

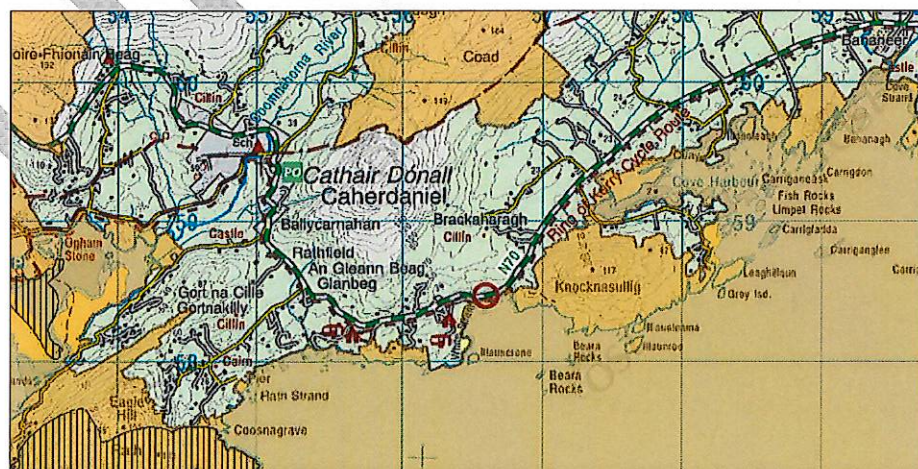
Appropriate Assessment Screening – Note TO270/06

Project:	5162555_TO 270 Munster Bridges		
Subject:	Reactive Maintenance - AA Screening No. TO270/06		
Author:	Paul O'Donoghue, Atkins Principal Ecologist	Atkins No.:	Appropriate Assessment Screening – Note TO270/06. Revision 1.0
Date of Query:	7/08/2019	Date Issued:	07/08/2019
Distribution:	Martin Jennings, PM Vincent Daly, RE, TO270 Vincent O'Malley Christian Nea	Representing:	Atkins Atkins TII TII

Bridge / Culvert Details

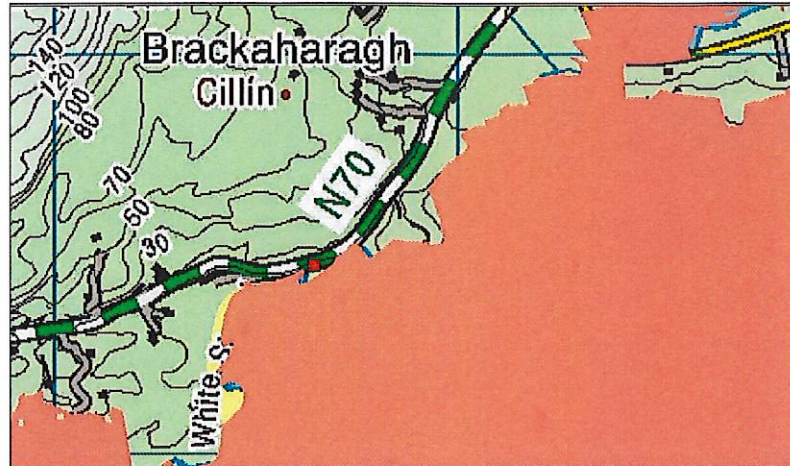
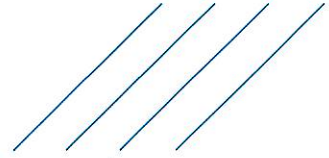
Structure	Retaining Wall at Carroll's Cove, near Castlecove, Derrynane, Co. Kerry
Structure ID	n.a.
County	Kerry
Location	On the N70, east of Glenbeg Beach / Carroll's Cove Co. Kerry.

Maps



Map 1. Castlecove retaining wall (circled in Red); SAC's shown in brown.

[Source: <https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Map>]



Map 2. Castlecove retaining wall (Red Square) shown relative to Kenmare Bay SAC (pink).



Map 3. Castlecove Retaining Wall. [Source: [GoogleMaps](https://www.google.com/maps)]

Photos

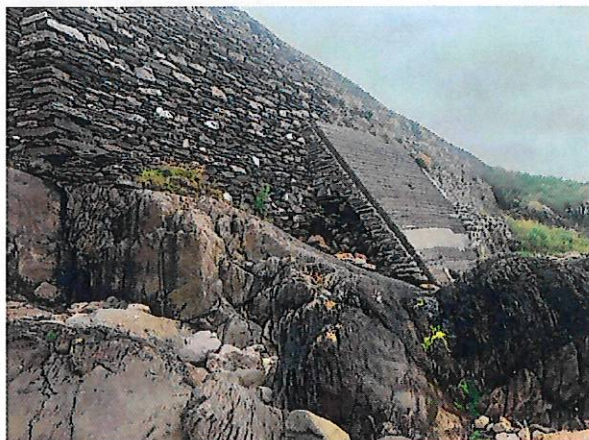


Plate 1. Erosion of retaining wall and buttress.

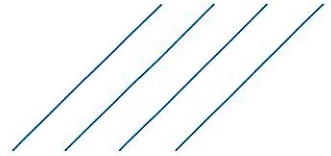


Plate 2. Close-up of erosion of retaining wall and buttress.



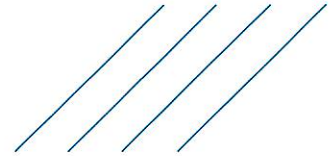
Plate 3. Adjoining areas of rock / retaining wall.



Plate 4. Adjoining areas of rock / retaining wall.

Proposed Works

The works will involve masonry repair to the buttress (2.2m high x 0.6m deep x 0.8m wide) using NHL 5 mortar. At the area of the damage some stone is available for reuse however imported stone will be required. 2m wide x 0.5m high x 0.6m deep repair to footing of retaining wall. This will require a concrete footing between the rock and existing masonry wall as it appears to be just fill here. No scaffold is required and access will be by foot. Works are minor in nature and should only take 2 days to complete. Concrete will be delivered from



the road above the damage stonework – no vehicles will be allowed to access the site from the beach. Workers can access the works area on foot.

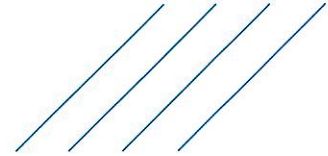
Appropriate Assessment Screening Decision Matrix

Natura Sites	2000	Of those Natura 2000 sites within 15km only the following is within the potential zone of influence of the proposed works: - ➤ On the northern boundary of Kenmare River SAC (002158). It appears that the section of the eroded retaining wall and buttress that requires repair is outside of the Kenmare River SAC (Map 2), while the wall further to the west & east is located within the SAC. Furthermore, the retaining wall along the stretch of the N70 adjoining Castlecove which is a man-made structures and is not equivalent to Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230] (see Appendix IX – Distribution Map of Sea cliffs within Kenmare River SAC). The nearest such cliffs are on Lamb's Head (Rath) – over 2km to the west. ¹
pNHA / NHA		The proposed repair works have no connection to any NHA / pNHA.
Hydrological links		The works are connected to the SAC via the backwash of the breakwaters that will be splashing against the wall / buttress.
FWPM		<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> are a freshwater species and therefore are not located in this coastal area.
Bats		The retaining wall which is exposed to salt water spray is not suitable for use by bats.
Invasive Species		No invasive species have been recorded within the general area of the works. Wireweed (<i>Sargassum muticum</i>) has been recorded from bays to the east & west, but not from Carroll's Cove.
Other Ecology Notes		Otter had been reported to utilise the beach to the west of the works in 1980, with no other sightings reported within the general area since. However, there is currently a caravan park on site with resultant high levels of disturbance.

Brief Description of the Natura 2000 site(s)

Site	Kenmare River SAC (002158)
Qualifying Interests: -	➤ Large shallow inlets and bays [1160] ➤ Reefs [1170]

¹ NPWS (2013). *Kenmare River SAC (site code 2158) Conservation objectives supporting document -coastal habitats.*



- Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220]
- Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230]
- Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima*) [1330]
- Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) [1410]
- Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) [2120]
- Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]
- European dry heaths [4030]
- *Juniperus communis* formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]
- Calaminarian grasslands of the *Violetalia calaminariae* [6130]
- Submerged or partially submerged sea caves [8330]
- *Vertigo angustior* (Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail) [1014]
- *Rhinolophus hipposideros* (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303]
- *Lutra lutra* (Otter) [1355]
- *Phoca vitulina* (Harbour Seal) [1365]

Assessment The works area on the retaining wall at Castlecove lies just outside Kenmare River SAC.

The works areas is within an area of existing retaining wall located along the boundary between the N70 and Castlecove (see images above). It borders areas of rock outcropping, shoreline sand and some small pockets of green algae. None of the habitats for which the SAC has been designated are found at this location or immediately adjoin the works area.

The works area is above the high tide line. However, the concrete to be used (NHL5) is quick setting and is approved for use near marine water.

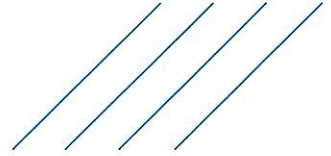
As noted, access to the works area will be by foot; no vehicles are allowed on the shore. Works are of short duration – 2 days. Concrete will be delivered from the road above the works area, with formwork constructed to retain it.

As noted the works area adjoins a caravan park at Castlecove; the proposed works will not significantly add to existing patterns of disturbance. No impacts to species for which the SAC has been designated (i.e. otter, porpoise and lesser horseshoe bat) are anticipated.

Thus, likely significant effects to Kenmare River SAC are not predicted.

Findings of this Assessment

Atkins Findings This Screening for Appropriate Assessment report is based on the best available scientific information. It is concluded by the authors of this report that the proposed project poses no likely significant effects on Kenmare River SAC (002158). Thus, it is recommended that it is not necessary for the proposed project to proceed to Appropriate Assessment.



Findings of TII Appropriate Assessment

AA Determination

Having performed screening for Appropriate Assessment in respect of the proposed reactive maintenance works detailed in this document entitled *Appropriate Assessment Screening – Note TO270/06*, I accept the recommendations of Atkins Limited 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.



12/08/2019

Dr. Vincent O'Malley
Head of the Environmental Policy and Compliance Section
Transport Infrastructure Ireland

