



Garryduff Bog

Cutaway Bog Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan

2021

Addendum 1

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1. INTRODUCTION

Bord na Móna operates under IPC Licence issued and administered by the EPA to extract peat within the Blackwater bog group (Ref. P0502-01). As part of Condition 10.2 of this license, a rehabilitation plan must be prepared for permanent rehabilitation of the boglands within the licensed area.

This report – *Garryduff Bog Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan 2021 – Addendum 1* – should be read in conjunction with – *Garryduff Bog Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan 2021*.

This report - Garryduff Bog Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan 2021 – Addendum 1 - outlines the findings of the Appropriate Assessment reporting carried out in respect of proposed PCAS activities at Garryduff Bog.

2. APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT REPORTING FINDINGS

An Appropriate Assessment Stage 1 Screening Report ¹was commissioned by Bord na Móna to inform whether the proposed PCAS activities at Garryduff Bog had the potential to result in Likely Significant Effects on European Sites. The concluding statement of this report reads as follows:

“It is concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt, in view of best scientific knowledge, on the basis of objective information and in light of the conservation objectives of the relevant European Sites, that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, will not have a significant effect on any European Site.

It is acknowledged that, following D & R, the presence of an undisturbed wetland habitat the size of Garryduff Bog, may provide foraging opportunities, attract wildfowl species as a refugium, and/or act as a disturbance buffer to birds utilising the River Suck and Shannon corridors. These positive quality effects may ultimately positively impact the SCIs and benefit the Conservation Objectives of the adjacent SPAs. For the avoidance of doubt however, this is not considered in the evaluation above, nor is any reliance placed on this in the consideration of effects.”

Therefore following screening, an AA is not required for the Project as it is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any Site(s) as European Site(s) and as it can be concluded, on the basis of objective information, that the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is not likely to have a significant effect on any European Site(s).

¹ MKO Planning and Environmental Consultants (2021). *Article 6(3) Appropriate Assessment Screening Report Garryduff Bog, Co Galway Decommissioning and Rehabilitation 2021*