
Donegal County Council



County Donegal Development Plan 2012-2018



Appendix C Environmental Report

June 2012

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1.0 Introduction

This Environmental Report forms part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the review of the County Donegal Development Plan and shall be published alongside the County Donegal Development Plan 2012-2018 and the Appropriate Assessment (AA).

Within a land use Development Plan process the SEA is a systematic process that predicts and evaluates the likely environmental effects of implementing a plan and provides an understanding of the environmental consequences of implementing the objectives and policies of a plan. This environmental report sets out how a Strategic Environmental Assessment was carried out for the review of the County Donegal Development Plan, and includes a description of the current environment along with an assessment of the effects of implementing the policies and objectives of the Plan, necessary changes and considerations and mitigation and monitoring proposals going forward.

1.1 Non Technical Summary

Introduction

This is a Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Report on the County Donegal Development Plan 2012-2018.

The Planning and Development Acts 2010 require that a Strategic Environmental Assessment, (pursuant to the SEA Directive) and an Appropriate Assessment (pursuant to the EU Habitats Directive) be carried out as Part of the Development Plan process.

The review of the County Development Plan and preparation of the new County Development Plan runs in parallel with the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) and both these processes have significantly influenced the drafting of the County Development Plan. In this regard environmental considerations have been considered throughout the Plan process and have been incorporated in the Plan ensuring a continuation of a qualitative environment. The Environmental Report is the primary element in the SEA process and shall be published alongside the County Donegal Development Plan 2012- 2018.

Table 1: Steps in the SEA Process

Scoping: Consultation with Statutory bodies and other interested parties on the scope and level of detail to be considered in the assessment.	Completed
Preparation of Environmental Report: An assessment of the likely significant impacts on the environment as a result of the Plan.	Completed
Consultation on the Draft County Donegal Development Plan and associated Environmental Report and Appropriate Assessment.	Completed
Evaluation of submissions and observations made on the Draft County Donegal Development Plan, Environmental Report and Appropriate Assessment.	Completed
Assessment of the likely significant impacts on the environment as a result of the Material Alterations.	Completed
Consultation on the Material Alterations to the draft County Development Plan and associated Environmental Report & Appropriate Assessment.	Completed
Evaluation of submissions and observations made on the Material Alterations to the Draft County Donegal Development Plan, Environmental Report and Appropriate Assessment.	Completed
Preparation of an SEA Statement identifying how environmental considerations and consultation have been integrated into the Adopted County Development Plan.	Completed

Content of Environmental Report

The Environmental Report considers all of the following in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive:

- Biodiversity
- Population and Human Health
- Flora and Fauna
- Soil and Water
- Air and climate
- Material Assets
- Cultural Heritage (including Archaeological and Architectural)
- Landscape
- Interrelationship between above

In the first instance the Environmental Report details the Current State of the Environment of County Donegal within each of the sub headings set out above, and interrelationships between each of the environmental topics. The Environmental Report then examines significant environmental pressures that may affect each of the environmental topics and the current (Baseline) State of the Environment.

Key Strategic Policy Objectives for the County

The Council has identified a number of key strategic objectives for the County which the Development Plan will address and they include the following:

- IC-O-1:** To develop a sustainable economic model and to embrace innovation, research and development, rural diversification, eco tourism initiatives, energy advances and the promotion of sustainable start up enterprises.
- IC-O-2:** To strengthen infrastructure, business and innovation linkages within the County and in the Cross Border context, with the other Gateways, hubs, and towns in the Border Region Dublin, and elsewhere in the Country and further afield.
- IC-O-3:** To strengthen business entrepreneurship, innovation and educational relationships with cross border educational institutions and to promote the North-West generally and to attract investment, into the County.
- IC-O-4:** To consolidate, protect and enhance the role of Letterkenny as the Gateway focus, the driver for employment and service provision in the County.
- IC-O-5:** To support vibrant communities and prioritise social inclusion for all the population through equality of access to a range of activities including health, education, recreation, childcare, arts, culture, shopping and sports activities.
- IC-O-6:** To protect and enhance the unique quality and diversity of the environment, in the County, through a wide range of measures, supported by proper planning and sustainable development.
- IC-O-7:** To address existing infrastructural and service deficiencies throughout the County, such as the transportation network, rail, water supply and wastewater facilities, waste disposal, energy and communications networks, the provision of education, healthcare, retail, and a wide range of community based facilities.
- IC-O-8:** To facilitate appropriate, sustainable development, innovation, research and technological advances in business, communications and energy development throughout the County and in a Regional, Cross Border and National context.
- IC-O-9:** It is an objective of this Development Plan to implement the policies of the Development Plan.

Policy Context

The review of the County Development Plan must be considered within the context of a hierarchy of policies, plans and strategies of international, national, regional and local level as detailed in figure 1, section 1.5 of the report. Other relevant Plans, policies and programmes were considered in this report and are referenced throughout.

Appropriate Assessment

An Appropriate Assessment has also been carried out in accordance with Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive and as required under the Planning and Development Act 2010. The AA is a separate but parallel process that has overlapped significantly with the SEA process in the drafting of the County Development Plan, not least because of the large land area of the County covered by Natura 2000 sites. The Appropriate Assessment specifically assesses the potential impact on Natura 2000 sites (and their conservation objectives) of the implementation of the Plan based on the Natura Impact report and other supplementary information; the ultimate aim being to avoid significant adverse impacts on these sites. The Natura Impact report determined that there is no requirement to proceed to stage 3 of the AA as there is no significant detrimental effect identified as the result of implementation of the Plan to the integrity of any European Site. The Natura Impact Report shall be published parallel to the County Development Plan and Environmental Report.

Alternative Approached to the Plan.

The SEA Directive requires the consideration of SEA Alternatives. Section 4.0 of this Environmental Report entitled 'Alternative approaches to the Plan' considers this and sets out and examines the following 3 alternative growth models derived from the framework for population growth as set out by the Border Regional Planning Guidelines 2010:

Alternative 1: Continuation of trends.

This approach would involve the continuation of the existing pattern of market led development with minimal intervention in relation to strategic planning policy. This would result in continued sporadic growth in a dispersed and uncoordinated manner that would weaken the capacity of towns to support economic growth and viability and development would not be directed to locations with appropriate servicing and infrastructure. This approach is not considered acceptable nor would it be consistent with the Border Regional Guidelines.

Alternative 2: Urban Centric Model.

This approach would result in the absolute concentration of new development in the Gateway (Letterkenny) and the key supporting settlements of Ballybofey-Stranorlar, Buncrana, Donegal Town, Ballyshannon, Dungloe and Carndonagh. Investment in infrastructure would therefore be concentrated in these core settlements and population would only occur outside these areas through the uptake of previous planning permissions or vacant units. This would strengthen Letterkenny and the key towns but would also put pressure on existing services and facilities in the towns whilst the remainder of towns and villages in the County would stagnate as would the vitality of the rural community. This approach is not considered acceptable as it would not result in coordinated balanced growth of the county nor would it be consistent with the Border Regional Planning Guidelines.

Alternative 3: Balanced Development Model.

This approach would have a Gateway focus (Letterkenny) followed by the key supporting settlements of Ballybofey-Stranorlar, Buncrana, Donegal Town, Ballyshannon, Dungloe and Carndonagh, and the towns of Bridgend and Killybegs that demonstrate strategic economic opportunities. A proposed 50% population growth share would be allocated to these towns (excluding Letterkenny) and be inextricably linked to the capacity of physical infrastructure. Resultantly 50% of growth would be directed to the remainder of the towns and villages and to the rural area. All growth would be linked to the capacity of any location to accommodate new development in the context of infrastructure, environmental sensitivities or landscape sensitivities as examples. This approach is considered acceptable and compatible with the strategy as set out in the Border Regional Planning Guidelines 2010.

In summary Alternative 3, the balanced development model, is considered the most appropriate strategic alternative for the growth of the County having regard to the principles of sustainable development and to the Core Strategy of the Border Regional Planning Guidelines. Growth will be managed so as to co-ordinate programmes for investment to result in optimum investment, ensure accommodation of significant growth with appropriate and adequate servicing and have no resultant

negative impacts on the environment. This approach recognises the interdependency of urban and rural areas in the County whilst supporting the capacity of the larger centres to advance the overall development of the County and the region.

Current State of the Environment

Donegal is the fourth largest and most northerly County in Ireland comprising of 486,091 hectares or 6.9% of the total land area of the state. The County has an extensive coastline of 1132km along the Atlantic Ocean to the north and west, a 140km with border with Northern Ireland to the east, and only abuts the rest of the Republic of Ireland along a 9km stretch with County Leitrim at it's most southerly point.

County Donegal has a varied landscape comprising mountains, fertile plains, a deeply indented coastline of Loughs, bays and peninsulas and 27* islands including the permanently inhabited islands of Tory and Aronnmore. Donegal has a large number of nationally and internationally important ecological sites and species that are offered protection through European and Irish. Section 5.0 of the Environmental Report describes in detail the current state of the Environment using available environmental data.

* As amended on OS maps.

Significant Environmental Pressures

Section 6.0 of the Environmental Report describes in detail the current Environmental Pressures in the County using available environmental data and these are summarised in the Table and text below:

Table 2: Summary of Main Environmental Pressures within the County

Topic	Environmental Issue/Pressures
Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	<p>Certain developments and activities associated with agricultural activities, afforestation, urban developments, windfarms, quarries, tourism, peat extraction, commercial fishing, ports and airports and a wide range of infrastructural works (including road works, water abstraction, wastewater disposal) that are located within or close to ecologically sensitive sites can give rise to significant environmental pressures.</p> <p>The protection of shellfish growing areas, freshwater pearl mussel and salmon have been highlighted as of particular importance. There are a relatively high number of Natura 2000 sites (SAC's and SPA's) and Natural Heritage Sites located within the County. These sites are particularly sensitive to certain development works and activities.</p> <p>Invasive non-native plant and animal species are a major threat to the biodiversity of the region.</p>
Population and Human Health	<p>Increases in population, their activities and settlement patterns have the potential to place increased pressure on biodiversity, water quality, landscape, cultural heritage and air. In particular, increased pressure on water quality arising from pollution can have a significant impact on human health. Individual and cumulative changes in the quality of the natural and built environment at local, regional and national level has the potential to impact to varying degrees on human health and wellbeing. High levels of radon in buildings and road safety have also been highlighted as significant issues.</p>
Soil	<p>Certain forms of development and activities including, urban and rural development, windfarms, waste disposal, afforestation, recreation and agricultural activities can place a significant pressure in soils. Changes in precipitation arising from global warming could have significant impacts on slope stability and could impact on soil and water quality.</p>

Topic	Environmental Issue/Pressures
Water	Development and activities can often impact on water quality including groundwater, drinking water and bathing water. Urban and rural development including wastewater and surface water disposal, landfills, quarries, contaminated lands, illegal dumping, agricultural activity, water recreational activities and afforestation can have significant impacts on water quality. Excessive inputs of nutrients, namely phosphorous and nitrogen present one of the most significant risks to water quality.
Air and Noise	Currently no significant impacts have been identified in respect to air quality or noise levels. Impacts arising from air pollution are primarily associated with transport and industrial emissions.
Coast/Marine resource	Inappropriate development near /onthe coast Dynamic needs of the coast (coastal squeeze) Flood risk and coastal defences Tourism impacts and sustainable management e.g. Sensitive dune systems and beach access points Litter disposal and public services (e.g. toilets) Activities in the water Coastal /Marine spatial planning
Climatic factors	Increased greenhouse gas emissions have been linked with climate change resulting in increases in the intensity and frequency of flooding. Of particular concern is the high dependency on the use of the car arising from a dispersed rural settlement pattern and lack of adequate public transport system.
Renewable energy	Onshore and offshore opportunities and implications Onshore - Scenic amenity - Access roads - Loss of biodiversity Offshore - Impact on birds & marine mammals - Deployment issues - Grid connection locations
Material Assets	Material assets include a wide range of natural and man made assets. These can include infrastructural services and facilities and other items such as cultural heritage, agricultural lands quarries and coastal and water resources. Developments and activities can often impact on these assets, some of which have been referred to herein. It has been highlighted that there is a high level of residential and commercial vacancy within the County. These properties represent an underutilized resource and if left idle, they can over time deteriorate and detract from the character of urban areas.
Cultural heritage, including Architectural and Archaeological	Pressures can arise from certain developments and activities on or near sites of heritage value. The visual amenities and character of urban and rural areas and items of architectural, archaeological and historical importance, including shipwrecks, may be placed under pressure by such works. It is acknowledged that development works can often have a positive impact on our cultural heritage.
Landscape	Developments and activities can impact on visually sensitive areas including designated landscape and seascapes

Topic	Environmental Issue/Pressures
Interrelationship between the above topics	Cumulative impacts and interaction of above mentioned items can give rise to increased pressure on the environment. The impacts and interactions will obviously vary in extent and nature. In particular, issues in respect to water quality, climate change and the issue of one-off housing in the countryside crosses a number of environmental topic areas. Population increase and changes in peoples' activities and settlement patterns can impact on a wide range of the topics mentioned above.

The following is a summary of certain items where particular environmental pressures have been identified in the County.

Summary of environmental pressures in County Donegal

- Many offshore islands covered by Natura 2000 sites.
- Shellfish growing areas potentially posing threats to protected habitats.
- Off shore resource exploration potentially posing threats to natural habitats.
- Infrastructural schemes such as the committed road line of the proposed A5/N2 dual carriageway and the potential routes for proposed new rail links.
- North West Gateway and associated supporting infrastructure such as broadband ducting.
- One-off housing in the countryside.

Flood Risk

The Council shall seek to manage development within policies through a suite of policies set out in Chapter 4.0 of the Development Plan and which are based on the 'precautionary principle' as detailed in section 7.0 of the Environmental Report.

Likely Evolution of the Environment in the Absence of the Implementation of the County Plan.

The SEA Directive requires the consideration of likely evolution of the environment in the absence of the implementation of the plan. In real terms it is a legislative requirement to make the Development Plan, however an examination of the 'do-nothing scenario' demonstrated that to proceed in the absence of the implementation of the County Development Plan would be contrary to the proper planning and development of the area.

Monitoring, Environmental Objectors Indicators and Targets

Monitoring of the implementation of the Plan is required in order to properly consider the effects of the implementation of the plan and to highlight areas that need re-assessed and/or reconsidered for Review. It also establishes a Baseline from which to carry out the statutory 2 year and 4 year Reviews. Part of this monitoring shall be that required by the SEA process itself and shall be based on the Environmental Objectives, Indicators and Targets as set out in section 8.0 of this Environmental Report.

Assessment of Aims, Objectives and Policies

All of the Aims, Objectives and Policies contained within the Plan were assessed in terms of their likely impact on the Environment and is set out in table 36 contained within section 8.0 of this report. This assessment was in addition to the Appropriate Assessment which focuses solely on the impact of the Plan on Natura 2000 sites (SACs and SPAs).

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures are required to protect the environment and any potential adverse effects as a result of implementation of the Plan. This was done in the first instance throughout the drafting of objectives and policies contained within the Plan, and also by amending, adding and replacing objectives and policies to ensure mitigation at implementation stage through best practice in the

development management process and implementation of the Plan. In addition, certain individual applications for developments within the County may be subject to individual Environmental Impact Assessments and Appropriate Assessments.

Incorporating Environmental Issues into the County Donegal Development Plan 2012-2018

The table below outlines how the environmental issues raised throughout the SEA process were incorporated into the Plan as objectives, policies or otherwise. The table does not include all references within the plan nor indicate amendments and modifications arrived at throughout the plan drafting process as a result of the SEA process.

Table 3: Incorporation of Environmental Issues into the Plan objectives, policies or otherwise

Environmental Issue	Objective, Policy or reference in the Plan	Additional Policy Objective or Reference Required (final check)
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna		
Impact of development works	IC-O-6, WES-P-1, WES-P-4, TC-P-4, TC-P-7, F-O-4, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-4, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11, RH-O-2, RH-O-6, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-O-3, NH-O-4, NH-O-6, NH-P-1, NH-P-2, TOU-O-2, TOU-P-1,	TC-P-4, wording should be expanded to refer all sites with environmental designations not just NHA's. TC-P-7 should be expanded to include reference to NHAs and NWIRBD.
Protection of watercourses and sensitive water bodies	WES-O-1, WES-O-4, WES-O-5, WES-P-1, WES-P-4, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, F-O-2, F-O-4, RH-O-6, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, MCZM-O-3,	
Control of invasive species	WES-P-1, NH-O-1, NH-P-5,	
Protection of Natura 2000 sites including certain sites within counties Sligo and Leitrim and Northern Ireland.	WES-P-1, TC-P-7, F-O-4, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-O-3, NH-O-4, NH-P-5,	TC-P-4, wording should be expanded to refer all sites with environmental designations not just NHA's.
Protection of Annex II species such as Freshwater Pearl Mussel and salmon	WES-O-4, WES-P-1, WES-P-4, WES-P-10, F-O-4, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-P-4,	
Ramsar Sites and Statutory Nature Reserves.	WES-P-1, F-O-4, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-3,	
Ecological Networks	WES-P-1, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-O-6, NH-P-5, NH-P-7,	
Shellfish waters	WES-O-4, WES-P-1, WES-P-4, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, F-O-1, F-O-4, RH-O-6, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-O-4, NH-P-3, MCZM-O-3	

Environmental Issue	Objective, Policy or reference in the Plan	Additional Policy Objective or Reference Required (final check)
Population and Human Health		
Quality of Life	IC-O-1, IC-O-2, IC-O-7, IC-O-8, CS-O-5, CS-O-9, CS-P-1, CS-P-2, CS-P-4, ED-O-2, ED-O-7, RS-P-3, RS-P-4, RS-P-7, F-O-1, F-O-3, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11, UB-O-6, UB-P-1, UB-P-2, UB-P-4, UB-P-6, UB-P-7, RH-O-2, RH-O-5, RH-P-1, RH-P-2, TA-O-1, TA-P-1, MCZM-P-10, MCZM-P-11,	
Population trends, distribution of RPG Population targets and Settlement Frameworks.	CS-O-1, CS-O-2, CS-O-3, CS-O-7, CS-O-8	
Health and its relationship to environmental issues.	IC-O-6, WES-O-1, WES-P-3, WES-P-4, WES-P-10, F-O-2, NH-O-1, TOU-O-2, CCG-P-4	
Provision of infrastructure and community facilities	CS-O-1, CS-O-2, CS-O-3, CS-O-6, CS-P-1, CS-P-2, CS-P-3, CS-P-4, RS-O-4, RS-O-6, T-P-1, T-P-4, T-P-5, T-P-7, T-P-26, T-P-27, T-P-28, T-P-29, T-P-30, T-P-31, T-P-32, T-P-34, T-P-36, T-P-38, T-P-40, T-P-41, WES-P-5, UB-O-3, UB-P-1, UB-P-2, UB-P-4, UB-P-6, RH-O-4, TOU-O-5, TOU-O-7, CCG-O-1, CCG-P-1, CCG-P-2, CCG-P-5, CCG-P-7, CCG-P-8, CCG-P-11, CCG-P-13, CCG-P-15, CCG-P-16, CCG-P-21, CH-O-1, CH-P-2, CH-P-4, CH-O-5	
Flooding	RS-P-7, F-O-1, F-O-2, F-O-3, F-O-4, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-4, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11	
Water		
Impact of development works on water quality	WES-P-1, WES-P-3, WES-P-4, WES-P-6, WES-P-7, WES-P-8, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, F-P-2, MCZM-O-3	TC-P-7, should be expanded to include reference to NHAs and NWIRBD.
Alignment with objectives and policies of the NWIRBD Plan.	IC-O-6, WES-O-1, WES-O-4, WES-O-5, WES-P-1, WES-P-3, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, F-O-4, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, MCZM-O-3	TC-P-4, wording should be expanded to refer all sites with environmental designations not just NHA's
Wastewater, drinking water and bathing water quality.	IC-O-6, WES-O-1, WES-O-5, WES-P-1, WES-P-3, WES-P-4, WES-P-5, WES-P-8, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, RH-P-8, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, MCZM-O-3, MCZM-P-10	
Air and Climate Change		
Climate Change and Air Quality	IC-O-6, WES-O-5, WES-P-1, E-O-1, E-O-2, E-O-3, E-P-2, E-P-5, MCZM-O-1	

Environmental Issue	Objective, Policy or reference in the Plan	Additional Policy Objective or Reference Required (final check)
Limiting Greenhouse gas emissions and reducing dependency on fossil fuels.	WES-O-5, WES-P-1, E-O-4, MCZM-O-1, CH-O-4	
Cultural Heritage		
Impact of development works (e.g. infrastructural works, forestry)	T-P-12	
Identification and protection of geological sites,	EX-O-1	
Protection of architectural and archaeological structures and sites.	CS-O-11, EX-O-1, EX-P-4, G-P-1, BH-O-1, BH-O-2, BH-O-3, BH-O-4, BH-P-1, BH-P-2, BH-P-3, BH-P-4, BH-P-5, BH-P-6, BH-P-7, BH-P-8, AH-O-1, AH-P-1, AH-P-2, AH-P-3	
Landscape		
Impact of development works (e.g. infrastructural works, forestry)	CS-P-1, CS-P-2, CS-P-3, RS-O-8, RS-P-5, T-P-10, T-P-12, TC-P-4, TC-P-7, F-O-4, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-4, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11, UB-P-1, UB-P-2, UB-P-4, UB-P-6, EX-O-2, EX-P-5, NH-O-5, NH-P-8, NH-P-9, NH-P-11, NH-P-12, BH-P-9, TOU-O-8, TOU-P-1	
Identification, Classification and protection of landscape	IC-O-6, TC-P-4, EX-O-2, NH-P-10, NH-P-13, NH-P-14, TOU-P-3, TOU-P-4	
Other Issues		
Rural Housing	F-O-4, F-P-8, RH-O-2, RH-O-4, RH-O-5, RH-O-6, RH-P-1, RH-P-2, RH-P-6	
Development of recreation and tourism facilities	ED-O-8, TOU-O-1, TOU-O-2, TOU-O-3, TOU-O-4, TOU-O-5, TOU-O-6, TOU-O-7, TOU-O-8, TOU-P-1, TOU-P-2, TOU-P-3, TOU-P-4, TOU-P-5, TOU-P-6, TOU-P-7, TOU-P-8, TOU-P-9, TOU-P-10, TOU-P-11	
Coastal Management	WES-P-9, F-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-P-6, MCZM-O-3, MCZM-P-10	
Waste management	WES-O-2, WES-O-3, WES-P-2,	
Soils	IC-O-6, CS-P-1, CS-P-2, CS-P-3, CS-P-4, WES-O-5, WES-P-10, F-O-1, F-O-3, F-O-4, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-4, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11, NH-O-1	
Employment and Enterprise Developments	ED-O-2, ED-O-3, ED-O-4, ED-O-6	

1.2 Statutory Context

The Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 436 of 2004) translate the European Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EC into Irish Law. The Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government issued guidelines in November 2004 on the implementation of the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) entitled 'Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment'.

A Strategic Environmental Assessment of the County Donegal Development Plan 2012-2018 is a mandatory requirement pursuant to Article 13D of the aforementioned SEA Regulations, and has been drafted pursuant to the SEA Regulations and in accordance with the SEA Guidelines. These SEA guidelines set out the SEA process and set out the following requisite steps:

- Screening
- Scoping
- Environmental Assessment
- Environmental Report (currently at this stage)
- Consultation
- Evaluation of submissions and observations made
- SEA statement.

1.3 Transboundary consultation

Informal consultation between the Planning Authority and the Department of the Environment in Northern Ireland has been carried out during the first phase of the review of the County Development Plan. It is the view of the Council that formal transboundary consultation is not required, as the implementation of the Plan will not have significant impacts on the environment of a member state. In accordance with the provisions of the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2011, The Minister of the Environment, Community and Local Government has been notified of the Council view.

1.4 Checklist of Contents of Environmental Report

The following table sets out the information to be contained within the Environmental Report as set out in Annex 1 of the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) and indicates where in this environmental report each is included.

Table 4: Checklist of contents of Environmental Report

Contents of Environmental Report		Section of Report
(a)	An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	1.3
(b)	The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	5.0 8.0
(c)	The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	5.0
(d)	Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC;	6.0
(e)	The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation;	8.0

(f)	The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors;	8.0
(g)	The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme;	8.0
(h)	An outline of the reasons for selecting alternatives dealt with and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know how) encountered in compiling the required information;	4.0
(i)	A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10;	8.0
(j)	A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.	1.1

1.5 Planning Context

The County plan is placed within a hierarchy of other plans detailed below and as such the policies and objectives of the plan must accord with the National Spatial Strategy (2002) and Border Regional Planning Guidelines (2010-2022).

Figure 1: Hierarchy of Plans



The National Spatial Strategy (NSS) 2002 sets out the strategic vision for the spatial development of the Country over a 20 year period, and identifies County Donegal as a distinct sub-region with the border region.

The Border Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022 builds on the provision of the NSS by providing for a succinct settlement hierarchy throughout the County based on the Core Strategy requirements of the Planning and Development Acts 2010. They set out a clear planning framework for growth in the County by setting out population targets which will inform settlement and housing strategies in addressing the proper planning and sustainable development of the County.

Due to the extensive boundary with Northern Ireland, regard must also be had to the Regional Development Strategy for Northern Ireland (2001) and which is currently at public consultation stage as part of a review process. Regard must also be had to adjoining Area Plans in NI, namely; Derry Area Plan 2011, West Tyrone Area Plan 2019 and Fermanagh Area Plan 2007, and also to the Leitrim and Sligo County Development Plans.

Table 5 below lists all of the relevant plans, programmes and strategies containing environmental protection objectives, indicators and targets that must be considered within the County Development plan making process.

Table 5: Other relevant plans, programmes and strategies

	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Key consideration for County Development Plan
Biodiversity, fauna and flora		
International	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EEC	Requirement to carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment.
	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance 1971 (amended 1982 and 1987) (Ramsar Convention)	Requirement to protect sites from loss or damage by development.
	Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora	Requirement to carry out an Appropriate Assessment. Requirement to protect and enhance ecological resources.
	Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds	
	UN Convention on Biological Diversity	Requirement to maintain diversity and distinctiveness.
	Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)	
	Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (1995)	
	European Biodiversity Strategy (1998)	
	Freshwater Fish Directive (78/659/EEC)	
	Shellfish Waters Directive (79/923/EEC)	
National	Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (SI No. 436 of 2004)	Conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.
	Flora Protection Order 1980 (amended 1999)	Protection of species.
	Forestry Act 1946	Requirement to maintain biodiversity.
	Wildlife Act (1976)	
	Wildlife (Amendment) Act (2000)	
	National Biodiversity Plan 2004	
Local	Donegal Biodiversity Plan	
	Lough's Agency Licensing Programme	
Soil		
International	EU Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection	Aims to maintain and protect soil quality.
National	National soil survey of Ireland	Inform the plan
Water		
International	Directive 2000/60/EC Water Framework Directive	Requirement to achieve good ecological status by 2015 and ensure their status does not deteriorate.
	Directive 2007/60/EC Flood Risk Management	Assessment and Management of Flood Risk
	EU Drinking Water directive (98/83/EC)	Requirement to achieve and maintain good quality, drinking, surface, bathing and wastewater.
	EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)	
	EU Groundwater Directive (1980/68/EEC)	
	EU Surface Water Directive (75/440/EEC)	
	EU Urban Waste water Directive (91/271/EEC)	
	EU bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC)	
	EU Dangerous Substances in Water Directive (79/464/EEC)	Protect existing Shellfish Waters (Mulroy Bay)
EC Shellfish Waters Directive (2006/113/EEC)		
National	North Western Draft River Basin Management Plan (NIEA)	Contains river basin catchments that flow into Donegal and rivers that have catchments in Donegal.

	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Key consideration for County Development Plan
	The Planning system and Flood Risk Management: Consultation Draft Guidelines for Planning Authorities. September 2008	
	The Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1997(amended 1990)	
	The Local Government (Water quality Standards for phosphorous) Regulations 1998	
	EPA Wastewater treatment for single homes; consultation draft 2007.	
Local	Draft River Basin Management Plan for the North Western International River Basin District. December 2008	Implement the requirements of the EU water framework directive to ensure good water quality by 2015
Climate Change		
International	European Climate Change Programme	Aims to reduce emissions
	Kyoto Protocol (1997)	Sets international targets and mechanisms for addressing climate change.
	Directive 200192/92/EC Energy performance of buildings	Aims to conserve energy
	Air Framework Directive, Directive on Air Quality Assessment and Management (Framework Directive) (1996/62/EC)	Assessment and Management of Flood Risk
	Directive on national emission ceilings for certain atmospheric pollutants (2001/81/EC)	Aims to reduce emissions
National	National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012	Aims to reduce emissions
Material Assets		
International	Directive 99/31/EC Landfill Directive	Sets targets for reducing waste to landfill
	Directive 2002/96/EC, The WEEE Directive on waste electrical and electronic equipment.	
National	Waste Management Acts (WMA) 1996-2005	Sets National Policy
	Waste Management Regulations, 2001	
	Quarries and Ancillary Actions (Guidelines to Planning Authorities) April 2004	
	Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Bill 2006	
	Roads Acts 1961-2007	
	EPA Landfill Manuals (Draft for public Consultation)	Provides guidance on landfills
	Transport 21	Provides investment in Irelands transport system
	DoEHLG Policy Statement: Waste Management-Taking Stock and Moving Forward, 2004	Policy statements expanding on the National Policies.
	DoEHLG Policy Statement: Preventing and Recycling Waste, 2002	
	DoEHLG Policy Statement: Waste Management, Changing our ways, 1998	
Local	Donegal Waste Management Plan 2006-2010	Provides a framework for waste management in the County
Cultural Heritage		
International	Granada Convention for Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe 1985	
	European Convention for Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe 1992	
National	National Monuments Acts 1930-1994	Sets National policy governing archaeological structures and sites.
	Architectural Heritage Protection- Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2004	
	National Monuments (Amendment) Act 2004	
	National Monuments Regulations 2005	

	Plan, Programme or Strategy	Key consideration for County Development Plan
	Planning and Development Acts 2000-2009	Sets National policy governing, inter alia, historic buildings.
	National Heritage Plan 2004	Sets National policy
Local	Donegal Heritage Plan	
Landscape		
International	European Landscape Convention (2000)	Requires protection and enhancement of landscapes
National	Wind Energy Guidelines 2004	Requires protection and enhancement of landscapes
	Draft Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Landscape and Landscape Assessment 2000	
Interrelationships/sustainable development		
International	European Strategy for Sustainable Development (2006)	Identifies key priorities for sustainable development.
	6th Environmental Action Plan of the European Community (2002)	Encourages integration of environmental issues across all sectors of policy.
	The EU Environment and Health Strategy 2004-2010	Promotes sustainable development.
	Agenda 21 (1992). Action for Sustainable Development	
	'The Gothenburg Strategy' Communication from the Commission on Sustainable Europe for a Better World 2001.	
National	Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Rural Housing 2005	Sets National policy
	Sustainable Development-a Strategy for Ireland 1997	
	Making Ireland's Development sustainable 2002	
	National Development Plan (NDP) Transforming Ireland- A better Quality of Life for All, 2007-2013	
	Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas December 2008	
	Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities, Sept 2007	
	Provision of schools and the Planning System, July 2008	
	Sustainable Rural Housing, Guidelines for Planning Authorities, 2006	
	Childcare Facilities Guidelines for Planning Authorities, June 2001	
Air Quality		
International	EU 'Air Framework Directive' Directive on Air Quality Assessment and Management (Framework Directive) (1996/62/EC)	To improve Air Quality and control emissions.
	EU Directive on National Emission Ceilings for Certain Atmospheric Pollutants.	
	WHO Air Quality Guidelines (1999)	Recommends Air Quality levels and improvements
National	Draft National Air Quality Monitoring Programme, 2000	To improve Air Quality and control emissions.
Planning		
National	Planning and Development Acts 2000-2009	Sets National policy
	National Spatial Strategy 2004	
Local	Border Regional Planning Guidelines 2004	Sets Regional Guidelines for development.

The County Development Plan is the principle instrument that is used to manage land use change within the County and the Plan accompanying this Environmental Report consists of a written document containing the objectives and policies of the Plan, maps and appendices.

The Key Strategic Policy Objectives of the Plan are set out in the introduction of the core written statement of chapter 1 and are listed below:

- To develop a sustainable economic model and to embrace innovation, research and development, rural diversification, eco tourism initiatives, energy advances and the promotion of sustainable start up enterprises.
- To strengthen infrastructure, business and innovation linkages within the County and in the Cross Border context, the other Gateways, hubs, and towns in the Border Region Dublin, and elsewhere in the Country.
- To strengthen business entrepreneurship, innovation and educational relationships with cross border educational institutions and to promote the North-West generally and to attract investment, into the County.
- To consolidate, protect and enhance the role of Letterkenny as the Gateway focus, the driver for employment and service provision in the County.
- To support vibrant communities and prioritise social inclusion for all the population through equality of access to a range of activities including health, recreation, childcare, arts, culture, shopping and sports activities.
- To acknowledge and implement, all EU Directives, and National, Regional Planning legislation and guidance, to ensure protection of resources and the environment.
- To protect and enhance the unique quality and diversity of the environment, in the County, through a wide range of measures, supported by proper planning and sustainable development.
- To enhance and strengthen the infrastructural links within the County and in the Cross Border context and further afield towards the UK and Europe.
- To address existing infrastructural and service deficiencies throughout the County, such as the transportation network, rail, water supply and wastewater facilities, waste disposal, energy and communications networks, the provision of education, healthcare, retail, and a wide range of community based facilities.
- To facilitate development, innovation, research and technological advances in business, communications and energy development throughout the County and in a Regional, Cross Border and National context.

1.6 Methodology

A scoping exercise was carried out as part of this SEA process and a scoping report was made available during the initial public consultation period of the County Development Plan Review in July 2010.

The purpose of the scoping report was to determine the range of environmental issues within the plan area and ensure that any significant environmental issues were appropriately assessed in the Plan.

The environmental report details the 'Current State of the Environment' or 'Baseline' of County Donegal using known available data sources (including recently collated baseline information from the Border Regional Authority, 'Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (Environmental Report) of the Draft Regional Planning Guidelines (2010-2022)'). Geographical Information Systems (GIS) were used heavily in both the identification and mapping of the various layers of environmental vulnerabilities and also as a tool in assessing the cumulative effect of potential developments.

The baseline environmental data and indicators were considered at all times during the drafting of the policies of the Plan and arriving at the 'Settlement Frameworks' as detailed in Appendix A of the County Development Plan, and in particular the location and conservation status of Natura 2000 sites, shellfish waters and the requirements of the NWIRBD Plan.

Strategic Environmental Objectives were drafted following the collation of the baseline data and are based on the particular environmental issues affecting County Donegal whilst also complying with the requirements of Schedule 2(B) of the Planning and development Regulations 2001, and the SEA Guidelines, 2004.

The SEA process shaped the drafting of the entire Plan and table 37 outlines how the environmental issues raised throughout the SEA process were incorporated into the Plan as objectives, policies or otherwise. The testing Matrix contained within Table 36 of this report assesses each of the aims, objectives and policies of the Plan against each of the 25 Strategic Environmental Objectives. Where a potential conflict arose the emerging policies were re-assessed and on occasion modified and changed.

The SEA process also significantly shaped the '57 settlement frameworks' for the individual settlements throughout the County. In the 2006-2012 County Donegal Development Plan there were 105 'Control Point Settlements' that have now become 'settlement Frameworks' or subsumed into the wider 'rural' category. As a first step each of the 105 'Control Point' settlements (within their Boundaries) were assessed against the Strategic Environmental Objectives as set out in Table 35; this highlighted numerous environmental issues both stand-alone and cumulative within the settlements and this information served as a back drop for the following:

- Drawing of the settlement boundaries that in the majority of instances resulted in a significant reduction in the settlement framework boundaries.
- Determination of location of each settlement in the settlement hierarchy
- Population share resulting from the population targets set by the Border Regional Authority.

Assessment of Environmental Vulnerabilities

Environmental Vulnerabilities within the County were identified during the gathering of baseline data for the environmental report and those that have the data available spatially have been mapped individually and also compiled into a 'Map of Vulnerabilities' (Map 1 herein) as illustrated below. In order to map the environmental vulnerabilities in the County, a total of 39 layers of environmental data were overlaid spatially and weighted in order to show an output range of environmental vulnerability ranging from High (red) to blue (low). The Environmental Vulnerabilities GIS mapping displays environmental data on layers and enables easy identification of areas of high vulnerability that have been considered through the drafting of policies, and as a tool in identifying areas that may be subject to mitigation.

A weighting system was applied to each layer through the GIS system in order to arrive at a value of vulnerabilities for the entire County. The sequential weightings system gives International datasets (Natura 2000 sites) a value of 15, National, Regional & Local datasets a rating value of 10 and the 15km buffer zone around Natura 2000 sites a value of 5 as detailed below:

Table 6: Weighting System in respect of Environmental Vulnerabilities

Weighting Applied	Environmental Vulnerability Factor
15	Natura 2000 sites (SACs and SPAs) and Sites of Freshwater Pearl Mussel Population. (International)
10	NHA, pNHA, Ramsar Sites, Nature Reserves, National Parks, Broadleaved woodland, RPS, Monuments in State care, Siotes and Monuments Record, Archaeological monuments, Archaeological complexes, EHSA, Views and prospects, Geological sites, Aggregate Potential, Bathing Water Quality, Blue Flag Beaches, Green Coast Awards, Aquifers, Source Protection Areas, Abstraction Points, Flood Points, Benefiting lands, FPM Catchments, Unsewered Properties, Walking routes, Blue Stack Way, IPPC licences, EPA Waste licences, NWIRBD coastal, Transitional, lakes and river bodies and risk and Shellfish catchments.
5	15km buffer areas around Natura 2000 sites.

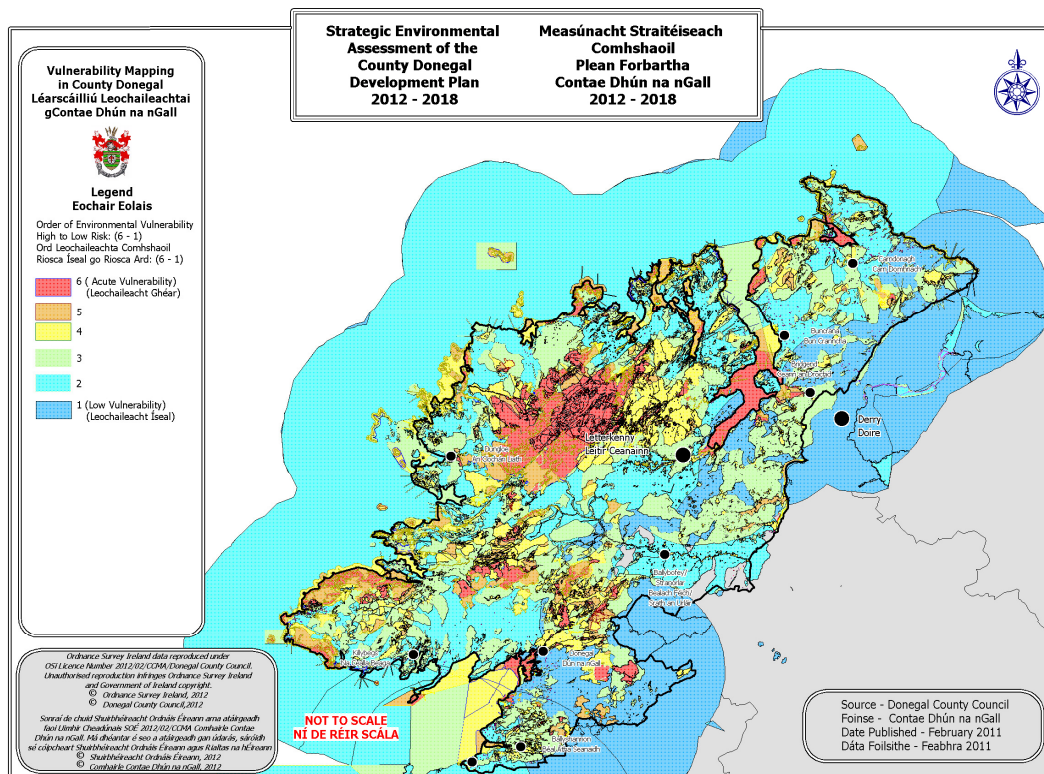
The range of vulnerability consists of the layering of the vulnerability factors. The vulnerability value for an area is the sum of the ratings values that overlap that area. For example, where 2 datasets with a rating value of 10 each overlap, the resulting overlapping area will have a final vulnerability of 20. An overlap value can also be calculated, this indicates the number of datasets affecting a specific area, for example where a site has 5 different layers of vulnerability, the overlap value will be 5. The table below sets out the range of vulnerabilities used in the mapping.

Table 7: Range of Vulnerabilities

Vulnerability	Category
0	No Vulnerability(ie areas without any environmental vulnerabilities)
<5	Low Vulnerability
5 - 10	Moderate Vulnerability
15 - 20	Elevated Vulnerability
25 - 30	High Vulnerability
35 - 40	Extreme Vulnerability
>45	Acute Vulnerability

This Vulnerabilities Map shows where the most environmentally sensitive areas of the County (red) to the least environmentally sensitive (blue). There are certain limitations and an element of subjectivity to the vulnerabilities mapping developed, however the exercise was fundamental to assessing potential conflicts of the Plan with environmental vulnerabilities.

Map 1: Vulnerability Mapping in County Donegal



As visible from the Vulnerabilities Mapping the areas of acute Vulnerability are in Glenveagh, headlands, inlets and the islands, including Carrick, Tory Island, Lough Swilly, Donegal Bay, Horn Head. These can be attributed to Natura 2000 sites, designated waters and landscape vulnerability.

Inland areas of acute vulnerability include Slieve League, Pettigo plateau, Lough Derg and Lough Eske and these also can be attributed to Natura 2000 sites, designated waters and landscape vulnerability.

Other spots of high vulnerability on the map can be attributed to specific towns and areas within the County such as Lifford, Malin, Rathmullen and Donegal Town that have overlapping of natural and built, International and National designations.

2.0 Consultations

As part of the scoping exercise a pre-scoping report was prepared and circulated to the following 3 statutory and other public bodies:

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG)
- Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (DCENR)
- Cross-directorate within the Council

Submissions were received from the 3 statutory consultees in response to the pre-scoping paper, and a summary of the key points raised is detailed below.

Submission from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The EPA recommends that the current state of the environment should be described using most recent and up-to-date environmental data, information and reports and that the current state of the environment should be updated throughout the process as and when new information becomes available.

The EPA submission also states that the current state of drinking water quality and treatment infrastructure should be described using the most recent and up to date data, information and reports.

GIS should be used to assist in determining the cumulative vulnerability of various environmental resources and how the plan might impact on these resources.

The EPA also suggests convening a scoping meeting/workshop with key staff in DCC.

Submission from Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) (David Tuohy (Development Applications Unit))

The DEHLG submission states that the Department support the approach taken in the scoping report and they recommend that Donegal County Council recognize designated, candidate and proposed SAC, SPA and NHA sites.

The submission points out that interactions between birds, marine mammals and habitats have not been sufficiently documented off the coast of Donegal, this may therefore be a significant data gap.

DEHLG state that clear Environmental Protection Objectives should be outlined in the plan with measures to prevent or reduce any significant adverse effects on the environment.

Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) (Architectural Heritage (Teresa Halloram))

This submission highlights the opportunity for consolidating the built form of urban and rural areas in the new plan to reinforce a sense of place and identity within the County.

They state that new development should enhance the local environment and contribute to a place of distinction, and therefore there is a need to develop an architectural framework in the development plan incorporating the built heritage. The plan should take into account the potential effect on

architectural heritage and identify the implication of the scale, type and location of significant development in the vicinity of structures of architectural heritage merit.
An opportunity should be taken to identify any areas of special character in the plan area, particularly of differing character within the County.

**Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (DCENR)
(Seana McGrearty, co-ordination unit)**

DCENR had no comments to make on the review

Donegal National Roads Design Office

The NRDO state that it would be useful if the most urgent infrastructure deficits were clearly identified in the plan, and have some text noting how the policies and objectives of the plan interact.

Lists the main roads projects for the forthcoming 10 years as:

- The Letterkenny-Strabane Project
- The N15 Ballybofey Bypass
- The N15 Ballybofey-Lifford Project
- The Stranorlar-Derry (via Letterkenny) project
- The Letterkenny relief road project.

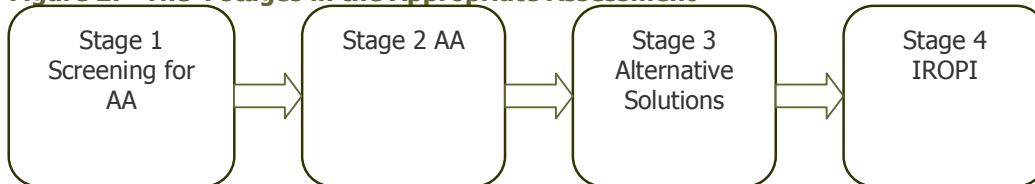
3.0 Appropriate Assessment (Natura Impact Report)

An Appropriate Assessment of the County Donegal Development Plan was carried out pursuant to Article 6 of the Habitats Directive and Section 177T (1) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2010.

The EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) aimed to create a network of protected wildlife sites in Europe through the designation of Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas, collectively known as Natura 2000 sites. The Directive was transposed into Irish law by the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997, and more recently by amendment to the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2010. It is a requirement of the Directive and legislation to carry out an Appropriate Assessment (Natura Impact Report) on any plan or Project that is likely to have a significant effect on the conservation status of the site.

DEHLG issued "Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland; Guidance for Planning Authorities" in 2009 provides guidance and sets out the 4 steps in the Appropriate Assessment Process, as detailed below.

Figure 2: The 4 stages in the Appropriate Assessment



Stage One: Screening — the process which identifies the likely impacts upon a Natura 2000 site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant;

Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment — the consideration of the impact on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts;

Stage Three: Assessment of alternative solutions — the process which examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site;

Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain — an assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

Appropriate Assessment

A Natura Impact Report has been prepared in parallel with this document. This Report is being considered in conjunction with the SEA process and the outcomes will inform the making of the Draft Guidelines.

Stage One: Screening

Screening for Appropriate Assessment on the implications of the County Development Plan 2012-2018 on Natura 2000 sites in accordance with the requirements of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive was carried out in January 2010. It examined the likely effects of the Plan on Natura 2000 sites in the County and within a 15km buffer of the County and considered whether it could be objectively concluded that these sites would not be significantly impacted upon.

The Screening report concluded that due to the expansive nature and extent of Natura 2000 sites within the Plan area (over a quarter of the landcover of the entire County and 12.3% of the Country as a whole) and the potential for development over the 6 year plan period that could impact on the integrity of the sites, that an Appropriate Assessment of the Plan was required and that to proceed to Stage 2.

Stage Two – Appropriate Assessment (Natura Impact Report)

All Natura 2000 sites in-situ and ex-situ (within 15km of the County) were identified and a Scientific Assessment of the potential risks and impacts of the objectives and policies of the Plan on the Natura Sites was carried out.

Where potential risks and impacts were identified, the policies and objectives were reworded or mitigating measures proposed and have been included within the text of the Plan.

Stage Three and Stage Four IROPI

The Appropriate Assessment on the Plan involved stages 1 and 2 of the Appropriate Assessment process only and there was therefore no requirement to proceed to stages 3 and 4.

Preparation of the assessment involved preliminary discussions with the NPWS Regional Ecologists to identify general issues of concern for conservation in the County. A review of conservation objectives and threats to site integrity for the range of Natura 2000 in the County was undertaken to identify sites that may be impacted by policies/objectives in the Plan.

The Core Strategy sets out the strategic planning framework including the settlement hierarchy and distribution of population targets in line the Border Regional Planning Guidelines. Many of the settlements in the County are located adjacent to river SACs and coastal SACs and SPAs and each has been considered as part of the appropriate assessment individually.

Appropriate Assessment Conclusion

The Natura Impact Report concluded a finding of No Significant Effects following the completion of stage 2 of the process. Any potential impact on the Natura 2000 network has been mitigated against through amendments of existing policies and objectives, and the addition of a number of policies. The determination of the Appropriate Assessment is that there is no requirement to proceed to stage 3 of the AA as there is no significant detrimental effect identified as the result of implementation of the Plan to the integrity of any European Site.

Table 8: Mitigation Arising from Appropriate Assessment

Chapter	Objective, policy or reference in the Plan	Additional policy, objective or reference added to the County Development Plan
Telecommunications	TC-P-4, TC-P-6	<p>TC-P-5 wording should be expanded to refer all sites with environmental designations not just NHA's.</p> <p>TC-P-7 wording was expanded to ensure that roads associated with telecommunications development 'comply with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive and have regard to the relevant conservation objectives, qualifying interests and threats to the integrity of Natura 2000 sites.'</p>
Flooding	F-O-1 F-P-11	<p>F-O-1 wording was expanded to 'comply with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive and have regard to the relevant conservation objectives, qualifying interests and threats to the integrity of Natura 2000 sites.'</p> <p>F-P-11 wording was expanded to state 'subject to environmental considerations and compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.'</p>
Natural Resources and Development	EX-P-1, EX-P-3, EX-P-5	<p>EX-P-1 wording was expanded to 'comply with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive'. Further paragraph was added 'All extractive industry proposals in designated freshwater Pearl Mussel Catchments will be subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment and will comply with the objectives and practices set out in the relevant Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub-basin Plan, and any relevant codes of practice.'</p> <p>EX-P-3 wording was expanded in that any restoration plan must 'comply with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive and have regard to the relevant conservation objectives, qualifying interests and threats to the integrity of a Natura 2000 site.'</p> <p>EX-P-5 wording was expanded to state 'where mitigating works are required to upgrade or realign roads infrastructure, they must comply with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive and have regard to the relevant conservation objectives, qualifying interests and threats to the integrity of a Natura 2000 site, and will comply with the objectives and practices set in any relevant Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub-basin Plan, and any relevant codes of practice.'</p>

Chapter	Objective, policy or reference in the Plan	Additional policy, objective or reference added to the County Development Plan
Built and Natural Heritage	<p>Background text added to explain appropriate assessment.</p> <p>New policy Objectives added NH-O-2 NH-O-3 NH-O-4</p> <p>New Policies added NH-P-2 NH-P-3 NH-P-4</p>	<p>Paragraph added to give clarification of when an appropriate assessment is required 'Article 6 of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) requires the protection of the designated species and habitats of Natura 2000 sites. Therefore any plan or project with the potential to impact on the conservation objectives of designated sites is required to take appropriate steps to avoid the deterioration of natural habitats and the habitats species as well as significant disturbance of species for which areas have been designated and maybe subject to Appropriate Assessment.'</p> <p>NH-O-1 To comply with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and have regard to the relevant conservation objectives, qualifying interests and threats to the integrity of Natura 2000 sites.'</p> <p>NH-O-3 To maintain the conservation value of all existing and/or proposed SAC's, SPA's and NHA's and Ramsar sites including those plant and animal species that have been identified for protection.</p> <p>NH-O-4 To protect and improve the integrity and quality of Designated Shellfish Waters, and Freshwater Pearl Mussel Basins and to take account of any relevant Shellfish Reduction Program or Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub-basin Plan.</p> <p>NH-P-2 It is a policy of the Council to ensure the protection of Natura 2000 sites in accordance with EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and have regard to the relevant conservation objectives, qualifying interests and threats to the integrity of these Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p>NH-P-3 It is a policy of the Council to require the consideration of designated Shellfish Waters and their shellfish pollution Reduction Programmes in all development proposals that fall within their catchment.</p> <p>NH-P-4 It is a policy of the Council to require the consideration of Freshwater Pearl Mussel and any relevant Freshwater Pearl Mussel sub-basin Plans in all development proposals that fall within their basin of catchment.</p>
Economic Development	ED-P-13	Wording to be added to ED-P-13 'The provisions of policy ED-P-15 will also be taken into account, and ED-P-15 (h) will apply'

Chapter	Objective, policy or reference in the Plan	Additional policy, objective or reference added to the County Development Plan
Building a House in Rural Donegal. A Location Siting and Design Guide		Words need to be added 'Gorse (Ulex europaeus) should not be planted too close to buildings to avoid a fire hazard.
Transportation	T-O-1	Policy or text to inform when an EIS may be required to be carried out as part of a project
Chapter 10 Development and Technical Standards	Section 10.15	Add in Note in page 127 'The routes and Corridors are indicative only due to the fact that they are premature and have not been finalised. The necessary SEA and AA for the routes and corridors will be dealt with at project level in due course.'

4.0 Alternative Approaches To The Plan

Alternative approaches to the plan

The Border Regional Planning Guidelines, published in 2010 set the framework for population growth in the County up to 2016. The resultant Housing Land Requirements established by the RPG's are set out in the core document, table 1. These set the wider development context for the County.

Working within these figures, there are 3 strategic alternative development options now considered. In considering the appropriateness of the alternatives, focus is on the delivery of a sustainable strategy that is consistent with the hierarchy of plans.

Planning context:

The planning context for the alternatives is as follows:

National Spatial Strategy 2002: Sets the planning framework for the country (2002- 2020) designed to achieve a sustainable balance of social, economic and physical development and population growth across the country. Letterkenny is designated as a linked gateway with Derry.

Border Regional Planning Guidelines 2010: Sets the planning framework for the border region, consistent with the requirements of the NSS, so as to provide a long-term strategic planning framework for the region. The Guidelines provide for the integration of spatial planning, the economy and infrastructure provision. The Guidelines identify a total population growth for the entire of the County, of 12,927 persons to 2016. Of this, the RPG's indicate that 2,700 population growth shall occur in the Letterkenny Gateway and that the remaining share of 10,227 persons shall occur within the rest of the County.

Alternatives:

The following are the three alternatives considered:

1. Continuation of current trends.
2. Urban- centric model.
3. Balanced development model.

Details of the Alternative Models:

The following paragraphs set out the nature of each alternative and the likely impacts that will arise.

Alternative 1: Continuation of current trends.

This approach would involve the continuation of existing patterns of development and minimal

intervention in relation to strategic planning policy. 'Demand' rather than 'need' together with market forces would drive development patterns. The predominant development patterns would involve continued growth of individual rural housing units in the rural area, depopulation of town cores and high growth on the edges of towns, and growth in multiple residential developments in a dispersed and uncoordinated nature.

This development pattern would weaken the capacity of towns to support economic growth and viability. Development would not be directed to locations with appropriate servicing, both in the context of physical infrastructure such as adequate wastewater treatment and also in relation to 'soft' infrastructure such as community facilities, health services. It would increase impacts and encroachment on the natural environment.

This approach would be most likely to have the following impacts:

- Weakened towns and villages and lack of regeneration and revitalisation.
- Pressure of limited resources to make required investments in wastewater and water infrastructure.
- Demand for the uneconomic extension of community services and facilities.
- Pressure on rural areas immediately outside urban areas.
- Further proliferation of individual wastewater treatment systems.
- Provision of higher cost services and facilities in an unplanned way- developer driven and occurring as the need arises.
- Contradictions in identifying investment priorities and delivery of key infrastructural projects.
- Lack of clarity for economic and employment investors in terms of preferred locations for new economic development, and provision of the factors of competitiveness.
- Increase risk of non- compliance with the Water Framework Directive, with damage to environmentally sensitive areas.

Having regard to the foregoing, it is considered that this approach would not be acceptable and would not be consistent with the Border Regional Planning Guidelines.

Alternative 2: Urban- centric model.

This approach would result in absolute concentration of new development to the Gateway (Letterkenny) and to the key population settlements that provide a supporting role to the Gateway; namely Ballybofey- Stranorlar, Buncrana, Donegal Town, Ballyshannon, Dungloe and Carndonagh. It would exhaust redevelopment of brownfield sites and infill sites and revitalisation of the town centres before development would occur on Greenfield sites. Development in rural areas would occur only in exceptional circumstances and therefore population would not increase in the rural areas over the lifetime of the plan except where previous planning permission are implemented or through uptake of vacant units. Investment in infrastructure, both hard and soft would be concentrated in Letterkenny and the 6 key supporting towns.

This approach would strengthen Letterkenny and the key towns but would place significant immediate pressure on existing services and facilities within these towns. It would stagnate the remainder of the towns and villages in the County and would also stagnate the vitality of the rural community.

This approach would be most likely to have the following impacts:

- Drive critical mass in Letterkenny and the 6 key towns.
- Direct new development to brownfield and infill sites thereby ensuring more compact urban areas.
- Reduce the vitality, vibrancy and competitiveness of the remainder of small towns and villages as attractive places for economic investment.
- Drain resources, vitality and viability from the remainder of small towns and villages due to the demands from Letterkenny and key towns.
- Stagnate population growth in rural areas and diminish rural communities.

- Overlook genuine rural need in line with the Guidelines on Sustainable Rural Housing 2005.

Having regard to the foregoing, it is considered that this approach would not be acceptable as it would not result in the coordinated balanced growth of the County and would not be consistent with the Regional Planning Guidelines.

Alternative 3: Balanced development model.

This approach would have a Gateway focus (Letterkenny) followed by the key population settlements that provide a supporting role to the Gateway; namely Ballybofey- Stranorlar, Buncrana, Donegal Town, Ballyshannon, Dungloe and Carndonagh. The Gateway focus would be to the benefit of the wider county in terms of realising the regionally significant role of Letterkenny, and the assets and investments associated with this role. The directing of population into key towns would also provide for a geographical spread of critical mass to key locations so as to attract sub county level benefits across the county. However, the level of appropriate growth would be set at around 50% of the total overall population growth targets for the County and would be inextricably linked to the capacity of physical infrastructure. This strategic focus would also be extended to a limited number of other smaller sized settlements that demonstrate strategic economic opportunities such as Bridgend and Killybegs. The emphasis of the strategy in this regard is to harness the economic potential at both locations. In tandem with the alignment of key growth to settlements with the infrastructural capacity as exists or planned, this alternative recognises the existing economic, social, cultural and community assets that exist in the remainder of towns and villages and in the rural area. As a result, growth of around 50% of the total population target would be guided to the remaining network of towns and to the rural area. This growth however, would also be linked to the capacity of any location to accommodate new development, whether in relation to wastewater treatment, environmental sensitivities, and landscape sensitivities as examples.

This approach would be most likely to have the following impacts:

- Achieve maximum benefit from investment in physical, social and economic infrastructure.
- Support the establishment of a set of strong settlements becoming the drivers for economic growth in the County.
- Result in environmental benefits as development would be linked inextricably to ensuring the appropriate and adequate provision of hard infrastructure.
- Protect and support rural communities, and rural vitality and vibrancy subject to normal considerations.

Having regard to the foregoing, it is considered that this alternative would be an acceptable option and would be compatible with the strategy set out in the Regional Planning Guidelines 2010.

Assessment and selection of alternatives

Having regard to the principles of sustainable development and to the Core Strategy of the Regional Planning Guidelines, it is considered that alternative 3, the Balanced Development Model is the most appropriate strategic alternative for the County. In undertaking this alternative, growth will be managed so as to coordinate with programmes for investment in infrastructure so as to result in optimum benefit from investment and to ensure that significant growth can be accommodated with appropriate and adequate servicing and no resultant negative impacts on the environment. This approach recognises the strong inter-dependency between urban and rural areas in County Donegal by ensuring that rural communities are supported where genuine rural need and all other normal planning considerations can be satisfied.

The concentration though, on Letterkenny and the other key towns including making the investment necessary for infrastructure available, will support the capacity of the larger centres to advance the overall development of the County and of the region.

The alternatives are further assessed using the set of Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEO's) in the following table.

Table 9: Alternative Approaches to the Plan

Alternative	Probably conflict with status of SEO's- unlikely to be mitigated to an acceptable level.	Potential conflict with the status of SEO's- likely to be mitigated to an acceptable level.	Uncertain interaction with status of SEO's.	Neutral interaction with status of SEO's.	No likely interaction with status of SEO's.	Likely to improve status of SEO's.
Continuation of current trends	POP2, SL3, AC2, MA1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO4, POP1, SL1, WR1, WR2, CM2, MA2,		AC1,	BIO3, HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1,	
Urban-centric model		BIO1, BIO2, WR1, WR2, CM2,		SL4, SL5,	BIO3, SL1, SL2, WR3, WR5, CM1, CH1	BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL3, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1, WR4, AC1
Balanced development model		BIO1, BIO2, WR1, WR2, CM2		BIO4	BIO3, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR5, CM1, CH1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL3, WR4, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1

5.0 Current State of the Environment

Donegal is the fourth largest and most northerly County in Ireland comprising of 486,091 hectares or 6.9% of the total land area of the state. The County has an extensive coastline of 1132km along the Atlantic Ocean to the north and west, a 140km with border with Northern Ireland to the east, and only abuts the rest of the Republic of Ireland along a 9km stretch with County Leitrim at it's most southerly point.

County Donegal hosts an ecologically, culturally and socially rich and varied range of environments that shall be considered within this environmental report. This chapter shall set out the existing known and available baseline environmental data for the County that have contributed to configuring the Strategic Environmental Objectives as set out in Section 8.0. The Baseline data combined with the Strategic Environmental Objectives shall provide an environmental picture of the County that all emerging policies and objectives of the plan must be assessed and evaluated against.

The current state of the environment of the region will be considered under the following environmental headings:

- Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora
- Population
- Human Health
- Soil
- Water
- Air
- Climatic factors
- Material Assets
- Cultural heritage, including Architectural and Archaeological
- Landscape
- The interrelationship between the above topics

Annex 1 of the Directive also requires secondary and cumulative effects to be considered.

5.1 Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

The conservation of biodiversity in Ireland has been strengthened and expanded by EU law, most notably by the EU Birds Directive and EU Habitats Directive and also by the EIA Directive (85/337/EEC).

The Habitats Directive was transposed into Irish national law in 1997. The European Union (Natural Habitats) Regulations, SI 94/1997 represent a fundamental shift in nature conservation policy and law. These Regulations have since been amended by SI 233/1998 & SI 378/2005. The requirements in respect to the Habitats Directive are dealt with in a separate section of this report.

The EU Birds Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds, is the EU's oldest piece of nature legislation and one of the most important, creating a comprehensive scheme of protection for all wild bird species naturally occurring in the Union. The Directive places great emphasis on the protection of habitats for endangered as well as migratory species (listed in Annex I), especially through the establishment of a coherent network of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) comprising all the most suitable territories for these species. Since 1994 all SPAs form an integral part of the NATURA 2000 ecological network, along with SAC's.

There are a total of 74 Natura 2000 sites within the plan area comprising 46 Special Area's of Conservation (SAC) and 28 Special Protection Areas (SPA). These sites are listed in table 3 overleaf and shown on map no. 2. There are 122,900 hectares of SAC designated lands and 26,650 hectares of SPA designated which overlap in parts but which in total comprise 124,921 hectares of Natura 2000 sites, or 25.7% of all land County Donegal's land coverage. The Natura 2000 sites and a 15km buffer are illustrated on Map number 2.

Comparative to the national ratio of Natura 2000 sites, Donegal has a large share; Donegal comprises 7% of the land cover of the Country as a whole yet has 12.3% of the entire Country's SAC designated sites. Donegal's relatively large SAC designated sites comprising 122,900 hectares or 25.1% of the county's land cover sits well above the country average of 14.24%.

61 Annex 1 Habitats as listed in the Habitats Directive are found in Ireland, and 41 of these habitats are represented within the SAC's in County Donegal. Of the 61 annex 1 habitats Ireland, 16 priority habitats are found in Ireland and 9 of these are found in the SAC's in County Donegal.

There are also 13 Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) and 74 proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) within the County and these are listed on table below and illustrated on Map no. 3.

Map 2: Natura 2000 sites (SACs and SPAs)

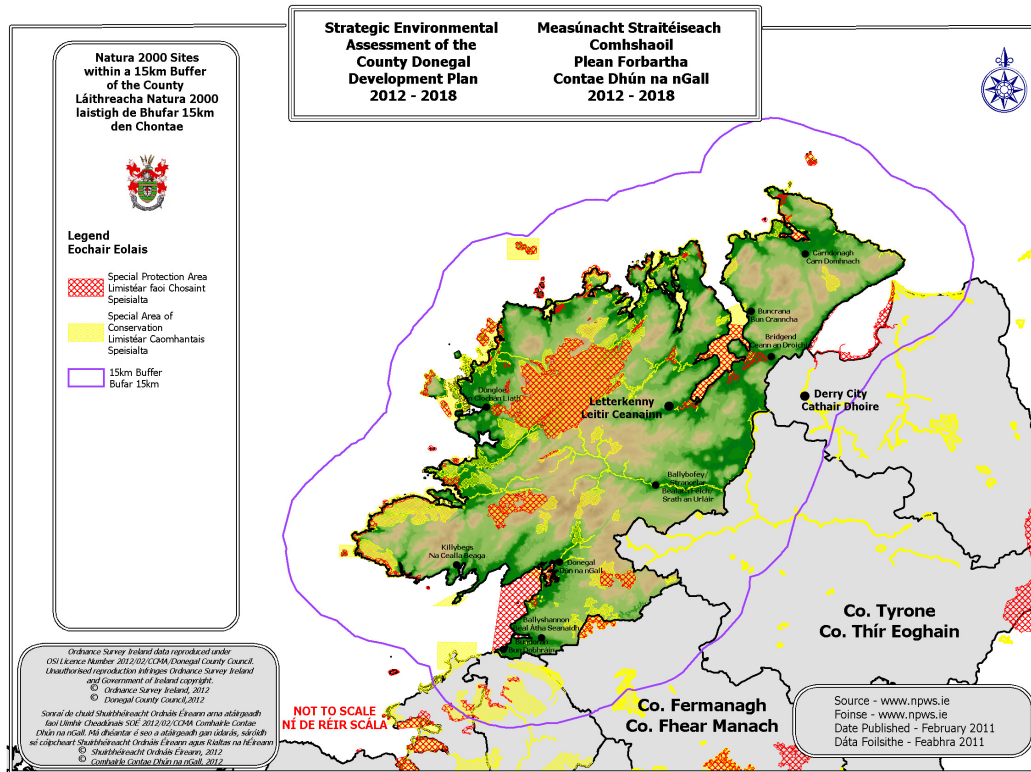
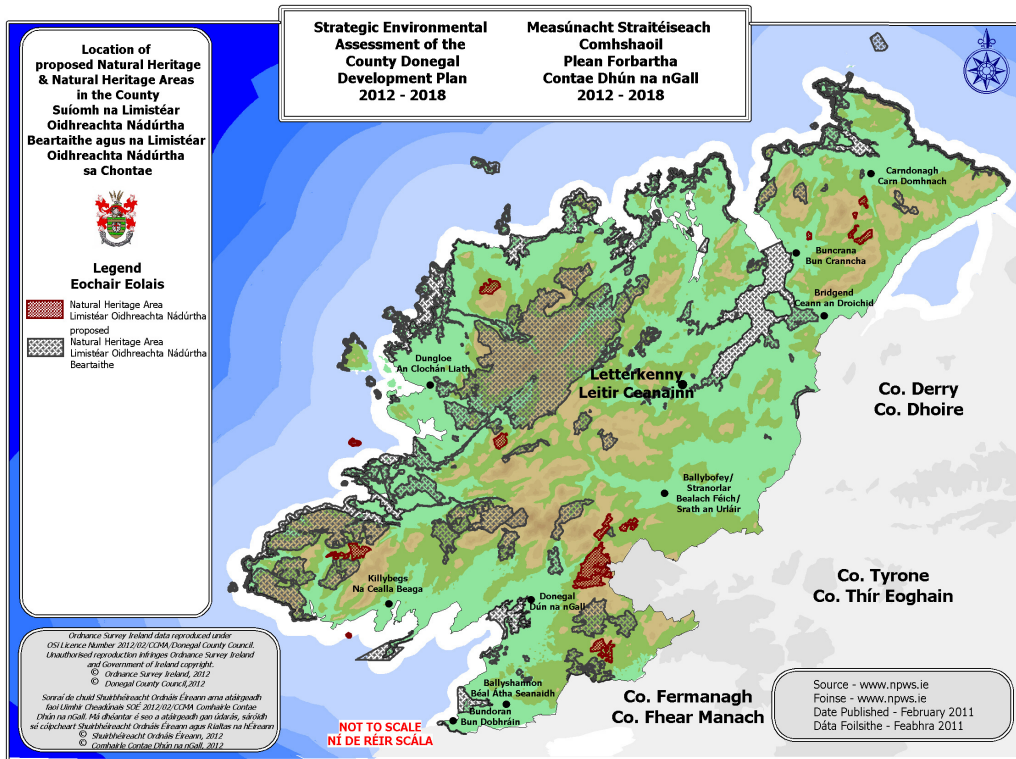


Table 10 List of Natura 2000 sites in County Donegal comprising SACs and SPAs.

Area	SAC	SPA
Aran Island (Donegal) Cliffs	000111	
Ballintra	000115	
Ballyarr Woods	000116	
Croaghonagh Bog	000129	
Donegal Bay (Murlough)	000133	004151
Durnesh Lough	000138	
Fawnboy Bog/Lough Nacung	000140	
Gannivegil Bog	000142	
Horn Head and Ringlevin	000147	
Inishtrahull	000154	004100
Lough Akibbon & Gartan lough	000158	
Lough Eske and Ardnamona Wood	000163	
Lough Nagreany Dunes	000164	
Lough Nillan Bog (Carrickatlieve)	000165	
Magheradrumman Bog	000168	
Meenaguse/Ardbane Bog	000172	
Meentygrannagh Bog	000173	
Rathlin O'Birne Island	000181	004120
Sessiagh Lough	000185	
Slieve League	000189	
Slieve Tooy/Tormore Island/Loughros Beg Bay	000190	
St John's Point	000191	
Tranarossan & Melmore Lough	000194	
West of Ardara/Maas Road	000197	

Area	SAC	SPA
Lough Melvin	000428	
Ballyness Bay	001090	
Coolvoy Bog	001107	
Dunragh Loughs/Pettigo Plateau	001125	004099
Kindrum Lough	001151	
Muckish Mountain	001179	
Sheephaven	001190	
Termon Strand	001195	
Gweedore Bay and Islands	001141	
Meenaguse Scragh	001880	
Tamur Bog	001992	
Ballyhoorisky point	001975	
North Inishowen Coast	002012	
Cloghernagore Bog and Glenveagh National Park	002047	004039
Lough Nageage	002135	
Mulroy Bay	002159	
Lough Golagh and Breesy Hill	002164	
Leannan River	002176	
Tory Island Coast	002259	004073
Rutland Island and Sound	002283	
Lough Swilly	002287	004075
River Finn	002301	
Dunmuckrum Turloughs	002303	
Trawbreaga		004034
Lough Derg		004057
Lough Fern		004060
Greers Isle		004082
Inishbofin, Inishdooley and Inishbeg		004083
Lough Foyle		004087
Sheskinmore		004090
Lough Nillan Bog		004110
Inishduff		004115
Inishkeel		004116
Roaninish		004121
Inishsirrerr and Inishmeane		004131
Durnesh Lough		004145
West Donegal Coast		004150
Horn Head to Fanad Head		004194
Illancrone and Inishkeeragh		004132
Malin Head		004146
Fanad Head		004148
Falcarragh to Meenlaragh		004149

Map 3: Location of proposed Natural Heritage Areas and Natural Heritage Areas



In general terms SAC's and SPA's are afforded protection at a European and National level whereas NHA's are protected at a National level only. Habitats outside these designated areas are also key stepping stone habitats or ecological corridors linking sites of prime conservation value (e.g. waterways, woodlands and hedgerows). In December 2007, the first baseline assessments of conservation status for all 59 habitats and c.100 species listed for protection by the EU in Ireland was prepared by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Many habitats associated with water were considered to be in bad condition. Site Synopses for SPAs, cSACs and NHAs are available from the National Parks and Wildlife Service at www.npws.ie. The Appropriate Assessment Report, which accompanies this report, outline details of Natura 2000 sites within the County and those within a 15 km buffer zone. The report includes the location of the site, site code/name, qualifying interest's conservation objectives and threats to site integrity.

The full extent of the County's natural heritage of wild species, geological features and landforms, and natural and semi-natural habitats, extend to more than just those sites which benefit from statutory protection. Under Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive it states that Member States shall endeavour, where they consider it necessary, in their land use planning and development policies to encourage the management of features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora. Such features are those, which by virtue of their linear and continuous structures such as rivers, or their functions as stepping stones such as ponds and small woods, are essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species. The features will vary from area to area and include hedgerows, canals, ponds, lakes, ditches and banks, linear tree belts/shelter belts, larger semi-natural or ancient woodlands, river corridors and other locally important habitats. The management of the habitats of the Glenveagh National Park are of significant importance.

The need to conserve biodiversity generally is underlined in the National Biodiversity Plan and Convention on Biological Diversity which Ireland has signed and ratified. This diversity is often

understood in terms of the wide variety of plants, animals and micro-organisms which have been impacted upon by human beings over time.

As evidenced in the Corine Land Cover Map 7 of this report, land cover throughout the County remains relatively low; however, the constant encroachment on natural habitats will undoubtedly have an impact on natural flora, fauna and biodiversity. Clearing of vegetation has resulted in the replacement of natural habitats with semi-natural habitats. The intensification of agriculture, which took place in the second half of the last century, increased the removal of hedgerows and woodland. In recent years the development of many one-off greenfield sites in the County has also given rise to a sharp increase in the removal of hedgerows. Hedgerows constitute an important natural and historic resource given both their role as wildlife corridors between habitats, their value in terms of visual amenity and their historic significance as townland and field boundaries.

Recent policy and guideline documents from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government emphasise strongly the need for an improved quality of housing within sustainable and well-planned neighbourhoods. The holistic and integrated approach to planning, which the Department is recommending, should incorporate biodiversity protection and enhancement as a core objective.

The number of protected sites (including candidate designated areas and proposed natural heritage areas) in the County totals 99 as set out in the table below. In Northern Ireland there are over 350 protected areas (including candidate designated areas). Throughout the island of Ireland there has been a decline in many of the native species through habitat loss, competition, development and agriculture. Legislation from Ireland, Northern Ireland and Europe protect some of these species. Within Ireland there are 18 species of plant or animal recorded as endangered, 52 recorded as vulnerable, 75 recorded as rare and 8 classed as intermediate (<http://www.epa.ie/environment/biodiversity/protectedareas/>).

Table 11 Protected ecological sites within County Donegal

Protected Sites		Number within County
Natura 2000 sites	SAC	46
	SPA	23
Ramsar Sites		5
NHA		13
Nature Reserves		7

Landscape and ecology represent significant resources that each generation is charged with conserving and safeguarding for future generations. Mixed species in forestry plantations, with an emphasis on native hardwoods, will enhance the natural landscape, promote biodiversity and absorb toxins from the atmosphere; and local authorities and the forestry service need to enforce such best practice going forward. The preservation of boglands is important not just from a landscape and cultural heritage perspective, but also because they represent very significant carbon sinks, and have therefore a vital role to play in redressing climate change. County Donegal contains Ireland's largest tracts of both Atlantic Blanket Bog and Mountain Blanket Bog.

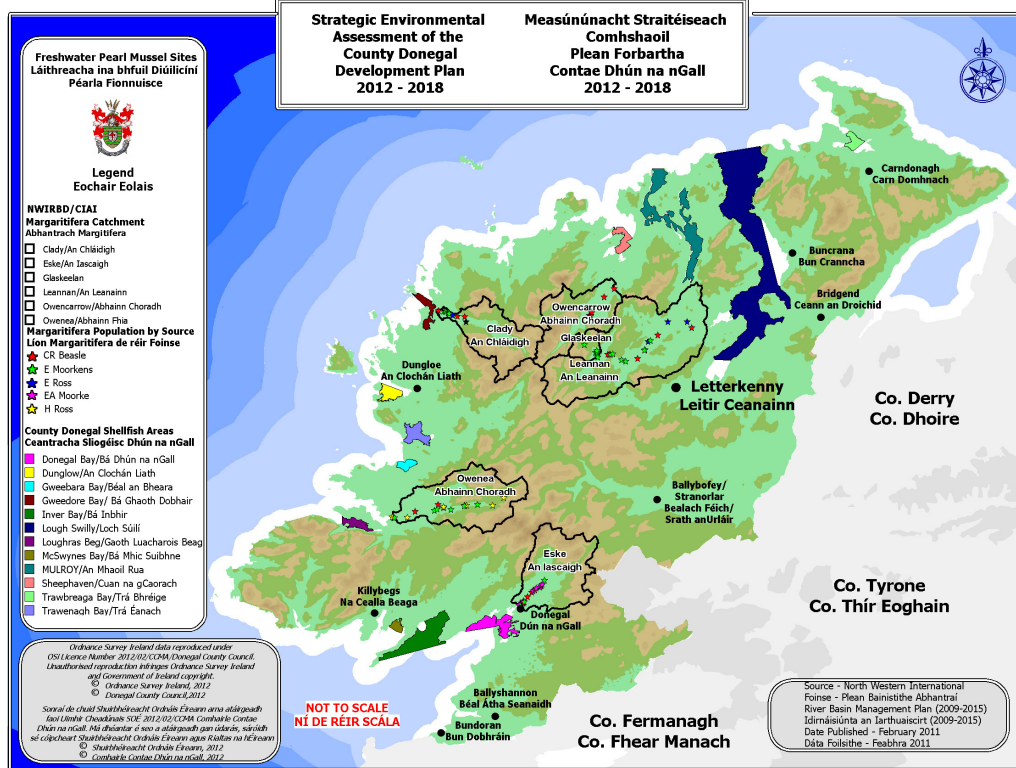
Within Northern Ireland there are currently 272 plant and animal species that require conservation action and have been identified as Priority Species under the Biodiversity Action Plan. There are also 457 species on the Northern Ireland Species of Conservation Concern (SOCC) list. Those species under threat have been identified on a scientific basis. (<http://www.ni-environment.gov.uk/>).

5.2 Designated Shellfish Waters

There are 12 'Shellfish Water' within County Donegal designated pursuant to Article 4 of the EU (Quality of Shellfish Waters) Regulations 2006. Each designated Shellfish Water and area within the County has a 'Pollution Reduction Programme' established by the DEHLG, details of which can be

found at www.environ.ie. The location and extent of the designated Shellfish Waters within the County are both illustrated and listed below:

Map 4: Illustrating Freshwater Pearl Mussel catchments and sites and Designated Shellfish Waters



Designated Shellfish Waters (Pre 2009)

- Mulroy) Donegal

Designated Shellfish Waters (post 2009)

- Donegal Bay
- Dunglow
- Gweebarra Bay
- Gweedore Bay
- Inver Bay
- Lough Swilly
- Loughros Beg
- Mc Swyne's Bay
- Sheephaven Bay
- Trawbreaga Bay,
- Trawenagh Bay

The aim of the Shellfish Waters Directive 2006/113/EC is to protect or improve shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth. It is designed to protect the aquatic habitat of bivalve and gastropod molluscs, which include oysters, mussels, cockles, scallops and clams. The Directive requires member states to designate waters that need protection in order to support shellfish life and growth. The Directive sets physical, chemical and microbiological requirements that designated shellfish waters must either comply with or endeavour to improve.

Pressure on shellfish growing areas can come from any source which discharges into water. Table 12 below indicates the wide variety of potential threats to these areas.

Table 12 Potential Threats to Shellfish Growing Areas

Pressures arising from structural changes	Point source pressures	Diffuse source pressures	Environmental Pressures
Channelisation and dredging	Discharges from waste water treatment plants	Drainage from urban areas, grassland and arable areas (including from dairy farming, cattle farming and the growing of crops)	
Flood Protection and embankments	Discharges licensed by the EPA	Drainage from roads and railways	
Dams, Locks and weirs	Discharges licensed by local authorities	Forestry	
Intensive land use (land drainage)	Overflows from sewerage systems that by-pass treatment plants, caused by rain storms, usually referred to as combined sewer overflows (CSOs).	Septic tanks	
Built structures e.g. ports and harbours	Discharges from water treatment plants	Activities which use dangerous substances (forestry and agriculture)	
Deposition of dredge Spoil			
Coastal defences			

Annex II species such as freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera*) and salmon are particularly sensitive to pollution. *Margaritifera* requires extremely oligotrophic conditions, preferably rivers with a biotic quality index of Q5 (Ireland) or a GQS value of A (Northern Ireland). The EPA and NIEA use these Q5 and A values, respectively, to indicate the highest quality status categories. There has been a considerable decline in freshwater pearl mussel species distribution and numbers. Salmon need very good water quality typical of that found in upland streams. The species needs pool, glide and riffle. They require rivers where dredging is not on-going and where there are no abrupt changes, such as those that might occur through physical modifications. Map 4 shows the location of Freshwater Pearl Mussel relating to the County.

5.3 Freshwater Pearl Mussel

The pearl mussel *Margaritifera margaritifera* has attracted a lot of interest in recent years due to its interesting ecology, life cycle, ability to produce pearls and, most importantly, its decline which has left the species in danger of extinction. The species is in very serious decline throughout its range and is listed in the IUCN red data book as endangered worldwide.

6 Freshwater Pearl Mussel Sub-Basin Management Plans have been produced for the 6 Freshwater Pearl Mussel catchments in the County, and sit alongside the River Basin Management Plans to provide a detailed programme of measures to improve the habitat of the freshwater pearl mussel so that it can attain favourable conservation status. The Freshwater Sub-Basin Management Plans within the County are:

- Clady Sub-Basin Management plan
- Eske Sub-Basin Management plan
- Glaskeelan Sub-Basin Management plan
- Leannan Sub-Basin Management plan

- Owencarrow Sub-Basin Management plan
- Owenea Sub-Basin Management plan

A number of factors are combining to provide a very serious threat to the remaining breeding populations of Pearl Mussels. Three are of particular concern. Firstly, agricultural land that was not intensively managed historically has been repeatedly fertilised and is becoming saturated with phosphorus. Secondly, forestry units are now reaching maturity and, particularly in upland peat areas, have the potential of felling to release large quantities of phosphate into these rivers. Thirdly, the recent intensification of development, with associated land clearance, pressure on sewerage schemes and inappropriate locating of on-site systems for once-off housing near the rivers, is adding to the nutrient and sediment load. The third phase of damage to the pearl mussel habitat in these rivers has manifested itself since the Habitats Directive came into force and serious declines have occurred in some rivers following their designation as SACs, although some of the causes of the decline were in place before their designation.

Table 13 indicates the conservation objectives and threats in respect to sites listed on Schedule 1 of the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009 within the County.

Table 13 Freshwater Pearl Mussel Objectives and Threats

SAC site code site name	Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>margaritifera margaritifera</i>) Population name	Conservation objectives	Threats to site integrity
000140 Fawnboy Bog/ Lough Nacung SAC	Clady	Maintain Eske population at a favourable conservation status, as prescribed by the third schedule of the regulations. Achieve the Ecological Quality Objectives for the freshwater mussel habitat as prescribed by the fourth schedule of the regulations.	Siltation Peat extraction Afforestation Direct loss of habitat Discharges to water bodies in catchment
000163 Lough Eske and Ardnamona Wood	Eske	Maintain Eske population at a favourable conservation status, as prescribed by the third schedule of the regulations. Achieve the Ecological Quality Objectives for the freshwater mussel habitat as prescribed by the fourth schedule of the regulations	Siltation Peat extraction Afforestation Direct loss of habitat Discharges to water bodies in catchment
002047 Cloghernagor Bog and Glenveagh National Park	Glaskeelan	Maintain Glaskeelan population at a favourable conservation status, as prescribed by the third schedule of the regulations. Achieve the Ecological Quality Objectives for the freshwater mussel habitat as prescribed by the fourth schedule of the regulations.	Siltation Peat extraction Afforestation Direct loss of habitat Discharges to water bodies in catchment

002176 Leannan River	Leannan	Maintain Leannan population at a favourable conservation status, as prescribed by the third schedule of the regulations. Achieve the Ecological Quality Objectives for the freshwater mussel habitat as prescribed by the fourth schedule of the regulations.	Siltation Peat extraction Afforestation Direct loss of habitat Discharges to water bodies in catchment
002047 Cloghernagor Bog and Glenveagh National Park	Owencarrow	Maintain Owencarrow population at a favourable conservation status, as prescribed by the third schedule of the regulations. Achieve the Ecological Quality Objectives for the freshwater mussel habitat as prescribed by the fourth schedule of the regulations.	Siltation Peat extraction Afforestation Direct loss of habitat Discharges to water bodies in catchment
000197 West of Ardara / Maas Road	Owenea	Maintain Owenea population at a favourable conservation status, as prescribed by the third schedule of the regulations. Achieve the Ecological Quality Objectives for the freshwater mussel habitat as prescribed by the fourth schedule of the regulations	Siltation Peat extraction Afforestation Direct loss of habitat Discharges to water bodies in catchment

Clady

The Clady River is the outflow from Lough Nacung, flowing for approximately 5 km in an east to west direction before entering the sea at Gweedore Bay. It runs through the towns of Gweedore (about 2 km below Lough Nacung) and Bunbeg (about 1 km upstream of the sea). The Clady catchment contains two major lakes: Lough Nacung and Dunlewy Lough, both of which have been enlarged as a result of impoundments. The lakes are deep and large and have low alkalinities. Nacung is currently classed at moderate status and Dunlewy is at good status under the WFD and are reported to have good populations of Arctic char and brown trout.

The key improvements needed for the Clady Catchment are to restore juvenile habitats to appropriate condition by simultaneously reducing nutrient and silt inputs to the river. (Source: Clady Sub-Basin Management Plan 2010.epa.ie).

Eske

The freshwater pearl mussel study in 2006 found mussels to be absent and occasional (less than 20 per 100m) in the ponded areas of the upper stretches of the Eske River near and into the lake, abundant (over 250 per 100m) between Drumnacarry and the confluence with Limestone Brook, and occasional and frequent to common (20 – 250 per 100m) in parts of the stretch above Thrushbank Bridge. Below this bridge, the mussels are mainly occasional, with a few good riffle runs with more frequent to common densities down as far as the N56 bridge. Apart from some gaps in habitat below the bridge, the mussels are generally abundant in most areas between the N56 bridge and the Drummenny confluence. Below this, densities are frequent to common as far as the estuarine influence in the area of the town bridge, below which the mussels do not occur.

The pearl mussel population of the Eske River is important, particularly because it is spread from the lake through the entire river to its estuarine limit. Thus, the potential habitat for the species covers a large distance and area. However, the population is in very unfavourable condition and is in danger of rapid extinction if catchment pressures that have led to its decline are not reversed.

The key improvements needed for the Eske Catchment are to restore juvenile habitats to appropriate condition by simultaneously reducing nutrient and silt inputs to the river. (Source: Eske Sub-Basin Management Plan 2010.epa.ie).

Gliskeelan

The Gliskeelan catchment lies in north west Donegal and is the smallest pearl mussel catchment in Ireland at 17.45km². It incorporates Nambraddan and Inshagh Lough. The entire catchment is part of one of two SACs, Lough Akibbon and Gartan Lough and Cloghernagore Bog and Glenveagh National Park SAC. It is completely surrounded by pearl mussel catchments to the west by the Owencarrow and to the east by the Leannan. Over half of the catchment is contained in Glenveagh National Park.

The 2007 rapid assessment confirmed that the main population remains upstream of Gliskeelan Bridge at C05185 17370 and with a middle aged profile (Moorkens 2007). A few hundred mussels were seen upstream of the bridge, most in the lower part of the section, with mussels much sparser upstream. Downstream of Gliskeelan Bridge, adult mussels were scattered and infrequent. The two mussels seen that were sub-70mm in length places the population in a category "adults with some juveniles", but clearly not much recruitment has occurred since the river was last surveyed in 1995, which is serious given its SAC status. (Source: Gliskeelan Sub-Basin Management Plan 2010.epa.ie).

Leannan

The Leannan catchment lies in North West Donegal and is one of the largest pearl mussel catchments in Ireland at 237.64km², and incorporates areas of 'Cloghermore Bog and Glenveagh National Park SAC'. The 3 main lakes of Akibbon, Gartan and Fern Lough are within the catchment as is part of Glenveagh National Park. The Leannan River flows through Lough Gartan in a north-easterly direction, passes through Lough Fern, and then onwards in an easterly direction through Ramelton and into Lough Swilly. The catchment includes the towns of Letterkenny, Kilmacrennan, Churchill and Milford.

The 2007 rapid assessment survey found the stretch of river in the upper catchment downstream of Lough Gartan still held good numbers of mussels. By Kilmacrennan the mussels had dwindled and no more were found in the intensively farmed stretch of the river that flows into Lough Fern. The Leannan River downstream of Lough Fern is canalized, silted and slow flowing and therefore an unsuitable habitat for Margaritifera. Source: Leannan Sub-Basin Management Plan 2010.epa.ie

Owencarrow

The Owencarrow catchment lies in North West Donegal just north of Letterkenny and is 89km². Almost the entire catchment is covered by 'Cloghermore Bog and Glenveagh National Park SAC', and almost three quarters of the catchment is within Glenveagh National Park. Lough Veagh Upper and Lower are located in the centre of the catchment with steep mountainous slopes on either side.

The Owencarrow was surveyed in 1995, 1996 and 2007 and most recently 2009. In 2009 a survey of mussels in the vicinity of Owencarrow Bridge was undertaken. No juveniles or small mussels were found, all were large, fully grown adults of 96mm and larger. (Source: Owencarrow Sub-Basin Management Plan 2010.epa.ie).

Owenea

The Owenea catchment is 126.08km², lies in West Donegal and runs from the Blue Stack Mountains in the east to the sea at Ardara. It includes the Owenea, Shallogan and Owengarve rivers. The Owenea river runs for 13 miles draining Lough Ea in the west of Croaghs, into Loughrosmore Bay at Ardara. Parts of the Ardara/Mass Road SAC and the Lough Nillan Bog SAC are within the Owenea

catchment that also includes a number of lakes. Glenties is within the catchment and Ardara and Mass are just outside.

Surveys were carried out in 1988, 1992, 1996, 2005 and 2007. A rapid assessment carried out in 2007 found that the population had continued to decline in terms of both numbers and geographical extent. (Source: Owenea Sub-Basin Management Plan 2010.epa.ie).

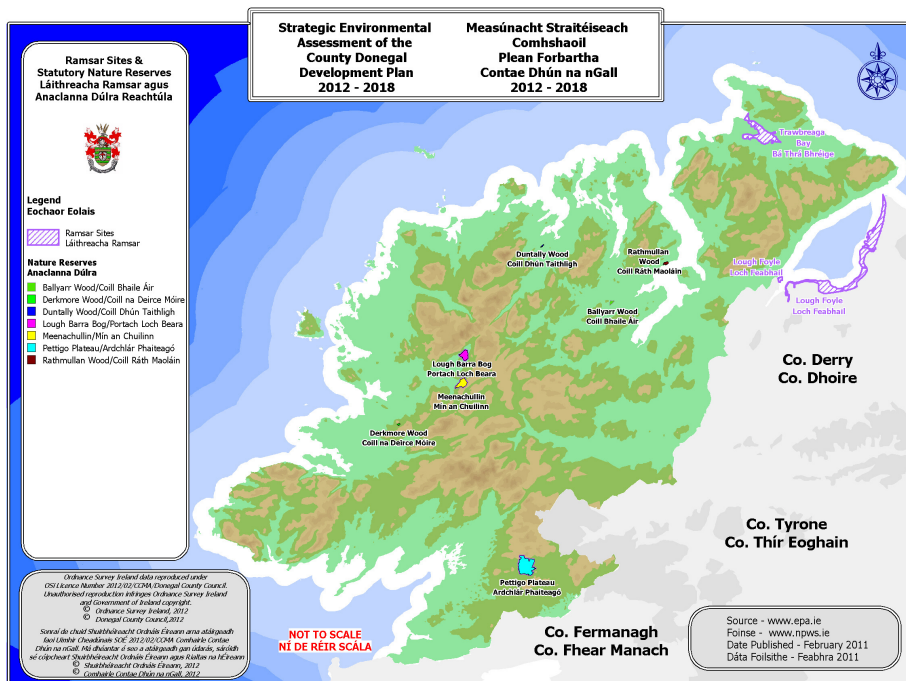
5.4 Ramsar Sites

The Convention of Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Water Fowl Habitat, was established at Ramsar in 1971 and ratified by Ireland in 1984. The main aim of the Convention is to secure the designation by each contracting state of wetlands in its territory for inclusion in a list of wetlands of international importance for waterfowl. This entails the commitment of each contracting state to a policy of protection and management of the designated wetlands, and of formulating and implementing planning so as to promote the conservation of designated wetlands and, as far as possible, the wise use of wetlands in its territory. Ireland presently has 45 sites designated as Wetlands of International Importance, with surface areas of 66,994 hectares. There are 4 Ramsar sites designated within the County spanning 2273 hectares of wetlands. Details in respect to each site may be viewed at; http://195.143.117.139/profile/profiles_ireland.htm

Table 14: Ramsar Sites within the County

Location	Area (Ha)	Co-ordinates	Date Designated
Meenachullion Bog	194	54°54'N 008°07'W	30/05/90
Pettigo Plateau	900	54°37'N 007°57'W	31/07/86
Trawbreaga Bay	1,003	55°17'N 007°15'W	11/06/96
Lough Barra Bog	176	54°57'N 008°07'W	01/06/87

Map 5: Ramsar Sites and Statutory Nature Reserves



5.5 Ecological Networks

Article 10 of the Habitats Directive recognizes the importance of ecological networks as corridors and stepping stones for wildlife, including for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species of flora and fauna. The Directive requires that ecological connectivity and areas of ecological value outside the Natura 2000 network of designated ecological sites are maintained and it recognises the need for the management of these areas through land use planning and development policies. Ecological networks are important in connecting areas of local biodiversity with each other and with nearby designated sites so as to prevent islands of habitat from being isolated entities. Ecological networks are composed of linear features, such as treelines, hedgerows, rivers and streams, which provide corridors or stepping stones for wildlife species moving within their normal range. They are particularly important for mammals, especially for bats and small birds.

Important ecological corridors within the County include the following water bodies (including their tributaries and lakes where relevant) the list is not exhaustive and their inclusion is not an indication that they fall within the remit of Article 10 of the Habitats Directive:

- Drowes River/Lough Melvin System
- Bradoge River
- River Erne
- Abbey River
- Ballintra River
- Laghy River System
- River Eske System
- Eany Water
- Bunlacky River
- Oily River
- Bungosteen River
- Glenaddragh River
- Balladoo River
- Glen River
- Owenwee River
- Murlin River
- Bracky River
- Owentocker River
- Owennea River
- Gweebarra River System
- Owennamarve River System
- Gweedore River
- Clady River
- Owencronahulla/Corveen River
- Yellow & Glen Rivers
- Owenawillin
- Owentully
- Glenna River
- Tullaghobegly River
- Ray River System
- Lackagh/Owencarrow River System
- Bunlin River
- Burnside River
- Leannan River System
- River Swilly
- Mill River
- Crana
- Clonmany River
- Donagh River
- Gleannagannon River

- Ballboe River
- Culoort River
- Culdaff River
- Long Glen River
- Bredagh River
- Clare River
- Drung River
- Cabry River
- River Foyle/River Finn System

5.6 Statutory Nature Reserves

Statutory Nature Reserves are state-owned land, inland waters or foreshore areas forming the habitat of a species or community of flora and fauna of scientific interest or forming part of an ecosystem of scientific interest, which would benefit from protection measures, established under the Wildlife Act, 1976 and the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 and are protected under Ministerial Order.

There are 7 sites in Donegal. Details in respect to each site may be viewed at the National Parks and Wildlife website at; <http://www.npws.ie/en/NatureReserves/>. The following is a list of the sites within the County and they are illustrated on Map no. 5 of this report.

Table 15: Statutory Nature Reserves within the County

Location	Area (Ha)	Date Designated
Ballyarr Wood Nature Reserve	30	Established 1986.
Derkmore Wood Nature Reserve	7	Established 1988
Duntally Wood Nature Reserve	15.3	Established 1986
Lough Barra Bog Nature Reserve	176.4	Established in 1987
Meenachullion Nature Reserve Area	194	Established in 1990
Pettigo Plateau Nature Reserve Area	900	Established in 1984
Rathmullan Wood Nature Reserve Area	32.73	Established 1986

Source: <http://www.npws.ie/en/NatureReserves/>

5.7 Invasive Species

Invasive species represent one of the greatest threats to biodiversity, second only to that caused by direct habitat destruction. They do this by competitively excluding or out-competing our less robust native species, by preying on native species or by altering the natural aquatic or riparian habitat in which they reside.

A number of invasive, non native species of both flora and fauna are present throughout the County. Invasive species are defined as plants or animals which did not originally occur in Ireland, before human colonisation of the country and which are also expanding their numbers and distribution so as to cause a competitive threat to such native fauna and flora. A full list of invasive species can be

sourced at <http://www.invasivespeciesireland.com>

Table 16: Summary of the threats to the integrity of various categories of habitats (the list of threats is not exhaustive).

Habitats	Threats
Raised Bogs Blanket Bog Wet Heath Dry Heaths	Changes in local hydrology including drainage Peat Extraction Overgrazing Forestry Burning Direct loss of habitat to development Arterial drainage/water abstraction/lowering of the regional water table Agricultural Reclamation
Lakes and ponds Watercourses/Rivers	Water quality/pollution Changes in flow rates Arterial drainage/water abstraction/ lowering of the regional water table Siltation Loss of fringe vegetation Changes in seasonal water levels/fluctuations Direct loss of habitat to development Loading from effluents (WWTP) Recreation/Amenity Use Developments – marinas Presence of impassable barriers – mostly poorly designed culverts
Marine Habitats Bays/Inlets/Estuaries Brackish Waters Open sea	Water quality/pollution Development of marinas and ports Disturbance to marine mammals Dumping at sea Direct loss of habitat to development Recreational/Amenity Use
Woodland/Scrub	Direct loss of habitat to development Amenity/Recreational Use Invasive species Lack of/inappropriate woodland management Overgrazing (deer)
Semi-natural grasslands Limestone pavement	Agricultural Improvements/Reclamation Agricultural abandonment Overgrazing/Undergrazing Direct loss of habitat to development Quarrying on esker ridges and limestone pavement Bracken & scrub encroachment

<p>Marshes Swamps Fens Turloughs</p>	<p>Agricultural Improvements/Reclamation Drainage/Changes in local hydrology Water quality/pollution (including groundwater Agricultural abandonment Overgrazing/Undergrazing Direct loss of habitat to development Bracken & scrub encroachment Turf/Peat extraction in fens Impacts to local geology/geomorphology e.g. quarrying/rock blasting, for turloughs & groundwater fed fens</p>
<p>Sand Dune Systems Salt Marshes</p>	<p>Agricultural Improvements/Reclamation Drainage/Changes in local hydrology including water abstraction Erosion (natural and anthropogenic) Water quality/pollution Agricultural abandonment Overgrazing/Undergrazing Direct loss of habitat to development Bracken and scrub encroachment Amenity/Recreational Use Tourism related development</p>
<p>SPAs</p>	<p>Direct & indirect impacts to the habitats of the bird species of conservation interests (loss of habitat) Direct loss of habitat to development Water quality/pollution Disturbance including recreation/amenity use.</p>

Further information on biodiversity, flora and fauna in Ireland may be obtained from the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) database. In Northern Ireland further information may be obtained from the Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDaR). The Appropriate Assessment process will integrate with the Environmental Report and inform the review of the Plan in respect to the management of the biodiversity, flora and fauna of the Natura 2000 sites within and adjoining the County.

5.8 Population and Human Health

The County Development Plan must ensure that the needs of future population growth is planned for and accommodated. A background Demography Paper (November 2010) has been prepared as part of the Plan review process that presents a more detailed spatial analysis of population trends within the County than presented below.

Population growth has been set for the County by the Border Regional Planning Authority based on targets from the NSS for the State, Border and County as detailed in table below.

Table 17: Population Targets for the State, Border and County

	2008	2010	2016	2022 (low/high) range
Border Region	492,500	511,000	552,700	595,000/ 611,400
State	4,422,000	4,584,900	4,997,000	5,375,200/ 5,523,000
County		158,410	171,337	184,450

5.9 Population trends

The population of County Donegal increased at a slower rate than both the state and the Border Region over the 1996-2002 and 2002-2006 census periods as detailed in table 18 below.

Table 18: Population growth of the State Border and County over the inter census periods 1996-2002 and 2002-2006

CSO census year	State		Border Region		County	
	Population	% change from previous census	Population	% change from previous census	Population	% change from previous census
2002	3917,200	8%	432,500	8.2%	137,383	5.8%
2006	4239,800	8.2%	468,400	8.3%	147,264	7%

Natural increase rates in the County (4.1 during 1996- 2002 and 5.5 during 2002- 2006) mirrored the trend in the Border Region (4.2 during 1996-2002 and 6.2 during 2002-2006) and were lower than that experienced at the State level (6 during 1996-2002 and 8 during 2002-2006). Natural increase remained lower at the County level due to lower birth rates than the State combined with higher death rates than the State. In the context of the lower natural increase rate in County Donegal, the impact of net migration is therefore significant as the rate of net migration in County Donegal during the period 1996- 2002 is 5.3 (lower than both the State and the Region) but rising to 11.5 during the period 2002- 2006 and comparable to the State level of net migration for the same period.

The spatial distribution of population in terms of the rural urban split has been comprised using a combination of census statistics for aggregate towns and a population extrapolation for control point settlements using geo-directory figures for households multiplied by an average household size of 2.87 persons per household. 'Control points' form part of the smaller sized town structure which is recognised and provided for within the existing County Development Plan 2006- 2012 as varied, but which are proposed to be reduced in number and through the development of an urban settlement hierarchy, based on the distribution of population targets set down by the RPGs and an analytical assessment of the form and function of each settlement and its capacity for future growth.

Table 19: Total of known CSO population for census towns plus extrapolated population for 'control point' settlements

	2002	2006	% change
Census Towns	58,353	64,337	10.3
Control Points	6,274	7,157	14.07
Total extrapolated 'urban Population.	64,627	71,494	10.63

Using only the aggregate urban areas as population clusters of more than 1,500 (cso definition), the Donegal statistics show an urban population of between 21% and 25%. However the 'Control point' settlements statistics added to the aggregate urban areas gives a population total of 71,494 for 2006 equivalent to an urban population of around 48% (of the 147,264 population total) of the County.

County Donegal's ageing population is evidenced by the over 65 age category which makes up 12.5% of the total population in 2006. This figure is higher than the State and when combined with the higher number of persons within the 0- 15 age category in County Donegal (22.7%) in 2006, it is apparent that the County has a higher age dependency ratio (35.2% versus 31.4%). In terms of change in age structure within County Donegal over the period 2002- 2006, divergence from the State trend can be evidenced in the 25- 29 age bracket with slower growth in this age category in County Donegal compared to the State. In addition, there has been higher change in the 60- 69 age category in County Donegal over the period 2002- 2006 as compared to change at a State level again demonstrating that County Donegal shows a more ageing population than is evidenced at State level.

The average household size in Donegal of 2.87 persons per household is slightly higher than the border and state averages for 2006 of 2.81 persons per household.

Housing vacancy in Donegal was 27% in 2006 compared to 21.45% for the Border and 15% for the state. The Large vacancy rate in Donegal during the 2006 census could be a possible indication of the holiday home/second home effect in this coastal County, although more recent geo-directory statistics show a vacancy rate of 5,500 residential units throughout the County that do not include figures for holiday homes¹.

Summary of key demographic trends within County Donegal as identified in the Background Demography Paper, November 2010

- Donegal has a more rural population than evidenced at State level.
- Most of the population of County Donegal live in the rural areas or in towns with a population of less than 1,500 persons.
- The East of the County has grown faster than the west.
- There are areas of population decline in the rural areas focused in the west of the county.
- Letterkenny, Donegal Town and Buncrana have grown significantly but mainly in the environs areas.
- Towns within the influence of the border and within the influence of Letterkenny and Derry have boomed in population therefore the Linked gateway influence is significant in population terms.
- Population in over a third of the 59 census towns has declined showing a weakening settlement structure.
- Decline in population in towns has been less marked than the rate of increases in population in towns.

¹ An Post Geo-directory statistics, June 2010

- The rate of decline in the population of towns is not confined to settlements in any particular part of the County but rather these declines have been experienced across the County.
- The Gaeltacht population grew only marginally.
- Household size in County Donegal in aggregate urban areas is 2.69 persons and in aggregate rural areas is 2.93 persons.
- Young people are more focused in the east and in the urban areas of the county.
- Older people are more focused in the west and the rural areas of the county.
- There is a higher dependency ratio around Letterkenny and the Derry city hinterland and around Donegal Town indicated improved socio- economic conditions.
- The urban centres of Letterkenny, Donegal Town and Ballybofey act as hub for attracting diversity.
- In terms of actual numbers, the towns of Letterkenny and Buncrana show high numbers of vacant residential units.
- In terms of vacancy as a percentage of the total housing stock in each ED, there is a clear east west split where the east shows lower vacancy levels (as a % of total stock) and the west shows a higher vacancy level (again as a % of total stock).
- There are higher Labourforce participation rates in the northeast and south west.
- Unemployment rates are higher in the west and lower in and around urban areas.
- Construction was the top employment sector in 2006 in the entire County

5.10 Human Health

Availability of spatial data on human health on a County basis is limited. However, a key area for consideration will be the interrelationships of human health and water quality to include drinking water, waste water treatment, recreational bathing waters, fisheries and shellfish waters. There will also be interrelationships with air quality and climatic factors such as flood risk.

5.11 Soil and Geology

EU proposals underway for a Directive for the protection and sustainable use of soil. Our maritime climate, predominance of permanent grassland, sustainable land management practices and a lack of historic industrialisation has contributed to the maintenance and protection of soil quality across the country. The general consensus is that soil quality in Ireland is good; however, this is based on limited information and therefore the degree of certainty is low. The ultimate purpose of knowing and assessing soil quality and potential threats is not to achieve, for example, high soil aggregate stability, biological activity, or some other soil property; rather the purpose is to protect and improve long-term agricultural and forestry productivity, water and air quality, and the habitats of all living organisms and humans.²

County Donegal is one of the most complex geological areas in Ireland. It's key geological features are the Gweebarra fault that continues under the Atlantic and also forms another diagonal rift through the Scottish Highlands and which was formed through granite rock by glacial erosion. Igneous rock is the predominant rock type in Donegal with glass-like quartz, feldspars and black mica evidenced in the Granite. The County also includes large areas of metamorphic rocks including schists and gneisses and Quartzite as evidenced on Errigal.

Geology is recognised as a fundamental component of natural heritage and as such the conservation of geological heritage features is considered an important aspect of conserving the natural heritage. In 1998, the Geological Survey of Ireland established the Irish Geological Heritage (IGH) Programme, which is a partnership between The Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). Under the IGH Programme important sites that are capable of being conserved as Natural Heritage Areas (NHA) are being identified. Those not selected for NHA designation are being promoted as County Geological Sites (CGS). The IGH Programme has identified about 114 sites of interest as CGS (including those to be designated as geological NHAs) and for

² Environmental Protection Agency (2008) State of the Environment Report

information purposes, the following table sets out the list of Irish Geological Heritage Programme Sites.

Table 20: List of Irish Geological Heritage Programme Sites

Site Name	Townland(s)/district	Description
Aghlem Bridge	Aghlem, Leghawny	Evaporites on the south east side of Lough Eske.
Ards Point	Creeslough	This is the best and most completely exposed section through the Ards Transition Member.
Ardsbeg	Ards Beg / Falcarragh	A ductile thrust fully exposed and easy of access. Stratigraphy belongs to the Appin Group of the Dalradian Supergroup.
Ballycramsey	Drung (Ed Malin), Ballycramsy / Malin Head, Inishowen	Deformed schist which contains beach cobbles, indicating ice limits.
Ballymacstocker and Bay	Croaghross / Portsalon, Fanad Head, Lough Swilly	Non Dalradian clasts of possibly Devonian Age. Also beach and dune system.
Ballyness Bay	Falcarragh, Meenlaragh	Ballyness Bay is an estuarine inlet at Gortahork, at the mouth of Glenna River. It is almost completely drained at low tide, when sandy mudflats are exposed. Fold is also exposed in rocks to the south of the pier.
Ballyshannon	Knader / Ballyshannon	Small quarry with stratigraphical unconformity
Barnes Beg Gap	Barnes Upper	contact zone - granite/Dalradian. Historically important site 1800's. Possible wollastonite mineral
Barnesmore Gap	Friarsbush, Tawnawully Mountains and West side of Belshade Lough	secondary Uranium minerals, lateral moraines and other structures related to igneous intrusions
Bloody Foreland	Knockfolia / Altnapeaste, Meenlagha, Bloody Foreland	Bloody Foreland presents numerous geological characteristics: chemical weathering on granite, a gravel beach from the Holocene period (10.000y) and series of moraines and boulders which record successive ice blocks.
Breesy Hill	Carricknahorna / Breesy Hill	Spectacular example of migmatized metabasite of the Sliswood Division
Brockagh (East of Creeslough)	Brockagh	Part of the Donegal granite contact zone showing intrusive relationships and a wide variety of rock types incorporated as xenoliths.
Bundoran Bay	Magheracar, Drumacrin, Finner / Bundoran	Abundant fossils in the Bundoran Shale formation (4km coastal stretch) and exposure of the top of Ballyshannon Limestone
Burnfoot Spread	Inch Level (Ed Burt, Ed Inch Island, Ed Fahan) / Burnfoot, Inch Level	A pristine example of a large bay fjord head delta complex sited on the eastern margin of Lough Swilly, covering about 4-5 Km ² .

Site Name	Townland(s)/district	Description
Carndonagh	Carndonagh / Inishowen	Fan and erosional meltwater channels linked to the ice withdrawal from the Ballycramsey ice limit in Trawbreaga bay. There is also an infiltration gallery on the raised beach north of Carndonagh.
Carrowtrasna	Carrowtrasna (Ed Gartan) (NE of Glenveagh National Park)	1.5m thick band of talc interbanded with mica schist and quartzite of the Loughros Formation/Upper Falcarragh Pelites.
Clogheracullion [U]	W of Kingarow / NE of Gubbin Hill, SW of Lough Muck, Fintown	"Main Radiometric Zone" in the Donegal granite with uraninite in bog.
Clooney	Cashelgolan / Clooney, Portnoo	The site comprises Ardara granite and represents the main outer contact and northern aureole
Corvish	North of Carndonagh	The site illustrates marine muds with glacial advances in between. The site is important as it provided age information
Croaghan Head, Fanad	Croaghan / Milford - Letterkenny	Port Askaig Tillite with sedimentary structures are well demonstrated.
Crohy [talc]	Crohy / Crohy Head (South of Maghera Bay)	The cliff face has shown steatite veins (talc) in Dalradian black schists. It was mined intermittently from late 19th - mid 20th Century.
Doagh Isle	Lagacurry	Argyll Group Dalradian rocks with exceptional preservation of tectonic features in Greenschist facies metamorphic rocks
Donegal Bay	Donegal	Cliffs, drowned drumlins, dunes, salt marshes
Doorin Point to Mountcharles	Raneely, Point, Tullinlagan, Rock, Drumaneary, Salthill Demesne, Hall Demesne / Doorin Point, Mountcharles	Low cliffs, platforms, erosion features
Dooros Point	Dunfanaghy	Falcarragh Pelite with structures
Dunagree Point		Rocky Ridges with pocket beaches of sand resulting from glaciation followed by submergence and the inwashing of sand from the sea floor.
Dunfanaghy	Dunfanaghy	A ductile thrust, fully exposed and very accessible. Sessiagh-Clonmass Formation pelites overlie Ards Quartzite (all Appin Group rocks of the Dalradian supergroup).
Dunlewy	Dunlewy	A granite contact zone occurs with a disused marble quarry. This has well-developed metamorphic minerals and deformational features and would be a good teaching resource site.
Dunmore Breccia Pipe	Portnoo	Appinite and breccia pipe

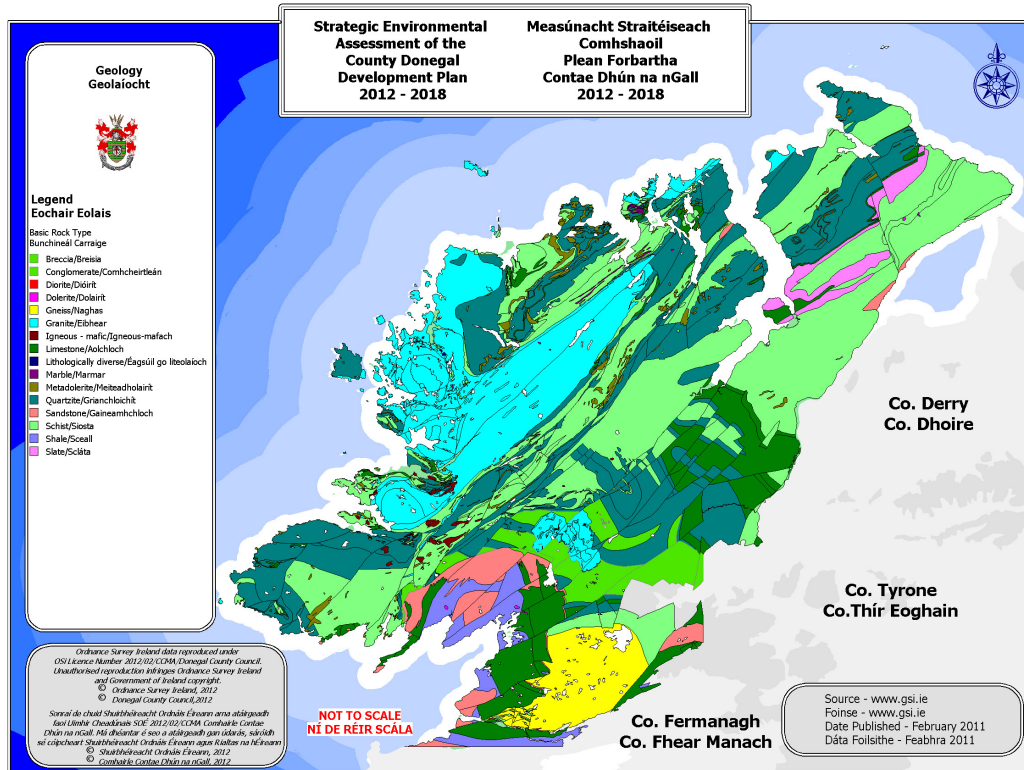
Site Name	Townland(s)/district	Description
Edergole	Edergole	A unique site at the north end of Lough Eske presenting an alluvial fan in an extensional basin (Ivorian age: 353.8-349.5Ma)
Errigal Mountain	Gweedore	Physical weathering, mass wasting; fossil rock glaciers and talus foot debris complexes on mountain flanks down to 150m
Fahan Pier	Figary, Inishowen	Excellent teaching outcrop at which structure and deformation can be demonstrated in Fahan slates.
Fairies Bridge	Bundoran	Sea-arches exposed north of Aughrus Point, just north of Bundoran.
Falcarragh Flat		Flat area of coarse grained gravels related to a glacial efflux into standing water.
Fanad		Areal scouring landscapes
Fanad Granite & fanad Head	Fanad Head	Intrusion breccias and appinite. Also emerged beaches at Fanad Head (Ballyhiernan Bay). Many of the beaches of northwest Ireland are backed by machair, low-lying calcareous sand terrain similar to that of the Hebrides and western Scotland, but this is less common south of Clew Bay (Devoy).
Fintown [U: main radiometric zone]	roadside exposure Clogheracullion to Lough Agarvy	pitchblende vein at Croherle
Five Finger Strand	Culoort	Sand and gravel beach, sand cliffs, parabolic dunes
Glenaboghill [Zn, Pb]	[aka Fintown]	Veins in Dalradian calcareous schists, marble and quartzite. Mined in the early 1800s.
Glencrow Delta	Glencrow	Icd pushed delta complex
Glentogher [Pb, Ag, Au]	Inishowen, near Carndonagh	Stratabound mineralisation in quartzite (Galena contains silver, pyrite contains gold). Mined in the 19th Century.
Glinsk, NW Fanad	Carrownageeragh	Contact aureole
Gweedore Moraines		Moraines
Horn Head (Micky's hole)	Dunfanaghy	Site contains the best exposed example of a ductile thrust in the islands of Ireland and Britain – possibly also in Europe as a whole. Stratigraphically the rocks belong to the Appin Group of the Dalradian with (inverted) Ards Pelite over normally disposed Ards Quartzite.
Inishfree Bay		Storm beaches, longshore drift
Inishowen Head		A bold headland on schists and quartzites, rising 136 m above sea level with long coastal slopes descending to rocky cliffs
Inishtrahull		Ireland's oldest rocks (Rhinn's complex)

Site Name	Townland(s)/district	Description
Inver Dyke/ Parkmore Dyke	Inver	Large xenoliths - windows into the upper mantle of the Earth
Keeldrum [Pb, Ba]	Gortahork	Old mine workings/buildings with two lode zones in Ards quartzite, mined in the 19th Century for Zinc and Lead
Kildoney Point	Kildowey Glebe	Interesting and clearly visible deltaic sedimentary structures in Upper Calp sandstones.
Kilkenny Breccia Pipe	Kilkenny, Gortnasillagh	An intrusive dyke exposed at the surface. Explosion breccia.
Kilrean	Kilrean	Minerals of the Ardara Appanite suite: asbestos; chrysotile.
Kiltyfannad Lough	Lougheraherk	This area represents one of the best exposed sections through the Port Askaig Tillite and forms the reference locality for Donegal, important for stratigraphy.
Kinnoge Bay (Armada Bay)	Kinnagoe	Beach and Dune System
Knader Lough		Precambrian metagabbro (c. 580Ma) with well preserved igneous texture
Knockalla		Devonian rocks against Leenan fault: non-Dalradian clasts
Knocknafolla (Bloody Foreland)	Knockfolla / Meenlagha, Bloody Foreland	deep chemical weathering of rotted granite
Lackagh Bridge	On the road between Carrigart and Cresslough	Main Donegal Granite, also Granite/Dalradian contact
Lagh Hill	Culdaff	This site contains excellent examples of conglomerates within the Southern Highland Group. Important information on provenance.
Laghy Quarries	Laghy	Basal Ballyshannon Limestone
Largymore Coastal section	Killybegs	Trace fossils and other fossils (macro and microfauna)
Lough Boyle (formerly Ballykillowen Hill)	Meenacaragh	The site includes the contact zone (Lough Derg Slide) between the Lough Derg Inlier of the Sliswood Division to the South and Dalradian rocks
Lough Columbkille	Cashelard	Minerals: potash feldspar; perthite, actinolite
Lough Eske	Burns Mountain, Friary, Tawnyvorgal	Lower Carboniferous section
Lough Finn		Areally scoured landscape.
Lough Finn Lateral Moraine		Lateral moraines. Scientifically important because it records a late phase of ice sheet decay as the Donegal ice cap decayed.
Lough Greenan	Glen, Termor, Millford	Scheelite/tungsten mineralisation
Lough Keel	Gweedore	fan
Lough Lareen	Doobally	Schist

Site Name	Townland(s)/district	Description
Lough Nacung, Dunlewy	Gweedore	Paternoster lakes (Dunlewy Lough, Lough Nacung Upper and Lough Nacung Lower)
Lough Swilly		Long wide fjord
Loughros More Bay		estuarine environment
Maghera Strand		inwashed sandflat, sill, quartzites
Malin Bay/ Skelpoonagh Bay	Malin Beg, Malin More, Glencolumbkille, Beefan	This area provides exceptional exposures through a fold system within the Dalradian supergroup.
Malin Flat	North of Malin	The Malin Flat records former higher postglacial sea levels and exhibits isolated fossil sea stacks and intervening swash gullies.
Malin Head	Malin Head, northern coast	Malin Head is a peninsula of quartzite and volcanic rocks that has been strongly glaciated.
Malin Head	Ardmalin	Raised beach deposits, cobbles, high energy wave climates
Melmore Rosguill/Lough	Carrigart	Melmore Migmatite
Mountcharles, Mountcharles Sandstone Mines, Mountcharles Sandstone quarry		Hand pump. Cream coloured dimension stone good for ornamental sculpture. Also Carboniferous Sandstone, with old stone mines and active extraction of stone in quarries.
Moville to Inishowen Head	Moville	The exposures of Southern Highland Group Dalradian rocks on the foreshore at Moville and for 2km to the NE provide exceptional preservation of sedimentary and tectonic features in low grade (Greenschist) metamorphic rocks. Valuable educational resource.
Muckish Mountain	Ballyboe Mountain	Disaggregated quartzite, of the Ards Quartzite Formation, has been quarried for glass sand. Also rock glaciers.
Muckros Head- Fintragh Bay	Largysillagh, Ballymoon	A coastal cliff and intertidal exposure of a wide range of rock types and sedimentary structures typical of many depositional environments are visible.
Mullagh Derg	Mullaghderg	Orbicular granite
Mulroy Bay	Carrowkeel, Millford	Fjord, salt marshes, intertidal mud
Naran Hill		appinite
North margin of Donegal Bay		Drumlin landscapes.
Oughtdarnid		High-pressure metamorphism illustration
Owenator River	Gweedore	boulder beds, fan, glacial mountain erosional inheritance
Poisoned Glen	Gweedore, Dunlewy Far	meanders, glacial mountain erosional inheritance
Pollan Bay [Pb, Zn, Ba]		Mineralisation (lead, zinc, barium)
Pollet Great Arch	south of Fanad Head	Sea arch

Site Name	Townland(s)/district	Description
Pollnalong, Rosguill	Derrycassan - Carrigart	Excellent, perfectly exposed, stratigraphic succession, some 300m thick, through upper part of Sessiagh – Clonmass Formation
Pollnapaste	Kincrum	karst and cave
Quigley's Point	Carrowkeel	alluvial gold
Quigley's Point (Lough Foyle)	Quigley's Point, Carrowkeel	There are several delta-like lobes at stream mouths along the coast, as at Quigley's Point
Rathlin O'Birne Island		arch
River Finn		paleo-terraces
Rosapenna & Rosapenna Peninsula	Rosapenna - Carrigart	Tombolo. The locality is also of crucial importance to Dalradian deformation history.
Rough Point Sill	Dunfanaghy	Metamorphic rock: metadolerite
Shalweg/Shalwy Moraine		Moraines on north margin of Donegal Bay.
Sheep Haven		branched bay formed by glaciation, with quartzite rocky shores and sandy beaches. Also a site for research on actual and potential dune instability.
Sheshkinarone	Burtonport	Quartz-muscovite-beryl greisen zone in Rosses Granite. Outcrop near road damaged by blasting and irresponsible collecting of beryl.
Slieve League	Ballymore / Glencolumbkille	quartzite megacliff, mass wasting and Carboniferous sandstone
Slievetooley		Slievetooley is mountainous cliffy coast (N facing cliff about 200 m), extending to the precipitous cliff of quartzite on Glen Head.
South Donegal	Numerous	Ribbed moraines
St John's Point, St. John's Peninsula, St. John's Point (McSwynes Bay to tip)	Ballysaggart, Dunkineely, Point	The north coast is partly an escarpment cliff. The Point is cut in Lower Carboniferous Limestone and shows weathering features. A large wave moved boulder may be the result of a tsunami. Also Ballyshannon formation, Limestone pavement and Tertiary dyke
Stralinchy	Stralinchy	Slieve Tooley Quartzite; Cranford Limestone
The Doon		horseshoe-shaped bay and periglacial landscape features
The Pullauns	Brownhall Demense	shallow developed river cave
The Rosses		Cnoc and Lochan landscape
Tory Island	Ardlarheen, West Town, East Town	Tory Island is granitic, with a quartzite tip at its eastern end. Tors.
Trabane, Malin Beg	Malin Beg	Glaciomarine sediments on NW coast, exposed in a stream cutting leading into the bay.
Trawbreaga Bay		Estuary formed by submergence of a lowland.
Tremone Bay	Culdaff	Port Askaig Tillite

Map 6: Geology of the County

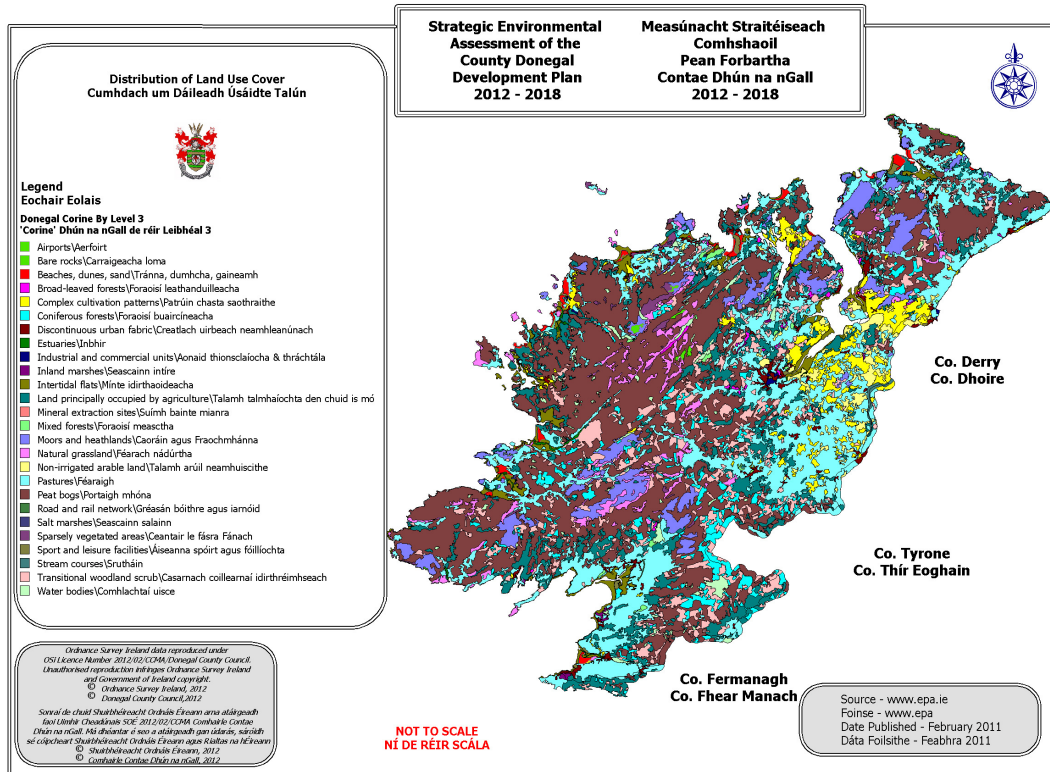


5.12 Land Cover

Land cover includes vegetation, man-made structures and surface water features. Agriculture is a significant land use within the County in terms of land cover, occupying approximate 38% of the County. Of this, some 23% is in use as pastures. Peat bog covers approximately 34%. Forests cover approximately 3.8% of the County, with 3.58% of this comprised of coniferous forests as opposed to approximately 0.25% broadleaf. A wide variety of uses including commercial, industrial and residential, exist in the urban areas of the County.

The data on land cover is based on the CORINE Land Cover Maps. These are maps of the European environmental landscape based on interpretation of satellite images. The European Environment Agency, in conjunction with the European Space Agency, the European Commission and member countries is currently updating the CORINE land cover database.

Map 7: Distribution of land cover within the County



The total area covered and percentage cover for various categories of land use are given in Table 21 below. The distribution of land use cover is shown on Map no. 7 above.

Table 21: Land Use Cover

Land Use Class Name	Total Area Km2	% Cover
Airports	0.312km2	0.006%
Bare rocks	10.722km2	0.201%
Beaches, dunes, sand	39.305km2	0.751%
Broad Leaved forest	13.089km2	0.250%
Complex cultivation patterns	175.206km2	3.347%
Coniferous forest	187.551km2	3.583%
Discontinuous urban fabric	53.654km2	1.025%
Estuaries	9.155km2	0.175%
Industrial or commercial units	3.481km2	0.066%
Inland marshes	5.637km2	0.108%
Intertidal flats	123.304km2	2.356%
Land Principally Occupied by Agriculture	538.914km2	10.295%
Mineral extraction sites	1.326km2	0.025%
Mixed forest	16.696km2	0.319%
Moors and heaths	297.557km2	5.684%
Natural grassland	143.618km2	2.744%
Non-irrigated arable land	94.711km2	1.809%
Pastures	1203.246km2	22.986%

Land Use Class Name	Total Area Km2	% Cover
Peat bogs	1798.383km2	34.356%
Road and rail networks and associated land	0.789km2	0.015%
Salt marshes	2.221km2	0.042%
Sparsely vegetated areas	26.154km2	0.500%
Sport and leisure facilities	11.758km2	0.225%
Stream courses	6.801km2	0.130%
Transitional woodland scrub	408.751km2	7.809%
Water bodies	62.264km2	1.189%
Total Area	5234.609km2	

5.13 Water (North Western International River Basin)

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) marks a new approach to the protection and improvement of our water resources and aquatic ecosystems across Europe. In contrast to previous legislation, the WFD aims at protecting all waters and water dependent ecosystems: groundwaters, rivers, lakes, transitional waters (estuaries), coastal waters and wetlands. A primary environmental objective of the WFD is that all water bodies will be good or higher by 2015, and that in no case will this status deteriorate below its present condition. The main unit of management for the WFD is the River Basin Districts, which outlines details of which are referred to above.

County Donegal falls entirely within the North-Western International River Basin District (NWIRBD), along with parts of Fermanagh, Cavan, Derry, Monaghan and Tyrone, significant areas of Leitrim and Longford and a small portion of Sligo. 'Water Matters: Our Plan!' is a Management Plan prepared for the North Western River Basin (2009-2015) and was published in 2010 and is situate within the Republic of Ireland. The management plan for the area within the NWIRBD and which fall within the jurisdiction of NI is entitled "North Western River Basin Management Plan" and published by the Northern Ireland Environmental Agency.

The NWRB management plan is a result of a systematic process of identifying risks to waters, assessing the status of waters, setting objectives and developing measures to achieve the measures to be taken to achieve the objectives of the Water Framework Directive and achieve good water status by 2027.

Considerable threats from wastewater, afforestation and agricultural sources remain a significant environmental issue within the County. The main pressure impacting on the water quality of lakes are inputs of nutrients, namely phosphorous and nitrogen, at concentrations in excess of natural levels, resulting in over-enrichment and eutrophication. This process commonly results in increased planktonic algal and higher plant biomass creating an undesirable disturbance to the balance of organisms in lakes and thus to its water quality.

Waters within the County support a rich diversity of marine life. The extensive offshore areas are generally not affected by pollution, while inshore, water quality in most estuarine and costal waters remains high. Levels of contaminants in fish and shellfish are very low and overall quality of Irish seafood produce remains high. The quality of bathing waters is high, and while the bacteriological quality of shellfish in shellfish-growing waters is reasonably good, it is likely that additional measures will be required to prevent further deterioration in certain areas.

The greatest human impact on marine environment continues to be commercial fishing. Most commercially targeted fish stocks in Irish waters are over exploited and are in decline. Cod stocks in the Irish Sea are considered to be in a stage of collapse. There is also mounting evidence that climate change has the capacity to alter the functioning of marine ecosystems by influencing the distribution and seasonality of a wide range of marine species.

5.14 Groundwater Status

The chemical and quantitative status of each groundwater body was determined based on the criteria set out in the WFD. The classification process also considered the ecological needs of the relevant rivers and terrestrial ecosystems that depend on contributions from groundwater and the assessment of the impact of pollution on the uses (or potential uses) of the groundwater body, e.g. for water supply.

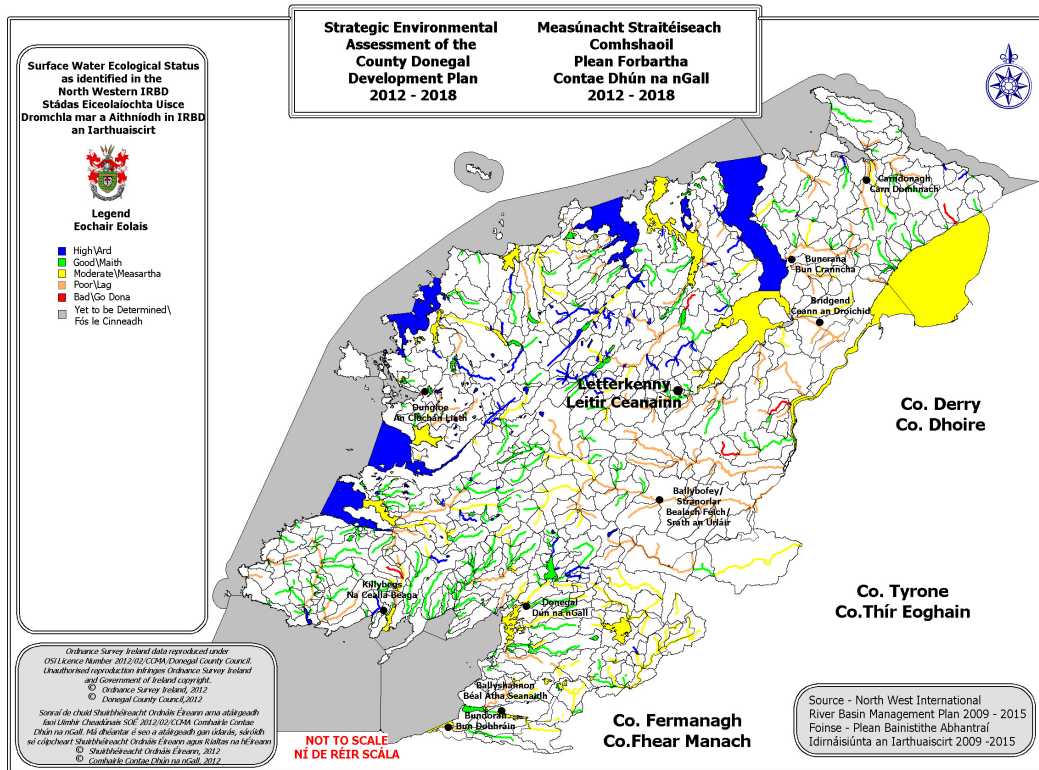
The quantitative status of all the groundwater bodies in the County is good, as set out in the North West International River Basin Management Plan and there is no evidence of significant impact or damage resulting from human activity on groundwater levels.

5.15 Surface Water Status

Surface water status is determined by its chemical and ecological status, and is defined by whichever of these is lower. Ecological status is based on a range of biological quality elements and supporting physico-chemical quality elements. The hydromorphological condition of high status river sites is also considered in assigning status.

In each case status is assigned to high, good, moderate, poor or bad status depending on the available information, the surface water ecological status for rivers, lakes and transitional waters is shown on Map no. 8 below.

Map 8: Surface Water Ecological Status (NWIRBD)



The overall aim for surface waters, which include rivers, lakes, transitional (estuaries and lagoons) and coastal waters, is to achieve at least 'good ecological status' and 'good chemical status', by 2015, as well as preventing deterioration in those waters that have been classified as 'high' or 'good'.

5.16 Chemical Status

A surface water chemical monitoring programme is being carried out at approximately 300 stations nationally. Sites are to be monitored for a range of parameters on a monthly basis over one year in a given planning cycle. To date results have been good and only one failure has been recorded. The detection of PAHs (toxic compounds derived from burning) resulted in a failure at Moville in Inishowen.

5.17 Ecological Status

The number of surface water bodies in the County that currently meet WFD status objectives are summarised in the table below.

Table 22: Surface Waters Status in Donegal

Rivers		Lakes		Transitional/Coastal		
< Good	= Good	< Good	= Good	< Good	= Good	U/A
209	306	14	112	15	13	15

Given its substantially rural nature, a major pressure on the water environment throughout the County is agriculture. Other diffuse source pressures include forestry and on-site waste water treatment systems. Waste water treatment plants are the most significant point source pressure.

5.18 Waste Water Treatment

The Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012 takes cognisance of the development of the River Basin Management Plans and also the relevant Environmental Protection Agency Reports on Drinking Water and wastewater discharges and the 2008 Forfas Report- Assessment of Water and Wastewater for Enterprise, within the context of the National Spatial Strategy. It targets public health and environment compliance issues, rehabilitation of existing water supply networks and projects whilst meeting the objectives Urban Wastewater Directive, 1991.³

The following tables are extracted from the WSIP 2010-2012 and indicate programmed Wastewater Infrastructure 'Contracts at Construction' and 'Contracts to Start 2010-2012'.

Table 23: Contracts at Construction

Scheme Name	Contract Name	Estimated Cost €
Laghy Sewerage Scheme	Main Pumping Station, Collection system and rising main.	806,000

Table 24: Contracts to start 2010-2012

Scheme Name	Contract Name	Estimated Cost €
Ballybofey/Stranorlar Sewerage Scheme	Network	150,000
Bridgend Sewerage Scheme	Wastewater Treatment Plant & Network	500,000
Donegal (group B)	Wastewater Treatment Plants	25,000,000

³ Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012

Scheme Name	Contract Name	Estimated Cost €
Sewerage Schemes *	- DBO	
Donegal (group B) Sewerage Schemes *	Networks	5,000,000
Donegal Town Sewerage Scheme (SLI)	Network (Brookfield)	103,000
Glenties/Dungloe Sewerage Schemes	Wastewater Treatment Plants- DBO	7,000,000
Gweedore Sewerage Scheme	Network	8,500,000
Gweedore Sewerage Scheme	Wastewater Treatment Plant	2,900,000
Killibegs Sewerage Scheme	Contract 2 (Main Pumping Station)	16,500,000
Letterkenny Sewerage Scheme	Wastewater Treatment Plant - DBO	25,000,000
TOTAL €		90,653,000

*Bundoran, Killibegs, Convoy and Glencolumbcille

The Water Services Investment Programme also details the following wastewater infrastructure 'Schemes at Planning Stages 2010-2012':

- Falcarragh Sewerage Scheme
- Inishowen Sludge Management Scheme
- Letterkenny Sewerage Scheme
- Moville/ Greencastle Sewerage Scheme
- Towns and Villages Sewerage Scheme (Bundle 1) (Buncrana, Carrigart, Kilmacrennan, Milford, Mountcharles, Rathmullen and Ramelton)

5.19 Wastewater

Information on current loading and capacity for wastewater has been provided by WEES showing available wastewater treatment capacity. In light of current construction works at Letterkenny, the Council will meet the UWWT Directive by the end of 2011. Sludge Management Plans in the local authority are ensuring that treated sludge's from all plants in the county are produced to Class 'A' Biosolid before disposal and are in accordance with the 'Code of Good Practice for the Use of Biosolids in Agriculture' issued with circular L9/99.

The following table shows the number of 'control point settlements' as identified in the County Donegal Development Plan 2006-2012, and their present wastewater infrastructure capacity for populations above and below 500pe.

Table 25: Wastewater Infrastructure capacity within 'control point settlements' as identified in County Development Plan 2006-2012

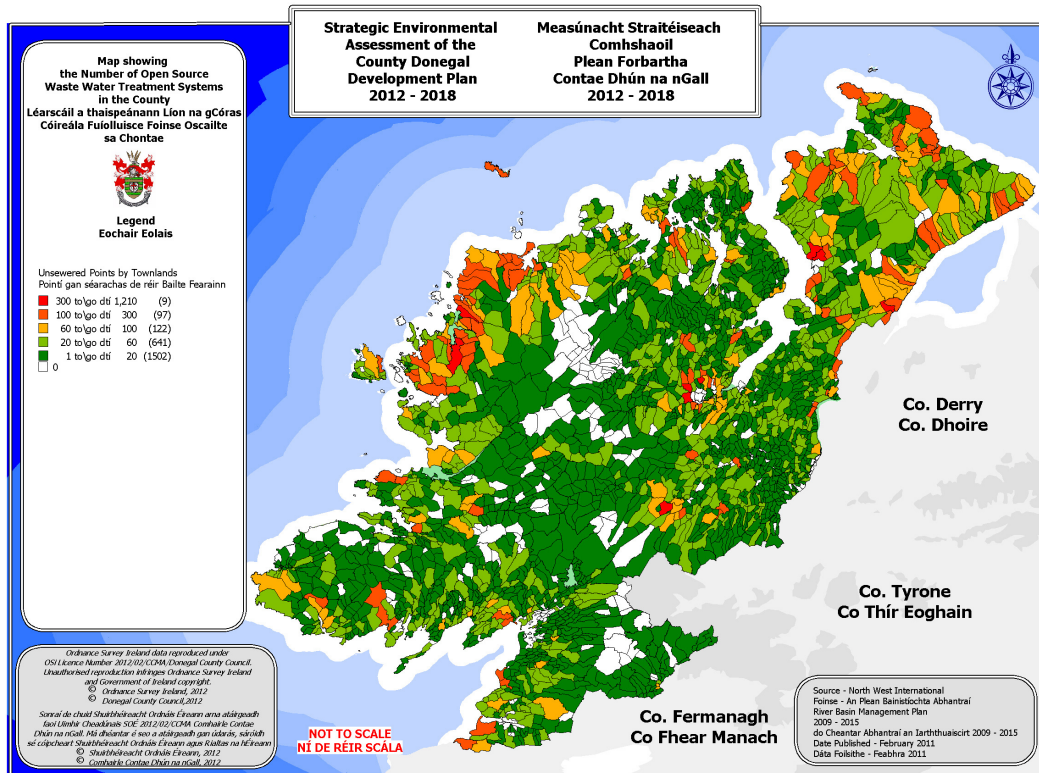
	Settlement with spare capacity or capital works due under WSIP in 2010-2012	Settlements with public sewer but without existing capacity and where further information is to be obtained to determine requirements	Settlements with public sewer but without spare capacity or capital works due under WSIP in 2010-2012	Settlements without public sewer or capital works due under WSIP in 2010-2012
More than 500p.e.	14	14	19	n/a
Less than 500 p.e.	4	1	6	n/a
Total	18	15	25	47

5.20 Wastewater Treatment Systems Serving Single Houses

Wastewater treatment systems serving single houses has been highlighted as a significant issue within the County in terms of pollution control and public health. Circular letter PSSP 1/10 issued by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government on 5th Jan 2010 refers to the European Court of Justice ruling against Ireland in relation to wastewater treatment systems (ref. Case C-188/08) serving single houses in unserved areas. The court found that Ireland had failed to comply with the requirements of Articles 4 and 8 of the Council Directive 75/422/EEC as amended (Cavan County Council being the only exception).

As an interim response to the ruling the DEH&LG have issued Circular PSSP 1/10 dealing with Development Plan and Development Management responses. The Department has indicated that they will be issuing further Guidance and developing legislation in order to fully respond to the ruling. The Circular relies heavily on the implementation of the new EPA code of Practice in respect to Wastewater Treatment systems and states that the code should apply to all applications received after the 8th Jan 2010. Map no. 9 below illustrates the number of unsewered properties in the County.

Map 9: Number of unsewered properties in the County



Considering the poor percolation characteristics in many parts of the County, the application of the code is likely to have a significant impact on the development of one-off housing where a connection to the public sewer is not an option.

5.21 Drinking Water

The County Council is responsible for the operation of 39 Public Water supplies (PWS). Water services in the County have seen unprecedented investment and progress over the last number of years. In many instances however, growth has taken place in areas that did not have the necessary infrastructure to support it. Contrary to this, there are also areas that have experienced significant investment in infrastructure but do not have the necessary loadings required for the effective running of the plant machinery. Moving forward, water services will need to be closely linked with future growth and development across the County.

5.22 Water Conservation Measures

Water conservation measures have the potential to deliver significant additional water supply and a greater financial return on investment. Levels of Unaccounted For Water (UFW) are high in Ireland. In the case of water supplied from a public source the metering of all users and billing of non-domestic users has a key role to play in avoiding wastage and securing the efficient use of resources.

The following tables show data extracted from the WSIP 2010-2012 and indicate programmed Water Supply and Water Conservation programmes that are 'Contracts at Construction', and 'Contracts to Start 2010-2012'.

Table 26: Contracts at Construction

Scheme Name	Contract Name	Estimated Cost €
Lough Mourne/Letterkenny Water Supply scheme	Contract 4(Network-Meencrumlin)	9,501,000
Water Conservation Stages 1&2 works	Water Conservation Stages 1&2 works	6,048,000
TOTAL €		15,549,000

Table 27: Contracts to start 2010-2012

Scheme Name	Contract Name	Estimated Cost €
Ballyshannon/Rossnowlough Regional Water Supply Scheme	Water Treatment Plant- DBO	6,000,000
Water Conservation Stage 3 works	Watermains Rehabilitation Project Phase 1.	3,100,000
TOTAL €		9,100,000

The Water Services Investment Programme also details the following water supply and water conservation 'Schemes at Planning Stages 2010-2012':

- Cranford Regional Water Supply Scheme
- Gortahork/Falcarragh Water Supply Scheme
- Inishowen Regional Water Supply Scheme
- Lough Mourne/Letterkenny Regional Water Supply Scheme
- West Donegal Regional Water Supply Schemes (including Lettermacaward)
- Water Conservation Stage 3 works

Information on current water supplies has been provided by Water Emergency and Environmental Services directorate and this has been simplified in the table below to show a picture of the existing deficiencies in the County.

Table 28: Deficiencies in water supply in the County

Water supplies with no major deficiencies or where investment is planned and a construction date is available.	Water supplies with some deficiencies	Water supplies with significant deficiencies.
27	71	5

Of the 27 water supplies identified in column 1 in the above table, 12 are identified as having some treatment deficiencies and all of these are on a planned programme for investment in water supply.

Of the 71 water supplies identified in column 2 of the above table as having some deficiencies, 50 are within a planned investment programme for water supply.

All of the water supplies identified in column 3 of the above table are within the same geographical area or are on a planned scheme for investment and identified in the WSIP as 'at planning'.

The Environmental Protection Agency's Report entitled 'The Provision and Quality of Drinking Water in Ireland – A report for the years 2008-2009 assesses the safety and quality of drinking water supplies covered by the European Communities (Drinking Water (No.2)) Regulations 2007 and showed an overall rate of (microbiological) compliance of 99.8% in both 2008 and 2009 up from 95.3% in 2007 and 95.1% in 2006.

17 Public Water Supplies (PWS) were on the Remedial Action List (RAL) at the end of 2009; this lists where remedial action is required to comply with the Drinking Water Regulations. The following PWSs were removed from the RAL in 2009: Carrigart-Downings, Cullionboy, Donegal (River Eske), Dunkineely, Kilcar, Manorcunningham, Mountcharles Lower, Mountcharles Upper, Fanad West (Tullyconnel), Frosses-Inver, Inishowen West, Pettigo, Cresslough and Portnoo-Narin. One supply, Owenteskna-Kilcar, was added. Most of the remainder of the supplies on the RAL are to be completed by 2010-2010 and 3 have no completion date set, namely, Letterkenny, Glenties-Ardara and Inishboffin as they require a replacement or new water treatment Plant.

Donegal was issued with one direction from the EPA in 2008 for Lifford Old supply and which was complied with and the direction closed by 2009.

The report details the following recommendations for Drinking Water Quality:

5.23 Public Water Supplies- Recommendations

1. Water Services Authorities should ensure that all failures to meet the microbiological, chemical and indicator parametric values are investigated to ensure that the cause of the failure is identified and the appropriate corrective action is taken. Lessons learnt and corrective measures should be implemented in other supplies in the county.
2. Water Services Authorities should ensure that all disinfection systems are operated in such a way that undisinfecting water does not enter the distribution mains at any time. Water Services Authorities should have regard to EPA Advice Notes and the EPA Water Treatment Manual on Disinfection and should optimise the disinfection system to minimise trihalomethanes formation.
3. Water Services Authorities should review the management of chlorine monitors and alarms and ensure that such monitors are managed correctly (i.e. in the correct location and with an appropriate alarm setting) and that documented response protocols are in place for dealing with activations of the alarm.
4. Water Services Authorities should prioritise remedial works in supplies that are on the Remedial Action List of Public Water Supplies. The actions outlined to the EPA should be completed as soon as possible and within the timeframe specified to the EPA. Water Services Authorities responsible for one or more of the 44 supplies for which no timeframe has been

- submitted should prepare an action programme with associated timeframes and submit this plan to the EPA.
5. Water Services Authorities should implement the World Health Organisation (WHO) Water Safety Plan approach to the management of water supplies.
 6. Water Services Authorities should have in place operational Drinking Water Incident Response Plans (DWIRP) in accordance with the requirements of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) Circular letter L4/09 issued in April 2009 (including for adverse weather conditions). An annual review and rehearsal of the DWIRP procedures should be carried out so that all personnel involved understand and are familiar with exactly what they have to do when an incident or emergency occurs.
 7. Water Services Authorities should prioritise improvement works on supplies with a boil water or water restriction notice in place on all or part of the supply in order to have the required works completed as a matter of urgency. Following completion of the works, the Water Services Authority must liaise with the Health Service Executive in order to determine whether the completed works allow the removal of the boil water notice or restriction.
 8. Water Services Authorities with public water supplies without a Cryptosporidium treatment barrier in place and those that are using surface water or water influenced by surface water as their source, should implement an appropriate improvement plan without delay which may involve upgrading, replacing or closing the plant.
 9. Water Services Authorities should when conducting a lead survey, have regard to the current lead parametric value of 25µg/l which will decrease to 10µg/l from 2013 and to the EPA Advice Note No. 1: Lead Compliance Monitoring and Surveys.
 10. Water Services Authorities should remove lead distribution mains as a priority in accordance with EPA Advice Note No. 2: Action programmes to restore the quality of drinking water impacted by lead pipes and lead plumbing.

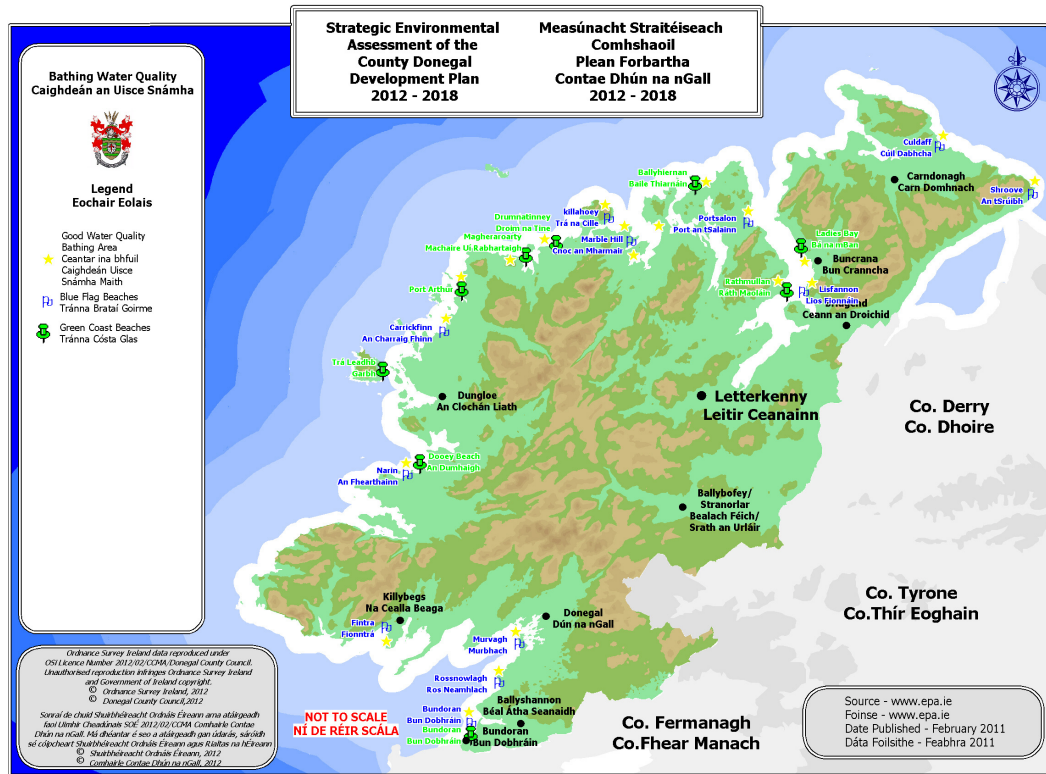
5.24 Recommendations - Public Group Water Schemes, Private Group Water Schemes and Small Private Supplies

1. Water Services Authorities should ensure that all failures to meet the microbiological, chemical and indicator parametric values in private water supplies are investigated to ensure that the cause of the failure is identified and the appropriate corrective action is taken. Water Services Authorities should take the appropriate enforcement action where there is evidence that such investigations and actions are not being undertaken.
2. Water Services Authorities should focus on the private group water schemes that are not being upgraded as part of a planned design build operate (DBO) bundle. Where a group water scheme has not prepared a corrective action programme in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 10 of the Regulations and where there is little evidence of action being taken to improve the quality of the water supply, the local authority should use enforcement powers under the 2007 Regulations to bring the supply into compliance.
3. Services Authorities should ensure that operators of public group water schemes clean and maintain the distribution networks regularly so that the quality of the water supplied by the local authority does not deteriorate in the group water schemes distribution network.

5.25 Bathing Water Quality

The monitoring of water quality at designated bathing areas is governed by the European Council Directive (976/160/EEC). The Directive aims to ensure that the quality of bathing water is maintained and, where necessary, improved so that it complies with specified standards designed to protect public health and the environment. Map no. 10 below illustrates bathing water quality in the County.

Map 10: Bathing Water Quality in the County



The Environmental Protection Agency Report, “The Quality of Bathing Water in Ireland, An overview for the year 2010” published 2011, reports that all (100%) of the designated bathing areas in County Donegal have again achieved good water quality status (Compliant with EU guide and mandatory values). This compares favourably to 96% at the National level, and increase of 4% from 2009.

Table: 29: Bathing Water Quality in County Donegal

Bathing Area	Quality water status	Compliance with EU	
		Mandatory	Guide
Ballyhernan, Fanad	Good	✓	✓
Bundoran	Good	✓	✓
Carrickfinn	Good	✓	✓
Culdaff	Good	✓	✓
Dowlings	Good	✓	✓
Drumatinny	Good	✓	✓
Fintra	Good	✓	✓
Killahoey	Good	✓	✓
Lady's Bay, Bun Crancha	Good	✓	✓
Lisfannon	Good	✓	✓
Marble Hill	Good	✓	✓
Murvagh	Good	✓	✓
Naran, Portnoo	Good	✓	✓
Port Arthur, Derrybeg	Good	✓	✓
Portnablagh	Good	✓	✓
Portsalon	Good	✓	✓

Bathing Area	Quality water status	Compliance with EU	
		Mandatory	Guide
Rathmullan	Good	√	√
Rosnowlagh	Good	√	√
Shroove	Good	√	√

Blue Flag Beaches and Green Coast Awards

Blue Flag Awards

The Blue Flag is an international award for beach excellence which is operated in Ireland by An Taisce, with support from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and by Tidy Northern Ireland with the support of the Northern Ireland Environment Agency in Northern Ireland. The award is presented to beaches and marinas which have excellent water quality, and which achieve high standards across a wide range of other criteria including environmental education, management of the environment, safety and other services. These are shown on Map no. 10.

2010 Blue Flag Awardees

Donegal was awarded 12 Blue Flags at the following locations

- Bundoran.
- Murvagh
- Rossnowlagh
- Fintra
- Narin-Portnoo
- Carrickfinn
- Marble Hill
- Lisfannon
- Portsalon
- Killahoey
- Shroove
- Culdaff

Green Coast Awards

The Green Coast Awards scheme is a symbol of excellence which recognizes excellent water quality, high environmental status, and good management and community involvement. County Donegal was awarded 8 Green Coast Awards in 2010 as listed below and illustrated on Map no. 10.

- Ballyhernan
- Drumnatinney
- Ladies Bay
- Port Arthur
- Rathmullan
- Dooey Beach
- Magheroarty Beach
- Tra Leadhb Garb
- Bundoran

5.26 Climate change

Climate change is recognised as a potential threat to the future sustenance of the planet with potential negative impacts on landforms and peoples arising from a warming of the climate and resultant changes in weather patterns, rise in sea levels, loss of habitats, species and ecosystems and other natural occurrences. Such is the concern over climate change, it is now a mandatory requirement of The Planning and Development Act 2010 (Section 10(2)(n)) to include the promotion of measures to reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and address the necessity of adaption to climate change.

Ireland's commitment under the Kyoto Protocol is to limit GHG emissions over the 2008–2012 period to no more than an annual average of 62.8 M tonnes CO₂e (13 per cent above 1990 levels). However, the most recent data show that Ireland faces a major challenge to meet this target and reduce what is one of the highest levels of per capita emissions in the EU. The more stringent targets proposed by the EU for 2020 pose even greater challenges for the country, and there is an urgent need to implement effective longterm strategies to achieve the necessary emissions reductions across all economic sectors. Current projections show that even if all projected reductions from existing and planned policies are delivered, and forest sinks and Kyoto mechanisms purchases are used as envisaged, Ireland will still exceed its Kyoto Protocol limit by an average of 1.4 Mtonnes of CO₂ equivalent per annum in the period 2008-2012. Additional domestic policies and measures and/or additional Government purchases will be required to bridge this gap. In particular, Ireland will have to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels while at the same time ensuring that very significant increases are made in both energy efficiency and in the use of alternative energy sources such as wind, ocean and biomass⁴.

The report by the EPA entitled "Ireland's National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections to 2020 (2008) presents three scenarios which show three potential outlooks to 2020 depending on policy development and implementation. The scenarios are called

- (i) Baseline
- (ii) With Measures
- (iii) With Additional Measures

EU legislation on Air Quality requires that 'Zones' are created for the assessment and management of air quality. Letterkenny is now within zone C as identified in the EPA report entitled "Air Quality in Ireland 2009), and the remainder of the County is within Zone D. In 2009, measured sulphur dioxide, lead, arsenic, cadmium, nickel, carbon monoxide, lead and benzene concentrations in Ireland were all below their individual limits, as designated under the 2002 Air Quality Standards Regulations and ozone concentrations measured in Ireland in 2009 were slightly lower than 2008. The measured nitrogen dioxide levels were low in zones C and D (Letterkenny and County Donegal)⁵.

Northern Ireland has a relatively good network of air quality monitoring sites, which have been established to ensure the standards of the National Air Quality Strategy are met. Data from the monitoring sites show that in general there has been a long term decline in the average number of air pollution days in Northern Ireland, reaching an all-time low of only three days in 2006. This is largely because of a reduction in particles and sulphur dioxide, but fluctuations from one year to the next can occur, as in 2003, because of differences in weather conditions. In rural areas the series can be volatile from one year to the next, and the downward trend is less clear. This reflects the variability in levels of ozone, the main cause of pollution in rural areas.⁶

It is only recently that radon gas has been identified as being a hazard to Public Health. Consequently the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland (RPII) undertook a comprehensive survey of radon in Irish dwellings. Approximately 11,500 houses were surveyed nationally and the results suggest that approximately 7% of houses have radon concentrations in excess of the Maximum Acceptable Limit. The Building Regulations were amended in 1998 in order to deal with radon in buildings. Further details on radon and related matters, including maps indicating the predicted radon levels in dwellings throughout the country, may be found on the RPII website (www.rpii.ie).

5.27 Climate change and Marine and Coastal Management

Adaptation and mitigation are essential elements in addressing the challenges and opportunities of climate change (EPA, 2010). Mitigation refers to efforts to limit the human induced causes of climate change whilst adaptation addresses the impacts and opportunities resulting from climate change.

⁴ Border Regional Authority Environmental Report of the Regional Planning Guidelines (2010-2022)

⁵ Environmental Protection Agency (2010). Air Quality in Ireland 2009 – Key Indicators of Ambient Air Quality.

⁶ <http://www.airqualityni.co.uk/reports.php>

The impacts of climate change are projected to increase in the coming decades. Research commissioned by the EPA has demonstrated that action is required on a national basis to prepare for adverse impacts in areas such as flooding, water management during dry spells, sea-level rise and coastal erosion. Difficult decisions will have to be made with regard to management of native species, vulnerable coastlines and ecosystems. According to the EPA the Irish climate is changing in line with global and regional trends.

Temperature:

Air and sea surface temperatures have been rising at 0.2-0.6oC per decade. Seven of the ten warmest years on record have occurred in last decade.

Storms and waves:

A greater incidence of severe winds and larger wave heights have been observed in western waters.

Sea Level:

There has been a global rise of about 3mm/year and a higher frequency of extreme water levels and flooding due to sea level rise and an increase in the extent and rates of coastal erosion.

Ocean acidification:

The ocean is becoming more acidic and it is likely that Donegal will be impacted by these changes however the level of impact is uncertain at present. Ecosystems and sensitive habitats may be impacted as water temperatures increase, this will have a knock on effect on fisheries and aquaculture. There may also be an influx of non native species which find the new warmer environment more suitable to their needs.

Coastal wetlands may be negatively affected by sea-level rise especially where they are constrained on their landward side, or starved of sediment and increases in precipitation may lead to flooding, pollution and algal blooms which have health and safety implications as well as the environmental impact.

Coastal Flooding is becoming more frequent and widespread in Ireland and is even occurring in areas which have no prior history of flooding. Coasts are projected to be exposed to increasing risks, including coastal erosion, due to sea-level rise, and effects exacerbated by increasing human - induced pressures on coastal areas

5.28 Material Assets

Material assets include a wide range of natural and man made assets. These can include infrastructural services and facilities and other items such as cultural heritage, agricultural lands, quarries, coastal and water resources and coastal defences. Developments and activities can often impact on material assets. There is a relatively high level of residential and commercial vacancy in the County (approximately 5,500 residential properties). This represents an underutilised resource and if left idle can deteriorate and detract from the character of urban and rural areas.

The issues in respect to material assets are dealt with below.

5.29 Cultural Heritage including Archaeology and Architectural Heritage

The built environment refers to all features built by man in the environment including buildings and other structures such as bridges, archaeological sites and field boundaries. These structures have been influenced by the particular physical, climactic, technological, cultural and socio-economic circumstances of their creators and are a record of man's continuous interaction with his environment. Non-structural elements, such as historic gardens, stone walls, ditches and street furniture, make a significant contribution to our built heritage. Stone walls and hedgerow in particular are an integral part of our rural/demesne landscape, often providing significant historic reference of landownership and farming patterns, and contributing to the character of areas. They can be vulnerable to needless

damage or destruction during development, as well as inappropriate and poor reconstruction. While not every structure is of sufficient importance to warrant the rigours of special protection, the conservation of good examples of the cultural and built heritage is vital if a sense of continuity with the past is to be maintained.

The County has a rich and diverse heritage and brings benefits to all that live in the County and those who visit. Along with forming our identity, heritage teaches us lessons from the past and also brings economic benefits to the region by providing scenic landscapes, vernacular architecture and historic monuments for the tourist. Retaining a wide diversity and quality of heritage resources can also be seen as a measure of success and competitiveness. The County contains a fine stock of architectural heritage including many large country houses and their associated demesne landscapes, ecclesiastical sites and other sites of industrial and vernacular heritage.

The Planning and Development Act 2000-2010 sets out the requirements of County Development Plans to protect architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific and technical structures of special interest by including a record of protected structures, these are listed in chapter 10 of the Development Plan.

The archaeological heritage of the County is a unique resource, which has shaped our landscape and our cultural identity. Archaeological remains of special interest are included in the 'Record of Monuments and Places'. The National Monuments Acts 1930 – 1994 provide for protection of our archaeological heritage. The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht National Monuments Section has a specific role in relation to the protection of the archaeological heritage. There are 21 Archaeological Complexes and 2679 National monuments protected under the National Monuments Acts 1930-1994 within the County and 13 of these are in State care. In addition the DEHLG have identified the following Historic Towns for General Protection:

- Ballyshannon,
- Donegal Town,
- Killibegs,
- Lifford,
- Ramelton,
- Rathmullen,
- St. Johnston.

The County's archaeological Heritage is not confined to sites and areas listed on the Record of Monuments and Places but also includes archaeological structures, artefacts and sites not yet discovered as set out in The National Monuments (Amendments) Act 1994

5.30 Landscape and Visual Impacts

County Donegal has a varied landscape comprising mountains, fertile plains, a deeply indented coastline of Loughs, bays and peninsulas and 27 islands including the permanently inhabited islands of Tory and Aran Island.

The landscape of Co. Donegal is dominated by a mountainous granite spine running northeast to southwest comprising the mountain ranges of Derryveagh. To the southwest of these ranges there is a massive peninsula of hard quartzite mountains, known as the Blue Stacks, extending from Ballybofey west to Glencolumbkille on the west coast. The west coast provides an indented coastline, that includes the dramatic sea cliffs of Slieve League, spectacular beaches, tidal sheltered bays, extensive peninsulas and sea loughs (such as Inishowen and Lough Swilly in the North East), in addition to numerous offshore islands, some of which are still inhabited.

The Donegal County Development Plan 2006-2012 identifies areas of Especially High Scenic Amenity and Views and Prospects. These areas are of sublime quality and are offered the highest protection. The County Development Plan also identifies views and prospects that are offered protection and which are also identified on Map below. It shall also be an objective of the Council going forward to

prepare a County Landscape Character Assessment.

5.31 Inter-Relationships between Environmental Topics

The inter-relationship between environmental topics is largely dealt with herein as they arise. Furthermore an assessment of each of the strategic objectives, objectives and policies has been undertaken considering a range of strategic environmental objectives (as contained within table 37) of this environmental report. The following inter-relationships are considered relevant.

Table 30: Potential Inter-Relationships between SEA Topics

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	√								
Population/Human Health	√	√							
Soil	√	√	√						
Water	√	√	√	√					
Air	√	√	√	X	√				
Climate	√	√	√	√	√	√			
Material Assets	√	√	√	√	X	√	√		
Cultural Heritage	X	√	X	√	X	X	√	√	
Landscape	√	X	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Population/Human Health	Soil	Water	Air	Climate	Material Assets	Cultural Heritage	Landscape

6.0 Significant Environmental Pressures

The future development of the County has the potential to impact on the environment at a trans-boundary, regional, county and local level. New development brings with it a need for supporting infrastructure and key environmental issues that may arise include water supply, treatment of waste water, flooding, transportation and the capacity of the natural resource to cope with development proposals. Increased population growth in the County is likely to give rise to an increase in car use, particularly where public transport is not readily available. This can lead to negative impacts in terms of carbon emissions, air quality and human health.

The more significant environmental issues identified during the SEA process include settlement patterns, water quality, biodiversity, landscape and cultural heritage, built heritage, transportation, agriculture, tourism, afforestation, energy resources, greenhouse gas emissions, climate change, flood risk, waste management and coastal management. Achieving a good quality of life for the people who live, work or visit the County is considered to be a key objective of the SEA process. Securing economic development and social equity, together with preserving and enhancing the urban and rural character of the County, are closely associated with environmental issues.

To date, air quality and noise pollution have not been raised as significant environmental issues, however they have been scoped-in, due to potential indirect environmental impacts.

A list of the significant environmental issues that were deemed to have been 'scoped in' during the scoping exercise is given in Table 31 below. The environmental impacts mentioned under the various topics listed in the table can act across a number of topic areas and the impacts can vary in scale and extent, some are short term and reversible, others are more long-term and may be permanent. Also, whereas individual impacts may be minor, the cumulative impacts, particularly when viewed over the longer term can be significant.

Table 31: Scoping of SEA Topics

SEA Topics Scoped	in	Indicative list of environmental impacts that need to be considered, either directly or indirectly, in the Environmental Report .
Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	in	Impacts on protected areas: European Sites (SACs SPAs, Ramsar sites, Impacts on National Protected sites, (pNHAs, NHAS and nature reserves). Impacts on flora and fauna and habitats including coastal and marine habitats, floodplains, wetlands, watercourses, peatlands and woodlands. Impacts on Freshwater Pearl Mussel protected areas. Impacts on other sensitive habitats, including protected fish species, peatlands. Impacts of invasive species. Interaction with Habitats Directive – Article 6 & 10 requirements. Protection of designated shellfish waters.
Population	in	Impacts of change in population profile. Impacts of change in settlement patterns and car use. Road Safety. Efficient use of infrastructural and community services. Increased demand for waste water treatment systems and waste management facilities. Impacts on environmentally sensitive areas.
Human Health	in	Impacts on water quality including drinking water and bathing water. Air and Noise pollution to a lesser extent. Impacts associated with flooding. Generally impacts mentioned elsewhere tend to act either directly or indirectly and to varying extents on human health and wellbeing.
Soil	in	Impacts of land use activities including, urban and rural development, windfarms, waste disposal, afforestation, recreation and agricultural activities.
Water	in	Impacts of development and activities on water quality including drinking water and bathing water. Impacts of urban and rural development including, wastewater and surface water disposal, agricultural activity, water recreational activities and afforestation.
Coast/Marine resource	in	Inappropriate development near /onthe coast Dynamic needs of the coast (coastal squeeze) Flood risk and coastal defences Tourism impacts and sustainable management e.g. Sensitive dune systems and beach access points Litter disposal and public services (e.g. toilets) Activities in the water Coastal /Marine spatial planning
Air	in	Impacts of air pollution associated with transport and industrial emissions.
Climatic factors	in	Impacts of greenhouse gas emissions and flooding. Also impacts of energy generation and consumption. Impacts of energy use and need for conservation. Water pollution due to flooding and algal blooms due to rises in temperature, Stresses on species and habitats Increase in storm events increase in precipitation (Perhaps less frequent but more severe)
Renewable Energy	in	Onshore and offshore opportunities and implications Onshore – scenic amenity access roads loss of biodiversity offshore impact on birds & marine mammals deployment issues grid connection locations
Material Assets	in	Impacts of development on infrastructure, utilities and amenities including road, water supply, wastewater treatment facilities, amenities and cultural heritage. Also included are impacts on economic assets such as quarries, agricultural lands, coastal and water resources which support fisheries and the tourism industry.
Cultural heritage, including Architectural and Archaeological	in	Impacts on items and features of heritage value including items of landscape, architectural, archaeological and historical importance, including shipwrecks.

SEA Topics Scoped	in	Indicative list of environmental impacts that need to be considered, either directly or indirectly, in the Environmental Report .
Landscape	in	Impact on visually sensitive areas including designated landscape and seascapes.
Interrelationship between the above topics	in	Cumulative impacts and interaction of above mentioned items. The impacts and interactions will obviously vary in extent and nature.

6.1 Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

There has been a decline in many native species in Ireland through habitat loss, competition, development and agriculture. It is of primary importance to manage and protect a wide range of habitats and species of importance and particularly Natura 2000 sites (SAC's and SPA's) and NHA's and pNHA's.

Developments associated with agricultural activities, windfarms, afforestation, urban development, ports and airports and a wide range of infrastructural works (including road works, water abstraction, wastewater disposal) within or close to the areas of ecologically sensitive sites must be carefully planned and managed so as not to compromise the integrity of these sites.

Wastewater discharges, runoff from agriculture, leachate from landfills and contaminated sites and nutrient input from forestry can all have detrimental effects on water quality resulting in subsequent impacts to biodiversity. Annex II species such as freshwater pearl mussel and salmon are particularly sensitive to pollution. The protection of shellfish growing areas from pollution is an issue of significant environmental concern within the County.

Certain development works on shorelines and floodplains and the associated infilling of wetlands is a potential environmental problem within the County. Invasive non-native plant and animal species are one of the threats to biodiversity in the County. (See section 6.0).

The development of ports and associated works at Killybegs and Greencastle have the potential to have significant environmental impacts, particularly in relation to biodiversity, flora and fauna, despite having no Natura 2000 designations in the immediate vicinity, the further development of the airport in Donegal also has the potential to have significant environmental impacts. It is therefore incumbent that such large scale strategic developments be accompanied by requisite environmental reports and subject to an Appropriate Assessment.

Climate change may impact on the rich biodiversity, flora and fauna of the County in terms of changes in precipitation patterns and temperature variations.

Other factors that may impact on biodiversity of the County include;

- Loss of environmentally sensitive 'greenfield sites' to development works
- Changes in hydrology including drainage and flooding and infilling of wetlands
- Peat/Turf extraction
- Overgrazing/undergrazing
- Damage arising from intensive recreation/amenity use
- Damage arising from quarrying activities
- Loss of hedgerows
- Loss of local biodiversity pockets
- Damage arising from wildfires

6.2 Population and Human Health

An increase in population has the potential to impact on biodiversity, water quality, landscape, cultural heritage and air quality. Individual and cumulative changes in the quality of the environment at local, regional and national level has the potential to impact to varying degrees on human health and

wellbeing.

Waste discharges from municipal wastewater treatment plants and certain agricultural activities particularly slurry spreading and afforestation is a significant pressure on water quality and hence public health. The cumulative impact of one-off housing in the countryside and rural housing clusters that are served by wastewater treatment systems, are a significant risk to water quality. An increase in rural housing, has an associated threat of water pollution from a proliferation of wastewater treatment plants. This is of particular concern where ground conditions are poor and where rural housing is located within environmentally sensitive areas.

Development permitted in flood risk areas, also has the potential to result in health and safety concerns for residents if flooding occurs and these incidents may increase as the impacts of climate change are experienced more frequently

An increase in traffic/pedestrian movement can give rise to an increased risk in terms of road safety.

High levels of radon buildings that are occupied by people pose a risk to human health within certain areas of the County. This is of particular concern in the case of buildings erected prior to the change in the Building Regulations in 1998 where radon levels are relatively high and where radon control measures have not been undertaken.

Noise pollution has not been raised as a significant concern at a County level.

Road Safety

Road Safety is a key priority in national government policy and Ireland's Road Safety Strategy (2007 – 2012) has the objective of radically and sustainably improving safety on Irish roads. (Statistics on road traffic safety and fatalities on the roads within County Donegal are being processed at the minute and should be available by the end of 2011).

Climate change also has the potential to impact on the management requirements of our roads. For example, there may be a need to change the type or quality of road surfacing material to one that can withstand colder winters and warmer summers. There may also be a need for increased supplies of grit/salt if harsher winters continue to be the norm.

6.3 Soil

Precipitation changes, predicted as one of the climate change impacts on Ireland, could have significant implications for slope stability and landslides and their resultant impacts on water management activities.

Eroded soil washed into rivers during heavy rainfall contains an increased nutrient content, which can damage the balance of nutrient poor, aquatic ecosystems by shifting their species composition, supporting more nutrient-loving species. This can lead to the eutrophication of rivers and lakes. As water temperatures rise due to climate change the eutrophication will be exacerbated, the impacts of soil erosion and soil stability is likely to vary accordingly across the County. Mismanaged extraction activities can also result in pressures on water quality and peat cutting can be damaging to vegetation, hydrology and landscape as well as destroying vital carbon sinks.

6.4 Water

The main pressures on surface and groundwater quality within the County are point and diffuse, physical modifications, climate change and other local issues. Point and diffuse sources include wastewater from urban and rural developments such as industrial discharges, soiled surface water, landfills, quarries, contaminated sites, agriculture, wastewater from substandard wastewater units, forestry, discharge of dangerous substances and illegal dumping. Water bodies that depend on a small catchment are particularly vulnerable to pollution and as such the protection of water quality is of significant importance.

Inputs of nutrients, namely phosphorous and nitrogen, at concentrations in excess of natural levels, resulting in over-enrichment and eutrophication present one of the most significant risks to water quality within the County.

The protection of sources of drinking water, the protection of bathing waters and the protection of fish stocks is a priority within the County.

The protection and improvement of water quality crosses a number of environmental topic areas including health and biodiversity and is a major environmental concern.

The North West International River Basin District management Plan has resulted in the carrying out of a comprehensive assessment of water quality (and associated issues) within the County and its catchment area. Accordingly, the integration of the aims and objectives of the NWIRBD and associated programme of measures into the Plan review is a key consideration in terms of securing good water quality status and associated habitats within the County.

6.5 Climate Change and Air Quality

A dispersed settlement pattern can give rise to a high dependency on the use of the car particularly where there are limited public transport options. This in turn gives rise to an increase in greenhouse gasses as well as other environmental problems such as unsustainable demand on non-renewal resources, air pollution, traffic congestion, road safety, increased travel times and associated quality of life issues.

Currently there are no significant concerns with regard to air quality at the County level.

Climate change, water and marine

Climate change is a cross cutting issue which impacts on habitats, species, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, water quality, water safety, flood risk and people. Of increasing concern is the issue of flooding of rivers and flooding at the coast, as well as impacts such as eutrophication which can have devastating impacts on water quality, fish stocks, and human health.

6.6 Marine/Coastal Resource

Donegal has 1132km of North Atlantic coastline which provides not only home to the flora and fauna of the county but acts as a social and economic resource. The coast is and always has been a sought after location to live and develop. Environmental issues around the coast include the impact of increased visitors to the coast, the risks of living in a coastal location (e.g. erosion, storm/flood risk, waste water, services) and demand for coastal development.

Erosion is a necessary and vital part of any healthy functioning beach and dune system. Change is both inevitable and necessary (McKenna et al, 2000). Coastal development and resultant shoreline defences can be disastrous [to a beach] with a risk that the entire beach will be lost due to wave reflection and scouring. The loss of a dynamic environment will eventually lead to loss of the habitats that support birdlife, wetlands and the very reason coastal sites are sought after may be lost.

Marine environments have experienced pressure from increasing populations along the coast with infrastructural and recreational development within coastal areas, the necessary building of flood defences causing a coastal squeeze on marine habitats, the effects of climate change (flooding, increases in invasive species and a reduction in ocean salinity) and pollution from land side agricultural and industrial activities.

6.7 Material Assets

Changes to material assets including items and features of cultural and heritage value, water quality, residential and commercial developments, a wide range of community services and facilities and infrastructural services and facilities may have environmental impacts.

Increased development including residential, commercial and infrastructural works have put pressure on existing water sources with regards to quantity as well as on the treatment facilities used to treat both drinking water and wastewater. In addition, existing water quality issues are resulting in pressures on commercial shellfish and aquaculture activities along with fisheries used for recreational purposes in Donegal.

There is a high level of vacancy within the County in respect to new residential and commercial development arising from the unprecedented level of building activity during the last number of years. Referring to the 2006 Census data, residential vacancy rates in Donegal were 27%, whilst most recent geo-directory data shows 5,500 vacant residential properties⁷. These residential properties represent a significant underutilised resource. In addition, if they are left idle they can over time deteriorate and in this regard can detract from the character of urban areas and indeed rural areas.

6.8 Cultural Heritage including Architectural and Archaeological

Development of infrastructure, in addition to development resulting from economic growth and increasing population, can potentially impact on sites or features of architectural, archaeological, geological or cultural heritage interest. In particular certain developments on or near sites of heritage value have the potential to have a negative impact on the integrity of these sites.

The pace and scale of urban development has placed pressure on the urban form and character of many centres throughout the County. Inappropriate urban design and layout including residential and commercial developments have impacted on the heritage and character of towns and villages. Urban sprawl has had a significant adverse impact on the urban form and character of many urban centres, including smaller scale towns and villages within the County. Such a pattern of development also gives rise to excessive and inefficient demand on rural infrastructural services and facilities, which has a negative impact on the vitality and viability of urban centres and leads to unsustainable patterns of travel.

6.9 Landscape

Existing pressures on landscape are primarily related to impacts on sensitive views resulting from the cumulative impacts arising from inappropriate siting and design of developments. Throughout the County there is inconsistency in the pattern, siting and design of buildings within the countryside. The cumulative impact of insensitive development on the landscape has a significant impact on both its visual amenity and rural character. Anecdotal evidence suggests that more stringent controls on one-off housing within Northern Ireland has led to increased development pressure in some rural areas of Donegal. Pressures on the landscape mainly come from the following developments types:

- One-off housing in the countryside;
- Wind farms;
- Afforestation;
- Quarrying;
- Major infrastructural projects including road works;
- Agricultural activities, including changes in agricultural practices, and in some cases, the abandonment of farming.

6.10 Environmental Pressures in the County

The following is an outline of particular environmental pressures facing Donegal. The pressures mentioned are not exclusive to the County nor are they an exhaustive list.

- Many of the islands within the County are covered by Natura 2000 sites, some with international protection (SPA), (SAC). Accordingly issues arise in terms of biodiversity, landscape, heritage and water. Of particular concern is the juxtaposition of shellfish growing areas to protected habitats (L. Swilly; L.Foyle; Mulroy Bay).
- Off shore exploration may give rise to potential impacts arising from possible future shore based activities.

⁷ An post Geo-directory statistics,

- Significant environmental issues may arise should the route of the A5 Dublin-Derry impact on sensitive habitats in the Lough Foyle river system. Likewise significant environmental issues may arise in the development of rail linkages between Letterkenny–Derry and Letterkenny–Sligo.
- It is acknowledged that Glenveagh National Park has a rich heritage in terms of biodiversity, flora and fauna, cultural heritage and landscape.
- Due to increased development pressure and possible impacts on habitats of significant importance, there is a need to develop proactive flood risk management.
- There are potential impacts to be considered in relation to the development of the North West Gateway Initiative on certain habitats associated with the Swilly and Foyle catchments arising from increases in urban populations, transportation issues etc.
- There is a high level of residential vacancy within the County (5,500 units) which gives rise to environmental issues in terms of sustainable use of resources, impacts on the urban and rural character and vitality of places.
- Global issues like climate change must be considered in the development plan. Mitigation and adaptation measures should be developed to increase the capacity to manage the impacts of climate change which are far reaching but uncertain in magnitude.

6.11 Inter-county and Transboundary Issues

Many of the environmental issues raised in the section above have an inter-county, and cross border (transboundary) dimension. Accordingly, responding to such issues require a coordinated and targeted approach by the many agencies involved in the management of the environment. Of particular note in terms of inter-county and cross border issues include; sensitive landscapes and sites of ecological importance, items and places of cultural heritage, sites of geological interest, water quality, marine and coastal management, waste disposal, transportation, energy supply and telecommunications. There is a requirement for co-operation at a catchment level as evidenced in the North Western International River Basin District Plan.

6.12 Summary of Main Environmental Pressures

The following table presents a summary of the main environmental pressures within the County and the items presented in the table are not exhaustive.

Table 32: Summary of Main Environmental Pressures within the County

Topic	Environmental Issue/ Pressures
Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	Certain developments and activities associated with agricultural activities, forestry, urban developments, windfarms, quarries, tourism, peat extraction, commercial fishing, ports and airports and a wide range of infrastructural works (including road works, water abstraction, wastewater disposal) that are located within or close to ecologically sensitive sites can give rise to significant environmental pressures. The protection of shellfish growing areas, freshwater pearl mussel and salmon have been highlighted as of particular importance. There are a relatively high number of Natura 2000 sites (SAC's and SPA's) and Natural Heritage Sites located within the County. These sites are particularly sensitive to certain development works and activities. Invasive non-native plant and animal species are a major threat to the biodiversity of the region.
Population and Human Health	Increases in population, their activities and settlement patterns have the potential to place increased pressure on biodiversity, water quality, landscape, cultural heritage and air. In particular, increased pressure on water quality arising from pollution can have a significant impact on human health. Individual and cumulative changes in the quality of the natural and built environment at local, regional and national level has the potential to impact to varying degrees on human health and wellbeing. High levels of radon in buildings and road safety have also been highlighted as significant issues.
Soil	Certain forms of development and activities including, urban and rural development, windfarms, waste disposal, afforestation, recreation and agricultural activities can place a significant pressure in soils. Changes in precipitation arising from global warming could have significant impacts on slope stability and could impact on soil and water quality.

Topic	Environmental Issue/ Pressures
Water	Development and activities can often impact on water quality including groundwater, drinking water and bathing water. Urban and rural development including wastewater and surface water disposal, landfills, quarries, contaminated lands, illegal dumping, agricultural activity, water recreational activities and afforestation can have significant impacts on water quality. Excessive inputs of nutrients, namely phosphorous and nitrogen present one of the most significant risks to water quality.
Air and Noise	Currently no significant impacts have been identified in respect to air quality or noise levels. Impacts arising from air pollution are primarily associated with transport and industrial emissions.
Coast/Marine resource	Inappropriate development near /onthe coast Dynamic needs of the coast (coastal squeeze) Flood risk and coastal defences Tourism impacts and sustainable management e.g. Sensitive dune systems and beach access points Litter disposal and public services (e.g. toilets) Activities in the water Coastal /Marine spatial planning
Climatic factors	Increased greenhouse gas emissions have been linked with climate change resulting in increases in the intensity and frequency of flooding. Of particular concern is the high dependency on the use of the car arising from a dispersed rural settlement pattern and lack of adequate public transport system.
Renewable energy	Onshore and offshore opportunities and implications Onshore – scenic amenity access roads loss of biodiversity Offshore – impact on birds & marine mammals deployment issues grid connection locations
Material Assets	Material assets include a wide range of natural and man made assets. These can include infrastructural services and facilities and other items such as cultural heritage, agricultural lands quarries and coastal and water resources. Developments and activities can often impact on these assets, some of which have been referred to herein. It has been highlighted that there is a high level of residential and commercial vacancy within the County. These properties represent an underutilized resource and if left idle, they can over time deteriorate and detract from the character of urban areas.
Cultural heritage, including Architectural and Archaeological	Pressures can arise from certain developments and activities on or near sites of heritage value. The visual amenities and character of urban and rural areas and items of architectural, archaeological and historical importance, including shipwrecks, may be placed under pressure by such works. It is acknowledged that development works can often have a positive impact on our cultural heritage.
Landscape	Developments and activities can impact on visually sensitive areas including designated landscape and seascapes
Interrelationship between the above topics	Cumulative impacts and interaction of above mentioned items can give rise to increased pressure on the environment. The impacts and interactions will obviously vary in extent and nature. In particular, issues in respect to water quality, climate change and the issue of oneoff housing in the countryside crosses a number of environmental topic areas. Population increase and changes in peoples activities and settlement patterns can impact on a wide range of the topics mentioned above.

The following is a summary of certain items where particular environmental pressures have been identified in the County.

6.13 Summary of environmental pressures in County Donegal

- Many offshore islands covered by Natura 2000 sites
- Shellfish growing areas potentially posing threats to protected habitats

- Off shore resource exploration potentially posing threats to natural habitats
- Infrastructural schemes such as the committed road line of the proposed A5/N2 dual carriageway and the potential routes for proposed new rail links
- North West Gateway and associated supporting infrastructure such as broadband ducting
- One-off housing in the countryside.

7.0 Flood Risk

In recent years there has been increasing awareness of the importance of factoring the risk to people, property, the overall economy and the environment from flooding into the planning system, and the role that good planning has in avoiding and reducing such risk that could otherwise arise in the future.

There are areas within the County, at risk from periodic flooding. The effects of climate change, such as more severe rainfall events and rising sea levels, will increase the risk of flooding and may put areas at risk that may not have flooded in the past. Adapting to the reality of climate change therefore requires greater vigilance in ensuring that risks of flooding in the future are integrated into the planning process.

Flooding from rivers and coastal waters is a natural phenomenon that cannot be entirely prevented or protected against. Flooding occurs when the capacity of a watercourse to convey water through an area is exceeded or in coastal areas when sea water encroaches on land due to failure of coastal defences, exceptional climatic or other factors. Flooding from the sea and from rivers is probably best known, but prolonged and intense rainfall can also cause sewer flooding, and flooding to arise from overland flow and ponding in hollows.

The man-made environment can exacerbate the consequences of flooding through development in a flood plain which places property and people at risk, or by building in areas where existing drainage infrastructure is deficient or inadequate. Flooding may impact on the economy, social well-being, public health and the environment.

The impact on individuals and communities can be significant in terms of personal suffering and financial loss and, even where flooding has natural causes, it can have damaging effects on the environment. Also of relevance is consideration of the consequences of climate change which is impacting on sea levels, the nature and pattern of rainfall events and weather patterns generally. Whilst the exact impacts of change are not known, it is widely agreed that climate change will result in a higher risk of flooding both inland and at coastal locations through the raising of sea levels and the occurrence of more intense rainfall events.

DEHLG Guidelines for Planning Authorities- The Planning System and Flood Risk Management, November 2009

The flood risk guidelines require the planning system to:

- Avoid development in areas at risk of flooding, particularly floodplains, unless there are proven wider sustainability grounds that justify appropriate development and where the flood risk can be reduced or managed to an acceptable level without increasing flood risk elsewhere;
- Adopt a sequential approach to flood risk management when assessing the location for new development based on avoidance, reduction and mitigation of flood risk; and
- Incorporate flood risk assessment into the process of making decisions on planning applications and planning appeals.

Existing Flood Risk Assessment

In 2007, the Floods Directive 2007/60/EC became operational. Member States are now required to assess if their watercourses and coastlines are at risk from flooding, and are required by 2015 to map

the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this risk.

The OPW are currently involved in preparing Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments (PRFA's) with the relevant local authorities, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other key agencies. This will identify 'Areas with Potential Significant flood Risk' (APSR's) based on historic and predictive data and consultation with stakeholders. Catchment-based Flood Risk Assessment and Management Plans (CFRAMs) will be developed for these areas. These CFRAM studies will establish a prioritised set of flood risk management measures for their relevant areas, including the use of physical and management responses.

The PFRA for Donegal is underway and will identify areas of potential flood risk. As this is a screening exercise it is probable that not all flood risk areas will be identified. Detailed flood mapping will then be prepared for areas deemed to be at risk by 2013. The focus of these studies is on risk management and not flood prevention.

The DEHLG Guidelines, 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management require that 'Development plans should address flood risk by having the necessary flood risk assessments, including mapping of flood zones, in place at the critical decision making phases and the consideration of any subsequent amendments.

The Office of Public Works (OPW) are the lead agency for flood risk management and are developing indicative flood maps and Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Mapping (CFRAM – a catchment based study involving an assessment of the risk of flooding in a catchment and the development of a strategy for managing that risk in order to reduce adverse effects on people, property and the environment). These are due by 2013 and will be followed by the Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans (CFRMP's) by 2015. The flood risk will be assessed in terms of its likely potential impact upon identified 'Receptors', such as, people, property, schools, hospitals, waste water treatment plants.

In the absence of this work being completed Donegal County Council will seek to manage development within floodplains and other areas at risk from flooding in a sequential manner based on avoidance, reduction and then mitigation. There is a need to exercise the precautionary approach to development proposals within areas that have historically been known to have flooded. Accordingly, the following indicators can be used in advance of the CFRAMS being published to assess flood risk. These indicators include;

1. Historic Flood Maps www.floodmaps.ie - Mapping and data source for flood events throughout the County.
2. Alluvial Soil Maps www.gsi.ie - Maps indicating areas of alluvial soil where in the past areas of land have been formed from sedimentary deposits out from previous water paths.
3. OPW Benefiting Land Maps - These maps on www.floodmaps.ie generally identify agricultural drainage schemes.
4. OPW Coastal Flooding Mapping (Available by end of 2011 for West/North West) - The OPW are in the process of preparing flood maps for the coastal regions.
5. 6" OSI Maps have areas identified as being, 'Liable to Flood'. The maps also show areas of marsh vegetation, which are known to flourish in floodplains.
6. Site Visit - Local topography and features such as culverts that could cause localised flooding and high water level marks on buildings and cracking from water damage all give good indicators at a site level. Vegetation such as bull rushes can indicate flood zones.

7. Verified local knowledge.

The Flood Risk Management Guidelines, 2009, require that flood risk is a key consideration in preparing development plans and that Planning Authorities must integrate flood risk assessment and its management into the planning process. All known flooding information that was available to the Council was utilised to inform the policies and objectives of the Plan and the Settlement Frameworks as set out in Appendix A of the Plan.

8.0 Likely Evolution of the Environment in the Absence of the Implementation of the County Development Plan

The County Donegal Development Plan is the principal instrument that is used to manage change in landuse in the County. This physical change can relate to the pressures and growth within our settlements and rural area; their renewal and regeneration; the protection of our heritage (natural and man-made); as well as the many and varied pressures on the environment and landscape in the form of different types of development. The consideration of environmental issues is inextricably linked to economic, social and cultural considerations and accordingly an environmental consideration play a central role in shaping the plan, its objectives and policies, and are manifested through the interrelationship between the Plan, the Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Appropriate Assessment.

In the absence of the County Donegal Development Plan, the “do-nothing scenario”, the following outcomes are most likely to arise in the County:

1. There would not be a long term strategic planning framework for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County.
2. It is likely that the County would further develop in an unbalanced way thereby not realising its potential and improving the quality of life for its residents.
3. There would be no strategic identification of the key infrastructural requirements such as the identification of key transport corridors, water supplies and waste water treatment facilities and development of telecommunications. In the absence of the identification of these key infrastructural requirements there would be a knock on effect on the economic, social and cultural development of the County and a slower recovery from the current economic crisis.
4. There would not be a core settlement strategy setting out a planning framework for the future development of the County. There would be no focus on the key strategic areas for future population growth. This in turn would lead to an exacerbation of the dispersed population of the County which weakens the existing urban structure and discourages the economies of scale required to justify the provision of services. It also makes the County less attractive to invest in.
5. The socio-economic development of the County will occur on an ad-hoc basis.
6. Less protection will be afforded to the natural receiving environment within the County.
7. The ecological, cultural, architectural and archaeological heritage will not be sufficiently protected at a strategic level.
8. Key environmental issues such as the protection of water quality may not be sufficiently considered due to the absence of a parent document dealing strategically with the issue.

The above demonstrates that to proceed in the absence of the implementation of a County Development Plan would be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

8.1 Monitoring, Environmental Objectives, Indicators and Targets

It is necessary to set out measures as part of the SEA to monitor the significant environmental effects

of the implementation of the plan and any gaps identified in the Environmental Report to help identify issues that need addressing or arise during the lifetime of the Plan. Monitoring shall be based on the environmental objectives, targets and indicators set out below.

Environmental Protection Objectives

Table 33: Environmental Protection Objectives, Indicators and Targets

Biodiversity, fauna and flora		
Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
BIO1: Ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive by protecting all Natura 2000 sites and habitats of species (SACs and SPAs) within the County.	Number and nature of developments permitted in or within the 15km Buffer of the Natura 200 site.	Maintenance of favourable conservation status of the Qualifying Interests of all Natura 2000 sites. Control of inappropriate development in and within 15km of Natura 2000 sites or likely to impact upon the Quality Interests of Natura 2000 sites.
BIO2: Conserve and enhance the diversity of habitats and protected species and promote the sustainable management of these areas.	Conservation status of habitats and species as reported by NPWS.	Maintenance of favourable conservation status of all Natura 2000 habitats of species and sites. Compliance with Catchment Plans for Freshwater Pearl Mussel. Compliance with NWIRBD.
BIO3: Protect the marine environment, and promote integrated coastal zone management strategies	Quality of shellfish Growing Areas as reported by DEHLG. Number of blue flag beaches.	Incorporate the Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters.
BIO4: Protect macro-corridors and contiguous areas of habitat.	Hedgerow and riverside length.	Maintenance of contiguous hedgerows, planted areas and waterways and their associated habitats.

Population		
Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
POP1: Facilitate a good quality of life based on high-quality residential, working and recreational environments	Provision of employment. Provision of services. Provision of amenities.	Increase in employment opportunities. Increase and improvement of services. Increase and improvement of amenities.
POP2: Facilitate more sustainable travel patterns	Provision of sustainable travel modes.	Increase and improvement of sustainable travel in the County.
Human health		
Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
HH1: Minimise noise, vibration and emissions from traffic, industrial processes and extractive industry	Occurrence of a spatially concentrated incidences of deterioration in human health (EPA, Local Reports)	No spatially occurring incidences.
Soil (including minerals)		
Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
SL1: Protect and maintain the quality of soils.	EPA/Teagasc National Soils Mapping Project	Conservation of soil.
SL2: Protect and conserve geological sites.	Number and area of geological heritage sites as mapped by GSI	Retain/increase the number of geological heritage sites in the County.
SL3: Give preference to the re-use of brownfield lands, rather than developing greenfield lands.	Location and area of brownfield sites developed and permitted for development over the plan period.	Develop as many brownfield sites as appropriate and possible.
SL4: Minimise the consumption of non-renewable sand, gravel and rock deposits		
SL5: Minimise the amount of waste to landfill	Amount and nature of waste to landfill and location of landfill.	Reduce amount of waste to landfill.

Water:		
Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
<p>WR1: Protect and enhance the status of aquatic ecosystems and, with regard to their water needs, terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands directly depending on the aquatic ecosystems, in accordance with the North Western River Basin Management Plan (2009-2015).</p> <p>Protect the quality of surface and drinking water quality as sources of drinking water, assets for amenity, and recreation and ecosystem purposes.</p>	<p>Water quality monitoring results by the EPA and County Lab, for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface water ecological and chemical status • Status of Estuarine and Coastal Waters • Bathing Water Quality • Groundwater Quality • Drinking Water quality. <p>Number of Public Water Supplies on EPA remedial Action list.</p> <p>EPA data under 'Urban Wastewater Discharges in Ireland population Equivalents greater than 500 persons report for 2010-2011.</p> <p>Agglomerations over 500 in the County without Secondary Treatment.</p> <p>Proportion of discharge licenses granted by the EPA that are compliant.</p>	<p>Protect and restore areas identified in the NWIRBD and achieve 'good' status by 2015 in accordance with the NWIRBD objectives.</p> <p>Improvements in levels of compliance with drinking water quality standards and promotion to above national average compliance rate.</p> <p>Commission secondary treatment plants in areas with low assimilative capacity for waste water or where primary treatment is adequate.</p>
<p>WR2: Promote sustainable water use based on a long-term protection of available water resources</p>	<p>Water meter readings.</p>	<p>Improve Water Conservation</p>

<p>WR3: Reduce progressively discharges of polluting substances to waters</p>	<p>Water quality monitoring results by the EPA and County Lab, for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface water ecological and chemical status • Status of Estuarine and Coastal Waters • Bathing Water Quality • Groundwater Quality • Drinking Water quality. 	<p>Protect and restore areas identified in the NWIRBD and achieve 'good' status by 2015 in accordance with the NWIRBD objectives.</p> <p>Improvements in levels of compliance with drinking water quality standards and promotion to above national average compliance rate.</p> <p>Commission secondary treatment plants in areas with low assimilative capacity for waste water or where primary treatment is adequate.</p>
<p>WR4: Manage the risk of coastal, estuarine and fluvial flooding.</p> <p>Manage the risk of droughts.</p>	<p>Number of housing developments permitted on flood plains or lands likely to flood.</p>	<p>Improved flood risk management in areas prone to flooding.</p> <p>Reduction in incidents of flood damage to properties.</p>

COAST/Marine Resource

Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
<p>CM1: Avoid coastal erosion and promote coastal protection.</p> <p>Manage the coastal zone as an environmental and tourist resource.</p>		<p>Conserve and enhance the coastal resource as an environment, amenity and resource.</p>

Air/climatic factors:

Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
<p>AC1: Support implementation of National Climate Strategy 2007-2012.</p> <p>Reduce all forms of air pollution</p>	<p>National level of carbon emissions.</p> <p>Local Air quality monitoring results.</p>	<p>20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2020.</p> <p>Full delivery of Climate Change strategies and Preparation of County Climate Change Strategies.</p>

<p>AC2: Promote and support a shift from fossil fuel dependent energy to more sustainable energy.</p> <p>Promote and support a shift from fossil fuel dependant vehicles to more sustainable modes of travel.</p>	<p>I-Plan results of numbers of developments permitted with renewable energies. Average daily motor vehicle flows.</p> <p>Proportion of travel by mode.</p> <p>Investment in public transport.</p>	<p>Reduce road traffic in line with Smarter Travel, A Sustainable Transport Future.</p> <p>Increased investment in cycle paths and footpaths.</p> <p>Consider recommendations of OREDP in Off shore wind energy developments.</p>
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Material assets:

Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
<p>MA1: Maintain and improve the availability and quality of community related infrastructure, services and facilities and ensure the prudent management of environmental resources.</p>	<p>Availability and quality of community related infrastructure, services and facilities and status of environmental resources.</p>	
<p>MA2: Avoid flood risk and/or coastal erosion in selecting sites for development</p>	<p>Number of community related developments on vulnerable coastal sites/ sites prone to flooding.</p>	<p>Improved flood risk management in areas prone to flooding.</p> <p>Reduction in incidents of flood damage to premises.</p>

Cultural heritage:

Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
<p>CH1: Promote the protection and conservation of the cultural, including architectural and archaeological, heritage</p>	<p>Number of structures on RPS in relation to Ministerial Recommendations arising from NIAH County inventory.</p> <p>Number of ACAs</p> <p>Number of Monuments on the RMP and areas of archaeological potential which have been recorded or subject to exploration as a result of development.</p> <p>Number of protected structures or archaeological monuments damaged due to development.</p>	<p>To increase the number of protected structures in line with ministerial recommendations arising from NIAH surveys.</p> <p>To increase the number and range of ACAs in the County to conserve both townscapes and demesne landscapes.</p> <p>To maintain and increase the number of archaeological features recorded and protected.</p> <p>No damage occurring to structures or monuments due to development.</p>

Landscape:		
Environmental Objectives	Indicators	Targets
LD1: Conserve and enhance valued natural and historic landscapes and features within them and avoid adverse impacts.	Area of landscape designated as within Especially High Scenic Amenity. Preparation of a Landscape Character Assessment.	Conserve and enhance the County's most valued scenic landscapes. Appropriate Heritage Appraisal and Landscape Capacity Assessment to inform any future development of uplands, waterway corridors, demesne and coastal landscapes.

8.2 Assessment of Objectives, Policies and Settlement Frameworks

This section assesses the potential effects of implementing the Development Plan on the environment. This is achieved through the examination of each objective, policy and individual settlement framework proposed in the Plan under headings that indicate whether the implementation of the Plan is likely to improve, conflict or have a neutral effect on the environment (table 34 below). These are set against Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) that have been derived from National, International and international policy documents, strategies and Guidelines, and based on emerging environmental conditions within the County (table 35 below).

In addition to the assessment matrix set out in table 36 of this report, the environmental issues and Strategic Environmental Objectives were considered in detail throughout the entire Plan review process in development of the objectives, policies and settlement frameworks of the Plan. Some of the specific policy references that contain reference to environmental measures are contained within table 37 at the end of this report, whilst other considerations would have resulted in amendments to objectives and policies, additional objectives and policies and also deletion of objectives and policies during the SEA process.

Table 34: Categories for Assessment

Probable Conflict with status of SEOs- unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs

*An acceptable level means where the conflict with the status of the SEO would be rendered benign or reduce through mitigation measures and thereby become acceptable in terms of well established principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

Table 35: Strategic Environmental Objectives

Environmental Component	SEO code:	Strategic Environmental Objective
Biodiversity, fauna and flora	BIO1	Ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive by protecting all Natura 2000 sites and habitats of species (SACs and SPAs) within the County.
Biodiversity, fauna and flora	BIO2	Conserve and enhance the diversity of habitats and protected species and promote the sustainable management of these areas.
Biodiversity, fauna and flora	BIO3	Protect the marine environment, and promote integrated coastal zone management strategies
Biodiversity, fauna and flora	BIO4	Protect macro-corridors and contiguous areas of habitat.
Population	POP1	Facilitate a good quality of life based on high-quality residential, working and recreational environments
Population	POP2	Facilitate more sustainable travel patterns.
Human health	HH1	Minimise noise, vibration and emissions from traffic, industrial processes and extractive industry
Soil (including minerals)	SL1	Protect and maintain the quality of soils.
Soil (including minerals)	SL2	Protect and conserve geological sites.
Soil (including minerals)	SL3	Give preference to the re-use of brownfield lands, rather than developing greenfield lands.
Soil (including minerals)	SL4	Minimise the consumption of non-renewable sand, gravel and rock deposits
Soil (including minerals)	SL5	Minimise the amount of waste to landfill
Water:	WR1	Protect and enhance the status of aquatic ecosystems and, with regard to their water needs, terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands directly depending on the aquatic ecosystems, in accordance with the North Western River Basin Management Plan (2009-2015).
Water:	WR2	Protect the quality of surface and drinking water quality as sources of drinking water, assets for amenity, and recreation and ecosystem purposes.
Water:	WR3	Promote sustainable water use based on a long-term protection of available water resources
Water:	WR4	Reduce progressively discharges of polluting substances to waters
Water:	WR5	Manage the risk of coastal, estuarine and fluvial flooding. Manage the risk of droughts.
COAST/Marine Resource	CM1	Avoid coastal erosion and promote coastal protection. Manage the coastal zone as an environmental and tourist resource.
COAST/Marine Resource	CM2	Protect Designated Shellfish Waters.
Air/climatic factors:	AC1	Support implementation of National Climate Strategy 2007-2012. Reduce all forms of air pollution

Air/climatic factors:	AC2	Promote and support a shift from fossil fuel dependent energy to more sustainable energy. Promote and support a shift from fossil fuel dependant vehicles to more sustainable modes of travel.
Material assets:	MA1	Maintain and improve the availability and quality of community related infrastructure, services and facilities and ensure the prudent management of environmental resources.
Material assets:	MA2	Avoid flood risk and/or coastal erosion in selecting sites for development
Cultural heritage:	CH1	Promote the protection and conservation of the cultural, including architectural and archaeological, heritage
Landscape:	LD1	Conserve and enhance valued natural and historic landscapes and features within them and avoid adverse impacts.

8.3 Conclusion

The assessment of objectives and policies contained within table 36 indicate the following:

- The implementation of the County Donegal Development Plan will have an overall positive effect on the environmental status of the County;
- Whilst a number of objectives and policies would have an overall positive impact, there may be certain elements of them that could also contain potential for conflict; where this arises the objectives and policies should be mitigated to an acceptable level*;
- The impact of some objectives and policies may be uncertain;
- The Implementation of the Plan will not give rise to probable environmental conflicts that are unlikely to be mitigated to an acceptable level*.

*An acceptable level means where the conflict with the status of the SEO would be rendered benign or reduce through mitigation measures and thereby become acceptable in terms of well established principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

Table 36: Assessment of Strategic Policy Objectives, Objectives and Policies

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
Chapter 1: Introduction and Context; Key Strategic Policy Objectives						
IC-O-1		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1.	SL1, SL2, SL3, WR3, AC1, MA1, MA2,	POP2, HH1,	SL4, SL5, AC2,	POP1,
IC-O-2		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1.	SL1, SL2, SL3, WR3, AC1, MA1, MA2,	POP2, HH1,	SL4, SL5, AC2,	POP1,
IC-O-3				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
IC-O-4				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
IC-O-5				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
IC-O-6						BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1
IC-O-7		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1.	SL1, SL2, SL3, WR3, AC1, MA1, MA2,	POP2, HH1,	SL4, SL5, AC2,	POP1,
IC-O-8		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1.	SL1, SL2, SL3, WR3, AC1, MA1, MA2,	POP2, HH1,	SL4, SL5, AC2,	POP1,
Chapter 2: Core Strategy						
Objective CS-O-1		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, MA2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1,	CM1, CM2,	HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1,
Objective CS-O-2		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1,		HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1,
Objective CS-O-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1,		HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1,
Objective CS-O-4				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective CS-O-5		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1,		HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1,

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
Objective CS-O-6		CM2, MA2, BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1,		HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2, MA1,
Objective CS-O-7		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1, MA1,		HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2,
Objective CS-O-8		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1, MA1,		POP1, HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5	POP2,
Objective CS-O-9		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1, MA1,		POP1, HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5	POP2,
Objective CS-O-10		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1, MA1,		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5	
Objective CS-O-11		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,			POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1,
Policy CS-P-1		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,	WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1,	HH1, SL5	SL2, SL4	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL3, MA1, LD1.
Policy CS-P-2		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,	WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1,	HH1, SL5	SL2, SL4	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL3, MA1, LD1.
Policy CS-P-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,	WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1,	HH1, SL5	SL2, SL4	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL3, MA1, LD1.
Policy CS-P-4		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1,		HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1,
Policy CS-P-5				BIO1, BIO3, HH1, SL1, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,		BIO2, BIO4, POP1, POP2, SL2, SL3, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
Policy CS-P-6				BIO1, BIO3, HH1, SL1, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,		BIO2, BIO4, POP1, POP2, SL2, SL3, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1
Policy CS-P-7				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1
Policy CS-P-8				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1, POP2
Policy CS-P-9				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1, POP2
Policy CS-P-10				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
Policy CS-P-11				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1
Policy CS-P-12				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy CS-P-13				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy CS-P-14				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1, POP2
Policy CS-P-15				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1,		SL1, WR1, WR2, WR4, CM2,

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				MA2, CH1, LD1		
Chapter 3 Economic Development						
Objective ED-O-1			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective ED-O-2		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	CM1,	POP2, HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5	POP1,
Objective ED-O-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	CM1,	HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2,
Objective ED-O-4		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	CM1,	POP2, HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5	POP1,
Objective ED-O-5		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	CM1,	HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2,
Objective ED-O-6		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2, LD1.	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	
Objective ED-O-7			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			POP1, POP2,
Objective ED-O-8		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	SL1, SL2, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2,		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	CH1, LD1,
Objective ED-O-9		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2, LD1.	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	
Objective ED-O-10		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR5, CM1, CM2, LD1	SL1, SL2, WR4, MA2, CH1,	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1,		AC1, AC2,

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Policy ED-P-1			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy ED-P-2				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy ED-P-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM2,	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	
Policy ED-P-4		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM2,	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	
Policy ED-P-5		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM2,	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	
Policy ED-P-6		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM2,	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	
Policy ED-P-7		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM2,	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	
Policy ED-P-8		BIO1, BIO2, SL1, WR1, CM2,	BIO3, BIO4, SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	
Policy ED-P-9		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2, LD1.	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	
Policy ED-P-10		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1,	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1,			

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Policy ED-P-11		CM1, CM2, BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2,	LD1. SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.			
Policy ED-P-12		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2,	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.			
Policy ED-P-13		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2, HH1	SL2, SL3, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1	SL5, MA1,POP1, POP2		
Policy ED-P-14		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2, HH1	SL2, SL3, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1	SL5, MA1,POP1, POP2		
Policy ED-P-15		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2,	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.			
Policy ED-P-16		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2,	SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.			
Policy ED-P-17						
Policy ED-P-18					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy ED-P-19		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,		AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2	CH1
Chapter 3 County Retail Strategy 2012-2018						
Objective RS-O-1				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5,		

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				WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective RS-O-2				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective RS-O-3				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective RS-O-4				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1,
Objective RS-O-5				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1,		

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Objective RS-O-6				LD1 BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1, POP2,
Objective RS-O-7				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective RS-O-8				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1, SL3,
Objective RS-O-9				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy RS-P-1				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5,		

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				WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy RS-P-2				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy RS-P-3			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, MA2, CH1	MA1,	HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, LD1	POP1, POP2,
Policy RS-P-4			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, MA2, CH1	MA1,	HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, LD1	POP1, POP2,
Policy RS-P-5			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, MA2, CH1	MA1,	HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, LD1	POP1, POP2, SL3,
Policy RS-P-6				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy RS-P-7			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, MA2, CH1	MA1,	HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, LD1	POP1, POP2, SL3, WR5,

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Policy RS-P-8				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy RS-P-9				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy RS-P-10			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, MA2, CH1	MA1,	HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, LD1	POP1, POP2, SL3,
Policy RS-P-11				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy RS-P-12				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1,		

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Policy RS-P-13				LD1 BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Chapter 4 Transportation						
Objective T-O-1				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective T-O-2			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective T-O-3			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective T-O-4			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			

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Objective T-O-5			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective T-O-6			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective T-O-7			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective T-O-8			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective T-O-9			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective T-O-10			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective T-O-11					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3,	

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					SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-1		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, WR1, CM2, MA2, LD1,	SL2, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, CH1,		POP1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1,	POP2,
Policy T-P-2					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-3			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy T-P-4		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, WR1, CM2, MA2, LD1,	SL2, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, CH1,		POP1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1,	POP2,
Policy T-P-5			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA2,CH1, LD1,		HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1,	POP1,POP2,
Policy T-P-6			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM2, MA2, CH1,		POP1,POP2, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, LD1,	
Policy T-P-7					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2,	POP2,

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Policy T-P-8			CH1,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1	MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-9			CH1,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1		
Policy T-P-10			CH1,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,		LD1
Policy T-P-11				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy T-P-12				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3,		CH1, LD1

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				WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,		
Policy T-P-13				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy T-P-14				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy T-P-15			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy T-P-16					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-17					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5,	

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					CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-18					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-19					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-20					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-21		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR5, CM2, LD1			POP1, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1	
Mitigation Exists through the objectives and policies contained in chapters 4.2, 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4.						
Policy T-P-22			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy T-P-23			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1,			

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Policy T-P-24			MA2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1
Policy T-P-25				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy T-P-26		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, CM2,	WR1, CM1, MA2, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CH1,	POP1,
Policy T-P-27		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, CM2,	WR1, CM1, MA2, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CH1,	POP1,
Policy T-P-28		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, CM2,	WR1, CM1, MA2, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CH1,	POP1,
Policy T-P-29		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,	SL1, SL2, WR1, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1,	HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5,	POP1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM2, MA1,	POP2,
Policy T-P-30		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,	SL1, SL2, WR1, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1,	HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5,	POP1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM2, MA1,	POP2,
Policy T-P-31		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,	SL1, SL2, WR1, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1,	HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5,	POP1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM2, MA1,	POP2,
Policy T-P-32			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3,			POP2,

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			SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy T-P-33		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,	SL1, WR1, CH1, LD1	WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA2,	POP1, HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, MA1	
Policy T-P-34			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			POP2
Policy T-P-35					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-36					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	POP1,
Policy T-P-37			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy T-P-38					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	BIO4, POP1,

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Policy T-P-39					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy T-P-40					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	BIO4, POP1,
Policy T-P-41					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	BIO4, POP1,
Chapter 4: Water, Environmental Services and Protection						
Objective WES-O-1			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, CM2,	WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5,	POP1, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4,
Objective WES-O-2					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	SL5,
Objective WES-O-3					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	SL5,

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Objective WES-O-4				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		WR1, WR2, CM2,
Objective WES-O-5				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, SL4, SL5, CM1, MA1, MA2, CH1,		HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM2, AC1, AC2, LD1
Objective WES-O-6				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy WES-P-1				POP2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR5, AC2, MA1,		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, CM1, CM2, AC1, MA2, CH1, LD1,
Policy WES-P-2			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, HH1, MA1, MA2,	WR5, CM1,	POP1, SL5,
Policy WES-P-3				POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	POP1, WR1, WR2,

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Policy WES-P-4					POP1, POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4
Policy WES-P-5					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	WR2, WR3,
Policy WES-P-6					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	WR3
Policy WES-P-7					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	WR3
Policy WES-P-8					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	WR3
Policy WES-P-9					BIO1, BIO2, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1, CH1, LD1	BIO3, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2,

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Policy WES-P-10			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,		SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	SL1, WR1, WR2, WR4, CM2,
Policy WES-P-11				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2 HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy WES-P-12			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2 HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Chapter 4: Telecommunications						
Objective TC-O-1		BIO1, BIO2	BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CM1, CM2,	
Objective TC-O-2		BIO1, BIO2	BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CM1, CM2,	
Policy TC-P-1		BIO1, BIO2	BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CM1, CM2,	
Policy TC-P-2			BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CM1, CM2,	
Policy TC-P-3			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1, MA2	POP1, CM1, CM2	
Policy TC-P-4		BIO1, BIO2, SL1, CH1, LD1	BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR4, CM2, MA2,	SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL2	

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	Mitigation to this is provided through the inclusion of language stating 'subject to environmental designations and amenity considerations.'					
Policy TC-P-5		BIO1, BIO2, BIO4, SL1, CH1, LD1	BIO3, WR1, WR2, WR4,	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,		SL2, SL3,
	Mitigation to this is provided through the inclusion of language stating 'subject to environmental designations and amenity considerations.'					
Policy TC-P-6		BIO1, BIO2	BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CM1, CM2,	
Policy TC-P-7		BIO1, BIO2	BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, CH1	POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CM1, CM2	LD1
Chapter 4: Flooding						
Objective F-O-1			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1,	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Objective F-O-2			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Objective F-O-3			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Objective F-O-4			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2

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Policy F-P-1			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-2			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-3			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-4			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-5			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-6			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-7			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,

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						POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-8			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-9			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-10			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Policy F-P-11			SL4, SL5, MA1	POP2, HH1	SL3, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2
Chapter 5: Housing Strategy						
Objective HS-O-1				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective HS-O-2				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3,		

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
				BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective HS-O-3				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1
Objective HS-O-4				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective HS-O-5				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective HS-O-6				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4,		POP1,

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
				SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective HS-O-7			BIO4,	HH1, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, POP1, POP2, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,	SL3,
Policy HS-P-1				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1,
Policy HS-P-2				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1,POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy HS-P-3				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1,POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Chapter 5: Urban Housing						
Objective UB-O-1		BIO1, BIO2,	BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3,		POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1, MA2,

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
Objective UB-O-2		BIO1, BIO2,	BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1	WR4, WR5, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5,		LD1 POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1, MA2, LD1
Objective UB-O-3		BIO1, BIO2	BIO3, BIO4,, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1, POP2,
Objective UB-O-4		BIO1, BIO2	BIO3, BIO4,, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1, POP2,
Objective UB-O-5				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1,
Objective UB-O-6		BIO1, BIO2	BIO3, BIO4,, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1, POP2,
Objective UB-O-7				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1 POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective UB-O-8					BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, POP1, POP2, SL3, WR2, CM2, MA1

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Policy UB-P-1		BIO1, BIO2,	BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5,		POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1, MA2, LD1
Policy UB-P-2		BIO1, BIO2,	BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5,		POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1, MA2, LD1
Policy UB-P-3				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1 POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy UB-P-4		BIO1, BIO2,	BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5,		POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1, MA2, LD1
Policy UB-P-5				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1 POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy UB-P-6		BIO1, BIO2,	BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5,		POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1, MA2, LD1
Policy UB-P-7				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, , HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1 POP2
Policy UB-P-8				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3,		

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				BIO4, POP1 POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy UB-P-9				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1 POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy UB-P-10				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1 POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy UB-P-11			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, WR1, WR4, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR5,	
Policy UB-P-12				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1 POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1,		

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Policy UB-P-13				LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, WR3, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1
Chapter 5: Rural Housing						
Objective RH-O-1		BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2,	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1	SL5, MA1,	HH1, SL3, SL4,	
Objective RH-O-2		BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2,	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1	SL5, MA1,	HH1, SL3, SL4,	POP1,
Objective RH-O-3		BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2,	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1	SL5, MA1,	HH1, SL3, SL4,	
Objective RH-O-4		BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2,	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1	SL5, MA1,	HH1, SL3, SL4,	POP1,
Objective RH-O-5		BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2,	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1,	SL5, MA1,	HH1, SL3, SL4,	POP1, LD1
Objective RH-O-6			BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, SL1, SL2, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1,	SL5, MA1, LD1	HH1, SL3, SL4,	WR1, CM2,
Policy RH-P-1		BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, SL1, SL3, WR1, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	SL2, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, MA1, MA2,		HH1, SL4, SL5,	POP1,
Policy RH-P-2		BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, SL1, SL3, WR1, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	SL2, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, MA1, MA2,		HH1, SL4, SL5,	POP1,
Policy RH-P-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL3, WR1, WR2, WR3,	AC1, CH1,	BIO3, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR5, CM1		POP1,

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		WR4, CM2, AC2, MA2, KD1				
Policy RH-P-4	Mitigation is provided for	through the policy text	setting out the considerations that will be made in determining the suitability of a proposal.			
		BIO1, BIO2, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL3, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, CM2, AC2, MA2, KD1	AC1, CH1,	BIO3, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR5, CM1		POP1,
Policy RH-P-5	Mitigation is provided for	through the policy text	setting out the considerations that will be made in determining the suitability of a proposal.			
				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy RH-P-6		BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, SL1, SL3, WR1, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	SL2, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, MA1, MA2,		HH1, SL4, SL5,	POP1,
Policy RH-P-7		BIO1,BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, SL1, SL3, WR1, CM1, CM2,	SL2, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2	HH1, SL4, SL5,	POP1, CH1, LD1,
Policy RH-P-8		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, SL1, SL2, SL3, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	POP1, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,	HH1, SL4, SL5,		
Policy RH-P-9	Mitigation is provided for	through the policy text	setting out the considerations that will be made in determining the suitability of a proposal.			
			BIO4, SL2, MA2, CH1, LD1	HH1,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL3, AC1, AC2, MA1,

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Policy RH-P-10		BIO1, BIO2, BIO4, CH1, LD1.	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, AC1, AC2, MA2,	HH1, MA1,	BIO3, SL4, SL5, WR5, CM1, CM2,	SL3,
Mitigation is provided through the wording "Holiday home development shall be considered in other areas of the County subject to environmental and heritage designations and amenity considerations."						
Policy RH-P-11			BIO4, SL2, CH1		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	LD1
Chapter 5: Traveller Accommodation						
Objective TA-O-1		BIO1, BIO2,	BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, CH1, LD1	AC1, AC2, MA1,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5,	POP1, POP2, SL3,
Policy TA-P-1		BIO1, BIO2,	BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, CH1, LD1	AC1, AC2, MA1,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5,	POP1, POP2, SL3,
Chapter 6: Built and Natural Heritage						
Chapter 6: Natural Heritage						
Objective NH-O-1					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Objective NH-O-2					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Objective NH-O-3					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1,

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Objective NH-O-4					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	LD1 BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Objective NH-O-5					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Objective NH-O-6					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Objective NH-O-7					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2	POP1, CH1, LD1
Objective NH-O-8					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-1					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1

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Policy NH-P-2					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-3					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-4					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-5					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-6					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-7					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-8					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4,	POP1,

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					SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy NH-P-9					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-10					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-11					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-12					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-13					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1

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Policy NH-P-14					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy NH-P-15					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2	POP1, CH1, LD1
Chapter 6: Built Heritage						
Objective BH-O-1					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Objective BH-O-2					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	POP1
Objective BH-O-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,		POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1,	AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Objective BH-O-4					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2,	POP1

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Policy BH-P-1					MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1 BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy BH-P-2					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy BH-P-3					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy BH-P-4					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy BH-P-5					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy BH-P-6					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4,	POP1, CH1,

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					SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1	
Policy BH-P-7					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy BH-P-8					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy BH-P-9					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1	POP1, CH1,
Policy BH-P-10					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2	POP1, CH1, LD1
Archaeological Heritage						
Objective AH-O-1					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2,	POP1, CH1,

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Policy AH-P-1					MA1, MA2, LD1 BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy AH-P-2					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1	POP1, CH1,
Policy AH-P-3					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, CH1, LD1
Policy AH-P-4					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	CH1, LD1
Chapter 7: Extractive Industry						
Objective EX-O-1			MA2,	BIO3, POP1, POP2 SL1, SL2, CM2, AC1, MA1,	HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO4, CH1, LD1
Objective EX-O-2				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM2, CH1,	POP2, HH1, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	POP1, SL1, CH2.

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Objective EX-O-3		SL2, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL4, CH1,		POP1, POP2, HH1, SL3, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	
Objective EX-O-4			WR4, WR5, CH1	SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, MA1,	POP2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, HH1, SL1, WR1, WR2, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA2, LD1
Policy EX-P-1			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, WR1, WR2, WR4, CM1, CM2, LD1	POP1, SL3, AC1, AC2	POP2, SL5, WR3, WR5, MA1, MA2, CH1	
Policy EX-P-2			HH1, SL1, SL2, AC1,	BIO1, BIO4, POP2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR4	BIO2, BIO3, POP1, WR3, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy EX-P-3			BIO4, POP1, HH1, SL1, SL5, WR1, WR2, MA1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, SL2, SL3, SL4, AC2, MA2,	POP2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, CH1, CH2,	
Policy EX-P-4			HH1,	POP1, POP2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4,	CH1, LD1
Policy EX-P-5			POP1,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP2, HH1,	SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1.	MA1,
Policy G-P-1 (Geological Heritage)			SL1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	CH1.	SL2,

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Chapter 7: Energy						
Objective E-O-1		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Objective E-O-2		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	
Objective E-O-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, CH1,	HH1, SL1, SL3, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2,		SL2, SL4, SL5, CM2, AC1, AC2, LD1	POP1, POP2, MA1,
Objective E-O-4		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	SL1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP1, HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, MA1,	POP2, AC1, AC2,
Objective E-O-5		HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, SL3, WR2, WR4, WR5, MA2,		SL4, WR3, MA1,	AC1, AC2,
	*Mitigation to his shall be through the implementation of objectives and polices contained within sections 4.2, 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 of the Plan.					
Policy E-P-1		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	
Policy E-P-2		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
	*Mitigation to his shall be through the implementation of objectives and polices contained within sections 4.2, 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 of the Plan.					
Policy E-P-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	
Policy E-P-4		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	
Policy E-P-5		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-6		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	
Policy E-P-7		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	

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Policy E-P-8				BI04, POP1, SL2, SL3, SL5, CH1	BI03, POP2, SL1, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA1, MA2	BI01, BI02, HH1, SL4 WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, AC1, AC2, LD1
Policy E-P-9		HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, SL3, WR2, WR4, WR5, MA2,		SL4, WR3, MA1,	AC1, AC2,
*Mitigation to his shall be through the implementation of objectives and polices contained within sections 4.2, 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 of the Plan.						
Policy E-P-10		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-11		HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, SL3, WR2, WR4, WR5, MA2,		SL4, WR3, MA1,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-12		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-13		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-14		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-15		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-16		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-17		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-18		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Policy E-P-19		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	

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Policy E-P-20			WR5, CM1,	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3,	BIO3,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR4, CM2,
Policy E-P-21		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, HH1, SL1, SL2, WR1, CM2,	POP1, SL4, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CH1, LD1	POP2, SL5,	SL3, MA1, MA2,	AC1, AC2,
Chapter 8: Tourism						
Objective TOU-O-1		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL2, WR1, CM2, LD1	SL3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1,	SL1,	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, AC1, AC2, MA1,	
Objective TOU-O-2						BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1
Objective TOU-O-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL2, WR1, CM2, LD1	SL3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1,	SL1,	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, AC1, AC2, MA1,	
Objective TOU-O-4		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL2, WR1, CM2, LD1	SL3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1,	SL1,	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, AC1, AC2, MA1,	
Objective TOU-O-5		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, LD1	SL1, SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1,		HH1, SL4, SL5, MA1,	POP1, POP2,
Objective TOU-O-6					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Objective TOU-O-7		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3,	SL1, SL2, WR2, WR3, WR4,		HH1, SL3, SL4, SL5,	POP1, POP2,

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Objective TOU-O-8		BIO4, WR1, CM2,	WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1, LD1 BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA2,	AC1, AC2, CH1, LD1,	MA1, POP2, HH1, SL2, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, MA1,	AC1, AC2, POP1,
Objective TOU-O-9				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP 1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy TOU-P-1					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM1, CH1, LD1
Policy TOU-P-2			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, CH1, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,		
Policy TOU-P-3					POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, CM1, CH1, LD1
Policy TOU-P-4			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,		CH1,
Policy TOU-P-5			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4,		

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				SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2,		
Policy TOU-P-6				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy TOU-P-7				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy TOU-P-8				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy TOU-P-9		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,	SL1, SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, CH1,	SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	
Policy TOU-P-10		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,	SL1, SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, CH1,	SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	
Policy TOU-P-11		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,	SL1, SL2, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,	POP1, POP2, HH1, CH1,	SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	

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Policy TOU-P-12			MA2, LD1	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1		CH1
Policy TOU-P-13		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2			
*Mitigation to his shall be through the implementation of objectives and polices contained within sections 4.2, 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 and 6.4 of the Plan.						
Chapter 8: Marine						
Objective MCZM-O-1		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, LD1	HH1, SL1, SL2, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA1, MA2, CH1,	SL3, SL4, SL5	POP1, POP2,	AC1, AC2,
Objective MCZM-O2			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Objective MCZM-O-3				POP1, POP2, HH1, AC1, AC2, MA1, CH1, LD1	SL3, SL4, SL5,	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, SL2, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2,
Objective MCZM-O4			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy MCZM-P-1			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1,			

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
			WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy MCZM-P-2			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy MCZM-P-3			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy MCZM-P-4			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy MCZM-P-5		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, , WR1, WR2,	CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1	HH1, SL1, WR3, WR4, WR5,	POP1, POP2, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy MCZM-P-6		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, , WR1, WR2,	CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1	HH1, SL1, WR3, WR4, WR5,	POP1, POP2, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy MCZM-P-7		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4,	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy MCZM-P-8				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3,		

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
				WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy MCZM-P-9				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy MCZM-P-10			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM1, CM2,	POP2, HH1,	SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1,	POP1, MA1, LD1
Policy MCZM-P-11			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, SL1, WR1, CM1, CM2, MA1, MA2,	POP2, HH1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, AC1, AC2,	SL3, SL4, SL5,	POP1, SL2, CH1, LD1
Chapter 9: Community, Culture and Gaeltacht						
Objective CCG-O-1				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA2, LD1		MA1, CH1,
Objective CCG-O-2				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
Objective CCG-O-3				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Objective CCG-O-4			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, MA2,	WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1, CH1,
Objective CCG-O-5			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, MA2,	WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1, CH1,
Objective CCG-O-6			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, MA2,	WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1, CH1,
Objective CCG-O-7		BIO1, SL1, WR1, WR2,		BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1,SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA2, CH1, LD1		MA1
Policy CCG-P-1			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, MA2,	WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1, CH1,
Policy CCG-P-2		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,	SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, CH1, LD1		HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1, POP2,
Policy CCG-P-3		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,	POP1, POP2, SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, CH1, LD1		HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	
Policy CCG-P-4		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,	SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, CH1, LD1		HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1, POP2,

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
Policy CCG-P-5		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,	SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, CH1, LD1		HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1, POP2,
Policy CCG-P-6		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,	SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, CH1, LD1		HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1, POP2,
Policy CCG-P-7		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,	SL1, SL3, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, MA2, CH1, LD1	POP2,	HH1, SL2, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1,	POP1,
Policy CCG-P-8			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2, MA2,	WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, LD1	POP2, HH1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, AC1, AC2, MA1, CH1,	POP1, SL1,
Policy CCG-P-9			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy CCG-P-10			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy CCG-P-11		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1, LD1		AC1, AC2,	POP1, POP2, MA1,
Policy CCG-P-12				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
Policy CCG-P-13				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		POP2,
Policy CCG-P-14			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy CCG-P-15		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1, LD1		AC1, AC2,	POP1, POP2, MA1,
Policy CCG-P-16		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1, LD1		AC1, AC2,	POP1, POP2, MA1,
Policy CCG-P-17		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, CM2	SL1, SL3, SL4, SL5, CM1, MA2, CH1, LD1, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5	HH1, AC1, AC2	POP2, SL2	POP1, MA1
*Mitigation to his shall be through the implementation of objectives and polices contained within sections 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 and 6.4 of the Plan.						
Policy CCG-P-18			WR5,	HH1, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, AC1, AC2, MA2	BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, CM1, CM2, CH1	BIO4, POP1, POP2, SL1, MA1, LD1
*Mitigation to his shall be through the implementation of objectives and polices contained within sections 4.4 and 7.2 of the Plan.						
Policy CCG-P-19			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy CCG-P-20			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, CM2,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5,	POP1, POP2, MA1,	AC1, AC2,

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
				WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
Policy CCG-P-21			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy CCG-P-22		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,		AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,	CH1
Policy CCG-P-23			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1			
Policy CCG-P-24		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,		AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,	CH1
Policy CCG-P-25					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy CCG-P-26		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,		AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,	CH1

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
Policy CCG-P-27					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy CCG-P-28		BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1,		AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, LD1	POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2,	CH1
Policy CCG-P-29					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Policy CCG-P-30					BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1	
Chapter 11: Childcare Strategy.						
CH-O-1		BIO1, BIO2,	WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4,	BIO3, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4,, SL5, WR5, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1	BIO4,,AC1, AC2, MA2,	POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1,
CH-O-2		BIO1, BIO2,	WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4,	BIO3, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4,, SL5, WR5, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1	BIO4,,AC1, AC2, MA2,	POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1,
CH-O-3				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5,		

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
				WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
CH-O-4				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
CH-O-5				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
CH-O-6				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
CH-O-7				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2,		

Objectives and Policies	Probable Conflict with status of SEOs-unlikely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Potential Conflict with status of SEOs – likely to be mitigated to an *acceptable level	Uncertain interaction with status of SEOs	Neutral interaction with status of SEOs	No Likely interaction with status of SEOs	Likely to Improve the status of the SEOs
				MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
CH-P-2		BIO1, BIO2,	WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4,	BIO3, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4,, SL5, WR5, CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1	BIO4,,AC1, AC2, MA2,	POP1, POP2, SL3, MA1,
CH-P-3				BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, POP1, POP2, HH1, SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL5, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4, WR5, CM1, CM2, AC1, AC2, MA1, MA2, CH1, LD1		
CH-P-4			BIO1, BIO2, BIO3, BIO4, WR1, WR2, WR3, WR4,	HH1, SL1, SL2, SL4, SL5, WR5 , CM1, CM2, CH1, LD1		POP1, POP2 , SL3

9.0 Mitigation Measures

It is a requirement of the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (Schedule 2B) to set out measures to offset any potential negative impact on the environment as a result of implementing the policies and objectives of the Plan. Table no. 37 demonstrates this assessment and a number of objectives and policies have been identified as having a potential conflict with the Strategic Environmental Objectives of the Plan and where this has arose, mitigation measures are proposed.

The SEA of the Draft Plan was carried out in-house within the wider Plan drafting team; as such environmental vulnerabilities, issues and constraints were considered in the first instance through the plan writing process and in this regard formulated with the explicit intention of protecting the environment and avoiding potentially adverse environmental impacts. The 'Assessment' proper as outlined in table 36 of this document assessed each aim, objective and policy individually and recommended mitigation (changes) are identified in table 37, namely policy changes to telecommunications policies numbered TC-P-4 and TC-P-7.

There are objectives and policies identified as having potential impact on Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) and uncertain interaction with the SEOs, the majority of these shall be subject to further detailed assessment and mitigation at implementation stage through best practice in the development management process and implementation of the Plan. In addition, certain individual applications for developments within the County may be subject to individual Environmental Impact Assessments and Appropriate Assessments.

The mitigation measures referred to above will act to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant effects of implementing the County Donegal Development Plan.

10.0 Incorporating Environmental Issues into the County Donegal Development Plan 2012-2018.

The SEA process shaped the drafting of the entire Plan and the table below outlines how the environmental issues raised throughout the SEA process were incorporated into the Plan as objectives, policies or otherwise. The table does not include all references within the Plan nor indicate amendments and modifications arrived at throughout the Plan drafting process as a result of the SEA process.

The SEA process also significantly shaped the '57 settlement frameworks' for the individual settlements throughout the County. In the 2006-2012 County Donegal Development Plan there were 105 'Control Point Settlements' that have now become 'settlement Frameworks' or subsumed into the wider 'rural' category. As a first step each of the 105 'Control Point' settlements (within their Boundaries) were assessed against the Strategic Environmental Objectives as set out in Table 35; this highlighted numerous environmental issues both stand-alone and cumulative within the settlements and this information served as a back drop for the following:

- Drawing of the settlement boundaries that in the majority of instances resulted in a significant reduction in the settlement framework boundaries.
- Determination of location of each settlement in the settlement hierarchy
- Population share resulting from the population targets set by the Border Regional Authority.

Table 37: Incorporating Environmental Issues into the Plan

Environmental Issue	Objective, Policy or reference in the Plan	Additional Policy Objective or Reference Required (final check)
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna		
Impact of development works	IC-O-6, WES-P-1, WES-P-4, TC-P-4, TC-P-7, F-O-4, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-4, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11, RH-O-2, RH-O-6, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-O-3, NH-O-4, NH-O-6, NH-P-1, NH-P-2, TOU-O-2, TOU-P-1,	TC-P-4, wording should be expanded to refer all sites with environmental designations not just NHA's. TC-P-7 should be expanded to include reference to NHAs and NWIRBD.
Protection of watercourses and sensitive water bodies	WES-O-1, WES-O-4, WES-O-5, WES-P-1, WES-P-4, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, F-O-2, F-O-4, RH-O-6, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, MCZM-O-3,	
Control of invasive species	WES-P-1, NH-O-1, NH-P-5,	
Protection of Natura 2000 sites including certain sites within counties Sligo and Leitrim and Northern Ireland.	WES-P-1, TC-P-7, F-O-4, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-O-3, NH-O-4, NH-P-5,	TC-P-4, wording should be expanded to refer all sites with environmental designations not just NHA's.
Protection of Annex II species such as Freshwater Pearl Mussel and salmon	WES-O-4, WES-P-1, WES-P-4, WES-P-10, F-O-4, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-P-4,	
Ramsar Sites and Statutory Nature Reserves.	WES-P-1, F-O-4, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-3,	
Ecological Networks	WES-P-1, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-O-6, NH-P-5, NH-P-7,	
Shellfish waters	WES-O-4, WES-P-1, WES-P-4, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, F-O-1, F-O-4, RH-O-6, EX-O-1, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-O-2, NH-O-4, NH-P-3, MCZM-O-3	
Population and Human Health		
Quality of Life	IC-O-1, IC-O-2, IC-O-7, IC-O-8, CS-O-5, CS-O-9, CS-P-1, CS-P-2, CS-P-4, ED-O-2, ED-O-7, RS-P-3, RS-P-4, RS-P-7, F-O-1, F-O-3, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11, UB-O-6, UB-P-1, UB-P-2, UB-P-4, UB-P-6, UB-P-7, RH-O-2, RH-O-5, RH-P-1, RH-P-2, TA-O-1, TA-P-1, MCZM-P-10, MCZM-P-11,	
Population trends, distribution of RPG Population targets and Settlement Frameworks.	CS-O-1, CS-O-2, CS-O-3, CS-O-7, CS-O-8	
Health and its relationship to environmental issues.	IC-O-6, WES-O-1, WES-P-3, WES-P-4, WES-P-10, F-O-2, NH-O-1, TOU-O-2, CCG-P-4	
Provision of infrastructure and community facilities	CS-O-1, CS-O-2, CS-O-3, CS-O-6, CS-P-1, CS-P-2, CS-P-3, CS-P-4, RS-O-4, RS-O-6, T-P-1, T-P-4, T-P-	

Environmental Issue	Objective, Policy or reference in the Plan	Additional Policy Objective or Reference Required (final check)
	5, T-P-7, T-P-26, T-P-27, T-P-28, T-P-29, T-P-30, T-P-31, T-P-32, T-P-34, T-P-36, T-P-38, T-P-40, T-P-41, WES-P-5, UB-O-3, UB-P-1, UB-P-2, UB-P-4, UB-P-6, RH-O-4, TOU-O-5, TOU-O-7, CCG-O-1, CCG-P-1, CCG-P-2, CCG-P-5, CCG-P-7, CCG-P-8, CCG-P-11, CCG-P-13, CCG-P-15, CCG-P-16, CCG-P-21, CH-O-1, CH-P-2, CH-P-4, CH-O-5	
Flooding	RS-P-7, F-O-1, F-O-2, F-O-3, F-O-4, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-4, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11	
Water		
Impact of development works on water quality	WES-P-1, WES-P-3, WES-P-4, WES-P-6, WES-P-7, WES-P-8, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, F-P-2, MCZM-O-3	TC-P-7, should be expanded to include reference to NHAs and NWIRBD.
Alignment with objectives and policies of the NWIRBD Plan.	IC-O-6, WES-O-1, WES-O-4, WES-O-5, WES-P-1, WES-P-3, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, F-O-4, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, MCZM-O-3	TC-P-4, wording should be expanded to refer all sites with environmental designations not just NHA's
Wastewater, drinking water and bathing water quality.	IC-O-6, WES-O-1, WES-O-5, WES-P-1, WES-P-3, WES-P-4, WES-P-5, WES-P-8, WES-P-9, WES-P-10, RH-P-8, EX-O-4, NH-O-1, MCZM-O-3, MCZM-P-10	
Air and Climate Change		
Climate Change and Air Quality	IC-O-6, WES-O-5, WES-P-1, E-O-1, E-O-2, E-O-3, E-P-2, E-P-5, MCZM-O-1	
Limiting Greenhouse gas emissions and reducing dependency on fossil fuels.	WES-O-5, WES-P-1, E-O-4, MCZM-O-1, CH-O-4	
Cultural Heritage		
Impact of development works (e.g. infrastructural works, forestry)	T-P-12	
Identification and protection of geological sites,	EX-O-1	
Protection of architectural and archaeological structures and sites.	CS-O-11, EX-O-1, EX-P-4, G-P-1, BH-O-1, BH-O-2, BH-O-3, BH-O-4, BH-P-1, BH-P-2, BH-P-3, BH-P-4, BH-P-5, BH-P-6, BH-P-7, BH-P-8, AH-O-1, AH-P-1, AH-P-2, AH-P-3	
Landscape		
Impact of development works (e.g. infrastructural works, forestry)	CS-P-1, CS-P-2, CS-P-3, RS-O-8, RS-P-5, T-P-10, T-P-12, TC-P-4, TC-P-7, F-O-4, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-4, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11, UB-P-1, UB-P-2, UB-P-4, UB-P-6, EX-O-2, EX-P-5, NH-O-5, NH-P-8, NH-P-9, NH-P-11,	

Environmental Issue	Objective, Policy or reference in the Plan	Additional Policy Objective or Reference Required (final check)
	NH-P-12, BH-P-9, TOU-O-8, TOU-P-1	
Identification, Classification and protection of landscape	IC-O-6, TC-P-4, EX-O-2, NH-P-10, NH-P-13, NH-P-14, TOU-P-3, TOU-P-4	
Other Issues		
Rural Housing	F-O-4, F-P-8, RH-O-2, RH-O-4, RH-O-5, RH-O-6, RH-P-1, RH-P-2, RH-P-6	
Development of recreation and tourism facilities	ED-O-8, TOU-O-1, TOU-O-2, TOU-O-3, TOU-O-4, TOU-O-5, TOU-O-6, TOU-O-7, TOU-O-8, TOU-P-1, TOU-P-2, TOU-P-3, TOU-P-4, TOU-P-5, TOU-P-6, TOU-P-7, TOU-P-8, TOU-P-9, TOU-P-10, TOU-P-11	
Coastal Management	WES-P-9, F-O-4, NH-O-1, NH-P-6, MCZM-O-3, MCZM-P-10	
Waste management	WES-O-2, WES-O-3, WES-P-2,	
Soils	IC-O-6, CS-P-1, CS-P-2, CS-P-3, CS-P-4, WES-O-5, WES-P-10, F-O-1, F-O-3, F-O-4, F-P-1, F-P-2, F-P-3, F-P-4, F-P-5, F-P-6, F-P-7, F-P-8, F-P-9, F-P-10, F-P-11, NH-O-1	
Employment and Enterprise Developments	ED-O-2, ED-O-3, ED-O-4, ED-O-6	