



# Buncrana-Luddan Flood Relief Scheme



Newsletter  
May 2025

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### Latest Overview

This is the thirteenth newsletter for the Buncrana-Luddan Flood Relief Scheme. The main activities carried out since the previous newsletter include environmental activities, completion of the revised hydrology report, and hydraulic modelling.

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# Hydrological Analysis & Hydraulic Modelling

The hydraulic model is undergoing further refinement and testing following the incorporation of additional information. This hydraulic model will replicate flood conditions and will help to understand areas and properties at risk from flooding and to assess the effectiveness of potential flood relief measures. The model will be used to predict the flood extents for current, sensitivity and climate change scenarios. Coastal flood modelling and wave overtopping information has been developed.



Upstream of Magherinture – Buncrana River

# Surveys and Investigations

The project team have identified areas to be investigated further in a ground investigation contract and have prepared contract documents. An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) screening will be prepared and conducted by specialists to assess effects from the investigations on their surrounding environs.

Surveys are planned for May/June 2025 to gather additional information on land and property threshold levels. This information will be incorporated into the hydraulic model and other aspects of the scheme.

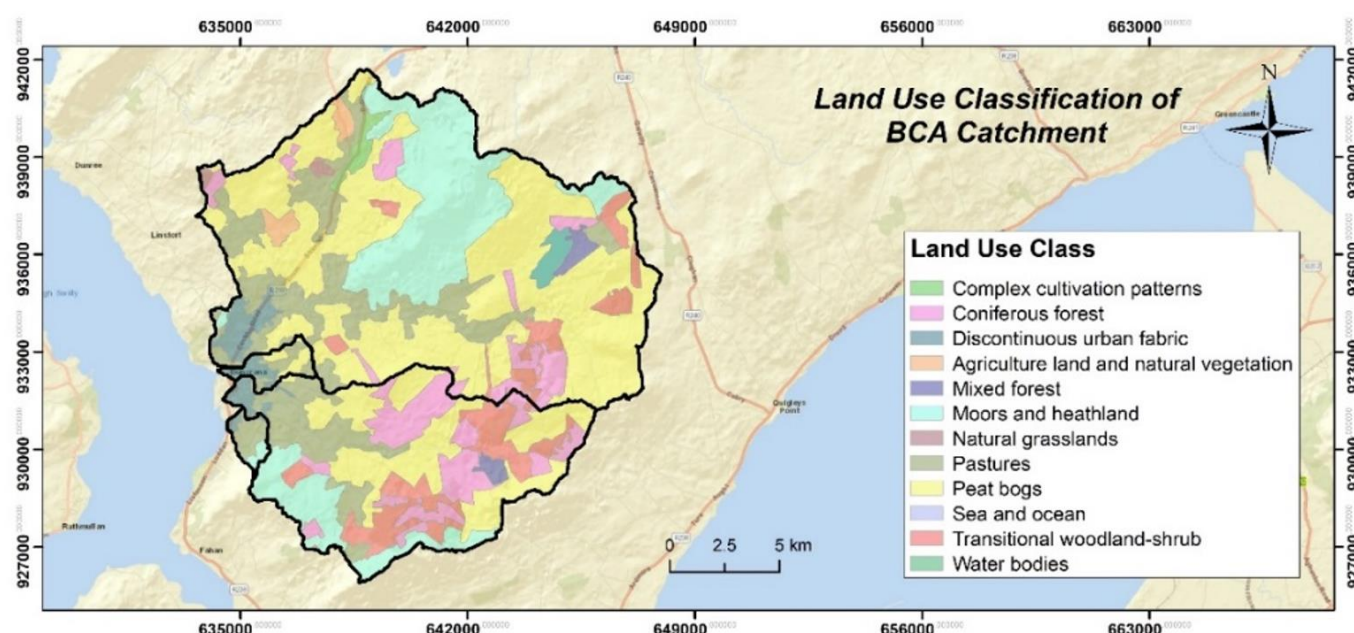
# Environmental Activities

The initial 3-year contract to reduce invasive species such as Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam concluded in 2024. Further treatment measures are proposed for 2025 with treatment to take place over the summer months starting in June.

## Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

Nature-based Solutions formerly known as Natural Water Retention Measures are “solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience” (European Commission, 2023). An assessment will be carried out to assess the viability of measures and this will be incorporated into the Buncrana options assessment.

The report also assesses Topography and Rainfall, Land Use, Geology and Water Framework Directive (WFD) Status of the watercourses within the study area.



Land Use Class, (EPA, 2024). Catchment of Buncrana Watercourses extracted from Buncrana NbS Report



# Optioneering

The project team are progressing with the options assessment phase for the Buncrana FRS. Potential viable measures for the scheme are under review.

Individual flood cells have been identified along the Crana and Mill Rivers, each representing an area that can be protected independently of others. Measures will be developed and assessed to determine potential flood relief options for the scheme. Combinations of measures will form the basis of the scheme options report. Once the options are developed, they will be presented to the public and stakeholders for consultation, helping to identify an emerging preferred option for Buncrana.

The project team have begun to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Buncrana-Luddan FRS. The Plan is a live document and refers to the assessment of the potential impacts of climate change and how negative impacts of watercourses can be mitigated.



Gransha Dam February 2025

## What's Next?

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

- ➔ Hydraulics Reporting review.
- ➔ Optioneering Assessment and Development.
- ➔ Ground Investigations contract
- ➔ Topographical, Threshold and CCTV Surveys.
- ➔ Progress Scheme Climate Change Adaptation Plan.
- ➔ Nature-based Solutions Report.



## Contact Us

If you would like to contact our Project Team about any matter relating to the Buncrana 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/buncrana/home/](http://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/buncrana/home/)