



Newsletter 04
May 2024



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council



OPW Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

BARRY
& PARTNERS

JBA
consulting

INTRODUCTION

Since the issue of Newsletter No. 3 in June 2023, the project team progressed the hydraulic modelling of the scheme. The output from the modelling was flood extents that formed the basis of developing potential measures to protect properties at risk of flooding.

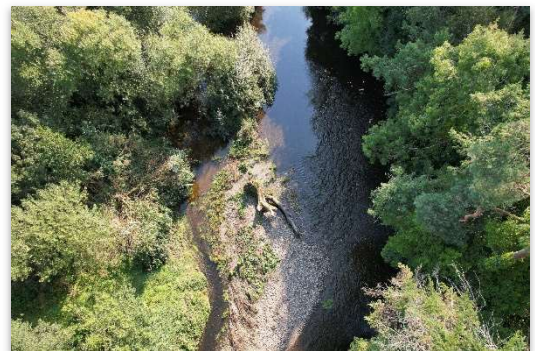
DATA COLLECTION

DETAILED SITE SURVEYS

Detailed in-stream, culvert network and topographical surveys have been undertaken to supplement existing survey information. This data allowed accurate modelling of the geometry of the watercourses across both the Mill & Mealagh catchments.

ECOLOGY SURVEYS

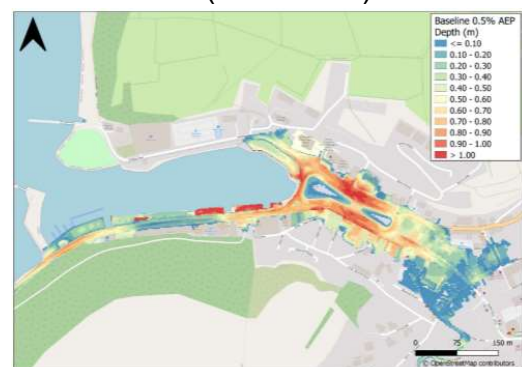
Bat surveys have been undertaken in May 2024 at locations within both the Mealagh and Mill study areas, where works may impact on potential bat habitats. Additional camera surveys were conducted in May 2024 to refine existing mammal habitats within both the Mealagh and the Mill. Further electrofishing surveys are planned for July 2024.



MODELLING

The hydrological and hydraulic modelling announced in previous newsletters have been completed. Two fluvial models, whose outcomes for the 1 in 100 years rainfall event (also called 1% AEP) can be seen in the Figure 1 overleaf, have been built for the Mealagh & Mill Catchments. A separate coastal model has also been built to identify tidal flooding risk and provide the basis for the design of the harbour protection measures (0.5% AEP).

These models identify the properties at risk, the overland flow path routes, and the locations of fluvial and coastal flood sources. The hydraulic models have been utilised in the preparation of the intermediate steps and deliverables, such as the flood extents and damages assessment, required to design the measures forming part of the Emerging Options Public Participation Day.



DEVELOPMENT OF OPTIONS

The process to formally develop the options to protect Bantry against flooding, emerging from the hydraulic modelling, is underway. As part of it, the following tasks have been undertaken since the last newsletter:

- Technical and environmental assessment of a range of potential options that would provide the required Standard of Protection.
- Initial stages of the Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA) of the feasible and environmentally acceptable measures.
- Collaborative workshop with all the relevant sections of Cork Co Co and the OPW to gather feedback about the emerging options.

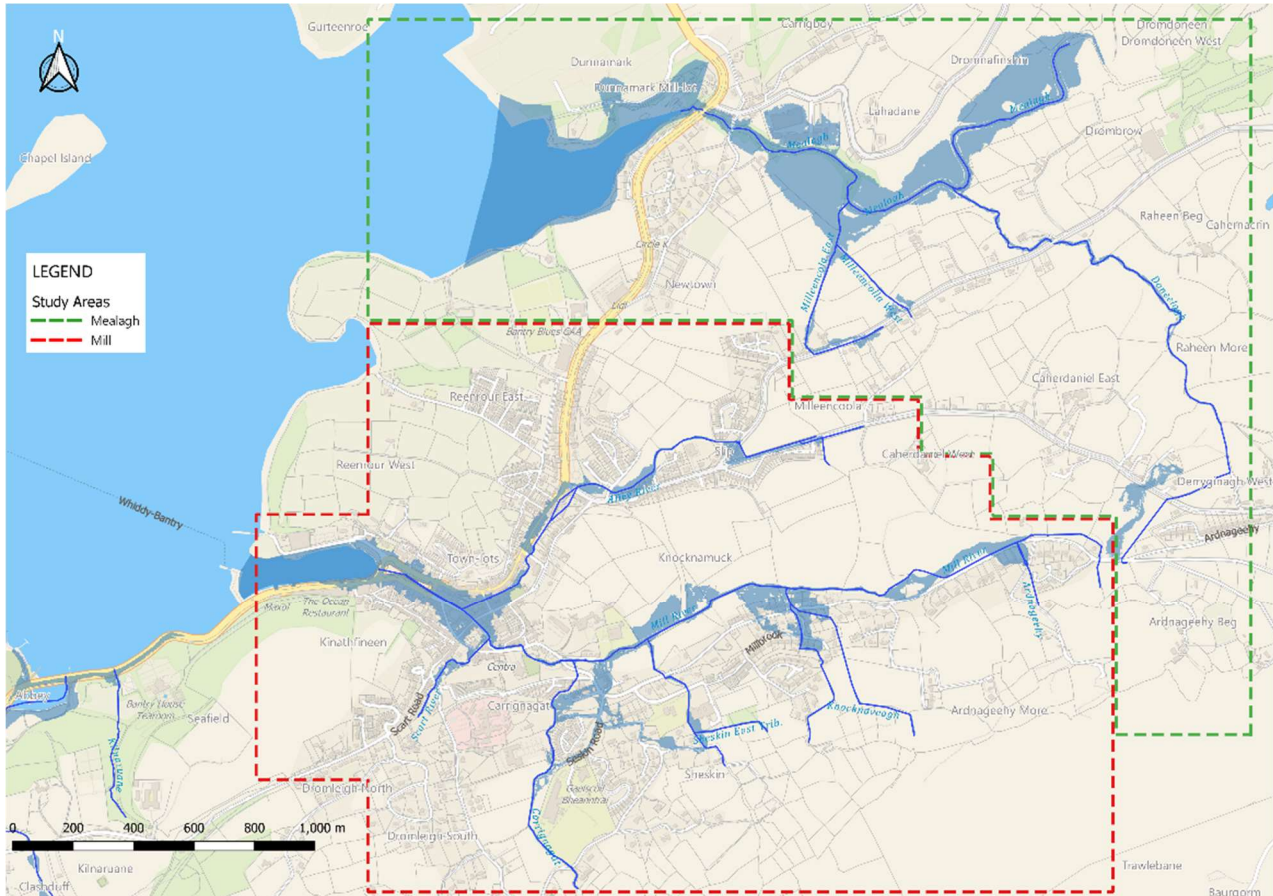


Figure 1: Overview of study area and 1% AEP fluvial flood extents (coinciding with 50% AEP coastal)

EMERGING OPTIONS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION DAY (PPD)

Following detailed assessment, the project team has identified areas and properties at risk of flooding and developed options for potential solutions. Members of the public, businesses and other interested parties are invited to attend this PPD, where emerging options being considered for the Bantry FRS will be presented. The project team will be available on the day to receive comments and any other information relevant to the emerging options.

Proposed potential measures presented for this Public Participation Day will be subject to further assessment following the receipt of feedback and any other relevant information that becomes available during design development. The eventual proposals for the preferred scheme may differ from those presented.

The areas of interest and outlined measures to be presented in the PPD are:

Mill catchment

- Bantry Library
- Chapel Street and William Street
- Alley River (Glengarriff Road, between Barrack Street and Boys Club Road)
- Marino Street and Wolfe Tone Square
- Community Gardens
- Slip Grove
- Slip Heights
- Sheskin Road
- The Sidings
- St. Finbarr's
- Millbrook
- Ardnageehy More

Coastal defence

- Bantry Harbour Marina & Pier
- The Quays
- Wolfe Tone Square
- Public carpark at Harbour

Mealagh catchment

- Old Donemark Bridge
- Lahadane Business Park
- Dromnafinshin
- Caherdaniel (near ESB substation)
- Ardnageehy Beg

NEXT STEPS

The list below indicates significant activities that will be undertaken until the end of 2024:

- Finalise development of options
- Multi-criteria analysis of options
- Identification of Preferred Scheme
- Preferred Scheme Public Participation Day

PROJECT STAGES

The project comprises of five stages as set out below and is currently in Stage 1. Stage 1 is programmed to be completed in Q1/Q2 2025.



CONTACT US

You can keep in touch with the project through our website, where we will be posting updates on progress and details of works that are ongoing.

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