

AA SCREENING DETERMINATION

Of

Dam Vegetation Management at Five Dam Structures, Co. Galway



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, Irish Water has undertaken Appropriate Assessment screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the site, if the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on European Site(s).

Proposed vegetation management will be carried out at no. 5 dam structures; Boluisce dam (53.274845696254, -9.30827511790312), Buffy dam (53.390261257374, -9.29800552811589), Ierin dam (53.323974837814, -9.77613523999159), Loughaunmore dam (53.325242459013, -9.7631128044093) and Nambrackeagh dam (53.494069285987, -10.003186353485). The objective of the proposed vegetation management is to remove or cut back growths that are obscuring the visibility of the spillweir, spillway and any control valves, and outlet structures.

In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Site(s) listed below:

- *Connemara Bog SAC (002034)*
- *Connemara Bog SPA (004181)*
- *Lough Corrib SAC (000297)*
- *Lough Corrib SPA (004042)*
- *Kilkieran Bay And Islands SAC (002111)*
- *Slyne Head to Ardmore Point Islands SPA (004159)*
- *The Twelve Bens/ Garraun Complex SAC (002031)*

In accordance with Regulation 42(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, **Irish Water has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is not required** as the project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the sites as European site(s) and **as it can be excluded**, on the basis of objective information and in light of the conservation objectives of the relevant European Site(s), **that the project, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, would have a significant effect on a European Site.**

This determination is based on the nature, location, scale and duration of the proposed works, including any temporary works and excludes any consideration of mitigation measures.

Full records of the assessment, reports, surveys, consultations, and observations are held by the competent authority and available for public review as requested.

Signed:



JOHN CASEY

CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR

DATE: 28th September 2022