

BUNCRANA
FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council



Tionscaldal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

OPW Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

Buncrana-Luddan Flood Relief Scheme



Newsletter September 2022

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Latest Overview

This is the fifth newsletter for the Buncrana-Luddan Flood Relief Scheme. The main activities carried out since the previous newsletter in June 2022 include:- assessment of natural water retention measures, environmental activities, tidal survey, hydrological reporting, and hydraulic modelling .

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Survey Works (Coastal - Hydrometric Survey)

To date, the project team have received five sets of hydrometric survey data from gauges recording tidal levels around Lough Swilly covering the period of May to September 2022.

The Steering Group has agreed to extend the survey until February 2023 as storms are more prominent in these winter months. This data will be key to understanding coastal flood risk in Buncrana and Luddan.



A view of Buncrana's Castle Bridge at Swan Park, on the River Crana.

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 Buncrana-Luddan next Spring for the 2023 season.

Specialist Surveys

The specialist baseline environmental surveys have commenced for Buncrana-Luddan 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.
- Wintering Birds Surveys - Surveys scheduled for Oct'22-Feb'23.

Natural Water Retention Measures

The project team are continuing the assessment of the potential for Natural Water Retention Measures in the Buncrana 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 draft hydrology report for Buncrana-Luddan was submitted to the project Steering Group for review. The draft report includes a detailed review of the Tullyarvan Hydrometric gauge on the Crana River. The project team's lead hydrologist is currently addressing the commentary received from the Steering Group.

The development of the hydraulic model is also ongoing with a focus on testing, verification, and calibration.



*The weir on the Crana River just
downstream of the Tullyarvan Gauge
Station*

What's Next?

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

- ➔ Continuation of Environmental Specialists Surveys.
- ➔ Continuation of Hydraulic Modelling including baseline scenarios.
- ➔ Tidal water level data collection for coastal flood risk assessment
- ➔ 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 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/