

Summer 2023

Regional Water Resources Plan

North West

Natura Impact Statement

Appendix F

Appendix G



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



Data disclaimer: This document uses best available data at time of writing. As data relating to population forecasts and trends are based on information gathered before the Covid-19 Pandemic, monitoring and feedback will be used to capture any updates. The National Water Resources Plan will also align to relevant updates in applicable policy. In December 2022, the Water Services (Amendment) (No. 2) Act, 2022 was signed into law. This act provides that, from the 31 December 2022, Irish Water will only be known as Uisce Éireann. It also provides that, from that date, all references in any enactment, legal proceedings or other document to Irish Water shall be construed as references to Uisce Éireann only. The NIS reflects this transition from Irish Water to Uisce Éireann.

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Appendix F

Water Dependent Qualifying
Interest Species and Habitats

Appendix F. Water Dependent Qualifying Interest Species and Habitats within the NW region

Annex II species which are water dependent and their sensitivities¹

Species name	Common name	Code	Surface water dependent	Groundwater dependent	Marine water dependent**	Sensitivity to hydrological impacts	Sensitivity to water pollution	Overall Status ²
<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>	Geyer's whorl snail	1013		✓		High	High	Bad
<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>	Freshwater pearl mussel	1029	✓			High*	High*	Bad
<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>	White-clawed crayfish	1092	✓			Medium to High	Medium to High	Bad
<i>Salmo salar</i>	Atlantic salmon	1106	✓		✓	High	High	Inadequate
<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>	Petalwort	1395		✓		High	High	Favourable
<i>Najas flexilis</i>	Slender naiad	1833	✓			High	High	Inadequate
<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i>	Killarney fern	1421	✓			High	Medium	Favourable
<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>	Yellow marsh saxifrage	1528		✓		High	Medium	Favourable
<i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i>	Slender green feather-moss	6216		✓		High	Medium	Favourable
<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	Sea lamprey	1095	✓		✓	High	Medium	Bad
<i>Lampetra planeri</i>	Brook	1096	✓			High	Medium	Favourable

¹ Table adapted from Western RBD, ESBI, Eleanor Mayes, Ecological Consultant. (2008). Water Framework Directive Annex IV Protected Areas: Water Dependent Habitats and Species in High Status Sites. Available online

² National Parks and Wildlife Service (2019a). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Volume 1: Summary Overview. Unpublished NPWS report. Edited by: Deirdre Lynn and Fionnuala O'Neill.

* species extremely sensitive to sedimentation and changes in hydrology, flow regime etc.

** water pollution affecting marine mammals from any of the proposed option types is considered unlikely given the assimilative nature of the marine environment and its very large assimilative capacity

Species name	Common name	Code	Surface water dependent	Groundwater dependent	Marine water dependent**	Sensitivity to hydrological impacts	Sensitivity to water pollution	Overall Status ²
	lamprey							
<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	River lamprey	1099	✓			High	Medium	Unknown
<i>Lutra lutra</i>	Otter	1355	✓		✓	Medium	Medium	Favourable
<i>Vertigo angustior</i>	Narrow-mouthed whorl snail	1014		✓		Medium	Medium	Inadequate
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Bottle-nosed dolphin	1349			✓	N/A	-	Favourable
<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	Grey seal	1364			✓	N/A	-	Favourable
<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Common seal	1365			✓	N/A	-	Favourable

* species extremely sensitive to sedimentation and changes in hydrology, flow regime etc.

** water pollution affecting marine mammals from any of the proposed option types is considered unlikely given the assimilative nature of the marine environment and its very large assimilative capacity

Annex I water dependent habitats

Habitat code	Habitat name	Habitat status ³
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	Favourable
1130	Estuaries	Inadequate
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Inadequate
1150	Coastal lagoons	Bad
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	Bad
1170	Reefs	Inadequate
1210	Annual vegetation of drift lines	Inadequate
1220	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	Inadequate
1230	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	Inadequate
1310	Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	Favourable
1330	Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)	Inadequate
1410	Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>)	Inadequate
2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	Inadequate
2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)	Inadequate
2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	Bad
2140	Decalcified fixed dunes with <i>Empetrum nigrum</i>	Favourable
2150	Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)	Inadequate
2170	Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>)	Inadequate
2190	Humid dune slacks	Inadequate
21A0	Machairs (* in Ireland)	Inadequate
3110	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>)	Bad
3130	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</i>	Inadequate
3140	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp.	Bad
3150	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation	Inadequate
3160	Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	Inadequate
3180	Turloughs	Inadequate
3260	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation	Inadequate
3270	Rivers with muddy banks with <i>Chenopodion rubri</i> p.p. and <i>Bidention</i> p.p. vegetation	Favourable
4010	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> (flushes only)	Bad
6410	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)	Bad
6430	Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	Bad
7110	Active raised bogs	Bad
7120	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	Bad

³ National Parks and Wildlife Service (2019a). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Volume 1: Summary Overview. Unpublished NPWS report. Edited by: Deirdre Lynn and Fionnuala O'Neill.

Habitat code	Habitat name	Habitat status ³
7130	Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	Bad
7140	Transition mires and quaking bogs	Bad
7150	Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i>	Bad
7210	Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>	Inadequate
7220	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>)	Inadequate
7230	Alkaline fens	Bad
8310	Caves not open to the public	Favourable
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	Favourable
91D0	Bog woodland	Favourable
91E0	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i>)	Bad

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Appendix G

**Water Dependent Qualifying
Interest Bird Species**

Appendix G. Water Dependent Qualifying Interest Bird Species within the NW region

Species code	Species name	Water dependent	Nutrient sensitive	Species status ¹
A001	Red-throated Diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A002	Black-throated Diver (<i>Gavia arctica</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A003	Great Northern Diver (<i>Gavia immer</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A004	Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>)	✓		Green
A005	Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>)	✓		Amber
A007	Slavonian Grebe (<i>Podiceps auritus</i>)	✓		Red
A009	Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>)	✓		Amber
A014	Storm Petrel (<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A017	Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A018	Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>)	✓		Amber
A028	Grey Heron (<i>Ardea cinerea</i>)	✓		Green
A037	Bewick's Swan (<i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A038	Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A043	Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A045	Barnacle Goose (<i>Branta leucopsis</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A046	Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	✓		Amber
A048	Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A050	Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A051	Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A052	Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A053	Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)		✓	Amber
A054	Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A056	Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>)		✓	Red
A059	Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>)	✓		Red
A061	Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A062	Scaup (<i>Aythya marila</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A063	Eider (<i>Somateria mollissima</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A065	Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A067	Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A069	Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A082	Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>)	✓		Amber
A098	Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>)	✓		Amber
A103	Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)	✓		Green
A122	Corncrake (<i>Crex crex</i>)	✓		Red
A125	Coot (<i>Pulica atra</i>)	✓		Amber
A130	Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)		✓	Red
A137	Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>)		✓	Amber
A140	Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	✓	✓	Red

¹ Gilbert G, Stanbury A and Lewis L (2021), "Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland 2020 –2026". Irish Birds 9: 523–544

Species code	Species name	Water dependent	Nutrient sensitive	Species status ¹
A141	Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A142	Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A143	Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A144	Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>)		✓	Green
A148	Purple Sandpiper (<i>Calidris maritima</i>)	✓		Red
A149	Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>)	✓		Red
A156	Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A157	Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)	✓	✓	Red
A160	Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>)	✓		Red
A162	Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>)	✓		Red
A164	Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>)	✓		Green
A169	Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>)	✓		Amber
A179	Black-headed Gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>)	✓		Amber
A182	Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>)	✓		Amber
A183	Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>)	✓		Amber
A184	Herring Gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>)	✓		Amber
A188	Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>)	✓		Red
A191	Tern, sandwich (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>)	✓		Amber
A193	Tern, common (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>)	✓		Amber
A194	Tern, arctic (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>)	✓		Amber
A195	Tern, little (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>)	✓		Amber
A199	Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>)	✓		Amber
A200	Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>)	✓		Red
A204	Puffin (<i>Fratercula arctica</i>)	✓		Red
A346	Chough (<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>)	✓		Amber
A395	Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>)	✓	✓	Amber
A466	Dunlin (sub-species) (<i>Calidris alpina schinzi</i>)	✓		Red