

Leinster Bridges Reactive Maintenance

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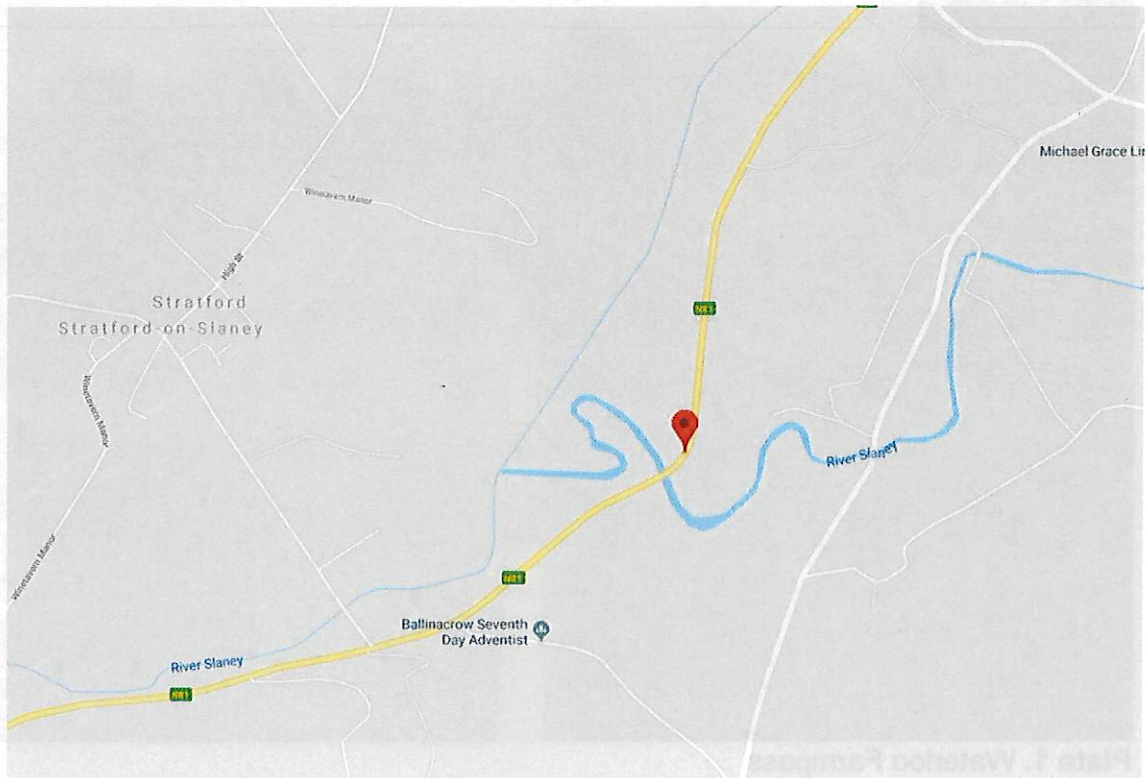
Structure ID : WW-N81-006.00

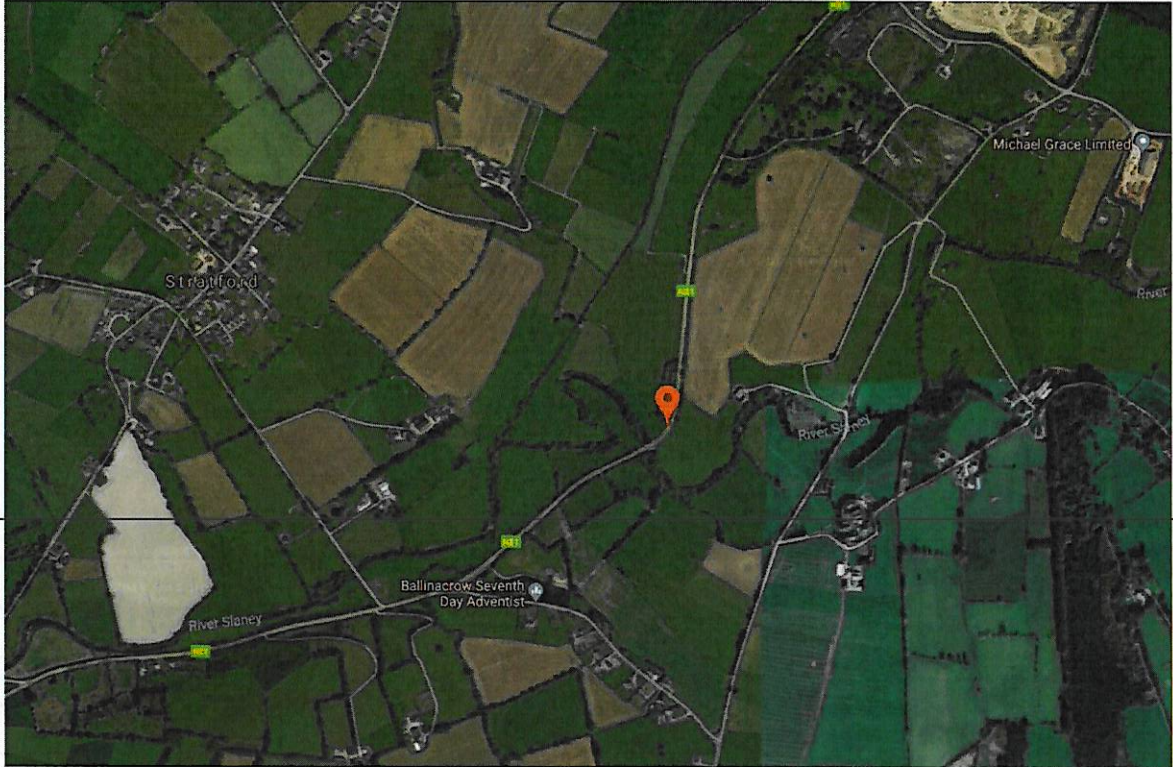
Structure Name : Waterloo Farmpass

Subject : Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

1. Maps

The Waterloo Farmpass is located on the N81 adjacent to the River Slaney near Stratford on Slaney, Co. Wicklow.





2. Photographs



Plate 1. Waterloo Farmpass



Plate 2. Waterloo Farmpass

3. Proposed Works

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

- Sweep and clean road surfaces.
- Vegetation clearance

The reactive works proposed in this report are:

- Replace 5 no. posts and 6 no. rails on east side of structure

4. Appropriate Assessment Screening

The Natura 2000 Sites within 15 km are:

- Slaney River Valley SAC
- Wicklow Mountains SAC
- Wicklow Mountains SPA

The Waterloo Farmpass is located 50 m north-east of the River Slaney, which is part of the Slaney River Valley SAC. The Farmpass is not hydrologically connected to the River Slaney, however is close to it, therefore the potential for impacts on this site are discussed further in Section 6.

The Waterloo Farmpass is located 7 km south-west of the Wicklow Mountains SAC and 8.5 km south west of the Wicklow Mountains SPA. There are no hydrological pathways between the Waterloo Farmpass and either of these Natura 2000 Sites, therefore, there is no risk of impacts on these sites.

5. Ecological Constraints

Other Designated Sites

The table below list the designated sites, other than Natura 2000 Sites, within 15 km of Waterloo Farmpass.

Site Name	Location relative to Waterloo Farmpass
Lowtown Fen pNHA	5.3 km west
Baggot's Wood pNHA	11.2 km south-west
Ballycore Rath pNHA	8.2 km west
Holdenstown Bog pNHA	8.5 km south
Hollywood Glen pNHA	9.1 km north-east
Corballis Hill pNHA	9.8 km south-west
Dunlavin Marshes pNHA	9.9 km north-west
Poulaphouca Reservoir pNHA	12.1 km north-east
Newtown Marshes pNHA	11.5 km north

Freshwater Pearl Mussel

Bats

Waterloo Farmpass has no features which could be used by roosting bats.

Invasive Species

No invasive species present. Himalayan Balsam is common along the Slaney River.

Other Ecology Notes

None.

6. Description of Natura 2000 Sites

Slaney River Valley SAC		
Qualifying Interests:	Nearest location relative to Waterloo Farmpass	Pathways
Estuaries [1130]	> 70 km downstream	Yes - hydrological
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]	> 80 km downstream	Yes - hydrological
Watercourses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitans</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260]	> 70 km downstream	Yes - hydrological
Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]	c. 2 km at Manger Wood	No
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 at Manger Wood	No
Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) [1029]		
Sea Lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) [1095]	Potentially 50 m away in the River Slaney	Yes - hydrological
Brook Lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096]	Potentially 50 m away in the River Slaney	Yes - hydrological
River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) [1099]	Potentially 50 m away in the River Slaney	Yes - hydrological
Twaite Shad (<i>Alosa fallax</i>) [1103]	Potentially 50 m away in the River Slaney	Yes - hydrological
Atlantic Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106]	Potentially 50 m away in the River Slaney	Yes - hydrological
European Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]	Potentially 50 m away in the River Slaney	Yes - hydrological
Common (Harbour) Seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>) [1365]	> 90 km downstream in Wexford harbour	Yes - hydrological

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. However, the works will take place entirely on the bridge deck and more than 50 m from the watercourse.

Impacts During Operation

There will be no risk of ongoing pollution or disturbance as a result of the works. Therefore, there will be no 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 Wicklow Mountains SAC, the Wicklow Mountains 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 Waterloo Farmpass, Wicklow, 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.

 03/12/2018

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