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Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe Galway County Council

Appropriate Assessment Screening Report Determination Galway to Oughterard Greenway Project Electric Fishing Surveys

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In accordance with the Habitats Directive, the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) ("the Planning and Development Act") and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (as amended) ("the Habitats Regulations"). Galway County Council has undertaken an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if the proposed Electric fishing Surveys: Galway to Oughterard Greenway Project ('the proposed development') individually or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have a significant effect(s) on a European site(s).

The proposed development includes the following:

- Electric fishing surveys to be carried out at 16 sites alongside the emerging preferred route currently being considered in the Phase 3 Preliminary Design.

An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening is also required by Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) in order to grant authorisation for a section 14 permit to allow for the electric fishing activities.

The AA Screening Report states that in view of best available scientific knowledge and on the basis of objective information, likely significant effects from the Proposed Works on European sites, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, can be excluded.

Galway County Council, having considered the AA Screening Report, has determined that the Proposed Electric Fishing Surveys, relating to the Galway to Oughterard Greenway Project do not require an Appropriate Assessment.

Mise, le meas,

Acting Director of Services,

Planning, Community Enterprise and Economic Development.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Chief Executives Order No. P13551

SUBJECT: Screening for Appropriate Assessment of Electric Fishing Surveys on the Galway to Oughterard Greenway Project.

I, Valerie Loughnane, Acting Director of Services for Planning, Community Enterprise and Economic Development, by virtue of the powers conferred on me by the Local Government Acts 1925 to 2019, it is hereby ordered that:

In accordance with Regulation 250(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, (S.I. No. 600 of 2001) as inserted by Regulation 26 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations, 2011 (S.I. No. 476 of 2011), concerning 'Screening for appropriate assessment,' which states:

'In order to ascertain whether an appropriate assessment is required in respect of a development which it proposes to carry out a local authority shall carry out a screening of the proposed development to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if the development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site,'

and having considered the report entitled Galway to Oughterard Greenway Appropriate Assessment Screening for Electric Fishing Surveys - (AECOM Consultants, July 2024), and having agreed with the conclusions of same, I have determined that the proposed Galway to Oughterard Greenway Electric Fishing Surveys, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not give rise to a significant effect on any European site.

Signed this 8th day of August, 2024.

Acting Director of Services,

Planning, Community Enterprise and Economic Development.