

AA SCREENING FORM (v.26Nov18)

Application Reference No.: AFA 748	Project type: This project comprises 118.9ha aerial fertilisation .
Applicant: Coillte Teo	Site location (townland, county): Boggaghbaun, Boggaghduff, Monard, Co Waterford.

Q.1 Do any of the following scenarios apply?	
<p>A. Project area overlaps a Natura site.</p> <p>B. Project area is 3 km or less from a Natura site (regardless of hydrological connection).</p> <p>C. Project area overlaps a FPM catchment (as per draft Forests & FPM Plan).</p> <p>D. None of the above apply, but the possibility of a significant effect on a Natura site cannot be ruled out, due to certain factors.</p> <p><i>For 1B, use the measuring tool on iFORIS MapViewer, & not the 3 km referral buffer layer.</i></p> <p><i>1A – 1C represent the 'likely zones of impact' for forestry projects. 1D allows projects to continue to Q.2, even if outside of these zones.</i></p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>If 'Yes' for <u>any</u> of these scenarios, go to Q.2.</i></p> <p><i>Otherwise, go to CONCLUSION section & complete AA Screening Conclusion 1.</i></p>

Q.2 Following Q.1, the possibility of a significant effect on a Natura site cannot be eliminated. Identify the relevant Natura site & specify which scenario(s) applies. If two or more Natura sites apply, complete a separate row for each.

Natura site name & code	Project area overlaps this Natura site	Project area 3 km or less from this Natura site (regardless of hydrological connectivity)	Project area overlaps a FPM catchment (as per draft Forests & FPM Plan)	None of these scenarios apply, but the possibility of a significant effect on this Natura site can't be ruled out, due to certain factors outlined below.
Blackwater R. (Cork/WD) SAC2170	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If 'Yes', describe:
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If 'Yes', describe:
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If 'Yes', describe:

Q.3 I have reviewed the qualifying interests & conservation objectives of each Natura site listed under Q.2.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <i>If 'No', review before proceeding.</i>
--	--

Q.4 I have reviewed & considered all referral responses & submissions received in relation to this project. <i>Do not complete AA Screening if any consultation process is still ongoing.</i> <i>A recommendation by NPWS to undertake Appropriate Assessment should be enacted, unless there are compelling reasons not to.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <i>If 'No', review before proceeding.</i>
--	--

Q.5 There is sufficient information in the application & available from elsewhere to complete this AA Screening.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>If 'No', seek further information, where that missing information is typically sought. However, if 'above-and-beyond', select Conclusion 3 & request information through an NIS.</i>
--	--

Q.6 Is there a SAC (or SACs) listed under Q.2?	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes × No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If 'Yes', answer Q.6A to 6C, before going to Q.7. If 'No', go to Q.7.</i></p>
<p><i>In responding to Q.6A to 6C, consider:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>the nature, size & location of the project (including associated operations & ancillary works);</i> ➤ <i>potential negative consequences, both immediate & into the future;</i> ➤ <i>potential pathways;</i> ➤ <i>the sensitivity of the ecological receptors (i.e. the qualifying interests & associated conservation objectives); &</i> ➤ <i>possible in-combination effects with other existing plans & projects.</i> <p><i>However, exclude from your consideration, any safeguards within the project that are 'above-and-beyond' what is set out in published Forest Service guidelines, requirements & procedures, <u>and</u> any specific measures that you might otherwise attach to any recommendation to 'Approve with Conditions'.</i></p> <p><i>See accompanying AA Screening SOP, dated 26th Nov. 2018.</i></p>	
6A Could this project have a significant effect on any <u>TERRESTRIAL HABITAT</u> listed as a qualifying interest of any of these SACs?	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown ×</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If 'Yes' or 'Unknown', an Appropriate Assessment is required.</i></p>
6B Could this project have project have a significant effect on any <u>TERRESTRIAL SPECIES</u> listed as a qualifying interest of any of these SACs?	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown ×</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If 'Yes' or 'Unknown', an Appropriate Assessment is required.</i></p>
6C Could this project have a significant effect on any <u>AQUATIC HABITAT</u> or <u>AQUATIC SPECIES</u> listed as a qualifying interest of any of these SACs?	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes × No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If 'Yes' or 'Unknown', an Appropriate Assessment is required.</i></p>

<p>Q.7 Is there a SPA or (SPAs) listed under Q.2?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If 'Yes', answer Q.7A to 7C. Then go to the 'Project Overview' box in the CONCLUSION section.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If 'No', go to the 'Project Overview' box in the CONCLUSION section.</i></p>
<p><i>In responding to Q.7A to 7C, consider:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>➤ the nature, size & location of the project (including associated operations & ancillary works);</i> <i>➤ potential negative consequences, both immediate & into the future;</i> <i>➤ potential pathways;</i> <i>➤ the sensitivity of the ecological receptors (i.e. the qualifying interests & associated conservation objectives); &</i> <i>➤ possible in-combination effects with other existing plans & projects.</i> <p><i>However, exclude from your consideration, any safeguards within the project that are 'above-and-beyond' what is set out in published Forest Service guidelines, requirements & procedures, <u>and</u> any specific measures that you might otherwise attach to any recommendation to 'Approve with Conditions'.</i></p> <p><i>See accompanying AA Screening SOP, dated 26th Nov. 2018.</i></p>	
<p>7A Could this project have a significant effect on any breeding population listed as a qualifying interest of any of these SPAs?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If 'Yes' or 'Unknown', an Appropriate Assessment is required, EXCEPT IF 'Yes' for Hen Harrier, in which case, apply Disturbance Operations Procedures in Appendix 21 of the Forestry Standards Manual. Note, do not approve afforestation within Hen Harrier SPAs, pending the outcome of the Threat Response Plan process.</i></p>
<p>7B Could this project have a significant effect on any wintering population listed as a qualifying interest of any of these SPAs?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If 'Yes' or 'Unknown', an Appropriate Assessment is required.</i></p>
<p>7C Could this project have a significant effect on any Wetland and Waterbirds listed as a qualifying interest of any of these SPAs?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If 'Yes' or 'Unknown', an Appropriate Assessment is required.</i></p>

AA SCREENING CONCLUSION

Project overview

This project comprises 118.9ha of aerial fertilisation.

The soil type underlining the project area is mainly peaty podzols / blanket bog. The slope is mainly flat to moderate (<15%).

The project area is crossed by / adjoins several aquatic zones.

The vegetation type(s) within the project area comprise (non-performing) thicket to semi-mature coniferous plantation

[SCREENING Conclusion 3 Project cannot be screened out in relation to a specific Natura site, therefore AA required]

In relation to Blackwater River (Cork/WD) SAC2170), the project area:

- is 3 km or less from this Natura site

Having considered:

- the nature, size & location of the project (including associated operations & ancillary works),
- potential negative consequences, both immediate & into the future,
- potential pathways,
- the sensitivity of the ecological receptors (i.e. the qualifying interests & associated conservation objectives, as reviewed) &
- possible in-combination effects with other existing plans & projects,

I deem that there is a possibility that this project will have a significant effect on this NATURA site, due to the following factors:

- direct hydrological connectivity, nutrient enrichment of receiving waters,
- poor fertiliser absorption rates of predominantly peat soils

(In considering the above, I have excluded any safeguards within the project that are 'above-and-beyond' those set out in published Forest Service guidelines, requirements & procedures, and any specific measures that might otherwise be attached to any recommendation to 'Approve with Conditions'.)

Therefore, this project must proceed to Appropriate Assessment in relation to this NATURA site, and a Natura Impact Statement must now be sought.

In relation to this Natura site, this determination represents **SCREENING Conclusion 3**.

Forestry Inspector details

Name: Robert Hamilton

Date of completion of this AA Screening Form: 18/11/19

Signature: Robert Hamilton

