

Colin Murphy

From: Vincent O'Malley
Sent: Monday 12 January 2026 15:53
To: Colin Murphy
Cc: Christian Nea
Subject: RE: Re. Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50)

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Hi Colin,
Having reviewed the content of your email and attachments, I accept the reasoned determination as set out below.
Sincerely
Vincent

Dr Vincent O'Malley
Head of Environmental Policy & Compliance,
Transport Infrastructure Ireland
www.tii.ie

From: Colin Murphy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday 6 November 2025 12:21
To: Vincent O'Malley [REDACTED]
Cc: Christian Nea [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Re. Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50)

Hi Vincent,

We have received an AA screening from AtkinsRéalis for proposed non-routine maintenance at Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50) situated in the townland of Carrowrevagh, Co. Mayo. I would be grateful if you could review the information below and provide a reasoned determination.

The proposed works will involve the reinstatement of a damaged section of the southern parapet following a vehicular impact. The bridge is a single-span masonry arch bridge which carries the N59 over a second-order stream (EPA name: ROOGHAUN 32). A like-for-like repair with stone masonry and NHL5 mortar shall be carried out. Existing stone masonry coping shall be reused where possible. The proposed works will occur at height over land and water. The Contractor is expected to mobilise in early November 2025, and the proposed works are expected to be completed within a period of five days. Part of the proposed works will require the use of tools and machinery above the river channel and will only require entry into the watercourse on foot to assist with retrieval of damaged stonework (no vehicular access permitted). Oil absorbent booms and pads, grab ropes and silt trapping booms will be on-site as standard to ensure that there is no input of additional debris or pollutants into the river arising from the proposed works in the event of an oil leak or if silt is disturbed within the river channel.

Carrowrevagh Bridge lies above the ROOGHAUN 32 stream, which does not lie within a Natura 2000 site at this location. The river flows into the Mweelrea/Sheeffry/Erriff Complex SAC ca. 300m downstream of the bridge. Therefore, there is hydrological connectivity between the proposed works and one no. Natura 2000 site. The SAC is designated for 28 no. Qualifying Interest habitats and 7 no. Qualifying Interest species which consists of coastal, terrestrial, marine and freshwater habitats and species. The ROOGHAUN 32 stream does not contain records of Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*), Freshwater Pearl Mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) or Otter (*Lutra lutra*) although they are present further downstream in the catchment.

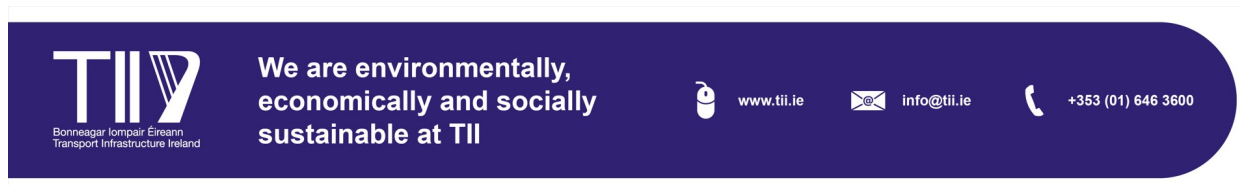
As noted below, AtkinsRéalis have determined the works will not result in likely significant effects on any Natura 2000 sites based on *'limited access to the watercourse (manual means only to retrieve masonry), the short duration of the works and the methodology to be followed which includes precautions against disturbing sediment and reducing the risk of additional debris or pollutants entering the river channel'*.

Based on the description of the proposed works and associated methodologies provided by Atkins Réalis, along with the small nature and scale, short duration and best practice methodologies that will reduce the potential for impacts on the river, I agree with the conclusion that the proposed works will not lead to likely significant effects on the Mweelrea/Sheeffry/Erriff Complex SAC or any other Natura 2000 site.

Having performed screening for Appropriate Assessment in respect of the proposed emergency repair works detailed in the Appropriate Assessment Screening received in an email from Paul O'Donoghue dated the 30th of October 2025, and entitled 'Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50)', I accept the recommendation of AtkinsRéalis that the proposed 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.

Regards,
Colin Murphy
Ecologist
Transport Infrastructure Ireland

Address: [Parkgate Business Centre, Parkgate Place, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8, Ireland, D08 DK10](#)



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From: Christian Nea [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday 30 October 2025 18:36
To: Colin Murphy [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Re. Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50)

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: O'Donoghue, Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 5:28:57 PM
To: Christian Nea [REDACTED]
Cc: ROGER RYAN (NRDO) [REDACTED]; THOMAS KERR (NRDO) [REDACTED]; Schmidt, Alec [REDACTED]; Chambers, Mark [REDACTED]; Jennings, Martin [REDACTED]; Gilsean, Mark [REDACTED]; Healy, Colm [REDACTED]
Subject: Re. Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50)

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Christian

Re. Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50)

AtkinsRéalis have been requested to undertake Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment for the proposed non-routine maintenance at Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50) situated in the townland of Carrowrevagh, Co. Mayo (Figure 1). The proposed

non-routine maintenance involves the repair of a damaged section of coping (including the underlying mortar bed (Figure 2). The proposed works are not related to or directly associated with the management of any Natura 2000 site.



Figure 1: Location of Carrowvagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50) in the townland of Carrowvagh, Co. Mayo. [Coordinates in ITM].



Figure 2: Damaged section of the coping to be reinstated at Carrowvagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50).

Proposed Works

A vehicular impact has resulted in damage along the eastern end of the southern parapet of Carrowvagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50), Co. Mayo. The bridge is a single-span masonry arch bridge which carries the N59 over a second-order stream (EPA name: ROOGHAUN 32). The Contractor has been commissioned by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to reinstated the damaged section of the coping (see

Figure 2). The damaged section of coping measures 3.2m in length, with 10 no. coping stones dislodged from the parapet. The full scope of works is as follows: -

- A like-for-like repair with stone masonry and NHL5 mortar shall be carried out. Existing stone masonry coping shall be reused where possible. Damaged or missing stone masonry coping shall be replaced with similar stone, to be sourced from a stockpile at a site adjacent to the bridge structure (subject to agreement with the landowner). The replacement masonry shall comply with the required specification and have a similar appearance to the existing parapet.
- Any cracks in wall sections to be retained will be repointed, including the crack approx. 0.7m to 1.0m from the arch springing point.
- The coping stones shall be reinstated over a length of 3.2m to match the height of the remaining parapet (ca. 600mm in height). 10 no. coping stones have become dislodged and are lying on the verges next to the parapet and within the watercourse.
- The top of the parapet shall be cleared of debris and loose mortar prior to the installation of a new mortar bed for the coping stones to be reinstated.
- All waste material accrued during the repairs shall be disposed of off-site following completion of the works.

The proposed works will occur at height over land and water. The Contractor is expected to mobilise in early November 2025, and the proposed works are expected to be completed within a period of five days. Access to the site of the proposed works will be from the N59, which will be closed to traffic from the nearside lane to facilitate access and create a staging area for the works. All plant and materials will be removed from the site upon the conclusion of the works.

Part of the proposed works will require the use of tools and machinery above or within the river channel and will only require entry into the watercourse on foot to assist with retrieval of damaged stonework (no vehicular access permitted). Oil absorbent booms and pads, grab ropes and silt trapping booms will be on-site as standard to ensure that there is no input of additional debris or pollutants into the river arising from the proposed works in the event of an oil leak or if silt is disturbed within the river channel. Forecasts will also be consulted prior to commencing works to ensure that cold temperatures do not compromise the structural integrity of the reconstructed parapet coping or that high winds and/or rain do not flush any debris or other material associated with the proposed works into the river channel.

Methodology

Pre-Works

1. Prior to any works, JONS Engineer will liaise with the landowner for access and notify all relevant shareholders (Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI), Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), Mayo County Council (MCC), etc.).
2. Notify Gardaí & Mayo County Council Area Engineer.
3. Review & prepare Temporary Traffic Management (TTM) requirements. Utilize TTM Drawing No. 1355-TM-004.
4. Procurement of materials & equipment.

TTM & Scaffold Install

1. Before any parapet masonry works commence, TTM system will be set up in accordance with the approved TTM drawing. TTM drawing will be provided on approval of NRM works proposal.
2. A single lane closure will be required for the duration of the works. This will be set up for the recovery of damaged masonry and the parapet repair works. The TTM will be in place on a daily basis with regular inspections for upkeep and temporary lighting in place to aid motorists at taper locations.
3. TTM set up in accordance with Subcontractors Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) and/or JCEL RAMS Ref: TM-MET-01.

Parapet Repair Works

1. The damaged masonry is to be recovered from the riverbed and verge. A 3t excavator will be brought to site and used to aid recovery of stones and with moving larger cope stones including placement on the parapet.

2. The mason will set up controls such as tarpaulin/polythene to catch debris. The previous cope bed will be cleaned back and old mortar bedding removed.
3. Mortar will be mixed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and specification. A conventional cement mixer can be used although for larger projects a paddle mixer is preferable. Measuring the material for mixing is to be done with a gauging box or bucket for consistency with quantities. Lime mortar to be mixed in accordance with Table 24/4 (Mix (a): 1 Lime:2 ½ Sand for NHL5). Lime mortars mixed in drum mixers can be prone to balling. Procedure for mixing to reduce this potential: -
 1. Start with an empty mixer.
 2. Add 1 part sand.
 3. Mix in 1 part lime.
 4. Followed by 1 ½ part sand.
 5. Mix dry for at least 5 minutes.
 6. After 5 minutes slowly add water until the desired consistency is reached, it is very important not to drown the mix by adding too much water.
 7. Once the desired consistency is reached, mix for a further 20 minutes.
4. The mix, to begin with, should appear rather dry but as mixing time increases the render will become much 'fattier'. If too much water is added the risk of shrinkage will increase and the final strength reduced. Do not use any plasticisers/water proofers.
5. If the walls are dry, damp down to reduce the effects of suction. This is noted above in the joint preparation prior to pointing.
6. Weather conditions to be monitored so that the product does not exceed these requirements and suitable control measures put in place such as correct storage of materials and use of hessian and polythene where low temperatures are expected/experienced.
7. When sustained rainfall is forecast/encountered, mason to set up suitable polythene "tenting" to protect works from washing out during pointing/rebuild activities. Completed work for the day to be protected with polythene overnight ensuring it is correctly weighed or tied down.
8. Where cold weather conditions are to be encountered, protect the build overnight using hessian sheeting.
9. Once complete, the mason will remove the tarpaulin and dispose of any remaining debris off site. The TTM will be removed and the works inspected by JCEL Engineer including upload of photos to Procore album.

Demobilisation

1. Prior to demobilisation, the works area will be cleaned and any excessive material removed from site. The repair will be available for inspection/acceptance for approval and all cones, signage, equipment taken off site.

Ecological Constraints

Carrowrevagh Bridge lies above the ROOGHAUN 32 stream, which does not lie within a Natura 2000 site at this location. The river flows into the Mweelrea/Sheeffry/Erriff Complex SAC ca. 300m downstream of the bridge. Therefore, there is hydrological connectivity between the proposed works and one no. Natura 2000 site.

The Mweelrea/Sheeffry/Erriff Complex SAC (site code: 004221) consists of a mountainous region with several river catchments between Dooaghtry in the west and the Aille River in the east. The SAC is designated for 28 no. Qualifying Interest habitats and 7 no. Qualifying Interest species, namely 'Coastal lagoons' [1150], 'Annual vegetation of drift lines' [1210], 'Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)' [1330], 'Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*)' [1410], 'Embryonic shifting dunes' [2110], 'Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes)' [2120], 'Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)' [2130], 'Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicitea*)' [2150], 'Dunes with *Salix repens* ssp. *Argentea* (*Salicion arenariae*)' [2170], 'Humid dune slacks' [2190], 'Machairs (* in Ireland)' [21A0], 'Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (*Littorelletalia uniflorae*)' [3110], 'Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletalia uniflorae* and/or *Isoeto-Nanojuncetea*' [3130], 'Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds' [3160], 'Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitriche-Batrachion* vegetation' [3260], 'Northern wet heaths with *Erica tetralix*' [4010], 'European dry heaths' [4030], 'Alpine and Boreal heaths' [4060], '*Juniperus communis* formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands' [5130], 'Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels' [6430], 'Blanket bogs (* if active bog)' [7130], 'Transition mires and quaking bogs' [7140], 'Depressions on peat substrates of the *Rhynchosporion*' [7150], 'Petrifying springs with tufa

formation (Cratoneurion)' [7220], 'Alkaline fens' [7230], 'Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)' [8110], 'Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation' [8210], 'Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation' [8220], '*Vertigo geyeri* (Geyer's Whorl Snail)' [1013], '*Vertigo angustior* (Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail)' [1014], '*Margaritifera margaritifera* (Freshwater Pearl Mussel)' [1029], '*Salmo salar* (Salmon)' [1106], '*Lutra lutra* (Otter)' [1355], '*Petalophyllum ralfsii* (Petalwort)' [1395], '*Najas flexilis* (Slender Naiad)' [1833] (see - <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/001932>). While the site has not been visited, extensive photographs of the bridge environs and existing data gathered in-house from projects at the bridge structure within the last five years were available for review.

The water quality of the ROOGHAUN 32 stream was monitored under the Water Framework Directive (2016-2021) and assessed as 'Good'. There are no Q-Value scores available for the ROOGHAUN 32 stream. The closest Q-Value score available was obtained from a monitoring station on the Derrycraff River, ca. 6.14km downstream of the proposed works, receiving a score of 4/Good in 2023.

The ROOGHAUN 32 stream does not contain records of Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*), [REDACTED]. There are no suitable areas of habitat on the riverbed for freshwater pearl mussel within the immediate vicinity of the bridge structure. As noted previously, instream access may be required to recover dislodged coping stone from the watercourse. All necessary precautions are to be taken to prevent any unnecessary disturbance to the riverbed and prevent material falling into the river during works.

Records of protected species including Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*) exist within 1km of the site of the proposed works. There are no records of high-impact risk invasive species, within 1km of the bridge structure (Source: NBDC Biodiversity Maps - <https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Map/Terrestrial/Dataset/397>). In addition, the routine biosecurity measures to be followed ensure that the inadvertent spread of such species is avoided. The bridge structure was last surveyed for bat roost potential in 2024, for which 3 no. suitable crevices were identified. A nesting dipper was also recorded in 2024. Risk of potential disturbance to these species if still present is minimised given that there are no proposed works to the arch. As stated previously, otter is not known to be present in the ROOGHAUN 32 stream and is not a Qualifying Interest of the relevant Natura 2000 site.

Attached to this Stage 1 Screening are: -

- Bridge Location – Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50) GIS.zip
- AA Screening – Carrowrevagh Bridge (MO-N59-053.50) Non-Routine Maintenance AA Screening.xlsx
- Photos of Damage– Photos_ MO-N59-053.50.zip

[Note: The 2nd tab of the attached spreadsheet shows the most recent AA Screening from 2025].

Screening Determination

Hydrological connectivity exists between the proposed works and the Mweelrea/Sheeffry/Erriff Complex SAC. There are no instream works, although the works will require brief instream access to retrieve a small number of dislodged coping stones that have fallen into the watercourse. This will occur through manual means where possible but will be aided by an excavator where the coping stones cannot be removed safely by hand, though the excavator will work from the road and is not permitted to access the watercourse. However, given that the works are of a short duration (to be completed within a period of five days) and the methodology to be followed includes precautions against disturbing sediment, the risk of additional debris or pollutants entering the river channel is low. Furthermore, the routine biosecurity measures to be followed ensure that the spread of invasive species will be unlikely to occur. Thus, the qualifying interests of the Mweelrea/Sheeffry/Erriff Complex SAC will not be impacted by the proposed works.

This Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment is based on the best available scientific information. If the scope of the proposed works changes, a new screening determination may be required. It is concluded that the works, as currently proposed, will result in no likely significant effects on the aforementioned 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.

Regards

Paul

Paul O'Donoghue BSc MSc PhD MCIEEM CEnV
Associate Director (Ecologist)

AtkinsRéalis



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