



Environmental Report January 2025

Glashaboy Flood Relief Scheme

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Date of issue: 18/02/2025

Document code: FFEC-GFRS-2025-001

The following is the clients Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) monthly review of the Glashaboy River (Glanmire/Sallybrook) Drainage Scheme. It details observations made on site regarding environmental and ecological factors involved in the scheme. This formulates a monthly review to be submitted to the Environmental Monitoring Group (EMG).

The main work areas for January 2025 included:

- Area 1 – Pump Station: Minimal excavations (Archaeology delays)
- R639 – Road improvement works: surfacing, widening, kerbing and paths, etc.
- Hazelwood Overflow Culvert – Precast walls installed
- Meadowbrook estate – Installation of capping beams and steel angles. Drainage line at base of sheetpile wall.
- Copper Valley Vue (CVV) – Bridge: South wingwalls formed and poured.
- Springmount culvert – Flood defence walls along the R639: Excavations and precast walls installed.
- Brooklodge culvert – Downstream wingwall: Excavations and precast walls installed.
- New Line – Installation of temporary sheetpile wall to facilitate RC walls works.

Table 1. Outstanding items to be addressed by Sorensen

Item No.	Issue	Action
7.48	Contaminated boulders temporarily stored at Sallybrook to undergo treatment with Bioversal HC.	January 2025 Update: No change this month. The reuse of boulders on site has yet to be decided.
11.5	Steel reinforcing offcuts are being inappropriately stored within the Holding Cell at Sallybrook.	January 2025 update: The rebar was relocated to an alternative location this month.
12.3	The tube dipper nest installed in the Cois na Gléan culvert was discussed during Environmental Tour 021 (ET21). It was agreed that it in its current state it is inadequate and either needs modification or replacement with alternative. To address predation risks, present due to insufficient height.	Plans were discussed and solutions proposed between the site and client's ecologists through January. No actual changes were carried out in January. The deadline for this action was agreed as the 1st of March with action expected to be taken sooner to address dipper's potential to nest earlier if weather conditions allow.
12.8	Two silt curtains installed during work on the penstock as a precautionary measure remain in place within the Mill Race.	Completed in early in January 2025.
12.9	Two silt curtains installed during work on the penstock as a precautionary measure remain in place within the Mill Race.	Completed 17/01/25
12.9	Sandbag waste visible from the SuperValu bridge adjacent to the Funeral Home works area.	Completed 17/01/25
12.10	Pumping at Meadowbrook. No Permit-to-Pump in place.	Completed. Permit to pump procedures updated to include even minor pumping.
12.11	Damaged tree limb at Meadowbrook estate requires delimbing for aesthetic, tree health and Health and Safety reasons. This is a not urgent action with no immediate safety concerns.	January 2025 Update: Not completed this month.
12.13	Road resurfacing works at the entrance to Meadowbrook Estate were observed to be associated with hydrocarbon pollution	The contractor reported that a Toolbox Talk will be provided on control measures to be deployed in respect of hydrocarbons; to include the use of oil booms around stormwater gullies. Official toolbox talk scheduled for next month. In the meantime, producers to protect gullies are active onsite.
12.14	Coir mesh located upstream of Riverstown bridge in need of maintenance.	Completed 17/01/25

General comments

Work on the Area 1 pump station was scheduled to commence this month but was delayed due to archaeological findings. Discussions took place with the site ecologist regarding the necessary silt control measures, which are expected to be required due to the anticipated groundwater pumping from excavations. As a result, the method statement needed to be updated to reflect the current site conditions, as the previous version was no longer aligned with practical requirements. While plans are underway, the updated method statement was not issued in January. No work is scheduled to commence in this area until these delays are resolved.

The permit to pump system underwent a review this month given the fact the site ecologist has reduced hours on site. Now if there is no site ecologist on site the Permit to Pump will be prepared by a nominated head engineer or site foreman and a copy of same will be sent to the Site Ecologist for review/approval. No pumping will commence until the site ecologist has approved the prepared permit to pump. The ECOW will be informed via an Ecology What's App group that includes the site ecologist, the head Foreman for the GFRS from Sorensen Civil Engineers (SCE). The Permit to Pump procedures will be received on an ongoing basis by the ECOW.




The site ecologist has informed the ECOW in response to an email request that toolbox talks to given to ground staff on site. The ECOW was informed that SCE has plans in place to present a series of toolbox talks by Powerpoint to site staff over the next few weeks and months. The first series of toolbox talks will cover the following topics:



- Biosecurity Measures for Japanese & Bohemian knotweed
- Permits to Pump, Silt Control Measures & Turbidity Levels
- Concrete Pours & pH Levels
- Emergency/Spillage Response Plan incl. Hydrocarbons
- Recovery & Storage of Contaminated Materials
- Housekeeping
- Deployment of Noise & Vibration Monitors



These toolboxes did not occur this month. Toolbox talks are scheduled to take place early next month.



Environmental Tour No. 022 was conducted 29/01/2025 between the employer's clerk of works (ECOW) and Sorensen's site ecologist.




Table 2. Main table of the months ecological and environmental related activities



Item number	Date	Comment	Image	ECoW Action/Recommendation	Sorensens's Action response
1.1	08/01/2025	Works to Area one pump station were suspended due to archaeology. Plans to dewater excavations still needs to be addressed in the contractor's Method Statement.		Discussions were held with the site ecologist about ecological mitigation measures of the proposed works.	An updated Method Statement is required before work resumes.
1.2	10/01/2025	The improper storage of rebar within the temporary holding cell for invasive plant species' contaminated material was removed.		Recorded	This action was in response to a previous enquiry made by the ECOW.
1.3	10/01/2025	Concrete pouring at New Line carried out with due care for the adjacent watercourse.		Discussed works with ground crew regarding environmental issues.	No response required.



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1.4	17/01/2025	Permit to Pump at Copper Valley Vue to facilitate dewatering of manhole for tie-in to the existing foul line.		Inspection carried out and works discussed with grounds crew.	SCE informed the ER team of planned pumping prior to commencement. Permit to pump was in place.
1.5	20/01/2025	The remaining Eurofins contaminated material removed from Sallybrook. ENVA removed the material to a licensed waste facility.		Recorded.	No further action required.




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1.6	21/01/2025	An Environmental Incident occurred at Brooklodge culvert. A small hydraulic hose burst on the excavator working adjacent to the Glenmore River		The incident was reported promptly to the ECOW by the site ecologist via the Ecology Whats App Group.	Oil socks and pads were promptly deployed. The burst hose was wrapped in plastic. Bioversal was applied to the area. This addressed the hydrocarbon issue. No contamination entered the adjacent Glenmore River.
1.7	23/01/2025	Newline: The recent construction of riverbank above armouring and outfall has resulted in steeply sloped, exposed soils. Although the bank has been compacted and graded, the bare soil surface		Recommended erosion protection measures be put in place.	Completed 28/01/25. See Item 1.16 below.


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		remains vulnerable to surface water runoff.			
1.8	23/01/2025	A small area adjacent to the M8 overpass has been used for stockpiling soil following recent works. Currently, there is no clear delineation of the works area, creating the potential for encroachment into the surrounding natural environment.		Recommendation: To establish a clear site boundary and prevent encroachment into the natural environment, consider the use of fencing and signage.	Due to be completed this month but was not carried out before the months end. Work to be carried out early next month.
1.9	23/01/2025	Recent earthworks between the Brooklodge Culvert and Copper Valley Bridge have exposed bare soil, making the area susceptible to surface water runoff and potential erosion from the Glanmore river, especially if water levels rise. Although the bank has been compacted and graded, the unprotected soil surface remains vulnerable to these processes.		Recommendation: Consider measures to limit the loss of soils into the adjacent watercourse by implementing measures such as silt fencing and/or coir mesh.	Due to be completed this month but was not carried out before the months end.

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1.10	23/01/2025	At the Brooklodge culvert, during the downstream wingwall construction, spill mats are positioned below the refuelling point of waterpump to catch any accidental fuel spills during refuelling.		Observation: Good practise by SCE to protect adjacent water course.	No further action required.
1.11	23/01/2025	Three-cornered leek (<i>Allium triquetrum</i>) has been identified in the gardens of bungalows opposite the Meadowbrook estate. The plants have been marked, and plans are in place to avoid disturbing them during the removal of noise and vibration monitoring equipment.		Observation: Good implementation of biosecurity measures.	Biosecurity measures were followed when monitoring equipment was moved from this location.
1.12	23/01/2025	At Area One embankment, construction materials such as discarded signage, empty sandbags, and wood scraps are present. With the impending arrival of Storm Éowyn, strong winds could potentially blow this debris into the adjacent		Recommendation: Clean up all waste/materials before end of day.	Completed 23/01/25 before the arrival of Storm Eowyn

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		watercourse, leading to pollution.			
1.13	29/01/2025	In response to GFRS-RFI-344 Springmount Stream Wall C06_L04 Tree Removal, the tree in question and the ground surrounding the tree was inspected. It was noted that there may be the possibility that Spanish Bluebell (<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>) is growing at this		Recommendation: SCE to follow biosecurity measures where necessary.	Where Spanish bluebell is confirmed to be present (further into the growing season) biosecurity measures will be deployed during works. Works will be supervised by the IAPS Specialist Ecologist.

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		location. Subsequently, the proposed works and possible tree removal may require the application of biosecurity measures.			
1.14	29/01/2025	Housekeeping at New Line. A minor amount of waste is present and looks unsightly.		Recommendation: At this location, clean up all waste that is the responsibility of SCE.	To be actioned in February 2025.
1.15	29/01/2025	The riverbank in between the Brooklodge and CVV structures have mostly been graded except for the bank that ties into the CVV structure. There exists potential for erosion and run off.		Recommendation: Consider measures to limit the loss of soils into the adjacent watercourse by implementing measures such as silt fencing and/or coir mesh	Coir mesh due to be installed early in February 2025.

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1.16	29/01/2025	Coir mesh installed at New Line to prevent run off into water course.		This action was carried out in response to an earlier recommendation.	No further action required.
1.17	29/01/2025	Works have commenced at New Line with temporary sheet piling. These works require excavation works to be carried out which are anticipated to necessitate dewatering efforts. The current strategy that was communicated involves creating an artificial settlement pool between the two sheet pile walls to manage sediment during dewatering.	 	To develop a contingency plan in the event that the proposed settlement pool proves inadequate for silt management and to implement monitoring protocols.	GFRS-MS-053 C05_L02 & C05_L03 (New Line Road) Rev02 was issued by email on the 30/01/2025. This was reviewed by the Resident Engineer (RE) team and returned with comments. In response, the dewatering plans were revised to incorporate a settlement tank and manifold system, which were considered well-suited to the conditions of this particular situation.

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1.18	29/01/2025	Plans are in progress for vegetation clearance in Area 4 to prepare for upcoming work later this year. A discussion briefly covered these works, with a focus on the potential presence of bird, bat, and mammal species in the area.		Ensure that all ecological procedures are followed during the planned vegetation and/or tree clearance in Area 4 to prevent unnecessary harm to bats, birds and mammals.	<p>Site Ecologist to undertake a walkover survey prior to the commencement of works. A Permit to Clear Vegetation will be issued in advance of works by the site ecologist to the client's ecologist.</p> <p>In addition to bats, birds and mammals there is also potential for Japanese knotweed. Vegetation clearance and soil stripping works will be supervised by the IAPS Specialist Ecologist (site ecologist also) and biosecurity measures deployed as required. Any vector material uncovered during works will be transported to the temporary holding facility at Area 1 Sallybrook Site Compound.</p>