

BALLYBOFEY-STRANORLAR
FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME



Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

OPW Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

Ballybofey-Stranorlar Flood Relief Scheme



Newsletter September 2022

IN THIS ISSUE

Latest Overview

This is the fifth newsletter for the Ballybofey-Stranorlar Flood Relief Scheme. The main activities carried out since the previous newsletter in June 2022 include assessment of natural water retention measures, hydraulic modelling, and finalising the hydrological assessment.

Site Investigation	Page 2
Environmental Activities	Page 3
Hydrology & Hydraulics	Page 4
What's Next?	Page 5

Site Investigations (Ballybofey Embankment)

The Contractor for the Preliminary Ground Investigations at the Ballybofey embankment has been appointed. Donegal County Council have been in contact with landowners and occupiers of areas where the ground investigations are proposed. The Council has advised the public that access to the Ballybofey embankment footpath would be temporarily restricted for the duration of the works. A start date is being confirmed with the Contractor.



A recent photograph of the current condition of a section of the embankment near Finn Park, Ballybofey (June 2022)

Environmental Activities

Invasive Species Management & Treatment

The treatment of invasive species in the scheme area is now complete for the 2022 season. The Invasive Species treated in the area included Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed. The Contractor will resume treatment in Ballybofey & Stranorlar next Spring for the 2023 season.

Specialist Surveys

The specialist baseline environmental surveys have commenced for Ballybofey-Stranorlar Flood Relief Scheme:

- Air quality & Climate - Not yet started.
- Aquatic Ecology - Surveys completed; report to be issued.
- Landscape and Visual - Not yet started.
- Noise & Vibration - Not yet started.
- Archaeology and Cultural Heritage - Not yet started.
- Bat Surveys - Surveys completed; report to be issued.
- Tree Surveys – Surveys completed; report to be issued.

Natural Water Retention Measures

The project team are continuing the assessment of the potential for Natural Water Retention Measures in the Ballybofey-Stranorlar river catchments to alleviate flood risk. Mapping of the catchments has been completed. These maps identify land use, land cover, soil classification, ground slopes and potential for floodplain storage. The assessment is looking at the potential for 1) Run-Off Reduction, 2) Storage and 3) Land-use / Sediment Management. A full feasibility report will also be prepared and will inform overall option development.

Hydrological Analysis & Hydraulic Modelling

The final hydrology report for Ballybofey and Stranorlar has been issued incorporating comments received from the steering group members.

The development of the hydraulic model is ongoing. The project team are currently at the calibration & verification stage of the hydraulic modelling activities. The model will be run to simulate flood patterns and flood extents similar to past flood events such as November 2015. This will verify that the model is running correctly and that the results we simulate are as expected. We can then use the model to define flood risk now, and in the future, and to test various flood relief measures.



*Minor Flooding on Navenny Street/Road,
Ballybofey-Stranorlar – September 2022.*

What's Next?

Over the next few months, the Project Team will be working on:

- ➔ Site Investigation of the Finn embankments and assessment of their suitability for flood protection.
- ➔ Continuation of Environmental Specialists Surveys.
- ➔ Continuation of Hydraulic Modelling including baseline scenarios and testing of flood relief options.
- ➔ Hydraulics workshop with the Steering Group
- ➔ Continuation of assessment of Potential for Natural Water Retention Measures
- ➔ Commence drafting Environmental Impact Assessment Screening and Scoping Reports
- ➔ Commence drafting Appropriate Assessment Screening for Natura Impact Statement
- ➔ Hydrogeomorphology Assessment



Contact Us

If you would like to contact our Project Team about any matter relating to the Ballybofey-Stranorlar Flood Relief Scheme you can do so through the following:

Email

Ballybofey-StranorlarFRS@ByrneLooby.com

Post

Project Manager Ballybofey-Stranorlar FRS
ByrneLooby
Building 2100
Cork Airport Business Park
Kinsale Road
Cork

Phone

+353 (0) 21 240 7988

If you would like any further information on the Scheme including programme, please visit our website:

www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/ballybofey-stranorlar/home/