



OPW

**Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination Statement
Embankment Rehabilitation Programme 2024: West Region**

Swilly Oldtown-New Mills Arterial Drainage Scheme –

AA Screening, 1No. Embankment

Bridge Rehabilitation Programme 2024					
Description of Works	Rehabilitation of 1 No. embankment within the Swilly Oldtown-New Mills Arterial Drainage Scheme.				
	Drainage district	Channel number	Embankment number	Chainage	Distance from and hydrological link to European site (S-P-R)
	Swilly Oldtown-New Mills	C1	E34	530 - 555	~7km upstream Lough Swilly SAC & ~8km Lough Swilly SPA
	Embankment works proposed in the AA Screening Report are programmed to be completed in August 2024, within the OPW’s Swilly Oldtown – New Mills Arterial Drainage Scheme. The works include rehabilitation works to one embankment designed using soft green engineering solutions in the form of trees, wooden stakes and brush. Minor instream works will be required to install the wooden stakes and put in place the wooden brush. Standard maintenance works will also be required to remove some sedimentation build up in the river.				
European Site within the zone of influence of proposed works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Lough Swilly SAC (002287) •Lough Swilly SPA (004075) 				

In accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, the Office of Public Works (OPW) as a Public Authority has a statutory obligation under the Arterial Drainage Act, 1945 with maintaining the above said drainage works in proper repair and effective condition and so has undertaken Appropriate Assessment screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the European Sites, if the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site(s).

As required under Regulation 42(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, OPW has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is not required. The project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the sites as European sites 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 the European sites listed above.

This determination is based on information supplied by OPW Environmental Section and Western Region Arterial Drainage Section along with information contained within the *Appropriate Assessment*

Screening Report, Embankment Rehabilitation Works on the Swilly Oldtown-New Mills Arterial Drainage Scheme E34, C1, 2024.

From this screening exercise it has been determined that no significant likely effects may arise on any European sites as a result of the Embankment Rehabilitation Works in combination with other plans and projects, through surface water, land and air, and groundwater pathways. This assessment was undertaken in the absence of mitigation measures. The project was screened out for Appropriate Assessment based on the location of the works, the nature and the scale of the works.

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