	Magharee Island	5.5km	
	Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula West to Cloghane	12km	
	Kerry Head Shoal	13km	
SPA	Tralee Bay Complex	970m	No – the SPA is designated for wintering birds that feed on the extensive mudflats and sandbanks of Tralee Bay and Brandon Bay. Although, the birds do occur outside the SPA designation and are known to use other habitats, the habitat where the works are proposed is not deemed to be functionally linked habitat for these wintering birds. It is an eroding cliff face located directly adjacent to a busy local access road.
	Kerry Head	1.6km	Yes – the proposed development is close to the SPA and the birds of SCI are known to breed and forage in the area.
	Magharee Islands	7km	No – considering the bird of special conservation interest for which the site is designated and the distance from the European site to the proposed project.

Further to the screening process undertaken above the European sites considered most likely to be potentially significantly affected by the proposed works are:

- Kerry Head SPA
- Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour cSAC

6.3 Description of the project or plan

The works proposed are to reconstruct and repair existing coastal protection works located along to the south of the L1033 for 30m. The coastal works are proposed along a 30m stretch of coastline as shown in Figure 2-2 -Figure 2-4. The works, described further below, are expected to be completed within a 4-6 week time-frame after commencement depending on weather and tides.

6.3.1 Reconstruction of Coastal protection works

As shown in Figure 2-2 -Figure 2-4 the coastal works are proposed along 30m of eroding shoreline located to the south of the L1033. The new works will tie-in with existing coastal works located to the east. The existing works consist of a now eroded stepped concrete retaining wall. The proposed reconstruction works are designed to prevent further undermining of the soft glacial till sea cliff which in turn is in danger of undermining the L1033. Further information on project is contained in the aforementioned Options Report.

The works will entail the following:

- It is proposed to build an access track from the entrance gate area east of the proposed repair works along the L1033 (photo 5&6),
- This would allow placement and compaction of quarry run fill up against the cliff face by excavator.
- This will then be covered/protected by a geotextile membrane before being further covered/protected with rock armour,
- The rock armour will typically consist of an underlayer consisting of 0.5/0.7 tonne approx. and an outside layer rock armour of 3/5 tonne approx. No concrete or other wet material will be required for this element of the works.
- The rock armour will be further protected with a concrete toe dowelled into the rock.
- The toe will require concrete. Batched concrete will arrive on site and will be poured immediately into prepared shutters on a low spring tide. This will allow maximum time for the concrete to cure.
- The concrete will cure almost immediately and due to the directional pour no spillage is considered likely. In the unlikely event that concrete will spill out of the shutter it will be immediately removed by work staff who will be monitoring the pour as is standard practice,
- No other wet working material is required for the remainder of the reconstruction works,
- This work will take approximately four to six weeks, subject to weather and tidal conditions.

6.4 Is this project or plan directly connected with or necessary to the management of the sites (provide details)?

The proposed development is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites.

6.5 Are there other projects or plans that together with the project or plan being assessed could affect the sites (provide details)?

None identified.

6.6 Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect European sites

Following an appropriate assessment screening of the project as detailed in this report, no likely affects to European sites were identified.

6.7 Explain why these effects are not considered significant

Following the screening of the proposed works for possible significant effects on the European sites detailed in this report, no significant affects were identified. The details of that assessment are provided in this report.

6.8 Who carried out this assessment?

This assessment was carried out by the Environmental Assessment Unit of Kerry County Council.

6.9 Sources of data

The appropriate assessment screening of potential significant effects on European sites in this study is based on consultation, a desktop review of literature, existing and relevant NPWS Natura 2000 Site Synopses Data, Qualifying Interests, Conservation Management Plans and the (draft) Conservation Objectives.

Data collected to carry out the assessment in this report includes:

- Identification of Natura 2000 sites located within or immediately adjoining the project area in situ and ex situ
- Mapping of Natura 2000 sites located within 15kms of the project area
- Identification of the reasons for site designation,
- Identification of conservation objectives and supporting documentation
- Identification of the environmental conditions considered necessary to support site integrity
- Summary of key issues identified as being of importance in maintaining site integrity
- Identification of Natura 2000 sites which may be potentially affected by the project
- NPWS (2013) *The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Species Assessments Volume 3. Version 1.0 Unpublished Report*, National Parks & Wildlife Services. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin, Ireland, and
- NPWS (2013) *The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Habitat Assessments Volume 2. Version 1.0. Unpublished Report*, National Parks & Wildlife Services. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Dublin, Ireland.

6.10 Level of assessment completed

AA Screening.

6.11 Where the full results of the assessment can be accessed and viewed?

The full results of the assessment are contained within this document.

6.12 Overall Conclusions

This report concludes that no significant effects on European sites are likely. The reasons for this conclusion are as follows:

- The project is outside European sites, no direct impact on annexed habitats or birds of SCI are identified,
- the habitat found within and in the vicinity of the proposed project is not annexed habitat or identified as functionally linked habitat for birds of SCI,
- The nature and scale of the works required to facilitate the re-construction of the project are not complex or technically difficult to achieve and significant effects were not identified to annexed habitats/birds of SCI from the works that would be required for this project either alone or in-combination with the other plans/projects in the vicinity.
- The proposed project will see the reconstruction of previously and partially existing coastal protection works that have been damaged in recent storm events, no disturbance/displacement of annexed habitats/birds of SCI were identified from either construction or operational stage of the project either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects in the vicinity.
- Finally, no in combination or cumulative impacts were identified between this project and/or other proposed/foreseeable projects/plans. The reconstruction of previously undertaken coastal protection works is located in lands of low ecological value with no potential to significantly effect a European site.

It should be noted that measures intended to avoid or reduce negative effects on the European sites have not been relied upon in reaching this conclusion.

6.13 Explain how the overall conclusion that there are no significant effects on the European site was arrived at

The overall conclusion that no significant effects on European sites are likely was determined following a methodological assessment carried out having regard to the following guidance documents:-

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities (2009).
- European Commissions: *Managing Natura 2000 Sites. The provisions of Article 6, of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC*
- European Commission: *Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*
- Guidance document on Article 6(4) of 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC
- Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) Circular letter SEA 1/08 & NPWS 1/08 dated 15 February, 2008.

- Department of the Environment (1994). *Planning and Policy Guidance: Nature Conservation (PPG9)* (HMSO).

In identifying the potential issues which could significant affect these sites a range of factors were taken into account, including the possibility of effects manifesting themselves in the short, medium and long-term, in combination effects and the potential impacts of climate change. In addition, the precautionary principle was adhered to in the carrying out of this assessment.

6.14 Conclusion Statement

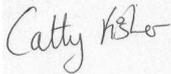
Following the screening of the proposed reconstruction of coastal protection works for possible significant effects on the European sites detailed in this report, no significant effects were identified. In accordance with the requirements of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, which requires public authorities to comply with the requirements of the Habitats Directive in the exercise of any of its functions or responsibilities, and on the basis of the objective information provided in this report, that the proposed reconstruction coastal works to the L1033 at Ballyheigue, Co Kerry, individually or in combination with other plans/projects is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (Natura 2000 site). An appropriate assessment is not required.

6.15 Reasons for Conclusion

The reasons for the above conclusion are as follows:

- The project is outside European sites, no direct impact on annexed habitats or birds of SCI are identified,
- the habitat found within and in the vicinity of the proposed project is not annexed habitat or identified as functionally linked habitat for birds of SCI,
- The nature and scale of the works required to facilitate the re-construction of the project are not complex or technically difficult to achieve and significant effects were not identified to annexed habitats/birds of SCI from the works that would be required for this project either alone or in-combination with the other plans/projects in the vicinity.
- The proposed project will see the reconstruction of previously and partially existing coastal protection works that have been damaged in recent storm events, no disturbance/displacement of annexed habitats/birds of SCI were identified from either construction or operational stage of the project either alone or in-combination with other plans/projects in the vicinity.
- Finally, no in combination or cumulative impacts were identified between this project and/or other proposed/foreseeable projects/plans. The reconstruction of previously undertaken coastal protection works is located in lands of low ecological value with no potential to significantly effect a European site.

It should be noted that measures intended to avoid or reduce negative effects on the European sites have not been relied upon in reaching this conclusion.

Signed  Date 17/06/20

Cathy Fisher, Biodiversity Officer

Appendix 1 Photographs



Photo 1 Existing coastal protection works at the location of proposed reconstruction works, looking west



Photo 2 Area of the proposed retaining wall above existing rock armoury, looking west



Photo 3 Location of the proposed reconstruction works, looking east. Existing coastal works are also visible to the left and right of the image.



Photo 4 Area of the proposed construction works and toe along the line of the existing wall, looking east



Photo 5 Location of the proposed access track from a gate on the L1033, note stormwater pipe to the left, looking north towards L1033.



Photo 6 Location of the propose access track towards existing rock armoury to the right of the image, looking west.

Appendix 2 European/Natura 2000 Sites Considered in this Report.

Name of Site	Reason for designation including Qualifying Interests and Conservation Objectives	Environmental conditions necessary to support site integrity
<p>cSAC 000332 Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour</p>	<p>The Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status are: Annual vegetation of drift lines; <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>); Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>); Embryonic shifting dunes; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes); Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); Humid dune slacks; European dry heaths.</p> <p>The site contains internationally important numbers of Brent Geese and nationally important numbers of Ringed Plover, Grey Plover, Lapwing, Bar-tailed Godwit. The regular occurrence of Golden Plover and Bar-tailed Godwit is of note as these species are listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive</p> <p>Conservation Objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain the Annex I habitats for which the cSAC has been selected at favourable conservation status: Annual vegetation of drift lines; <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>); Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>); Embryonic shifting dunes; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes); Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); Humid dune slacks; European dry heaths. To maintain the extent, species richness and biodiversity of the entire site. To establish effective liaison and co-operation with landowners, legal users and relevant authorities. 	<p>Habitat Management (control of drainage, grazing / mowing, stock feeding, burning, fertiliser / lime input, reseeding dumping, killing / removal of significant biological material, pesticide use etc)</p> <p>No significant erosion / trampling / accretion associated with human impacts (fires, livestock grazing, motorised vehicles, recreational activities etc).</p> <p>No change in land use which would result in significant habitat loss or fragmentation (human activities such as land improvement / reclamation, afforestation, development, track / roadway provision etc)</p> <p>Adequate water supply (control of water abstraction etc)</p> <p>Limited dredging activities</p> <p>No physical barriers to significantly restrict movement of sand and communities associated with mobile substrate</p> <p>Lack of physical constraints & ability to modify dune distribution in response to natural dynamic coastal processes</p> <p>Limited disturbance (light, noise, human activity including recreational pressure, walking, horse riding, motorised and non motorised vehicle use, camping and caravanning, bait digging etc)</p> <p>Limited compaction by motorised vehicles etc</p> <p>Adequate air quality (limited tropospheric ozone pollution, limited acid deposition, limited nitrogen deposition etc)</p> <p>No significant aggregate extraction</p> <p>The control of introduced or invasive species (sea buckthorn, bracken etc)</p>
<p>SPA 004189 Kerry Head</p>	<p>Site is selected for: Chough</p> <p>Additional Special Conservation Interests:</p>	<p>Habitat Management (control of grazing and stocking rates, dumping; peat extraction)</p> <p>No significant erosion / trampling / accretion associated with human impacts (fires, grazing, motorised vehicles, recreational activities etc).</p>

Name of Site	Reason for designation including Qualifying Interests and Conservation Objectives	Environmental conditions necessary to support site integrity
	<p>Fulmar</p> <p>Main conservation objective: To maintain the special conservation interests for this SPA at favourable conservation status: Chough, Fulmar.</p>	<p>No change in land use which would result in significant habitat loss or fragmentation (land improvement / reclamation, dumping; peat extraction, development etc)</p> <p>Limited disturbance (light, noise, human activity including recreational pressures such as motorised and non motorised vehicle use, walking, horse riding etc)</p>