

Title:	Blue Dot Catchments Programme Steering Group Meeting No. 17		
Document No.	2024_01_18_Mn0017_Blue_Dot_Steering_Group		
Location:	Online		
Date:	18 th January 2024	10.00am to 11:30am	
Prepared By:	Paul O’Callaghan, LAWPRO		
Attendees:	Chair: Anne Goggin, Waters of Life IP LAWPRO: Anthony Coleman, Director of LAWPRO; Bernie White, Regional Coordinator & Blue Dot Catchments Programme Manager; Paul O’Callaghan, Blue Dot Executive Scientist; Cormac McConigley, Western Catchments Manager; Máiréad Whitty, Water EIP Lead; Fran Igoe, Regional Coordinator. Coillte: Philip O’Dea EPA: Emma Quinlan, Catherine Bradley Donegal County Council: Joe Ferry Wicklow County Council: Thomas Griffin Uisce Éireann: Katie Smart NPWS: Áine O’Connor DAFM: Anne Maguire, Patrick McCormack, Andrew Kirwan ASSAP: Noel Meehan OPW: Seán Langan, Conor Galvin DHLG: Eimear O’Keeffe IFI: Cathal Gallagher		
Apologies:	DAFM: Kevin Collins Mayo County Council: John Condon		

Item No.	Agenda Item & Brief Summary of Item	Outcomes and Actions
1	Minutes & Actions from previous meeting Chair - Anne Goggin, Waters of LIFE Project Manager No comments or issues raised from previous meeting.	
2	DHLGH updates, Eimear O’Keeffe – see separate note provided <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernie White – DWWTP grant updates have been issued but the mapping on DHLGH website needs to be updated by rural water section. Bernie has contacted DHLGH will follow up and will keep Eimear informed if her input is required. Currently states in accordance with RBMP 2018-2021 which also needs to be updated. Update post meeting: These elements will be updated on publication of the 3rd cycle RBMP. • Anne Goggin question on increase – grant will cover up to 85% of works up to a maximum of €12000. Requirement to be registered in 2013 removed. • Tom Griffin enquired as to whether applicants for DWWTP grant were required to register at all now as this database was useful – DHLGH not 	Note to be circulated. Action: invite Averil Gannon to next meeting to present on NBS work programme.

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	<p>sure and to follow up. Update post meeting: Yes homeowners still to register.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tom also questioned on latest allocation of agricultural scientists positions from DHLGH – the allocation is for 36 ag scientists (in addition to the 21 in 2023), it is not yet known to which L.A.s these will be allocated to. Update post meeting: Each Director of Service was written to in mid February with the allocation. Katie Smart question regarding SUDS and nature based solutions. It was suggested that Avril Gannon from DHLGH give an update at the next steering group meeting. 	
3	<p>Waters of LIFE – Updates, Anne Goggin</p> <p>A question was raised on issues using Survery 123 – one issue is LPIS data would have be stored on unsecured phones which is not suitable.</p>	Presentation to be circulated
4	<p>ASSAP Progress update in Blue Dot Catchments – Noel Meehan, ASSAP Programme Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No questions raised. 	Presentation to be circulated
5	<p>Waters EIP: Overview & Progress to Date – Mairead Whitty, Project Manager, LAWPRO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Question raised regarding rainwater management – is a guidance document available on rainwater management plans as this would be very useful to other projects such as WOL. Guidance is being developed by the project and this can be shared when it is ready. Question re nitrate calculator being used by the project – does this take account of clover derived nitrate? – It doesn't which could be a concern as this is extra nitrate not accounted for which could pose a risk to water quality Comment regarding data sharing with DAFM, this can be difficult but is vital to avoid double funding measures and is currently being worked on by the project team and DAFM. Comment regarding data sharing – SI628 2023 covers some data sharing and the project(s) should look into this. Comment/question regarding dairy farms. There has been relatively low engagement with the project from these, a question was raised regarding whether those dairy farmers who had engaged were new or had previously been engaged through PAA work. There were both new and previously engaged farmers. 	Presentation to be circulated

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6	<p>Land Restructuring Study_Lough Carragh and Miltown catchments – Fran Igoe, Regional Coordinator, LAWPRO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A question was raised regarding collecting information on instream structures. The project will collect this info however these are probably more of a legacy issue and a national programme (IFI lead barriers programme) has responsibility for these. • Comment from Bernie White suggesting we should discuss a committee/working group to assist in advising on this project. 	<p>Presentation to be circulated.</p> <p>Action: Bernie to discuss with Fran further.</p>
7	<p>AOB</p> <p>No items raised.</p>	
8	<p>Next Meeting Date 21st of May</p>	