

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
June 2022

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Latest Overview

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

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Site Investigations (Ballybofey Embankment)

Tender documents for site investigation work at the embankment of the River Finn at Ballybofey have been finalised. The Site Investigation (SI) contract has been advertised online through e-tenders with a closing date in early July for tender submissions. The project team will arrange and agree access routes in advance of carrying out the SI work. This work will be key to determining the overall condition of the embankment and if improvements are required as part of the scheme.



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

Environmental Activities

Environmental Constraints

The environmental constraints report for Ballybofey-Stranorlar is complete. The report has been uploaded to the scheme website and can be viewed at the following link - <https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/ballybofey-stranorlar/project-info/environmental-assessment/>

Appropriate Assessment Screening Statement (Ballybofey Embankment)

An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report was completed for the upcoming site investigation works at the existing embankment along the River Finn. The results of the report indicate that an Appropriate Assessment can be screened out for these works. The AA screening report and statement can be viewed at the following link <https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/ballybofey-stranorlar/project-info/environmental-assessment/>

Invasive Species Management & Treatment

Treatment of invasive species in the scheme area is being arranged. This is expected to take place in September.

Specialist Surveys

All specialist environmental sub-consultants have been appointed for Ballybofey-Stranorlar Flood Relief Scheme. The project team are co-ordinating with the relevant sub-consultants as specialist surveys are due to commence in Summer 2022 for the following specialist areas:

- Air quality
- Aquatic Ecology
- Landscape and Visual
- Noise & Vibration
- Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
- Bat Surveys

Natural Water Retention Measures

An assessment of potential for Natural Water Retention Measures in river catchments to alleviate flood risk is currently underway. The project team will initially develop three types of mapping for 1) Run-Off Reduction, 2) Storage and 3) Land-use / Sediment Management. A full feasibility report will follow on from the mapping also.



An example of sediment management on Glennagannon River Inishowen (Source Inishowen Rivers Trust)

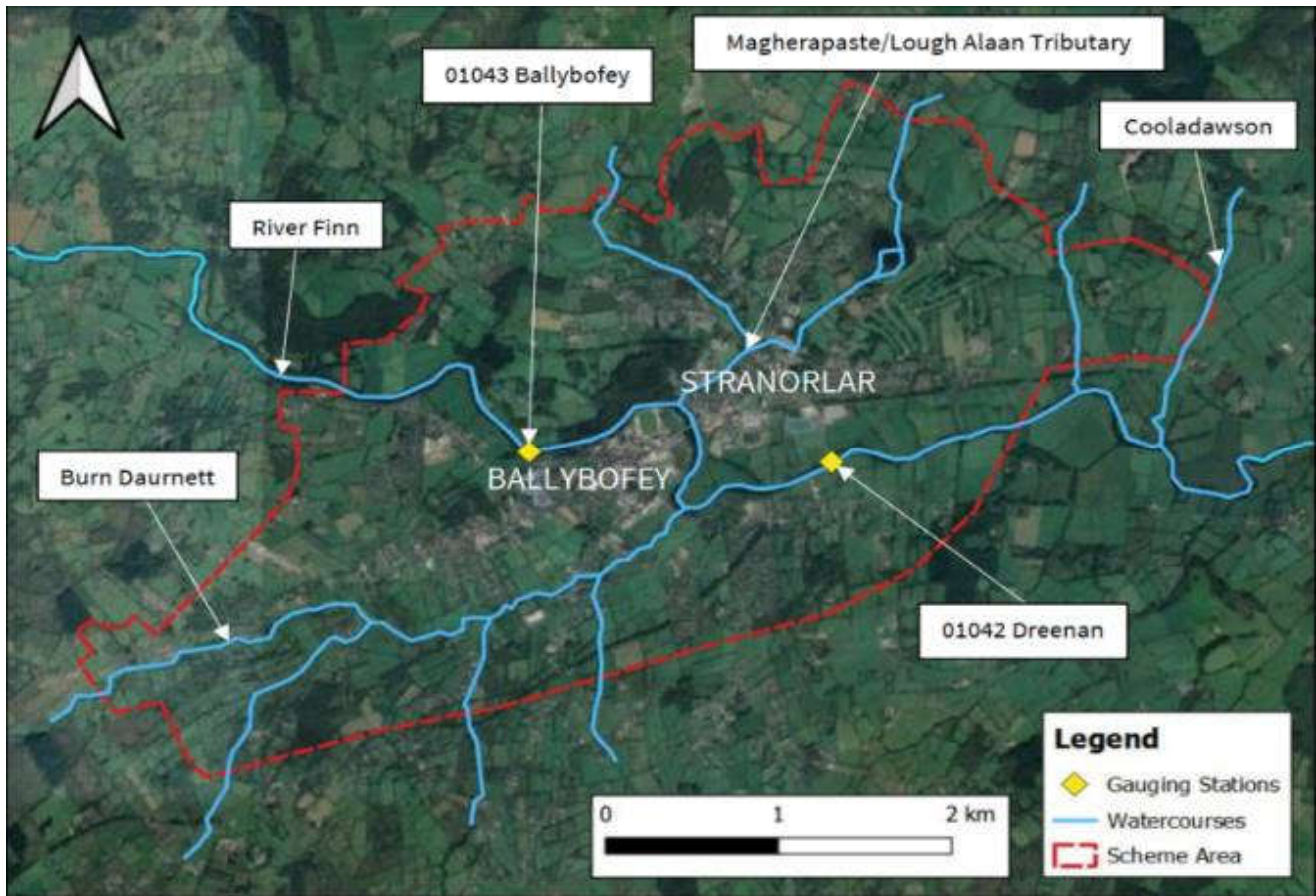
Hydrological Analysis & Hydraulic Modelling

The draft hydrology report for Ballybofey and Stranorlar has been issued to Donegal County Council.

The project team are incorporating comments received from the Steering Group and will issue the final Hydrology report in early July.

The development of the hydraulic model is ongoing.

The 1d river and network model build has been completed along with the 2D floodplain. The project team are currently testing the model for stability to ensure that the model is performing realistically, before starting the verification and calibration phase.



The Ballybofey-Stranorlar Scheme Area with key watercourses and gauging stations highlighted.

What's Next?

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

- ➔ Site Investigation of the Finn embankments and assessment of suitability of embankment for flood protection.
- ➔ Commencement of Environmental Specialists Surveys.
- ➔ Implementation of our Invasive Species Management Plan for 2022
- ➔ Continuation of Hydraulic Modelling including baseline scenarios.
- ➔ 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/