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Natura Impact Report

Southern Region
Waste Management Plan 2015 - 2021

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Natura Impact Report:
Southern Region Waste Management Plan

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1 INTRODUCTION

This report comprises information in support of an Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the Southern Region Waste Management Plan (SRWMP) in line with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora; the Planning and Development Act 2000 (Part X); and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011).

1.1 PURPOSE TO THE REGIONAL WASTE PLANS

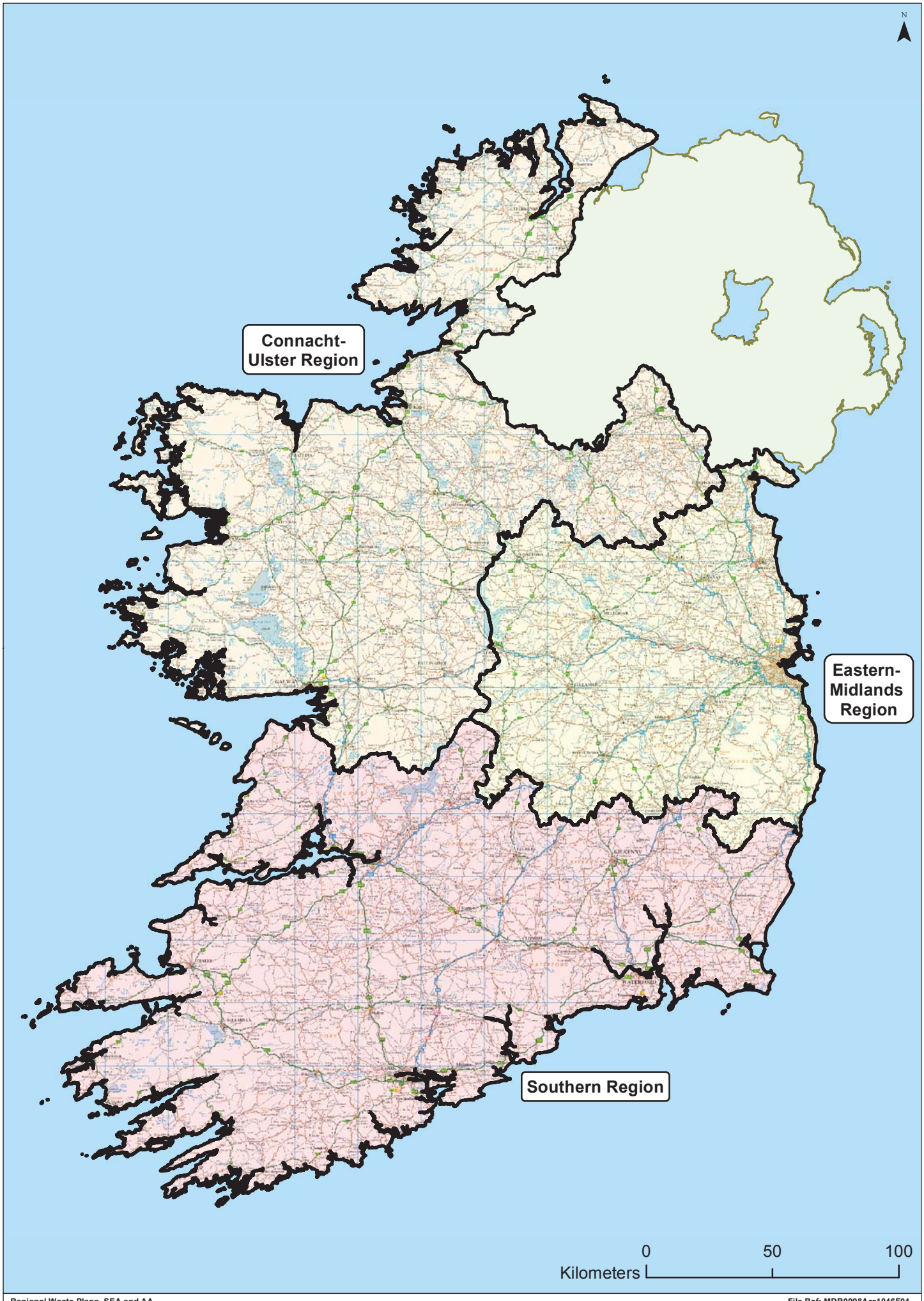
The regional waste management plans in Ireland are statutory planning documents whose objective is to set out a framework for the prevention and management of wastes for a defined regional area. The preparation of the plans is the statutory responsibility of the local authorities and two or more local authorities may jointly prepare a plan. Once prepared a plan is valid for a period of up to six years and under statutory obligations must be evaluated once every six years. The SRWMP will be in force for six years covering the period from 2015 up to 2021.

In July 2012 the latest Government national waste policy document, *A Resource Opportunity*, recommended the consolidation of the previous 10 waste regions in the State to a maximum of three. The document acknowledges that the time has come for the regional waste planning framework to be re-shaped to allow for greater resource efficiencies in the implementation of the plans and to better reflect the movement of waste. The new regional catchments will provide for greater consistency and co-ordination with other planning frameworks.

The transformation from ten regions to three has been formally completed with the new regions as follows:

- Eastern-Midlands Region;
- Connacht-Ulster-Region; and
- Southern Region.

The location of the three regions is illustrated in **Figure 1-1**.



Regional Waste Plans, SEA and AA

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Figure 1.1 Ireland's Waste Management Regions

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1.2 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT LEGISLATION

The Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, better known as the Habitats Directive, provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. Articles 3 to 9 provide the legislative means to protect habitats and species of Community interest through the establishment and conservation of an EU-wide network of sites known as Natura 2000. These are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79/409/ECC) as codified by Directive 2009/147/EC.

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect European Sites (Annex 1.1). Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment (AA):

Article 6(3) states:

> *Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [European] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subjected to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.*

Article 6(4) states:

> *If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the [European] site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, Member States shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted.*

1.3 STAGES OF THE APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

If necessary, the AA process progresses through four stages. If at any stage in the process it is determined that there will be no significant effect on the integrity of a European Site in view of its conservation objectives, the process is effectively completed. The four stages are as follows:-

- Stage 1 – Screening of the proposed plan or project for AA;
- Stage 2 – An appropriate assessment of the proposed plan or project ;
- Stage 3 – Assessment of alternative solutions; and
- Stage 4 – Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI)/ Derogation.

Stages 1 and 2 relate to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive; and Stages 3 and 4 relate to Article 6(4).

Stage 1: Screening

The aim of Stage 1, 'Screening' is to determine whether or not Stage 2, the AA, is required, i.e. to determine whether or not the proposed plan or project, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, is likely to *adversely affect the integrity of* any European Site. This is done by examining the proposed plan or project and the conservation objectives of any European Sites that might potentially be affected.

Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment

The aim of Stage 2 is to identify any adverse impacts that the plan or project might have upon the integrity of European Sites. As part of the assessment, a key consideration is 'in combination' with other plans or projects. Where adverse impacts are identified, the AA will propose changes to the plan or project that would avoid, reduce or remedy any such negative impacts and the plan or project should then be amended accordingly, thereby avoiding the need to progress to Stage 3.

Stage 3: Assessment of Alternative Solutions

If it is not possible during the Stage 2 assessment to reduce impacts to acceptable, non-significant levels by avoidance and/or mitigation, Stage 3 of the process must be undertaken, which is to objectively assess whether alternative solutions exist by which the objectives of the plan or project can be achieved. Explicitly, this means alternative solutions that do not have negative impacts on the integrity of the European Site.

The process must return to Stage 2 as alternatives will require assessment in order to proceed. It should also be noted that EU guidance on this stage of the process states that, 'other assessment criteria, such as economic criteria, cannot be seen as overruling ecological criteria' (EC, 2002). In other words, if alternative solutions exist that do not have negative impacts on European Sites; they should be adopted regardless of economic considerations. If, despite negative impacts on the integrity of a European Site as a result of the plan or project, no alternatives exist, the process moves on to Stage 4.

Stage 4: Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI)/ Derogation

At this stage of the AA process, it is the characteristics of the plan or project itself that will determine whether or not the competent authority can allow it to progress. This is the determination of 'over-riding public interest'.

It is important to note that in the case of European Sites that include in their qualifying features 'priority' habitats or species, as defined in Annex I and II of the Directive, the demonstration of 'over-riding public interest' is not sufficient, and it must be demonstrated that the plan or project is necessary for 'human health or safety considerations'.

Where plans or projects meet these criteria, they can be allowed, provided adequate compensatory measures are proposed. Stage 4 of the process defines and describes these compensation measures.

1.3.1 Guidance

Both EU and national legislation and guidance exist for Member States fulfilling their requirements under the EU Habitats Directive, with particular reference to Article 6(3) and 6(4) of that Directive. The methodology followed in relation to this AA screening has had regard to the following legislation and guidance:

Legislation and Departmental/NPWS Circulars:

- 'Habitats Directive' – Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora;
- European Commission (2006) Nature and Biodiversity Cases. Ruling of the European Court of Justice;
- Birds Directive' – Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds;
- European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011) Wildlife Acts, 1976-2000;
- Circular Letter NPWS 2/07: Guidance on Compliance with Regulation 23 of the Habitats Directive;
- Circular Letter PD 2/07 and NPWS 1/07: Compliance Conditions in respect of Developments requiring (1) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA); or (2) having potential impacts on Natura 2000 sites;
- Circular Letter SEA 1/08 & NPWS 1/08: Appropriate Assessment of Land Use Plans;
- Circular L8/08: Water Services Investment and Rural Water Programmes – Protection of Natural Heritage and National Monuments; and
- Circular NPWS 1/10 & PSSP 2/10: Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities.

Guidance

- European Commission (2000) Managing Natura 2000 sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC;
- European Commission (2002) 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;
- EPA (2002) Guidelines on Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Statements;
- EPA (2003) Advice Notes on Current Practice (on the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements);
- DEHLG (2003) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development;
- Scott Wilson, Levett-Therivel Sustainability Consultants, Treweek Environmental Consultants and Land Use Consultants (September 2006): Appropriate Assessment of Plans;
- European Commission (2007) Guidance Document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC. Clarification of the concepts of: Alternative Solutions, Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest, Compensatory Measures, Overall Coherence, Opinion of the Commission;

- DEHLG (2009) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Local Authorities (revision 10/02/10);
- European Commission (2010) Guidance Document: Wind Energy Developments and Natura 2000;
- European Commission (2011) Guidance Document: The Implementation of the Birds and Habitats Directives in the Estuaries and Coastal Zones (with particular attention to port development and dredging);
- DECLG (2011) Guidance for Planning Authorities on Drainage and Reclamation of Wetlands. Consultation Draft – September 2011;
- DAFM (2011) Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) Regulations 2011: Guide for Farmers;
- EPA (2011) Environmental Liability Regulations: Guidance Document; and
- EPA (2013) Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment: Streamlining AA, SEA and EIA Processes.

1.3.2 Layout of this Natura Impact Report

The AA process has been undertaken in parallel with the development of the SRWMP. Screening was undertaken with reference to an early outline of the plan (Chapter 2 of this NIR) and this resulted in the plan being taken forward to full AA (Chapters 3 and 4 of this NIR). The analysis and mitigation presented in Chapters 3 and 4 relate to the draft SRWMP which was put on public display from November 18th 2014-Janurary 31st 2015. Subsequently, based on consultation feedback, amendments were made to the draft plan before it was finally made on May 12th 2015. These amendments have been screened for AA to ensure they would not adversely affect the integrity of any European Site, in light of the sites conservation objectives (Chapters 5 and 6 of this NIR). The screening of amendments is recorded in **Appendix B**.

It is noted for the reader that the text, policies and policy actions referred to in Chapters 2-4 relate to the draft SRWMP while Chapters 5 and 6 relate to the final plan. It is felt that this best represents the iterative and evolving nature of the plan and AA and also provides the most transparent record of the AA process.

2 SCREENING – STAGE 1

2.1 STAGE 1 SCREENING METHODOLOGY

The AA process for the SRWMP commenced early on in the plan making process (June 2014). This was to ensure that the AA process could influence the development of the plan and help to develop objectives and actions that would not adversely affect the integrity of any European Sites. For the AA screening stage, the initial draft of the SRWMP was reviewed and the following questions were asked:

1. Will the SRWMP lead to the probability or the risk of having a significant effect on a European Site?
2. Is the SRWMP likely to undermine the conservation objectives of a European Site?
3. Will the Southern SRWMP lead to the probability or risk of having a significant effect on a European Site in combination with other plans or projects?

The screening has been underpinned by the precautionary principle, particularly in the assessment of potential impacts and their resolution. If it is not possible to rule out a risk of harm on the evidence available, then it is assumed that a risk may exist and it needs to be dealt with in the assessment process, and the process then moves to a Stage 2 assessment. However, if it can be concluded at this stage that there are unlikely to be significant effects on the European Sites, then a finding of no significant effects should be found.

As part of the screening, consideration has also been given to the potential for 'in combination' effects. This has included reference to other policies, plans and programmes and the effects arising from these plans/programmes being implemented together, or in combination with the waste plan. In particular it has been noted that the plans for the two other waste regions are being progressed in parallel to the SRWMP.

2.1.1 Data Collection

Data collated and reviewed for the purposes of AA screening included:

- Outline of the initial content of the SRWMP;
- Lists of all Special Sites of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) in the Southern Region;
- Details of the SAC and SPA qualifying features, along with their geographical locations and the extent of the sites, which were provided as Geographical Information System (GIS) layers. This data is available from the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) website www.npws.ie. The lists of sites are detailed in **Appendix A**; and
- Other policies, plans and programmes relevant to the policy and legislative framework within which the Framework is being developed e.g. Water Framework Directive.

2.2 RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY AND PLAN AREA

The joint lead authorities for the preparation of the SRWMP are Limerick City & County Council and Tipperary County Council.. The Southern Region incorporates all or part of ten [based on the recent

amalgamation of some city and county administrative areas] administrative areas as follows: Carlow, Clare, Cork, Kerry, Kilkenny, Tipperary and Wexford County Councils, Limerick City and County Council, Waterford City and County Council and Cork City Council. The geographic scope of the Southern Region is shown in **Figure 1.1**.

2.3 REQUIREMENT FOR A REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) sets out the approach for the sustainable management of waste in Member States of the European Community and has been transposed into Irish law by the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations 2011 leading to amendments of the Waste Management Act 1996. The directive requires the following:

- The application of the waste hierarchy to apply as a priority order in waste prevention and waste management legislation and policy;
- To ensure that waste is recovered (including separate collection at source to facilitate recovery where technically, environmentally and economically practicable) or, where it is not recovered, to ensure that waste is disposed of without causing risks to human health and the environment;
- To prohibit the abandonment or uncontrolled disposal of waste;
- To establish an integrated and adequate network of waste disposal installations and of installations for the recovery of mixed municipal waste - aiming for EU self-sufficiency and for Member States individually to move towards self-sufficiency;
- To take necessary measures to ensure that any holder of waste recovers or disposes of it in an environmentally sound manner and in accordance with the waste hierarchy either directly or through a third party;
- To have a system of permits and registration for all those involved in collecting, disposing, preparing for the recovery, or recovering waste;
- To ensure that all those involved keep a record of all the details of their operations (the quantity, nature and, origin and destination of the waste) and are subject to periodic inspections and special controls to ensure the safe management of hazardous waste; and
- To ensure that the costs of waste management are borne by the original waste producer or by the current or previous waste holders, in accordance with the polluter pays principle.

The Waste Framework Directive and a number of other directives set out a range of policy principles, mandatory targets and regulatory frameworks which Member States must transpose into national law. These objectives have informed the policies and objectives of the plan for the Southern Region (**Section 2.2.1**).

2.3.1 Strategic Objectives of the Southern Region Waste Management Plan

The overarching strategic objectives of the SRWMP as presented in June / July of 2014 were:

1. **Policy & Legislation**

   The Region will implement EU and national waste and related environmental policy, legislation, guidance and codes of practice to improve management of material resources and wastes.

2. **Prevention**

Prioritise waste prevention through behavioural change activities to decouple economic growth and resource use.

3. **Resource Efficiency**

   The Region will encourage the transition from a waste management economy to a green circular economy to enhance employment and increase the value, recovery and recirculation of resources.

4. **Coordination**

   Coordinate the activities of the Regions and to work with relevant stakeholder to ensure the effective implementation of objectives.

5. **Infrastructure Planning**

   The Region will promote sustainable waste management treatment in keeping with the waste hierarchy and the move towards a circular economy and greater self-sufficiency.

6. **Enforcement & Regulations**

   The Region, will implement a consistent and coordinated system for the regulation and enforcement of waste activities in cooperation with other environmental regulators and enforcement bodies

7. **Protection**

   Apply the relevant environmental and planning legislation to waste activities to protect and reduce impacts on the environment, in particular European Sites, and human health from the adverse impact of waste generated.

8. **Other Wastes**

   The Region will establish policy measures for other waste streams not subject to EU and national waste management performance targets.

In line with national waste management policy objectives and waste legislative obligations the strategy of the SRWMP will build on the integrated approach to waste management established in the previous plans. Priority will be assigned in accordance with the waste management hierarchy with a strong emphasis on waste prevention, reuse, and recycling. The future regional policy of the plan will take cognisance of all relevant and pending regulations, provide a framework for the management of priority waste streams, and promote sustainable waste practices at local, business and industrial level.

2.4 EUROPEAN SITES

The DEHLG Guidelines (2009) for Planning Authorities[1] state that the screening should include the following European Sites:-

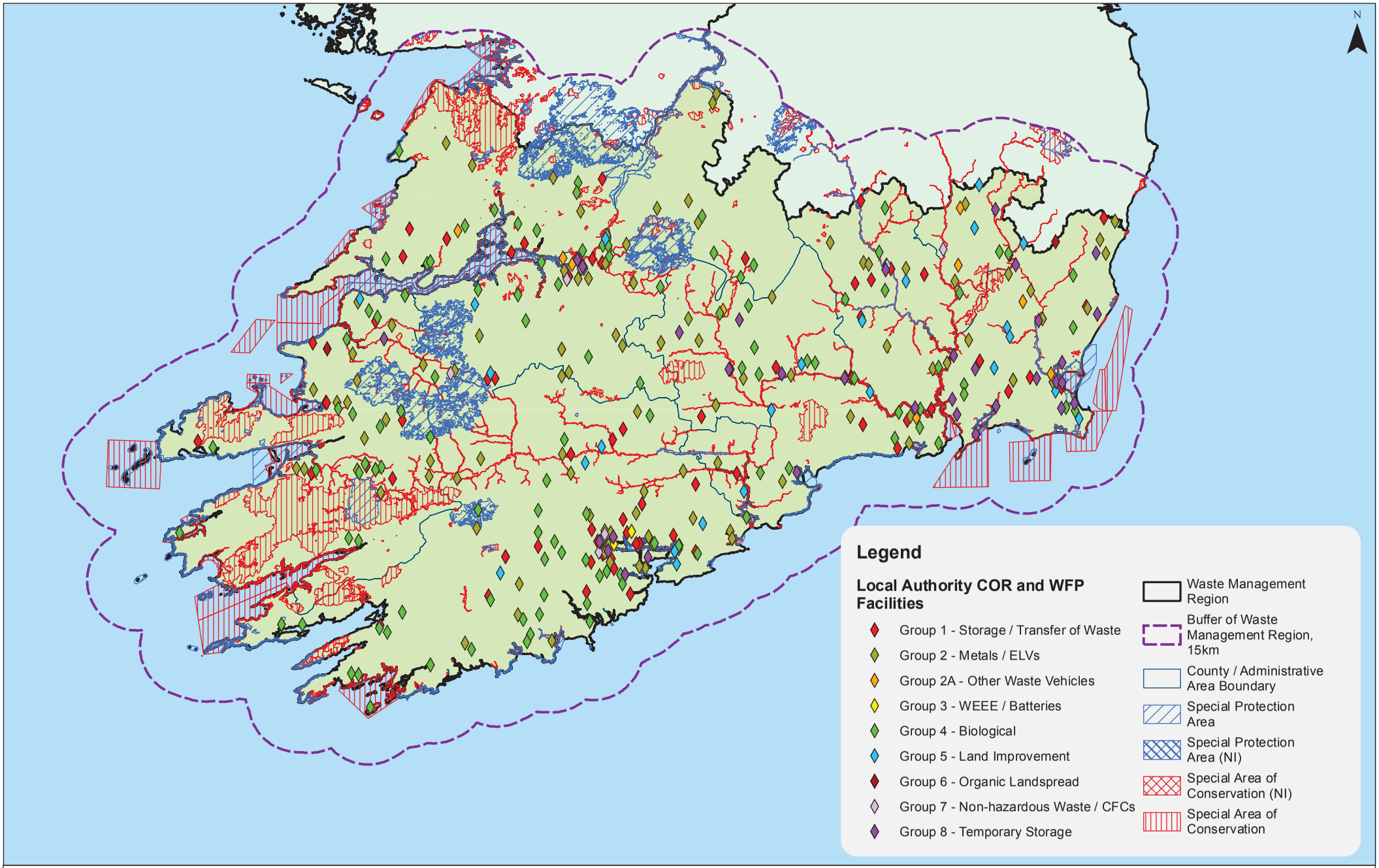
1. Any European Sites within or adjacent to the plan or project area.
2. Any European Sites within the likely zone of impact of the plan or project. A distance of 15km is currently recommended in the case of plans, and derives from UK guidance (Scott Wilson *et. al*., 2006). For projects, the distance could be much less than 15km, and in some cases less than 100m, but this must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with reference to the nature, size and location of the project, and the sensitivities of the ecological receptors, and the potential for in combination effects.

[1] DEHLG (2009) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Local Authorities (revision 10/02/10)

3. European Sites that are more than 15km from the plan or project area depending on the likely impacts of the plan or project, and the sensitivities of the ecological receptors, bearing in mind the precautionary principle. In the case of sites with water dependent habitats or species, and a plan or project that could affect water quality or quantity, for example, it may be necessary to consider the full extent of the upstream and/or downstream catchment.

For this screening, and considering the level of detail contained in the Plan, the 'location' affected in this circumstance was identified as anywhere in the Southern Region. Therefore every SAC and SPA both within the southern Region was included in the screening stage (see **Appendix A** for the list of these European Sites), and the screening assessment was carried out at the regional scale. In the Southern Region, there are 182[2] sites designated as SACs, and 66 sites designated as SPAs. The location of these European Sites in the context of waste facilities in the Southern Region is illustrated in **Figure 2.1.** The full list of sites and the qualifying features is presented in **Appendix A.**

[2] Numbers taken from NPWS website www.npws.ie, May 2015



Regional Waste Plans, SEA and AA

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Figure 2.1 Natura 2000 Sites and Local Authority Authorised Waste Facilities in the Southern Region

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2.4.1 Screening of Potential Impacts

The SRWMP does not include location or project specific detail of future waste management services however the predictions and assumptions do consider existing and committed capacity, that is, facilities which have received both planning approval and have been granted a waste authorisation but may not yet be built. With this in mind, there were limitations for any screening or assessment of impacts from such a high level strategy. It is acknowledged that objectives, policies and policy actions laid out in the plan will provide a framework for other more specific plans or projects in the future, and arising from these future proposals and existing activities there is potential to impact on the Natura 2000 Network.

In recognition of this, the AA screening has considered potential impacts at a more general level as they are likely to arise from the scope of waste management activities covered by the remit of the waste plan including the following:-

- Habitat loss or destruction;
- Disturbance of habitats and species;
- Alteration to surface and groundwater quantity or quality; and
- Habitat fragmentation.

The AA screening has also considered in a general nature potential for:

- Altered species composition due to changes in abiotic conditions;
- Altered species or habitat composition due to increased edge effects (a consequence of habitat fragmentation, for example);
- Reduced breeding success (e.g. due to disturbance, habitat loss, fragmentation, pollution) possibly resulting in reduced population viability;
- Air quality, climate change and impacts from greenhouse gas emissions reduction/increase; and
- Impacts to surface water and groundwater and the species they support.

Much of the potential for impacts to European Sites arising from waste management activities will therefore relate to:

- Habitat loss, destruction or fragmentation of protected habitats as a result of the provision of new waste facilities;
- Disturbance to protected species as a result of noise arising from waste facilities;
- Damage to sensitive habitats or flora and fauna, as a result of emissions from waste activities;
- Water pollution as a result of runoff from waste activities. Such pollutants can have significant direct and indirect impacts on Annex II species such as Atlantic Salmon and Fresh Water Pearl Mussel;
- Introduction of Invasive Alien Species as a result of movement of waste materials such as soils. This can potentially affect protected species and habitats;
- Air pollution as a result of backyard burning of waste, for example. This can have an indirect effect on European Sites;

- The release of gases such as methane from landfill sites. This can have an indirect effect on European Sites;
- Surface/ groundwater pollution as a result of unauthorised waste activities. This may result in the pollution of Natura 2000 sites;
- Surface/ groundwater pollution as a result of the emission of leachates from historic unregulated waste sites. This may impact on European Sites in the vicinity; and
- Air quality impacts as a result of the collection and transport of waste.

The draft strategic objectives of the SRWMP are presented in **Section 2.2.1**. For the purpose of AA Screening, consideration was given to their potential to give rise to adverse impacts on the Natura 2000 network (**Table 2-1**: Potential Adverse Impacts of draft Strategic Objectives: Potential Adverse Impacts of Draft Strategic Objectives).

Table 2-1: Potential Adverse Impacts of draft Strategic Objectives

Policy Objectives	Potential for Adverse Impacts
The Region will implement EU and national waste and relevant environmental policy, legislation, guidance and codes of practice to improve management of material resources and wastes.	None anticipated. However EU and national environment policy, legislation, guidance/code of practice must also be considered in any decisions.
Prioritise waste prevention through behavioural change activities to decouple economic growth and resource use.	None.
The Region will encourage the transition from a waste management economy to a green circular economy to enhance employment and increase the value, recovery and recirculation of resources.	None.
Coordinate the activities of the Regions and to work with relevant stakeholder to ensure the effective implementation of objectives.	Uncertain. Effective implementation of waste management objectives may have impacts for the Natura 2000 network.
The Region will promote sustainable waste management treatment in keeping with the waste hierarchy and the move towards a circular economy and greater self-sufficiency.	Uncertain. Waste management infrastructure/technology may have the potential to impact on the Natura 2000 network.
The Region, will implement a consistent and coordinated system for the regulation and enforcement of waste activities in cooperation with other environmental regulators and enforcement bodies.	None.
Apply the relevant environmental and planning legislation to waste activities to protect and reduce impacts on the environment, in particular European Sites, and human health from the adverse impact of waste generated.	None
The Region will establish policy measures for other waste streams not subject to EU and national waste management performance targets.	Uncertain, policy measures for other priority waste streams may have impacts for the Natura 2000 network.

At the policy action level, the plan deals with a wide remit covering household waste collection, historic unregulated waste disposal sites, illegal landfills, export of wastes, packaging wastes etc.

The areas considered can broadly be categorised into five main headings: Prevention; Preparing for re-use; Collection and recycling; Other recovery and Disposal. Early consideration of the potential for these categories to result in adverse impacts is presented as part of this AA Screening (**Table 2-2**).

Table 2-2: Potential Adverse Impacts of Waste Categories

Waste Categories	Potential for Adverse Impacts
Prevention	None anticipated. Prevention of waste will result in less generation of waste; reduced need for waste infrastructure; reduced need for landfill and reduced risk of pollution.
Preparing for Reuse	None anticipated. Preparing for re-use will result in reduced resource use; reduced need for waste infrastructure; reduced need for landfill and reduced risk of pollution.
Collection and Recycling	▪ Existing facilities may give rise to water pollution as a result of surface water run-off from recycling storage facilities and associated recycling activities; and generation of dust due to transport and recycling activities. ▪ Future infrastructure may result in habitat loss as a result of the provision of new supporting infrastructure.
Other Recovery	▪ Existing facilities may give rise to emissions to air from thermal recovery operations; and water pollution as a result of surface water run-off from recovery activities and stockpiling of materials. ▪ Future infrastructure may result in habitat loss, fragmentation or destruction from the provision of new infrastructure..
Disposal	▪ Existing facilities may give rise to disturbance to protected species as a result of noise arising from disposal facilities; damage to sensitive habitats as a result of emissions from waste facilities; water pollution from leachates; introduction of invasive species; release of methane from landfill; pollution arising from unauthorised disposal. ▪ Future infrastructure may result in habitat loss, fragmentation or destruction as a result of the provision of new disposal facilities.

2.4.1.1 In Combination Effects

The SRWMP is directed by the EU Waste Framework Directive, and the National Waste Management Act 1996. The EU Waste Framework Directive is the key legislative instrument driving waste management in all Member States. It is part of a suite of waste management legislation whose primary focus is waste management but it is also framed in minimising negative effects on human health and the environment. The Waste Framework Directive requires that waste be managed without endangering human health and harming the environment, and in particular "*without risk to water, air, soil, plants or animals, without causing a nuisance through noise or odours, and without adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest*" (ec.europa.eu).

The most significant "in combination" effects to be considered relate to the waste plans prepared for both the Eastern-Midlands and Connacht-Ulster Regions. Taken together the three plans will operate concurrently, and will cover all of Ireland. As such, impacts to the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 network in Ireland has to be considered. In-combination effects from other plans, such as County Development Plans, Sewage/Sludge Plans and the Water Framework Directive will also be considered.

Article 30 of the Waste Framework Directive requires Member States to evaluate and subsequently revise or replace the waste management plans. This requirement of the directive has been transposed into Irish legislation and the evaluation of all waste management plans has been completed. The outcome of the process recommended that new plans be prepared for the newly configured regions.

The SRWMP represents higher level regional planning and will inform regional and county development plans and other local level planning strategies. Specific environmental concerns will be examined through AA and Environmental Impact Assessment at the project level. The position of the SRWMP in the legislation and planning hierarchy is shown in **Figure 2-2**.

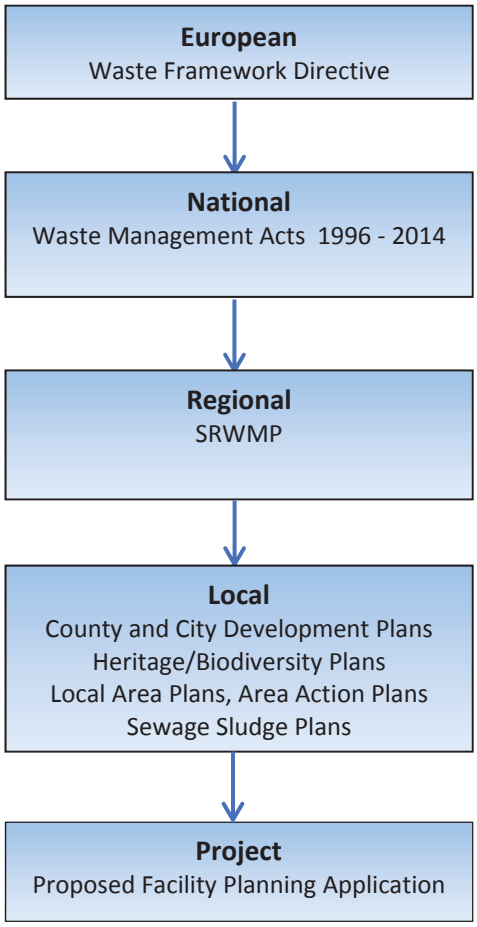

Figure 2-2: Position of Regional Waste Management Plan in Legislation and Planning Hierarchy

2.4.1.2 Article 10 of the Habitats Directive

Article 10 of the Habitats Directive refers to features of the landscape outside designated sites which are of major importance for wild flora and fauna, as follows:

> *'Member States shall endeavour, where they consider it necessary, in their land-use planning and development policies and, in particular, with a view to improving the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network, to encourage the management of features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora.*

Such features are those which, by virtue of their linear and continuous structure (such as rivers with their banks or the traditional systems for marking field boundaries) or their function as stepping stones (such as ponds or small woods), are essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species'.

It is noted that the requirements of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive are not specifically considered under the AA (except in so far as they support a qualifying feature) but are considered in the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the SRWMP under the broader heading of Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna.

2.4.2 Screening Conclusion and Statement

The likely impacts arising from the SRWMP alone and in combination with other plans and programmes were examined in the context of a number of factors that could potentially have an adverse effect on the integrity of the European Site(s) in view of their conservation objectives. The SRWMP covers the Southern Region, in which 182 sites have been designated as SACs and 66 sites designated as SPAs.

As emphasised in the AA methodology section (**Section 2.1)**, AA Screening was undertaken early in the plan making process, prior to development of alternatives. As also noted, it is not intended that the SRWMP will identify specific future projects or locations which are not already in the planning system.

Consideration was given to the likely potential ecological impacts arising from waste management activities generally and in assessing this, together with the early draft strategic objectives, policies and policy actions of SRWMP, it was determined that there could potentially be impacts on European Site(s). It is therefore necessary to establish whether it will be possible to proceed with the SRWMP without there being a risk to the integrity of these sites, in view of their conservation objectives. Further, it is necessary to establish if the SRWMP is in compliance with the requirements of relevant EU and national legislation relating to biodiversity, protected species and designated sites in so far as such legislation applies.

Due to the potential for indirect impacts arising from the SRWMP, it could not be assumed that there would be no significant impacts on the Natura 2000 network arising from the SRWMP. Using the precautionary principle, this screening process has identified that there are unknown elements, and uncertainty of the potential impacts to the integrity of the Natura 2000 network arising from the implementation of the SRWMP, therefore, all SACs and SPAs in the Southern Region must be brought forward for Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

3 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT - STAGE 2

As noted in **Section 2.1**, the AA for the SRWMP has been an iterative process which commenced early on in the Plan making process. For Stage 2 of the AA, the draft of the SRWMP, as put on public display from 18th November 2014 to 30th January 2015, was assessed and this, together with the proposed mitigation for the draft plan is presented in Chapter 3 and 4.

The AA process considers the impacts (whether they are direct, indirect, short term, long term, constructional, operational or cumulative in conjunction with other plans or projects) that the SRWMP will have on the integrity of the European Sites, with respect to the conservation objectives of the sites and to their structure and function. EC guidance (Managing Natura 2000 Sites) states that the integrity of a site involves its ecological functions and the decision as to whether it is adversely affected should focus on, and be limited to, the site's conservation objectives (EC 2000).

This stage of the AA consists of three main steps, namely:

- Impact Prediction, where the likely impacts of the SRWMP are examined. These include direct/ indirect, short/ long term, construction/ operational/ decommissioning, isolated, interactive and cumulative effects;
- Assessment of Effects, where the effects the SRWMP are assessed as to whether they have any adverse effects on the integrity of European Sites as defined by conservation objectives; and
- Mitigation Measures. This is where mitigation measures are identified against the adverse effects that the SRWMP is likely to cause.

3.1 IMPACT PREDICTION

The methodology for the assessment of impacts is derived from the Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites (EC, 2002). When describing changes/activities and impacts on ecosystem structure and function, the types of impacts that are commonly presented include:

- Direct and indirect effects;
- Short and long-term effects;
- Construction, operational and decommissioning effects; and
- Isolated, interactive and cumulative effects.

3.2 ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS

Article 6 of the Habitats Directive states that:

> *Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications of the site in view of the site's conservation objectives.*

The assessment of effects provides a general discussion of potential effects on the qualifying features and conservation objectives of a designated site as a result of the SRWMP, and is presented within the impact prediction.

SACs are selected for the conservation of Annex I habitats (including priority types which are in danger of disappearance) and Annex II species (other than birds). SPAs are selected for the conservation of Annex I birds and other regularly occurring migratory birds and their habitats. The annexed habitats and species for which each site is selected correspond to the qualifying interests of the sites; the conservation objectives of the site are derived from these.

The conservation objectives for SACs are determined under Article 4 of the Habitats Directive and are intended to ensure that the relevant Annex I habitats and Annex II species present on a site are maintained in a favourable condition/conservation status. Additional background information on designated sites is available from the Natura 2000 standard data forms. Both the full listing of the qualifying interests for SACs and the standard data forms are available from the NPWS website: www.npws.ie. The conservation objectives of SPAs are being prepared by NPWS, and are determined from the Special Conservation Interests and additional Species Conservation Interests of these sites (NPWS, 2009).

The impact prediction and assessment of potential effects on the Natura 2000 network from the SRWMP is presented in three sections. Firstly, an assessment is made of the main general types of ecological impacts that could arise from the strategy, strategic objectives, policies and policy actions of the plan (**Section 3.2.1**). Secondly, a high level assessment is made of the potential impacts of the strategic approach of the plan (**Section 3.2.2**). Finally an assessment is made of the potential impacts arising from the strategic objectives, policies and policy actions, and infrastructure recommendations within the plan (**Section 3.2.3**).

3.2.1 Potential Impacts of the Southern Region Waste Management Plan

As noted earlier, the SRWMP will not include location or project specific details of future waste management services, but predictions and assumptions made by the SRWMP will consider existing and committed development. The strategic objectives, policies and policy actions laid out in the SRWMP will provide a framework for other more specific plans or projects in the future, and there is potential for direct and indirect impacts on the Natura 2000 network arising from these future proposals.

Consideration of the main general types of ecological impacts that could arise from the strategy, policies and policy actions under the SRWMP is presented below, and **Table 3-1** summarises the potential impacts associated with the infrastructure policy recommendations listed within the SRWMP.

- Habitat loss or destruction: habitat loss is caused where there is complete removal of a habitat type, for example as a result of new developments [arising from the development of new facilities in particular].
- Habitat fragmentation, or degradation: resulting in the incremental loss of small patches of habitat from within a larger site. Fragmentation can also result from impediments to the natural movements of species. This is relevant where important corridors for movement or migration are likely to be disrupted such as along river corridors. Habitat degradation results in the diminishment of habitat quality and a loss of important habitat functions. It can arise from the

introduction of invasive species, toxic contamination or physical alteration [arising from collection and recycling facilities, other recovery facilities and disposal sites in particular].

- Alteration to water quality or quantity: This can cause contamination to surface water or groundwater resources or result in an alteration to the supply or chemical composition of water within the identified SACs. This is relevant where the strategic objectives, policies and policy actions of the SRWMP could impact on: the hydrological connection to a European Site; on water quality via point source or diffuse pollution; or on sub-surface pathways that are not clearly understood. This should be considered on a case-by-case basis and will require site-specific hydrological information and information details on the nature of project. In terms of potential to alteration in water quality, the impact may be in-situ or ex-situ, i.e. downstream and outside the immediate area [as a result of emissions arising from collection and recycling facilities, other recovery facilities, remediation of historical landfill sites (Tier 1, 2 and 3 assessments) and disposal sites in particular].
- Disturbance: Disturbance to the species supported within the European Site is likely to increase where there is an increase in activity or noise levels from developments within or adjacent to designated areas. It is particularly important that known sensitive areas, such as those supporting breeding birds, lamprey, otter, salmonids and otter feeding grounds are taken into consideration during the investigation or design stage of any proposal prior to the seeking of planning permission where applicable [arising from collection and recycling facilities, other recovery facilities and disposal sites in particular].
- In-combination Impacts: A series of individually modest impacts may 'in combination' produce a significant impact. The underlying intention of this combination provision is to take account of combined impacts, and these will often only occur over time. In that context, one can consider plans or projects which are completed; approved but uncompleted; or not yet proposed. Where there is a series of small, but potentially adverse impacts occurring within or adjacent to a European Site, consideration should be made of their combined impacts [could potentially arise from collection and recycling facilities, other recovery facilities and disposal sites, and also the development of alternative activities on closed landfills].

3.2.2 Strategic Approach

Early discussions in the plan making process identified three issues of a broad strategic nature which could drive its direction. These three issues and their potential impacts on the integrity of European Sites, in view of their conservation objectives, have been assessed, and the results fed back to the plan Team for consideration. The three issues were:

- A circular economy for waste management;
- Self-sufficiency as opposed to reliance on exports for treatment of residual municipal type waste; and
- Inclusion of non-mandatory targets.

A Circular Economy for Waste Management

Traditional waste management models see waste as an output or by-product of resource use and follow a make-take-dispose linear model, where products having reached their end of life are discarded out as waste. The linear model perpetuates the make-take-dispose attitude to resources and is likely to lead to loss of natural resources and impacts on water quality and air quality from manufacturing, production, logistical and waste disposal processes. Intensification of production to

meet higher consumer demands for "new" materials is also likely to result in continuing pressure on biodiversity through habitat and species loss and degradation, and also on water and soil quality and quantity. The circular economy model is based on cradle to cradle design. It considers waste as a resource which can be recirculated into systems which focus on maintaining, repairing, reusing, refurbishing and recycling materials and products. Being resource efficient and getting more from fewer resources is central to this model. Adopting a circular economy model to waste management is likely to have direct and indirect positive impacts on biodiversity, and by extension the Natura 2000 network, as waste and its associated potential ecological impacts are reduced.

Self-Sufficiency as Opposed to Reliance on Exports for Treatment of Residual Municipal Type Waste

Presently much of Irelands residual wastes are dealt with through a combination of landfill, thermal recovery and exports. Ireland is currently expected to meet its 2016 landfill diversion targets well ahead of schedule; however this is principally down to exports. For residual non-hazardous wastes the aim of government policy is to develop indigenous recovery infrastructure to replace landfill and for the State to become self-sufficient, thereby addressing the proximity principle (which advocates that waste should be disposed of or otherwise managed close to the point where it was generated).

The export of residual wastes to other locations outside Ireland gives rise to transport emissions, which have the potential for direct negative impacts on air quality and climate as well as water quality (both freshwater and marine environments) where waste is shipped to other countries. Increased shipping activity has the potential to indirectly impact on European Sites through deterioration of water quality and air quality, disturbance of habitats and noise disturbance to species. While some of the transport impacts would be felt within Ireland, export introduces potential for trans-boundary impacts which are felt outside the Irish state and difficult to quantify or monitor. The alternative of self-sufficiency has potential for negative effects on the environment generally within Ireland, and potentially the Natura 2000 network, as new facilities would need to be built. If sited inappropriately the development of new facilities would potentially result in habitat loss, emissions to air and water (albeit controlled) and disturbance of habitats and species. Any facility located within Ireland will have the potential for some emissions locally compared to where waste is exported. However, these impacts should not be significant as they will be controlled by the waste and IPPC licensing system.

Inclusion of Non-Mandatory Targets

During the lifetime of the plan the deadline for achieving several mandatory targets will apply to Ireland. The policies and policy actions within the plan will be developed to address these targets. Consideration was also given to including three additional non-mandatory performance targets to provide impetus to the plan. The performance targets relate to 1) prevention; 2) preparing for re-use and recycling; and 3) direct disposal to landfill.

In overall terms mandatory and non-mandatory targets should bring positive environmental benefits. The mandatory targets are focused mainly on preparing for re-use and recycling and diversion of biodegradable waste from landfill. The extension of product life through re-use, use of recyclate in products and diversion of materials from recovery and disposal routes has benefits on raw materials, air emissions, water, energy etc. which have indirect positive effects on biodiversity in general, and the Natura 2000 network. Additional non-mandatory targets will build on the mandatory targets. Prevention and reuse will bring net positive effects by reducing and/or

eliminating waste generation. Pre-treatment of waste over direct disposal to landfill will extract more materials of value from the waste, and this pre-treatment activity is likely to occur in Ireland. The non-mandatory targets will have direct benefits on raw materials, air emissions, water, energy etc. which have indirect positive effects on biodiversity, and the Natura 2000 network, but may also have indirect negative impacts at construction and / or operational stages.

3.2.3 Strategic Objectives, Policies and Policy Actions

Policies and policy actions have been developed for the following strategic policy areas:

a) Policy and Legislation
b) Prevention
c) Resource Efficiency
d) Coordination
e) Infrastructure Planning
f) Enforcement and Regulations
g) Protection
h) Other Wastes

The following section details the first draft of the policies and policy actions associated with these policy areas, and assesses their potential impacts upon the conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 network. However, not all of these policies and policy actions are suitable for detailed impact assessment as they may relate to administration issues or additional monitoring etc. In these cases a qualitative statement has been made to establish how the policy or policy action(s) might impact upon the Natura 2000 network. It should be noted that the final policies and policy actions included in the draft waste plan are detailed in **Section 4, Mitigation.**

Policy Actions A. Policy and Legislation

Strategic Objective

The region will implement EU and national waste and related environmental policy, legislation, guidance and codes of practice to improve management of material resources and wastes.

- A.1. Take measures to ensure the best overall outcome by applying the waste hierarchy to the management of waste streams.
    - A.1.1. Move waste further up the hierarchy by eliminating the direct disposal of unprocessed residual municipal waste to landfill.
- A.2. Implement the polluter pays principle across all waste services and regulatory activities in a manner appropriately reflecting the risk to the environment and human health.
    - A.2.1. Review the application fee structures related to regulatory activities for local authority facility authorisations.

    - A.2.2. Review and implement (if appropriate) charging structures in place for wastes accepted at local authority civic amenity and other local authority waste facilities.
- A.3. Contribute to the improvement of management performance across all waste streams through the implementation of policy actions and monitor progress towards national targets.
    - A.3.1. Prepare an annual report reporting on the progress of policy actions and the implementation of mandatory and waste plan performance targets (refer to Chapter 5).
- A.4. Aim to improve regional and national self-sufficiency of waste management infrastructure for the reprocessing and recovery of particular waste streams, such as mixed municipal waste, in accordance with the proximity principle.
    - A.4.1. Monitor and report on planned, authorised and utilised capacity on a regional and national basis (building on the work done for the waste plan).

Policy A.1 will have overall positive medium to long-term effects on the Natura 2000 network. By focussing on recovery and above, it will result in the phasing out of landfill and the associated negative impacts on soils, water, species and habitats. An increase in rates of prevention and various forms of recovery will have a corresponding positive medium to long-term impact on all ecological receptors as greater resource efficiency is introduced. The main issues with landfilling relate to atmospheric and hydrological effects. Landfills give rise to methane and other gases which have negative impacts on climate and on air quality. Landfills also create leachate arising from industrial solvents to household cleaners which accumulate and mix over time. Potential pathways for this pollution may exist through soils, groundwater and / or surface water with the potential to indirectly impact on qualifying interests of the Natura 2000 network. By moving up the hierarchy away from landfill, Policy A.1 will have long-term positive effects for aquatic and terrestrial ecological receptors, and the Natura 2000 network.

However for both the Policy and Policy Action, it is recognised that in parallel to the positive impacts on many ecological receptors with a move away from landfilling, the other tiers of the hierarchy may also give rise to ecological impacts, particularly temporary and short-terms ecological impacts associated with the construction of facilities and supporting infrastructure. Medium to long term negative impacts associated with species and habitat disturbance from air and noise pollution, and also increased traffic, may also be experienced depending on where the facilities are sited.

Policy A.2 introduces the concept of polluter pays (i.e. the real costs of generating waste are borne by the producer). It is anticipated that there will be overall short, medium and long term positive impacts on all ecological receptors, including the Natura 2000 network, as a result of this policy and the supporting actions. These positive impacts to the Natura 2000 network will be permanent.

Policy A.3 and its corresponding action are administrative in nature, and as such they have limited direct impact on ecological receptors. By ensuring appropriate reporting and monitoring these policies and policy actions will have broadly positive indirect impacts on ecological receptors, and the Natura 2000 network, by ensuring that the effectiveness of actions can be tracked, and improvements made if necessary.

Policy A.4 aims to improve regional and national self-sufficiency of waste management. Reduced transport requirements for moving wastes abroad would be expected to result in positive impacts for air quality, and climate in particular as transport emissions decline. Further positive impacts

would be anticipated in relation to habitats, species and water quality due to reduced shipping in particular, as there would be a decline in the risk of pollution, spillage, etc.

However, there are potential direct negative impacts to the environment in general, and the Natura 2000 network, as a result of habitat loss, fragmentation or disturbance, emissions to air and water and species disturbance as a result of the provision of new waste management facilities. Any facility located within Ireland will have the potential for emissions release; however, these impacts should not be significant as they will be controlled by the waste and IPPC licensing system. Any emissions would be within licensed emission levels that are based on standards intended to protect human health and the environment.

Policy Action A.4.1 focusses on data gathering and has limited direct impact on ecological receptors. By ensuring appropriate reporting and follow up this Policy Action will have broadly positive indirect impacts on the Natura 2000 network by ensuring decisions relating to capacity needs are considered based on the most up to date information on planned, authorised and utilised capacity on a regional and national basis to prevent oversupply and possible negative impacts on the receiving environment from unnecessary or inappropriately located capacity.

Policy Actions B. Prevention

Strategic Objective

Prioritise waste prevention through behavioural change activities to decouple economic growth and resource use.

- B.1. Local authorities in the region will ensure the resources required to implement waste prevention activities are available through the lifetime of the plan.
    - B.1.1. Appoint, where the role does not exist, or retain the role of the local authority Environmental Awareness Officers on a whole time equivalent basis to work on activities related to the implementation of the waste plan on a local and regional basis.
    - B.1.2. Establish the post of a Regional Prevention Officer as part of the staffing structure of the regional waste office.
    - B.1.3. Ensure an on-going financial allocation is made in the local authority annual budgets to cover expenditure on waste prevention related activities over and above staff costs.
- B.2. Promote behavioural change and extend waste prevention activities through information campaigns, targeted training and local capacity building, working with households, communities, schools, business, and other public institutions.
    - B.2.1. Collaborate regionally on prevention initiatives and programmes targeting priority areas to raise awareness of the benefits of prevention and deliver campaigns with more impact and better value for money.
    - B.2.2. Ensure existing documentation on sectoral waste prevention actions and programmes is catalogued, available and disseminated in region. New material on prevention will be produced to fill any sectoral needs or gaps identified.

  - B.2.3. Maintain the implementation of effective local prevention, awareness and education campaigns targeting household, communities, schools and businesses (such as green schools, home composting programmes, green business initiatives reuse cafes etc.).
  - B.2.4. Maintain, develop and integrate waste prevention measures and systems into all local authority offices and operations to best practise standards.
- B.3. Build a strong partnership with the National Waste Prevention Programme.
  - B.3.1. Establish regional and local structures and networks through the regional office to ensure effective, consistent and practical co-ordination and implementation of NWPP initiatives
  - B.3.2. Work with the committee and management team of the NWPP to contribute to the development of the programme's initiatives and to report on the effectiveness of implementation and funding at regional and local levels.
- B.4. Harmonise prevention activities in the region to link with the national hazardous management plan, producer responsibility operations and other related programmes (such as litter, sludge, water etc.).
  - B.4.1. Promote the prevention of hazardous wastes to households, communities and small businesses building on effective initiatives and disseminating best practise throughout the region.
  - B.4.2. Work with manufacturers, designers, compliance schemes, and national authorities on the development of waste prevention measures for products and services.
  - B.4.3. Collaborate with other national authorities and agencies delivering communication and information campaigns to include messaging on waste prevention and recycling.

The policies and policy actions relating to the strategic Prevention objective of the SRWMP are administrative in nature, and as such will not result in negative impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. A reduction in waste generated through prevention measures result in greater resource efficiencies, reduced emissions from traffic and waste facilities, reduced pollution levels and also in a reduction in the potential for illegal dumping, and associated impacts to the Natura 2000 network. The prevention policy actions will provide strength and support to EU and national waste and related environmental policy, legislation, guidance & codes of practice, thereby having a potential positive indirect impact on the environment, and by extension the Natura 2000 network.

While it is not anticipated that there will be negative impacts on the Natura 2000 network as a result of policy action B.2.2, it is noted that the production of literature on waste prevention would benefit from the addition of environmental legislation relating to the EU Habitats and Birds Directive and transposing Irish Legislation to ensure all Local Authorities within the region are aware of the obligations to carry out AA.

Policy Actions C. Resource Efficiency

Strategic Objective

The region will encourage the transition from a waste management economy to a green circular economy to enhance employment and increase the value recovery and recirculation of resources.

- C.1. Establish reuse, repair, and preparing for reuse activities and networks to recirculate and extend the lifespan of items.
    - C.1.1. Engage with and facilitate enterprises in the development of repair and preparing for reuse activities.
    - C.1.2. Review the operation of CA sites to facilitate the segregation of materials for reuse at local authority controlled civic amenity sites (WEEE will be considered subject to discussion and agreement with the compliance schemes).
    - C.1.3. Engage with the Community Reuse Network (CRN) and other similar networks to develop a network of reuse / upcycling activities and promotional events.
- C.2. Optimise the value of recycled and residual waste resources in the system to turn these materials into reliable sources of secondary raw materials for reprocessing and recovery.
    - C.2.1. Introduce bylaws, consistent across the region, to maximise the quantity and quality of recyclable waste collected.
    - C.2.2. Produce a Code of Practice for Local Authority authorised facilities to maximise the quantity and quality of material produced.
- C.3. Identify and promote the growth of secondary material markets and enterprises in the region through regional and local supports.
    - C.3.1. Liaise with and support Economic Development Departments of local authorities in the identification of enterprises and potential clusters of enterprises for the development of secondary material markets.
- C.4. Contribute to the greening of public procurement in local authorities through the inclusion of resource efficient criteria in all tendering processes related to waste plan activities.
    - C.4.1. Prepare resource efficiency criteria for local authority waste related contracts.
    - C.4.2. Implement a systematic engagement with local / regional local authority procurement officers to ensure the inclusion of Resource Efficiency Criteria in Contracts.

The reuse of waste is any operation where products or materials that are not waste are used again for the same purpose for which they were intended. Reusing waste often requires collection but relatively little or no processing. It involves checking, cleaning, repairing, and/or refurbishing entire items or spare parts. All the policy actions relating to the Resource Efficiency strategic objective will have overall positive medium to long-term effects on the Natura 2000 network. By focussing on reuse, repair and recovery of waste, it will result in a reduction in waste going to landfill or export, and the associated negative impacts on soils, water, species and habitats with these treatments. It is recognised however, that there are possible negative impacts associated with processes used in preparation for re-use and also parts / materials not required for re-use e.g. parts from several bicycles used to fit out another bicycles, may ultimately become or return to waste and need to be discarded appropriately. Inappropriate disposal has the same potential for negative impacts as any illegal dumping of waste material with risk to soils, surface water and groundwater in particular.

Policy Actions D. Coordination

Strategic Objective

Coordinate the activities of the regions and work with relevant stakeholders to ensure the effective implementation of objectives.

- D.1. The Lead Authority on behalf of the region will participate in the national waste co-ordination group and other national groups relevant to the implementation of the waste management plan.
    - D.1.1. Participate in relevant national groups to formulate waste policy and practice.
- D.2. The Lead authority and local authorities will work together on the structures required to implement the waste plan, capacity building, training and knowledge share on delivering waste management activities.
    - D.2.1. Establish and maintain funded Regional Waste Management Office and the requisite structures (including admin, technical & communication) to implement national and regional policy.
    - D.2.2. Establish or maintain a Regional Co-Ordinator, Regional Resource Efficiency Officer, Regional Prevention Officer, Technical Officer and administrative support.
    - D.2.3. Identify training needs and coordinate future shared training to develop knowledge and expertise at Regional & Local Level.
- D.3. Foster links and activities with relevant stakeholders including businesses and Industry Groups, NGO's and other relevant networks to extend the reach of the plan.
    - D.3.1. Establish partnerships to build knowledge capacity and to promote higher order waste activities (prevention, reuse, resource efficiency and recycling).
- D.4. Work with key stakeholders, including government and industry operators, on the funding of local authority waste activities in the region and co-ordinate applications for relevant national and European funding.
    - D.4.1. Review European and National calls for funding in waste, resource and research areas to identify opportunities and partners in the Region and make appropriate applications.

The policy actions relating to the Co-ordination strategic objective of the SRWMP are administrative in nature, and as such will not result in negative impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. The co-ordination policy actions will however provide strength and support to EU and national waste and related environmental policy, legislation, guidance & codes of practice, thereby having a potential positive indirect impact on the environment, and by extension the Natura 2000 network.

Policy Action E. Infrastructure Planning

Strategic Objective

The region will promote sustainable waste management treatment in keeping with the waste hierarchy and the move towards a circular economy and greater self sufficiency.

The policy recommendations included in Infrastructure Planning of the SRWMP and their potential impacts on European Sites are summarised in **Table 3-1.**

Table 3-1: Summary of Potential Impacts of the Infrastructure Policy Recommendations of the Southern Regional Waste Management Plan on European Sites

Policy Recommendations	Discussion	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?
Pre-Treatment Infrastructure		
E.1 There is a significant quantity of unused pre-treatment capacity in the region and future authorisations by the local authorities, the EPA and An Bord Pleanála must take account of the scale of existing treatments in the market prior to making a decision on additional capacity.	The policies are broadly positive for the environment as they ensure that existing authorised capacity is used in the first instance prior to developing new greenfield sites. This approach has direct positive impacts for ecological receptors, including the Natura 2000 network. It will also protect Article 10 features that form connective networks of habitats, providing 'stepping stones' for various species.	No
E.2 Future authorisation of pre-treatment activities by local authorities over the plan period will be contingent on the operator demonstrating that the treatment is necessary and the proposed activities add real value and quality to the output materials generated at the site.	Does not preclude new applications under pre-treatment but does recognise that value and quality needs to be an important aspect of the outputs if markets are to be secured for the material. Future authorisations do have the potential to negatively impact on the receiving environment if sited or managed inappropriately, and can result in direct medium to long-term negative impacts including habitat loss, fragmentation or degradation; deterioration of soil or water quality; and disturbance of species.	Yes
Public Civic Amenities and Bring Centres		
E.3 The local authorities in the region will maintain and develop their existing networks of bring infrastructure (e.g. civic amenity facilities, bring banks) to facilitate the recycling and recovery of hazardous and non-hazardous municipal wastes.	An improved network for these materials which is easily accessible will have medium to long-term positive impacts on the Natura 2000 network by ensuring that the materials are collected and treated appropriately, thereby reducing the potential for illegal dumping and backyard burning, which can give rise to air and water pollution and have potential to negatively impact on the integrity of European Sites in view of their conservation objectives. It also reduces the quantities of these	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Discussion	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?
	materials entering the residual waste fraction requiring recovery or disposal. This prevention aspect also has long-term positive impacts on ecological receptors. Authorised waste facilities are subject to controls aimed at preventing spills or accidental discharge to soil or groundwater. However, waste facilities can impact on surface water, groundwater and soil quality if the site is sited or managed inappropriately and emissions are not controlled adequately.	
E.4 The local authorities may include as a condition of planning that developers of commercial and large-scale residential developments provide bring bank facilities to serve occupants and residents.	Bring bank facilities can impact on surface water quality if the site is sited or managed inappropriately.	Yes
E.5 Local authorities will explore the possibility of accepting hazardous waste at existing civic amenity facilities from small businesses, which is similar in nature to household hazardous wastes currently received. A charge may be introduced for such a service.	An improved network for these materials which is easily accessible will have medium to long-term positive impacts on the Natura 2000 network by ensuring these materials are collected and treated appropriately thereby reducing the potential for illegal dumping and backyard burning, which can give rise to air and water pollution and have potential to negatively impact on the integrity of European Sites in view of their conservation objectives. It also reduces the quantities of these materials entering the residual waste fraction requiring recovery or disposal. This prevention aspect also has long-term positive impacts on the environmental receptors. Hazardous waste facilities are subject to controls aimed at preventing spills or accidental discharge to soil or groundwater. However, hazardous waste facilities can impact on surface water, groundwater and soil quality if the site is sited or managed inappropriately and emissions are not controlled adequately.	Yes
E.6 The local authorities will require waste developers seeking to develop a Class 10 waste treatment activity, as defined by the Third Schedule of the Waste Management (Facility and Permit) Regulations 2007 (as amended), to provide bring facilities for the acceptance of non-hazardous and hazardous wastes from members of the public and businesses.	As noted above, an improved network for these materials which is easily accessible will have medium to long-term positive impacts on the Natura 2000 network by ensuring these materials are collected and treated appropriately, thereby reducing the potential for illegal dumping and backyard burning. It also reduces the quantities of these materials entering the residual waste fraction requiring recovery or disposal. This prevention aspect also has long-term positive impacts on the environmental receptors. Hazardous waste facilities are subject to controls	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Discussion	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?
	aimed at preventing spills or accidental discharge to soil or groundwater. However, hazardous waste facilities can impact on surface water, groundwater and soil quality if the site is sited or managed inappropriately and emissions are not controlled adequately.	
E.7 The local authorities in the region will continue to work with the EPA and other key stakeholders to support the collection of hazardous farm waste from designated bring centres e.g. marts.	Improved collection of hazardous farm waste will have medium to long-term positive impacts on the Natura 2000 network by ensuring these materials are collected, thereby reducing the potential for illegal dumping and backyard burning. No adverse impacts anticipated.	No
Disposal		
E.8 The waste plan supports the development of disposal capacity for the treatment of hazardous and non-recoverable wastes at existing landfill facilities in the region subject to the appropriate statutory approvals being approved.	Hazardous waste facilities can result in medium to long-term negative impacts on soil quality and surface and groundwater quality if emissions are not controlled adequately. However, authorised waste facilities are subject to controls aimed at preventing spills or accidental discharge to soil or groundwater, which reduces these risks. Future hazardous waste disposal development has the potential to negatively impact on the receiving environment if sited or managed inappropriately, and can result in direct short to long-term negative impacts including habitat loss, fragmentation or degradation; deterioration of soil or water quality; and disturbance of species. It is recognised that disposal of hazardous wastes at existing landfill sites will result in a reduced risk to marine and coastal habitats due to reduced need to export hazardous wastes. This would have indirect medium to long-term positive impacts for marine Natura 2000 sites.	Yes
E.9 The local authorities anticipate disposal capacity for non-hazardous processed residual wastes will be required over the plan period but there is no need for additional disposal capacity to be brought on stream during the plan period.	Existing waste facilities can impact on surface water, groundwater and soil quality if the site is sited or managed inappropriately and emissions are not controlled adequately.	Yes
E.10 The waste plan recognises the need for on-going disposal capacity to be available in response to events which pose a health risk to citizens, livestock and the environment and the lead authorities of each region will monitor available contingent capacity annually.	Maintenance of capacity has positive medium to long-term impacts for surface and groundwater quality and soil quality habitat integrity as it ensures that in crisis events wastes can continue to be collected and disposed of in licensed / authorised facilities, thereby reducing the risk of illegal dumping and backyard burning. However, it is recognised that existing waste facilities can impact on surface water, groundwater and soil quality if the site is sited or managed inappropriately and emissions are not	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Discussion	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?
	controlled adequately.	
E.11 The local authorities will consider the future land use of permanently or temporarily closed existing landfill sites with the potential to develop alternative activities (subject to amendments to existing approvals being put in place). Potential activities include: • Waste treatment activities including pre-treatment, thermal recovery, biological treatment, reprocessing or preparing for reuse. • On-site temporary storage of waste and materials; • Co-location of utility services such as wind farms or other energy generating activities; • Development of public and recreational amenities; • Co-locating recycling / reuse waste enterprises on site; • Resource mining; and • Contingency capacity for crisis events.	The suggested alternative activities have significant potential to negatively impact on ecological receptors. Waste treatment activities have the potential to result in medium to long-term negative impacts on soil and water quality, and result in habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation if sited or managed inappropriately. Storage of wastes and materials has particular risks in terms of medium to long-term negative impacts on soil and water quality and habitat degradation as a result of leachates. Co-location of utility services has significant risks for protected species. Birds are often attracted to landfills and any upstanding energy generation infrastructure, such as wind farms, present a significant collision risk. A similar risk arises for bats. Co-location of reuse and recycling facilities is anticipated to bring broadly positive effects. However, potential negative impacts arise in terms of degradation of water quality. Resource mining is a relatively new area in Ireland where closed landfills can be dug up to extract metals, plastics etc. Disturbance of the waste material may lead to mobilisation of leachates with consequent medium to long-term negative impacts for surface and groundwater quality and soil quality; and indirectly in terms of habitat degradation. The development of alternative activities on closed landfills also includes potential for cumulative impacts to water and soil quality, and can lead to habitat degradation and negative impacts on protected species. It is recognised that specific potential negative impacts will be project specific, and dependent on the proposed location of such facilities in terms of proximity to sensitive receptors.	Yes
E.12 The waste plan supports the repatriation of residual waste illegally disposed in Northern Ireland to licensed disposal facilities appointed to a framework set up on behalf of the State by the National Trans Frontier Shipment Office.	This policy action relates to wastes which originated in Ireland but which were illegally disposed in Northern Ireland in the early 2000's. The main issues with landfilling relate to atmospheric and hydrological effects. Landfills give rise to methane and other gases which have negative impacts on climate and on air quality. Landfills also create leachate arising from industrial solvents to household cleaners which accumulate and mix over time. Potential pathways for this pollution may exist through soils, groundwater and / or surface water with the potential to indirectly	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Discussion	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?
	impact on qualifying interests of the Natura 2000 network, in light of their conservation objectives.. Wetland sites are particularly vulnerable where leachates are present. There is also potential for spread of invasive non-native species on landfill and remediation sites. Depending on the methodology of construction, the process of remediation itself can result in the release of leachates or methane. There is therefore potential for short-medium term negative impacts on European Sites within the zone of influence, particularly those designated for wetland habitats and their associated species in Northern Ireland. However, the overall aim of landfill remediation is to reduce leachates and the emission of gasses to the receiving environment. This will have a long- term positive effect on air, soil, both surface and ground water quality, and on water dependent habitats and species.	
Recovery-Backfilling		
E.13 There is a significant quantity of unused active and pending capacity for backfilling in the region and future authorisations by the local authorities, the EPA and An Bord Pleanála must take account of the existing treatment market prior to making a decision on additional capacity.	There will be indirect long-term positive impacts on the Natura 2000 network if the existing treatment market is considered before making a decision on additional capacity. However, it is recognised that the introduction of invasive non-native species at backfill sites also poses a significant risk, with potential long-term negative impacts for habitats and species composition. Once established, Japanese Knotweed in particular can be extremely difficult and costly to eradicate.	Yes
E.14 The local authorities will co-ordinate the future authorisation of backfilling sites in the region to ensure balanced development serves local and regional needs with a preference for large remediation sites ahead of smaller scale sites with shorter lifespans.	Inappropriate location or management of new backfilling sites has potential for medium to long-term negative impacts on soil and water quality, and potential for habitat degradation, particularly with regards to wetland habitats. The introduction of invasive non-native species at backfill sites also poses a significant risk, with potential long-term negative impacts for habitats and species composition. Once established, Japanese Knotweed in particular can be extremely difficult and costly to eradicate. Preference for large remediation sites over small may result in an increase in travel to the site as transport travels across the region to use the site. This would result in greater emissions and consequent impacts on air, soil and water quality. Overall however, having fewer large sites as opposed to many smaller scale sites would reduce cumulative impacts on soil and water quality and would reduce	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Discussion	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?
	the risk of habitat degradation.	
Recovery-Thermal Recovery		
E.15 The waste plan supports the development of up to 300,000 tonnes of additional thermal recovery capacity for the treatment of non-hazardous wastes nationally to ensure there is adequate active and competitive treatment in the market and the State's self-sufficiency requirements for the recovery of municipal wastes are met. This capacity is a national treatment need and is not specific to the SR.	The provision of additional thermal recovery facilities has the potential to negatively impact on the receiving environment if sited or managed inappropriately, and can result in long-term negative impacts including habitat loss, fragmentation or degradation; deterioration of soil or water quality; and disturbance of species.	Yes
E.16 The waste plan supports the development of up to 50,000 tonnes of additional thermal recovery capacity for the treatment of hazardous wastes nationally to ensure there is an adequate active and competitive treatment in the market to facilitate self-sufficiency needs where it is technically, economically and environmentally feasible. This capacity is a national treatment need and is not specific to the SR.	The provision of additional thermal recovery facilities has the potential to negatively impact on the receiving environment if sited or managed inappropriately, and can result in long-term negative impacts including habitat loss, fragmentation or degradation; deterioration of soil or water quality; and disturbance of species.	Yes
Recycling - Biological Treatment		
E.17 The waste plan supports the development in the region of up to 40,000 tonnes of additional biological treatment capacity for the treatment of bio-wastes (food waste and green wastes) primarily from the region to ensure there is adequate active and competitive treatment in the market.	Potential impacts associated with biological treatment facilities include medium to long-term negative impacts including degradation of water quality, habitat degradation and species disturbance. Inappropriate siting or management of new facilities will also result in potential habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation.	Yes
E.18 The waste plan supports the development of biological treatment capacity in the region, in particular anaerobic digestion, to primarily treat suitable agri-wastes and other organic wastes.	Potential impacts associated with biological treatment facilities include medium to long-term negative impacts including degradation of water quality, habitat degradation and species disturbance. Inappropriate siting or management of new facilities will also result in potential habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation.	Yes
Recycling - Material Reprocessing		
E.19 The waste plan supports the development of indigenous	Potential impacts associated with reprocessing and recycling sites are medium to long-term negative	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Discussion	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?
reprocessing and recycling capacity for the treatment of non-hazardous and hazardous wastes where technically, economically and environmentally practicable.	impacts including degradation of water quality, habitat degradation and species disturbance. Inappropriate siting of new facilities may result in habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation. There will also be long-term positive ecological impacts associated with a reduction in export of waste and its associated risks to water, soil and habitat quality.	
Preparing for Reuse Activities		
E.20 The waste plan supports the development of repair and preparing for reuse enterprises in the region as part of the transition to a more resource focused management approach and will provide technical, regulatory and financial guidance to operators active on this tier of the hierarchy.	The concept of Preparing for Re-use is a positive one with positive impacts for the environment, particularly in relation to reduced resource consumption and waste prevention. These two aspects alone can have significant positive effects for the environment generally with less natural resource usage and less potential for pollution to air, water and soils. It is recognised however, that there are possible negative impacts associated with processing items in preparation for re-use. Also, parts / materials not required for re-use e.g. parts from several bicycles used to fit out other bicycles may ultimately become or return to waste and need to be discarded appropriately. Inappropriate disposal has the same potential for negative impacts as any illegal dumping of waste material with risk to soils, surface water and groundwater in particular.	Yes
Facility Authorisations by Local Authorities		
E.21 The local authorities will review the approach to authorising waste treatment facilities requiring a waste facility permit or certificate of registration. The focus will be on improving the relationship between the authorised and operational capacity at facilities with the intention of addressing the over-authorisation of facilities in the treatment market so as to better reflect facility throughput.	The policies are broadly positive for the environment as they ensure that existing authorised capacity is used in the first instance prior to developing new greenfield sites. This approach has direct positive impacts for ecological receptors.	No
Collection Infrastructure		
E.22 The plan supports the primacy of source segregated kerbside collection of household waste as the best method to ensure the quality of waste presented. In the absence of source segregated kerbside collection services the plan supports the use of authorised civic amenity facilities and bring centres.	No adverse impacts anticipated.	No

Policy Recommendations	Discussion	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?
E.23 In the absence of source segregated kerbside collection services and where the proximity of civic amenity facilities and bring centres is prohibitive the plan supports localised collection solutions such as community drop off points or pay to use systems subject to compliance with the household waste collection regulations.	There is potential that the construction of new facilities will also result in habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation if sited or managed inappropriately.	Yes
E.24 The plan supports the appropriate management of international catering waste ICW under the Animal Bi-product Regulations (EC) No.1069/2009.	No adverse impacts anticipated.	No
E.25 The plan supports the improvement of existing PRI's and the development of new PRI's for specific waste streams including human and farm medicines, paints, newspapers and magazines.	No adverse impacts anticipated.	No

Policy Actions F. Enforcement & Regulations

Strategic Objective

The region will Implement a consistent and coordinated system for the regulation and enforcement of waste activities in cooperation with other environmental regulators and enforcement bodies.

- F.1. Enhance the enforcement of regulations related to household waste to ensure householders, including apartment residents, and owners are managing waste in accordance with legislation and waste collectors are in compliance with regulatory requirements and collection permit conditions.
    - F.1.1. Allocate resources to the systematic monitoring of household compliance with the segregation of waste with a particular focus on prioritising the reduction of contamination.
    - F.1.2. Allocate resources to the systematic monitoring of apartment complexes to improve compliance with the segregation of waste prioritising the reduction of contamination.
    - F.1.3. Allocate resources to the national systematic monitoring of waste collectors including on-site audits of waste collection data and random roadside checks for compliance with permit conditions.

- F.2. Enforce all waste regulations through increased monitoring activities, and enforcement actions for non-compliance with authorisations and regulatory obligations.
    - F.2.1. Prepare a Regional RMCEI Plan to prioritise enforcement actions and activities across the region taking account of the national enforcement priorities laid down by the EPA & DECLG.
    - F.2.2. Maintain high level of site inspections of all existing waste authorisations and ensure reflected in the RMCEI.
- F.3. Take measures to prevent and cease unauthorised waste activities by way of investigation, notifications, remediation requests or legal action as appropriate.
    - F.3.1. Identify and maintain the role of Environmental Complaints Coordinator to manage an unauthorised waste activity database based on complaints received and monitoring undertaken.
    - F.3.2. Carry out investigations and issue notifications, as required, as dictated by the Unauthorised Waste Activity database and as directed by the EPA.
    - F.3.3. Prepare Action Plan (subject to screening) to deal with the prevention and management of fuel laundering waste and waste arising from other criminal activities. Co-ordination required between the Regions.
- F.4. Improve the consistency of local authority waste authorisations and conditions issued to waste collectors and facility operators.
    - F.4.1. Work with NWCPO to standardise Waste Collection Permit conditions with standard mandatory conditions and local discretionary conditions.
    - F.4.2. Move to standardise conditions for Waste Facility Permit/COR conditions with standard mandatory conditions and local discretionary conditions.

The policy actions relating to the Enforcement and Regulations objective will provide strength and support to EU and national waste and related environmental policy, legislation, guidance & codes of practice, thereby having a potential positive indirect impact on the environment, and by extension the Natura 2000 network.

Standard mandatory conditions and local discretionary conditions should consider inclusion of screening in relation to both EIA and AA processes.

Policy Actions G. Protection

Strategic Objectives

Apply the relevant environmental and planning legislation to waste activities in order to protect the environment, in particular European sites, and human health against adverse impacts of waste generated.

- G.1. Ensure the highest environmental and human health benefits are achieved by prioritising the implementation of the upper tiers of the waste hierarchy and ensuring these actions are funded appropriately.

- G.1.1. Review local authority expenditure on lower waste order activities to determine if there is scope to deliver a more cost effective service and balance expenditure across the hierarchy.

- G.2. Rollout the Plan for remediating historic closed landfills prioritising actions to those sites which are the highest risk to the environment and human health.
  - G.2.1. Each region is to rank the class A high risk historic unregulated landfill sites (1977 – 1996) and pre-historic unregulated landfill sites (pre-1977).
  - G.2.2. Each Region is to develop and agree a road map prioritising for investigation and remediation the ranked landfills (taking into account the scale of risk and impacts on the environment).
  - G.2.3. Prepare authorisation applications to the EPA for landfill sites identified in accordance with the roadmap during the lifetime of the Plan (subject to funding being available).
  - G.2.4. Remediate high risk sites in accordance with the Plan agreed in the EPA authorisation and in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive & Water Framework Directive (subject to funding being available).
- G.3. Ensure there is a consistent approach to the protection of the environment and communities through the authorisation of locations for the treatment of wastes.
  - G.3.1. Develop and review the siting guidelines for waste facilities in accordance with waste plan.
- G.4. Implement a co-ordinated approach to address unmanaged waste and the potential impact to the environment and human health.
  - G.4.1. Identify areas of low collection coverage and survey householders who are currently not availing of a household waste collection service to determine the cause.
  - G.4.2. Design and implement a programme to regulate, enforce and communicate in areas with low collection coverage.
  - G.4.3. Engage with authorised waste collectors to design solutions, such as public drop off areas to serve communities/areas of low collection coverage and implement the solutions.

The policy actions relating to the Protection Objective G1 will have overall positive medium to long-term effects on the Natura 2000 network. By focussing on the upper tiers of the waste hierarchy, it will result in the phasing out of landfill and the associated negative impacts on soils, water, species and habitats. An increase in rates of prevention and various forms of recovery will have a corresponding positive medium to long-term impact on all environmental receptors as greater resource efficiency is introduced, reduced emissions and reduction potential for illegal dumping/backyard burning. Objective G4 will also have overall positive medium to long-term positive effects on the Natura 2000 network by addressing unmanaged waste and associated impacts on water, soil and air quality.

Historic Landfill

There is no specific legislation addressing contaminated land in Ireland. The principle issues relevant to waste management include historic unregulated waste disposal sites, illegal landfills and closed landfills. In April 2007, the EPA published a Code of Practice that provided a framework for the identification of contaminated sites, the assessment of the potential risks associated with them and the identification of the appropriate remedial measures or corrective actions required to minimise

risk to the environment and human health. Local authorities are now implementing the Code and the EPA is overseeing its implementation; however, a list of contaminated sites within the Southern Region is held within the EPA database.

There are four principle categories of historic waste disposal sites: illegal sites; local authority sites; pre-1977 sites; and private sites. These sites are covered under Section 22 of the Waste Management Act (WMA) 1996 and the Historic Landfill Regulations 2008. Section 22 of the WMA has a wider scope than the Historic Landfill Regulations in that it includes all waste disposal or recovery sites, whereas the Historic Landfill Regulations only includes closed municipal landfills that operated between 1977 and 1997. The Section 22 Register contains "closed landfills" as defined by the Historic Landfill Regulations and also records information on landfills that fall outside the scope of the regulations, i.e. legacy landfills, pre-1977 sites; and private landfills (landfills that operated after 1980 under a local authority permit). The figures for these sites in the Southern Region are shown in **Table 3.2,** along with classification by risk.

Table 3-2- Historic Waste Disposal in the Southern Region

Total (Southern)	Total No. Sites	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Illegal Sites	8	0	2	2
Local Authority Sites	130	30	48	51
Pre 1977 Sites	22	1	0	17
Private Sites	35	2	0	8
All sites	195	33	50	78

Source: EPA 2014

Policy action G2 relates to the remediation of historic closed landfills, to include unregulated sites. As noted for Policy A, the main issues with landfilling relate to atmospheric and hydrological effects. Landfills give rise to methane and other gases which have negative impacts on climate and on air quality. Landfills also create leachate arising from items ranging from industrial solvents to household cleaners which accumulate and mix over time. Potential pathways for this pollution may exist through soils, groundwater and / or surface water with the potential to indirectly impact on qualifying interests of the Natura 2000 network, in light of their conservation objectives. Wetland sites and water dependant ecosystems are particularly vulnerable where leachates are present.

Policy Action G2 includes the requirement for each region to develop a roadmap for the remediation of historic landfills, taking into account the scale of risk and impact on the environment. The remediation of high risk sites is to be agreed in the EPA authorization, and in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive & Water Framework Directive. The inclusion of these requirements will result in improved co-ordination and prioritisation of high risk sites across the Southern Region.

It is recognised that depending on the methodology of construction, the process of remediation itself can result in the release of leachates or methane. There is therefore potential for negative impacts on European Sites in the zone of influence, particularly those designated for wetland habitats and their associated species. However, the overall aim of landfill remediation is to reduce leachates and the emission of gases to the receiving environment. This will have a long- term

positive effect on air, soil, both surface and ground water quality, and on water dependent habitats and species.

As previously noted, inappropriate location of new waste facilities will potentially result in habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation, and disturbance of species. The development of siting guidelines in Policy Action G.3.1 will have a positive impact on European Sites.

Policy Action G4 relates to addressing unmanaged waste across the Region. This will have a positive effect on air and water quality in the environment generally, and by extension European Sites, as it will lead to a reduction in backyard burning and disposal.

Policy Actions H: Other Wastes

Strategic Objective

The region will establish policy measures for other waste streams not subject to EU and national waste management performance targets.

- H.1. Work with the relevant stakeholders and take measures to ensure systems and facilities are in place for the safe and sustainable management of sludges (sewage, waterworks, agricultural, industrial, and septic tank) generated in the region having due regard to environmental legislation and prevailing national guidance documents, particularly in relation to the EU Habitats and Birds Directive.
    - H.1.1. To engage with Irish Water in relation to national planning and management of WWTP sludge and WTP Sludge.
    - H.1.2. To engage with the water pollution teams of the local authorities to ensure that environmental legislation and national guidelines are being implemented, including the inspection plan for the management of Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems, and to review the management options for the disposal of septic tank sludge.
    - H.1.3. To engage with the NWCPO regarding specific conditions for private waste collectors collecting septic tank waste.
- H.2. Investigate the opportunity to establish and expand management schemes for particular waste streams including (but not limited to) paints, medicines, mattresses, other bulky wastes, agricultural and horticultural chemicals and waste oils (where technically, environmentally, and economically practicable).
    - H.2.1. To investigate the viability of running a pilot scheme for the management of paint within the Region.
    - H.2.2. Examine the possibility of expanding existing reuse schemes in place throughout the region for bulky or hazardous waste streams (such as mattresses and paints).
    - H.2.3. To transfer knowledge and skills on the successful schemes to all LA's in all Regions.

- H.3. Co-operate and input into the setting up of new national producer responsibility schemes (statutory or voluntary) for waste streams to ensure the role of local authorities is clear and can be practically achieved.
    - H.3.1. Participate in working groups for setting up of new national producer responsibility schemes.
    - H.3.2. To ensure better segregation of hazardous waste and non-hazardous wastes at the point of collection from households and small businesses.

Other wastes are minor waste streams that do not have specific statutory instruments in place to govern their management. The policy actions for other waste streams largely concern stakeholder liaison, the investigation of reuse schemes and input into producer responsibility schemes. As such, the policy actions will not result in any direct impacts to the Natura 2000 network. However, policy action H1 will have positive long-term indirect impacts on the Natura 2000 network by improving the management of sludges and their potential associated impacts on soil and water quality. Similarly, it is anticipated that policy actions H2 and H3 will also have long-term positive indirect impacts on the environment, and by extension the Natura 2000 network, by investigating schemes for the reuse of waste and improved management of hazardous wastes provided they follow codes of practice and are enforced appropriately by the EAOs.

4 MITIGATION MEASURES

The following section details suitable measures to mitigate for potential impacts associated with the draft of the SRWMP, as put on public display from 18th November 2014 to 31st January 2015.

4.1 GENERAL

Mitigation is defined in the Commission services guidance document 'Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the ''Habitats'' Directive 92/43/EEC' as 'measures aimed at minimising or even cancelling the negative impact of a plan or project, during or after its completion' (paragraph 4.5.2). The research for this guidance document suggests that mitigation measures should be considered in accordance with a hierarchy of preferred options as illustrated in **Figure 4-1** below. The overall objective is to avoid sensitive habitats.

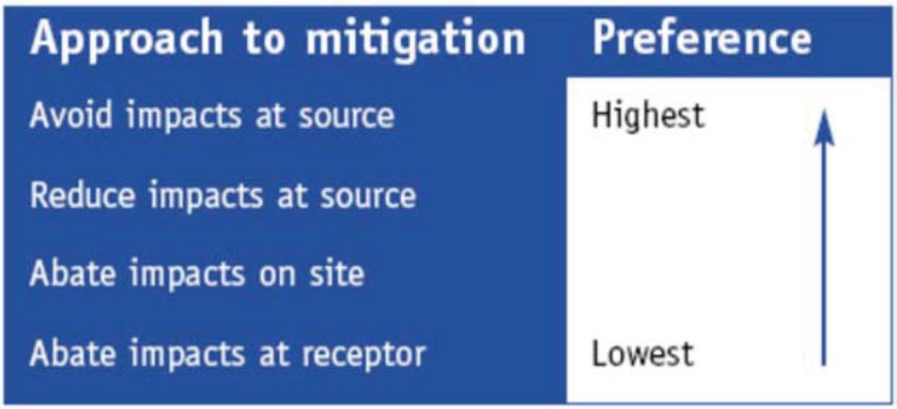

Figure 4-1: Hierarchy of Preferred Mitigation Options

4.2 MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE SRWMP

Section 3.2 of this report has identified elements of the draft SRWMP that it is considered may give rise to negative impacts on European Sites. In order to ensure that the implementation of the SRWMP does not result in significant negative impacts on the conservation objectives of any European Site, the Appropriate Assessment team has provided the following mitigation measures to the plan team for incorporation into the final document. All actions arising from the plan should be conditional on inclusion of the relevant measures below.

The impact assessment and assessment of effects (**Section 3.2.**) included an assessment of the strategic approach of the plan. This is a high level assessment, providing a general overview of the potential impacts that may be involved. The strategic objectives, policies and policy actions laid out in the plan will provide a framework for other more specific plans or projects in the future. The measures set out in this chapter will concentrate on mitigation measures for the potential impacts arising from the strategic objectives, policies and policy actions.

4.2.1 Amendments to Text

During the development of the SRWMP, the AA process has influenced the development of the Strategic Policy and Policy Actions of the Plan. This included the addition of wording to include the following:

- Regional Waste Strategy Chapter:
  - The integration of the consideration of environmental impacts into the SRWMP;
- Market Analysis and Infrastructure Planning Chapter:
  - The inclusion of an overarching policy ensuring the protection of the Natura 2000 Network;
  - The provision of criteria;
  - The inclusion of wording within policy actions to ensure that new waste infrastructure development complies with the; and
  - The inclusion of the wording emphasising the requirement for screening for Appropriate Assessment for future waste infrastructure that has particular potential for significant negative impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 Network.

The inclusion of this text was developed in order to ensure that protection of the Natura 2000 network was one of the fundamental principles within the plan, and will be completely interwoven into the fabric of future waste management proposals.

Table 4-1: Suggested Amendments to the Waste Plan Text

Chapter in Draft Plan	Suggested Text (in green font)	Included within Draft Plan
Chapter 5, Regional Waste Strategy: Section 5.2.	"The final principle of the strategic approach is to protect the environment of the region and its citizens from the harmful impacts of managing wastes. Environmental issues and impacts will be integrated into all decision making and assessment and will help to ensure actions and developments are sustainable. The local authorities have been guided by the strategic environmental assessment and appropriate assessment in the preparation of the plan and will retain a focus on environmental and community protection throughout the period".	Yes
Chapter 16, Market Analysis and Infrastructure Planning: Section 16.4.	The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European Site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the Site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4)	Yes

Chapter in Draft Plan	Suggested Text (in green font)	Included within Draft Plan
	of the EU Habitats Directive.	
Infrastructure policy recommendations: Section 16.4.3, Disposal.	E.8 The waste plan supports the development of disposal capacity for the treatment of hazardous and non-recoverable wastes at existing landfill facilities in the region subject to the appropriate statutory approvals being approved in line with the appropriate siting criteria.	Yes
	E.11 The local authorities will consider the future land use of permanently or temporarily closed existing landfill sites with the potential to develop alternative activities (subject to amendments to existing approvals being put in place). Any development proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive to ensure the protection and preservation of the Natura 2000 Network. Potential activities include: ▪ Waste treatment activities including pre-treatment, thermal recovery, biological treatment, reprocessing or preparing for reuse; ▪ On-site temporary storage of waste and materials; ▪ Co-location of utility services such as wind farms or other energy generating activities; ▪ Development of public and recreational amenities; and ▪ Co-locating recycling / reuse waste enterprises on site; ▪ Resource mining; ▪ Contingency capacity for crisis events.	Yes
Section 16.4.4, Other Recovery- Backfilling.	E.14 The local authorities will co-ordinate the future authorisation of backfilling sites in the region to ensure balanced development serves local and regional needs with a preference for large remediation sites ahead of smaller scale sites with shorter lifespans. All proposed sites for backfilling activities must comply with the siting criteria set out in the plan.	Yes
Section 16.4.5, Other Recovery- Thermal Recovery.	E.15 The waste plan supports the development of up to 300,000 tonnes of additional thermal recovery capacity for the treatment of non-hazardous wastes nationally to ensure there is adequate active and competitive treatment in the market and the State's self-sufficiency requirements for the recovery of municipal wastes are met. This capacity is a national treatment need and is not specific to the SR. All proposed sites for thermal recovery must comply with the siting criteria set out in the plan.	Yes
	E.16 The waste plan supports the development of up to 50,000 tonnes of additional thermal recovery capacity for the treatment of hazardous wastes nationally to ensure there is an adequate active and competitive treatment in the market to facilitate self-sufficiency needs where it is technically, economically and environmentally feasible. This capacity is a national treatment need and is not specific to the SR. All proposed sites for thermal recovery must comply with siting criteria set out in the plan.	Yes
Section 16.4.6, Recycling- Biological Treatment.	E.17 The waste plan supports the development in the region of up to 40,000 tonnes of additional biological treatment capacity for the treatment of bio-wastes (food waste and green wastes) primarily from the region to ensure there is adequate active and competitive treatment in the market. The development of such a facility needs	Yes

Chapter in Draft Plan	Suggested Text (in green font)	Included within Draft Plan
	to comply with the relevant siting criteria in the plan.	
	E.18 The waste plan supports the development of biological treatment capacity in the region, in particular anaerobic digestion, primarily to treat suitable agri-wastes and other organic wastes. The development of such a facility needs to comply with the relevant siting criteria in the plan.	Yes
Section 16.4.7, Recycling- Material Reprocessing.	E.19 The waste plan supports the development of indigenous reprocessing and recycling capacity for the treatment of non-hazardous and hazardous wastes where technically, economically and environmentally practicable. The relevant siting criteria for the planning and development of such activities needs to be applied.	Yes
Section 16.6.1, Siting Principles.	In general the location of waste facilities needs to consider the following: • Avoid siting waste infrastructure or related infrastructure in areas protected for landscape and visual amenity, geology, heritage and or cultural value. • Avoid siting waste infrastructure or related infrastructure in European Sites including Special Protection Areas (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs); Avoid siting waste infrastructure or related infrastructure in proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), Statutory Nature Reserves, Refuges for Fauna and Annex I habitats • Undertake Appropriate Assessment Screening for all waste related activities requiring development consent e.g. new infrastructure, waste authorisation applications or reviews (CoR, WFP, and Licenses); • Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, undertake full Appropriate Assessment; • To prevent the spread of Invasive Alien Species (IAS), undertake an IAS survey of any prospective sites. If found preventative measures include ensuring that good site hygiene practices are employed for the movement of materials into, out of and around the site and ensuring that imported soil is free of seeds and rhizomes of key invasive plant species; • In order to protect habitats which, by virtue of their linear and continuous structure (e.g. rivers and their banks) or their contribution as stepping stones (e.g. ponds or small woods), are essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species, avoid the loss or disruption to such features; • Ensure that no development, including clearance and storage of materials, takes place within a minimum distance of 10-15m measured from each bank of any river, stream or watercourse as specified in the CDP area; and • Ensure a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) is applied to any development and that site specific solutions to surface water drainage systems are developed, which meet the	Yes

Chapter in Draft Plan	Suggested Text (in green font)	Included within Draft Plan
	requirements of the Water Framework Directive and associated River Basin Management Plans.	

4.2.2 Mitigation for Specific Policies and Policy Actions

Section 3.2.3 assesses the potential significant impacts of the draft policies and policy actions of the SRWMP. The following section provides mitigation measures for policy actions with identified potential significant negative impacts upon the Natura 2000 network.

Policy Actions A. Policy and Legislation

Negative impacts associated with Policy A.1 and Policy Action A1.1 relate to possible impacts associated with siting of infrastructure. To offset these impacts siting principles and criteria have been included within the plan (Section 16.6.1: Siting Principles) in order to guide development of new infrastructure and management of existing infrastructure and activities in a manner which protects the environment and the Natura 2000 network.

Negative impacts associated with Policy A.4 relate to the possible impacts associated with an increase in self-sufficiency in waste management and any associated new waste infrastructure development Siting criteria have been included within the plan (Section 16.6.1: Siting Criteria) in order to guide development of new infrastructure in a manner which protects the environment and the Natura 2000 network.

Policy Action B. Prevention

No mitigation proposed.

Policy Action C. Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy

No mitigation proposed.

Policy Actions D. Coordination

No mitigation proposed.

Policy Action E. Infrastructure Planning

The Infrastructure Planning section of the draft plan provides a set of policy recommendations based on capacity analysis. Several of these policy recommendations were identified as having potential negative impacts upon the Natura 2000 network in **Section 3.2.3**. In order to mitigate for these potential impacts, the AA team suggested amendments to the text of the policy recommendations to ensure the protection of the Natura 2000 network. The policy recommendations, potential impacts and suggested mitigation measures are shown in **Table 4-2.** The text highlighted in green

indicates text amendments to the policy recommendations of the SRWMP as suggested by the AA team. These changes have been taken on board in the final SRWMP.

Table 4-2: Mitigation Measures for Infrastructure Planning Recommendations

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
Pre-Treatment Infrastructure			
E.2 Future authorisation of pre-treatment activities by local authorities over the plan period will be contingent on the operator demonstrating that the treatment is necessary and the proposed activities add real value and quality to the output materials generated at the site.	Yes	Future authorisations for pre-treatment activities should include an assessment of potential impacts on the environment. An AA screening shall be completed for all future authorisations as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European Site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	Yes
Public Civic Amenities and Bring Centres			
E.3 The local authorities in the region will maintain and develop their existing networks of bring infrastructure (e.g. civic amenity facilities, bring banks) to facilitate the recycling and recovery of hazardous and non-	Yes	Existing authorised facilities will operate within a licensing system and controls aimed at preventing accidental spills to soil or water. This will include site drainage to capture run-off. This requirement is strengthened by Policy Action F.2: "Enforce all waste regulations through increased monitoring activities, and enforcement actions for non-	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
hazardous municipal wastes.		compliance with authorisations and regulatory obligations". Future authorisations for Civic Amenities and Bring Centres should include an assessment of potential impacts on the environment. An AA screening shall be completed for all future authorisations as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	
E.4 The local authorities may include as a condition of planning that developers of commercial and large- scale residential developments provide bring bank facilities to serve occupants and residents.	Yes	Future authorisations for Civic Amenities and Bring Centres should include an assessment of potential impacts on the environment. An AA screening shall be completed for all future authorisations as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European site(s) and that the requirements of	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
		Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	
E.5 Local authorities will explore the possibility of accepting hazardous waste at existing civic amenity facilities from small businesses, which is similar in nature to household hazardous wastes currently received. A charge may be introduced for such a service.	Yes	Future authorisations for Civic Amenities and Bring Centres should include an assessment of potential impacts on the environment. An AA screening shall be completed for all future authorisations as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	Yes
E.6 The local authorities will require waste developers seeking to develop a Class 10 waste treatment activity, as	Yes	Future authorisations for Civic Amenities and Bring Centres should include an assessment of potential impacts on the	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
defined by the Third Schedule of the Waste Management (Facility and Permit) Regulations 2007 (as amended), to provide bring facilities for the acceptance of non-hazardous and hazardous wastes from members of the public and businesses.		environment. An AA screening shall be completed for all future authorisations as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	
Disposal			
E.8 The waste plan supports the development of disposal capacity for the treatment of hazardous and non-recoverable wastes at existing landfill facilities in the region subject to the appropriate statutory approvals being approved.	Yes	Any new authorised facilities will operate within controls aimed at preventing accidental spills to soil or water. This will include site drainage to capture run-off. This requirement is strengthened by Policy Action F.2: "Enforce all waste regulations through increased monitoring activities, and enforcement actions for non-compliance with authorisations and regulatory obligations". Any development of infrastructure will comply with the siting criteria set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan. The Policy Recommendation text now includes the following text: The waste plan supports the development of disposal capacity for the treatment of hazardous and non-recoverable wastes at existing landfill facilities in the region subject to the appropriate statutory	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
		approvals being approved in line with the appropriate siting criteria.	
E.9 The local authorities anticipate disposal capacity for non-hazardous processed residual wastes will be required over the plan period but there is no need for additional disposal capacity to be brought on stream during the plan period.	Yes	Existing authorised facilities will operate within a licensing system and controls aimed at preventing accidental spills to soil or water. This will include site drainage to capture run-off. This requirement is strengthened by Policy Action F.2: "Enforce all waste regulations through increased monitoring activities, and enforcement actions for non-compliance with authorisations and regulatory obligations".	Yes
E.10 The waste plan recognises the need for on-going disposal capacity to be available in response to events which pose a health risk to citizens, livestock and the environment and the lead authorities of each region will monitor available contingent capacity annually.	Yes	Existing facilities will operate within an authorisation system and controls aimed at preventing accidental spills to soil or water. This will include site drainage to capture run-off. This requirement is strengthened by Policy Action F.2: "Enforce all waste regulations through increased monitoring activities, and enforcement actions for non-compliance with authorisations and regulatory obligations".	Yes
E.11 The local authorities will consider the future land use of permanently or temporarily closed existing landfill sites with the potential to develop alternative activities (subject to amendments to existing approvals being put in place). Potential activities include: ▪ Waste treatment activities including pre-treatment, thermal recovery, biological treatment, reprocessing or preparing for reuse. ▪ On-site temporary storage of waste and materials; ▪ Co-location of utility services such as wind farms or other energy generating activities; ▪ Development of public and recreational	Yes	The Policy Recommendation now includes the protection of the Natura 2000 network within the text, as follows: The local authorities will consider the future land use of permanently or temporarily closed existing landfill sites with the potential to develop alternative activities (subject to amendments to existing approvals being put in place). Any development proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive to ensure the protection and preservation of the Natura 2000 network. Potential activities include: ▪ Waste treatment activities including pre-treatment, thermal recovery, biological treatment, reprocessing or preparing for reuse. ▪ On-site temporary storage of waste and materials; ▪ Co-location of utility services such as wind farms or other energy generating activities; ▪ Development of public and	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
amenities; ▪ Co-locating recycling / reuse waste enterprises on site; ▪ Resource mining; and ▪ Contingency capacity for crisis events.		recreational amenities; ▪ Co-locating recycling / reuse waste enterprises on site; ▪ Resource mining; and ▪ Contingency capacity for crisis events.	
E.12 The waste plan supports the repatriation of residual waste illegally disposed in Northern Ireland to licensed disposal facilities appointed to a framework set up on behalf of the State by the National Trans Frontier Shipment Office.	Yes	Negative impacts associated with this policy action relate to the release of leachates during the remediation of historical landfill sites. It is of paramount importance that the waste type should either be known or assumptions made on its characterisation so that the potential for leachate generation can be identified. The type of waste determines the potential toxicity of the leachate and therefore the degree of hazard that it can pose to surface water and groundwater. In all cases a risk assessment of the waste shall be carried out by a suitably qualified person. In addition, an assessment of the potential for landfill gas generation should be carried out. Landfill gas, if present, then becomes a source and its potential for migration of fugitive gas emissions needs to be assessed. Dust is not considered as a principal source of contamination as, in general, historical waste disposal sites have a vegetative cover which minimises dust generation. However, if waste is exposed at the surface, dust can be generated and should be assessed. An AA screening shall be completed for all future authorisations as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European Site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a	Yes included within overarching policy 16.4.

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
		significant effect on a European Site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive. The management of invasive non-native species at Waste Management sites is required. This requirement is included in the siting criteria set out set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan.	
Recovery-Backfilling			
E.13 There is a significant quantity of unused active and pending capacity for backfilling in the region and future authorisations by the local authorities, the EPA and An Bord Pleanála must take account of the existing treatment market prior to making a decision on additional capacity.	Yes	Any new authorised facilities will operate within controls aimed at preventing accidental spills to soil or water. This will include site drainage to capture run-off. This requirement is strengthened by Policy Action F.2: "Enforce all waste regulations through increased monitoring activities, and enforcement actions for non-compliance with authorisations and regulatory obligations". Any development of infrastructure will comply with the environmental protection criteria set out set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan. The management of invasive non-native species at Waste Management sites is required. This requirement is included in the siting criteria set out set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan..	Yes
E.14 The local authorities will co-ordinate the future authorisation of backfilling sites in the region to ensure balanced development serves local and regional needs with a preference for large remediation sites ahead of smaller scale sites with shorter lifespans.	Yes	Any new authorised facilities will operate within controls aimed at preventing accidental spills to soil or water. This will include site drainage to capture run-off. This requirement is strengthened by Policy Action F.2: "Enforce all waste regulations through increased monitoring activities, and enforcement actions for non-compliance with authorisations and regulatory obligations". Any development of infrastructure will comply with the environmental protection criteria set out in Section 16.6.1 of the	Yes

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
		plan. The management of invasive non-native species at Waste Management sites is required. This requirement is included in the siting criteria set out in Section 16.6.1.	
Recovery-Thermal Recovery			
E.15 The waste plan supports the development of up to 300,000 tonnes of additional thermal recovery capacity for the treatment of non-hazardous wastes nationally to ensure there is adequate active and competitive treatment in the market and the State's self-sufficiency requirements for the recovery of municipal wastes are met. This capacity is a national treatment need and is not specific to the SR.	Yes	Any development of infrastructure will comply with the siting criteria set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan. An AA screening shall be completed for all future developments as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European Site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	Yes siting criteria requirement included within policy text and AA requirement as per overarching policy 16.4.
E.16 The waste plan supports the development of up to 50,000 tonnes of additional thermal recovery capacity for the treatment of hazardous wastes nationally to ensure there is an adequate active and competitive treatment in the market to facilitate self-sufficiency needs where it is technically, economically and environmentally	Yes	Any development of infrastructure will comply with the siting criteria set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan. An AA screening shall be completed for all future developments as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely	Yes siting criteria requirement included within policy text and AA requirement as per overarching policy 16.4.

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
feasible. This capacity is a national treatment need and is not specific to the SR.		significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European Site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	
Recycling - Biological Treatment			
E.17 The waste plan supports the development in the region of up to 40,000 tonnes of additional biological treatment capacity for the treatment of bio-wastes (food waste and green wastes) primarily from the region to ensure there is adequate active and competitive treatment in the market.	Yes	Any development of infrastructure will comply with the siting criteria set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan. An AA screening shall be completed for all future developments as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European Site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in	Yes siting criteria requirement included within policy text and AA requirement as per overarching policy 16.4.

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
		accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	
E.18 The waste plan supports the development of biological treatment capacity in the region, in particular anaerobic digestion, to primarily treat suitable agri-wastes and other organic wastes.	Yes	Any development of infrastructure will comply with the siting criteria set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan. An AA screening shall be completed for all future developments as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any European Site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	Yes siting criteria requirement included within policy text and AA requirement as per overarching policy 16.4.
Recycling - Material Reprocessing			
E.19 The waste plan supports the development of indigenous reprocessing and recycling capacity for the treatment of non-hazardous and hazardous wastes where technically, economically and environmentally practicable.	Yes	Any development of infrastructure will comply with the environmental protection criteria set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan. An AA screening shall be completed for all future developments as per the following Policy within the Plan (Section 16.4): The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined	Yes siting criteria requirement included within policy text and AA requirement as per overarching policy 16.4.

Policy Recommendations	Potential Negative Impacts on the Natura 2000 Network?	Mitigation	Included within the Draft Plan
		by the structure and function) of any European Site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.	
Preparing for Reuse Activities			
E.20 The waste plan supports the development of repair and preparing for reuse enterprises in the region as part of the transition to a more resource focused management approach and will provide technical, regulatory and financial guidance to operators active on this tier of the hierarchy.	Yes	Preparing for re-use activities should by registered and operate under a code of practice.	Yes
Collection Infrastructure			
E.23 In the absence of kerbside source segregated collection services and where the proximity of civic amenity facilities and bring centres is prohibitive the plan supports localised collection solutions such as community drop off points or pay to use systems subject to compliance with the household waste collection regulations.	Yes	Any development of infrastructure will comply with the siting criteria set out in Section 16.6.1 of the plan.	Yes

Policy Actions F. Enforcement & Regulation

No mitigation proposed.

Policy Actions G. Protection

Negative impacts associated with policy action G2 relate to the release of leachates during the remediation of historical landfill sites. It is of paramount importance that the waste type should either be known or assumptions made on its characterisation so that the potential for leachate generation can be identified. The type of waste determines the potential toxicity of the leachate and therefore the degree of hazard that it can pose to surface water and groundwater. To this end, wetland sites have been afforded special consideration in terms of illegal waste activity in the Ministerial Direction (Circular WIR: 04/05) whereby it indicates that a risk assessment should be undertaken and that wetland sites (including SACs and SPAs) should be remediated (which may include removal of the waste) in the case of illegal waste facilities which are discovered[3]. In all cases the risk assessment shall be carried out by a suitably qualified person.

In addition, an assessment of the potential for landfill gas generation should be carried out. Landfill gas, if present, then becomes a source and its potential for migration of fugitive gas emissions needs to be assessed. Dust is not considered as a principal source of contamination as, in general, historical waste disposal sites have a vegetative cover which minimises dust generation. However, if waste is exposed at the surface, dust can be generated and should be assessed.

Policy Action G2 includes the requirement for each region to develop a roadmap for the remediation of historic landfills, taking into account the scale of risk and impact on the environment. G2 also states that:

The remediation of high risk sites is to be agreed in the EPA authorization, and in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive & Water Framework Directive.

The management of invasive non-native species at Waste Management sites is required. This requirement is included in the siting criteria set out within the SRWMP, in Section 16.6.1.

Policy Actions H: Other Waste Streams

No mitigation proposed.

[3] EPA (2007): Code of Practice, Environmental Risk Assessment for Unregulated Waste Disposal Sites. EPA Ireland.

5 CONSULTATION AND SCREENING OF AMENDMENTS

The draft SRWMP, SEA Environmental Report and accompanying Natura Impact Report were put on public display from 18th November 2014 to 31st January 2015. The Project team have reviewed all submissions and changes were proposed to the Waste Plans where appropriate. The key issues raised in the submissions in relation to Appropriate Assessment of the Plans specifically are outlined in **Sections 5.1**.

Section 5.2 and **Appendix B** has been prepared to screen the proposed changes to the SRWMP for potential significant environmental effects in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora; the Planning and Development Act 2000 (Part X); and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011)

5.1 CONSULTATION

5.1.1 AA Issues Raised

Particular AA issues raised in the submissions are outlined below.

1. Impacts of new infrastructure. It was suggested that Plan-level assessment and mitigation should be developed to anticipate issues that may arise from future developments so that they can be addressed at the strategic, rather than project level.
2. Impacts from existing waste infrastructure. It was suggested that the location of existing facilities should be mapped in relation to European Sites. It was also suggested that hazardous waste sites should be listed and that data on compliance and non-compliance of existing facilities should be also listed. It was also suggested that plan-level assessment and mitigation should be developed to anticipate issues that may arise from existing developments so that they can be addressed at the strategic, rather than project level.
3. Remediation of historic landfills. The issue of legacy, historic and closed licensed landfills should be addressed to reduce the risk to sensitive receptors including surface and groundwater.
4. Conservation Objectives. Further reference to the Conservation Objectives of European Sites should be included in the NIR.
5. Legislation. It was recommended that specific reference is given in the Plan to the legislation governing screening for appropriate assessment of the Plan and its various components. It was also recommended that Article 6 (2) of the Habitats Directive needs to be considered in respect of avoiding deterioration of natural habitats and habitats of species for which the sites have been designated if existing facilities are non-compliant.

5.1.2 Response

1. Potential New Infrastructure

The Appropriate Assessment of the plans was carried out in the context of the scope and content presented in both the early and final draft Plans. Future capacity requirements had been determined in the Plans (e.g. a requirement for up to 300,000 tonnes of additional thermal recovery capacity nationally) but the location or the specific technology to be used had not been identified. In this regard, it has been determined that the most appropriate protection for European Sites is through proper siting of infrastructure to avoid significant effects on the integrity of the sites in view of their conservation objectives. To that end, the draft and final plan include Environmental Protection Criteria (previously referred to as environmental protection criteria) which include general environmental criteria and criteria which specifically seek to avoid negative effects on European Sites. Criteria developed to avoid effects on European Sites include the following:

- Avoid siting new waste infrastructure or related infrastructure in European Sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Special Protection Areas (SAC);
- Undertake Appropriate Assessment Screening for all local authority waste related activities requiring development consent e.g. new infrastructure, expansions and upgrades of existing infrastructure and activities, waste authorisation applications, licence reviews (CoR, WFP, and Licences);
- Where a significant effect on a European Site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects is identified, or where there is uncertainty with regard to effects, the competent authority will seek an NIS to inform an AA. In so doing, the implications for any European Site in light of the site's Conservation Objectives shall be considered;
- For upgrades, expansion, enlargements and reviews related to existing waste activities and infrastructure, the competent authority will seek an evidence base to show the existing operations are not negatively impacting on a European Site, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, with particular focus on avoiding the deterioration of natural habitats and the habitats of species as well as the disturbance of species for which the area has been designated; and
- Avoid damage to features of the landscape which, by virtue of their linear and continuous structure or their function as stepping stones, are essential for the migration, dispersal or genetic exchange of wild species.

These criteria have been included in **Section 16.5** of the final SRWMP.

2. Existing Waste Management Infrastructure and Activities

Figure 2.1 of the NIR shows the locations of designated European Sites and local authority authorised waste facilities in the Southern Region.

The AA recognises that existing waste activities and infrastructure may be impacting on European Sites by virtue of their location and / or emissions. However, currently there is no system of consistent and formalised recording of compliance or actions associated with non-compliance in permits or certificates of registrations issued by local authorities however, in the absence of data it is not possible to determine the scale or extent of the potential and therefore there is no data to

determine whether these facilities are having a negative effect on the integrity of European Sites in view of the sites conservation objectives.

To address this, it has been determined that the most appropriate protection for European Sites is through the adoption of a system, specifically focussed on compliance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive as implemented in Irish law, incorporating a formal review of authorisations in line with Art 6(3), with appropriate follow-up based on the outcome of the review. This will be achieved by the examination of all relevant waste authorisation applications by the local authorities in order in the first instance to determine if AA screening has been undertaken. For cases where AA screening has not been completed this will be done as part of the scheduled review process. In parallel, the local authorities will also review all waste authorisations based on criteria such as proximity to, or pathways (for example hydrological connection) to, European Sites. High risk sites will be prioritised. Where the potential for significant effects on a European Site is identified, the operator will be required to furnish an NIS to support a full AA.

The final Southern Region Waste Plan now includes a new specific policy and action in **Chapter 19** to implement the above framework as follows:

Policy G5: ***Ensure that the implementation of the regional waste management plan does not prevent achievement of the conservation objectives of sites afforded protection under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives.***

G.5.1 Policy Action: ***As part of the statutory review process under the relevant waste regulations, the local authorities will examine relevant waste authorisations requiring local authority consent to determine if AA screening is required. In addition, the local authorities will prioritise reviews of waste authorisations and requirements for AA screening, in advance of any scheduled review, based on the proximity to or potential pathway of the permit holder to European Sites.***

In addition, the DECLG has also committed to review the waste management legislation governing local authority waste authorisations to ensure that all future authorisations require AA screening.

3. Remediation of Historic Unregulated Landfills

The Plan recognises the need to address legacy, historic and closed licensed landfills in order to reduce the risk to sensitive receptors including surface and groundwater. While it is acknowledged that remediation of such sites will lead to overall improvements to the receiving environment, the AA, it is also recognised that there is potential for effects on adjacent or downstream European Sites as a result of excavations and/or release of leachates during recovery / stabilisation of the wastes.

It is also recognised that the potential for effects will be determined by the site conditions on a case by case basis and the requirement to complete an AA Screening of risk assessments at all tiers[4] has been included in the plans: this approach ensures that the decisions made in relation to remediation firstly consider potential effects on these protected sites (including habitats and species) and classify them accordingly in terms of site sensitivity (high, medium and low risk) as per Tier 1. At Tier 2 and 3, appropriate site detail will be available to ensure that site specific appropriate protection is built into remediation proposals to ensure that they protect, enhance and restore European Sites in view

[4] Tier 1 (qualitative risk assessment); Tier 2 (Site investigation and risk refinement); and Tier 3 (Quantitative risk assessment).

of the Sites conservation objectives. **Table 3.2** in the NIR details the figures for historic waste disposal in the Southern Region, and a more detailed list, sourced directly from local authorities, can be found in **Appendix F** of the SRWMP.

Furthermore, following review of consultation by the project team and recent media reports in relation to the risk to the environment from coastal erosion of historic unregulated disposal sites located adjacent to the coast, it was determined that a specific policy action was required to ensure the future protection of the marine environment. The following policy action has been added to the final plan:

Policy Action G.3.2: Undertake a risk assessment of all waste disposal sites in coastal and estuarine areas to identify those at risk from coastal erosion in the short, medium and long term.

This policy action will have a positive impact on both the environment in general and on coastal SACs and SPAs by reducing marine pollution and littering.

4. Conservation Objectives

Reference to the conservation objectives of European Sites has also been reviewed and further reference included as appropriate throughout the document and in **Appendix A**

5. Legislation

Section 1.3 of the Plan makes specific reference to the Appropriate Assessment:

The EU Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and wild flora and fauna, better known as the 'Habitats Directive', provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance through the designation of EU wide network of sites known as Natura 2000. These sites are Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPA) designated under the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC). Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment (AA) of plans and projects likely to affect Natura 2000 sites. An AA of the EMR RWMP was carried out in parallel to the SEA process and is available as a separate document.

Section 16.4 makes specific reference to the Appropriate Assessment of Plans and projects arising from the plan:

The local authorities in the region will ensure that any project and associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening (AAS) to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any Natura 2000 site(s) and that the requirements of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied.

Where a project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to AAS. The project will proceed only after it has been determined that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.

With reference to Article 6 (2) of the Habitats Directive, the Environmental Criteria includes the following wording:

For upgrades, expansion, enlargements and reviews related to existing waste activities and infrastructure, the competent authority will seek an evidence base to show the existing operations are not negatively impacting on a European Site, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, with particular focus on avoiding the deterioration of natural habitats and the habitats of species as well as the disturbance of species for which the area has been designated.

5.2 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PLANS

Following consultation on the draft plan, the SRWMP has been amended to take account of stakeholder feedback as appropriate. These proposed amendments have all been screened for Appropriate Assessment and this is recorded in **Appendix B**. The proposed amendments will not have a significant negative impact on the conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 network.

6 CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The SRWMP does not include specific plans, programmes or projects; therefore it is not possible to predict specific impacts to specific sites in terms of the integrity of the site(s) in view of their conservation objectives. The SRWMP was brought forward to a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment as a precautionary measure, primarily due to uncertainty in relation to the potential for significant negative impacts to the Natura 2000 network as a result of the existing waste infrastructure and future proposals included in the objectives and actions laid out in the SRWMP.

Following a review of the text of the first draft of the plan, it was proposed to make amendments to the text as outlined in **Section 4.2.1**. All of these amendments have been incorporated into the final text of the SRWMP.

The Appropriate Assessment of the SRWMP has also been strengthened following consultation with the DAHG. Under the SRWMP potential new waste infrastructure will be sited subject to environmental criteria which specifically seek to avoid significant effects on the integrity of European Sites. A new policy and policy action has been included in the SRWMP to ensure that relevant waste authorisation applications will be reviewed by the Local Authorities in order to determine whether AA is required. In addition, sites that have already been authorised will be reviewed so that those requiring AA can be prioritised according to the risk posed to European Sites. Where the potential for significant effects on a European Site is identified, the operator will be required to furnish an NIS to support a full AA by the Competent Authority.

The Plan recognises the need to address legacy, historic and closed licensed landfills to reduce the risk to sensitive receptors including surface and groundwater. The potential for effects will be determined by the site conditions on a case by case basis and the requirement to complete an AA Screening of risk assessments at all tiers has been included in the plans.

The final text of the SRWMP now ensures that the protection of the Natura 2000 network is integrated into the Plan. Plan-level mitigation (such as the requirement for both waste authorisation applications and existing authorisations to be reviewed in order to determine whether AA is required) addresses potential adverse impacts to the Natura 2000 network at the strategic level. Additionally, AA of the potential impact of such waste sites on the integrity of a European designated site and its conservation objectives, will be determined through plan and project level AA at a time when location, mode and design specific proposals are developed. In line with the amended text of the SRWMP, all plans / projects arising from the policy actions and recommendations will be required to carry out Screening for Appropriate Assessment as required under the Habitats Directive.

The Southern Region Waste Management Plan 2015 - 2051 is considered to be compliant with the requirements of Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive.

7 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A

NATURA 2000 SITES IN THE SOUTHERN REGION

Southern Region SACs

*Data from NPWS Statutary List of SPAs, accessed from www.npws.ie, on 17/07/2014

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Akeragh, Banna And Barrow Harbour	Kerry	000332	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
			Humid dune slacks	2190		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			European dry heaths	4030		
All Saints Bog And Esker		000566	Bog woodland	91D0		
			Active raised bogs	7110		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Anglesey Road	Tipperary	002125	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	6230		
Ardgraigue Bog		002356	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Active raised bogs	7110		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Ardmore Head	Waterford	002123	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230		
			European dry heaths	4030		
Ardrahan Grassland		002244	Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
			Limestone pavements	8240		
Askeaton Fen Complex	Limerick	002279	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210		
			Alkaline fens	7230		
Ballinduff Turlough		002295	Turloughs	3180		
Ballinskelligs Bay And Inny Estuary	Kerry	000335	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330	*Petalophyllum ralfsii*	1395
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
Ballyallia Lake	Clare	000014	Natural euthrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation	3150		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Ballycullinan Lake	Clare	000016	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210		
Ballycullinan, Old Domestic Building	Clare	002246			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Ballyduff/Clonfinane Bog	Tipperary	000641	Active raised bogs	7110		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
			Bog woodland	91D0		
Ballyhoura Mountains	Limerick / cork	002036	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
			European dry heaths	4030		
			Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
Ballymacoda (Clonpriest And Pillmore)	Cork	000077	Estuaries	1130		
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
Ballyogan Lough	Clare	000019	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210		
Ballyprior Grassland		002256	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
Ballyseedy Wood	Kerry	002112	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0		
Ballyteige (Clare)	Clare	000994	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clavey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	6410		
Ballyteige Burrow	Wexford	000696	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Coastal lagoons	1150		
			Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea)	2150		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
			Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (Sarcocornetea fruticosi)	1420		
			Estuaries	1130		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Spartina swards (Spartinion maritimae)	1320		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
Ballyvaughan Turlough	Clare	000996	Turloughs	3180		
Bandon River	Cork	002171	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260	*Lampetra planeri*	1096
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
Bannow Bay	Wexford	000697	Estuaries	1130		
			Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (Sarcocornetea fruticosi)	1420		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
Barley Cove To Ballyrisode Point	Cork	001040	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			European dry heaths	4030		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
Barrigone	Limerick	000432	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210	*Euphydryas aurinia*	1065
			Limestone pavements	8240		
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
Barroughter Bog		000231	Active raised bogs	7110		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Black Head-Poulsallagh Complex	Clare	000020	Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060	*Petalophyllum ralfsii*	1395
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	7220		
			Limestone pavements	8240		
			Reefs	1170		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260		
			Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	6510		
			Submerged or partly submerged sea caves	8330		
Blackstairs Mountains	Wexford / Carlow	000770	European dry heaths	4030		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
Blackwater Bank	Wexford	002953	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	1110		
Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford)	Waterford / Tipperary / Kerry / Cork	002170	Estuaries	1130	*Petromyzon marinus*	1095
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140	*Lampetra planeri*	1096
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310	*Lampetra fluviatilis*	1099
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330	*Alosa fallax*	1103
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410	*Salmo salar*	1106
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0	*Austropotamobius pallipes*	1092
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0	*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
			Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	91J0		
Blackwater River (Kerry)	Kerry	002173	European dry heaths	4030	*Salmo salar*	1106
					Rhinolophus hipposideros	1303
					Lutra lutra	1355
					Margaritifera margaritifera	1029
					Geomalacus maculosus	1024
Blasket Islands	Kerry	002172	Reefs	1170	*Phocoena phocoena*	1351

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230	*Halichoerus grypus*	1364
			Submerged or partly submerged sea caves	8330		
			European dry heaths	4030		
Bolingbrook Hill	Tipperary	002124	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	6230		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010
			European dry heaths	4030	European dry heaths	4030
Buckroney-Brittas Dunes And Fen		000729	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Humid dune slacks	2190		
			Alkaline fens	7230		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea)	2150		
			Dunes with Salix repens ssp.argentea (Salix arenariae)	2170		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
Caha Mountains	Kerry / Cork	000093	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130	*Geomalacus maculosus*	1024
			Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8220		
			Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea	3130		
			Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	3160		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
Caherglassaun Turlough		000238	Turloughs	3180	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Cahermore Turlough		002294	Turloughs	3180		
Cahore Polders And Dunes	Wexford	000700	Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
Carnsore Point	Wexford	002269	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Reefs	1170		
Carrigeenamronety Hill	Limerick / Cork	002037			*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
Carrowbaun, Newhall And Ballylee Turloughs		002293	Turloughs	3180		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Carrowmore Dunes	Clare	002250	Reefs	1170	*Vertigo angustior*	1014
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
Carrowmore Point To Spanish Point And Islands	Clare	001021	Reefs	1170		
			Coastal lagoons	1150		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	7220		
Castlemaine Harbour	Kerry	000343	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130	*Salmo salar*	1106
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210	*Petromyzon marinus*	1095
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110	*Lampetra fluviatilis*	1099
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Humid dune slacks	2190	*Petalophyllum ralfsii*	1395
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Estuaries	1130		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Dunes with Salix repens ssp.argentea (Salix arenariae)	2170		
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91e0		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
Castletaylor Complex		000242	Turloughs	3180		
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Limestone pavements	8240		
Castletownshend	Cork	001547			*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
Clare Glen	Tipperary / Limerick	000930	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0	*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
Cleanderry Wood	Cork	001043	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91a0	*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
Clonakilty Bay	Cork	000091	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea)	2150		
Cloonee And Inchiquin Loughs, Uragh Wood	Kerry	001342	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0	*Geomalacus maculosus*	1024
			Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	3110	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
					Trichomanes speciosum	1421
					Najas flexilis	1833
Cloonmoylan Bog		000248	Active raised bogs	7110		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
			Bog woodland	91D0		
Connemara Bog Complex		002034	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	3110	*Salmo salar*	1106
			Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	3160	*Euphydryas aurinia*	1065
			Blanket bog (*active only)	7130	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Coastal lagoons	1150	*Najas flexilis*	1833
			Transition mires and quaking bogs	7140		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
			European dry heaths	4030		
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		
			Alkaline fens	7230		
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260		
			Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clavey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	6410		
			Reefs	1170		
Comeragh Mountains	Waterford	001952	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea	3130	*Drepanocladus vernicosus*	1393
			European dry heaths	4030		
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8210		
			Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8220		
Coole-Garryland Complex		000252	Limestone pavements	8240		
			Turloughs	3180		
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
			Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodion rubri p.p. and Bidention p.p. vegetation	3270		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Natural euthrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation	3150		
Coolrain Bog		002332	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Active raised bogs	7110		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Courtmacsherry Estuary	Cork	001230	Estuaries	1130		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
Cregg House Stables, Crusheen	Galway	002317			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Cullahill Mountain	Kilkenny	000831	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
Curraghchase Woods	Limerick	000174	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	91J0		
Danes Hole, Poulnalecka	Clare	000030	Caves not open to the public	8310	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		
Derryclogher (Knockboy) Bog	Cork	001873	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Derrycrag Wood Nature Reserve		000261	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		
Dromore Woods And Loughs	Clare	000032	Limestone pavements	8240	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Natural euthrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation	3150	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	6430		
			Natural euthrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation	3150	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	6430		
Drongawn Lough	Kerry	002187	Coastal lagoons	1150		
Drummin Wood		002181	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91a0		
Dunbeacon Shingle	Cork	002280	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
East Burren Complex	Cork / Clare / Galway	001926	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.	3140	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Turloughs	3180	*Euphydryas aurinia*	1065
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210		
			Alkaline fens	7230		
			Limestone pavements	8240		
			Caves not open to the public	8310		
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260		
			Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	6510		
			Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	7220		
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0		
Farranamanagh Lough	Cork	002189	Coastal lagoons	1150		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
Galmoy Fen	Kilkenny	001858	Alkaline fens	7230		
Galtee Mountains	Tipperary / Limerick	000646	Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			European dry heaths	4030		
			Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8220		
			Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8210		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	6230		
			Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
Galway Bay Complex	Clare / Galway	000268	Coastal lagoons	1150	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Large shallow inlets and bays	1160	*Phoca vitulina*	1365
			Reefs	1170		
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210		
			Turloughs	3180		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Alkaline fens	7230		
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
Glanlough Woods	Kerry	002315			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Glanmore Bog	Kerry / Cork	001879	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	3110	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260	*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
			Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
Glen Bog	Limerick	001430	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91e0		
Glendine Wood	Waterford	002324			*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
Glendree Bog	Clare	001912	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
Glengarriff Harbour And Woodland	Cork	000090	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0	*Lutra lutra*	1355
					Geomalacus maculosus	1024
					Phoca vitulina	1365
Glenomra Wood	Clare	001013	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Glenstal Wood	Limerick	001432			*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
Gortacarnaun Wood		002180	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91a0		
Great Island Channel	Cork	001058	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
Helvick Head	Waterford	000665	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230		
			European dry heaths	4030		
Holdenstown Bog	Wicklow	001757	Transition mires and quaking bogs	7140		
Hook Head	Wexford	000764	Reefs	1170		
			Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230		
			Large shallow inlets and bays	1160		
Hugginstown Fen	Kilkenny	000404	Alkaline fens	7230		
Inagh River Estuary	Clare	000036	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
Inisheer Island	Galway	001275	Limestone pavements	8240		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	6510		
			European dry heaths	4030		
			Reefs	1170		
			Coastal lagoons	1150		
Inishmaan Island	Galway	000212	Limestone pavements	8240		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			European dry heaths	4030		
			Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	6510		
			Machairs (* in Ireland)	21A0		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Reefs	1170		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Island Fen	Offaly	002236	Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
			Alkaline fens	7230		
Keeper Hill	Tipperary	001197	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
			Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	6230		
Kenmare River	Kerry / Cork	002158	Large shallow inlets and bays	1160	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Reefs	1170	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			European dry heaths	4030	*Vertigo angustior*	1014
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220	*Phoca vitulina*	1365
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Submerged or partly submerged sea caves	8330		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230		
			Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae	6130		
Kerry Head Shoal	Kerry	002263	Reefs	1170		
Kilcarren-Firville Bog	Tipperary	000647	Active raised bogs	7110		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Kilduff, Devilsbit Mountain	Tipperary	000934	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	6230		
			European dry heaths	4030		
Kilgarvan Ice House	Kerry	000364			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Kilkee Reefs	Clare	002264	Large shallow inlets and bays	1160		
			Reefs	1170		
			Submerged or partly submerged sea caves	8330		
Kilkeran Lake And Castlefreke Dunes	Cork	001061	Coastal lagoons	1150		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
Kilkishen House	Clare	002319			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Killarney National Park, Macgillycuddy's Reeks And Caragh River Catchment	Kerry / Cork	000365	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	3110	*Petromyzon marinus*	1095
			Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea	3130	*Lampetra planeri*	1096
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260	*Salmo salar*	1106
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010	*Lampetra fluviatilis*	1099
			European dry heaths	4030	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
			Blanket bog (*active only)	7130	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0	*Geomalacus maculosus*	1024
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0	*Euphydryas aurinia*	1065
			Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	91J0	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130	*Alosa fallax*	1103
			Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae	6130	*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
			Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clavey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	6410	*Najas flexilis*	1833
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Kilmuckridge-Tinnaberna Sandhills	Wexford	001741	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
Kilpatrick Sandhills	Wexford	001742	Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea)	2150		
Kiltartan Cave (Coole)	Galway	000286	Caves not open to the public	8310	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Kiltiernan Turlough	Galway	001285	Turloughs	3180		
Knockacoller Bog	Laois	002333	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Active raised bogs	7110		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Knockanira House	Clare	002318			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Lady's Island Lake	Wexford	000704	Coastal lagoons	1150		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Reefs	1170		
Lisbigney Bog	Laois	000869	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210	*Vertigo moulinsiana*	1016
Lisduff Fen	Offaly	002147	Alkaline fens	7230	*Vertigo geyeri*	1013
			Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	7220		
Liskeenan Fen	Tipperary	001683	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210		
Long Bank	Wexford	002161	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	1110		
Lough Corrib	Galway/ Mayo/ Roscommon	000297	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.	3140	*Petromyzon marinus*	1095
			Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	3110	*Salmo salar*	1106
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0	*Lampetra planeri*	1096
			Alkaline fens	7230	*Austropotamobius pallipes*	1092
			Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
			Limestone pavements	8240	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Bog woodland	91D0	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150	*Drepanocladus vernicosus*	1393
			Active raised bogs	7110	*Najas flexilis*	1833
			Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clavey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	6410		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260		
			Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	7220		
Lough Coy	Galway	002117	Turloughs	3180		
Lough Cutra	Galway				*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Lough Derg, North-East Shore	Tipperary / Galway	002241	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	91J0		
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
			Alkaline fens	7230		
			Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0		
			Limestone pavements	8240		
Lough Fingall Complex		000606	Limestone pavements	8240		
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210		
			Turloughs	3180		
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
Lough Gash Turlough	Clare	000051	Turloughs	3180		
Lough Hyne Nature Reserve And Environs	Cork	000097	Reefs	1170		
			Submerged or partly submerged sea caves	8330		
			Large shallow inlets and bays	1160		
Lough Yganavan And Lough Nambrackdarrig	Kerry	000370	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130	*Geomalacus maculosus*	1024
			Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	3110		
Loughatorick South Bog	Clare / Galway	000308	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
Lower River Shannon	Tipperary / Limerick / Kerry / Cork / Clare	002165	Estuaries	1130	*Lampetra fluviatilis*	1099
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140	*Lampetra planeri*	1096
			Coastal lagoons	1150	*Petromyzon marinus*	1095
			Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230	*Salmo salar*	1106
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410	*Tursiops truncatus*	1349
			Large shallow inlets and bays	1160	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	1110		
			Reefs	1170		
			Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clavey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	6410		
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Lower River Suir	Waterford / Tipperary / Kilkenny	002137	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330	*Petromyzon marinus*	1095
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410	*Lampetra planeri*	1096
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0	*Lampetra fluviatilis*	1099
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0	*Alosa fallax*	1103
			Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	6430	*Salmo salar*	1106
			Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	91J0	*Austropotamobius pallipes*	1092
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
Magharee Islands	Kerry	002261	Reefs	1170		
Maulagowna Bog	Kerry	001881	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
Moanour Mountain	Tipperary	002257	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	6230		
Moanveanlagh Bog	Kerry	002351	Active raised bogs	7110		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Moneen Mountain	Clare	000054	Limestone pavements	8240	*Euphydryas aurinia*	1065
			Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	7220	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
			Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae	6130		
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	5130		
			Turloughs	3180		
Mount Brandon	Kerry	000375	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea	3130	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
			Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8210	*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
			Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8220		
			Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230		
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
Moyree River System	Clare	000057	Limestone pavements	8240	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Alkaline fens	7230		
			Caves not open to the public	8310		
Mucksna Wood	Kerry	001371	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		
Mullaghanish Bog	Kerry / Cork	001890	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
Myross Wood	Cork	001070			*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
Newgrove House	Clare	002157			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Newhall And Edenvale Complex	Clare	002091	Caves not open to the public	8310	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Nier Valley Woodlands	Waterford	000668	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		
Old Domestic Building (Keevagh)	Clare	002010			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Old Domestic Building, Askive Wood	Kerry	002098			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Old Domestic Building, Curraglass Wood	Kerry	002041			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Old Domestic Building, Dromore Wood	Kerry	000353			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Old Domestic Buildings, Rylane	Clare	002314			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Old Farm Buildings, Ballymacrogan	Clare	002245			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Peterswell Turlough	Galway	000318	Turloughs	3180		
Philipston Marsh	Tipperary	001847	Transition mires and quaking bogs	7140		
Pollagoona Bog	Clare	002126	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
Pollnaknockaun Wood Nature Reserve	Galway	000319	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		
Pouladatig Cave	Clare	000037	Caves not open to the public	8310	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Poulnagordon Cave (Quin)	Clare	000064	Caves not open to the public	8310	*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Ratty River Cave	Clare	002316	Caves not open to the public	8310		
Raven Point Nature Reserve	Wexford	000710	Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Dunes with Salix repens ssp.argentea (Salix arenariae)	2170		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Humid dune slacks	2190		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
Redwood Bog	Tipperary	002353	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Active raised bogs	7110		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Reen Point Shingle	Cork	002281	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
Ridge Road, Sw Of Rapemills	Offaly	000919	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
River Barrow And River Nore	Wexford / Waterford / Tipperary / Laois / Kilkenny / Kildare / Carlow	002162	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0	*Petromyzon marinus*	1095
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0	*Lampetra planeri*	1096
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260	*Lampetra fluviatilis*	1099
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330	*Salmo salar*	1106
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410	*Austropotamobius pallipes*	1092
			European dry heaths	4030	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
			Estuaries	1130	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	7220	*Alosa fallax*	1103
			Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	6430	*Vertigo moulinsiana*	1016
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140	*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310	*Margaritifera durrovensis*	1990
River Shannon Callows	Tipperary / Galway	000216	Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	6510	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clavey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	6410		
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0		
			Limestone pavements	8240		
Roaringwater Bay And Islands	Cork	000101	Large shallow inlets and bays	1160	*Halichoerus grypus*	1364
			European dry heaths	4030	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Submerged or partly submerged sea caves	8330	*Phocoena phocoena*	1351
			Reefs	1170		
			Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
Rosturra Wood	Galway	001313	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		
Saltee Islands	Wexford	000707	Reefs	1170	*Halichoerus grypus*	1364
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Large shallow inlets and bays	1160		
			Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230		
			Submerged or partly submerged sea caves	8330		
Screen Hills	Wexford	000708	European dry heaths	4030		
			Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	3110		
Sharavogue Bog	Offaly	000585	Active raised bogs	7110		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Sheep's Head	Cork	000102	European dry heaths	4030	*Geomalacus maculosus*	1024
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
Sheheree (Ardagh) Bog	Kerry	000382	Active raised bogs	7110		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
Silvermine Mountains	Tipperary	000939	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	6230		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
Silvermines Mountains West	Tipperary	002258	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
			European dry heaths	4030		
Slaney River Valley	Wexford / Wicklow / Carlow	000781	Estuaries	1130	*Lampetra fluviatilis*	1099
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140	*Lampetra planeri*	1096
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260	*Petromyzon marinus*	1095
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0	*Salmo salar*	1106
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0	*Margaritifera margaritifera*	1029
					Lutra lutra	1355
					Phoca vitulina	1365
					Alosa fallax	1103
Slieve Bernagh Bog	Clare	002312	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
			Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
			European dry heaths	4030		
Slieve Bloom Mountains	Laois/ Offaly	000412	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0		
Slieve Mish Mountains	Kerry	002185	European dry heaths	4030	*Trichomanes speciosum*	1421
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8220		
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
Sonnagh Bog	Galway	001913	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130		
Spahill And Clomantagh Hill	Kilkenny	000849	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
St. Gobnet's Wood	Cork	000106	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		
Tacumshin Lake	Wexford	000709	Coastal lagoons	1150		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
Termon Lough	Clare / Galway	001321	Turloughs	3180		
The Gearagh	Cork	000108	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	3260		
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		
The Loughans	Kilkenny	000407	Turloughs	3180		
Thomastown Quarry	Kilkenny	002252	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	7220		
Three Castle Head To Mizen Head	Cork	000109	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts	1230		
			European dry heaths	4030		
Toonagh Estate	Clare	002247			*Rhinolophus hipposideros*	1303
Tory Hill	Limerick	000439	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites)	6210		
			Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	7210		
			Alkaline fens	7230		
Tralee Bay And Magharees Peninsula, West To Cloghane	Kerry	002070	Estuaries	1130	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140	*Petalophyllum ralfsii*	1395
			Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Humid dune slacks	2190		
			Dunes with Salix repens ssp.argentea (Salix arenariae)	2170		
			Large shallow inlets and bays	1160		
			Coastal lagoons	1150		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Reefs	1170		
			Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	91E0		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
			Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clavey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	6410		
Tramore Dunes And Backstrand	Waterford	000671	Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	1330		
			Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	1410		
			Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	2130		
			Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210		
			Embryonic shifting dunes	2110		
			Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	2120		
			Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Perennial vegetation of stony banks	1220		
			Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	1310		
Tullaher Lough And Bog	Clare	002343	Transition mires and quaking bogs	7140		
			Active raised bogs	7110		
			Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	7120		
			Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	7150		
Valencia Harbour/Portmagee Channel	Kerry	002262	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	1140		
			Large shallow inlets and bays	1160		
			Reefs	1170		
Wicklow Mountains	Dublin/ Wicklow	002122	Blanket bog (*active only)	7130	*Lutra lutra*	1355
			Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	4010		
			European dry heaths	4030		
			Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in British Isles	91A0		

Site Name	County	Site Code	Habitats Directive Annex I Habitats	Habitat Code	Habitats Directive Annex II Species	Species Code
			Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)	8110		
			Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	3160		
			Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea	3130		
			Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8220		
			Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	8210		
			Alpine and Boreal heaths	4060		
			Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)	6230		

Total=182

Southern Region SPAs

*Data from NPWS Statutary List of SPAs, accessed from www.npws.ie, on 17/07/2014

Site Name	County	Site Code	Qualifying Interests Annex I Species and Species Code
All Saints Bog SPA	Offaly	004103	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]
Ballyallia Lough SPA	Clare	004041	Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053]; Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056]; Coot (Fulica atra) [A125]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Ballycotton Bay SPA	Cork	004022	Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156] Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169]; Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182]; Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Ballymacoda Bay SPA	Cork	004023	Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182]; Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Ballyteigue Burrow SPA	Wexford	004020	Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]; Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Bannow Bay SPA	Wexford	004033	Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]; Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]; Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Beara Peninsula SPA	Cork	004155	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Blackwater Callows SPA	Cork / Waterford	004094	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Blackwater Estuary SPA	Cork / Waterford	004028	Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]

Site Name	County	Site Code	Qualifying Interests Annex I Species and Species Code
Blasket Islands SPA	Kerry	004008	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Manx Shearwater (Puffinus puffinus) [A013]; Storm Petrel (Hydrobates pelagicus) [A014]; Shag (Phalacrocorax aristotelis) [A018]; Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]; Herring Gull (Larus argentatus) [A184]; Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]; Arctic Tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194]; Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200]; Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Cahore Marshes SPA	Wexford	004143	Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Castlemaine Harbour SPA	Kerry	004029	Red-throated Diver (Gavia stellata) [A001]; Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053]; Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]; Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062]; Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065]; Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]; Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137]; Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164]; Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Cliffs of Moher SPA	Clare	004005	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]; Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]; Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200]; Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Clonakilty Bay SPA	Cork	004081	Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Connemara Bog Complex SPA	Galway	004181	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182]
Coole-Garryland SPA	Galway	004107	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]
Cork Harbour SPA	Cork	004030	Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004]; Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005]; Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Grey Heron (Ardea cinerea) [A028]; Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]; Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056]; Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069]; Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182]; Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]; Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Corofin Wetlands SPA	Clare	004220	Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004]; Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]

Site Name	County	Site Code	Qualifying Interests Annex I Species and Species Code
Courtmacsherry Bay SPA	Cork	004219	Great Northern Diver (Gavia immer) [A003]; Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Cregganna Marsh SPA	Galway	004142	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]
Deenish Island and Scariff Island SPA	Kerry	004175	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Manx Shearwater (Puffinus puffinus) [A013]; Storm Petrel (Hydrobates pelagicus) [A014]; Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]; Arctic Tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194]
Dingle Peninsula	Kerry	004153	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) [A103]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Dovegrove Callows SPA	Offaly	004137	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]
Dungarvan Harbour SPA	Waterford	004032	Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005]; Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]; Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069]; Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Eirk Bog SPA	Kerry	004108	Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]
Galley Head to Duneen Point SPA	Cork	004190	Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA	Waterford	004192	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) [A103]; Herring Gull (Larus argentatus) [A184]; Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Illaunonearaun SPA	Clare	004114	Barnacle Goose (Branta leucopsis) [A396]
Inner Galway Bay SPA	Clare	004031	Barnacle Goose (Branta leucopsis) [A396]
Iveragh Peninsula SPA	Kerry	004154	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) [A103]; Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]; Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Keeragh Islands SPA	Wexford	004118	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]
Kerry Head SPA	Kerry	004189	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Kilcolman Bog SPA	Cork	004095	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Killarney National Park	Kerry	004038	Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098]; Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]

Site Name	County	Site Code	Qualifying Interests Annex I Species and Species Code
Lady's Island Lake SPA	Wexford	004009	Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Sandwich Tern (Sterna sandvicensis) [A191]; Roseate Tern (Sterna dougallii) [A192]; Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193]; Arctic Tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Loop Head SPA	Clare	004119	Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]; Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]
Lough Cutra SPA	Galway	004056	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]
Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA	Clare / Tipperary / Galway	004058	Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061]; Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067]; Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193]; Wetlands and Waterbirds [A999]
Magharee Islands SPA	Kerry	004125	Storm Petrel (Hydrobates pelagicus) [A014]; Shag (Phalacrocorax aristotelis) [A018]; Common Gull (Larus canus) [A 182]; Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) [A193]; Arctic Tern (Sterna paradisaea) [A194]; Little Tern (Sterna albifrons) [A195]; Barnacle Goose (Branta leucopsis) [A396]
Mid-Clare Coast SPA	Clare	004182	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137]; Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]; Purple Sandpiper (Calidris maritima) [A148]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169]; Barnacle Goose (Branta leucopsis) [A396]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Mid-Waterford-Coast SPA	Waterford	004193	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) [A103]; Herring Gull (Larus argentatus) [A184]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Middle Shannon Callows SPA	Tipperary / Galway	004096	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Corncrake (Crex crex) [A122]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA	Cork	004162	Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]
Old Head of Kinsale SPA	Cork	004021	Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]; Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]
Puffin Island SPA	Kerry	004003	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Manx Shearwater (Puffinus puffinus) [A013]; Storm Petrel (Hydrobates pelagicus) [A014]; Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]; Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200]; Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]
River Little Brosna Callows SPA	Tipperary / Offaly	004086	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]; Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
River Nore SPA	Laois / Kilkenny	004233	Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) [A229]

Site Name	County	Site Code	Qualifying Interests Annex I Species and Species Code
River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA	Clare / Kerry / Limerick	004077	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]; Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]; Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056]; Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062]; Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) [A164]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
River Suck Callows SPA	Galway/ Roscommon	004097	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Saltee Islands SPA	Wexford	004002	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Gannet (Morus bassanus) [A016]; Shag (Phalacrocorax aristotelis) [A018]; Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]; Guillemot; Uria aalge) [A199]; Razorbill (Alca torda) [A200]; Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]
Seven Heads SPA	Cork	004191	Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Sheep's Head to Toe Head SPA	Cork	004156	Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) [A103]; Chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax) [A346]
Skelligs SPA	Kerry	004007	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis) [A009]; Manx Shearwater (Puffinus puffinus) [A013]; Storm Petrel (Hydrobates pelagicus) [A014]; Gannet (Morus bassanus) [A016]; Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla) [A188]; Guillemot (Uria aalge) [A199]; Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]
Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA	Clare / Galway	004168	Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]; Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098]
Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA	Laois/ Offaly	004160	Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]
Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA	Limerick /Tipperary	004165	Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]
Sovereign Islands SPA	Cork	004124	Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]
Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA	Kerry / Limerick / Cork	004161	Hen Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) [A082]
Tacumshin Lake SPA	Wexford	004092	Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004]; Bewick's Swan (Cygnus columbianus) [A037]; Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]; Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056]; Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061]; Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]; Coot (Fulica atra) [A125]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
The Bull and the Cow Rocks SPA	Cork	004066	Storm Petrel (Hydrobates pelagicus) [A014]; Gannet (Morus bassanus) [A016]; Puffin (Fratercula arctica) [A204]
The Gearagh SPA	Cork	004109	Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)[A053]; Coot (Fulica atra) [A125]; Wetlands [A999]

Site Name	County	Site Code	Qualifying Interests Annex I Species and Species Code
The Raven SPA	Wexford	004019	Red-throated Diver (Gavia stellata) [A001]; Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]; Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Tralee Bay Complex SPA	Kerry	004188	Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]; Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053]; Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]; Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062]; Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]; Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) [A137]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) [A169]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Common Gull (Larus canus) [A182]; Wetlands [A999]
Tramore Back Strand SPA	Waterford	004027	Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Wexford Harbour and Slobs SPA	Wexford	004076	Little Grebe (Tachybaptus ruficollis) [A004]; Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus) [A005]; Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) [A017]; Grey Heron (Ardea cinerea) [A028]; Bewick's Swan (Cygnus columbianus) [A037]; Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) [A038]; Light-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla hrota) [A046]; Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) [A048]; Wigeon (Anas penelope) [A050]; Teal (Anas crecca) [A052]; Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) [A053]; Pintail (Anas acuta) [A054]; Scaup (Aythya marila) [A062]; Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) [A067]; Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator) [A069]; Hen Harrier (Circus cyaneus) [A082]; Coot (Fulica atra) [A125]; Oystercatcher (Haematopus ostralegus) [A130]; Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) [A140]; Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) [A141]; Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) [A142]; Knot (Calidris canutus) [A143]; Sanderling (Calidris alba) [A144]; Dunlin (Calidris alpina) [A149]; Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) [A156]; Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica) [A157]; Curlew (Numenius arquata) [A160]; Redshank (Tringa totanus) [A162]; Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus) [A179]; Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) [A183]; Little Tern (Sterna albifrons) [A195]; Greenland White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons flavirostris) [A395]; Wetlands & Waterbirds [A999]
Wicklow Mountains SPA	Dublin/ Wicklow	004040	Merlin (Falco columbarius) [A098]; Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) [A103]

Total=66

APPENDIX B

SCREENING OF AMENDMENTS TO STARTEGIC OBJECTIVES,

POLICIES AND POLICY ACTIONS

SCREENING OF SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS RESULTING FROM PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT PLAN

The draft regional waste management plan (RWMP) and accompanying Environmental Reports and NIR were put on public display from 18/11/14 to 30/01/15. All submissions received were reviewed and amendments to the draft RWMP have been proposed. This document has been prepared to screen the proposed changes to the draft RWMP for potential significant environmental effects in accordance with both the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) and the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) as transposed into Irish law.

The text in black is the text as contained in the draft RWMP and is not changing. The text highlighted in yellow is proposed as amending/new text to the draft plan. ~~Strike through~~ text is proposed for deletion. Responses with regard to the environmental consequences of the changes are shown in *italics* in column 3 of the assessment tables.

CHANGES TO OVERALL PERFORMANCE TARGETS (CHAPTER 5)

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA/AA Screening
Target 2	Wording from draft plan was – Preparing for Reuse and Recycling Rate of 50% of Municipal Waste by 2020. Revised to Achieve a recycling rate of 50% of managed municipal waste by 2020.	*The proposed amendment represents a clarification on the proposed target. It is anticipated that this change will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Target 3	Plan target wording remains the same, new footnote has been added as follows: Unprocessed residual municipal waste is residual waste collected at kerbside or deposited at landfills/CA sites/transfer stations that has not undergone a mechanical sort.	*The proposed amendment represents a clarification. It is anticipated that this change will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*

CHANGES TO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES (CHAPTER 5)

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA/AA Screening
Protection	Apply the relevant environmental and planning legislation to waste activities in order to protect ~~and reduce impacts on~~ the environment, in particular ~~Natura 2000~~ European Sites and human health ~~from the adverse impact~~ against adverse impacts of waste generated.	*The proposed amendment represents a clarification. It is anticipated that this change will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*

PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY CHANGES (CHAPTER 16)

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
E1	Alter E1 as follows: Future authorisations by the local authorities, the EPA and An Bord Pleanála of pre-treatment capacity must take account of the authorised and available capacity in the market while being satisfied the type of processing activity being proposed meets the requirements of policy E2. ~~prior to making decisions on additional capacity while being satisfied the type of processing activity being proposed~~	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E2	The future authorisation of pre-treatment activities by local authorities over the plan period will be contingent on the operator demonstrating that the treatment is necessary and the proposed activities will improve the quality and add value to the output materials generated at the site.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E3B	The plan supports the development by the private sector of public bring infrastructure (e.g. civic amenity facilities, bring banks) subject to appropriate statutory approvals and in line with appropriate environmental protection criteria.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E6	The local authorities ~~will~~ may require waste developers seeking a waste facility permit to develop a Class 10 waste treatment activity, as defined by the Third Schedule: Part I of the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007 (as amended), to provide bring facilities for the acceptance of non-hazardous ~~and hazardous~~ wastes from members of the public and businesses.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E8	The waste plan supports the development of disposal capacity for the treatment of hazardous ~~and non-recoverable~~ wastes at existing landfill facilities in the region subject to the appropriate statutory approvals being granted ~~approved~~ in line with the appropriate environmental protection ~~siting~~ criteria.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report. The requirement to remain in line with environmental protection criteria is noted.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E9a	Split E9 into two sub-actions as follows: E9A: ~~The local authorities anticipate disposal capacity for non-hazardous processed municipal residual wastes will be required over the plan period but there is no need for additional disposal facilities to be brought on stream during the plan period~~. The on-going availability of disposal facilities for non-hazardous municipal residual wastes	*The proposed amendment represents a clarification. It is anticipated that this change will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
	in the region will be required during the plan period. The local authorities consider there is no need to provide additional disposal facilities for residual wastes over and above the existing authorised (i.e. operational, inactive or uncommenced) facilities in place.	
E9b	E9B: New The waste plan supports the need for on-going disposal capacity to be developed for on-site generated non-hazardous/hazardous industrial waste over the plan period.	*The proposed amendment represents a clarification on E9a in relation to* industries who dispose of process wastes on-site. *The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E10	The waste plan recognises the need for on-going disposal capacity to be available in response to events which pose a risk to the environment and/or health of humans and livestock. The local authorities of each region will monitor available contingent capacity annually.	*The proposed amendment represents a further clarification on E9a. The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E11	Add the following text to E11: The plan supports the consideration of appropriate alternative future land ~~future land~~ uses ~~consideration of all~~ at authorised inactive landfills (un-commenced, permanently closed, or temporarily closed) ~~permanently or temporarily closed landfills and landfills not yet opened with the potential to develop alternative activities~~ subject to amendments to existing approvals being put in place. Any development proposals shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive to ensure protection and preservation of the Natura 2000 Network. Revised wording for last bullet: • Waste treatment activities including pre-treatment, thermal recovery, biological treatment, reprocessing or preparing for reuse; • On-site temporary storage of waste and materials; • Co-location of utility services such as wind farms or other energy generating activities; • Development of public and recreational amenities; • Co-locating recycling/reuse waste enterprises on site;	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report. The requirement for a feasibility study in relation to this policy is still a feature of the plan and will be supported by the environmental protection criteria included at Section 16.5 of the plan.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
	• Resource mining; and • Contingency capacity for crisis events such as risks to the environment and to the health of humans and livestock.	
E13	Reword E13 to state: Future Authorisations by the local authorities, the EPA and An Bord Pleanála must take account of the scale and availability of existing back filling capacity.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on Natura 2000 sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E14	No change but are seeking advice on whether large scale remediation sites should be replaced with large scale restoration sites. This change has been agreed.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E15a	The waste plan supports the development of up to 300,000 tonnes of additional thermal recovery capacity of non-hazardous wastes nationally to ensure there is adequate active and competitive treatment in the market and the State's self-sufficiency requirements for the recovery of municipal waste are met. This capacity is a national treatment need and is not specific to the region ~~SR~~. The extent of capacity determined reflects the predicted needs of the residual waste market to 2030 at the time of preparing the waste plan. Authorisation above this threshold will only be granted ~~accepted~~ if the applicant ~~demonstrates a~~ justifies ~~able~~ and verifies ~~able~~ the need for the capacity ~~which~~ and the authorities are satisfied it complies with ~~in line with~~ national and regional waste policies and does not pose ~~no~~ a risk to future recycling targets**.** All proposed sites for thermal recovery must comply with the siting criteria set out in the plan.	*The proposed amendment represents more transparent guidance for proposals exceeding the predicted need for 300,000 tonnes of additional capacity to 2030.* *The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.*
E15B **New policy (wasn't in the draft)**	The waste plan supports the need for thermal recovery capacity to be developed specifically for the on-site treatment of industrial process wastes and where justifiable the treatment of such wastes at merchant thermal recovery facilities.	*The proposed amendment represents a clarification on E15a in relation to* specifically on-site treatment of industrial processes which may require capacity. *The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E16	The waste plan supports the development of up to 50,000 tonnes of additional thermal	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
	recovery capacity for the treatment of hazardous wastes nationally to ensure there is adequate active and competitive treatment in the market to facilitate self-sufficiency needs where it is technically, economically and environmentally feasible. This capacity is a national treatment need and is not specific to the region. All proposed sites for thermal recovery must comply with the ~~siting~~ environmental protection criteria set out in the plan.	*Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E17	The waste plan supports the development in the region of at least 40,000 tonnes of additional biological treatment capacity for the treatment of bio-wastes (food waste and green waste) primarily from the region to ensure there is adequate active and competitive treatment in the market. The development of such treatment facilities needs to comply with the relevant environmental protection ~~siting~~ criteria in the plan.	*The proposed amendment seeks to place a lower limit on additional capacity in terms of treatment of bio-wastes (food waste and green waste). As noted in the environmental report, it is anticipated that emissions from any such facilities will be controlled as part of the licensing regime for such a facility therefore significant negative impacts are not expected, subject to appropriate siting of facilities in the first instance. The environmental protection criteria will be important in avoiding impacts.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E18	The waste plan supports the development of biological treatment capacity in the region, in particular anaerobic digestion, to primarily treat suitable agri-wastes and other organic wastes including industrial organic waste. The development of such treatment facilities needs to comply with the relevant environmental protection ~~siting~~ criteria in the plan.	*As noted in the environmental report, overall biological treatment is considered to have a positive impact as it reduces the amount of waste requiring thermal treatment and/or disposal. In addition material recovery can result in a clean end product with low contamination levels, which can be used as a soil conditioner. The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E19	The waste plan supports the development of indigenous reprocessing and recycling capacity for the treatment of non-hazardous and hazardous wastes where technically, economically and environmentally practicable. The relevant environmental protection criteria for the planning and development of such activities need to be applied.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E21	The local authorities will review the approach to authorising waste treatment facilities requiring a waste facility permit or certificate of registration having regard to the need to achieve consistency of approach ~~The focus~~	*The proposed amendment represents more transparent guidance on the objective of the measure. The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
	~~will be on improving correlation~~ between planning approval and operational capacity.	*in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E22	Split E22 into two sub-actions as follows: E22A: The plan supports the primacy of kerbside source segregated collection of household and commercial waste as the best method to ensure the quality of waste presented.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E22	E22B: The plan also supports the use of authorised civic amenity facilities and bring centres as part of the integrated collection system.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E24	The plan supports the appropriate management of international catering waste ~~ICW~~ under the Animal By-products Regulations (EC) No. 1069/2009.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
E25	The plan supports the improvement of existing PRIs and the development of new PRIs or similar industry~~ial~~/voluntary schemes for specific waste streams including but not limited to human and farm chemicals and medicines, paints, newspapers and magazines and bulky waste.	*The proposed amendment broadens the proposal to include a wider scope in terms of sectors which can become involved in PRI and similar schemes. Such schemes have an overall positive impact. The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*

CHANGES TO POLICY ACTIONS (CHAPTER 19)

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
Section 19.2, Policy Action A.1.1	Revise text of actions as follows: Move waste further up the hierarchy by eliminating the direct disposal of unprocessed residual municipal waste to landfill (footnote reference ECJ 323/13)	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.2, Policy Action A.3.1	Add text to target: Prepare annual report and disseminate information.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.2, Policy Action A.4.1	Establish, ~~and~~ maintain and publish capacity database	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.3, Policy Action B.1.1	Appoint, where the role does not exist, or retain the role of the local authority Environmental Awareness Officers (EAOs) on a whole time equivalent basis to work on activities including the implementation of the waste plan on a local and regional basis.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.3, Policy Action B.1.2	Original action deleted as it is covered under action D.2.2	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.3, Policy Action B.1.3	Ensure an on-going financial allocation is made in the local authority annual budgets to cover expenditure on waste prevention related activities over and above staff costs and any grant aid. Also alter target as follows: A minimum of €0.15/inhabitant to be spent on local prevention projects and to be reviewed annually.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.3, Policy Action B.2.3	Maintain the implementation of effective local prevention, awareness and education campaigns targeting households, communities, schools and businesses (deleted previous text in brackets which was "such as green schools, home composting programmes, green business initiatives, reuse cafes etc")	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
	New target wording: Improve waste management practices through behavioural change	
Section 19.3, Policy Action B.2.4	Targets Reduce the quantity of waste generated at local authority head office by 10% over the baseline year (2015) during the plan period Indicator % reduction over baseline year and/or % reduction per employee	*The proposed amendment is a minor clarification and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.3, Policy Action B.3.2	Target Engage with the EPA at least 3 times per annum on prevention issues	*The proposed amendment provides clarity in relation to the expectation for engagement and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.3, Policy B4	Harmonise prevention activities in the region to link with the national hazardous management plan, producer responsibility ~~operations~~ operators and other related programmes (such as litter, sludge, water, etc.).	*The proposed amendment is a minor wording revision and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.3, Policy Action B.4.2	Alter Lead authority entry as follows: EPA, Irish Water, DECLG, Local Authorities, ~~Compliance Schemes~~ PROs	*The proposed amendment is a minor wording revision and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.4, Policy Action C.1.2.	~~Review the operation of CAS sites to facilitate the segregation of materials for reuse at local authority controlled civic amenity sites (WEEE will be considered subject to discussion and agreement with the compliance schemes)~~. Review and amend (where appropriate) existing and/or condition the award of new local authority CA site contracts to facilitate the segregation of materials for reuse/preparing for reuse by social enterprises and similar organisations Target Reuse/preparing for reuse of up to 10% of non-residual waste at local authority CA sites Indicator Tonnage reused/prepared for reuse per local authority CA	*The proposed amendment provides greater clarity on the intention of the policy action. The intention is to support reuse/preparing for reuse by social enterprises and similar organisations and is considered to be overall positive. The proposed amendment is a minor wording revision and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
Section 19.4, Policy Action C.2.1	~~Review/Introduce by-laws, consistent across the region, to address the quantity and quality of recyclable waste collected and amend/replace/introduce new if appropriate.~~ Review/Introduce presentation of waste by-laws, across the region, to maximise the quantity and quality of recyclable waste collected and amend/replace/introduce new if appropriate Alter target entry as follows: Review Existing by-laws Alter Indicator entry as follows: Number of by-laws reviewed/introduced	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.4, Policy Action C.2.2	Target To produce the code of practice in consultation with the EPA	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.4, Policy Action C.4.2	Implement a systematic engagement with local/regional local authority procurement officers and the Office of Government Procurement (OGP) to ensure the inclusion of resource efficiency criteria in contracts. Targets To meet with local/regional procurement officers and relevant staff of the OGP Expected Timeline: Annually from ~~form~~ January 2016 onwards Indicator Number of meetings with procurement officers/staff of OGP	*The proposed amendment includes minor clarifications within the text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.4 New policy C5	Work with and through business support agencies and the National Waste Prevention Programme to encourage businesses and industry to implement resource efficiency principles including the use of clean technologies and preventing waste at source.	*This new policy action will have overall positive impacts for the environment as less materials will be required for production and processing and less waste will be generated for treatment and disposal. In addition, over the life cycle of products there will be lower emissions to air and water resulting from processing and disposal.*
Section 19.4 New policy action C.5.1	Encourage SMEs (including micro-enterprises) and industry to realise the environmental and economic benefits of resource efficiency.	*Similar to above, this new policy action will have overall positive impacts for the environment by encouraging a more resource efficient society in line with EU and Irish policy.*
Section 19.5 Policy Action D.2.1	Establish and/or maintain funded regional waste management office and the requisite structures (including administrative, technical & communication) to implement national and regional policy.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
		proposed amendment.
Section 19.5 Policy Action D.2.2	Change to target Ensure roles are in place or maintained.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.5 Policy D.3	Foster links and activities with relevant stakeholders including businesses and industry groups, NGOs, and other relevant networks (including cross-border~~ing~~ networks) to extend the reach of the plan.	*The proposed amendment represents a minor clarification to text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.5 Policy Action D.3.1	Change to indicator Number of partnerships and networks established, research & pilot projects undertaken Change to responsibility **Lead Authority**, local authorities, EPA, DECLG & all relevant network partners and stakeholders.	*The proposed amendment represents a minor clarification to text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.7, New Policy Action F.1.4	Add new policy action as follows: Allocate resources to monitor the schedule for roll out of brown bins to households in accordance with the European Union (Household Food Waste and Bio-waste) Regulations, 2013. Target: To engage with the waste industry and NWCPO to provide the requisite data to monitor adherence to the time schedule as per the regulations. Expected timeline: Timeline as per the regulations. Indicator: % of households served in scheduled agglomeration. Responsibilities: Local authorities, Lead Authority for waste enforcement and NWCPO.	*The policy relating to monitoring the schedule of roll out of brown bins involves a coordinated system for delivery of this stream of waste management. The policy will ensure continued focus on brown bin roll out. The continued rollout of the brown bin collection scheme to households will be a positive in terms of diverting waste from landfill and increasing the rate of composting. This will have knock-on positive impacts on the environment, particularly in relation to reducing emissions to air, soil, surface waters and groundwaters.* *The proposed amendment represents a minor clarification to text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.7, Policy Action F.2.1	Prepare a regional RMCEI plan to prioritise enforcement actions and activities across the region taking account of the national enforcement priorities laid down by the EPA, DECLG & ~~Compliance Schemes~~ Producer Responsibility Operators Responsibilities: Local authorities; Lead	*The proposed amendment represents a minor clarification to text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
	Authority for waste enforcement ~~Compliance Schemes~~	
Section 19.7, Policy Action F.2.2	Add new policy action as follows: Work in partnership with the compliance schemes and other bodies to address on-going regulatory obligations Target: To identify on-going issues Expected Timeline: On-going Indicator: No of meetings held Responsibilities: Local authorities; Lead Authority for waste enforcement, Compliance Schemes.	*This Policy Action would lead to a smarter coordinated waste enforcement system that is better equipped to promote and actively ensure compliance with regulatory obligations. The proposed amendment is broadly positive and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.7, Policy Action F.2.3	Maintain high level of site inspections of ~~all~~ existing local authority waste authorisations and ensure that these are reflected in the RMCEI. Responsibility: **Lead Authority** local authorities; Lead Authority for waste enforcement.	*The proposed amendment represents a clarification on the action and associated responsibility and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.7, Policy Action F.2.4	Add new policy action as follows: Audit waste arisings from non-household waste premises (commercial and similar premises) to determine compliance with relevant regulations including commercial food waste regulations as reflected in the RMCEI. Target: To increase the level of annual inspections. Expected Timeline: Ongoing. Indicator: No. of inspections. Responsibilities: Local authorities; Lead Authority for waste enforcement.	*This Policy Action will directly inform understanding of baseline conditions which will inform ongoing policy decisions. This is considered a broadly positive action. The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.7, Policy Action F.3.1	Alter Responsibility entry as follows: Local authorities; Lead Authority for waste enforcement.	*The proposed amendment represents a minor clarification to text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.7, Policy Action F.3.2	Target (minor edit) Increased investigation and prevention of unauthorised waste activities Expected timeline (minor edit) Annually Alter Responsibility entry as follows: Local Authorities; Lead Authority for waste	*The proposed amendment represents a minor clarification to text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
	enforcement	
Section 19.7, Policy Action F.3.3	Prepare action plan (subject to AA screening) to deal with the prevention and management of waste from significant unauthorised activities and waste arisings from other criminal activities. Co-ordination required between the regions. Target Prevent and address unauthorised activities in the region Expected Timeline Annually Indicator Prepare and publish the action plan	*The proposed amendment includes reference to significant unauthorised activities however there is no indication of how significance will be ascertained. It is recommended that clarity is provided on this going forward however, the change will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.8, Policy Action G.2.1	Each region is to rank the class A high risk historic unregulated landfill sites (1977 – 1996) ~~and pre-historic unregulated landfill sites (pre-1977).~~	*It is noted that this change now excludes reference to prehistoric unregulated landfill sites (pre-1977). The amended wording now more strictly represents the scope governed by EU waste legislation which post-dates 1977. This however is not to say that pre-1977 sites will not continue to be addressed by the relevant local authorities. Under Section 76 of the EPA Act, the EPA in 2007 published a Code of Practice: Environmental Risk Assessment for Unregulated Waste Disposal Sites. This code states:* *Landfill sites operated and closed prior to 1977 are outside the general scope of this document as the Waste Framework Directive only came into force in July 1977. However, if landfill sites operated prior to 1977 are identified during the application of the Identification Methodology and it is considered that they may pose a risk to the environment or human health then the risk screening process should be applied in line with the precautionary principle and in the interest of environmental protection.* *Given this obligation is included in the statutory code of practice it can be concluded that this amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.8, Policy Action G.2.3	Alter Indicator entry as follows: Number of applications submitted	*The proposed amendment represents a minor clarification to text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
		Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.
Section 19.8, Policy Action G.3.1	Prepare siting guidelines for waste facilities and review general environmental protection ~~siting~~ criteria as set down in the waste plan	*The proposed amendment represents a minor clarification to text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.8, Policy Action G.3.2	The following action was in the draft and has been replaced: ~~Action~~ ~~Prepare an environmental checklist for planning to aid decision making.~~ ~~Target~~ ~~Complete the checklist~~ ~~Timeline~~ ~~End of 2015~~ ~~N/A~~ ~~End of 2015~~ ~~Responsibility~~ ~~Lead authority, local authorities, DECLG, An Bord Pleanála, EPA~~ ~~New G.3.2~~ Action – Undertake a risk assessment of all waste disposal sites in coastal and estuarine areas to identify those at risk from coastal erosion in the short, medium and long terms Targets – To ensure climate proofing measures are implemented at sites identified as being of high risk to prevent impacts on the environment Expected timeline – Lifetime of the plan Indicator – n/a Responsibility – Lead authority, local authorities, DECLG, An Bord Pleanála, EPA	*The addition of this policy action will result in direct positive impacts in relation to all environmental receptors. The action is acknowledging the need to include climate proofing of waste management activities with this action focusing on historical disposal scenarios which could lead to further environmental damage as a result of exposure from erosion in the future.*
Section 19.8, Policy Action G.4.1	Expected timeline (minor) End ~~2015~~ 2016	*The proposed amendment represents a minor clarification to text and will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.8, Policy Action G.4.2	Design and implement a programme to regulate, enforce and communicate in areas with low collection coverage, including the negative health and environmental impacts of burning/illegal dumping.	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
		proposed amendment.
Section 19.8, Policy Action G.4.3	Engage with authorised waste collectors to design solutions~~, such as public drop off areas~~ to serve communities/areas of low collection coverage and implement the solutions Indicator Number of households with a kerbside collection service, Quantity of unmanaged waste ~~Tonnage of waste collected from public drop off points~~	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.8 New policy G.5	Ensure that the implementation of the regional waste management plan does not prevent achievement of the conservation objectives of sites afforded protection under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives.	*This objective has been added to strengthen the commitment already in the plan in relation to protection of the Natura 2000 Network. This will result in overall positive impacts for biodiversity, flora and fauna, soils and water. Indirect benefits will also be achieved for landscape, population and human health.*
Section 19.7 New policy action G.5.1	*As part of the statutory review process under the relevant waste regulations, the local authorities will examine relevant waste authorisations requiring local authority consent to determine if AA screening is required.* *In addition the local authorities will prioritise reviews of authorisations for AA screening, in advance of any scheduled review, based on the proximity to or potential pathway of the permit holder to European sites.* *Target* *To ensure all existing development consents relating to waste activities and infrastructure have been screened for AA and ensure NIS is provided by the applicant/operator where considered appropriate.* *Timeline* *Ongoing* *Indicator* *% of AA Screening completed* *Responsibility* *For AA Screening: Local authorities; Lead Authority for waste enforcement, applicant/operator* *For NIS: Applicant/Operator*	*This objective has been added to strengthen the commitment in the plan in relation to protection of the Natura 2000 Network. This will result in overall positive impacts for biodiversity, flora and fauna, soils and water. Indirect benefits will also be achieved for landscape, population and human health. It is noted that the outcome of AA screenings for existing activities may result in negative impacts in relation to material assets.*
Section 19.8,	Investigate the opportunity to establish and expand management schemes for particular	*The proposed amendment provides further clarity on the scope of the action. The*

RWMP Reference	Proposed Change	SEA / AA Screening
H.2 Policy	Hazardous and Non-Hazardous waste streams including (but not limited to) paints, medicines, mattresses, other bulky wastes, agricultural and horticultural chemicals and waste oils (where technically, environmentally, and economically practicable).	*proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.8, Policy Action H.2.2	Examine the possibility of expanding existing reuse schemes in place throughout the region ~~for bulky or hazardous waste streams (such as mattresses and paints)~~	*The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*
Section 19.8, Policy Action H.3.2	Ensure that all local authority waste management websites provide up to date information on locations for the collection of hazardous wastes for ~~both~~ households,, farms and small businesses	*The inclusion of farms in this education and awareness initiative is considered positive. The proposed amendment will not result in any changes to assessment included in the Environmental Report.* *No significant negative impacts on European Sites are anticipated as a result of this proposed amendment.*