

AA SCREENING DETERMINATION

Of



Installation and Operation of Turbidity Monitors in the Owenriff river, Oughterard, 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 a European Site(s). In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Sites listed below:

Lough Corrib SAC (000297) and Lough Corrib SPA (004042).

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 sites and as it can be excluded, 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 the fact that placement of the turbidity monitors has been informed by detailed and expert knowledge regarding the location of the pearl mussel population, the fact that a dive survey will inform the precise location of the monitor at the most sensitive location, and the operational or retrieval phases requiring no instream works.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Galvin'.

GERRY GALVIN

CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER

DATE: 3rd August 2016