



Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

OPW
Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

Buncrana-Luddan Flood Relief Scheme



Newsletter February 2023

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Latest Overview

This is the sixth newsletter for the Buncrana-Luddan Flood Relief Scheme. The main activities carried out since the previous newsletter include:- 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 eight sets of hydrometric survey data from gauges recording tidal levels around Lough Swilly covering the period of May 2022 to January 2023.

The final set of tidal data is due to be received by the end of February 2023, and this will conclude the survey. This data will be key to understanding coastal flood risk in Buncrana and Luddan.



Location of the Lough Swilly Gauges and

Environmental Activities

Specialist Surveys

The specialist baseline environmental surveys for the Buncrana-Luddan Flood Relief Scheme are underway:

- The Aquatic Ecology Surveys have been completed.
- The Bat Surveys have been completed.
- The Tree Surveys have been completed. An interesting find from the survey is included below.



*Sessile Oak identified during the
Buncrana Tree Survey ~184 years old*

Other specialist surveys will follow in due course when flood defence measures are better defined.

Nature Based Solutions to Catchment Management (Nbs-CM)

The project team are continuing the assessment of the potential for (Nbs-CM) in the Buncrana river catchments to alleviate flood risk. Mapping of the catchments has been completed. A full feasibility report is under final review before issue to the steering group.

Hydrological Analysis & Hydraulic Modelling

The draft hydrology report for Buncrana-Luddan is being updated to address Steering Group feedback. The project team will complete the updated hydrology report once the hydraulic modelling has been progressed further.

The development of the hydraulic model is also ongoing with a focus on testing, verification, and calibration. The progress to the hydraulic modelling activities has been slower than expected due to the intricate structures located along the watercourses in Buncrana affecting model stability. We are working hard to resolve this and produce model outputs that are calibrated to past flood events and ready for use in developing scheme options.



Weir located on the Mill watercourse in Buncrana – example of intricate steep structure

What's Next?

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

- ➔ Continuation of Environmental Specialists Surveys.
- ➔ Completion of Hydraulic Modelling including baseline scenarios.
- ➔ Tidal water level data collection for coastal flood risk assessment
- ➔ Continuation of assessment of Potential for Nature based Solutions to Catchment Management
- ➔ 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/