



OPW Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme, Co. Galway

Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination Statement

Phase 1 Site Investigation Works

Ballinasloe FRS – Phase 1 Site Investigation Works

As part of the design development process for the proposed FRS, Site Investigation works will be conducted along the proposed location of the FRS to assess the underlying ground conditions and locations of existing services prior to the commencement of works. The SI works will include, but are not limited to, boreholes (BH), dynamic probes (DP), environmental samples (ES), foundation inspection pit (FIP), trial pits (TP), window sample (WS), Inspection (inspection of historic zones), slit trenches (ST) and ground penetrating radar (GPR). In total 219 No. SI works are proposed for Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Project.

This Screening for Appropriate Assessment report applies to the Phase 1 SI works only which consists of 130 No. proposed SI works out of the total 219 No. proposed to be undertaken. Figure 3.2 displays the location of Phase 1 SI works along the proposed FRS route.

Description of Works

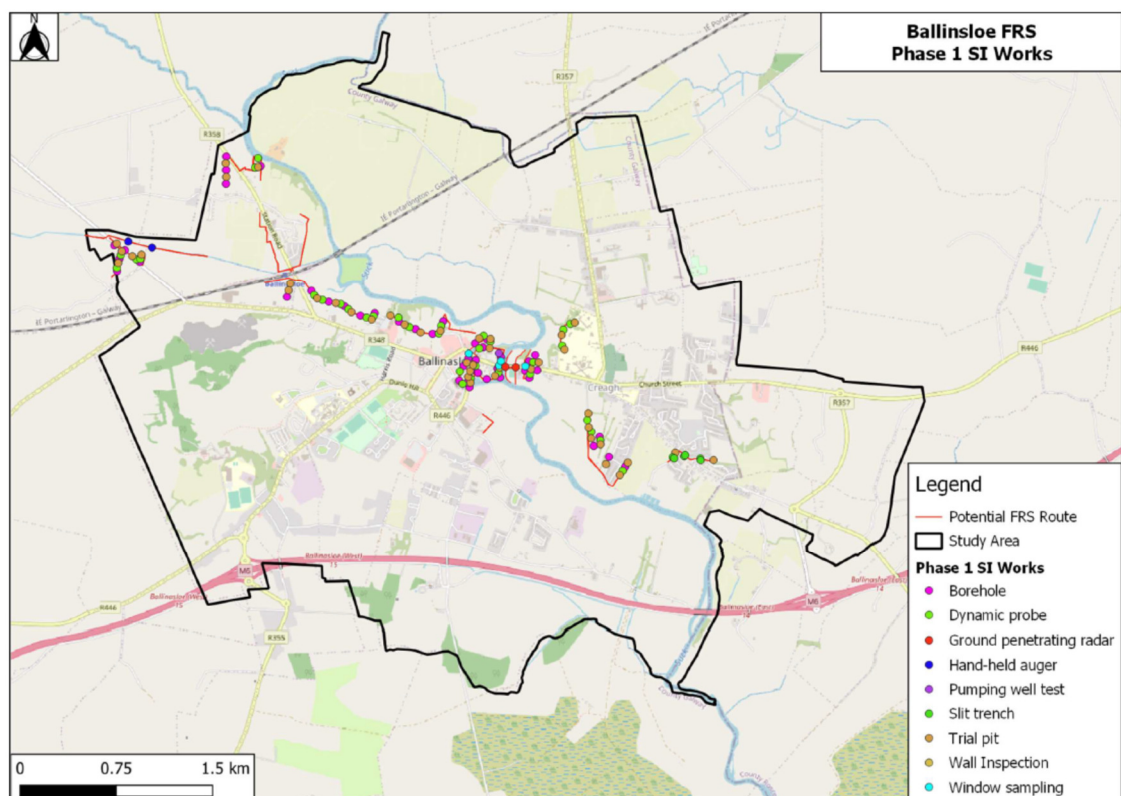


Figure 3.2: Location of the 130 No. Phase 1 SI works along the potential FRS routes (Basemap: OSM).

The 130 No. Phase 1 SI works will take place at several locations along the potential FRS route option, to the east, north and west of Ballinasloe town within a predominantly developed urban environment and agricultural pastureland.

European Site within the zone of influence of the proposed works	River Suck Callows SPA (Site Code: 004097) Glenloughaun Esker SAC (Site Code: 002213) Castlesampson Esker SAC (Site Code: 001625) Middle Shannon Callows SPA (Site Code: 004096) River Shannon Callows SAC (Site Code: 000216) Killeglan Grassland SAC (Site Code: 002214) Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC (Site Code: 002339) Mongan Bog SAC (Site Code: 000580) Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC (Site Code: 001776) Finn Lough (Offaly) SAC (Site Code: 000576) Ardgraique Bog SAC (Site Code: 002356)
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In accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, the Office of Public Works (OPW) has undertaken Appropriate Assessment screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the European Sites, if the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site(s).

As required under Regulation 42(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, OPW has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is not required. The project is not directly, connected with or necessary to the management of the sites as European sites and as it can be concluded, on the basis, of objective information, that the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is not likely to have a significant effect on the European sites listed above.

This determination is based, on information supplied by Ryan Hanley Environmental Consultants and ARUP Engineering Consultants along with information contained within the *Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme, Co. Galway, Phase 1 Site Investigation Works, Appropriate Assessment Screening Report*.

From this screening exercise it has been determined that no significant likely effects may arise on any European sites as a result of the Phase 1 Site Investigation Works in combination with other plans and projects, through surface water, land and air, and groundwater pathways. This assessment is, undertaken in the absence of mitigation measures. The project screened out for Appropriate Assessment based on the location of the works, the nature and the scale of the works.

Nathy Gilligan

Head of Environment Section
Office of Public Works

Date: 01st November 2021