

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 February 2023

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Latest Overview

This is the sixth newsletter for the Ballybofey-Stranorlar Flood Relief Scheme. The main activities carried out since the previous newsletter include hydraulic modelling, technical hydraulics workshop & commencement of site investigations at Ballybofey embankment.

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Site Investigations (Ballybofey Embankment)

The Contractor for the Ground Investigations at the Ballybofey embankment commenced works in November 2022. These works consist of cable percussion drilling, trial pits, dynamic probes, and rotary coring. The results of these site works will inform the project team of the embankments overall condition and its standard of protection as a flood defence measure. These works will continue until early March 2023.



Cable Percussion Drilling along Ballybofey embankment, November 2022.

Environmental Activities

Specialist Surveys

The specialist baseline environmental surveys for the Ballybofey-Stranorlar Flood Relief Scheme are underway:

- The Aquatic Ecology Surveys have been completed.
- The Bat Surveys have been completed.
- The Tree Surveys have been completed. Interesting finds from the survey are included below.



*European Beech ~ 134
years old (left),*

*Ash Tree ~ 126 years old
(right)*

*Interesting finds from
the Tree surveys carried
out at Ballybofey-
Stranorlar*



Other specialist surveys will follow in due course when flood defence measures are better defined.

Nature Based Solutions to Catchment Management (Nbs-CM)

The project team are finalising the assessment of the potential for (Nbs-CM) in the Ballybofey-Stranorlar river catchments to alleviate flood risk. Mapping of the catchments has been completed. A full feasibility report is under final review before issue to the steering group.

Hydrological Analysis & Hydraulic Modelling

The development of the hydraulic model is ongoing. The project team held a technical workshop with members of the steering group on 30/11/2022 to discuss model progress to date. Topics described during the workshop are outlined below.

- Background Information
- Model Build (1d/2d)
- Calibration/Verification against past flood events
- Model Outputs

The project team are currently addressing feedback from the technical workshop before finalising the baseline flood extent maps which will be used in Scheme design. The draft hydraulic report is due to be submitted to the Steering Group by the end of February 2023.



January 2023 – Wintery conditions in Ballybofey. The embankment currently undergoing site investigation works shown in the background.

What's Next?

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

- ➔ Completing Site Investigation of the Finn embankments in Ballybofey and assessment of their standard of flood protection.
- ➔ Continuation of Environmental Specialists Surveys.
- ➔ Completion of Hydraulic Modelling including baseline scenarios and testing of flood relief options.
- ➔ Continuation of assessment of Potential for Nature based Catchment Solutions (NbCM)
- ➔ Commence drafting Environmental Impact Assessment Screening and Scoping Reports
- ➔ Commence drafting Appropriate Assessment Screening for Natura Impact Statement
- ➔ Hydrogeomorphology Assessment
- ➔ Commence option development for areas of flood risk



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:

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

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