

DRAFT LAND USE STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

DRAFT NATURA IMPACT REPORT

Prepared for:

Coillte



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Abstract: Fehily Timoney and Company is pleased to submit this Draft Natura Impact Report for Coillte's Land Use Strategic Development Plan. This document is to inform the Coillte in carrying out their statutory obligations relating to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.

TABLE OF CONENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Legislative Context.....	1
1.3 Approach	2
1.4 Statement of Competency.....	4
2. LAND USE STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2026 - 2035	5
2.1 Background	5
2.1.1 Objectives of the Draft LUSIP	5
2.2 Purpose and Scope of the Draft LUSIP	6
2.2.1 Coillte Land Use Objectives	7
2.2.2 Geographical Scale of the Draft LUSIP	7
3. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT	17
3.1 Introduction to Screening.....	17
3.2 Identification of Relevant European Site.....	17
3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening	20
3.3.1 Is the Draft Plan Necessary to the Management of European Sites?	20
3.3.2 Elements of the Draft LUSIP with Potential to Give Rise to Likely Significant Effects.....	20
3.3.3 Screening of Sites	21
3.4 Transboundary Effects.....	21
3.5 In Combination Effects from Other Plans and Programmes	22
3.6 AA Screening Conclusion	22
4. STAGE 2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT.....	23
4.1 Introduction.....	23
4.2 Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected	23
4.3 Identifying and Characterising Types of Potential Effects.....	23
4.4 Adverse Effects on the integrity of European Sites	25
5. MITIGATION MEASURES.....	26
6. CONCLUSION	40

LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 - Relevant ROI European Sites
- Appendix 2 - Relevant NI European Sites
- Appendix 3 - Assessment of Potential Likely Significant Effects on European Sites
- Appendix 4 - Relationship with other Plans and Programmes
- Appendix 5 - Assessment of Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites

LIST OF TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
Table 2-1: Coillte's Ambitions for their forest estate under each Key Pillar, as set out in their Strategic Vision to 2025.....	5
Table 2-2: Proposed Wood Pillar Targets for each BAU.....	8
Table 8-1: Embedded Environmental Mitigation.....	27
Table 8-2: Additional Actions	29
Table 8-3: Amendments to Pre-existing Plan Action	30
Table 8-4: Environmental Governance Framework	32

LIST OF FIGURES

	<u>Page</u>
Figure 2-1: Plan Area	15
Figure 3-1: Relevant European sites.....	19



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This Draft Natura Impact Report (NIR) has been prepared in support of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Draft Land Use Strategic Implementation Plan 2026 - 2035 (herein referred to as 'Draft LUSIP' or the 'Draft Plan') for Coillte, in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the 'Habitats Directive').

1.2 Legislative Context

The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the 'favourable conservation status' of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as European sites which form the Natura 2000 Network.

The European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats Regulations 2011 (S. I. No. 477 of 2011) transpose the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive (as amended). AA is required by the Habitats Directive which is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European site. These sites consist of SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats. The specific provision of the regulations are Part 5, Section 42 (6) and (9):

- *(6) The public authority shall determine that an Appropriate Assessment of a plan or project is required where the Draft Plan or project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site as a European Site and if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective scientific information following screening under this Regulation, that the Draft Plan or project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site.*
- *(9) Where a public authority is required to conduct an Appropriate Assessment pursuant to paragraph (6) in relation to a plan or project that it proposes to undertake or adopt, it shall:*
 - (a) prepare a Natura Impact Statement;*
 - (b) compile any other evidence including, but not limited to, scientific evidence that is required for the purposes of the Appropriate Assessment; and*
 - (c) submit a Natura Impact Statement together with evidence compiled under subparagraph (b) to the Minister not later than six weeks before it proposes to adopt or undertake the Draft Plan or project to which the Natura Impact Statement and evidence relates.*



1.3 Approach

The AA is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. A detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) and Northern Ireland's (NI) Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) and European Environment Agency's (EEA) websites – having due regard to spatial data and maps available as well as reports for relevant sites and in particular the conservation objectives for each of the qualifying interests/special conservation interests (including spatial data collected for the most recent Article 17 and Article 12 conservation status reporting cycle, 2019).

In addition to being informed by these reports, the Draft NIR was also informed by the Draft LUSIP and the accompanying Draft SEA Environmental Report, as well as Coillte's *'Forest Estate Strategic Land Use Plan (FESLUP) 2023 - 2050,' which was adopted in 2023*, and the associated SEA Environmental Report and AA Natura Impact Statement for the FESLUP.

The AA process has been undertaken in alignment with the SEA process, in accordance with integrated biodiversity assessment principles.

The ecological desktop study completed for the Draft NIR of the Draft LUSIP comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites within all of the Republic of Ireland (ROI) and 25 km of the NI border – as 25 km is the largest core foraging range for any of the terrestrial protected special conservation interest (SCI) birds by SNH guidance documents;¹ and
- Review of the NPWS and DAERA site synopsis, conservation objectives and supporting material for European sites with identification of potential pathways from the Draft LUSIP area.

There are two main stages in the AA process as follow:

Stage One: Screening

The process that identifies the likely impacts upon a European site (s) of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European site(s) of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is proposed to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if there is no reasonable scientific doubt with regard to likely significant effects then the process must conclude that further considerations of alternatives are required beyond the AA.

¹ Scottish Natural Heritage (2016). Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas (SPAs); Guidance. Version 3 - June 2016. <https://www.nature.scot/doc/assessing-connectivity-special-protection-areas>



The Habitats Directive aims to avoid and mitigate impacts to European sites. This approach aims to avoid any effects on European sites by identifying possible effects early in the Draft Plan-making process and avoiding such effects. Second, the approach involves the application of mitigation measures, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse effects on the site(s) remain. If potential effects on European sites remain, the approach requires the consideration of alternative solutions. If no alternative solutions are identified and the Draft Plan/project is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, then compensation measures are required for any remaining adverse effect(s).

The assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor model,² where, in order for an effect to be established all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the model is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features that are known to be utilised by the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the Draft LUSIP that is known to interact with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor. This report provides information on whether direct, indirect and cumulative adverse effects could arise from the Draft LUSIP.

The assessment presented in this report has been prepared taking into account legislation including the aforementioned legislation and guidance including the following:

- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin (2009, updated 2010);
- Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Commission (2019). Brussels, (2019/C 33/01). OJ C 33, 25.1.2019.
- 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, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (European Commission, 2002). This document was updated by Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Commission Notice (2021) Brussels, 28.9.2021 C (2021) 6913 final;
- “Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the ‘Habitats’ Directive 92/43/EEC”, European Commission 2018;
- OPR Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, Office of the Draft Planning Regulator (2021).

² Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from proposed works; Pathway(s) – e.g. groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites



1.4 Statement of Competency

This report was prepared by Donna O'Halloran of FT. Donna holds a MSc. (Hons) in Ecological Assessment, a MSc. (Hons) in Environmental Resource Management, a BSc (Hons) in Landscape Horticulture and a National Diploma in Horticulture. Donna is a Senior Ecologist with over 10 years postgraduate experience as an ecologist, working on energy, circular economy, infrastructure and planning projects. Donna has approximately five years' experience working on behalf of the Minister of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine undertaking Appropriate Assessment for afforestation, felling and forest road applications. Donna has experience preparing Appropriate Assessments, Ecological Impact Assessments and Invasive Species Management Plans. Donna has undertaken a wide range of ecological field assessments including habitat, invasive species, mammal, and bird assessments.

The report has been reviewed by Richard Deeney. Richard Deeney is Principal Environmental Scientist who works in the Circular Economy and Environment group at FT. He has ca. 13 years of experience. He is vastly experienced in the coordination and completion of planning applications; EIA, including EIA Screening, EIA Scoping and the production of Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIARs); Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) of plans and programmes; IE/IPC/Waste Licensing and Compliance; and Sustainability and Climate Action consultancy. He leads an Environmental Science team that delivers projects in these areas. He is an expert project manager who has led and successfully delivered a wide range of strategic and complex projects. He has expertise in assessing the effects of plans and projects on a wide breadth of environmental topics.

The report has been approved by Bernie Guinan. Bernie is Director with FT and a Chartered Waste Manager. She is responsible for the Circular Economy and Environment group at FT. She has 25 years' experience in delivering and managing projects and infrastructure delivery for a wide variety of sectors. Bernie has extensive experience in all aspects of strategic planning and infrastructure development in Ireland, the UK, KSA and UAE. She is an experienced planning policy analyst and strategic planner. She has in-depth knowledge of all environmental and planning policy, legislation and guidance. She has been providing environmental, planning and waste management consultancy services to public bodies for over 25 years. She has a vast amount of experience coordinating EIA, SEA and AA projects, including strategic, large-scale and complex projects.



2. LAND USE STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2026 - 2035

2.1 Background

Coillte is a semi-state forestry company and is Ireland's largest forester and producer of certified wood. While forestry is Coillte's core business they are also the largest provider of outdoor recreation space in Ireland, they enable wind-energy on the estate, process forestry by-products and undertake nature rehabilitation projects of scale.

2.1.1 Objectives of the Draft LUSIP

Coillte published a strategic vision for the organisation in 2022 titled *Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate*. This vision outlines the organisations ambitions and commitment to the sustainable management of Coillte's estate to 2050 and beyond, based on delivering the multiple benefits of forests to society; including climate mitigation, biodiversity enhancement, sustainable timber production, and public recreation, while ensuring Coillte remains financially sustainable and socially responsible. Coillte's approach to develop a balanced strategic vision for forestry and land-use is underpinned by four key pillars and their associated ambitions, including: Forests for Climate, Forests for Nature, Forests for Wood, and Forests for People.

The ambitions set out under Coillte's Strategic Vision are as follows:

Table 2-1: Coillte's Ambitions for their forest estate under each Key Pillar, as set out in their Strategic Vision to 2025

Key Pillar	Ambitions
Forests for Climate	Ambition 1: Enable the creation of 100,000 hectares of new forests, half of which will be native woodlands, which will sink 18m tonnes CO2 by 2050.
	Ambition 2: Redesign 30,000 hectares of Peatland Forests for climate and ecological benefits by 2050.
	Ambition3: Manage the existing Forest Estate to increase the carbon store by 10m tonnes of CO2 by 2050.
	Ambition 4: Generate an additional 1 Gigawatt of renewable wind energy to power 500,000 homes by 2030.
Forests for Nature	Ambition 5: Enhance and restore biodiversity by increasing the area of our estate managed primarily for nature from 20% to 30% by 2025.
	Ambition 6: Transform areas of our forests so that 50% of our estate is managed primarily for nature in the long-term.
Forests for Wood	Ambition 7: Produce 25m cubic meters of certified Irish timber, to support the construction of 300,000 homes by 2030.
	Ambition 8: Promote the use and benefits of wood products to increase the level of timber homes from 20% to 80% by 2050.
Forests for People	Ambition 9: Enable the investment of €100 million in world-class Visitor Destinations to support growth in tourism and recreation by 2030.
	Ambition 10: Double the number of Recreation Areas to 500, to benefit local communities and people's wellbeing.



Key Pillar	Ambitions
	Ambition 11: Create 1,200 new jobs in rural communities to support the just transition to a low carbon economy.

Striving to realise their vision, Coillte developed the *Forest Estate Strategic Land Use Plan (FESLUP) 2023 - 2050*, which provided the framework that outlines the strategic objectives to balance the delivery of the organisation's ambitions until 2050. The FESLUP outlines a roadmap, focusing on creating a resilient forest estate that delivers environmental, social, and economic benefits. The FESLUP has already been subject to a full Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

The *Land Use Strategic Implementation Plan (LUSIP)* is the next step within Coillte's strategic planning hierarchy, translating the high-level ambitions and objectives outlined in the FESLUP into implementable and measurable actions over the period of 2026-2035.

2.2 Purpose and Scope of the Draft LUSIP

The primary purpose of this Draft LUSIP is to bridge the gap between strategy and implementation, making sure Coillte's long-term vision is realised based on a structured and collaborative approach that includes all areas of the organisation. In this regard, the Draft LUSIP integrates spatial data, scenario planning, and best practices in forestry management. It establishes indicators to monitor progress. SEA and AA has been carried for the Draft Plan to ensure environmental considerations are integrated into the Draft Plan and the Draft Plan aligns with all relevant environmental legislation and the environmental policy framework in Ireland.

Mitigation measures have been developed and integrated into the Draft LUSIP under the SEA and AA to avoid, prevent and minimize any potential significant adverse effects that may occur due to the implementation of the Draft LUSIP. It should be noted that the assessment of likely significant effects in Screening for AA (Section 3.3) and assessment of adverse effects on the integrity of European sites (Section 4.4) are undertaken in the absence of mitigation measures and mitigation measures are only introduced in Section 5 of the report.

The Draft LUSIP has been developed through a phased approach. The initial stage focused on creating an outline plan that details the high-level actions for each FESLUP objective, while the second stage refines these actions through extensive consultation and environmental assessments. This structured, participative process ensures the Draft LUSIP remains adaptable and relevant, enabling Coillte to deliver a resilient forest estate that supports Ireland's climate, biodiversity, and societal goals while safeguarding its natural resources for future generations.

Under the Draft LUSIP Coillte has set out a series of actions for each of the four strategic pillars (Forests for Climate, Forests for Nature, Forests for Wood, and Forests for People). Each action has been specifically identified to help deliver on FESLUP objectives and corresponding Strategic Vision ambitions. The actions under Climate, Nature, and People Pillars apply solely to Coillte's land, while those under the Wood Pillar apply to the entire estate managed by Coillte. For financial partners holding timber rights on Coillte land, consideration of alternative Climate, Nature, and People objectives and associated actions will only occur once these rights have expired.

Indicative timeframes were assigned to actions to monitor progress effectively and guide their timely implementation, while recognizing that execution and ongoing efforts may continue beyond the indicated periods. Some ambitions were established before the Draft LUSIP was developed have different original timeframes. However, the actions outlined in the Draft Plan align with and support their delivery within the 2026-2035 period.



The list of actions includes both ongoing work and new opportunities to enhance delivery. Where it was possible specific targets were identified.

Some of the actions require input and collaboration from various stakeholders, and some of the outcomes and/or deliverables detailed are not under the direct control of Coillte. Coillte will actively engage with external stakeholders to ensure alignment, gather insights, and advocate for necessary policy or regulatory changes to support the Draft Plan delivery.

Although the Draft LUSIP has a national scope, actions will be reported by Business Area Unit (BAU) where applicable. This will ensure implementation is adapted to local context, enhancing effectiveness of the Draft Plan. An overview of the Draft Plan Area is provided in Figure 2-1.

2.2.1 Coillte Land Use Objectives

Coillte's land use objectives, outlined in their Strategic Vision for the Future Forest Estate, aim to sustainably balance, and deliver the multiple benefits of Ireland's state forests across four pillars: Climate, Nature, Wood, and People. Figure 2-2 shows an indicative breakdown of primary land use objectives across each of Coillte's BAU. This map provides insight into potential interactions between the Draft LUSIP, which will define implementable actions to achieve these land use objectives, and the baseline environment nationally. It is important to note that, while primary land use objectives have been identified for all sites within Coillte's remit, many areas also have secondary and tertiary objectives, reflecting the multifunctional nature of forest management. Consequently, actions within the Wood Pillar may also contribute to deliver Climate objectives. It is also important to note that these are indicative land use objectives will evolve and may be amended over the course of Plan implementation, depending on BAU level management approaches.

Coillte also recognises that objectives within specific sites may change and evolve as new information and scientific understanding emerges. For instance, the current Nature objective figures include areas of potential ecological value that are currently being assessed. While not all of them will ultimately be primarily designated for biodiversity management, they indicate the current management focus.

2.2.2 Geographical Scale of the Draft LUSIP

Coillte is responsible for managing 440,000 hectares of primarily forested lands with forested land accounting for 7% of Ireland's land. Coillte currently assign 90,000 ha of land within its estate for nature conservation (biodiversity areas, riparian buffers and biodiversity features). It operates 260 recreation sites in its estate.

Approximately 73,050 ha of the Coillte estate is located within SPAs. This accounts for 6.4% of the Coillte estate. Approximately 19,932 ha of the Coillte estate is located within SACs. This accounts for 1.6% of the Coillte estate (with and SACs and SPAs overlapping in part). There are 597 European sites in the ROI overall. A list of all European sites in the ROI considered within the scope of this assessment is presented in Appendix 1.

2.2.2.1 *Coillte Business Area Units*

The Coillte estate is managed in six Business Area Units (BAU) across the country. Each BAU has specific characteristics and contributes differently to social, economic, and environmental demands of local communities. There are 320 Forests across all BAUs. Each Forest consists of several Properties. A Property refers to a defined portion of the Coillte estate and usually comprises both forested and unforested land. There are approximately 2,000 Properties across the entire Coillte estate.



The six BAUs across Coillte's estate are as follows:

- Northwest BAU (BAU1)
- Mid-West BAU (BAU2)
- Midlands BAU (BAU3)
- South-East BAU (BAU4)
- Central-Munster BAU (BAU5)
- South-West Munster BAU (BAU6)

A summary key characteristics of each of the above BAUs has been outlined below. This information was used to inform the environmental assessment of the Draft Plan. The wood production targets for each BAU are provided in Table 2-2. It is not possible to set definitive targets by BAU for afforestation, peatland restoration/re-design, carbon storage, renewable energy, or nature restoration, as all of these actions are fundamentally dependent on the availability, suitability, and allocation of land.

While national ambitions have been set—for example, double the number of recreation sites, 100,000 hectares of new forest and 30,000 hectares of restored peatland by 2050, along with a 10 million tonnes increase in carbon storage and an increase in areas being managed primarily for nature from 20% to 50% long term — translating these into BAU-specific targets requires further analysis and partnerships.

The actions set out in the Draft LUSIP are expected to support the identification of potential sites and the strategic alignment of land use with national climate and biodiversity objectives, enabling the development of realistic targets for these activities. Currently, the land use objectives defined in Figure 2-2 offer the most reliable and accurate indication of where these targets are most likely to be implemented.

Table 2-2: Proposed Wood Pillar Targets for each BAU

BAU	Clearfell ('000 Ha)	Thinning ('000 Ha)	CCF ('000 Ha)	Total ('000 Ha)	Reforestation ('000 Ha)	Roads (Km)
1	8.3 - 9.2	6 - 6.6	0.2 - 0.3	14.6 - 16.1	8.3 - 9.2	80.1 - 88.5
2	9.7 - 10.7	10.7 - 11.8	0.9 - 0.9	21.2 - 23.5	9.7 - 10.7	116.9 - 129.2
3	9.8 - 10.8	11.6 - 12.9	1.3 - 1.4	22.7 - 25.1	9.8 - 10.8	125 - 138.1
4	7.5 - 8.3	15.8 - 17.5	2.1 - 2.3	25.4 - 28.1	7.5 - 8.3	139.9 - 154.6
5	9.8 - 10.8	24.4 - 26.9	2.1 - 2.3	36.2 - 40	9.8 - 10.8	199.2 - 220.2
6	9.8 - 10.9	7.7 - 8.5	0.4 - 0.5	18 - 19.9	9.8 - 10.9	99 - 109.4
Total	54.9 - 60.7	76.3 - 84.3	7 - 7.7	138.1 - 152.7	54.9 - 60.7	760 - 840



2.2.2.2 Northwest BAU (BAU1)

Environmental Features & Biodiversity:

The Northwest BAU covers Donegal, parts of Leitrim, Sligo, and Mayo, and is known for its wild, rugged landscapes, moorlands, and coastal environments. It is a large BAU with over 1.25 million hectares, with Coillte managing approximately 98,000 hectares. 89% of the forests in BAU1 is composed of conifers and 11%, broadleaves.

The climate in the Northwest is dominated by the Atlantic weather patterns, with high rainfall and frequent strong winds. The soils in the region are diverse, including brown soils, peaty podzols, gleys, and blanket peats. Peats and gleys, which are typical of wetland ecosystems, are important for carbon storage and biodiversity conservation. These conditions create a challenging environment for forestry due to poor drainage and high-water retention.

The Northwest BAU is rich in biodiversity, hosting a range of habitats from coastal wetlands to mountainous heathlands. It is home to protected species such as the hen harrier, red squirrel, and Atlantic salmon. Coillte manages c. 22,500 hectares of biodiversity in the BAU ensuring that the rich biodiversity of the region is protected. These areas are critical for the conservation of native flora and fauna, and efforts are made to limit forestry activities in sensitive regions to minimize environmental impact.

The Northwest BAU includes several significant water resources, including the River Erne and River Finn. These rivers, along with numerous lakes such as Lough Melvin and Lough Macnean, provide essential water resources for local communities and wildlife. Coillte actively implements riparian buffer zones to protect water quality during forestry operations, particularly near sensitive catchment areas.

Social & Cultural Aspects:

The population in the Northwest BAU is mainly concentrated in towns like Letterkenny, Ballyshannon, and Sligo, but much of the area remains rural. The local economy traditionally relies on agriculture, fisheries, and tourism, with forestry playing an increasingly important role. Coillte's forests support local employment and contribute to community well-being by providing recreational spaces and maintaining cultural heritage sites. There are 267 archaeological features in the BAU, including megalithic tombs, ringforts, and ruins. Coillte collaborates with the National Monuments Service to ensure these cultural treasures are preserved and accessible to the public.

Recreation Facilities:

Ireland's Northwest region is a hotspot for outdoor recreation. With 54 designed recreational sites, the BAU offers great opportunities for hiking, mountain biking, fishing, and birdwatching. Key recreational sites include Ards Forest Park and Coolaney Mountain Bike Centre. The BAU has also a high recreational usage within a number of National Way-marked Ways traversing Coillte property. These include sections of The Sligo Way, Bealach na Gaeltachta, Slidun na nGall, The Bluestacks Way, The Pilgrim Path, The Bangor Way, Foxford Way, The Western Way, and The Miners Way.

Several recreational facilities are the result of joint initiatives between Coillte, local authorities, and local communities. This ensures that the maintenance, expansion, and creation of recreational sites support the needs of local communities.



2.2.2.3 Mid-West BAU (BAU2)

Environmental Features & Biodiversity:

The Mid-West BAU includes counties Clare, Galway, and Limerick, covering approximately 938,500 hectares, with Coillte managing about 70,500 hectares. The area features a diverse mix of landscapes, including forests, raised and blanket bog, lakes, and open space. 88% of the forests in BAU2 is composed of conifers and 12%, broadleaves.

The climate in the Mid-West is dominated by the Atlantic Ocean and the gulf stream, with very high rainfall and moderate wind speeds. The soil types of our forests are mainly comprised of brown earth soils, podzols, peats, and gleys, with small areas of marl. The Shannon River system and Lough Derg are key water bodies within this BAU, supporting both biodiversity and human activities.

There is c. 14,500 hectares of biodiversity sites managed in the Mid-West BAU. Biodiversity efforts in this area are strongly focused on raised bog management and restoration. Raised bogs are habitats with high value in the region and act as carbon sinks which help to reduce the impact of climate change.

Social & Cultural Aspects:

The Mid-West BAU has a mix of rural and urban communities, with Galway and Limerick serving as major urban centres. The area is rich in cultural heritage, with many forests containing archaeological sites such as ringforts, burial mounds, and historic settlements. There are 275 archaeological features within Coillte land that are managed with care, ensuring they are preserved and accessible to the public.

Recreation Facilities:

The Mid-West BAU is home to 22 designated recreational areas, including Portumna Forest Park and Derroura Mountain Bike Trail. Portumna Forest Park offers extensive walking and cycling trails along the shores of Lough Derg, picnic areas, and the remains of a Cistercian Abbey dating to 15th Century. Derroura is a popular destination for mountain bikers, offering challenging terrain with stunning views of Connemara's landscape. There are also a number of Way-marked ways passing through Coillte property, including The Western Way, Sli Connemara, The East Clare Way, The Mid Clare Way, and The Suck Valley Way.

Several recreational facilities are the result of joint initiatives between Coillte, local authorities, and local communities. Examples of this are the Walled Garden in Mountbellew, Playground in Cratloe, and the recreational facilities at Cong/Clonbur Woods.

2.2.2.4 Midlands BAU (BAU3)

Environmental Features & Biodiversity:

The Midlands BAU covers 1.675 million hectares across counties Cavan, Laois, Longford, Louth, Meath, Monaghan, Offaly, Roscommon, Westmeath, along with a large area of County Leitrim. Coillte manages approximately 71,500 hectares of land in this BAU. 73% of the forests in BAU3 is composed of conifers and 27%, broadleaves.

The climate in the Midlands is cooler and more temperate than other regions, with moderate rainfall. Given the geographical spread of the BAU, geology and landform vary. This includes well-drained mineral soils on the Drumlin to the north, varied soil types in the slopes of the Slieve Bloom to the South, raised and blanket peats in other regions. There is a high proportion of lakes dispersed throughout the BAU, all of which are mapped and recognised within our management actions.



The Midlands BAU is home to important ecosystems, such as old woodlands and raised bogs which support species like the Hen harrier, freshwater pearl mussel, curlew, red grouse, and the Irish hare. There is c. 14,700 hectares of areas primarily managed for biodiversity in the Midlands BAU, with several SPAs and NHAs located in the region, highlighting its importance for biodiversity conservation.

Social & Cultural Aspects:

The Midlands BAU is predominantly rural, with small towns and farming communities making up much of the population. The local economy traditionally relies on agriculture, with forestry playing an increasingly important role. Coillte's forests contain significant cultural heritage sites, including historic farmsteads, ringforts, and ancient burial grounds. To date, there are 406 archaeological features in the Midlands BAU. Coillte collaborates with the National Monuments Service to ensure these cultural treasures are preserved and accessible to the public.

Recreation Facilities:

The Midlands BAU has 55 designated recreational areas. Several recreational facilities are the result of joint initiatives between Coillte, local authorities, and local communities. Key facilities include the Rossmore Forest Park, the Slieve Bloom Mountain Bike Trail, and The Burren Geopark. Rossmore Forest Park offers historical and scenic walks, cycling paths, and fishing spots. Slieve Bloom is a popular destination for mountain bikers, offering challenging terrain with stunning views, and Cavan Burren Forest Park is a fascinating geological and archaeological forest landscape with trails and interpretative centres. There are also a number of Waymarked Ways passing through Coillte property in the BAU. These include The Slieve Bloom Way, The Cavan Way, The Westmeath Way, The Monaghan Way and the Tain Trail, Offaly Way.

2.2.2.5 South-East BAU (BAU4)

Environmental Features & Biodiversity:

The South-East BAU embraces the counties Dublin, Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford, and Wicklow and covers about 1 million hectares, with Coillte managing c. 60,000 hectares. This region is characterized by fertile soils and mild climate, which makes it one of the most productive areas for forestry in Ireland. 78% of the forests in BAU4 is composed of conifers and 22%, broadleaves.

The climate in this region is influenced by the Irish Sea, leading to moderate temperatures year-round and relatively high rainfall during the winter months. The soils in this BAU are primarily well-drained mineral soils, including brown earths and gleys. These conditions are favourable for forestry, allowing for a diverse range of tree species to thrive, including native oak, ash, and beech, alongside commercial species like Sitka spruce.

Water resources in the South-East BAU include major river systems such as the Barrow, Nore, and Slaney, which are vital for both biodiversity and local water supply. Efforts to prevent sedimentation and nutrient runoff are critical to maintain the health of these water bodies in the BAU.

The South-East BAU is rich in biodiversity, with significant areas of native woodland and fens. There are approximately 10,600 hectares of biodiversity managed in the BAU. Our biodiversity projects in the South-East focus on the protection and restoration of these unique habitats, as well as managing forests to support wildlife. The region is home to species such as the pine marten, and otter, with conservation efforts aimed at preserving these species through habitat management and the protection of ecological corridors.



Social & Cultural Aspects:

The South-East BAU has large populations centres, including the suburbs of South Dublin (Tallaght, Rathfarnham, and Dalkey) and the coastal areas of Bray, Greystones, Wicklow, Arklow, and Wexford. The towns of Newbridge, Naas, Blessington, Carlow, and Baltinglass dominate the western area of the BAU with finally Kilkenny, New Ross, Gorey, and Enniscorthy to the south. Due to its large population, there is a higher demand for forests products and services in the BAU4 comparing to other BAUs.

The BAU is home to a rich cultural and archaeological heritage, with numerous ancient monuments, including ringforts, standing stones, and medieval ruins scattered throughout the landscape. 308 of these archaeological features are located within Coillte's forests, and efforts are made to preserve them for future generations.

Recreation Facilities:

The South-East BAU offers some of Ireland's most popular outdoor recreational facilities, with 79 designated areas for recreational activity. Several of these facilities are developed through joint initiatives between Coillte and local communities, including the Dublin Mountains Partnership (DMP), the Wicklow Way Partnership (WWP), and the Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Committee (WORC). These partnerships focus on improving recreation, managing environmentally sensitive sites, and improving awareness on forestry through environmental education, and tourism and entrepreneurship incentive.

Avondale Forest Park is a key recreational site in the BAU, offering family-friendly walking trails, picnic areas, an incredible Treetop Walk & Viewing Tower, and an interactive center focused on the history of forestry in Ireland. The South-East BAU also has several smaller recreational forests that cater to local communities, providing spaces for exercise, relaxation, and wildlife observation.

2.2.2.6 Central-Munster BAU (BAU5)

Environmental Features & Biodiversity:

The Central Munster BAU covers counties Tipperary and Waterford, and parts of counties Cork and Limerick, summing up a total of 917,796 hectares, with Coillte managing c. 74,000 hectares. This BAU features a varied landscape that includes mountain ranges such as the Galtees and Ballyhouras, as well as fertile plains. 84% of the forests in BAU5 is composed of conifers and 16%, broadleaves.

The climate in Central Munster is relatively mild, with moderate rainfall throughout the year. The soils in this BAU are diverse, ranging from fertile brown earths in lowland areas to shallow, stony soils in upland regions, which support both commercial forestry and native woodlands. There are numerous rivers in the area, including the Suir, Lee, and Blackwater, which are essential in supporting biodiversity and local agriculture.

The Central Munster BAU is home to a range of biodiversity-rich areas, particularly in the Galtee and Ballyhoura Mountains. There is c.14,000 hectares of areas primarily managed for biodiversity in the BAU, with several SPAs, NHAs, and SACs are located in the region, highlighting its importance for biodiversity conservation. These forests provide important habitats for wildlife, including protected species like the red squirrel, and otter. Coillte's biodiversity projects in this region focus on restoring and managing these habitats to ensure they continue to support diverse ecosystems.



Social & Cultural Aspects:

The Central Munster BAU serves a primarily rural population. Main population centres in the area include Waterford, Dungarvan, Clonmel, Cahir, Cashel, Nenagh, Thurles and Roscrea. Other main towns within the surroundings are Fermoy, Midleton, Templemore, Borrisokane, and Newport. Agriculture is a traditional economic activity in the region, with forestry increasingly growing over the last decades.

Coillte is aware of 303 archaeological features of cultural significance in its landholdings in the Central Munster BAU, including ancient farmsteads, megalithic tombs, and medieval structures. These sites are carefully managed to protect their historical significance while ensuring they are accessible for the public.

Recreation Facilities:

Central Munster is renowned for its outdoor recreation opportunities, particularly in the Ballyhoura and Galtee mountain ranges. The Ballyhoura Mountain Bike Trails are among the most popular in Ireland, offering over 90 kilometers of tracks that cater to cyclists of all levels. In the Galtee Mountains, the Aherlow Nature Park provide numerous hiking and walking routes, with stunning views and opportunities to explore native woodlands and wildlife.

Coillte manages a total of 46 designated recreational forests in this BAU, offering facilities such as picnic areas, interpretive signage, and family-friendly walking trails. There are also a number of marked Ways passing through Coillte property in the BAU. Amongst others, these include the East Munster Way and Slieve Felim Way along with more recent multi-days walks the Ormonde Way and St. Declan's Way.

2.2.2.7 South-West Munster BAU (BAU6)

Environmental Features & Biodiversity:

The South-West Munster BAU covers 1.192 million hectares across counties Claire and Kerry, and parts of counties Cork and Limerick, with Coillte managing approximately 65,500 hectares. The BAU is dominated by forested land with the remainder mostly moorland, mountains, marsh, and lakes. This BAU has the greatest concentration of mountains in any of the six BAUs, including Carrantuohill, Ireland's highest mountain in the MacGillycuddy's Reeks, Stacks Mountains Range, Mullaghareirks, Nagles Mountains, Caha Mountains. 88% of the forests in BAU6 is composed of conifers and 12%, broadleaves.

The climate in this region is influenced by the Atlantic Ocean, with mild temperatures, windy conditions, and high rainfall throughout the year. The soils in this BAU vary widely, with fertile brown earths in the lowlands and peaty soils in the upland areas. This creates ideal conditions for forestry, however some areas are prone to windblow. The region is also home to numerous rivers, including the Lee and Blackwater, which are vital for both biodiversity and human use.

The South-West Munster BAU has a very rich biodiversity. There are approximately 13,400 hectares of areas primarily managed for biodiversity in the BAU, with several SPAs and SACs located in the region. Coillte's biodiversity projects in this BAU focus on protecting high conservation value forests, restoring degraded habitats, and managing forests to support wildlife. Key species in this region include the lesser horseshoe bat, freshwater pearl mussel, and various bird species that rely on forested areas for nesting and feeding.



Social & Cultural Aspects:

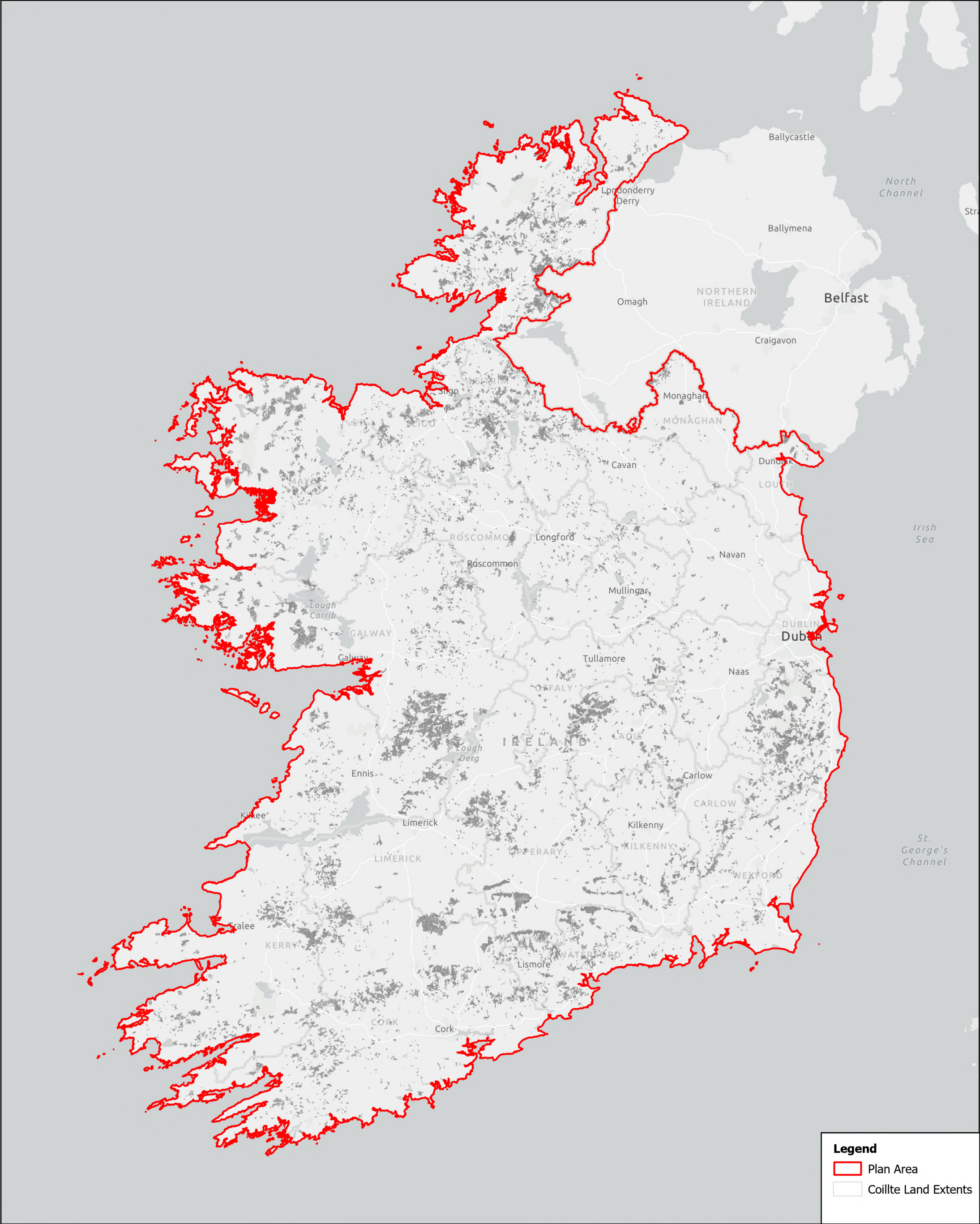
The South-West Munster BAU has large populations centres, including Abbeyfeale, Bandon, Bantry, Charleville, Cork, Kenmare, Killarney, Limerick, Listowel, Macroom, Mallow, Newcastle West, Tralee, and Skibbereen. There are two Gaeltacht areas within the BAU, Gaeltacht Muscraí and Gaeltacht Uíbh Ráthach. The economy is largely rural with agriculture-based industries. The BAU has a rich cultural heritage with forests that contain important archaeological sites such as ancient ringforts, medieval monasteries, and historic farmsteads. To date, there are 333 archaeological features in the South-West Munster BAU. These sites are carefully managed by Coillte in collaboration with local heritage groups to ensure their preservation while allowing public access.

Recreation Facilities:

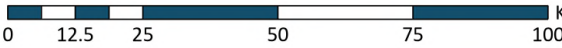
The South-West Munster BAU offers 33 designated recreational areas, some of which are the most scenic and popular recreation sites in Ireland. Key recreation sites include the Curragh Chase Forest Park with over 300 hectares of rolling parkland, trails, mixed woodland, lakes and an arboretum, and the Gougane Barra Forest Park, known for beautiful walks tucked in a lush valley at the edge of the Sheehy mountains.

There are also several Waymarked Ways passing through Coillte property in the BAU. These include: The Dingle Way, The Kerry Way, The Beara Breifne Way, Sheep's Head Way, and The Duhallow Way.

Coillte manages these recreation sites in partnership with local tourism authorities, ensuring that they are accessible and well-maintained. Additional recreational forests in the region offer facilities such as picnic areas, nature trails, and interpretive signage, encouraging outdoor activities and nature-based tourism.

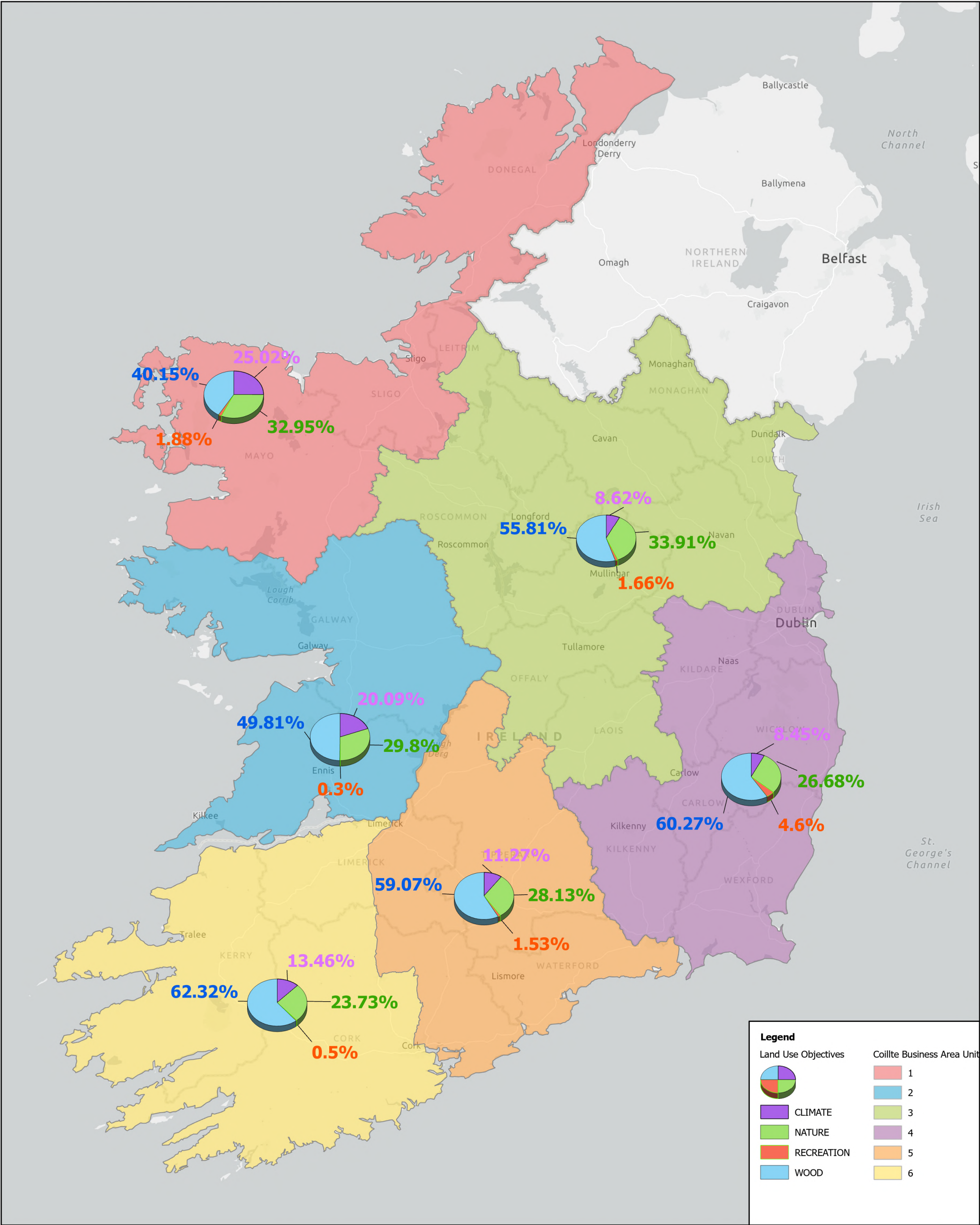


TITLE: Plan Area	FIGURE NO: 2-1	
	CLIENT:  COILLTE	
PROJECT: Coillte Land Use Strategic Implementation Plan SEA	SCALE: 1:1,400,000	REVISION: 0
	DATE: 17/09/2025	PAGE SIZE: A3





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TITLE: Coillte Land Use objectives across BAUs	FIGURE NO: 2-2	
	CLIENT:	
PROJECT: Coillte Land Use Strategic Implementation Plan SEA	SCALE: 1:1,300,000	REVISION: 0
	DATE: 17/09/2025	PAGE SIZE: A3

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3. SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

3.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any potential significant affects to European sites from the Draft LUSIP, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the 'conservation objectives', 'Qualifying Interests' (QIs) and/ or 'Special Conservation Interests' (SCIs) of European sites requiring assessment. QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European Site has been designated and afforded protection. The only habitat listed as an SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The following NPWS Generic Conservation Objectives have been considered in the screening:

- For SACs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected; and
- For SPAs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Where available, Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat³ or species⁴ at that site have been considered.

3.2 Identification of Relevant European Site

The DHLGHD⁵ (2009) Guidance on AA recommends a 15 km buffer zone to be considered, although sites beyond this buffer zone would be considered if relevant. A 25 km buffer zone was considered as this is the largest core foraging range for any of the terrestrial protected special conservation interest (SCI) birds by SNH guidance documents.⁶ A review of all European sites within this zone has allowed the conclusion to be made that the characteristics of the Draft LUSIP will not impose effects beyond the 25 km buffer. Given the national scope/geographic scale of the Draft LUSIP covers all of the ROI all European sites in Ireland are being considered as well as those across the NI border. The assessment process also considers hydrogeological processes and possible effects to groundwater with respect to groundwater sensitive habitats and species.

³ Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

⁴ The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

⁵ Formerly the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government at the time of writing.

⁶ Scottish Natural Heritage (2016). Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas (SPAs); Guidance. Version 3 - June 2016. <https://www.nature.scot/doc/assessing-connectivity-special-protection-areas>



A list of ROI and NI European sites that potentially have meaningful ecological pathways to Draft LUSIP zone of influence are provided in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2. The most recent version of Conservation Objectives for European Sites (sourced from the NPWS⁷ and JNCC⁸) has been considered by the assessment. Information on QIs, SCIs and site-specific vulnerabilities and sensitivities (was sourced from the JNCC and EEA⁹) have been considered by both the AA screening assessment (provided under this section) and the Draft NIR (provided under Section 4).

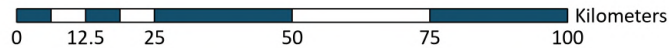
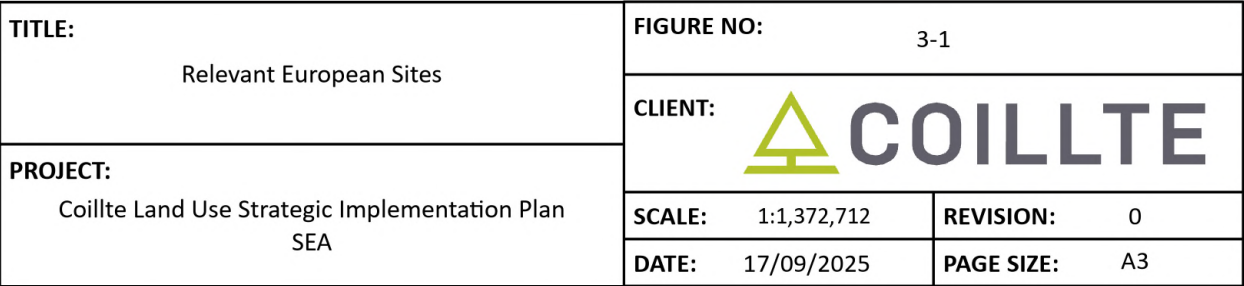
The assessment considers available conservation objectives. Since conservation objectives focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential effects of the Draft LUSIP against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.

Figure 3-1 illustrates the distribution of relevant European sites.

⁷ NPWS - Site Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCO) Data resources (April 2025): <https://www.npws.ie/maps-and-data/designated-site-data>

⁸ JNCC - UK National Site Network (SAC and SPA): site summary details spreadsheet 2025 (10/04/2025): <https://hub.jncc.gov.uk/assets/a3d9da1e-dedc-4539-a574-84287636c898>

⁹ EEA - Natura 2000 (tabular) - version end 2023 (Published 21 February 2025): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/datahub/datahubitem-view/6fc8ad2d-195d-40f4-bdec-576e7d1268e4>





3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening

3.3.1 Is the Draft Plan Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The overarching objective of the Draft LUSIP is not the nature conservation management of European Sites, but to achieve Coillte's management of their estate which is underpinned by four pillars: Forests for Climate, Forests for Nature, Forests for Wood, and Forests for People. Therefore, the Draft LUSIP is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites.

3.3.2 Elements of the Draft LUSIP with Potential to Give Rise to Likely Significant Effects

The Draft LUSIP provides a framework for the sustainable management of the Coillte estate across Ireland nationally. There are a number of Draft LUSIP actions which are likely to interact with environmental sensitivities within BAUs. An assessment of likely significant effects of the Draft LUSIP on European sites was undertaken. This assessment is presented in Appendix 3. A summary overview of this assessment is provided below:

- A range of plan actions across various Plan pillars support the intensification of forestry in Ireland. The range of activities associated with forestry, include road construction, afforestation, felling/tending, clearfelling and reforestation. Afforestation and felling (all phases but particularly clearfelling), management of woodlands which are qualifying interests of European Sites, felling of forest plantations within or proximity to European sites may result in negative effects on:
 - biodiversity (habitat loss/fragmentation, species disturbance etc.),
 - soils (through compaction, sealing, erosion, loss of organic matter, altering pH,) with peat soils also vulnerable to landslides,
 - the air (emissions to air including greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions) and noise environments,
 - water quality and hydrology (through increase eutrophication, sedimentation, changes in hydrology).
- A range of actions defined in the Draft Plan support and promote the carrying out peatland restoration/re-design projects. Such projects, if improperly designed, implemented or maintained, have the potential to generate various negative effects on:
 - climate (through poor design negatively affecting greenhouse gas emission fluxes),
 - biodiversity (e.g., habitat and species impacts associated with restoration works, aquatic species that may be affected by changes in hydrology),
 - soils, and water quality and hydrology (e.g., downstream alterations in water quality or hydrological conditions - if projects are not support by appropriate hydrological assessment, for example), with peat soils also vulnerable to landslides;
- Plan actions support the carrying out of renewable energy, grid infrastructure and energy storage development by FuturEnergy Ireland and other renewable energy developers at the Coillte estate. The development of this infrastructure, which will include impactful projects such as wind farms or linear grid connection projects, has the potential to generate negative effects in the absence of appropriate site selection, design, planning or maintenance, with negative effects on:
 - biodiversity (e.g., through habitat loss, bird strikes etc.),
 - soils (through compaction, sealing, erosion, loss of organic matter etc.), with peat soils also vulnerable to landslides;
 - water quality and hydrology,



- There is also the potential for negative effects on land-use through competing objectives for sustainable management practices to promote biodiversity enhancement and objectives for renewable energy production.
- Plans actions support the carrying out a range of nature restoration and biodiversity management relates projects and activities. These projects/activities, if mis-designed or mismanaged, may result in inadvertent, temporary to long-term, slight to very significant, negative effects on biodiversity.
- The Draft Plan defines a range of actions under the 'Forests for People' pillar that support and drive the carrying out of tourism and recreation related development and activities at the Coillte estate, including strategic development. Tourism and recreation related development (both construction and operational phases) have the potential to generate negative effects on:
 - biodiversity (through increased human interaction with sensitive ecological receptors, noise, land-take, lighting etc.),
 - the water environment (due to construction phase run-off, changes in hydrology or additional wastewater loading in an wastewater catchment/agglomeration),
 - and climate (e.g., from construction embodied carbon, or due to the creation of unsustainable transport/travel patterns).

The above effects have the potential to be transmitted throughout the defined zone of influence (in the absence of mitigation).

3.3.3 Screening of Sites

Plan actions defined in the Draft LUSIP are at national/BAU scale. As a result, the assessment of likely significant effects are high level. An examination on whether Plan actions have the potential to have likely significant effects based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- They will not be a source for likely significant effects; and
- There is no pathway for likely significant effects; and
- There is no link between identified threats or vulnerabilities at a site to potential impacts that may arise from the Draft LUSIP.

It is important to note that this assessment considers the potential effects of Plan actions in absence of environmental mitigation, including mitigation embedded in the Draft LUSIP early on.

3.4 Transboundary Effects

Given the national scale of the Draft LUSIP and the shared boundary, transboundary effects on NI have been considered. Consideration was given to direct impacts (where Coillte estate shares a border with NI), hydrological connections (both surface water and groundwater connectivity) and aerial emission connectivity (via dust emissions). See Section 3.2 for more information.



3.5 In Combination Effects from Other Plans and Programmes

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the Draft Plan or project, have the potential to adversely affect European sites. Appendix 4 outlines a selection of plans or projects that may interact with the Draft Plan to cause in-combination effects to European sites. These plans, programmes, strategies etc. were considered throughout the assessment.

The Draft Plan must comply with relevant higher-level strategic actions and will, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions. The Draft LUSIP does not provide the framework for consent for forestry/afforestation projects, habitat restoration or infrastructure developments. All projects that arise due to the implementation of the Draft LUSIP must comply with all relevant consent granting processes.

In order to be realised, projects included in the Draft LUSIP (in a similar way to other projects from any other sector) will have to comply, as relevant, with various legislation, policies, plans and programmes (including requirements for lower-tier Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and other licencing requirements as appropriate) that form the statutory decision-making and consent-granting framework.

3.6 AA Screening Conclusion

The effects that could arise from the Draft LUSIP have been examined in the context of several factors that could potentially affect the integrity of any European site (see Appendix 3). On the basis of the findings of this Screening for AA, it is concluded that the Draft LUSIP:

- Is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site; and
- Has the potential, if unmitigated, to result in adverse effects on all European sites (those included in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2).

Therefore, a Stage 2 AA is required for the Draft LUSIP (see Section 4 of this report).



4. STAGE 2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Introduction

The Stage 2 AA assesses whether actions of the Draft LUSIP that were screened in for AA would, alone, or in combination with other plans, programmes, and/or projects, result in adverse effects on the integrity of the European sites brought forward from screening.

4.2 Characterisation of European sites Potentially Affected

The AA Screening identified all relevant European sites and actions of the Draft LUSIP with potential for effects arising from the implementation of the Draft LUSIP. The characteristics of the qualifying features of all European sites brought forward from Stage 1, in the context of each of the sites' vulnerabilities, have been considered in this assessment.

4.3 Identifying and Characterising Types of Potential Effects

Assessment of the potential effects of Draft LUSIP actions on European sites is conducted utilising a standard source-pathway model (see approach referred to under Sections 1.3, 3.2 and 3.3). The 2001 European Commission AA guidance outlines the following potential changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site: loss/reduction of habitat area; habitat or species fragmentation; disturbance to key species; reduction in species density; changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); and climate change. Each of these potential changes are considered below with reference to the QIs/SCIs of all of the European sites brought forward from Stage 1 of the AA process (see Section 3).

It is important to note that this effects described below considers the implementation Plan actions in absence of environmental mitigation, including mitigation embedded in the Draft LUSIP early on.

4.3.1.1 *Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area*

A range of plan actions across various pillars of the Draft LUSIP supports, promotes and drives the expansion of forestry in Ireland, peatland restoration/re-design, nature restoration and biodiversity management, renewable energy, grid infrastructure and energy storage development, as well as tourism and recreation related development. Although the Draft LUSIP does not provide a framework for granting consent – it does promote, support and/or provide for the Draft Planning and development of these projects which if incorrectly designed and implemented have potential to cause direct land take or loss of habitat area.

4.3.1.2 *Habitat or Species Fragmentation*

As previously stated, the Draft LUSIP does not provide a framework for granting consent. The Draft LUSIP supports, promotes and drives the expansion of forestry in Ireland, peatland restoration/re-design, nature restoration and biodiversity management, renewable energy, grid infrastructure and energy storage development, as well as tourism and recreation related development. These projects have the potential to cause habitat fragmentation over large areas if incorrectly designed and implemented. This fragmentation might not directly affect habitat loss within the European Sites (as detailed above) but could result in isolation of resources and functional connectivity loss. These effects could result in the fragmentation of habitat and or species through light pollution, habitat loss, removal of stepping stone habitats etc.



4.3.1.3 *Disturbance to Key Species*

The Draft LUSIP supports, promotes and drives the expansion of forestry in Ireland, peatland restoration/re-design, nature restoration and biodiversity management, renewable energy, grid infrastructure and energy storage development, as well as tourism and recreation related development. If incorrectly designed and implemented disturbance effects can relate to direct disturbance through human activity/movement or sources such as noise pollution. This is particularly relevant in relation to the felling/clearfelling stages of forestry, the construction and operational phases of renewable energy and recreational related developments which are in or adjacent to European sites.

4.3.1.4 *Reduction in Species Density*

Species densities are reliant on species distributions, habitat condition, connectivity of ecological resources and availability of resources such as prey/food. If incorrectly designed and implemented, afforestation of new plantations, felling of existing plantations, restoration/re-design projects, and the construction and operational phases of energy and recreational related developments have the potential to introduce effects on species densities such as habitat destruction, light pollution, hydrological interaction, habitat encroachment and trampling. The operation phase of poorly located recreational developments have the potential to introduce effects on species densities via trampling.

4.3.1.5 *Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value*

Indicators of conservation value are reliant on habitats and species favourable conservation status, habitat integrity, habitat and species condition (including the health of waterbodies), population dynamics, and ecological processes. If incorrectly designed and implemented, afforestation of new plantations, felling and managing of existing plantations, habitat restoration projects, and the construction and operational phases of energy and recreational related developments have the potential to introduce effects on indicators of conservation value such as damage to habitats (trampling/compaction/draining), removal of habitat, release of nutrients into adjacent European Sites, pollution of water courses, changes to hydrological regimes, spread of invasive species, and habitat encroachment.

4.3.1.6 *Climate Change*

Climate change is mainly due to the increased atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations. Climate change may impact European sites through changes in growing season length, phenology and species distribution, loss of and damage to ecosystems, and increases in invasive species. One of the pillars of the Draft LUSIP is forests for climate with carbon sequestration a goal. If incorrectly designed and implemented, developments on peatland can result in landslides. The construction phases of energy and recreational facilities on peat can lead to the release of greenhouse gasses. Incorrectly managed and implemented peatland restoration/re-design has the potential to result in greenhouse gas emissions.



4.4 Adverse Effects on the integrity of European Sites

The following parameters can be used when characterising impacts:¹⁰

- **Integrity of a Site** - The coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified.

The Habitats Directive requires the focus of the assessment at this stage to be on the integrity of the site as indicated by its Conservation Objectives. It is a requirement for Ireland to draw up conservation management plans for all areas designated for nature conservation. These plans will, among other things, set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest within a site.

Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) have been prepared for a number of European sites. These detailed SSCO aim to define favourable conservation condition for the qualifying habitats and species at that site by setting targets for appropriate attributes that define the character habitat. The maintenance of the favourable condition for these habitats and species at the site level will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

- **Favourable conservation status of a species can be described as being achieved when:** *'population data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself, and the natural range of the species is neither being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.'*
- **Favourable conservation status of a habitat can be described as being achieved when:** *'its natural range, and area it covers within that range, is stable or increasing, and the ecological factors that are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.'*

Generic Conservation Objective for cSACs:

- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species that the SAC has been selected.

One generic Conservation Objective for SPAs:

- *To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.*

An assessment of the potential for Draft LUSIP actions to have adverse effects on the integrity of European sites was undertaken and is presented in Appendix 5.

¹⁰ These descriptions are informed by publications including: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2016) "Guidelines for ecological impact assessment"; Environmental Protection Agency (2002) "Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements"; and National Roads Authority (2009) "Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Roads Schemes".



5. MITIGATION MEASURES

This section outlines measures that have been incorporated into the Draft LUSIP in order to mitigate against potential effects to European sites as identified above. The Draft LUSIP was prepared in an iterative manner whereby the Draft Plan, SEA and AA documents have informed subsequent versions of each other. These mitigation measures ensure the protection of the ecological integrity of any European site from implementation of the Draft LUSIP; beyond reasonable scientific doubt.

A strong level of embedded environmental mitigation/enhancement measures were found to be present in early drafts of the Draft Plan. Examples of environmental mitigation/enhancement measures integrated into early iterations the Draft Plan to prevent, reduce and fully offset potential adverse effects on European sites, are presented in Table 5-1. Some of these Actions were subsequently amended or added to, to take account of environmental considerations during the Draft Plan-making process.

Additional Environmental Mitigation Measures (additional Plan Actions) recommended to augment environmental protection and enhancement-related actions defined in earlier iterations of the Draft Plan are presented in Table 5-2. These additional Actions have been fully integrated into the Draft Plan by Coillte and serve to mitigate potential effects on European sites.

Various initial Plan Actions have been amended to clarify environmental protection related obligations and environmental enhancement opportunities associated with the actions. The Actions have been better shaped to ensure that environmental considerations are appropriately taken into account during Plan implementation. Action amendments that serve to mitigate potential effects on European sites are presented in Table 5-3.

An Environmental Governance Framework (EGF) for the Draft Plan has been prepared as a result of the SEA and AA processes. EGF measures that mitigate effects on European sites are presented in Table 5-4.

These mitigation measures were integrated into the Draft Plan to avoid/prevent adverse effects on European sites (as identified and presented in Appendix 5).



Table 8-1: Embedded Environmental Mitigation

Action Reference	Action	Potential Effects Mitigated
CO1.A1	Outline the potential pathways for supporting the delivery of 100,000 ha by 2050.	- Climate Change
CO3.A1	Support and facilitate those public bodies who are committed to pursuing opportunities for afforestation on publicly owned land by supplying key afforestation management and planning services.	- Climate Change
CO4.A1	Consider proposals to help promote farmer-led afforestation and collaborate with key stakeholders.	- Climate Change
CO5.A1	Explore funding models to deliver nature and climate-based credits and create projects that will deliver new afforestation and continue to support investors in Irish forestry by providing afforestation, woodland management and other important services to investor funds that promote afforestation.	- Climate Change
CO7.A1	Engage with experts and practitioners undertaking large scale peatland rehabilitation programmes in Ireland and continue to review the international literature and develop best practices on the redesign of peatland at scale.	- Climate Change
CO9.A1	Update land-use planning model to generate GHG profile using up-to-date inventory and harvest volume data and undertake analysis to ensure proposed management options implemented within the timeframe of this plan supports the delivery of the longer-term ambition.	- Climate Change
CO10.A1	Continually review and analyse forest management practices that can support climate mitigation, and where appropriate engage with scientific experts in the field to further understand the data and knowledge of carbon dynamics. Consider how they can be incorporated into reporting requirements such as SBTi and GHG protocol.	- Climate Change
CO11.A1	Develop a forest resilience strategy that considers the impacts of climate change, identifies risks and mitigations as well as the risk of pests and diseases and evaluate how these findings can be incorporated into our planning models.	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
CO14.A1	Continue to enable FEI and non-FEI projects where appropriate through providing land agreements to facilitate renewable energy projects.	- Climate Change



Action Reference	Action	Potential Effects Mitigated
NO1.A1	Coillte will identify an additional c.44,000 ha across the estate to be managed primarily for nature. The BioClass system will be used to rank the ecological value of these new biodiversity areas and to assign a target habitat, which indicates the overall management goal.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
NO2.A1	Scale up the management of biodiversity areas; increase the annual operational programme aiming to deliver, by 2029, biodiversity interventions on 2,000ha. The management actions will primarily include CCF, coupe felling, control of invasive species and re-wetting or maintaining ecologically important bog habitat and will be informed by Biodiversity Area Management (BAM) Plans that are prepared jointly by foresters and ecologists.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
NO3.A1	Coillte will map ancient forests on the estate, assess their ecological value using BioClass procedure and develop appropriate management approach.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
NO5.A4	Develop a process for recording and reporting species (flora and fauna) to build our knowledge of their occurrence across the estate and to better inform appropriate protection measures.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
NO13.A1	Maintain and update the existing protocols for protected species and habitats adopted in Coillte appropriate assessment and develop action plans for key species on the estate (e.g. lesser horseshoe bat).	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change



Action Reference	Action	Potential Effects Mitigated
NO13.A2	Continue engagement and partnership projects with NPWS and other relevant agencies e.g. IFI, to deliver management actions to enhance species and habitats, moving them towards more favourable conservation status.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
NO17.A1	Develop best practice for controlling invasive species on Coillte sites and engage with other agencies to share experiences and knowledge.	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density
NO19.A1	Identify and create packages of work to enable delivery of biodiversity goals relevant to the Coillte estate, improving habitat quality in biodiversity areas and benefiting key species on the estate.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
PO4.A1	Develop sustainability plan at key destinations and report on the visitor numbers and associated sustainability factors annually.	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value

Table 8-2: Additional Actions

Action	Potential Effects Mitigated
Coillte commit to delivering the Land Use Strategic Implementation Plan (LUSIP) actions in accordance with the Environmental Governance Framework (EGF) defined under the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Draft LUSIP. This EGF provides a policy-level framework for environmental protection and will inform decision-making and will guide lower-level plans, projects and activities being delivered under the LUSIP.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Coillte commit to adopting and implementing all recommendations relating to environmental protection defined under the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the USIP.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change



Table 8-3: Amendments to Pre-existing Plan Action

Action Reference	Action	Amendment (additional text in Red)	Potential Effects Mitigated
CO1.A1	Outline the potential pathways for supporting the delivery of 100,000 ha by 2050.	Outline the potential pathways to support the sustainable delivery of 100,000 ha by 2050.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
CO4.A1	Consider proposals to help promote farmer-led afforestation and collaborate with key stakeholders.	Consider proposals to help promote sustainable farmer-led afforestation and collaborate with key stakeholders.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
CO6.A1	Review existing in-house information to identify potential locations for the redesign of ca. 15,000 ha of peatlands and engage with external stakeholders. Redesign of Peatland Forests will ultimately be delivered over the longer term through a combination of rewetting/rehabilitation ("Forest-to-Bog" projects) and through transiting commercial forests to semi-natural forests with open spaces as appropriate.	Review existing in-house information to identify potential locations for the redesign of ca. 15,000 ha of peatlands and engage with external stakeholders, as appropriate, ensuring environmental considerations and constraints inform this process where possible. Redesign of unproductive Peatland Forests will be science-based and will ultimately be delivered - subject to carbon funding initiatives - over the longer term through a combination of rewetting/rehabilitation ("Forest-to-Bog" projects) and transitioning to semi-natural forests with open spaces as appropriate.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change



Action Reference	Action	Amendment (additional text in Red)	Potential Effects Mitigated
CO7.A1	Engage with experts and practitioners undertaking large scale peatland rehabilitation programmes in Ireland and continue to review the international literature and develop best practices on the redesign of peatland at scale.	Engage with experts and practitioners undertaking large scale peatland rehabilitation programmes in Ireland and continue to review the international literature and develop best practices on the redesign of peatland at scale in an Irish context.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
NO13.A1	Maintain and update the existing protocols for protected species and habitats adopted in Coillte appropriate assessment and develop action plans for key species on the estate (e.g. lesser horseshoe bat).	Maintain and update the existing protocols for protected species and habitats adopted in Coillte appropriate assessment and develop action plans for key species on the estate (e.g. lesser horseshoe bat, freshwater pearl mussel etc.) having due regard to existing and emerging best practice and relevant NPWS species plans, such as the following: - Hen Harrier Threat Response Plan - Lesser Horseshoe Bat Species Action Plan	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
WO12.A1	Develop evidence-based reports to support initiatives aimed at increasing the use of timber in construction and disseminate key findings to effectively promote and highlight the benefits of increased timber usage.	Develop evidence-based reports to support initiatives aimed at increasing the use of sustainable timber in construction and disseminate key findings to effectively promote and highlight the benefits of increased sustainable timber usage.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
PO5.A1	Develop bespoke partnerships to design and build new visitor destinations based on the requirements of each project.	Develop bespoke partnerships to design and build new visitor destinations based on the requirements of each project. Seek to secure the support of partners who are experts in developing sustainable visitor destinations.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change



Action Reference	Action	Amendment (additional text in Red)	Potential Effects Mitigated
PO9.A2	Expand the Woodlands for Health programme.	Expand the Woodlands for Health programme, while promoting sustainable and environmentally responsible interaction with woodland areas.	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value

Table 8-4: Environmental Governance Framework

Environmental Mitigation	Potential Effects Mitigated
Peatland Forest Redesign projects shall be science based and will be designed and implemented in accordance with identified best practice to ensure optimal environmental and climate outcomes, including minimising Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions during works and increasing GHG sequestration over time.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Forest-to-Bog projects will be conducted for the purpose of delivering environmental, biodiversity and climate benefits. Forest-to-Bog projects will be designed in a way that prevents/minimises unintended adverse effects on the environment, including biodiversity, European sites, soils or water, which could potentially occur due to the physical and landscape changes associated with these projects. These projects shall be carried out in accordance with relevant environmental legislation and in alignment with inter-related environmental policy, supporting the protection of the environment (e.g., Water Action Plan 2024, 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan etc.).	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Monitoring and management frameworks for redesigned peatlands will be developed by suitably qualified experts in accordance with best practice. A multi-disciplinary team of geo-technical and environmental experts will be required to provide input into the framework development process to ensure environmental effects are properly measured, quantified and identified, including effects on ecological receptors, hydrology, ground conditions and GHG flux. The framework will include for example: 1) An environmental assessment process to identify environmental sensitivities and define necessary monitoring and remedial actions and environmental mitigations; and 2) Method statement for the carrying out of measurement techniques in accordance with relevant standards.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value



Environmental Mitigation	Potential Effects Mitigated
Land agreements to facilitate renewable energy development projects and associated grid infrastructure development projects shall require the consideration of the following by the third-party developer: - All projects shall be subject to EIA and AA Screening and/or full EIA and AA as necessary, having due regard to European sites and associated Qualifying Interests/Special Conservation Interests when designing, planning and operating projects in accordance with legislative requirements. - Appropriate regard shall be had for potential adverse effects on ecology when designing and planning projects. Projects will be obliged to adhere to mitigation measures as outlined in the EIA and conditions of planning. - All renewable energy development projects and associated grid infrastructure development projects carried out by third party developers within the Coillte estate are required to be compliant with planning and environmental legislation by the third-party developer.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Seek to augment forest planning processes and enhance forest management practices, as necessary, to support improvements in water quality, in line with emerging and future DAFM requirements and the objectives of the Water Action Plan 2024 (and any relevant future iterations of this Plan).	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Continue to adopt, implement and promote measures to reduce chemical pesticide use in forestry in line with the EU Regulatory Framework for Pesticides.	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Continue to prevent and mitigate potential impacts of Coillte's operations, projects, and activities on biodiversity, with the aim of avoiding negative effects and promoting positive effects on habitats and species, in alignment with the objectives of the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (and any future iterations of this Plan).	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Implement the Memorandum of Understanding between Coillte and The National Parks and Wildlife Service, with a view to protecting, restoring and enhancing habitats and species of nature conservation value on the Coillte estate.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change



Environmental Mitigation	Potential Effects Mitigated
Coillte shall ensure all forestry-related operations are undertaken in accordance with relevant environmental protection requirements and DAFM standards/guidelines, including but not limited the following: - Forestry Standards Manual (DAFM, 2024) - Environmental Requirements for Afforestation (DAFM, 2024) - Conditions for Felling and Reforestation Standards for Felling & Reforestation (DAFM, v2019) - Land Types for Afforestation Land Types for Afforestation: Soil & Fertility (DAFM, 2024)	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Biodiversity Area Management Plans (BAMPlans) will be developed for biodiversity areas on the Coillte Estate, in accordance with Coillte's current procedure. Coillte will engage with the NPWS, where necessary, to consult on BAMPlans and to source species data for sites, where relevant. BAMPlans will be developed by Senior Ecologists and Foresters collaboratively.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Protocols for habitat and species protection will be developed by competent ecologists and will have due regard for best practice and the most up-to-date scientific information and guidelines.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
BAMPlans will be developed for all Coillte sites within European sites (SACs) which are designated for woodland QIs or contain woodland as a supporting habitat (i.e. bog woodland and peatland habitats). BAMPlans will have due regard for the conservation objectives of the SAC and corresponding woodland QI.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
The implications of forestry activities on European sites shall be considered as necessary during the preparation of any BAMPlans (in terms of alignment with conservation objectives) and during the DAFM licence application process. Where Appropriate Assessments/Natura Impact Statements are required for forestry operations, mitigation prescribed under the AA process will be sufficiently robust to ensure the forestry projects will not have adverse effects on the integrity of European sites, in accordance with Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Coillte will continue to develop and implement BAMPlans for biodiversity areas that contain invasive species. BAMPlans will have due regard for best practice and the most up-to-date scientific information and guidelines for the treatment of invasive species.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value



Environmental Mitigation	Potential Effects Mitigated
All forestry works will continue to be undertaken by suitable qualified professionals.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Coillte commit to continually improving forest management practices, ensuring alignment with emerging and future forest-related good practice guidelines and standards, as appropriate, in light of future trends and evidence-bases.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Proactively seek opportunities to plant native woodland in riparian zones in support of biodiversity and water quality protection aims, having regard to DAFM's Woodland for Water document - in support of policy aims to protect and improve water quality in Ireland.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Have due regard to soil type and the location of acid sensitive headwater catchments when undertaking forestry planning processes - with a view to preventing afforestation occurring at unsuitable locations and resulting in adverse effects on water quality.	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Ensure forest planning processes and forest management practices are suitably informed by latest research on forestry's potential impact on water quality, including outputs from the EPA's HYDROFOR research project, for example.	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Seek to inform, shape and adhere to all future DAFM requirements relating to water quality protection/enhancement, including requirements arising from the implementation of the Water Action Plan 2024 (and future iterations) and emerging and future environmental research.	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Secure and resource multi-disciplinary teams to deliver large-scale forestry projects in accordance with relevant environmental protection requirements, including foresters, environmental scientists, ecologists, hydrologists, archaeologists and other specialists, as appropriate.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change



Environmental Mitigation	Potential Effects Mitigated
Appropriate consideration shall be given to potential impacts any Coillte project may have on environmental receptors in Northern Ireland, such as ecological receptors (including migratory/mobile species, designated sites, important non-designated habitats etc.), water quality in cross-border water bodies, Northern Irish heritage assets etc. Coillte will seek to consult with Northern Irish environmental stakeholders in relation to projects that may give rise to transboundary environmental effects.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
The potential impact of recreational development on biodiversity, including protected flora species, will be considered, as necessary, when designing and planning such development. Appropriate ecological mitigation will be integrated into development projects that have the potential to generate significant adverse effects on sensitive ecological receptors.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Coillte shall continue to require third-party operators, who manage certain recreational activities within the Coillte Estate, to adhere to all relevant environmental protection requirements.	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Visitor destination developments will be sustainably managed in accordance with planning requirements. Where necessary and in locations where recreational access is formalised only, recreational activity will be appropriately managed by Coillte so as to ensure litter prevention, ecological protection, water quality, noise limitation and heritage protection.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Visitor destination development shall be designed, planned, and constructed in accordance with best practice, to ensure such development will not adversely affect the environment. Lighting design shall prevent adverse effects on light sensitive species. Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) and Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) shall be incorporated into designs where feasible.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
The following themes shall be promoted when planning visitor destinations: Amenity and Recreation, Sustainability and Climate Change, Circularity, Biodiversity and Heritage, Education and Sustainable Practices, and Health and Well-being.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change



Environmental Mitigation	Potential Effects Mitigated
Visitor destination projects will be subject to EIA and AA Screening, and full EIA and AA, where required under planning legislation. Appropriate environmental mitigation will be integrated into developments, as necessary, to prevent adverse effects on the environment.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Coillte shall ensure that development projects supported or promoted by the Draft LUSIP accord with flood risk planning requirements, avoiding inappropriate development in areas at risk to flooding and new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Design habitat creation, restoration and enhancement into development projects occurring within the Coillte Estate, wherever feasible.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Continually improve the effectiveness of forestry related environmental mitigation measures and fill knowledge gaps, by reviewing environmental monitoring, and identifying any instances of mitigation failure, to inform remedial actions and/or revisions to future mitigation specifications.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Continue to maintain a Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) of forestry activities as well as existing and proposed developments to support cumulative and transboundary environmental impact assessment. Continue to utilise SDI to optimise delivery of Coillte goals, activities and projects, and environmental objectives generally	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Ensure all Coillte's operations, projects and activities fully comply with all applicable environmental legislation, including but not limited to the following: - Habitats Directive - Birds Directive - Wildlife Act 1976 (as amended) - Flora Protection Order (S.I. no. 235 of 2022)	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value



Environmental Mitigation	Potential Effects Mitigated
- European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) - EIA Directive - Planning and Development Act - Planning and Development Regulations - Water Framework Directive and transposing legislation - Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act - Northern Irish Environmental Legislation, as it may apply to projects and activities with cross-border components.	
Coillte commit to continue ensuring its projects and activities do not result in adverse effects on the integrity of European sites (Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation), considering their conservation objectives, in accordance with the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Birds Directive (2009/147/EC).	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Coillte will continue to proactively support the achievement of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reductions required for the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 and the national Climate Action Plan 2025 (and future iterations).	- Climate Change
Coillte will continue to undertake forestry in accordance with Sustainable Forestry Management principles and in accordance with relevant Forest Stewardship Council®(FSC® C005714) and the Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC/17-23-042) standards.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Coillte will conduct its operations in accordance with an Environmental Management System certified to the ISO 14001 standard.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Coillte will continue to implement an Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) process to ensure potential environmental impacts of operations are systematically assessed, managed, and mitigated 'on the ground'. Coillte aim to review, monitor, and enhance this ERA process in accordance with the principle of continual improvement and in light of emerging and future legislative requirements and research.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value



Environmental Mitigation	Potential Effects Mitigated
Coillte will seek to ensure forestry planning process and forest management practices are carried out having appropriate regard to the unique environmental, geographic, meteorological, social, and cultural characteristics of its six Business Area Units (BAUs). Project-level mitigation will be shaped, adjusted and honed as appropriate to ensure Coillte's projects and activities do not adversely affect special environmental sensitivities associated with individual BAUs.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value - Climate Change
Coillte commit to continuing to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species in accordance with the European Union (Invasive Alien Species) Regulations 2024 and in support of Outcome 2H of the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (and future iterations, as appropriate).	- Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Coillte commit to proactively managing the risk of storm damage across its forestry sites, with the aim of minimising potential impacts on commercial operations and the environment. The following mitigation measures will be implemented to reduce vulnerability of forests to storm events: - Thinning: Wind risk considered into thinning planning at Strategic level. - Clearfelling: Consideration of forest opening size into Tactical planning to avoid creating unstable edges - Roading: Consideration of windthrow risk in the design and construction of new roads. - Species Selection: Establish mixed species and spacing to creation windfirm edges, e.g. riparian zones, external boundaries, road lines. - Normalisation of Forest Age Structure: Over multiple rotations smooth out the forest age distribution, so the age profile of the forest is even. This reduces proportion of the forest at risk of windthrow at any one time.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value
Coillte commit to proactively managing the risk of wildfire across its forestry sites, with the aim of minimising potential impacts on commercial operations and the environment. The following mitigation measures will be implemented to reduce vulnerability of forests to wildfire events: - Collaborate at a national level with the National Emergency Directorate and County Fire Chiefs. - Fire Management- Share digital Fire Plans with each of the county emergency services. - Fire Management- Roll out the National Fire Awareness and Training Days. - Fire Management- Coillte support the Interagency European Forest Fire MODEX Simulation exercise. - Estates Emergency Plan- Develop an operational emergency plan for the Estate.	- Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area - Habitat or Species Fragmentation - Disturbance to Key Species - Reduction in Species Density - Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value



6. CONCLUSION

Stage 1 AA Screening and Stage 2 AA of the Draft LUSIP has been carried out. Implementation of the Draft LUSIP has the potential to result in effects to the integrity of European sites if unmitigated.

The risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European sites, as a result of the implementation of the Draft LUSIP, have been addressed by the integration of mitigation measures into the Draft LUSIP that, at plan-level, robustly mitigate potential effects on European sites. In addition, all lower-order plans and projects arising through the implementation of the Draft LUSIP will themselves be subject to AA when further details of these plans and projects are known.

Potential in-combination effects arising due to interactions between the Draft LUSIP and other plans and projects were considered in the assessment. The mitigation measures integrated into the Draft LUSIP robustly mitigate potential effects of the Draft LUSIP on European sites, alone or in-combination with other plans/projects.

With the integration of the defined mitigation measures into the Draft LUSIP, it is concluded that the Draft LUSIP will not give rise to any adverse effects on designated European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. This conclusion is made in view of the conservation objectives for these European sites.

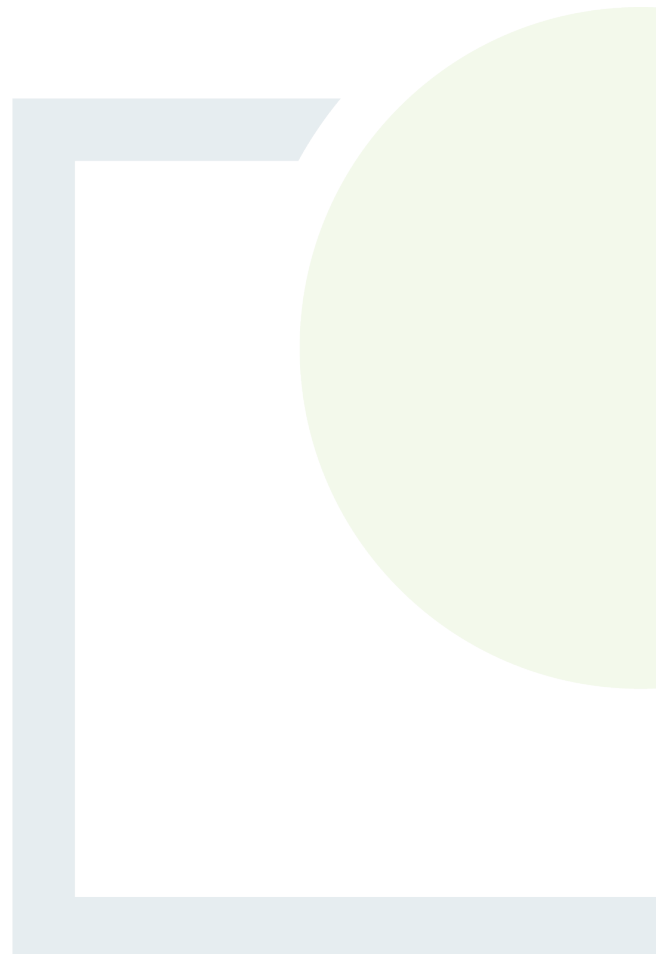
The AA process is ongoing and will inform and be concluded at adoption of the Draft Plan.



DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

APPENDIX 1

Relevant ROI European Sites



Site Code	European Site
IE0000006	Killyconny Bog (Cloghbally) SAC
IE0000007	Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC
IE0000014	Ballyallia Lake SAC
IE0000016	Ballycullinan Lake SAC
IE0000019	Ballyogan Lough SAC
IE0000020	Black Head-Poulsallagh Complex SAC
IE0000030	Danes Hole, Poulnalecka SAC
IE0000032	Dromore Woods and Loughs SAC
IE0000036	Inagh River Estuary SAC
IE0000037	Pouladatig Cave SAC
IE0000051	Lough Gash Turlough SAC
IE0000054	Moneen Mountain SAC
IE0000057	Moyree River System SAC
IE0000064	Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC
IE0000077	Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC
IE0000090	Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC
IE0000091	Clonakilty Bay SAC
IE0000093	Caha Mountains SAC
IE0000097	Lough Hyne Nature Reserve and Environs SAC
IE0000101	Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC
IE0000102	Sheep's Head SAC
IE0000106	St. Gobnet's Wood SAC
IE0000108	The Gearagh SAC
IE0000109	Three Castle Head to Mizen Head SAC
IE0000111	Aran Island (Donegal) Cliffs SAC
IE0000115	Ballintra SAC
IE0000116	Ballyarr Wood SAC
IE0000129	Croaghonagh Bog SAC
IE0000133	Donegal Bay (Murvagh) SAC
IE0000138	Durnesh Lough SAC
IE0000140	Fawnboy Bog/Lough Nacung SAC
IE0000142	Gannivegil Bog SAC
IE0000147	Horn Head and Rinclevan SAC
IE0000154	Inishtrahull SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0000163	Lough Eske and Ardnamona Wood SAC
IE0000164	Lough Nagreany Dunes SAC
IE0000165	Lough Nillan Bog (Carrickatlieve) SAC
IE0000168	Magheradrumman Bog SAC
IE0000172	Meenaguse/Ardbane Bog SAC
IE0000173	Meentygrannagh Bog SAC
IE0000174	Curraghchase Woods SAC
IE0000181	Rathlin O'Birne Island SAC
IE0000185	Sessiagh Lough SAC
IE0000189	Slieve League SAC
IE0000190	Slieve Tooley/Tormore Island/Loughros Beg Bay SAC
IE0000191	St. John's Point SAC
IE0000194	Tranarossan and Melmore Lough SAC
IE0000197	West of Ardara/Maas Road SAC
IE0000199	Baldoyle Bay SAC
IE0000202	Howth Head SAC
IE0000204	Lambay Island SAC
IE0000205	Malahide Estuary SAC
IE0000206	North Dublin Bay SAC
IE0000208	Rogerstown Estuary SAC
IE0000210	South Dublin Bay SAC
IE0000212	Inishmaan Island SAC
IE0000213	Inishmore Island SAC
IE0000216	River Shannon Callows SAC
IE0000218	Coolcam Turlough SAC
IE0000231	Barroughter Bog SAC
IE0000238	Caherglassaun Turlough SAC
IE0000242	Castletaylor Complex SAC
IE0000248	Cloonmoylan Bog SAC
IE0000252	Coole-Garryland Complex SAC
IE0000255	Croaghill Turlough SAC
IE0000261	Derrycrag Wood Nature Reserve SAC
IE0000268	Galway Bay Complex SAC
IE0000278	Inishbofin and Inishshark SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0000285	Kilsallagh Bog SAC
IE0000286	Kiltartan Cave (Coole) SAC
IE0000295	Levally Lough SAC
IE0000296	Lisnageeragh Bog and Ballinastack Turlough SAC
IE0000297	Lough Corrib SAC
IE0000299	Lough Cutra SAC
IE0000301	Lough Lurgen Bog/Glenamaddy Turlough SAC
IE0000304	Lough Rea SAC
IE0000308	Loughatorick South Bog SAC
IE0000318	Peterswell Turlough SAC
IE0000319	Pollnaknockaun Wood Nature Reserve SAC
IE0000322	Rahasane Turlough SAC
IE0000324	Rosroe Bog SAC
IE0000326	Shankill West Bog SAC
IE0000328	Slyne Head Islands SAC
IE0000330	Tully Mountain SAC
IE0000332	Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC
IE0000335	Ballinskelligs Bay and Inny Estuary SAC
IE0000343	Castlemaine Harbour SAC
IE0000353	Old Domestic Building, Dromore Wood SAC
IE0000364	Kilgarvan Ice House SAC
IE0000365	Killarney National Park, Macgillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC
IE0000370	Lough Yganavan and Lough Nambrackdarrig SAC
IE0000375	Mount Brandon SAC
IE0000382	Sheheree (Ardagh) Bog SAC
IE0000391	Ballynafagh Bog SAC
IE0000396	Pollardstown Fen SAC
IE0000397	Red Bog, Kildare SAC
IE0000404	Hugginstown Fen SAC
IE0000407	The Loughans SAC
IE0000412	Slieve Bloom Mountains SAC
IE0000428	Lough Melvin SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0000432	Barrigone SAC
IE0000439	Tory Hill SAC
IE0000440	Lough Ree SAC
IE0000448	Fortwilliam Turlough SAC
IE0000453	Carlingford Mountain SAC
IE0000455	Dundalk Bay SAC
IE0000458	Killala Bay/Moy Estuary SAC
IE0000461	Ardkill Turlough SAC
IE0000463	Balla Turlough SAC
IE0000466	Bellacorick Iron Flush SAC
IE0000470	Mullet/Blacksod Bay Complex SAC
IE0000471	Brackloon Woods SAC
IE0000472	Broadhaven Bay SAC
IE0000474	Ballymaglancy Cave, Cong SAC
IE0000475	Carrowkeel Turlough SAC
IE0000476	Carrowmore Lake Complex SAC
IE0000479	Cloughmoyne SAC
IE0000480	Clyard Kettle-holes SAC
IE0000484	Cross Lough (Killadoon) SAC
IE0000485	Corraun Plateau SAC
IE0000492	Doocastle Turlough SAC
IE0000495	Duvillaun Islands SAC
IE0000497	Flughany Bog SAC
IE0000500	Glenamoy Bog Complex SAC
IE0000503	Greaghans Turlough SAC
IE0000504	Kilglassan/Caheravoostia Turlough Complex SAC
IE0000507	Inishkea Islands SAC
IE0000516	Lackan Saltmarsh and Kilcummin Head SAC
IE0000522	Lough Gall Bog SAC
IE0000525	Shrule Turlough SAC
IE0000527	Moore Hall (Lough Carra) SAC
IE0000532	Oldhead Wood SAC
IE0000534	Owenduff/Nephin Complex SAC
IE0000541	Skealoghan Turlough SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0000542	Slieve Fyagh Bog SAC
IE0000566	All Saints Bog and Esker SAC
IE0000571	Charleville Wood SAC
IE0000572	Clara Bog SAC
IE0000575	Ferbane Bog SAC
IE0000576	Fin Lough (Offaly) SAC
IE0000580	Mongan Bog SAC
IE0000581	Moyclare Bog SAC
IE0000582	Raheenmore Bog SAC
IE0000584	Cuilcagh - Anierin Uplands SAC
IE0000585	Sharavogue Bog SAC
IE0000588	Ballinturly Turlough SAC
IE0000592	Bellanagare Bog SAC
IE0000595	Callow Bog SAC
IE0000597	Carrowbehy/Caher Bog SAC
IE0000600	Cloonchambers Bog SAC
IE0000604	Derrinea Bog SAC
IE0000606	Lough Fingall Complex SAC
IE0000607	Errit Lough SAC
IE0000609	Lisduff Turlough SAC
IE0000610	Lough Croan Turlough SAC
IE0000611	Lough Funshinagh SAC
IE0000612	Mullygollan Turlough SAC
IE0000614	Cloonshanville Bog SAC
IE0000622	Ballysadare Bay SAC
IE0000623	Ben Bulbin, Gleniff and Glenade Complex SAC
IE0000625	Bunduff Lough and Machair/Trawalua/Mullaghmore SAC
IE0000627	Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC
IE0000633	Lough Hoe Bog SAC
IE0000634	Lough Nabrickkeagh Bog SAC
IE0000636	Templehouse and Cloonacleigha Loughs SAC
IE0000637	Turloughmore (Sligo) SAC
IE0000638	Union Wood SAC
IE0000641	Ballyduff/Clonfinane Bog SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0000646	Galtee Mountains SAC
IE0000647	Kilcarren-Firville Bog SAC
IE0000665	Helvick Head SAC
IE0000668	Nier Valley Woodlands SAC
IE0000671	Tramore Dunes and Backstrand SAC
IE0000679	Garriskil Bog SAC
IE0000685	Lough Ennell SAC
IE0000688	Lough Owel SAC
IE0000692	Scragh Bog SAC
IE0000696	Ballyteige Burrow SAC
IE0000697	Bannow Bay SAC
IE0000700	Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC
IE0000704	Lady's Island Lake SAC
IE0000707	Saltee Islands SAC
IE0000708	Screen Hills SAC
IE0000709	Tacumshin Lake SAC
IE0000710	Raven Point Nature Reserve SAC
IE0000713	Ballyman Glen SAC
IE0000714	Bray Head SAC
IE0000716	Carriggower Bog SAC
IE0000717	Deputy's Pass Nature Reserve SAC
IE0000719	Glen of the Downs SAC
IE0000725	Knocksink Wood SAC
IE0000729	Buckronev-Brittis Dunes and Fen SAC
IE0000733	Vale of Clara (Rathdrum Wood) SAC
IE0000764	Hook Head SAC
IE0000770	Blackstairs Mountains SAC
IE0000781	Slaney River Valley SAC
IE0000831	Cullahill Mountain SAC
IE0000849	Spahill and Clomantagh Hill SAC
IE0000859	Clonaslee Eskers and Derry Bog SAC
IE0000869	Lisbigney Bog SAC
IE0000919	Ridge Road, SW of Rapemills SAC
IE0000925	The Long Derries, Edenderry SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0000930	Clare Glen SAC
IE0000934	Kilduff, Devilsbit Mountain SAC
IE0000939	Silvermine Mountains SAC
IE0000979	Corratirrim SAC
IE0000994	Ballyteige (Clare) SAC
IE0000996	Ballyvaughan Turlough SAC
IE0001013	Glenomra Wood SAC
IE0001021	Carrowmore Point to Spanish Point and Islands SAC
IE0001040	Barley Cove to Ballyrisode Point SAC
IE0001043	Cleanderry Wood SAC
IE0001058	Great Island Channel SAC
IE0001061	Kilkeran Lake and Castlefreke Dunes SAC
IE0001070	Myross Wood SAC
IE0001090	Ballyness Bay SAC
IE0001107	Coolvoy Bog SAC
IE0001125	Dunragh Loughs/Pettigo Plateau SAC
IE0001141	Gweedore Bay and Islands SAC
IE0001151	Kindrum Lough SAC
IE0001179	Muckish Mountain SAC
IE0001190	Sheephaven SAC
IE0001195	Termon Strand SAC
IE0001197	Keeper Hill SAC
IE0001209	Glenasmole Valley SAC
IE0001228	Aughrusbeg Machair and Lake SAC
IE0001230	Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC
IE0001242	Carrownagappul Bog SAC
IE0001251	Cregduff Lough SAC
IE0001257	Dog's Bay SAC
IE0001271	Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement SAC
IE0001275	Inisheer Island SAC
IE0001285	Kiltiernan Turlough SAC
IE0001309	Omey Island Machair SAC
IE0001311	Rusheenduff Lough SAC
IE0001312	Ross Lake and Woods SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0001313	Rosturra Wood SAC
IE0001321	Termon Lough SAC
IE0001342	Cloonee and Inchiquin Loughs, Uragh Wood SAC
IE0001371	Mucksna Wood SAC
IE0001387	Ballynafagh Lake SAC
IE0001398	Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC
IE0001403	Arroo Mountain SAC
IE0001430	Glen Bog SAC
IE0001432	Glenstal Wood SAC
IE0001459	Clogher Head SAC
IE0001482	Clew Bay Complex SAC
IE0001497	Doogort Machair/Lough Doo SAC
IE0001501	Erris Head SAC
IE0001513	Keel Machair/Menaun Cliffs SAC
IE0001529	Lough Cahasy, Lough Baun and Roonah Lough SAC
IE0001536	Mocorha Lough SAC
IE0001547	Castletownshend SAC
IE0001571	Urlaur Lakes SAC
IE0001625	Castlesampson Esker SAC
IE0001626	Annaghmore Lough (Roscommon) SAC
IE0001637	Four Roads Turlough SAC
IE0001656	Bricklieve Mountains and Keishcorran SAC
IE0001669	Knockalongy and Knockachree Cliffs SAC
IE0001673	Lough Arrow SAC
IE0001680	Streedagh Point Dunes SAC
IE0001683	Liskeenan Fen SAC
IE0001741	Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills SAC
IE0001742	Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC
IE0001757	Holdenstown Bog SAC
IE0001766	Magherabeg Dunes SAC
IE0001774	Lough Carra/Mask Complex SAC
IE0001776	Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC
IE0001786	Kilroosky Lough Cluster SAC
IE0001810	White Lough, Ben Loughs and Lough Doo SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0001818	Lough Forbes Complex SAC
IE0001831	Split Hills and Long Hill Esker SAC
IE0001847	Philipston Marsh SAC
IE0001858	Galmoy Fen SAC
IE0001873	Derryclogher (Knockboy) Bog SAC
IE0001879	Glanmore Bog SAC
IE0001880	Meenaguse Scragh SAC
IE0001881	Maulagowna Bog SAC
IE0001890	Mullaghanish Bog SAC
IE0001898	Unshin River SAC
IE0001899	Cloonakillina Lough SAC
IE0001912	Glendree Bog SAC
IE0001913	Sonnagh Bog SAC
IE0001919	Glenade Lough SAC
IE0001922	Bellacorick Bog Complex SAC
IE0001926	East Burren Complex SAC
IE0001932	Mweelrea/Sheeffry/Erriff Complex SAC
IE0001952	Comeragh Mountains SAC
IE0001955	Croaghaun/Slievemore SAC
IE0001957	Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC
IE0001975	Ballyhoorisky Point to Fanad Head SAC
IE0001976	Lough Gill SAC
IE0001992	Tamur Bog SAC
IE0002005	Bellacragher Saltmarsh SAC
IE0002006	Ox Mountains Bogs SAC
IE0002008	Maumturk Mountains SAC
IE0002010	Old Domestic Building (Keevagh) SAC
IE0002012	North Inishowen Coast SAC
IE0002031	The Twelve Bens/Garraun Complex SAC
IE0002032	Boleybrack Mountain SAC
IE0002034	Connemara Bog Complex SAC
IE0002036	Ballyhoura Mountains SAC
IE0002037	Carrigeenamronety Hill SAC
IE0002041	Old Domestic Building, Curraglass Wood SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0002047	Cloghernagore Bog and Glenveagh National Park SAC
IE0002070	Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC
IE0002074	Slyne Head Peninsula SAC
IE0002081	Ballinafad SAC
IE0002091	Newhall and Edenvale Complex SAC
IE0002098	Old Domestic Building, Askive Wood SAC
IE0002110	Corliskea/Trien/Cloonfelliv Bog SAC
IE0002111	Kilkieran Bay and Islands SAC
IE0002112	Ballyseedy Wood SAC
IE0002117	Lough Coy SAC
IE0002118	Barnahallia Lough SAC
IE0002119	Lough Nageeron SAC
IE0002120	Lough Bane and Lough Glass SAC
IE0002121	Lough Lene SAC
IE0002122	Wicklow Mountains SAC
IE0002123	Ardmore Head SAC
IE0002124	Bolingbrook Hill SAC
IE0002125	Anglesey Road SAC
IE0002126	Pollagoona Bog SAC
IE0002129	Murvey Machair SAC
IE0002130	Tully Lough SAC
IE0002135	Lough Nageage SAC
IE0002137	Lower River Suir SAC
IE0002141	Mountmellick SAC
IE0002144	Newport River SAC
IE0002147	Lisduff Fen SAC
IE0002157	Newgrove House SAC
IE0002158	Kenmare River SAC
IE0002159	Mulroy Bay SAC
IE0002161	Long Bank SAC
IE0002162	River Barrow and River Nore SAC
IE0002164	Lough Golagh and Breesy Hill SAC
IE0002165	Lower River Shannon SAC
IE0002170	Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0002171	Bandon River SAC
IE0002172	Blasket Islands SAC
IE0002173	Blackwater River (Kerry) SAC
IE0002176	Leannan River SAC
IE0002177	Lough Dahybaun SAC
IE0002179	Towerhill House SAC
IE0002180	Gortacarnaun Wood SAC
IE0002181	Drummin Wood SAC
IE0002185	Slieve Mish Mountains SAC
IE0002187	Drongawn Lough SAC
IE0002189	Farranamanagh Lough SAC
IE0002193	Ireland's Eye SAC
IE0002197	Derrinlough (Cloonkeenleananode) Bog SAC
IE0002199	Ballygar (Aghrane) Bog SAC
IE0002200	Aughrim (Aghrane) Bog SAC
IE0002201	Derragh Bog SAC
IE0002202	Mount Jessop Bog SAC
IE0002203	Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC
IE0002205	Wooddown Bog SAC
IE0002206	Scohaboy (Sopwell) Bog SAC
IE0002207	Arragh More (Derrybreen) Bog SAC
IE0002213	Glenloughaun Esker SAC
IE0002214	Killeglan Grassland SAC
IE0002236	Island Fen SAC
IE0002241	Lough Derg, North-east Shore SAC
IE0002243	Clare Island Cliffs SAC
IE0002244	Ardrahan Grassland SAC
IE0002245	Old Farm Buildings, Ballymacrogan SAC
IE0002246	Ballycullinan, Old Domestic Building SAC
IE0002247	Toonagh Estate SAC
IE0002249	The Murrough Wetlands SAC
IE0002250	Carrowmore Dunes SAC
IE0002252	Thomastown Quarry SAC
IE0002256	Ballyprior Grassland SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0002257	Moanour Mountain SAC
IE0002258	Silvermines Mountains West SAC
IE0002259	Tory Island Coast SAC
IE0002261	Magharee Islands SAC
IE0002262	Valencia Harbour/Portmagee Channel SAC
IE0002263	Kerry Head Shoal SAC
IE0002264	Kilkee Reefs SAC
IE0002265	Kingstown Bay SAC
IE0002268	Achill Head SAC
IE0002269	Carnsore Point SAC
IE0002274	Wicklow Reef SAC
IE0002279	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC
IE0002280	Dunbeacon Shingle SAC
IE0002281	Reen Point Shingle SAC
IE0002283	Rutland Island and Sound SAC
IE0002287	Lough Swilly SAC
IE0002293	Carrowbaun, Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs SAC
IE0002294	Cahermore Turlough SAC
IE0002295	Ballinduff Turlough SAC
IE0002296	Williamstown Turloughs SAC
IE0002298	River Moy SAC
IE0002299	River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC
IE0002301	River Finn SAC
IE0002303	Dunmuckrum Turloughs SAC
IE0002306	Carlingford Shore SAC
IE0002312	Slieve Bernagh Bog SAC
IE0002313	Ballymore Fen SAC
IE0002314	Old Domestic Buildings, Rylane SAC
IE0002315	Glanlough Woods SAC
IE0002316	Ratty River Cave SAC
IE0002317	Cregg House Stables, Crusheen SAC
IE0002318	Knockanira House SAC
IE0002319	Kilkishen House SAC
IE0002320	Kildun Souterrain SAC

Site Code	European Site
IE0002324	Glendine Wood SAC
IE0002327	Belgica Mound Province SAC
IE0002328	Hovland Mound Province SAC
IE0002329	South-west Porcupine Bank SAC
IE0002330	North-west Porcupine Bank SAC
IE0002331	Mouds Bog SAC
IE0002332	Coolrain Bog SAC
IE0002333	Knockacoller Bog SAC
IE0002336	Carn Park Bog SAC
IE0002337	Crosswood Bog SAC
IE0002338	Drumalough Bog SAC
IE0002339	Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC
IE0002340	Moneybeg and Clareisland Bogs SAC
IE0002341	Ardagullion Bog SAC
IE0002342	Mount Hevey Bog SAC
IE0002343	Tullaher Lough and Bog SAC
IE0002346	Brown Bog SAC
IE0002347	Camderry Bog SAC
IE0002348	Clooneen Bog SAC
IE0002349	Corbo Bog SAC
IE0002350	Curraghlahanagh Bog SAC
IE0002351	Moanveanlagh Bog SAC
IE0002352	Monivea Bog SAC
IE0002353	Redwood Bog SAC
IE0002354	Tullaghanrock Bog SAC
IE0002356	Ardgrague Bog SAC
IE0002953	Blackwater Bank SAC
IE0002998	West Connacht Coast SAC
IE0002999	Hempton's Turbot Bank SAC
IE0003000	Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC
IE0003001	Porcupine Bank Canyon SAC
IE0003002	South-east Rockall Bank SAC
IE0003015	Codling Fault Zone SAC
IE0004002	Saltee Islands SPA

Site Code	European Site
IE0004004	Inishkea Islands SPA
IE0004006	North Bull Island SPA
IE0004013	Drumcliff Bay SPA
IE0004014	Rockabill SPA
IE0004015	Rogerstown Estuary SPA
IE0004016	Baldoyle Bay SPA
IE0004017	Mongan Bog SPA
IE0004019	The Raven SPA
IE0004020	Ballyteige Burrow SPA
IE0004021	Old Head of Kinsale SPA
IE0004022	Ballycotton Bay SPA
IE0004023	Ballymacoda Bay SPA
IE0004024	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA
IE0004025	Malahide Estuary SPA
IE0004026	Dundalk Bay SPA
IE0004027	Tramore Back Strand SPA
IE0004028	Blackwater Estuary SPA
IE0004029	Castlemaine Harbour SPA
IE0004030	Cork Harbour SPA
IE0004031	Inner Galway Bay SPA
IE0004032	Dungarvan Harbour SPA
IE0004033	Bannow Bay SPA
IE0004034	Trawbreaga Bay SPA
IE0004035	Cummeen Strand SPA
IE0004036	Killala Bay/Moy Estuary SPA
IE0004037	Blacksod Bay/Broad Haven SPA
IE0004038	Killarney National Park SPA
IE0004039	Derryveagh and Glendowan Mountains SPA
IE0004040	Wicklow Mountains SPA
IE0004041	Ballyallia Lough SPA
IE0004042	Lough Corrib SPA
IE0004043	Lough Derravaragh SPA
IE0004044	Lough Ennell SPA
IE0004045	Glen Lough SPA

Site Code	European Site
IE0004046	Lough Iron SPA
IE0004047	Lough Owel SPA
IE0004048	Lough Gara SPA
IE0004049	Lough Oughter Complex SPA
IE0004050	Lough Arrow SPA
IE0004051	Lough Carra SPA
IE0004052	Carrowmore Lake SPA
IE0004056	Lough Cutra SPA
IE0004057	Lough Derg (Donegal) SPA
IE0004058	Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA
IE0004060	Lough Fern SPA
IE0004061	Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA
IE0004062	Lough Mask SPA
IE0004063	Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA
IE0004064	Lough Ree SPA
IE0004065	Lough Sheelin SPA
IE0004069	Lambay Island SPA
IE0004072	Stags of Broad Haven SPA
IE0004074	Illanmaster SPA
IE0004075	Lough Swilly SPA
IE0004076	Wexford Harbour and Slobbs SPA
IE0004077	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA
IE0004078	Carlingford Lough SPA
IE0004080	Boyne Estuary SPA
IE0004081	Clonakilty Bay SPA
IE0004082	Greers Isle SPA
IE0004084	Inishglora and Inishkeeragh SPA
IE0004086	River Little Brosna Callows SPA
IE0004087	Lough Foyle SPA
IE0004089	Rahasane Turlough SPA
IE0004090	Sheskinmore Lough SPA
IE0004091	Stabannan-Braganstown SPA
IE0004092	Tacumshin Lake SPA
IE0004095	Kilcolman Bog SPA

Site Code	European Site
IE0004096	Middle Shannon Callows SPA
IE0004097	River Suck Callows SPA
IE0004098	Owenduff/Nephin Complex SPA
IE0004099	Pettigo Plateau Nature Reserve SPA
IE0004100	Inishtrahull SPA
IE0004101	Ballykenny-Fisherstown Bog SPA
IE0004102	Garriskil Bog SPA
IE0004103	All Saints Bog SPA
IE0004105	Bellanagare Bog SPA
IE0004107	Coole-Garryland SPA
IE0004108	Eirk Bog SPA
IE0004109	The Gearagh SPA
IE0004110	Lough Nillan Bog SPA
IE0004111	Duvillaun Islands SPA
IE0004113	Howth Head Coast SPA
IE0004114	Illaunonearaun SPA
IE0004115	Inishduff SPA
IE0004116	Inishkeel SPA
IE0004117	Ireland's Eye SPA
IE0004119	Loop Head SPA
IE0004120	Rathlin O'Birne Island SPA
IE0004121	Roaninish SPA
IE0004122	Skerries Islands SPA
IE0004124	Sovereign Islands SPA
IE0004127	Wicklow Head SPA
IE0004129	Ballysadare Bay SPA
IE0004132	Illancrone and Inishkeeragh SPA
IE0004133	Aughris Head SPA
IE0004134	Lough Rea SPA
IE0004135	Ardboline Island and Horse Island SPA
IE0004137	Dovegrove Callows SPA
IE0004139	Lough Croan Turlough SPA
IE0004140	Four Roads Turlough SPA
IE0004142	Cregganna Marsh SPA

Site Code	European Site
IE0004143	Cahore Marshes SPA
IE0004144	High Island, Inishshark and Davillaun SPA
IE0004145	Durnesh Lough SPA
IE0004146	Malin Head SPA
IE0004148	Fanad Head SPA
IE0004149	Falcarragh to Meenlaragh SPA
IE0004151	Donegal Bay SPA
IE0004155	Beara Peninsula SPA
IE0004156	Sheep's Head to Toe Head SPA
IE0004158	River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA
IE0004160	Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA
IE0004161	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA
IE0004162	Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA
IE0004165	Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA
IE0004167	Slieve Beagh SPA
IE0004168	Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA
IE0004170	Cruagh Island SPA
IE0004172	Dalkey Islands SPA
IE0004175	Deenish Island and Scariff Island SPA
IE0004177	Bills Rocks SPA
IE0004181	Connemara Bog Complex SPA
IE0004182	Mid-Clare Coast SPA
IE0004186	The Murrough SPA
IE0004187	Sligo/Leitrim Uplands SPA
IE0004188	Tralee Bay Complex SPA
IE0004189	Kerry Head SPA
IE0004190	Galley Head to Duneen Point SPA
IE0004191	Seven Heads SPA
IE0004193	Mid-Waterford Coast SPA
IE0004212	Cross Lough (Killadoon) SPA
IE0004219	Courtmacsherry Bay SPA
IE0004220	Corofin Wetlands SPA
IE0004221	Illeannan SPA
IE0004228	Lough Conn and Lough Cullin SPA

Site Code	European Site
IE0004231	Inishbofin, Omev Island and Turbot Island SPA
IE0004232	River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA
IE0004233	River Nore SPA
IE0004234	Ballintemple and Ballygilgan SPA
IE0004236	North-west Irish Sea SPA
IE0004237	Seas off Wexford SPA

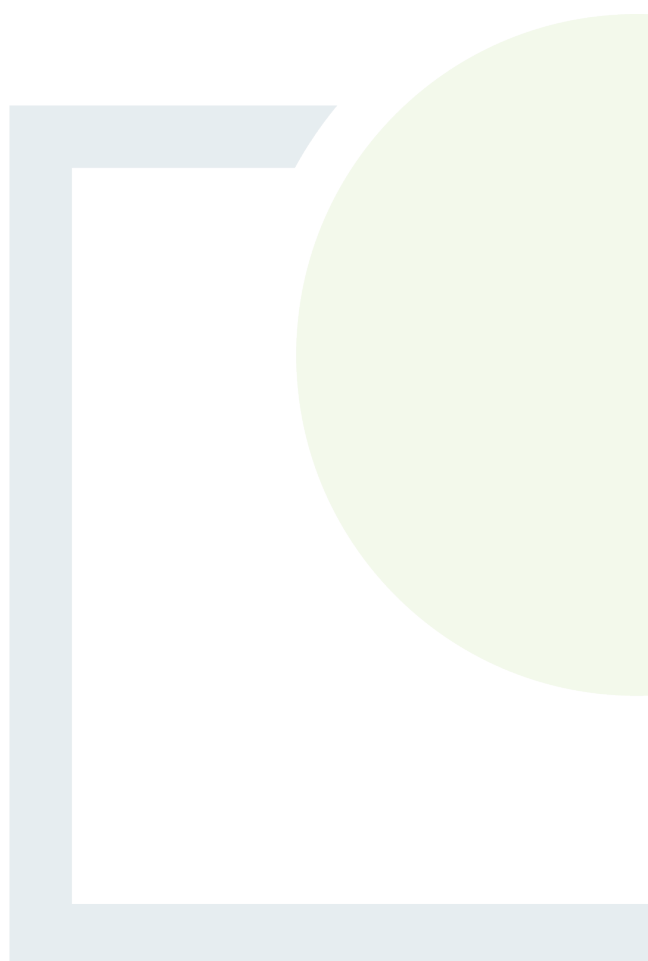


**FEHILY
TIMONEY**

**DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

APPENDIX 2

Relevant NI European Sites
(within Plan Zone of
Influence)



Site code	European Site Name
UK0030084	Bann Estuary SAC
UK0030089	Binevenagh SAC
UK9020161	Carlingford Lough SPA
UK0030116	Cladagh (Swanlinbar) River SAC
UK0016603	Cuilcagh Mountain SAC
UK0016620	Derryleckagh SAC
UK0016615	Eastern Mourne SAC
UK0016611	Fairy Water Bogs SAC
UK0030068	Fardrum and Roosky Turloughs SAC
UK0030045	Largalinn SAC
UK9020031	Lough Foyle SPA
UK0030047	Lough Melvin SAC
UK0016621	Magheraveely Marl Loughs SAC
UK0016613	Magilligan SAC
UK0016619	Monawilkin SAC
UK0030211	Moneygal Bog SAC
UK0030212	Moninea Bog SAC
UK0030233	Owenkillev River SAC
UK0016607	Pettigoe Plateau SAC
UK9020051	Pettigoe Plateau SPA
UK0030361	River Faughan and Tributaries SAC
UK0030320	River Foyle and Tributaries SAC
UK0030360	River Roe and Tributaries SAC
UK0030268	Rostrevor Wood SAC
UK0030383	Skerries and Causeway SAC
UK0016622	Slieve Beagh SAC
UK9020302	Slieve Beagh-Mullaghfad-Lisnaskea SPA
UK0030277	Slieve Gullion SAC
UK0016614	Upper Lough Erne SAC
UK9020071	Upper Lough Erne SPA
UK0030300	West Fermanagh Scarplands SAC

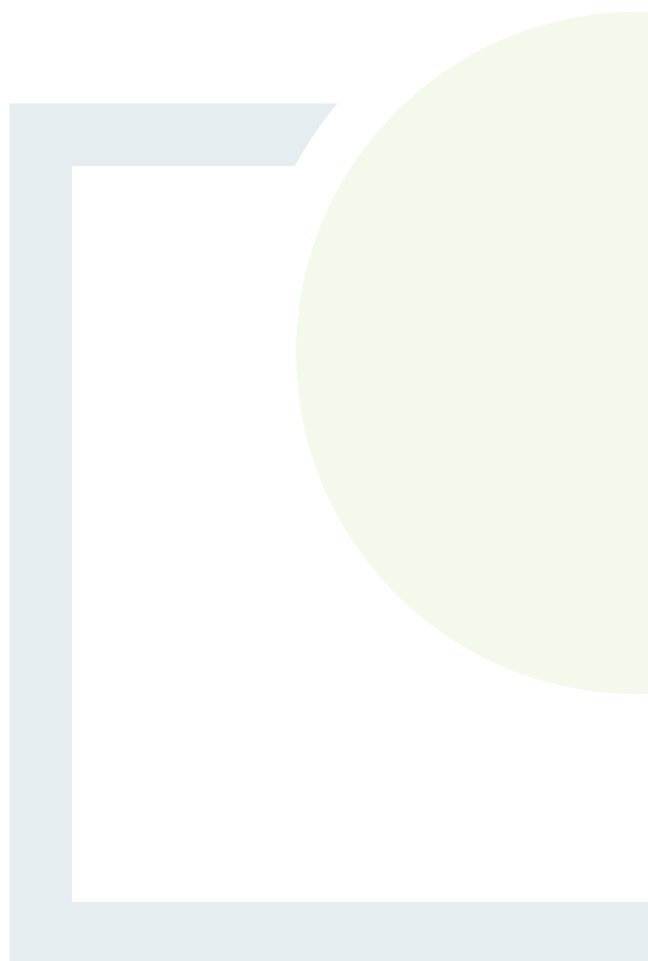


**FEHILY
TIMONEY**

DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

APPENDIX 3

Assessment of Potential Likely
Significant Effects on
European Sites



Forest for Climate

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
Ambition 1: Enable the creation of 100,000 hectares of new forests, half of which will be native woodlands, which will sink 18m tonnes CO2 by 2050."	CO1	Undertake a review to understand Land Use policy implications for Commercial & Native afforestation and assess land resource availability and the impact of alternative agricultural schemes.		
	CO1.A1	Outline the potential pathways and phasing for supporting the delivery of 100,000 ha by 2050.	This action is administrative in nature and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	CO2	Engage with government and other key stakeholders to ensure that the policy and regulatory framework support Coillte's ambitions.		
	CO2.A1	Develop and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan to raise awareness of the Afforestation Ambition.	This action promotes effective implementation of the actions Land Use Implementation Plan. It supports the full realisation of the vision and objectives of the plan. This action is administrative in nature, is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	CO3	Support Local and National Government to develop afforestation opportunities on suitable publicly owned lands.		
	CO3.A1	Support and facilitate those public bodies who are committed to pursuing opportunities for afforestation on publicly owned land by supplying key afforestation management and planning services.	This action supports and facilitates public bodies in the afforestation of publicly owned land by providing afforestation management and planning services. If the management and planning services are not in keeping with the conservation objectives for the QIs and SCIs of European sites, there is the potential for significant effects on European sites.	Yes
	CO4	Collaborate with key stakeholders to explore options for farmer led afforestation.		
	CO4.A1	Consider proposals to help promote farmer-led afforestation and collaborate with key stakeholders.	This action supports and facilitates farmer-led afforestation. If the management and planning services are not in keeping with the conservation objectives for the QIs and SCIs of European sites, there is the potential for significant effects on European sites.	Yes
	CO5	Secure the necessary investment to achieve this ambition by exploring all sources of available funding.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	CO5.A1	Develop new funding models to deliver nature and climate-based credits and create projects that will deliver new afforestation and continue to support investors in Irish forestry by providing afforestation, woodland management and other important services to investor funds that promote afforestation.	While development of a funding model will not, in and off itself, impact European sites, supporting new afforestation and providing afforestation and woodland management services, if not done with cognizance of the conservation objectives of QIs and SCIs of European sites, there is the potential for significant effects on European sites.	Yes
"Ambition 2: Redesign 30,000 hectares of Peatland Forests for climate and ecological benefits by 2050."	CO6	Synthesise existing information that identifies potential location(s) for the redesign of peatlands at scale.		
	CO6.A1	Review existing in-house information to identify potential locations for the redesign of ca. 15,000 ha of peatlands and engage with external stakeholders. Redesign of Peatland Forests will ultimately be delivered over the longer term through a combination of rewetting/rehabilitation ("Forest-to-Bog" projects) and through transiting commercial forests to semi-natural forests with open spaces as appropriate.	This actions aims to identify suitable areas for peatland forest redesign. The processing of re-viewing in-house information will aid in the selection of the most appropriate land being chosen for these restoration efforts. This action has the potential to have wide ranging slight to moderate positive effects on European Sites.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	CO7	Continuously develop guidelines for the redesign of peatlands based on best Irish and international practice informed by suitably qualified professionals.		
	CO7.A1	Engage with experts and practitioners undertaking large scale peatland rehabilitation programmes in Ireland and continue to review the international literature and develop best practices on the redesign of peatland at scale.	The engagement with experts and practitioners in peatland rehabilitation, the review of international literature and development of best practices for the redesign of peatlands will be a important body of work used to guide the restoration of Ireland's peatlands. This action includes in built mitigation (experts and practitioners). If experts are not engaged, the most up-to-date scientific data is not used and if the guidelines are not tailored to Irish peatlands there is potential for knock on effects to European sites.	Yes
	CO8	Establish and implement monitoring and management frameworks for redesigned peatlands. Such monitoring and management frameworks shall be designed by suitably qualified, multidisciplinary professionals.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	CO8.A1	Develop monitoring and management frameworks for redesigned peatlands using earth observation and on-site measurement techniques.	Development of a monitoring and management framework for the redesign of peatlands will provide knowledge on the current state of peatlands. However, if on-site measurements are mis-managed this could lead to direct damage of bog habitat QIs of SACs.	Yes
"Ambition 3: Manage the existing Forest Estate to increase the carbon store by 10m tonnes of CO2 by 2050."	CO09	Utilise land use planning models to deliver balanced carbon mitigation management options to achieve the 10m tonnes of CO2 storage target.		
	CO9.A1	Update land-use planning model to generate GHG profile using up-to-date inventory and harvest volume data and undertake analysis to ensure proposed management options implemented within the timeframe of this plan supports the delivery of the longer-term ambition.	Update land-use planning model to generate GHG profile using up-to-date inventory and harvest volume data and undertake analysis to ensure proposed management options implemented within the timeframe of this plan supports the delivery of the longer-term ambition.	No
	CO10	Undertake continued refinement and analysis of the impact of forest management and mitigation measures to improve forest productivity, including, managing the age profile to improve the estate's carbon efficiency.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	CO10.A1	Continually review and analyse forest management practices that can support climate mitigation, and where appropriate engage with scientific experts in the field to further understand the data and knowledge of carbon dynamics. Consider how they can be incorporated into reporting requirements such as SBTi and GHG protocol.	Review and analysis of forest management practices that can support climate mitigation and engagement with scientific experts will help Coillte to further understand the data and knowledge of carbon dynamics. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	CO11	Identify and quantify the impacts of climate change and develop measures to make Coillte's estate more climate resilient.		
	CO11.A1	Develop a forest resilience strategy that considers the impacts of climate change, identifies risks and mitigations as well as the risk of pests and diseases and evaluate how these findings can be incorporated into our planning models.	Development of a forest resilience strategy which considers the impact of climate change, and pest and diseases will have positive effects in terms of the forest estate. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	CO12	Develop evidence and understanding of carbon management within the forest and across the forestry supply chain, and pilot new decision-making tools.		
		Refer to CO10 Actions		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	CO13	Deepen our understanding of the potential of product substitution from harvested wood and undertake additional analysis related to fossil fuel displacement and value chain emissions.		
	CO13.A1	Review and update analysis on product substitution based on up-to-date wood supply and usage figures to produce new displacement factors.	This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
"Ambition 4: Generate an additional 1 Gigawatt of renewable wind energy to power 500,000 homes by 2030."	CO14	Support FuturEnergy Ireland and third-party renewable energy developers in their current and future renewable energy endeavours, in full consideration of protection of the environment including Appropriate Assessment screening where necessary.		
	CO14.A1	Continue to enable FEI and non-FEI projects where appropriate through providing land agreements to facilitate renewable energy projects.	This action encourages the development of renewable energy projects which has the potential to generate energy for the national grid. Energy developments if not carefully located and mitigated have the potential to significantly affect the QIs/SCIs of European sites.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
			The construction of energy projects have to potential for direct habitat removal and fragmentation, disturbance/displacement of species and alterations in water quality as well as peat slides. The operation phase of energy projects particularly wind, have the potential for disturbance/displacement of species and species fatalities (e.g. Hen harrier collision with turbine blades and Lesser horseshoe bat collision or air pressure change around blades).	
	CO15	Engage with Government and other key stakeholders to ensure that the policy and regulatory framework can effectively deliver the approval and granting of permissions for renewable energy projects including a correctly structured, timely and well-resourced planning process.		
	CO15.A1	Coillte will support FEI and third-party developers in seeking improvements in the planning process by actively engaging in relevant public consultations and making submissions as opportunities arise throughout the duration of the plan.	Coillte will support FEI and third-party developers in seeking improvements in the planning process, with the aim being to increase the number of energy developments receiving planning permission. Coillte will support FEI and third-party developers in seeking improvements in the planning process, with the aim being to increase the number of energy developments receiving planning permission.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	CO16	Develop a clear policy and explore opportunities for both onshore and offshore grid infrastructure, rollout and services to support ongoing development, in full consideration of protection of the environment including Appropriate Assessment screening where necessary.		
	CO16.A1	Coillte will develop a policy outlining Coillte's role as a Landowner in the facilitation of grid infrastructure.	"Coillte's development of a policy outlining their role as a Landowner in the facilitation of grid infrastructure, will support the development of energy projects.	CO16.A1
	CO16.A2	Consider proposals in relation to grid solutions (such as long duration energy storage) received from FEI and third-party developers as they relate to Coillte property for the timeframe of the plan.	"Consideration of proposals in relation to grid solutions will support the development of energy projects.	CO16.A2

Forest for Nature

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
"Ambition 5: Enhance and restore biodiversity by increasing the area of our estate managed primarily for nature from 20% to 30% by 2025."	NO1	Classify additional biodiversity areas on the estate, focusing on habitats of the best ecological quality, and/or which have the best habitat restoration potential.		
	NO1.A1	Coillte will identify an additional c.44,000ha across the estate to be managed primarily for nature. The BioClass system will be used to rank the ecological value of these new biodiversity areas and to assign a target habitat, which indicates the overall management goal.	This action supports the identification of an additional c.44,000ha across the Coillte estate to be managed primarily for nature. The BioClass system will be used to rank the ecological value of these new biodiversity areas and to assign a target habitat. There is potential for significant effects should management practices and/or the identified target habitat chosen conflict with the conservation objectives of QIs/SCIs of European Sites.	Yes
	NO2	Continue the process of producing and implementing management plans for biodiversity areas, combining both ecological and forestry perspectives and expertise in the effort to improve biodiversity found within the Coillte estate, subject to Appropriate Assessment screening, as necessary.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	NO2.A1	Scale up the management of biodiversity areas; increase the annual operational programme to deliver, by 2029, biodiversity interventions on 2,000ha. The management actions will primarily include CCF, coupe felling, control of invasive species and re-wetting or maintaining ecologically important bog habitat and will be informed by Biodiversity Area Management (BAM) Plans that are prepared jointly by foresters and ecologists.	"This actions involves the scaling up of the management of biodiversity areas which will be informed by Biodiversity Area Management (BAM) Plans. There is potential for significant effects if BAM plans do not align with the conservation interests of the QIs/SCIs of European sites and if methods and techniques used in the management of biodiversity areas are not appropriate.	Yes
	NO2.A2	Develop markets and supply chain to optimise timber produced from CCF management actions. Diversifying end markets will support CCF implementation.	While the development of markets and supply chain for CCF timber will not directly effect European Sites. The increase in the amount of CCF timber produced may conflict with the conservation objectives of QI woodlands such as Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles located within SACs. The mismanagement of these woodlands can lead to the reduction of indicators of conservation value. Killarney fern is sometimes associated with these woods; felling can lead to too much light getting through the canopy layer and result in an inhospitable environment for the species.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	NO2.A3	Innovate and explore ways of leveraging Coillte's forest management planning systems and capability to incorporate biodiversity objectives and prioritise sites of highest ecological value.	The development of a Bio Planning model, in of itself is likely to have a positive effect on biodiversity. However, if the biodiversity objectives are not in line with the conservation objectives of the SCIs/QIs of European sites there is potential for significant effects.	Yes
	NO3	Create a framework for the selection, appropriate restoration and conservation of ancient and long-established woodland, and engage with key regulatory bodies to promote the approach.		
	NO3.A1	Coillte will map ancient forests on the estate, assess their ecological value using BioClass procedure and develop appropriate management approach.	The mapping of ancient forests on Coillte's estate, will not, in and off itself have a significant effect on European sites, however assessing the ecological value and developing a management approach for ancient forests may have a significant effect on woodland QIs if the management approach is not in line with the conservation objectives of woodland QIs of SACs. Mismanagement can lead to the reduction of indicators of conservation value.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	NO3.A2	Lead engagement with relevant stakeholders to demonstrate and promote our management approach.	This action promotes increased engagement with relevant stakeholders, allowing for enhanced expertise and knowledge on Coillte's management approach. While this of itself will not have a significant effect on European sites, if the promoted management is not in keeping with that of the conservation objectives of European sites, there is the potential for significant effects.	Yes
"Ambition 6: Transform areas of our forests so that 50% of our estate is managed primarily for nature in the long-term."	NO4	Continue to increase the implementation of alternative silvicultural systems including continuous cover forestry (CCF) in forests of ecological value. Any plan or project arising shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment screening, as necessary.		
		Refer to NO2, NO3, and NO6 Actions		
	NO5	Develop metrics, set targets and develop an effective regime to monitor and report on key environmental parameters on the Coillte estate; including valuable habitats / species and the ecological benefits of biodiversity management actions.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	NO5.A1	Review and update existing biodiversity monitoring procedures, to ensure that the management actions are effective in protecting and enhancing the habitats present.	Review and update existing biodiversity monitoring procedures, and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	NO5.A2	Develop a methodology for recording and reporting habitats at scale across the estate, combining Coillte's inventory skillsets and capability with available ecological data.	Development of a methodology for recording and reporting habitats at scale across the Coillte estate, will allow Coillte to better manage habitats. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	NO5.A3	Explore approaches to mapping change in sites of high ecological value/sensitivity.	Exploring approaches to mapping change in sites of high ecological value/sensitivity will allow Coillte to better manage habitats. This action does not pose a likely significant effect on any European Sites or any listed QIs/SCIs.	No
	NO5.A4	Develop a process for recording and reporting species (flora and fauna) to build our knowledge of their occurrence across the estate and to better inform appropriate protection measures.	Development of a process for recording and reporting species (flora and fauna) will build Coillte's knowledge of their occurrence across the estate. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	NO6	Continue to identify portions of the estate with potential to make a greater contribution to biodiversity and explore opportunities to transform them to improve their nature conservation value.		
	NO6.A1	Develop criteria for defining the target habitat of forests managed primarily for climate (forest re-design) and develop protocols to define the silvicultural systems and management approaches that will improve their value for nature.	The development of criteria for defining the target habitat of forests managed primarily for climate (forest re-design) and the development of protocols to define the silvicultural systems and management approaches may have a significant effect on QIs/SCIs if they conflict with their conservation objectives.	Yes
	NO6.A2	Continue to engage with DAFM, NPWS, IFI and other bodies in a process of knowledge exchange to agree protocols for managing forest re-design sites for the benefit of habitats and species.	Engagement with DAFM, NPWS, IFI and other bodies will be beneficial biodiversity. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway-receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	NO7	Engage with key regulatory and other bodies to develop a common vision for how these sites (ref NO6) should be managed.		
		Refer to NO6 Actions.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
Additional Nature Objectives	NO8	Develop protocols for managing these sites (ref NO6), appropriate to their scale, habitat connectivity and site type, that will improve their nature conservation value.		
		Refer to NO6 Actions.		
	NO9	Review and update, as appropriate, Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) standards and procedures to inform planning and operations, in line with ongoing and emerging best practice.		
	NO9.A1	Review existing ERA procedures, implement changes as required, and integrate into planning and operations.	Review and updating of ERA procedures, will ensure any environmental impact remains within safe acceptable limits. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	NO10	Identify and implement ways of improving the advance planning of biodiversity management actions and integration into business planning, where appropriate and feasible.		
		Refer to NO2 Actions.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	NO11	Identify and implement methods to improve inventory processes and data-gathering, to expand our knowledge of nature on the estate and our reporting capacity.		
		Refer NO5 Actions.		
	NO12	Review and improve methods for how biodiversity features and other important environmental features are recorded across the estate. Methods shall be informed by the input of suitable specialists in ecology.		
		Refer to NO9 Actions.		
	NO13	Enhance guidance for the management of habitats and species relevant to Coillte's estate and activities, with the input of suitably qualified specialists.		
	NO13.A1	Maintain and update the existing protocols for protected species and habitats adopted in Coillte appropriate assessment and develop action plans for key species on the estate (e.g. lesser horseshoe bat).	Maintaining and updating existing protocols for protected species and habitats adopted in Coillte appropriate assessment and the development of action plans for key species on the Coillte estate may have a significant effect on QIs/SCIs, if protocols and action plans are not in line with the conservation objectives for QIs/SCIs and do not follow best practice and most up to date scientific information.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	NO13.A2	Continue engagement and partnership projects with NPWS and other relevant agencies e.g. IFI, to deliver management actions to enhance species and habitats, moving them towards more favourable conservation status.	The continued engagement and partnership projects with NPWS and other relevant agencies will support the effective management of protected habitats and species. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	NO14	Engage with the relevant regulatory agencies on the measures required to move statutory designated sites to favourable conservation status.		
		Refer to NO13 Actions.		
	NO15	Engage with relevant agencies to improve a science-based understanding of the interaction between forests and water.		
	NO15.A1	Continue engagement with relevant agencies and stakeholders to explore how forest management can play a role in enhancing water quality and catchment status.	Continued engagement with relevant agencies will support the effective delivery of forest management and enhancement of water quality, and will allow for the effectiveness of current management actions to be assessed and improved. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway-receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	NO15.A2	Participate in projects such as Blue Dot, EU Waters for Life and HydroSed, to deliver and promote positive forest management actions.	Participation in projects such as Blue Dot and EU Waters for Life will support the effective delivery of forest management and enhancement of water quality, and will allow for the effectiveness of current management actions to be assessed and improved. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway-receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	NO16	Engage with relevant agencies and stakeholders to explore how Coillte can play a role in delivering programmes and measures aimed at enhancing water quality in catchments.		
		Refer to NO15 Actions.		
	NO17	Collaborate with relevant stakeholders to develop national strategies towards the management of invasive species.		
	NO17.A1	Develop best practice for controlling invasive species on Coillte sites and engage with other agencies to share experiences and knowledge.	The development of best practice for controlling invasive species on Coillte sites will prevent and minimise the spread of invasive species and will have positive effect on biodiversity. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
			No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	
	NO18	Collaborate and engage as a key partner with the ongoing preparation of the Deer Management Strategy and seek to implement once published, in so far as possible and appropriate.		
	NO18.A1	Through the Deer Management Forum, assist in the development of Irish Deer Management Strategy and once developed, update processes to implement the recommended measures.	The development of a Irish Deer Management Strategy by way of the Deer Management Forum is a collaborative action. Collaboration is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. However, the developed strategy if not developed by competent ecologists could lead to significant effects on the habitats of European sites. While deer numbers when high can have a significant effect on European sites through over grazing, deer do play a part in managing semi-natural habitats through grazing.	Yes
	NO19	Identify and target appropriate funding mechanisms that will enable the implementation of conservation and protection measures at scale.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	NO19.A1	Identify and create packages of work to enable delivery of biodiversity goals relevant to the Coillte estate, improving habitat quality in biodiversity areas and benefiting key species on the estate.	The creation of projects for the improvement of habitat quality in biodiversity areas to benefit key species on the Coillte Estate may have a significant impact if the project goals do not line up with conservation objectives of QIs/SCIs or if projects are not implemented appropriately.	Yes
	NO19.A2	Develop partnerships with appropriate funding partners.	The development of partnerships with funding partners and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No

Forest for Wood

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
Ambition 7: Produce 25m cubic metres of certified Irish timber, to support the construction of 300,000 homes by 2030.	WO1	Maintain production capacity to harvest and supply certified roundwood to support the wood processing industry.		
	WO1.A1	To produce c.30 - 33 million m3 of certified timber between 2026 - 2035, of which c.26 - 28 million from clear fell, c.3 - 4 million m3 from thinning's and c.0.5 - 1 million m3 from Continuous Cover Forestry. Restocking of approximately 55 - 60 thousand hectares, and the construction of approximately 800km of new roads.	This action supports the tending of CCF, thinning, clearfelling and reforestation of trees in the Coillte estate. These activities have the potential to negatively affect European Sites if they are not mitigated. Potential effects from felling activities include changes to water quality, disturbance/displacement of species, spread of invasive species, change of the hydrological regime of adjacent habitats (ground compaction and drain management) and the reduction of indicators of conservation value for adjacent habitats (from nutrient inputs). The management of CCF if not done correctly can result in the reduction of indicators of conservation value of QI woodlands such as Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles or where Killarney fern in present, felling can lead to too much light getting through the canopy layer and result in an inhospitable environment for the species. This action also supports the construction of new forest roads. Construction of forest roads have the potential to adversely affect European Sites via changes to water quality, and disturbance and spread on invasive species	Yes
	WO2	Maintain independent environmental certification of Coillte-managed forests.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	WO2.A1	Undertake surveillance and compliance audits and address any non-compliances as necessary to maintain forest certification.	This action calls for the audit of Coillte's compliance with forest certification. Better management practices also have a positive effect on land-use. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	WO3	Work with other contributors to produce a medium-term all-Ireland roundwood forecast on a regular basis.		
	WO3.A1	To continue Coillte's contribution to the All-Ireland Roundwood Production Forecast.	Coillte's contribution to the All-Ireland Roundwood Production Forecast will allow for a better understanding in future trends, thus allowing for enhanced planning and more efficient management of roundwood supply. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	WO4	Introduce a three-year rolling plan for roundwood supply that addresses all the short-term and medium planning requirements to make roundwood available in each planned year of operations.		
	WO4.A1	To produce a set of Harvest Blocks on an annual basis at least three years in advance of planned year of harvest to enable timely environmental risk assessment, Appropriate Assessment, and regulatory approval for felling, replanting and roading.	A 3 year rolling plan for felling, tending clearfelling and reforestation has the potential to result in felling works being done at such a scale in any one year that it has a significant effect on European sites via changes to water quality or in large areas being unusable to breeding hen harrier.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	WO5	Report annually to the wood processing sector on the available supply of roundwood for the year ahead and the actual supply that materialised in the previous year.		
	WO5.A1	To produce annual reports on both available supply for the forthcoming year and actual supply for the previous year.	This action is administrative in nature, and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	WO6	Ensure that access to the forest estate for the purpose of Roundwood removals is maintained through Forest Industry Transport Group collaboration with partners and stakeholders.		
	WO6.A1	The Forest Industry Transport Group will collaborate with relevant stakeholders to optimise haulage routes, schedules and highlight the importance of maintaining access to the forest estate.	Working with stakeholders to optimise haulage routes, schedules and highlight the importance of maintaining access to the forest estate is collaborative in nature. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	WO7	Monitor forest health and condition to detect and mitigate against the potential impact of pests and diseases and guide management interventions to ensure that the estate can continue to deliver under the pillars of Climate, Nature, Wood and People.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	WO7.A1	Continue annual forest health monitoring across the estate, engage with DAFM and other Irish, UK and EU counterparts, to update and review contingency planning in response to any evolving abiotic or biotic threats.	Annual forest health monitoring across the Coillte estate will allow Coillte to review contingency plans for abiotic/biotic threats. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	WO8	Maintain timber security measures including the geofencing of all forests and tracking of roundwood removals from the Coillte Estate.		
	WO8.A1	Maintain and enhance existing physical infrastructure and apply geo fencing technology to ensure that timber removals are conducted in line with Coillte's code of practice for timber removals.	Maintenance and enhancement of existing physical infrastructure do not in and of themselves provide a source for significant effects.	No
	WO9	Support innovation and the adoption of new technologies and practices to enhance the efficiency of the roundwood supply chain, including mechanisms for monitoring roundwood stocks in the forest.		
	WO9.A1	Continue to adopt new technological solutions and work with industry partners to enhance the efficiency of the roundwood supply chain.	The continued adoption of new technological solutions to increase efficiencies may have a significant effect on European sites. While emerging technologies are not known, they may have unintended consequences if implemented incorrectly.	Yes
	WO10	Support government and other stakeholders to expedite the approval and granting of forestry licences to ensure that sufficient and consistent		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
		volumes of roundwood supply are available.		
	WO10.A1	Continue to engage with DAFM, Forestry Appeals Committee, and relevant stakeholders to make the licencing application, approvals, and appeals process more efficient.	The engagement with DAFM, Forestry Appeals Committee, and relevant stakeholders will increase the processing of afforestation/felling/forest road licences. This is likely to have a significant effect on European sites. Afforestation has the potential for habitat loss and habitat fragmentation through direct land take as well as the disturbance/displacement of species and alterations in water quality and spread of invasive species. Mismanagement of plantations has the potential for disturbance/displacement of species, alterations in water quality, spread of invasive species and reduction in the conservation value of surrounding habitats. The construction of forest roads if not carefully sited and if installation is mismanaged has the potential to lead to habitat fragmentation, changes to water quality, disturbance of species and spread of invasive species.	Yes
	WO11	Promote initiatives aimed at increasing public awareness regarding the importance of forests in delivering the wood supply needed to meet Irish housing demand.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	WO11.A1	Communicate and engage with the public through a variety of channels to create the link between productive forestry and need for Irish wood products.	Communication and engagement with the public has the potential to increase the demand of afforestation, which may have a significant effect on European sites. Afforestation has the potential for habitat loss and habitat fragmentation through direct land take as well as the disturbance/displacement of species and alterations in water quality and spread of invasive species.	Yes
Ambition 8: Promote the use and benefits of wood products to increase the level of timber homes from 20% to 80% by 2050.	WO12	Develop comprehensive evidence on the benefits delivered by the forestry sector and on the benefits of using home grown sawnwood in construction.		
	WO12.A1	Develop evidence-based reports to support initiatives aimed at increasing the use of timber in construction and disseminate key findings to effectively promote and highlight the benefits of increased timber usage.	Development of evidence-based reports to support initiatives increasing the use of timber in construction will increase the demand for afforestation and harvesting which may have a significant effect on European sites. Afforestation has the potential for habitat loss and habitat fragmentation through direct land take as well as the disturbance/displacement of species and alterations in water quality and spread of invasive species. Mismanagement of plantations has the potential for disturbance/displacement of species, alterations in water quality, spread of invasive species and reduction in the conservation value of surrounding habitats.	Yes
	WO13	Engage with government and relevant bodies to revise regulations concerning the use of wood in construction.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	WO13.A1	Conduct a comprehensive analysis of current wood construction regulations to identify barriers and opportunities, develop evidence-based proposals for regulatory change.	Development of a proposal for regulatory change of the current wood construction regulations could result in an increased demand for afforestation and harvesting which may have a significant effect on European sites. Afforestation has the potential for habitat loss and habitat fragmentation through direct land take as well as the disturbance/displacement of species and alterations in water quality and spread of invasive species. Mismanagement of plantations has the potential for disturbance/displacement of species, alterations in water quality, spread of invasive species and reduction in the conservation value of surrounding habitats.	Yes
	WO13.A2	Collaborate with industry associations, environmental groups, and academic experts to advocate for these changes through strategic communication while monitoring progress with government bodies.	Advocating for change of the current wood construction regulations could result in an increased demand for afforestation and harvesting which may have a significant effect on European sites. Afforestation has the potential for habitat loss and habitat fragmentation through direct land take as well as the disturbance/displacement of species and alterations in water quality and spread of invasive species. Mismanagement of plantations has the potential for disturbance/displacement of species, alterations in water quality, spread of invasive species and reduction in the conservation value of surrounding habitats.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	WO14	Engage with government and relevant bodies to introduce green procurement guidelines for new public buildings and to introduce sustainability mechanisms in construction to reduce the carbon footprint of new builds.		
	WO14.A1	Research and compile best practices on green procurement policies and collaborate with government, industry experts to promote procurement and sustainable construction practices.	Promotions of procurement and sustainable construction practices will promote the use of wood which will increase demand for afforestation and harvesting which may have a significant effect on European sites. Afforestation has the potential for habitat loss and habitat fragmentation through direct land take as well as the disturbance/displacement of species and alterations in water quality and spread of invasive species. Mismanagement of plantations has the potential for disturbance/displacement of species, alterations in water quality, spread of invasive species and reduction in the conservation value of surrounding habitats.	Yes
	WO15	Support the demonstration of new forms of timber-based construction in Ireland.		
	WO15.A1	Collaborate with industry and academia to establish partnerships for high-impact pilot projects that demonstrate sustainable timber construction techniques and effectively promote the outcomes to target stakeholders.	The promotion of high-impact pilot projects will promote the use of wood which will increase demand for afforestation and harvesting, which may have a significant effect on European sites. Afforestation has the potential for habitat loss and habitat fragmentation through direct land take as well as the disturbance/displacement of species and alterations in water quality and spread of invasive species.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
			Mismanagement of plantations has the potential for disturbance/displacement of species, alterations in water quality, spread of invasive species and reduction in the conservation value of surrounding habitats.	
	WO16	Assist in the development of design guidance for practitioners and educational courses in timber building systems including the use of mass timber and timber frame construction in Ireland.		
	WO16.A1	Conduct a comprehensive review of design guidelines and educational materials to identify gaps and best practices.	This action calls for a review of design guidelines and educational materials. This action in isolation will not have a significant effect on European Sites.	No
	WO16.A2	Create a centralised training resource repository and partner with educational institutions to integrate timber into third-level curricula as a core module.	This action relates to the creation of training resource repository. This action in isolation will not have a significant effect on European Sites.	No

Forest for People

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
Ambition 9: Enable the investment of €100 million in world-class Visitor Destinations to support growth in tourism and recreation by 2030.	PO1	Identify priority site locations and develop masterplans for future Visitor Destinations, in full consideration of the protection of the environment and subject to Appropriate Assessment screening where necessary.		
	PO1.A1	Assess potential new visitor destinations sites. Select 3 sites for Strategic Development Planning (SDP).	The selection of three new visitor destination sites has the potential for significant effects on European sites. This actions supports the increase in use of sites, if poorly chosen this could lead to the disturbance and displacement of QI/SCI species, the reduction of indicators of conservation value of QI habitats, and changes to water quality. The creation of visitor destination sites is also associated with development of facilities such as public toilets, car parks etc which have the potential to generate construction and operational phase effects. If poorly sited and/or construction is mismanaged this may lead to habitat loss and fragmentation, disturbance/displacement of species, changes to water quality, changes to hydrological regimes and the spread of invasive species.	Yes
	PO2	Strengthen our strategic partnership for the delivery of Visitor Destinations with Fáilte Ireland to support shared objectives.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	PO2.A1	Agree and sign a new Partnership agreement with Failte Ireland for the period of 2030 to 2035.	A partnership agreement with Failte Ireland is a collaborative action and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway-receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	PO3	Engage with Local Authorities to identify opportunities to create recreational projects of scale, in line with local and national development plans.		
	PO3.A1	Work with Local Authorities to identify projects of scale and to source funding.	However, this action supports projects that will likely increase interactions between people and nature, and will also require the development of facilities such as carparks and toilets. This actions supports the increase in use of sites, if poorly chosen this could lead to the disturbance and displacement of QI/SCI species, the reduction of indicators of conservation value of QI habitats, and changes to water quality. The creation of visitor destination sites is also associated with development of facilities such as public toilets, car parks etc which have the potential to generate construction and operational phase effects. If poorly sited and/or construction is mismanaged this may lead to habitat loss and fragmentation, disturbance/displacement of species, changes to water quality, changes to hydrological regimes and the spread of invasive species.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	PO4	Monitor visitor numbers and measure impact, to protect the environment and enhance customer experience.		
	PO4.A1	Develop sustainability plan at key destinations and report on the visitor numbers and associated sustainability factors annually.	Development of a sustainability plan and report on visitor numbers at key destinations may have a positive effect on biodiversity. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway-receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	PO5	Develop commercial partnerships that support investment to deliver Outstanding Visitor Destinations.		
	PO5.A1	Develop bespoke partnerships to design and build new visitor destinations based on the requirements of each project.	Development of bespoke partnerships to design and build new visitor destinations has the potential to significantly affect European sites. The development of facilities has the potential to generate construction and operational phase effects. If poorly sited and/or construction is mismanaged this may lead to habitat loss and fragmentation, disturbance/displacement of species, changes to water quality, changes to hydrological regimes and the spread of invasive species.	Yes
Ambition 10: Double the number of Recreation Areas to 500, to benefit local communities	PO6	Create a system of classification for Recreation Areas, in full consideration of the important ecological features of Coillte's estate, setting out the offer and facilities to be provided for each category.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
and people's wellbeing.	PO6.A1	Develop a classification system and criteria for recreation areas describing the recreational offering and facilities.	Development of a system of classification for recreation areas is clerical in nature. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	PO7	Develop assessment criteria to identify locations for future Recreational Areas.		
		Refer to PO6 Actions.		
	PO8	Develop a community model to enable public and local authority involvement in the development of Recreation Areas.		
	PO8.A1	Create a community engagement model that facilitates public and local authority participation in the development and maintenance of Recreation Areas while providing opportunities for local communities to contribute and benefit.	Development of a classification system and criteria for recreation areas is clerical in nature and will not have a significant effect on European sites.	No
	PO9	Develop methods to measure and quantify the social and wellbeing benefits of outdoor recreation.		
	PO9.A1	Using industry expertise, measure and quantify the economic, social and wellbeing benefits of outdoor recreation.	Research on the benefits of outdoor recreation will result in a report. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	PO9.A2	Expand the Woodlands for Health programme.	Expansion of the Woodlands for Health program has the potential to increase interactions of people with semi-natural habitats which may have a significant effect on European sites and nature, and will also require the development of facilities such as carparks and toilets. Increased human activity and foot traffic could lead to the disturbance and displacement of QI/SCI species, the reduction of indicators of conservation value of QI habitats, and changes to water quality.	Yes
	PO10	Develop a community model to support public engagement, identify the emerging social and recreational needs and provide meaningful opportunities for local communities to support the development of Recreation Areas.		
		Refer to PO8 Actions.		
	PO11	Develop deeper relationships with local authorities to identify and execute local recreational opportunities and leverage funding.		
	PO11.A 1	Partner with local authorities and development companies to develop and support Outdoor Recreation Committees.	Partnering with local authorities and development companies to identify opportunities is in itself collaborative and will not have a significant effect on European sites.	No
	PO12	Expand digital services to support the mapping and analysis of Recreational Areas and improve efficiencies in monitoring and management.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	PO12.A 1	Partner with external provider of digital recreation services to develop a process to map and analyse recreation areas.	Mapping and analysis of recreation areas. This action is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
Ambition 11: Create 1,200 new jobs in rural communities to support the just transition to a low carbon economy.	PO13	Support businesses of different types and scale to develop and grow markets for value-added wood products, forest tourism and recreation opportunities.		
	PO13.A 1	Support RD&I and demonstrator projects that advance new value-added wood products and timber-based building systems.	This action aims to increase support for RD&I (Research, Development and Innovation) and demonstrator projects that advance new value-added wood products and timber-based building systems. This action in isolation will not have an effect on European Sites. However this action supports the promotion of timber use, which could lead to the increased demand for afforestation and harvesting which may have a significant effect on European sites. Afforestation has the potential for habitat loss and habitat fragmentation through direct land take as well as the disturbance/displacement of species and alterations in water quality and spread of invasive species. Mismanagement of plantations has the potential for disturbance/displacement of species, alterations in water quality, spread of invasive species and reduction in the conservation value of surrounding habitats.	Yes

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	PO13.A 2	Partner with IAAT (Irish Association for Adventure Tourism) to promote forest recreation opportunities for service providers and operators.	Partnering with IAAT (Irish Association for Adventure Tourism) to promote forest recreation opportunities for service providers and operators has the potential to increase interactions of people with semi-natural habitats which may have a significant effect on European sites, nature, and will also require the development of facilities such as carparks and toilets. Increased human activity and foot traffic could lead to the disturbance and displacement of QI/SCI species, the reduction of indicators of conservation value of QI habitats, and changes to water quality.	Yes
	PO14	Support the operational contractor base to grow and diversify, so that it has the capacity to deliver Coillte's afforestation, peatland redesign and nature ambitions.		
	PO14.A 1	Through the Workforce Capacity Project, Focus on sourcing new contractors to meet our demands. Ensure contractors are equipped with the skills needed to align with Coillte's ambitions.	The Workforce Capacity Project focuses on sourcing new contractors to meet Coillte's demands. This action is administrative in nature and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	PO15	Enhance operational guidance for staff and contractors regarding biodiversity management and peatland redesign, with the input of suitably qualified specialists.		
		Refer to CO7, NO6, and NO9 Actions.		

Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
	PO16	Support the provision of education and training to attract new entrants to the sector and enhance skills in new and emerging areas.		
	PO16.A 1	Advance the Workforce Capacity Project by collaborating with industry forums, educators, and government stakeholders to design and deliver targeted training programs, enhance tertiary education curricula, and develop innovative initiatives, such as digital learning experiences for students, to attract new entrants and build skills in emerging areas. Additionally, advocate for the inclusion of forestry-related skills on the Critical Skills List, monitor annual updates, and address gaps in recognizing essential forestry roles through partnerships and apprenticeships.	This action aims to advance the Workforce Capacity Project and is educational and collaborative and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway-receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	PO17	Support the enhancement of the curriculum in tertiary education and the development of apprentices to attract new forestry and related professionals to the sector.		
		Refer to PO16 Actions.		
	PO18	Support and continue to engage with government and other stakeholders towards the inclusion of		

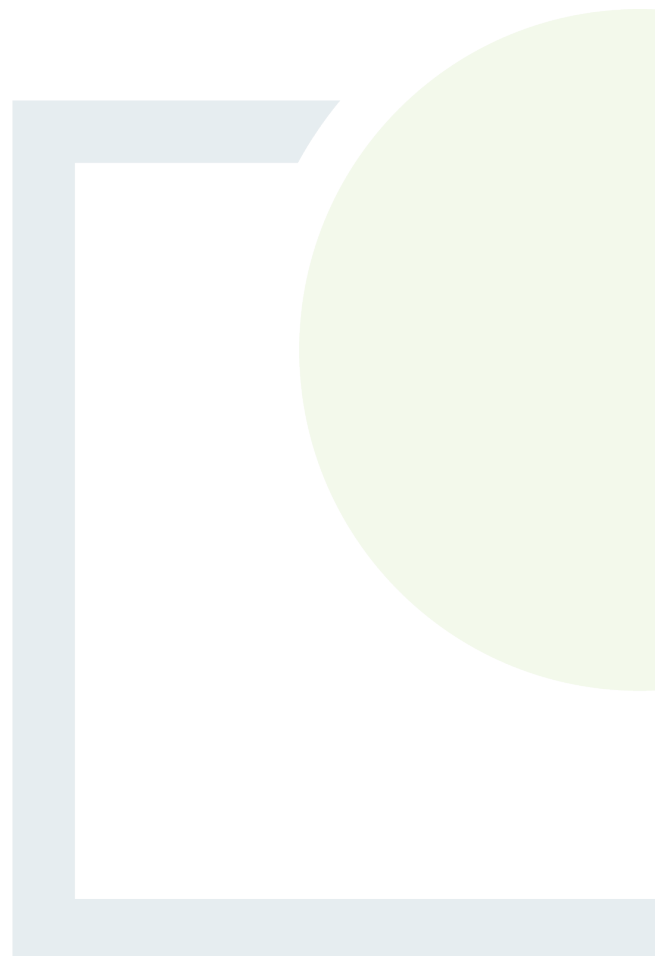
Ambition	Ref.	Objective/Action (Note: Only Actions defined in the LUSIP have been subject to assessment)	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects on European Site/s (in the absence of Environmental Mitigation)	Screened in for Stage 2 AA?
		forestry skills on the Critical Skills List.		
		Refer to PO16 Actions.		
Additional People Objectives: Human wellbeing & health	PO19	Maintain occupational health and safety across the Coillte estate.		
	PO19.A 1	Continue to monitor H&S across the estate and provide updated guidance to all staff and contractors.	Continue to monitor H&S across the estate and provide updated guidance to all staff and contractors. The action of maintaining occupational health and safety is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site. No source-pathway- receptor is identified for significant effects on European sites and associated SCIs/QIs.	No
	PO20	Expand the Woodlands for Health programme.		
		Refer to PO9 Actions.		



DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

APPENDIX 4

Relationship with other Plans
and Programmes



The purpose of this Appendix is to identify and examine the relationships the plan has with other legislation and plans/programmes. International/European, national and regional/local legislation, plans and programmes, which have an inter-relationship with the Plan, are itemised in the table below. A summary of the high and lower levels objectives associated with each and a description of their particular relevance to the Plan is provided. The information on legislation and plans/programmes presented below is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the relevant legislation or plan/programme to gain a full and comprehensive understanding of each, where necessary.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2023/1804)	This Directive repealed the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure directive (2014/94/EU). The Regulation sets binding national targets for the development of adequate alternative fuel infrastructure. The Regulation sets out targets to be achieved by all member states with the purpose to establish a comprehensive and complete network of alternative fuel infrastructure across the EU. The aim of this is to boost production and uptake of sustainable infrastructure in domestic, road, rail, aviation and maritime transport.	The specific objectives of the regulation are as follows: - To ensure minimum infrastructure to support the required uptake of alternative fuel vehicles across all transport modes and in all EU Member States to meet the EU's climate objectives. - To ensure full interoperability of the infrastructure. - To ensure comprehensive user information and adequate payment options at alternative fuels infrastructure.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bali Road Map (2007)	The overall goals of the project are twofold: - To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and - To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities.	The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building Blocks: - mitigation - adaptation - technology - financing	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)	The convention has three main aims: - to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats - to promote cooperation between states - to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species	The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also: - Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. - Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucasus. - Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. - Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon. - Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations. - Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)	The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments.	The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: - Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value. - An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. - A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision making.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.	
Birds Directive (79/409/EEC as amended by 2009/147/EC)	- Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats. - Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. - The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution.	- Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. - Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas). - Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. - Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cancun Agreements (2010)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover: - Mitigation - Transparency of actions - Technology - Finance - Adaptation - Forests - Capacity building	Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Clean Energy for all Europeans Package (2019)	In 2016 the EU's energy policy framework was rewritten to facilitate a clean and fair energy transition, to work towards clean energy and a carbon-neutral economy. Through this new policy the EU aims to stimulate the necessary public and private investment by creating a modern, stable legal environment that sets a clear and common sense of direction. As a package, the new rules will reinforce consumer rights, putting them at the heart of the energy transition and creating growth and green jobs in a modern economy. They will enable the EU to show leadership with regards to climate change following the Paris Agreement. Member States will continue to choose their own energy mix but must meet new commitments to improve energy efficiency and the take-up of renewables in that mix by 2030. Member States are required to draft plans to prevent, prepare for and manage crisis situations in the supply of electricity in coordination with neighbouring Member States, and to enhance the role of the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators.	The energy package consists of eight legislative measures. These are: • Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU) 2018/844 • Renewable Energy Directive (EU) 2018/2001 • Energy Efficiency Directive (EU) 2018/2002 • Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 • Electricity Regulation (EU) 2019/943 • Electricity Directive (EU) 2019/944 • Regulation on Risk-Preparedness in the Electricity Sector (EU) 2019/941 • Regulation on the European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (EU) 2019/942	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)	The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co-operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.	• The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties. • The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)	- Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time. - A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations.	- Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. - Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage. - Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. - Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Council Regulation (EU) 2022/2577 (laying down a framework to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy)	This regulation introduces faster permitting processes for projects that have the highest potential for a quick roll-out of renewable energy and the least impact on the environment.	The regulation introduces urgent and targeted measures that address specific technologies and types of projects, which have the highest potential for quick deployment and the least impact on the environment.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Directive 2010/75/EU on Industrial Emissions (amended by Directive (EU) 2024/1785)	The purpose of this Directive is lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection.	The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors: • energy; • metal production and processing; • minerals; • chemicals; • waste management; • and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.	The following actions were committed to by governments at this conference: • Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020); • Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets; • Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt; • Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and • Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Drinking Water Directive (2020/2184)	- The recast Drinking Water Directive is the EU's main law on drinking water. It concerns the access to and the quality of water intended for human consumption to protect human health. - The EU adopted the recast Drinking Water Directive in December 2020 and the Directive entered into force in January 2021. Member States have to transpose the Directive into national law and comply with its provisions by 12 January 2023. The recast Drinking Water Directive will further protect human health thanks to updated water quality standards, tackling pollutants of concern, such as endocrine disruptors and microplastics, and leading to even cleaner water from the tap for all.	Key features of the revised Directive are: - reinforced water quality standards, in line or, in some cases, even more stringent than the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations - tackling emerging pollutants, such as endocrine disruptors and PFAs, as well as microplastics - a preventive approach favouring actions to reduce pollution at source by introducing the risk-based approach - measures to ensure better access to water, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised groups - measures to promote tap water, including in public spaces and restaurants, to reduce (plastic) bottle consumption - harmonisation of the quality standards for materials and products in contact with water measures to reduce water leakages and to increase transparency of the sector	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)	- Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. - Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4.	- All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. - For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. - The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. - Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC, Directive 2013/30/EU and Regulation (EU) 2019/1010	Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.	• Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent. • Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. • Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. • The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. • The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. • The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. • The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives that are not of significant relevance to the SEA for the Guidelines.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs.	
EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy	- A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries. - Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% eu actionshare of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as- usual scenario.	- To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030: - A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS). - New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries. - First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU Action Plan: 'Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil' 2050	The Action Plan sets the key 2030 targets for reducing pollution at source and outlines a number of flagship initiatives. In addition, as pollution does not stop at borders and as the EU acknowledges that it is both the victim and the source of pollution, the Action Plan foresees reinforced external action. The EU in fact is committed to leading the global fight against pollution	Guided by the 9 Flagship Initiatives, the key actions include: • align the air quality standards to the latest recommendations of the World Health Organisation, • review the standards for the quality of water, including in EU rivers and seas, • reduce soil pollution and enhance restoration, • review the majority of EU waste laws to adapt them to clean and circular economy principles, • foster zero pollution from production and consumption (through the revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive, EU Ecolabel and other measures), • minimize EU external pollution footprint through export restriction of harmful products and wastes, • present a Scoreboard of EU regions' green performance to promote zero pollution across regions, • showcase zero pollution solutions for buildings, • launch Living Labs for green digital solutions and smart zero pollution, including by targeting the building and farming sectors, • consolidate the EU's Knowledge Centres for Zero Pollution and bringing stakeholders together in the Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform. • Stronger enforcement of zero pollution together with environmental and other authorities.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU Bathing Water Directive (revised) 2006 [2006/7/EC] (amended by 2013/64/EU)	The purpose of this Directive is to preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment and to protect human health by complementing Directive 2000/60/EC	This Directive lays down provisions for: - the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality; - the management of bathing water quality; and - the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Climate Adaptation Strategy 2050	The Strategy sets out how the European Union can adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change and become climate resilient by 2050.	The Strategy has four principle objectives: to make adaptation smarter, swifter and more systemic, and to step up international action on adaptation to climate change.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU Common Agricultural Policy	- To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and - To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living.	- Ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future; - Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources; - Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Energy Efficiency Directive 2023/1791	The new directive introduces a series of measures to help accelerate energy efficiency, including embracing the "energy efficiency first" principle in the energy and non-energy policies.	- Establishing an EU legally-binding target to reduce the EU's final energy consumption by 11.7% by 2030 (relative to the 2020 reference scenario). This includes for each Member State the requirement to set its indicative national contribution based on objective criteria reflecting national circumstances. If the national contributions do not add up to the EU target, an ambition gap mechanism is applied by the Commission. - Increasing annual energy savings from 0.8% (at present) to 1.3% (2024-2025), then 1.5% (2026-2027) and 1.9% from 2028 onwards. That's an average of 1.49% of new annual savings for the period from 2024-2030. - Obliging Member States to prioritise vulnerable customers and social housing within the scope of their energy savings measures. - Introducing an annual energy consumption reduction target of 1.9% for the public sector as a whole. - Extending the annual 3% buildings renovation obligation to all the levels of public administration.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		• Introducing a different approach, based on energy consumption, for business to have an energy management system or to carry out an energy audit. • Bringing in a new obligation to monitor the energy performance of data centres, with an EU-level database collecting and publishing data. • Promoting local heating & cooling plans in larger municipalities. • Progressively increasing the efficient energy consumption in heat or cold supply, also in district heating.	
EU environment action programme to 2030 (EU 8th Environmental Action Programme)	The long-term priority objective is that, by 2050 at the latest, Europeans should live well, within planetary boundaries, in a healthy economy where nothing is wasted, growth is regenerative, climate neutrality is a reality and inequalities are significantly reduced. Building on the European Green Deal, the environmental action programme aims to speed up the transition to a climate-neutral, resource-efficient economy, recognising that human well-being and prosperity depend on a healthy ecosystem.	Six priority objectives: • Attain the 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target and achieve climate neutrality by 2050. • Enhance the ability to adapt by strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change. • Move towards a regenerative growth model, detaching economic growth from resource use and environmental degradation, while transitioning faster to a circular economy. • Aim for zero pollution of the air, water and soil and protect the health and well-being of Europeans. • Protect, preserve and restore biodiversity by improving the state of ecosystems and of the environment, as well as by combating desertification and soil degradation. • Reduce environmental and climate pressures from production and consumption, in particular energy, industrial development, buildings and infrastructure, mobility and food systems.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU Forestry Strategy for 2030	Sets out a vision and concrete actions to improve the quantity and quality of EU forests and strengthen their protection, restoration and resilience. It aims to adapt Europe's forests to the new conditions, weather extremes and high uncertainty brought about by climate change. This is a precondition for forests to continue delivering their socio-economic functions, and to ensure vibrant rural areas with thriving populations. The commitments and actions proposed in the Strategy will contribute to achieving the EU's greenhouse gas emission reduction target of at least 55% in 2030, as set out in the European Climate Law	The measures proposed in the strategy, to be reviewed in 2025, include: • Promoting sustainable forest management (SFM), including by encouraging the sustainable use of wood-based resources. • Providing financial incentives for forest owners and managers to adopt environmentally friendly practices, such as those linked to carbon storage and sequestration • Improving the size and biodiversity of forests, including by planting 3 billion new trees by 2030. • Promoting alternative forest industries, such as ecotourism, as well as non-wood products, such as cork, honey and medicinal plants. • Encouraging the take-up of financial support under the common agricultural policy (CAP), which can help forests and forest-based industries mitigate against climate change. • Providing education and training for people working in forest-based industries and making these industries more attractive to young people. Establishing a legally binding instrument for ecosystem restoration, and a new legislative proposal on EU forest observation, reporting and collection. • Protecting the EU's remaining primary and old-growth forests.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU Green Infrastructure Strategy	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	• Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. • Supporting EU-level GI projects. • Improving access to finance for GI projects. • Improving information and promoting innovation.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC)	The purpose of this Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from the activities listed in Annex I. It lays down measures designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions in the air, water and land from the abovementioned activities, including measures concerning waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole, without prejudice to Directive 85/337/EEC and other relevant Community provisions.	The IPPC Directive is based on several principles: • an integrated approach • best available techniques, • flexibility; and public participation	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)	Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and - preventing further such pollution.	Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State's NAP must include: • a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year • set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk • set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC	The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs).	• The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. • Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006) (as amended)	Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.	The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely: • Registration, • Evaluation, • Authorisation; and • Restriction of chemicals. REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Renewables Directives (RED II & RED III)	The Renewable Energy Directive establishes an overall policy for the production and promotion of energy from renewable sources in the EU. The RED directive was first introduced in 2009 (2009/28/EC) and set an Eu-wide goal for 20% renewable energy use by 2020. This was replaced by RED II (2018/2001) which set a renewable energy target of 32% for the European Union for 2030. Following on from RED II, the EU adopted Red III (2023/2413) with the aim to further increase its renewable energy ambitions. sets a new binding target of c. 42.5% renewable energy in the EU's total energy consumption by 2030, with an aspirational target of 45%. The aim of RED III is to introduce sector-specific targets for transport, heating, cooling, and industry to ensure a balanced contribution from all parts of the economy and also included measures to streamline and accelerate the permitting process for renewable energy projects, addressing one of the major bottlenecks in the deployment of renewables.	• Building on the 2009 and 2018 directives, the RED III directive introduces stronger measures to ensure that all possibilities for the further development and uptake of renewables are fully utilised. • Strong policy framework to facilitate electrification in different sectors, with new increased sector-specific targets for renewables in heating and cooling, transport, industry, buildings and district heating/cooling, but also with a framework promoting electric vehicles and smart recharging. • Permitting procedures will also be easier and faster both for renewable energy projects (including through shorter approval periods and the creation of 'Renewables acceleration areas') and for the necessary infrastructure projects.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)	This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner.	• The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas: • Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; • The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; • The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; • Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; • Safety of offshore oil and gas operations.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)	The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.	The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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European Landscape Convention (Florence 2000)	The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes.	- Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. - Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Wind Power Action Plan (COM/2023/669)	The action plan will support the European wind manufacturing sector in overcoming the difficulties it faces and improve its competitiveness to ensure that this sector fully contributes to the ongoing energy transition. The action plan is an initiative established under the EU Wind Power Package in October 2023.	The Plan is based on six pillars, each of which have set actions: - Accelerating deployment through faster permitting and increased predictability. - Improved auction design. - Access to finance. - Creating a fair and competitive international environment. - Skills (investment in skills development). - Industry engagement and member state commitments.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	- Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks - Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community	- Assess all water courses and coastlines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment - Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. - Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. - Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	- Protect, control and conserve groundwater. - Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. - Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals.	- Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. - Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	- Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. - Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. - Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. - Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.	- Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. - Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. - Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. - Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')	It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.	- Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; - Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; - Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and - Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC), as amended	European legislation which aims to achieve Good Environment Status (GES) for all marine waters in Europe and protect the resource base for marine related economic and social activities.	This was adopted on June 17th, 2008, establishing a framework for EU Community Action specifically regarding marine environmental policy. The MSFD is implemented in cycles of 6 years, with member state being obliged to report to the EU every 2 years. The third cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2023 – 2028) for Ireland is underway. The MSFD is implemented through a national Marine Strategy.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Nature Restoration Law (Regulation (EU) 2024/1991)	The regulation sets binding targets to restore degraded ecosystems, particularly those with the most potential to capture and store carbon and to prevent and reduce the impact of natural disasters. It is also a key instrument to help the EU and its Member States meet international biodiversity commitments under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.	The law aims to restore ecosystems, habitats and species across the EU's land and sea areas in order to • enable the long-term and sustained recovery of biodiverse and resilient nature • contribute to achieving the EU's climate mitigation and climate adaptation objectives • meet international commitments	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to: • Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; • Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
OSPAR Convention	The mission of OSPAR is to conserve marine ecosystems and safeguard human health in the North-East Atlantic by preventing and eliminating pollution; by protecting the marine environment from the adverse effects of human activities; and by contributing to the sustainable use of the seas.	OSPAR's work is organised under six strategies: • Biodiversity and Ecosystem Strategy • Eutrophication Strategy • Hazardous Substances Strategy • Offshore Industry Strategy • Radioactive Substances Strategy • Strategy for the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme These six strategies fit together to underpin the ecosystem approach. For each strategy a programme of work is designed and implemented annually.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Public Participation Directive (2003/35/EC)	The objective of this Directive is to contribute to the implementation of the obligations arising under the Aarhus Convention, in particular by: (a) providing for public participation in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment; (b) improving the public participation and providing for provisions on access to justice within Council Directives 85/337/EEC and 96/61/EC.	Not applicable.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ramsar Convention	The Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".	Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: • Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; • Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; • Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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RePower EU Plan (2022)	This plan was launched as a response to global energy market disruption caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The overarching aim of this plan is to reduce the reliance on Russian fossil fuels and enhance energy security within the EU. The plan specifies that Member States should speed up the green transition and spur massive investment in renewable energy.	The main measures introduced under this plan are concerned with the following: • Save Energy • Diversify supplies • Quickly substitute fossil fuels by accelerating Europe's clean energy transition • Smartly combine investments and reforms.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)	• Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. • Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	• Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. • Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. • Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. • Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. • Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. • Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. • Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Soil monitoring law: EU on the pathway to healthy soils by 2050	According to the EU soil strategy, presented by the Commission in 2021, the lack of a dedicated EU legislation was singled out as a major cause for the alarming state of EU soils. To ensure the same level of protection to soil that exists for water, the marine environment and air in the EU, the Commission put forward the soil monitoring directive on 5 July 2023. The law provides a legal framework to help achieve healthy soils by 2050 and aims to address key soil threats in the EU, such as erosion, floods and landslides, loss of soil organic matter, salinisation, contamination, compaction, sealing, as well as loss of soil biodiversity.	The general approach reached by the Council aims to make soil health monitoring obligatory, provides guiding principles for sustainable soil management and addresses situations where soil contamination poses unacceptable health and environment risks. The law aims to help achieve healthy soil by: • Putting in place a solid and coherent monitoring framework for all soils across the EU so Member States can take measures to regenerate degraded soils. • Making sustainable soil management the norm in the EU. Member States will have to define which practices should be implemented by soil managers and which should be banned because they cause soil degradation • Requesting Member States to identify potentially contaminated sites, investigate these sites and address unacceptable risks for human health and the environment, thereby contributing to a toxic-free environment by 2050.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Stockholm Convention	The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.	• Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention • Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention • Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention • Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner • To target additional POPs	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance	
The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) (EU Air Framework Directive) Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)	- The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive). - Sets new air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives. - Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values. - Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM10) or up to five years (NO2, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. - The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.	- Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. - Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria. - Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures. - Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public. - Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases. - Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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The Eighth Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community	• Obligation for the Commission to present a monitoring framework, based on a limited number of headline indicators. • These should include, where available, systemic indicators that address interlinkages between environment-social and environmental-economic policy considerations, respectively.	The 8th EAP aims at accelerating the green transition in a just and inclusive way, with the 2050 long-term objective of 'Living well, within planetary boundaries', already established in the 7th programme (2014-2020).	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The EU LULUCF Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2018/841)	The LULUCF (Land Use, Land Change and Forestry) Regulation addresses greenhouse gas emissions and carbon removals in the land use and forestry sector from the period of 2021-2030, establishing an emissions target for the sector. The regulation entered into force in 2018. It was recently updated in 2023 to	This regulation was revised in 2023 with a new set of rules introduced to address the carbon footprint of activities related to the conversion, use and management of land and forests for both human and environmental benefits. These activities can occur in areas such as grasslands, agricultural land and forests. Previous rules (the 'no debt' rule) required that EU member states ensure that emissions from land and forestry are compensated by an equivalent removal of CO ₂ within the sector for the period of 2021-2030. This has been replaced by a more ambitious new rule that sets the EU-wide net target of 310 million tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent carbon removals in the LULUCF sector by 2030. Each member state has a specific target under this regulation which they must meet to contribute towards the EU-wide net target. The national targets are based on the recent level of removals or emissions with the member state and on the potential to further increase removals, taking into account the principles of cost-effectiveness, fairness and environmental integrity. Ireland's binding target is to achieve a reduction of 0.6 Mt CO ₂ equivalent LULUCF emissions by 2030, relative to average levels in 2016-2018.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
The European Green Deal (EGD) 2019	The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people's quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind.	• It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution. • It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. • In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission entered into force the European Climate Law in July 2021. This writes into law the goal set out in the European Green Deal for Europe's economy and society to become climate-neutral by 2050.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change	It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.	The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity	An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	The Convention has three main goals: - the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); - the sustainable use of its components; and - the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)	The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol. At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.	- The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). - EU member states implement measures to improve on or complement the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. - Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	- Links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and - Recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.	- Sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them; - Each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage; - Encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	- This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. - The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges.	- Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment. - Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges. - Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	- Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. - Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain "good status" of water bodies.	- Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. - Achieve "good status" for all waters. - Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. - Involve the public and streamline legislation.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this.

International/European Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	- Promote sustainable water usage. - The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: - The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive - Sampling Drinking Water Directive - Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive - Shellfish Directive - Freshwater Fish Directive - Groundwater Directive - Dangerous Substances Directive	- Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. - Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. - Recover costs for water services.	The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Level			
Legislation, Plans, etc.	Summary of high level aim/purpose/objective	Summary of lower-level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance of the Plan
Afforestation Scheme 2023 - 2027	This scheme aims to increase the current land area of Ireland under forest cover (11% vs. EU average of 38%) whilst ensuring these climate resilient and healthy forests are managed according to the principles of sustainable forest management. The scheme aligns with the Forestry Strategy goals on Forest for Climate, Nature, Wood, People, and Forest for the Economy and Rural Development.	The objectives of the scheme are as follows: i. Increase Ireland's forest cover to 18%; ii. Establishment of 8,000 ha of new diverse, multifunctional and climate resilient forests per annum (subject to the availability of funding and land); iii. Provide at least 50% of the national area afforested with broadleaved species and a require minimum per-application broadleaved species component (20% by area) during the programme period; iv. Encourage forest management practices in newly planted forests that result in CCF management and forest retention, enhancing and supporting natural systems by linking existing habitats and new, dedicated forest biodiversity areas within established forests; v. Expand and encourage appropriate management of new emergent native scrub forest with attendant biodiversity, habitat and ecosystem service enhancements; vi. Increase the area of new forest area used by members of the public for forest recreation, amenity, health and wellbeing by providing dedicated "open forests" and specific forest recreational and amenity facilities; vii. Increase the uptake of agroforestry systems for biodiversity, carbon sequestration, animal welfare and the production of high-quality hardwood timber; viii. Develop forest-based biomass resources to support the circular and green economy in commercial and domestic markets; ix. Support carbon sequestration, climate change mitigation and forest resilience through appropriate species selection and sustainable forest management;	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Level			
Legislation, Plans, etc.	Summary of high level aim/purpose/objective	Summary of lower-level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance of the Plan
		x. Provide a forest resource to support economic viability and sustainability of rural communities through increased use of wood and wood products in construction and energy production.	
Ag Climatise - A Roadmap towards Climate Neutrality	This roadmap has been developed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) on foot of extensive engagement with industry, research, policy, farmer and environmental stakeholders. It is a roadmap designed to help all stakeholders to work together to tackle climate change and air pollution	The roadmap proposes 29 actions across two strands of activity: • Actions that can be implemented now: to ensure farmers act immediately on the changes necessary to address climate change. This is made up of three parts, the mitigation measures in the next section, the removals from the landscape measures, and the sustainable energy measures that follow. • The development of cross cutting enabling actions into the future: This will focus on a number of actions, including further research and innovation. Where appropriate, it will require the establishment of consultative groups to assist with the development and delivery of the actions	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
All Island Grid Study 2008	• The All Island Grid Study is the first comprehensive assessment of the ability of the electrical power system and, as part of that, the transmission network ("the grid") on the island of Ireland to absorb large amounts of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. • The objective of this five-part study is to assess the technical feasibility and the relative costs and benefits associated with various scenarios for increased shares of electricity sourced from renewable energy in the all island power system.	Key conclusions of the study: • The presented results indicate that the differences in cost between the highest cost and the lowest cost portfolios are low (7%), given the assumptions made and costs included in the Study. • All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to significant reductions of CO2 emissions compared to portfolio 1 • All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to reductions on the dependency of the all island system on fuel and electricity imports. • The limitations of the study may overstate the technical feasibility of the portfolios analysed and could impact the costs and benefits resulting. Further work is required to understand the extent of such impact. • Timely development of the transmission networks, requiring means to address the planning challenge, is a precondition for implementation of the portfolios considered.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		Market mechanisms must facilitate the installation of complementary, i.e. flexible, dispatchable plant, so as to maintain adequate levels of system security.	
All-Ireland Pollinator Plans: All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 (latest)	The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is a framework bringing together different sectors across the island of Ireland to create a landscape where pollinators can survive and thrive. Implementation is coordinated by the National Biodiversity Data Centre.	The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan for 2021-2025 is a five-year road map that aims to help bees, other pollinating insects and our wider biodiversity. The AIPP 2021-2025 has 186 actions spread across six objectives. Objective 1: Making farmland pollinator friendly Objective 2: Making public land pollinator friendly Objective 3: Making private land pollinator friendly Objective 4: All-Ireland Honeybee Strategy Objective 5: Conserving rare pollinators Objective 6: Strategic coordination of the Plan	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
All-Island Strategic Rail Review	The Review aims to inform policy and future strategy for the railways in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland.	The Review sets out six high-level goals which aim to use rail as effectively as possible to: - contribute to decarbonisation; - improve All Island connectivity between major cities; - enhance regional accessibility; - stimulate economic activity; encourage sustainable mobility; and achieve economic and financial feasibility.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025	The first national action plan for an Irish bioeconomy. The purpose of this plan is to further develop Ireland's bioeconomy in delivering the vision of the 2018 National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy; for Ireland "to be a global leader for the bioeconomy through a coordinated approach that harnesses Ireland's natural resources and competitive advantage and that fully exploits the opportunities available while monitoring and avoiding unintended consequences".	This action plan approaches the bioeconomy using seven pillars: • Governance & Awareness • Research, Development & Innovation • Nature, Climate, Energy & Circular Economy • Agriculture, Food, Forestry, And The Marine • Communities, Regions & Cities • Industry & Enterprise • Knowledge & Skills The Action Plan is aligned with the implementation of the National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Building Regulations	The aim of the building regulations is to provide for the safety and welfare of people in and about buildings.	The building regulations apply to the design and construction of a new building (including a dwelling) or an extension to an existing building.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Clean Air Strategy for Ireland (2023)	The Clean Air Strategy provides the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	- Through this document Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. - The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. - The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. - In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount, this is a strong theme of the Strategy.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021	An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.	When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to: - The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective, - The policy of the Government on climate change, - Climate justice, - Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and - The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Climate Action Plan 2025	The Climate Action Plan 2025 (CAP25) is the third annual update to Ireland's Climate Action Plan. The purpose of the Climate Action Plan is to lay out a roadmap of actions which will ultimately lead Ireland to meeting its national climate objective of pursuing and achieving, by no later than the end of the year 2050. Aiding the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy. It aligns with the legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings that were agreed by Government in July 2022.	Climate Action Plan 2025 builds upon CAP24 by refining and updating the measures and actions required to deliver the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings and it should be read in conjunction with Climate Action Plan 2024. The Plan provides a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve Ireland's emissions by 2030 and achieve climate neutrality by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage (2019)	- Heritage in Ireland ranges from private homes, commercial and public buildings, national monuments, underwater and buried archaeology and the physical and cultural settings of all of these. - This plan considers not only those structures and sites that have been statutorily listed, but all man-made assets that have historical, aesthetic and cultural value, but does not consider natural heritage. Aims to: - Build adaptive capacity within the sector - Reduce the vulnerability of built and archaeological heritage to climate change - Identify and capitalise on the various potential opportunities for the sector.	The five adaptation goals for built and archaeological heritage in Ireland are: - To improve understanding of each heritage resource and its vulnerability to climate change - To develop and mainstream sustainable policies and plans for climate-change adaptation of built and archaeological heritage - To conserve Ireland's heritage for future generations - To communicate and transfer knowledge - To exploit the opportunities for built and archaeological heritage to demonstrate value and secure resources	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan (2022-2025)	The Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan is a major public transport initiative developed by the National Transport Authority (NTA) with the aim of increasing connectivity, particularly for people living outside our major towns and cities. The plan aims to improve mobility in rural areas by providing frequent and affordable transport services that offer freedom to travel and sustainable transport connections.	The Plan focuses on: - Adding new high-frequency services; - Enhancing existing services; and Providing improved connectivity to the wider transport network	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	- Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. - The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.	This Strategy therefore addresses issues including: - A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; - Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; - The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; - Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; - Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety; - Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and - Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Electricity Storage Policy Framework (2024)	This Framework aims to o clarify the role of electricity storage systems (ESS) in Ireland’s climate objectives and energy transition. This will support Ireland’s 2030 climate targets as grid scale electricity storage is vital in securing an electricity grid capable in supporting Ireland’s renewable generation programme and the future growth of industrial sectors. The Electricity Storage Policy Framework refers, in the main, to front of meter electricity storage, outlining its present roles, technical processes, market positions and regulatory structures in Ireland. The framework addresses the grids immediate and near-term needs by supporting the incorporation of electricity storage from the immediate up until 2040 and presents 10 government actions to support the role of electricity storage systems in Ireland’s energy transition, identifying the key stakeholders and timelines for these actions.	Under this framework there are ten government actions to support the role of electricity storage systems in Ireland’s energy transition: 1. Maintain a technology neutral approach to all electricity storage systems. 2. Creation of a ‘sandbox’ project to advance both System Operators’ technological knowledge of emerging electricity storage technologies. 3. Convene an electricity storage and system services working group as part of the Accelerating Renewable Electricity Taskforce. 4. Convene a forum for an expanded group of stakeholders including statutory bodies, leading industry representatives and academic or interest groups. 5. Support access to the wholesale electricity markets, arbitrage and revenue stacking for electricity storage systems. 6. Support the immediate procurement of Demand Flexibility products and of (long duration) electricity storage to meet specific network needs, on the Distribution and Transmission systems respectively. 7. Initiate a ‘Quantity’ consultation to establish the optimal (long duration) electricity storage requirements to meet climate targets and electricity grid network expansion between 2030-2040. 8. Initiate a ‘Financial’ consultation to establish if the expected market mechanisms due between 2025-2028 will provide sufficient service provider certainty to meet the optimum (long duration) electricity storage systems requirements of 2030-2040. 9. If required and pending the outcome of the ‘Financial’ consultation, develop a market framework to further incentivise the incorporation of (long duration) electricity storage system technologies to the grid to meet projected 2030-2040 requirements.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		10. Ensure a route to market for the identified optimum (long duration) electricity storage requirements for 2030-2040 is in place before end of 2028.	
Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019	These Guidelines offer advice to planning authorities on planning for wind energy through the development plan process and in determining applications for planning permission.	The guidelines are intended to ensure a consistency of approach throughout the country in the identification of suitable locations for wind energy development and the treatment of planning applications for wind energy developments.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Energy Security in Ireland to 2030	Energy Security in Ireland to 2030 outlines a new strategy to ensure energy security in Ireland for this decade, while ensuring a sustainable transition to a carbon neutral energy system by 2050. This report is being published as part of an Energy Security Package, containing a range of supplementary analyses, consultations, and reviews, which have informed the recommendations and actions related to energy security.	The Energy Security Package states that we must ensure energy security is prioritised, monitored, and reviewed regularly, and includes a range of measures to implement this approach in the short and medium term by prioritising: • Reduced and Responsive Demand • A Renewables-Led System • More Resilient Systems • Robust Risk Governance Under each of these four areas of actions, the report sets out a range of mitigation measures, including the need for additional capacity of indigenous renewable energy, but also energy imports, energy storage, fuel diversification, demand side response, and renewable gases. The governance structures supporting the energy system, including oversight and accountability reforms, were also examined.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)	These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.	• They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. • The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C-418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations of 2003 (as amended, latest S.I. No. 663/2021)	The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. The Directive aims to provide a common framework to avoid, prevent or reduce, on a prioritised basis, the harmful effects of exposure to environmental noise.	• The Regulations set out a two-stage process for addressing environmental noise (preparation of strategic noise maps and preparation of noise action plans for each area concerned. • The Regulations designate noise-mapping bodies and action planning authorities for the making and reviewing of strategic noise maps and action plans. • The Regulations designate the Environmental Protection Agency as the National Authority for the purposes of the Regulations. • The Regulations provide for strategic noise maps and action plans and revised noise maps and action plans to be made available to the general public.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations (as amended) European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations (as amended)	• Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. • Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. • Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water (now Uisce Eireann) in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions.	• Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans. • Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs. • Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies. • Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. • Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. • Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. • Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. • Outlines surface water quality standards. • Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.	CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Food Harvest 2020	Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas.	Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Vision 2030	The Food Vision 2030 Strategy is a new ten-year Strategy for the Irish agri-food sector (taken to include primary agriculture, food and drink processing and manufacturing, fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing, forestry and forestry processing and the equine sector). The strategy has an aim of delivering a climate-neutral food system by 2050, with verifiable progress by 2030.	The Strategy consists of 22 Goals, grouped into four high-level Missions for the sector to work toward: 1. A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector 2. Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Well-Being 3. Food Which is Safe, Nutritious And Appealing, Trusted And Valued at Home and Abroad 4. An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology And Talent	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: • 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. • 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. • 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion. The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high end value added product development.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Governments White Paper 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' (2015 – 2030)	The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050.	2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning: • Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95% • Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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GRID25 Implementation Programme and associated Grid Implementation Plan 2023-2028 for the Electricity Transmission System in Ireland	Grid25 is a high-level strategy outlining how EirGrid intends to undertake the development of the electricity transmission grid in the short-, medium- and longer-terms, to support a long-term sustainable and reliable electricity supply. This Grid25 Implementation Programme (IP) is a practical strategic overview of how the early stages of Grid25 are intended to be implemented. The IP identifies the best current understanding of those parts of the transmission system that are envisaged as likely to be developed over the next five years. The IP identifies the issues, objectives and associated processes that will need to be adopted when making decisions about how and where developments will occur. This Grid Implementation Plan 2023-2028 supersedes the Grid Implementation Plan 2017-2022. It is focused on the Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2023-2032.	Grid25, EirGrid's roadmap to upgrade the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020. - The EirGrid Shaping Our Electricity Future Version 1.1 (SOEF - published in June 2023) is a core context for grid development as part of this Plan. The SOEF addresses matters such as why EirGrid develops the electricity transmission network, Government policy context that underpins this, and the importance of an efficient and economical grid network. - The Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2023 also forms a core context for this Plan. The TDP lists the committed projects and projects under development for the enhancement of the Irish transmission network over the coming ten years.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2023-2027	This plan sets out the direction for the HSE to deliver its national <i>Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025</i>. The HSE aims to support a healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility.	This Health Services Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2023-2027 has four main goals: 1. Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life. 2. Reduce health inequalities. 3. Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing. 4. Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a Healthy Ireland.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Heritage related legislation and guidelines: - National Monuments Act 1930 as amended; - Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act (2023) - Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999; and - The Heritage Act 2018. - Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities	Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the CDP. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage. The <i>National Monuments Act 1930</i>, which provides national legislation for the protection of monuments, historical wrecks and archaeological objects, has been replaced by the <i>Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act (2023)</i>. This new Act will provide for the protection of historic and archaeological heritage. A new 'Register of Monuments' will be established, replacing several overlapping designation and registration systems currently in operation. Newly discovered archaeological sites will be afforded immediate legal protection, mirroring the existing system for archaeological objects and historic wrecks that are automatically protected without a need for formal designation or registration. This will be reinforced by a statutory reporting scheme for finds of monuments. Subject to certain exceptions, archaeological objects with no known owner will automatically become the property of the State. A new civil enforcement procedure can be used as an alternative to, or to supplement, criminal proceedings. The new Act also makes explicit provision for the protection of World Heritage Sites.	Irish Heritage regulations that are relevant to the CDP. Broadly, this legislation is designed to conserve and enhance heritage.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Housing for All (2021)	Housing for All (2021) is the Government's housing plan to 2030. The overall aim of the housing plan for Ireland is that everyone in the State should have access to a home to purchase or rent at an affordable price, built to a high standard and in the right place, offering a high quality of life. The plan's vision is to have a steady supply of housing in the correct locations with economic, social, and environmental sustainability built into the system.	Housing for All provides four pathways to achieving its overarching objectives: • Supporting Homeownership and Increasing Affordability. • Eradicating Homelessness, Increasing Social Housing Delivery and Supporting Social Inclusion. • Increasing New Housing Supply. • Addressing Vacancy and Efficient Use of Existing Stock.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025	The vision is: <i>"A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility."</i>	These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive: • Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life • Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities • Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing • Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plans, etc.	Summary of high level aim/purpose/objective	Summary of lower-level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance of the Plan
Ireland 2040: The National Development Plan (2021 - 2030)	The National Development Plan 2021-2030 (NDP) sets out the Government's over-arching investment strategy and budget for the period 2021-2030. It sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people.	The key role of the NDP is to set out the updated configuration for public capital investment over the next 10 years in order to achieve the National Strategic Outcomes (NSO), as set out within the NPF. These ten National Strategic Outcomes are as follows: 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. Sustainable Mobility 5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 6. High-Quality International Connectivity 7. Enhanced Amenity and Heritage 8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Planning Framework (First Revision) 2025	The revised National Planning Framework (NPF) published in April 2025 replaced the National Planning Framework (2018) and now informs the wider Government Policy agenda, the actions of a broad range of public and private bodies, including homebuilders, the renewable energy sector, infrastructure agencies and domestic and international investors. • The focus of the revised NPF have been the following key drivers of change in Ireland: • Population growth and associated housing requirements • Infrastructure delivery • Climate and Environment	The revised NPF's ambition is expressed in a set of goals, termed National Strategic Outcomes: 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. High-Quality International Connectivity 5. Sustainable Mobility 6. A Strong Economy 7. Enhanced Amenities and Heritage 8. Transition to a Carbon Neutral and Climate Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Environmental Resources	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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	The revised NPF now provides the basis of review and updating of regional strategies and local authority development plans to reflect matters such as updated housing figures, projected jobs growth, renewable energy capacity allocations, including through the zoning of land for residential, employment and a range of other purposes. The implementation of the Planning and Development Act 2024 will also be closely aligned with the implementation of the revised NPF, with updated regional strategies and new 10-year development plans required to reflect the revised NPF as they are prepared.	10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services	
Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 - 2030	Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) sets the national biodiversity agenda for the period 2023-2030 and aims to deliver the transformative changes required to the ways in which we value and protect nature.	It will continue to implement actions within the framework of five strategic objectives, while addressing new and emerging issues: - Objective 1 - Adopt a Whole of Government, Whole of Society Approach to Biodiversity. - Objective 2 - Meet Urgent Conservation and Restoration Needs. - Objective 3 - Secure Nature's Contribution to People. - Objective 4 - Enhance the Evidence Base for Action on Biodiversity. - Objective 5 - Strengthen Ireland's Contribution to International Biodiversity Initiatives.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections 2023-2050	This EPA report provides an assessment of Ireland's total projected greenhouse gas emissions out to 2050 which includes an assessment of progress towards achieving its National ambitions under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 and EU emission reduction targets for 2030 as set under the EU Effort Sharing Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2018/842).	The focus of the assessment is out to 2030 given current national and EU 2030 climate targets. Extended projections out to 2050 are provided in the Appendix and as a separate download accompanying this report.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's Long-term Strategy on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction 2024	This long-term strategy aims to build on the targets, policies, measures and actions that Ireland has committed to in the period to 2030 (as set out in success annual national Climate Action Plans and the EU National Energy and Climate Plans.	The Strategy sets out Ireland's 2050 climate action targets and describes sector-specific pathways to reaching those targets. These sectors include: • Electricity • Industry • Built Environment • Transport • Agriculture, Forestry and Land-Use	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Ireland's Second National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (2022 - 2024)	- National Implementation Plan 2022 - 2024 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). - The first version of the Plan (2018 – 2020) provided a 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also included a 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets.	The Plan identifies five strategic objectives to guide implementation: - To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development; - To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs; - Greater partnerships for the Goals; - To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms; and - Strong reporting mechanisms	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Land Use Review – Phase 1 (2023)	This review provides an evidence base to determine the environmental, ecological and economic characteristics of land types across Ireland. It gives a holistic understanding of current land use patterns to shape future policies and measures. This review aids in ensuring optimal land use options inform all relevant Government decisions.	The primary objective of this report is to inform phase 2 of the Land Use Review, which will build on the evidence gathered. Phase 2 will, in consultation with all stakeholders and land users, go on to consider the policies, measures, and actions which will need to be taken — in the context of the Government's wider economic, social and climate objectives.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (as amended)	This act is designed to regulate the maritime area within Ireland. This regulation will be achieved by means of the National Marine Planning Framework. The Act provides the legislative framework for a new streamlined development consent process for activities in the maritime area including offshore renewable energy projects. The Bill will also establish a new body, the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority to undertake certain consenting and enforcement functions in the new regime. Enactment and implementation of the Bill will help Ireland to reach its climate action and renewable energy targets.	The key features of the plan are as follows: - Provision of Maritime Area Consents (MACs) for permission to occupy a maritime area over undefined or relatively long periods of time. - It is required that projects obtain a MAC as a pre-requisite before seeking planning permission for developments which fall under the Planning and Development Act 2000. - Provision of licenses for certain maritime usages which do not require planning permission or an EIA. Establishment of a Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) which will grant MACs, license specified maritime usages, ensure compliance with MACs, licenses and offshore planning permissions.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ministerial Guidelines such as Strategic Environmental Assessment Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines	The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, wind energy, childcare facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.	The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland 2024, and Sectoral Adaptation Plans	This framework specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities to reduce the vulnerability of Ireland to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur. It sets out an extended suite of guiding principles that underscore the need for smarter, faster and transformative adaptation actions, which demand a pathway planning approach to account for a range of future warming and impact scenarios. It acts as a roadmap for governments, organisations, and communities to plan and implement adaptation strategies. The Framework helps coordinate efforts, allocate resources, and prioritise actions that reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience. A robust framework not only enables more effective responses to immediate climate related challenges but also fosters long-term sustainability by ensuring that adaptation measures are integrated into policymaking, infrastructure development, and local planning.	Key actions under the framework: • Putting in place revised governance and reporting arrangements • Formalising the status of existing guidelines • Formalising long term operational support for key sectors • Facilitating the establishment of regional local authority climate action offices • Increasing awareness around climate adaptation and resilience • Integrating climate adaptation into key national plans and policies	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP)	The National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) is a technical document which outlines the pathway Ireland will follow to achieve compliance with its commitments under the National Emission Ceilings Directive (NEC Directive). The National Emissions Ceilings Directive (NEC Directive) establishes emission ceilings for 2020 and 2030 for five specified pollutants: nitrogen oxides (NOx), non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs), sulphur dioxide (SO2), ammonia (NH3) and fine particulate matter (PM2.5). It also mandates the development of a National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) for each Member State.	The programme includes: • An overview of sectors and national policy frameworks in Ireland that impact on emissions of the five NEC pollutants • An overview of the current outlook for compliance with NEC targets for each pollutant • Projections of relevant pollutant emissions to 2030 • Policy options, measures and actions across sectors but in particular in the residential, transport agricultural and energy sectors aimed at reducing emissions of the five specified air pollutants	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Broadband Plan (2019)	The National Broadband Plan (NBP) is the government's initiative to deliver high speed broadband services to all premises in Ireland. This will be delivered through investment by commercial enterprises coupled with intervention by the State in those parts of the country where private companies have no plans to invest.	The Plan sets out: • A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High Speed Broadband. • Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. • The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. • A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Demand Management Strategy - Moving Together: A Strategic Approach to Improving the Efficiency of Ireland's Transport System	The Strategy encourages an urban first approach to rolling out measures, where other travel options exist, and aims to improve journey times for car drivers, public transport users, business and freight, leading to improvements in local air quality and reduced stress with associated health benefits for drivers and non-drivers alike.	The Strategy does not contain a prescriptive series of actions. Instead, it provides a firm policy direction and suite of options - such as road space reallocation, progressive taxation, freight efficiency, or behavioural incentives - that can be taken at national, regional and local levels to bring about the systems changed needed. It is also intended that the Strategy will provide guidance needed for local authorities and local council representatives to develop plans for their own areas that suit their own communities' needs best.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030	The NECP outlines Ireland's energy and climate policies in detail for the period from 2021 to 2030 and looks onwards to 2050. The NECP is a consolidated plan which brings together energy and climate planning into a single process for the first time.	The NECP facilitates the ongoing analysis at EU level. It will be revised to bring it in line with the 7% trajectory and to include policies and measures currently being developed to achieve the 7% trajectory.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Energy Security Framework	The Framework outlines the structures which are in place within Government to monitor and manage our energy supplies. It sets out the plans which are in place to deal with energy security emergencies should they arise, and outlines out how these plans will be tested in light of the war in Ukraine. The Framework also sets out how Government can support households and businesses, with a particular focus on protecting those most at risk of fuel poverty, how it is already ensuring Ireland's energy security, how it will speed up the country's shift to increased energy efficiency and indigenous renewable energy systems. It also sets out how consumers and businesses can be supported to save energy and save money.	The Framework sets out the government's action in response to these issues across three key themes: - managing the impact on consumers and businesses, with a specific focus on financially vulnerable residential consumers in the short-term - ensuring security of energy supply in the near term, with a focus on the period up to and including winter 2022/23 - reducing our dependency on imported fossil fuels, in the context of the phasing out of Russian energy imports across the EU	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Forestry Programme 2023 – 2027	The national Forestry Programme 2023-2027 came into force in 2023, as soon as State Aid approval by the European Commission has been received. The new Programme sets out increased support for a number of schemes.	The Forestry Programme 2023-2027 contains a series of eight different interventions: • Forest creation; • Agroforestry; • Infrastructure and technology investments; • Sustainable forest management; • Developing skills and empowering the forest sector for sustainable forest management; • Open forests - social, cultural and heritage forests; • Climate resilient reforestation; • Reconstruction.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2021 - 2027	This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published. Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period: • To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally; • To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a • view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste;	The revised Plan makes 20 recommendations under the following topics: • Policy and Regulation • Prevention • Collection and Treatment • Implementation	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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	- To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export; - To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management.		
National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) 2021	NIFTI is the Department of Transport's framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network to support the delivery of the National Strategic Outcomes. The NIFTI will guide transport investment in the years ahead to enable the National Planning Framework, support the Climate Action Plan, and promote social, environmental and economic outcomes throughout Ireland.	The four investment priorities stated in NIFTI are: - Mobility of people and goods in urban areas. - Protection and renewal. - Enhanced regional and rural connectivity. - Decarbonisation.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character	The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions.	The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to: - Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; - Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape;	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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	Landscape Strategy Vision: “Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning.”	- Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape; - Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible.	
National legislation transposing the Industrial Emissions Directive, including: - Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992, amended by the Protection of the Environment Act 2003; and - Environmental Protection Agency (Integrated Pollution Control) (Licensing) Regulations 2013. - European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992)(Amendment) Regulations 2020	The purpose of this Directive is to lay down rules to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce industrial emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of environmental protection. This legislation transposes the provisions of the Directive.	The legislation covers industrial activities in the following sectors: - energy; - metal production and processing; - minerals; - chemicals; - waste management; - and other sectors such as pulp and paper production, slaughterhouses and the intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. All installations covered by the directive must prevent and reduce pollution by applying the best available techniques (BATs)* and address efficient energy use, waste prevention and management and measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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• Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. • European Union (Industrial Emissions) Regulations 2013 • Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions) (Licensing) Regulations 2013. • Environmental Protection Agency (Licensing Fees) Regulations 2013			
National Marine Planning Framework 2021	The NMPF is a key consideration for decision makers on all marine authorisations. The NMPF creates the overarching framework for decision making that is consistent, evidence based, and secures a sustainable future for the maritime area.	The National Marine Planning Framework is a succinct strategic document that will deal with, inter alia, the following environmental, social and economic issues: • Key marine activities such as fisheries, tourism, transport, offshore renewable energy generation, oil and gas exploration and production, aquaculture, and how they interact; • Climate change and related impacts; • Communities and health; • Cultural heritage; • Marine environment and biodiversity; Transboundary interactions with other jurisdictions.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Mitigation Plan 2017	The National Mitigation Plan represents an initial step in transitioning Ireland to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050. This whole-of-government Plan draws on the perspectives and responsibilities of a range of government departments, and reflects the central roles of key ministers responsible for electricity generation, the built environment, transport and agriculture.	The Plan includes over 100 individual actions for ministers and public bodies to implement and began the process of developing medium to long term mitigation choices for the next and future decades. The Plan is structured across several key themes: • Climate Action Policy Framework • Decarbonising Electricity Generation • Decarbonising the Built Environment • Decarbonising Transport An Approach to Carbon Neutrality for Agriculture, Forest and Land Use Sectors	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)	This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.	Objectives of the Strategy: • To give direction to Ireland's approach to peatland management. • To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils. • To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. • To ensure that Ireland's peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly. • To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. • To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required. • To provide a framework for determining and ensuring the most appropriate future use of cutover and cutaway bogs.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		To ensure that specific actions necessary for the achievement of its objectives are clearly identified and delivered by those involved in or responsible for peatlands management or for decisions affecting their management.	
National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030	- This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. - By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors. - This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport: - Reduce overall travel demand - Maximise the efficiency of the transport network - Reduce reliance on fossil fuels - Reduce transport emissions - Improve accessibility to transport These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework. Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: - AFV forecasts - Electricity targets - Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets - Hydrogen targets - Biofuels targets - LPG targets - Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Ports Policy 2013	The core objective of National Ports Policy is to facilitate a competitive and effective market for maritime transport services.	National Ports Policy introduces clear categorisation of the ports sector into Ports of National Significance (Tier 1), Ports of National Significance (Tier 2) and Ports of Regional Significance.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Retrofit Plan	The National Retrofit Plan sets out how the Government will deliver on the Climate Action Plan targets of retrofitting the equivalent of 500,000 homes to a BER of B2/cost-optimal and installing 400,000 heat pumps in existing homes to replace older, less efficient heating systems by the end of 2030.	The Plan is designed to address barriers to retrofit across four key pillars: driving demand and activity; financing and funding; supply chain, skills and standards; and governance. For each pillar, barriers were identified and time-bound policies, measures and actions were put in place to address them. The initiatives in the Plan were guided by a number of key principles.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Roads 2040	NR2040 sets out TII's long-term strategy for the maintenance, development, and management of Ireland's National Roads network. NR2040 is fully aligned with NIFTI and Project Ireland 2040 and focuses on strategic issues for National Roads identified by TII.	The following objectives have been defined. • Safe and efficient transport network for people and goods • Environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable • Tailored for different customers in different places Managed and improved as a key public asset	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Rural Development Programme	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas	At a more detailed level, the programme also: • Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; • Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and • Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development 2030	Article 34 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Common Fisheries Policy ('the CFP'), on the promotion of sustainable aquaculture, calls for the establishment of multiannual national strategic aquaculture plans. The NSPSA 2030 is the second such plan under the current CFP.	This Plan proposes 58 actions to be implemented over the period up to 2030. The purpose is as follows: - To align and mainstream the recently updated but non-binding guidance for the sustainable development of EU aquaculture (2021 – 2030) with national aquaculture sector planning. - To help inform the investment priorities for aquaculture in Ireland's new Seafood Development Programme 2021-2027 (EMFAF). To provide a framework so that strategic planning for the aquaculture sector in Ireland responds to the latest thinking in terms of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for Irish aquaculture in order to promote the development of a sustainable and forward-looking sector.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Sustainable Mobility Policy and the Sustainable Mobility Policy Action Plan 2022 - 2025	The National Sustainable Mobility Policy sets out a strategic framework to 2030 for active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport journeys to help Ireland meet its climate obligations. It is accompanied by an action plan to 2025 which contains actions to improve and expand sustainable mobility options across the country by providing safe, green, accessible and efficient alternatives to car journeys. It also includes demand management and behavioural change measures to manage daily travel demand more efficiently and to reduce the journeys taken by private car.	The policy aims to deliver at least 500,000 additional daily active travel and public transport journeys by 2030 and a 10% reduction in the number of kilometres driven by fossil fuelled cars. It will make it easier for people to choose walking, cycling and use public transport daily instead of having to use a petrol or diesel car.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Transport Authority's Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024	Section 13(1) of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008 (the DTA Act) requires the NTA to prepare an integrated implementation plan covering a six year period.	In accordance with the DTA Act, the Plan comprises the following: • An infrastructure investment programme, identifying the key objectives and outputs to be pursued by the Authority over the period of the Plan; • The actions to be taken by the Authority to ensure the effective integration of public transport infrastructure over the period of the Plan; • An integrated service plan, identifying the key objectives and outputs to be pursued by the Authority in relation to the procurement of public passenger transport services over the period of the Plan; • The actions to be taken by the Authority in relation to small public service vehicles; • The actions to be taken by the Authority to ensure the effective integration of public passenger transport services over the period of the Plan; and Such other matters as the Authority considers appropriate or as may be prescribed by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030	The National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030 has been published and replaces the Regional Waste Management Plans. The Plan sets out a framework for the prevention and management of waste in Ireland for the period 2024 to 2030.	The ambition of this Plan is 0% total waste growth per person over the life of the Plan with an emphasis on non-household wastes including waste from commercial activities and the construction and demolition sector. This ambition is underpinned with a comprehensive series of targets, policies, actions and a suite of key deliverables. The Plan is presented in 5 Volumes. • VOLUME I Sets out the current situation including policy, the existing waste landscape and financial, human and market resources deployed. It also identifies the key waste management challenges facing the State.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		- VOLUME II Sets out the responses to the waste management challenges identified including the Plan ambition, targets, policies and priority actions. Targeted policies and priority actions are identified for a range of focus areas chosen to align with the challenges. - VOLUME III Sets out the delivery roadmap for the responses contained in Volume II and contains key deliverables required to enable the ambition, targets, policies, and actions identified. - VOLUME IV Provides the supporting information for the Plan in a series of technical appendices. - VOLUME V Contains the Strategic Environmental Assessment Statement and Natura Impact Statement. Key challenges identified in the Plan include resources, organisational capability, policy requirements, specific material stream targets, the provision of infrastructure and waste generation.	
A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy Ireland's National Waste Policy 2020-2025	The Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy is an action-focused plan that will place Ireland at the vanguard of EU efforts. It will act as a roadmap for Ireland to embrace the opportunities in becoming a circular economy in the upcoming decade.	The overarching objectives of this action plan are to: - Shift the focus away from waste disposal and treatment to ensure that materials and products remain in productive use for longer thereby preventing waste and supporting reuse through a policy framework that discourages the wasting of resources and rewards circularity - Make producers who manufacture and sell disposable goods for profit environmentally accountable for the products they place on the market; - Ensure that measures support sustainable economic models (for example by supporting the use of recycled over virgin materials); - Harness the reach and influence of all sectors including the voluntary sector, R&D, producers / manufacturers, regulatory bodies, civic society; and	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		Support clear and robust institutional arrangements for the waste sector, including through a strengthened role for Local Authorities (LAs).	
National Water Resources Plan (2021)	The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment.	The key objectives of the plan are to: - Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions - Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry - Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland's water resources - Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events - Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water - Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025	The policy provides a framework for the development of rural Ireland over the next five years.	The policy focuses on the following thematic objectives: - Optimising the opportunities for rural communities from high speed broadband. - Supporting improved quality employment and career opportunities in rural areas. - Assisting the regeneration, repopulation and development of rural towns and villages. - Enhancing the participation, leadership and resilience of rural communities. - Enhancing public services in rural areas - Supporting a Just Transition to a climate neutral economy. - Supporting the sustainability of Agriculture, the	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		• Marine and Forestry. • Supporting the sustainability of our island and coastal communities. • Nurturing our culture and heritage	
Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012	A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.	Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning and Development Acts	The principal objectives of these are to provide a framework for land use planning and development control – with a view to promoting proper planning and sustainable development	• Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning and Development Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. • There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. • Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large scale projects.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage.	
Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 (PLUTO)	PLUTO's objective is to develop a transport investment framework which delivers a land transport network that meets the travel needs of the population in the coming decades and which supports the National Strategic Outcomes of Project Ireland 2040.	The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will: - Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; - Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, - Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas 2017 - 2022	Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs	- Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning. - Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Renewable Electricity Spatial Policy Framework (RESPF)	Under Action EL/23/2 of CAP23, the Renewable Electricity Spatial Policy Framework (RESPF) is currently being prepared. In effect, this will be the national policy for onshore renewable electricity and will inform and reshape the development and distribution of onshore renewables in order to enable the delivery of Ireland's renewable electricity targets, as set out in CAP23. The RESPF will promote a plan-led and evidence-based approach to the allocation of renewable electricity spatial and generation targets across the three Regional Assemblies, to facilitate the achievement of the national target of 80% RES-E by 2030.	The objective of this spatial policy framework is to effectively translate renewable electricity objectives, as those outlined in Climate Action Plan 2023, to the regional level and allocate regional spatial and renewable generation capacity targets.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Renewable Energy Ireland Strategy (2023)	The vision of the Strategy is to ensure by 2050 that Ireland will be energy independent through using indigenous, clean, carbon-free renewable energy supported by, and supporting, communities across the country.	Priority actions for the Strategy include: - Use the Planning and Development Acts to instruct An Bord Pleanála to prioritise planning applications for renewable energy and associated grid infrastructure. - Delivery of grid is a necessary foundation for decarbonisation of the economy. Market designs must include system services, flexibility, and capacity markets and fully exploit demand side resources. - Simplify administrative & regulatory requirements for renewable heat, energy efficiency, flexible demand, and storage technologies - Encourage EVs, enhanced public mobility and cycling infrastructure while harnessing Ireland's strengths for the appropriate use of sustainable biofuels and green hydrogen. - Bring together industry, Government and other key stakeholders to identify ways to cut the price of renewable energy in Ireland so that we can deliver clean energy at the lowest possible price for Irish consumers.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS) Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)	• Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. • GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring.	• Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. • Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. • Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. • Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. • Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
S.I. No. 435 of 2004 (European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) Regulations 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011 (European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations 2011)	• The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	• The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. • These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. • Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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S.I. No. 436 of 2004 (Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 201 of 2011 (Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2011).	The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of statutory land use plan on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	- The Regulations cover statutory land use plans, including Development Plans, Local Area Plans, Regional Planning Guidelines etc.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
S.I. 79 of 2008 - Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008, as amended (latest S.I. No. 322/2024)	- These Regulations provide for transposition of the EU Bathing Water Directive 2006 (Directive 2006/7/EC of 15 February 2006) which aims: - To improve health protection for bathers - To establish a more pro-active approach to management of bathing waters, and - To promote increased public involvement and dissemination of information to the public.	- The Regulations establish a new classification system for bathing water quality based on four classifications “poor”, “sufficient”, “good” and “excellent” and generally require that a classification of at least “sufficient” be achieved by 2015 for all bathing waters. - Local authorities must take appropriate measures with a view to improving waters which are classified as “poor” and increasing the number of bathing waters classified as “good” or “excellent”. - A permanent advice against bathing must be issued in a case where a bathing water is classified as “poor” for five consecutive years. - Local authorities are required annually to identify bathing waters, establish a monitoring calendar, carry out the specified monitoring, report the results to the EPA, carry out appropriate management measures where necessary and provide information to the public. - There must be public participation in the identification of waters and the general implementation of the Regulations.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		- The EPA is required by the Regulations to classify bathing waters, generally on the basis of the monitoring results for the four preceding bathing seasons, and to publish an annual report in relation to bathing water quality. - Monitoring by local authorities is to commence not later than 2011 with a view to ensuring that a classification is assigned to bathing waters not later than 2015. - Private controllers of access lands may be required to contribute towards the costs incurred by a local authority or the EPA.	
S.I. No. 113/2022 - European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022, as amended	The purpose of the Regulations is to provide a basic set of measures to ensure the protection of waters, including drinking water sources, against pollution caused by nitrogen and phosphorus from agricultural sources, with the primary emphasis on the management of livestock manures and other fertilisers. The set of measures also provide some basic safeguards against possible harmful impacts on water quality arising from agricultural expansion. This basic set of measures has been strengthened over the last two reviews and this new programme provides a further strengthened set of measures to help reduce nitrogen and phosphorus losses from agriculture and contribute to improvements in water quality.	The Regulations include measures such as: - Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited - Limits on the land application of fertilisers - Storage requirements for livestock manure; and - Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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S.I. No. 296/2009 - European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009, as amended (latest S.I. 355/2018)	The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels	Actions: - Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). - Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. - Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
S.I. No. 9/2010 - European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010, as amended (latest S.I. No. 287/2022)	These Regulations are made to give effect to the measures needed to achieve the environmental objectives established for groundwater by Article 4(1)(b) of the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) and to give effect to the requirements of the Groundwater Directive (Directive 2006/118/EC) on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.	The Regulations establish clear environmental objectives to be achieved in groundwater bodies within specified timeframes and introduce the legal basis for a more flexible, proportionate and risk-based approach to implementing the legal obligation to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater, which already exists under Directive 80/68/EEC. Measures include: - measures to prevent or limit the input of pollutants into groundwater and to prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater - measures to protect, enhance and restore all bodies of groundwater and to ensure a balance between abstraction and recharge of groundwater, with the aim of achieving good groundwater within a particular timeframe - measures requiring the reversal of any significant and sustained upward trend in the concentration of any pollutant resulting from the impact of human activity in order to progressively reduce pollution of groundwater - measures for determining groundwater quantitative and chemical status	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		- measures establishing procedures for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and the definition of the starting point for trend reversal - the laying down of rules for the presentation and reporting of groundwater monitoring results, trend assessments and the classification of quantitative status and chemical status of groundwater bodies	
Spatial Planning and National Roads: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012)	These guidelines have been prepared in the context of the delivery of the National Spatial Strategy and the actions identified in Smarter Travel, A Sustainable Transport Future, A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009-2020. The guidelines set out planning policy considerations relating to development affecting national roads (including motorways, national primary and national secondary roads) outside the 50/60 kmh speed limit zones for cities, towns and villages These guidelines have been developed by following a number of key principles and aim to facilitate a well-informed, integrated and consistent approach that affords maximum support for the goal of achieving and maintaining a safe and efficient network of national roads in the broader context of sustainable development strategies, thereby facilitating continued economic growth and development throughout the country.	The following key principles have guided the development of these guidelines: - Land-use and transportation policies are highly interdependent - Proper planning is central to ensuring road safety - Development should be plan-led - Development Management is key to Plan Implementation Planning Authorities and the National roads Authority and other public transport bodies must work closely together	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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State of the Environment Report – Ireland’s Environment 2024	The EPA produces state of the environment reports on a four-yearly cycle. These reports provide timely information and knowledge to the public, policymakers and key economic sectors in support of action to protect and manage the environment. The EPA will be publishing the next iteration of our State of the Environment Report later in 2024.	Not applicable.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)	The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users. It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity.	- A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; - Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism - to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, - domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; - Greenways that provide a substantially segregated offroad experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; - Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and, - Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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The Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive (2008/50/EC) as transposed into Irish legislation by the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011 as amended)	The Directive sets air quality standards for European Union member states.	Limit values for air quality parameters are set in this Directive.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027	Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan provides a framework for the application of the Common Agricultural Policy in Ireland. It aims to promote the agricultural sector and the provision of safe and sustainable food in the county. Ireland as an EU member state is responsible for the running of our own CAP Strategic Plan, in close co-operation with the European Commission, and the EU Court of Auditors as the guardian of EU finances. The CAP is divided into two pillars. Pillar 1 covers direct support and market supports, and rural development is in Pillar 2.	The Irish CAP Strategic Plan aims to: 1. Protect farm family incomes 2. Recognise the hard work of our farm families as food producers regardless of where they are in the country 3. Play a meaningful role in supporting our climate ambitions. It provides for the following: • Pillar 1 agri-environment schemes, including direct support consisting of payments granted directly to farmers and provides baseline income support and operates as a safety net in cases of market disturbances, and market measures to manage and control the agricultural economy. • Pillar 2 direct payments supporting rural development. Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan has a strong emphasis on achievement of a higher level of climate and environment ambition that will be achieved through the CAP's new green architecture.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

National Level			
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		It contains measures that will help to achieve significant improvements in the areas of biodiversity and water quality, as well as contributing to national and EU climate and environmental targets, including through increased sequestration and carbon removal. There are three key areas in the new green architecture: 1. Conditionality 2. Pillar 1 Eco-schemes 3. Pillar 2 climate and environment-related interventions	
The Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)	• Sets out comprehensive mechanisms for the incorporation of flood risk identification, assessment and management into the planning process. • Ensures flood risk is a key consideration in preparing land use plans and in the assessment of planning applications. • Implementation of the Guidelines is through actions at national, regional, local authority and site-specific levels. • Planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are required to have regard to the Guidelines in carrying out their functions under the Planning Acts.	• Avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding. • Avoid new developments increasing flood risk elsewhere, including that which may arise from surface water run-off. • Ensure effective management of residual risks for development permitted in floodplains. • Avoid unnecessary restriction of national, regional or local economic and social growth. • Improve the understanding of flood risk among relevant stakeholders. • Ensure that the requirements of EU and national law in relation to the natural environment and nature conservation are complied with at all stages of flood risk management. The 2009 Flood Risk Management Guidelines were amended by Circular PL 2/2014 (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government) that provides advice on the use of OPW flood mapping in assessing planning applications and clarifies some advice from the 2009 Guidelines.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025	The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work.	The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025: • Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; • 250,000 people employed in tourism; and • 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Uisce Éireann Water Services Strategic Plan 2015, Water Services Strategic Plan 2050, and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2020 - 2024)	The Water Services Strategic Plan (WSSP) presents Uisce Éireann's objectives for the next 25 years and the means by which we will achieve them. It aligns to requirements set out in the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013. The first Water Services Strategic Plan was published in 2015 and are the draft Water Services Strategic Plan 2050 (WSSP 2050) is in the process of consultation which will replace the current plan.	The new Water Services Strategic Plan 2050 will be an important strategic document that will focus on the provision of safe drinking water and ensure that the environment is protected from the impacts of wastewater discharges.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Waste Management Act 1996, as amended	To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.	The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Action Plan 2024 - A River Basin Management Plan for Ireland	The Water Action Plan 2024 is Ireland's third River Basin Management Plan and it outlines the measures the Government and other sectors are taking to improve water quality in Ireland's groundwater, rivers, lakes, estuarine and coastal waters, and provide sustainable management of our water resources (as specified under SDG 6). This Water Action Plan enhances and builds upon the work of the first and second cycle plans. Where necessary, this plan addresses the shortcomings experienced during the implementation of previous plans.	The objectives of the Water Framework Directive are (i) To prevent the deterioration of water bodies and to protect, enhance and restore them with the aim of achieving at least good status. (ii) To achieve compliance with the water standards and objectives for designated protected areas.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990	The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.	The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to: • Prosecute for water pollution offences. • Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. • Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. • Issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; • Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects. • Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Services Act 2007, and amendments in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2022	• Provides the water services infrastructure. • Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. • Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and wastewater supply. • Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and wastewater services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.	Key strategic objectives include: • Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. • Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services. • Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards • Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary wastewater treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive. • Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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		- Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. - Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services. Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER.	
Wildlife Act of 1976 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2023	The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.	- Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems - Give statutory protection to NHAs - Enhances wildlife species and their habitats - Includes more species for protection	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
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Biodiversity Strategy for NI to 2020	A strategy for Northern Ireland to meet its international obligations and local targets to protect biodiversity and ensure that the environment can continue to support our people and economy.	The objectives of the Biodiversity Strategy are to: i) maintain healthy ecosystems, ii) address adverse pressure, iii) increase prosperity and well-being, and engage society in biodiversity conservation and develop partnerships.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Circular Economy Strategy	The draft strategy sets out NI's vision to create an innovative, inclusive and competitive economy, with responsible production and consumption at its core.	The strategy outlines twelve proposals for change which will create more sustainable production and consumption patterns in Northern Ireland. The proposals have been framed around the five universal Circular Economy policy goals developed by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation (EMF) which provide a blueprint to align ambition and create a common direction of travel.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Draft Environment Strategy	The Environment Strategy is intended to be an overarching document setting out Northern Ireland's environmental priorities for the coming decades and will form part of the Green Growth agenda.	This Strategy focuses on several Strategic Context/Drivers: i) Sustainability ii) Global Climate & Biodiversity Action iii) Green Growth Strategy iv) Environmental Governance & Co-operation v) Agriculture & Environment vi) Marine Environment Built & Historic Environment	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Environmental Improvement Plan for Northern Ireland (2024)	The plan aims to deliver real improvements to the quality of the environment within Northern Ireland. This will lead to the improvement of health and well-being of all who live and work there, aid in creating opportunities to improve the economy, the elevation of Northern Ireland as an environmental leader, and will enable NI to play their part in protecting the global environment in future decades. The key strategic drivers underpinning the plan are as follows: • Sustainability. • Global Climate and Biodiversity action • Green growth strategy. • Northern Ireland Climate Action Plan 2023-2027. • Environmental governance and co-operation. • Agriculture, food & environment • Marine environment. • Built and historic environment.	The plan consists of six strategic environmental outcomes: 1. Excellent air, water & land quality. 2. Healthy & accessible environment & landscape everyone can connect with & enjoy. 3. Thriving, resilient & connected nature and wildlife. 4. Sustainable production & consumption on land and at sea. 5. Zero waste & highly developed circular economy. 6. Net zero greenhouse gas emissions & improved climate resilience and adaptability.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Hen Harrier Threat Response Plan 2024-2028	The plan aims to improve the long-term prospects of the species by addressing the threats faced by the Hen Harrier through a series of coordinated actions across sectors, including agriculture, forestry and wind energy.	This plan aims to: • Synthesis the key scientific evidence for the Hen Harrier population decline. • Outline the views and concerns presented by the relevant sectors. • Lay out a coordinated set of targeted actions and measures to cease, avoid, reverse, reduce, eliminate or prevent the identified threats, pressures and hazards.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (Northern Ireland) Order 1995	The Order was introduced to protect and manage Northern Ireland's cultural heritage by focusing on monuments and objects of archaeological and historical significance.	The key provisions of the Order include: • Protection of historic monuments by extending legal protection • Designating and scheduling of monuments that are considered to possess special historic or archaeological value Requiring consent for any development that could affect a scheduled monument and ensuring that these works do not harm the historic value of the monument	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Lesser Horseshoe Bat Species Action Plan 2022-2026	The aim of the plan is to guide, inform and provide structure for the conservation management of this important species over the next five years (2022-2026).	The Plan established practical conservation measure for the conservation of this species. The measures are divided into four broad categories: – Roosts, Habitat, Connectivity, Outreach, with each category having specific actions to be carried out.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Memorandum of Understanding between Coillte and NPWS (2024)	The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes the framework and process for partnership, collaboration, and enhanced cooperation in areas of collective responsibility and shared interest, leading to greater efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of nature projects and the respective work programmes of both organisations. The aim of the MOU is to create benefits biodiversity in Ireland by empowering the parties to address shared challenges and maximise shared opportunities in relation to nature restoration on the Coillte estate.	The objectives of the MOU are: • Establish a collaborative framework covering activities to the benefit of biodiversity in Ireland by promoting conservation principles and collaborative working between Coillte and NPWS. • Identify partnerships in areas of mutual interest and responsibility of the parties in the context of relevant legislative frameworks. • Establish a platform for professional exchange to share information and best practice and foster co-operation, co-ordination and collaboration on specific projects and initiatives. • Establish clear working groups and governance structures which facilitate further partnership and cooperation and allow for regular reviews of the effectiveness of the MOU.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
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		The parties commit to the co-development and co-implementation of agreed site management plans, for nature restoration projects, supported by costed operational plans with clearly identified sources of funds. Further, the development of scientific best practice and best practice implementation in the management of sites will be documented and, where appropriate, shared externally.	
Northern Ireland's draft Climate Action Plan 2023-2027	The draft Climate Action Plan sets out 52 policies and proposals designed to reduce emissions across nine sectors: energy production and supply; transport; business and industrial processes; residential buildings; public buildings; waste management; agriculture; land use, land-use change and forestry; and fisheries. These policies and proposals set a roadmap of action needed to reduce emissions and keep NI on track for future targets and will keep the country on track to meet the carbon budget set across sectors.	Each sector within the plan has a set of policies and proposals set out that will enable Northern Ireland to achieve its first carbon budget and meet its emission reduction targets. The policies are a committed course of action to which a policy outcome can be attributed with a reasonable level of confidence. The proposals are a suggested course of action or exploratory action, the details of which might change as this course of action is explored further. Proposals are generally at an earlier stage of development than policies and more work will be needed to determine what they entail, how they might be delivered and how they could be funded	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Northern Ireland Energy Strategy 2050 (Northern Ireland Energy Strategy 'Path to Net Zero Energy')	The Strategy sets a long-term vision of net zero carbon and affordable energy for Northern Ireland. It is also about growing the economy and supporting the 10X Economic Vision.	The energy strategy sets a target of 70% of local electricity supplies coming from renewable sources by 2030 and includes a plan to fully decarbonise by 2050. The Energy Strategy is centred around delivering on five key principles: • Placing you at the heart of our energy future • Grow the green economy • Do more with less • Replace fossil fuels with renewable energy • Create a flexible, resilient and integrated energy system	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Northern Ireland Peatland Strategy 2021-2040	The strategy identifies the ecosystem services provided by healthy peatlands, including climate regulation and adaptation, specialised biodiversity, good water quality, flood alleviation and a historical archive. The strategy also highlights the role peatlands play as a unique landscape for recreation and education.	The document outlines six strategic objectives: - Conserve peatlands & prevent degradation - Restoration of degraded areas to functioning peatland ecosystems (designated & non-designated sites) - Supporting Sustainable Peatland Management - Knowledge Sharing & Research - Communication, Education & Access - Governance, Implementation & Funding	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Northern Ireland Third Cycle River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) 2021-2027	Under The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) Regulations (Northern Ireland 2017, integrated catchment planning through the preparation and implementation of a river basin management plan is required. These regulations apply to groundwater and all surface waters and take an integrated approach to the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. There have been three sets of RBMPs published for NI. The first cycle was published in 2009, the second in 2015, and the third currently runs from the period 2021-2027. Unlike its predecessors, where each River Basin District had an individual RBMP, the third cycle RBMP is just a single plan that covers all three River Basin Districts within Northern Ireland.	The Plans identified where Northern Ireland's water environment is in good or excellent condition and set out objectives for improvement or prevention of deterioration.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Northern Irish Local Development Plans for Northern Irish local authorities bordering Ireland	These Northern Ireland plans make sure there is enough land available for each area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features.	Northern Irish Local Development Plans for Northern Irish local authorities bordering Ireland include: • Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council's Local Development Plan 2030 • Mid Ulster District Council's Local Development Plan 2030 • Derry City and Strabane District Council's Local Development Plan 2032 • Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Local Development Plan 2030 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Local Development Plan 2030	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011	The Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 provides the legislative basis for the reform of the Northern Ireland planning system. It is the principal piece of planning legislation in Northern Ireland, receiving assent on 4 th May 2011. It underpins the reformed two-tier planning system which commenced with the transfer of responsibility for the majority of planning functions from central government to district councils.	The act streamlines the planning process, improves decision-making and ensures greater public involvement in planning decisions. The Planning Act creates a more efficient, transparent and locally-focused planning system in NI which balances economic development, environmental protection and public interests by: • Transferring planning functions to the planning authorities to decentralise decision-making and allowing local authorities more control over the planning decisions • Introducing a requirement for local development plans for council areas, which outline land-use, regulates development and identifies what infrastructure is required • Simplifying the planning procedure for applicants and planning authorities and allowing for more flexibility in the application process • Creating a Planning Appeals Commission to handle appeals and reviews of planning decisions to consider appeals against planning refusals, conditions or enforcement decisions. Integrating sustainability and environmental considerations into proposed development through the planning process	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 2: Natural Heritage (2013)	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 2 sets out the Department of the Environment's planning policies for the conservation, protection and enhancement of Northern Ireland's natural heritage. PPS 2 replaces 'Planning and Nature Conservation (1997)' and supersedes Policies SP16 and DES4 in 'A Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland (1993).	Objectives of PPS2 include: - to seek to further the conservation, enhancement and restoration of the abundance, quality, diversity and distinctiveness of the region's natural heritage. - to contribute to rural renewal and urban regeneration by ensuring developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and contributing to a high-quality environment.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 3: Access, Movement and Parking	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 3 sets out the Department's planning policies for vehicular and pedestrian access, transport assessment, the protection of transport routes and parking. It forms an important element in the integration of transport and land use planning. It embodies the Government's commitments to the provision of a modern, safe, sustainable transport system, the improvement of mobility for those who are socially excluded or whose mobility is impaired, the promotion of healthier living and improved road safety.	Objectives of PPS3 include: - Ensure that new development offers a realistic choice of access by walking, cycling and public transport, recognising that this may be less achievable in some rural areas. - Ensure the needs of people with disabilities and others whose mobility is impaired, are taken into account in relation to accessibility to buildings and parking provision. - Protect routes required for new transport schemes including disused transport routes with potential for future reuse.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 6: Planning, Archaeology and Built Heritage	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 6 sets out the Department's planning policies for the protection and conservation of archaeological remains and features of the built heritage. It embodies the Government's commitment to sustainable development and environmental stewardship.	PPS6 aims to: • Protect and conserve archaeological remains and their settings. • Protect World Heritage Sites. • Protect historical parks, gardens and demesnes. • Manage and preserve listed buildings. • Manage and enhance conservation areas.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 7: (addendum) Safeguarding the character of established residential areas	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 7 (addendum) provides additional planning policies on the protection of local character, environmental quality and residential amenity within established residential areas, villages and smaller settlements. It also sets out regional policy on the conversion of existing buildings to flats or apartments. In addition, the addendum contains policy to promote greater use of permeable paving within new residential developments to reduce the risk of flooding from surface water run-off.	With regards to the protection of areas of established residential character, environmental quality, and local amenity, this policy aims to: • Prevent unacceptable damage to the local character, environmental quality, or residential amenity of established residential areas. • Maintain or enhance the quality of established residential areas. • To safeguard the privacy of existing residents.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 8: Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 8 sets out the Department's planning policies for the protection of open space, the provision of new areas of open space in association with residential development and the use of land for sport and outdoor recreation, and advises on the treatment of these issues in development plans. It embodies the Government's commitment to sustainable development, to the promotion of a more active and healthy lifestyle and to the conservation of biodiversity.	The objectives for PPS 8 include: • To facilitate appropriate outdoor recreational activities in the countryside. • To safeguard existing open space and sites identified for future such provision. • To ensure that the provision of new open space areas and sporting facilities is in keeping with the principles of environmental conservation and helps sustain and enhance biodiversity.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 13: Transportation and Land Use	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 13 aims to integrate land use planning and transport by promoting sustainable transport choices, promoting accessibility for all, and reducing the need to travel, especially by private car.	Secondary objectives for PPS 13 include: • ensure that new development offers a realistic choice of access by walking, cycling and public transport, recognizing that this may be less achievable in some rural areas. • ensure the needs of people with disabilities and others whose mobility is impaired are taken into account in relation to accessibility to buildings and parking provision. • protect routes required for new transport schemes including disused transport routes with potential for future reuse.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 15: Planning and Flood Risk	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 15 sets out the Department's draft planning policies to minimise and manage flood risk to people, property and the environment. It embodies the government's commitment to sustainable development and the conservation of biodiversity. It adopts a precautionary approach to development and the use of land that takes account of climate change and emerging information relating to flood risk through the implementation of the EU Floods Directive in Northern Ireland and the implementation of sustainable drainage systems. The revised PPS is supportive to the safety and wellbeing of people.	Objectives of PPS15 include: • seek to prevent inappropriate new development in areas known to be at risk of flooding, or that may increase the flood risk elsewhere. • ensure that the most up to date information on flood risk is taken into account when determining planning applications and zoning / designating land for development in development plans. • adopt a precautionary approach to the identification of land for development through the development plan process and the determination of development proposals, in those areas susceptible to flooding where there is a lack of precise information on present day flood risk or future uncertainties associated with flood estimation, climate change predictions and scientific evidence. • support the retention and restoration of natural flood plains and natural watercourses as a form of flood alleviation and an important environmental and social resource, and ensure that this is recognised in the decision-making process. • promote an integrated and sustainable approach, both locally and at catchment scale, to the management of development and flood risk which contributes to: ○ the safety and wellbeing of everyone. ○ the prudent and efficient use of economic resources. ○ the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment and biodiversity. ○ the conservation of archaeology and the built heritage.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 16: Tourism	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 16 sets out the Department's planning policy for tourism development, including the main forms of tourist accommodation and tourist amenities. In addition the PPS provides policy for the safeguarding of tourism assets from development likely to adversely impact upon the tourism value of the environmental asset.	Objectives of PPS16 include: • facilitate sustainable tourism development in an environmentally sensitive manner. • contribute to the growth of the regional economy by facilitating tourism growth. • safeguard tourism assets from inappropriate development. • utilise and develop the tourism potential of settlements by facilitating tourism development of an appropriate nature, location and scale. • sustain a vibrant rural community by supporting tourism development of an appropriate nature, location and scale in rural areas. • ensure a high standard of quality and design for all tourism development.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 21: Sustainable Development in the Countryside	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 21 sets out planning policies for development in the countryside. For the purpose of this document the countryside is defined as land lying outside of settlement limits as identified in development plans. The provisions of this document will apply to all areas of Northern Ireland's countryside.	PPS21 aims to manage development in the countryside in a manner consistent with achieving the strategic objectives of the Regional Development Strategy for Northern Ireland 2025 and which strikes a balance between the need to protect the countryside from unnecessary or inappropriate development, while supporting rural communities. Its objectives are: • to manage growth in the countryside to achieve appropriate and sustainable patterns of development that meet the essential needs of a vibrant rural community. • to conserve the landscape and natural resources of the rural area and to protect it from excessive, inappropriate or obtrusive development and from the actual or potential effects of pollution.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		- to facilitate development necessary to achieve a sustainable rural economy; including appropriate farm diversification and other economic activity. - to promote high standards in the design, siting and landscaping of development in the countryside.	
Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 18: Renewable Energy	Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 18 sets out the Department's planning policy for development that generates energy from renewable resources and that requires the submission of a planning application. In addition, the PPS encourages the integration of renewable energy technology and greater application of the principles of Passive Solar Design in the design, siting and layout of new development.	The aim of this Statement is to facilitate the siting of renewable energy generating facilities in appropriate locations within the built and natural environment in order to achieve Northern Ireland's renewable energy targets and to realise the benefits of renewable energy. The objectives of the Statement are: - to ensure that the environmental, landscape, visual and amenity impacts associated with or arising from renewable energy development are adequately addressed; - to ensure adequate protection of the Region's built and natural, and cultural heritage features; and - to facilitate the integration of renewable energy technology into the design, siting and layout of new development and promote greater application of the principles of Passive Solar Design.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Regional Development Strategy 2035 (Northern Ireland)	Spatial strategy for the future development of Northern Ireland. Strategic planning framework to facilitate and guide public and private sectors.	Aims to provide long-term policy direction with a strategic spatial perspective.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Climate Change (Northern Ireland) Act 2022	The Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (Act) sets a target of an at least 100% reduction in net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050. The Act also sets other sectoral targets including 2030 targets at least 80% of electricity consumption from renewable sources (DfE) and 70% of waste is recycled (DAERA) as well as a target for a minimum spend of 10% of overall transport budgets on active travel (DfI).	Section 23 of the Act requires DAERA to make regulations that set carbon budgets. Sections 13-22 place requirements on Northern Ireland departments to produce and publish various sectoral plans setting out how specific sectors will contribute to meeting the 2030, 2040 and 2050 emissions reduction targets. DAERA is required to produce 5-year climate action plans (CAP) to set out the policies and proposals that Northern Ireland departments will implement to meet the corresponding carbon budget as well as set out how the emissions reduction targets will be achieved. The Act places a duty on DAERA to prepare and publish a series of interim and final reports setting out what progress has been made in implementing the proposals and policies set out in the CAPs and the progress made in achieving carbon budgets and emissions reduction targets. There are also reporting requirements placed on the UK Climate Change Committee (CCC). Section 37 of the Act places a duty on DAERA to establish a Just Transition Commission for Northern Ireland.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		Section 31 places a requirement on DAERA to establish a Just Transition Fund for Agriculture in order to provide advice and financial assistance to the agricultural sector to help deliver its contribution under policies and proposals within CAPs. Section 42 of the Act requires regulations to be made in regard to climate change reporting by public bodies. Section 50 of the Act requires The Executive Office (TEO) to establish an independent office to be known as the “Northern Ireland Climate Commissioner”.	
The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended)	These regulations transpose the requirements of the EC 'Habitats' Directive and aspects of the 'Wild Birds' Directive in relation to Northern Ireland. Provide for the protection of sites in the UK that support habitats and species in need of conservation across Europe and full protection of species of European importance whether occurring within designated sites or not.	Protects certain birds, plants, animals, marine life and their habitats, including Natura 2000 sites, through creating criminal offences and changing planning requirements.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002	The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 is the primary piece of environmental legislation in Northern Ireland. The order sets out a range of requirements for the protection and management of the environment, including the prevention and control of pollution, the conservation of natural habitats and biodiversity, and the regulation of waste management. The order applies to a wide range of activities, including industrial and commercial activities, waste management, agriculture, and construction. It also establishes the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), which is responsible for enforcing the order and regulating activities that may have an impact on the environment. The NIEA has the power to investigate environmental incidents, issue enforcement notices, and prosecute individuals and organisations that breach environmental regulations.	The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 places a range of obligations on individuals and organisations to protect and manage the environment. These obligations include reporting environmental incidents, obtaining permits, and complying with environmental standards. Evidence requirements under the order may include: 1. Reporting requirements 2. Permit requirements 3. Compliance monitoring 4. Enforcement action	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Green Growth Strategy	The Strategy establishes Northern Ireland's Green Growth vision and principles and sets out commitments to tackling the climate crisis.	One of the key commitments of the Green Growth Strategy is to develop Northern Ireland's first Climate Action Plan. 10 Executive Commitments have been set out in the Strategy. Green Growth considers climate targets but also the wider environment and green jobs.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
The Marine Act (Northern Ireland) 2013 (as amended)	This Act establish a legal framework for the management, planning, and conservation of Northern Ireland's marine resources. It seeks to balance economic development with environmental protection, ensuring the sustainable use of marine resources and the protection of marine biodiversity and ecosystems. The Act, alongside the Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009, sets forth actions to deliver the UK government's vision for "clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas."	This Act establishes a strategic system of marine planning in Northern Ireland's inshore region (out to 12 nautical miles) that will: • be proactive, co-ordinated and responsive; • assists in the delivery of a modernised licensing and enforcement regime that is streamlined, consistent and promotes integrated decision making; • and contributes to the delivery of the United Kingdom's aim of establishing an "ecologically coherent network of Marine Protected Areas", so that marine biodiversity is protected and international and European commitments are met.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009	This Act, alongside the Marine Act 2013, sets forth actions to deliver the UK government's vision for "clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas." The act established a framework or marine management that aims to balance conservation and sustainable development. Under this act the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) was created and tasked with functions to aid in the realisation of the aims of the Act.	Key areas of the Marine & Coastal Access Act include: • Setting up the MMO in order to centralise many of the existing, diverse areas of marine regulation. • Streamline the existing marine licensing system and provide powers to create a joined-up marine planning policy. • Introduce new measures to reform fisheries management. • Provide a framework for establishing marine conservation zones. • Enable the creation of a walkable route around the English coast.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
The Marine Plan for Northern Ireland 2018	The Plan informs and guides the regulation, management, use and protection of Northern Ireland's marine area. It is a single document made up of two plans, one for the inshore region and one for the offshore region.	Marine Plan Objectives • To promote the sustainable development of productive activities, which support employment at all skill levels while fully considering the requirements of other marine interests. • To help realise the potential of energy resources and energy storage within the marine area, while fully considering the requirements of other marine interests. • To promote the development of vibrant, accessible and sustainable coastal communities. • To promote the marine resource, its recreational value and its wider economic, environmental and social benefits to all. • To promote the preservation and enjoyment of marine related heritage assets. • To promote a healthy, resilient and adaptable marine ecosystem and an ecologically coherent network of Marine Protected Areas. • To contribute towards climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. • To continue to develop a sound marine evidence base in a co-ordinated manner, to increase understanding and to support the development, monitoring and review of marine plans.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
The Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017	The purpose of these regulations is to promote sustainable development by considering and mitigating the potential environmental effects of projects before they are approved. The regulations require a systematic and transparent assessment process, enabling decision-makers to make informed choices based on the environmental implications of proposed developments.	The regulations apply to a wide range of projects, including infrastructure developments, industrial facilities, energy projects, and certain agricultural and waste management activities. The regulations mandate that developers or project proponents carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as part of the planning process. The EIA involves the identification, prediction, and evaluation of potential environmental effects, such as impacts on air, water, biodiversity, human health, and cultural heritage. The assessment also considers alternative options and potential mitigation measures. Additionally, the regulations emphasize public participation, ensuring that affected individuals and organizations have the opportunity to provide input and express their concerns during the assessment process.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Regional Development Strategy 2035	The strategy aims to take account of the economic ambitions and needs of the Northern Ireland Region, and put in place spatial planning, transport and housing priorities that will support and enable the aspirations of the Region to be met.	The Strategy sets out a spatial framework and guidance specific to each NI area.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
The Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) for Northern Ireland	The SPPS is a statement, consolidating some twenty separate policy publications into one document of the Department's policy on important planning matters that should be addressed across Northern Ireland. It also provides the core planning principles to underpin delivery of the two-tier planning system with the aim of furthering sustainable development. It sets the strategic direction for councils to bring forward detailed operational policies within their new Local Development Plans.	The provisions of the SPPS must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Development Plans, and are also material to all decisions on individual planning applications and appeals. The SPPS has a policy objective to "seek to further the conservation, enhancement and restoration of the abundance, quality, diversity and distinctiveness of the region's natural heritage".	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The UK Marine Policy Statement 2011	The MPS was prepared and adopted under section 44 of the Marine & Coastal Act 2009. The MPS is the framework for marine planning systems. It provides the high-level policy context within which national and sub-national Marine Plans will be developed, implemented, monitored, amended and will ensure appropriate consistency in marine planning across the UK marine area. The MPS will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom marine area.	The MPS will facilitate and support the formulation of Marine Plans, ensuring that marine resources are used in a sustainable way in line with the high level marine objectives and thereby: • Promote sustainable economic development. • Enable the UK's move towards a low-carbon economy, in order to mitigate the causes of climate change and ocean acidification and adapt to their effects. • Ensure a sustainable marine environment which promotes healthy, functioning marine ecosystems and protects marine habitats, species and our heritage assets. • Contribute to the societal benefits of the marine area, including the sustainable use of marine resources to address local social and economic issues.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
The Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011	This Act requires every public body to promote the conservation of biodiversity and defines functions of public bodies in Northern Ireland with respect to the conservation of biodiversity. It also contains provisions for the conservation of wild fauna and flora and habitats. The Act amends the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 and the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002.	• To make provision about biodiversity. • To amend the wildlife (Northern Ireland) order 1985 and part 4 of the environment (Northern Ireland) order 2002. • To abolish game licences and game dealers' licences. • To prohibit hare coursing events. • To amend the game preservation act (Northern Ireland) 1928; and for connected purposes.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (as amended)	Prohibits the intentional killing, taking or injuring of certain wild birds and wild animals or the intentional destruction, uprooting or picking of certain wild plants.	• Protection of wild birds, their nests and eggs, the prohibition of certain methods of killing or taking wild birds and the sale of live or dead wild birds or eggs. • Protection of captive birds. • Prohibition of certain methods of killing or taking wild animals, the use of spring traps, and the sale of live or dead wild animals as well as providing protection for wild plants and prohibiting the sale of invasive, non-native species. • Also covers: the protection of deer, the sales and purchases of venison and the prevention of poaching; the possession of pesticides harmful to wildlife; wildlife refuges; and the possession of articles for purposes of committing certain offences. With regard to enforcement, it includes details regarding the power of wildlife inspector to enter premises and to examine specimens and take samples, false statements made for obtaining registration or licence and penalties and forfeitures.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Tourism Strategy for Northern Ireland: 10 Year Plan	- The plan sets out a 10-year plan for the growth of the tourism sector in Northern Ireland., with an aim to increase the value of tourism to the economy by 50-75% compared to 2019. - Vision is to “Establish Northern Ireland as a year-round world class destination which is renowned for its authentic experiences, landscape, heritage and culture and which benefits communities, the economy and the environment, with sustainability at its core.”	The strategic goals and core themes of the Strategy are: - Innovative - Inclusive - Sustainable - Attractive - Collaborative The document identifies the key challenges and drivers for growth.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Towards an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy for Northern Ireland 2006 - 2026	Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) aims to establish sustainable levels of economic and social activity in our coastal areas while protecting the coastal environment. ICZM seeks to reconcile the different policies that have an effect on the coast and to establish a framework that facilitates the integration of the interests and responsibilities of those involved in the development, management and use of the coast.	The Strategy is based on the several key principles: - Sustainable development - Precautionary principle Ecosystem approach	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Northern Ireland			
National Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Local Level			
Local Development Plans for Northern Ireland district councils	Under Part 2 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, district councils are required to prepare a local development plan for their area. These plans aim to make sure there is enough land available for the area's housing, employment and community facilities, while protecting important landscape and environmental features. The plans comprise two development plan documents: The Plan Strategy - The strategic policy framework for the plan area as a whole across a range of topics. It sets out the vision for that area, and the objectives and strategic policies required to deliver that vision. The Local Policies Plan - The council's local policies and site-specific proposals in relation to the development and use of land in the plan area. It contains the local policies, including site specific proposals, designations and land use zonings required to deliver the council's vision, objectives and strategic policies, as set out in the Plan Strategy.	At present the following district councils have been published: • Fermanagh and Omagh Local Development Plan Strategy • Derry City and Strabane Local Development Plan Strategy • Banbridge and Newry and Mourne Area Plan 2015 The following districts have Local Development Plans that are forthcoming: • Mid Ulster • Newry, Mourne and Down • Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Biodiversity Action Plans	Aims to protect, conserve, enhance and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services across all spectrums.	• Outlines the status of biodiversity and identifies species of importance. • Outlines objectives and targets to be met to maintain and improve biodiversity. • Aims to increase awareness.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Authority Climate Action Plans	Each Local Authority has a statutory requirement to create a climate action plan under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment Act 2021). These plans are required to take into consideration wider national climate and energy targets and must address both mitigation and adaptation measures.	These action Plans will develop and implement specific, action-focused, time-bound and measurable actions. Through this, it will allow plans which: • Provide a strong emphasis on a place-based approach to climate action, delivering a better understanding of greenhouse gas emissions and climate-related risks at a local level, while addressing context-specific conditions and support for locally tailored policy making. • Deliver and promote evidence-based and integrated climate action by way of adaptation and mitigation measures, centred around a strong understanding of the role and remit of the local authority on climate action. • Translate and provide strategic direction at local and community levels on the delivery of the national climate objective which is seeking to curb further global warming and to transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy by no later than the end of 2050.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
County Landscape Character Assessments	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	- Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. - Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Development Plans, Local Area Plans and other land use plans	- Outline planning objectives for land use development (including transport objectives). - Strategic frameworks for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. - Sets out the policies and proposals to guide development in the bordering and connected Local Authority areas.	- Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required. - Protect and enhance amenities and environment. - Guides neighbouring planning authority in assessing proposals. - Aim to guide development in neighbouring areas - Aim to promote sustainable development in neighbouring and connected areas. - Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Dublin to Galway Greenway Plan	- Develop a segregated cycling and walking trail to international standards, extending from Dublin City to Galway which is of a scale that will allow Ireland to harness the potential of an identified growing tourism market for cycling. - This route forms part of an interconnected National Cycle Network of high quality, traffic free, inter urban routes, which will establish Ireland as a quality international tourism destination for a broad range of associated recreational activities and pursuits.	To provide a segregated, substantially off road cycle route from Dublin City to Clifden via Galway City, maximising the use of – where feasible – existing and approved routes and disused railway line corridors and to also use existing plans and/or permitted projects where these have been subject to a consent process that has previously included the carrying out or screening for SEA, EIA and AA.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub- Basin Management Plans	- Identifies the current status of the species and the reason for loss or decline. - Identifies measure required to improve or restore current status.	- Identifies pressures on Freshwater Pearl Mussels for each of the designated populations in Ireland. - Outlines restoration measures required to ensure favourable conservation status.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan	- Sets out a ten year cycling strategy for Counties Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow - Plan to increase regions cycle network dramatically - The Plan refers to the EuroVelo International Cycle Route Network of the European Cyclists Federation is a network of 15 long distance cycle routes connecting and uniting the whole European continent. Two of these routes are in Ireland including EV2 from Galway through Dublin to London, Berlin, Warsaw and Moscow.	Aims to identify and determine: - The Urban Cycle Network at the Primary, Secondary and Feeder level - The Inter-Urban Cycle Network linking the relevant sections of the Urban Network including the elements of the National Cycle Network within the Greater Dublin Area including linkages to key transport locations outside of urban areas such as airports and ports - The Green Route Network being cycle routes for development of tourist, recreational and leisure purposes.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2016-2035)	- It sets out how transport will be developed across the region, covering Dublin, Meath, Wicklow and Kildare, over the period of the strategy and has been approved by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport in accordance with the relevant legislation. - The Vision Statement: <i>“The GDA by 2022 is an economically vibrant, active and sustainable international Gateway Region, with strong connectivity across the GDA Region, nationally and worldwide; a region which fosters communities living in attractive, accessible places well supported by community infrastructure and enjoying high quality leisure facilities; and promotes and protects across the GDA green corridors, active agricultural lands and protected natural areas.”</i> Full SEA and Stage 2 AA have been undertaken on this Strategy	They set out a number of core principles deriving from the strategic vision, which are: - Dublin as the capital city of Ireland and a major European centre shall grow and progress, competing with other cities in the EU, and serving a wide range of international, national, regional and local needs. - The Dublin and Mid-East Regions will be attractive, vibrant locations for industry, commerce, recreation and tourism and will be a major focus for economic growth within the Country. - The GDA, through its ports and airport connections will continue to be the most important entry/exit point for the country as a whole, and as a Gateway between the European Union and the rest of the World. Access to and through the GDA will continue to be a matter of national importance. - Development in the GDA shall be directly related to investment in integrated high quality public transport services and focused on compact urban form. - Development within the existing urban footprint of the Metropolitan Area will be consolidated to achieve a more compact urban form	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		Development in the Hinterland Area will be focused on the high quality integrated growth and consolidation of development in key identified towns, separated from each other by extensive areas of strategic green belt land devoted to agriculture and similar uses.	
Green Infrastructure Plans/Strategies	- Promotes the maintenance and improvement of green infrastructure in an area. - Aims to protect and enhance biodiversity and habitats.	Not applicable	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater Protection Schemes	A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.	A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Heritage Plans	Aims to highlight the importance of heritage at a strategic level.	• Manage and promote heritage as well as increase awareness. • Aim to conserve and protect heritage.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP)	The overarching vision for each LECP is: "to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities"	The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Local Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans	- Produced by Local Authorities. - Outlines areas local flood risk. - Sets out measures to manage and prevent flood risk at a local level.	Not applicable.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Transport Plans and Strategies	Local Transport Plans and Strategies relevant to a particular local authority functional area provide a more granular framework for the delivery of sustainable transport systems in accordance with higher-level plans.	- To promote sustainable transport. - To promote integrated and proper transport planning. - To promote safe travel. - To promote active travel infrastructural development. - To encourage modal shift.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Noise Action Plans	The Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland.	The main purpose of the Noise Action Plan is to: • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems • Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects • Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs	Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: • To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site • To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest • To describe the site and its management • To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives	• Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies provide a long-term regional level strategic planning and economic framework in support of the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Eastern and Midland Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its 12 constituent local authorities: Fingal County Council; Dublin City Council; South Dublin County Council; Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Louth County Council; Kildare County Council; Meath County Council; Wicklow County Council; Longford County Council; Laois County Council; Offaly County Council; and Westmeath County Council. The Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Tipperary County Council, Wexford County Council, Kerry County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council. The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its eight constituent local authorities: Donegal County Council, Leitrim County Council, Sligo County Council, Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council, Mayo County Council, Roscommon County Council; and Galway County Council.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Shellfish Pollution Reduction Programmes	Aims to improve water quality and ensure the protection or improvement of designated shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth and contribute to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man.	- Identifies key and secondary pressures on water quality in designated shellfish areas. - Outlines specific measures to address identified key and secondary pressures on water quality. - Addresses the specific pressures acting on water quality in each area.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

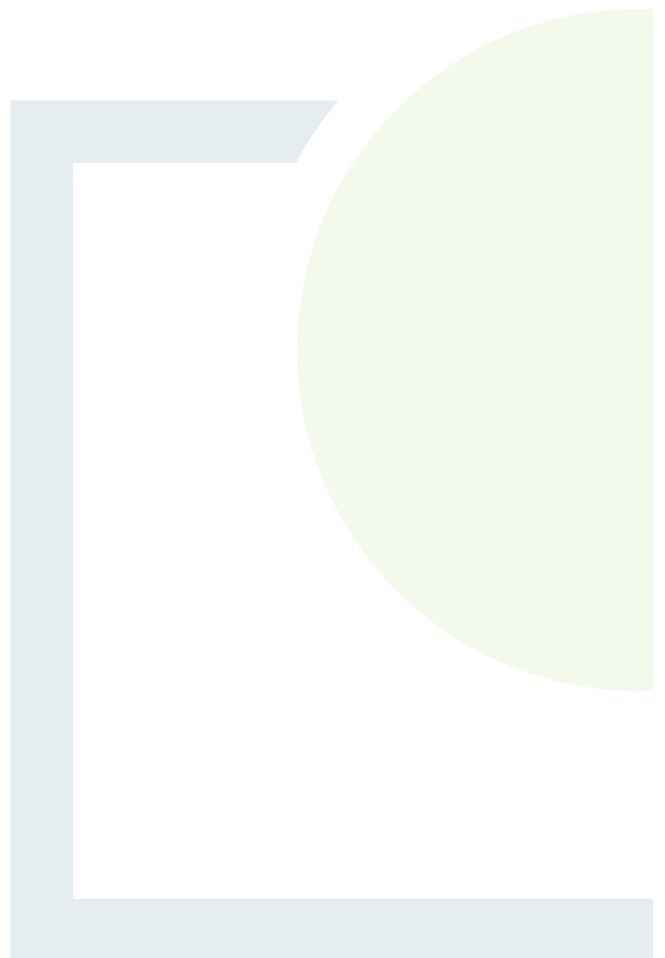
Regional/Local Level			
Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
Transport Strategy for the Cork Metropolitan Area 2040	The Strategy addresses all transport modes and its objective will be to provide a long-term strategic planning framework for the integrated development of transport infrastructure and services in the Cork Metropolitan Area, over the next two decades	It will be used to inform transport investment levels and investment prioritisation over both the longer and shorter terms and will be able to inform sustainable integrated land use and transport policy formulation at the strategic (Metropolitan Area) level and at the local level.	The Plan shall be in harmony with all interrelated legislation, plans, and programmes relevant to planning and environmental matters, such as this. The implementation of the Plan will be required to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards, in combination with other bodies and their plans or policies, the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.



DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

APPENDIX 5

Assessment of Potential
Adverse Effects on European
Sites



Forests for Climate

Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
CO3.A1	Support and facilitate those public bodies who are committed to pursuing opportunities for afforestation on publicly owned land by supplying key afforestation management and planning services.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
CO4.A1	Consider proposals to help promote farmer-led afforestation and collaborate with key stakeholders.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value Climate change.	Yes	Yes
CO5.A1	Develop new funding models to deliver nature and climate-based credits and create projects that will deliver new afforestation and continue to support investors in Irish forestry by providing afforestation, woodland management and other important services to investor funds that promote afforestation.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
CO6.A1	Review existing in-house information to identify potential locations for the redesign of ca. 15,000 ha of peatlands and engage with external stakeholders. Redesign of Peatland Forests will ultimately be delivered over the longer term through a combination of rewetting/rehabilitation ("Forest-to-Bog" projects) and through transiting commercial forests to semi-natural forests with open spaces as appropriate.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value, Climate change.	Yes	Yes
CO7.A1	Engage with experts and practitioners undertaking large scale peatland rehabilitation programmes in Ireland and continue to review the international literature and develop best practices on the redesign of peatland at scale.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value, Climate change.	Yes	Yes
CO8.A1	Develop monitoring and management frameworks for redesigned peatlands using earth observation and on-site measurement techniques.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value, Climate change.	Yes	Yes

Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
CO14.A1	Continue to enable FEI and non-FEI projects where appropriate through providing land agreements to facilitate renewable energy projects.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
CO15.A1	Coillte will support FEI and third-party developers in seeking improvements in the planning process by actively engaging in relevant public consultations and making submissions as opportunities arise throughout the duration of the plan.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
CO16.A1	Coillte will develop a policy outlining Coillte's role as a Landowner in the facilitation of grid infrastructure.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
CO16.A2	Consider proposals in relation to grid solutions (such as long duration energy storage) received from FEI and third-party developers as they relate to Coillte property for the timeframe of the plan.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Forests for Nature

Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
NO1.A1	Coillte will identify an additional c.44,000ha across the estate to be managed primarily for nature. The BioClass system will be used to rank the ecological value of these new biodiversity areas and to assign a target habitat, which indicates the overall management goal.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
NO2.A1	Scale up the management of biodiversity areas; increase the annual operational programme to deliver, by 2029, biodiversity interventions on 2,000ha. The management actions will primarily include CCF, coupe felling, control of invasive species and re-wetting or maintaining ecologically important bog habitat and will be informed by Biodiversity Area Management (BAM) Plans that are prepared jointly by foresters and ecologists.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
NO2.A2	Develop markets and supply chain to optimise timber produced from CCF management actions. Diversifying end markets will support CCF implementation.	Habitat or species Fragmentation, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
NO2.A3	Innovate and explore ways of leveraging Coillte's forest management planning systems and capability to incorporate biodiversity objectives and prioritise sites of highest ecological value.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
NO3.A1	Coillte will map ancient forests on the estate, assess their ecological value using BioClass procedure and develop appropriate management approach.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
NO3.A2	Lead engagement with relevant stakeholders to demonstrate and promote our management approach.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
NO6.A1	Develop criteria for defining the target habitat of forests managed primarily for climate (forest re-design) and develop protocols to define the silvicultural systems and management approaches that will improve their value for nature.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
NO13.A1	Maintain and update the existing protocols for protected species and habitats adopted in Coillte appropriate assessment and develop action plans for key species on the estate (e.g. lesser horseshoe bat).	Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
NO17.A1	Develop best practice for controlling invasive species on Coillte sites and engage with other agencies to share experiences and knowledge.	Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
NO18.A1	Through the Deer Management Forum, assist in the development of Irish Deer Management Strategy and once developed, update processes to implement the recommended measures.	Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
NO19.A1	Identify and create packages of work to enable delivery of biodiversity goals relevant to the Coillte estate, improving habitat quality in biodiversity areas and benefiting key species on the estate.	Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Forests for Wood

Action Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
WO1.A1	To produce c.30 - 33 million m3 of certified timber between 2026 - 2035, of which c.26 - 28 million from clear fell, c.3 - 4 million m3 from thinning's and c.0.5 - 1 million m3 from Continuous Cover Forestry. Restocking of approximately 55 - 60 thousand hectares, and the construction of approximately 800km of new roads.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Action Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
WO4.A1	To produce a set of Harvest Blocks on an annual basis at least three years in advance of planned year of harvest to enable timely environmental risk assessment, Appropriate Assessment, and regulatory approval for felling, replanting and roading.	Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
WO9.A1	Continue to adopt new technological solutions and work with industry partners to enhance the efficiency of the roundwood supply chain.	Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density.	Yes	Yes
WO10.A1	Continue to engage with DAFM, Forestry Appeals Committee, and relevant stakeholders to make the licencing application, approvals, and appeals process more efficient.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Action Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
WO11.A1	Communicate and engage with the public through a variety of channels to create the link between productive forestry and need for Irish wood products.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
WO12.A1	Develop evidence-based reports to support initiatives aimed at increasing the use of timber in construction and disseminate key findings to effectively promote and highlight the benefits of increased timber usage.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
WO13.A1	Conduct a comprehensive analysis of current wood construction regulations to identify barriers and opportunities, develop evidence-based proposals for regulatory change.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Action Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
WO13.A2	Collaborate with industry associations, environmental groups, and academic experts to advocate for these changes through strategic communication while monitoring progress with government bodies.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
WO14.A1	Research and compile best practices on green procurement policies and collaborate with government, industry experts to promote procurement and sustainable construction practices.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
WO15.A1	Collaborate with industry and academia to establish partnerships for high-impact pilot projects that demonstrate sustainable timber construction techniques and effectively promote the outcomes to target stakeholders.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Forests for People

Action Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
PO1.A1	Assess potential new visitor destinations sites. Select 3 sites for Strategic Development Planning (SDP).	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
PO3.A1	Work with Local Authorities to identify projects of scale and to source funding.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
PO5.A1	Develop bespoke partnerships to design and build new visitor destinations based on the requirements of each project.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes

Action Reference	Action	Potential Adverse Effects on European Sites	Potential for adverse effects in-combination with other plans and projects	Potential for Adverse Effects on European Sites
PO13.A1	Support RD&I and demonstrator projects that advance new value-added wood products and timber-based building systems.	Loss/Reduction of Habitat Area, Habitat or species Fragmentation, Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes
PO13.A2	Partner with IAAT (Irish Association for Adventure Tourism) to promote forest recreation opportunities for service providers and operators.	Disturbance to Key Species, Reduction in species density, Changes of Indicators of Conservation Value.	Yes	Yes



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