

Question 1: Assess the likelihood of significant effects of the waste water discharge on the relevant European sites.

Habitats Directive Assessment (Screening Report) in respect of

Application by Cork County Council to the EPA

for Wastewater Discharge License

for Crookstown Septic Tank.

Licence Register Number A0354-01

February, 2011

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1 Introduction

1.1 Crookstown Village is located approximately 30Km west of Cork City and approximately 10Km east of Macroom. The agglomeration is located to the immediate south west of the village. The River Bride (South) flows through the western end of Crookstown. The waste water treatment plant at Crookstown consists of two septic tanks which are linked and have one discharge. Bishop Galvin Terrace is served by one septic tank which provides primary treatment. The effluent is discharged into the Belmont Housing Estate sewerage network which is also served by a septic tank and discharges to the River Bride (South). Both septic tanks provide primary treatment, which according to the National Urban Waste Water Study (NUWWS) reduces the BOD load by approximately 30% and the Suspended Solids by approximately 50%. The septic tanks are de-sludged every three months. The source of emissions for this agglomeration is from the Council estate of 'Belmont Place' and 'Bishop Galvin Terrace' which consists of 50 houses in total. It has been determined by using a formula obtained from BS6297:1983 that the design capacity of the septic tank is 280PE. The population served by this septic tank is approximately 170PE. The treated effluent discharges to the River Bride (South) which combines with the River Lee before flowing into the Cork Harbour.

1.2 The plant is located approx. 38km upstream from the Cork Harbour Special Protection Area which is designated under the **EU Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)** as transposed into Irish Law under the European Union (Natural Habitats) Regulations SI 94-1997. As this is the case, and in accordance with requirements under this Directive, the potential impacts of proposed developments that have the potential to impact on Special Protection Areas must be assessed. The procedure to do this is called a **Habitats Directive Assessment**. The purpose of such an assessment is to identify whether there may be potential for elements of the project to have a significant impact on nature conservation sites within its impact zone, and if so, to predict the potential for such impacts to affect the overall integrity of such nature conservation sites. The European Union has provided guidance as to how to make a Habitats Directive Assessment which identifies four main stages in the process as follows:

Stage One: Screening

The process which identifies the likely impacts upon a Natura 2000 site of a project or plan, wither 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, it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

- 1.3 This document brings together all of the information necessary to make determination as to whether there are likely to be significant impacts arising from the discharge from Crookstown Septic Tank on the adjacent Cork Harbour Special Protection Area and represents the first stage of this process (Screening). A flow diagram in accordance with Appendix 1 of Circular Letter L8/08 is included at Appendix 1 of this submission.

Step 1:

Provide a description of the plan and other plans and projects that, in combination, have the potential to have significant effects on Natura 2000 sites within the potential impact zone;

Step 2:

Identify Natura 2000 sites which may be impacted by the plan, and compile information on their qualifying interests and conservation objectives;

Step 3:

Determine whether the plan needs to be screened for potential impacts on Natura 2000 sites;

Step 4:

Carry out an assessment of likely effects - direct, indirect and cumulative - undertaken on the basis of available information as a desk study or field survey or primary research as necessary;

Step 5:

Assess the significance of any such effects on the Natura 2000 sites within the impact zone.

- 1.4 The assessment has been prepared in accordance with the following guidance:

European Commission (2000) Managing Natura 2000 sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

European Commission (2001) Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Articles 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities. Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009.

2 Appropriate Assessment Screening Matrix

2.1 Description of project	
Location	Crookstown Septic Tank, Belmont, Crookstown, County Cork.
Description of the key components of the project	The septic tanks provide primary treatment only which according to the National Urban Waste Water Study (NUWWS) reduces the BOD load by approximately 30% and the Suspended Solids load by approximately 50%. On average approx. 38cu.m./day of effluent is discharged to the River Lee.
Distance from designated sites in potential impact zone*	Approx. 38 Km distance from the Discharge point to the Cork Harbour SPA.

2.2 Description of the Natura 2000 sites within the potential impact zone ¹	
Name	Cork Harbour Special Protection Area
Site Code	4130
Site Description	<p>The Cork Harbour SPA is an estuarine complex which is primarily comprised of intertidal habitats, mainly mudflats as well as some other coastal and marine habitats. These habitats support very high numbers of wintering waterfowl that feed on the macro invertebrates inhabiting the mudflats. The Harbour regularly supports in excess of 20,000 wintering birds, making it an internationally important site and the fifth most important wintering waterfowl site in the country.</p> <p>Discharges from the Crookstown Septic Tank enters the River Bride (South) approx 38 Km upstream from the Cork Harbour SPA.</p> <p>The River Bride (South) combines with the River Lee which is a salmonid river and meets the Cork Harbour SPA at the North Western end of the Lough Mahon estuary where the main habitats of importance are intertidal mudflats.</p> <p>More information on the Cork Harbour SPA is contained appendix 2 of this document. Bird count data is provided in</p>

¹ Natura 2000 sites within the potential impact zone of the proposed development have been identified in accordance with guidance provided in the NPWS circular L8/08.

	appendix 4.
Qualifying Interests of Cork Harbour SPA.	<p>Internationally important numbers of Black-tailed Godwit and Redshank; Nationally important numbers of Cormorant, Shelduck, Oystercatcher, Golden Plover, Lapwing, Dunlin and Curlew; 20,000 wintering water birds. <i>Source - National Parks and Wildlife Service</i></p> <p>See appendix 4 for bird count data for Cork Harbour 1998/2000 - 2007/2008.</p>
Other Notable Features of Cork Harbour SPA	<p>Little Grebe, Great-crested Grebe, Grey Heron, Wigeon, Teal, Pintail, Shoveler, Red-breasted Merganser, Grey Plover, Black-headed Gull, Common Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, wetland and water birds. <i>Source - National Parks and Wildlife Service</i></p> <p>See appendix 4 for bird count data for Cork Harbour 1998/2000 - 2007/2008.</p>
Conservation Objectives	<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species and species of special conservation interest, or significant disturbance to these species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained.</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species and species of special conservation interest that the following are maintained in the long-term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the population of the species as a viable component of the site; ○ the distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species; ○ the structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; <p><i>Source - National Parks and Wildlife Service</i></p>

2.3 Assessment Criteria

Describe the individual elements of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) likely to give rise to impacts on the Natura 2000 site.	<p>Discharge from Crookstown Septic Tank: The treated effluent discharges from the septic tank into the River Bride (South) before combining with the River Lee. The Cork Harbour SPA is approx 38 km from the point of discharge.</p> <p>The discharge consists primarily of treated effluent from the Septic Tank.</p> <p>Other Significant Discharges to the River Lee between Cork Harbour SPA and Crookstown Septic Tank:</p> <p>Treated Wastewater from the Ballincollig agglomeration discharges to the river Lee approx 13Km upstream of the Cork Harbour SPA. It should be noted that this facility has a</p>
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	<p>Waste Water Discharge Licence (D0043-01).</p> <p>Treated Wastewater from the Blarney agglomeration discharges approx 19Km upstream of the Cork Harbour SPA to the river Shournagh which combines with the River Lee. It should be noted that this facility has a Waste Water Discharge Licence (D0049-01).</p> <p>Treated Wastewater from Killumney village discharges approx 22Km upstream of the Cork Harbour SPA to the River Bride (South) which flows to the River Lee.</p> <p>Treated Wastewater from Killeens discharges approx 24Km upstream of the Cork Harbour SPA to the river Blarney which flows to the River Lee.</p>
<p>Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) on the Natura 2000 site taking into account the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Size and scale ○ Land-take ○ Distance from the Natura 2000 site or key features of the site: ○ Resource requirements (water abstraction etc.) ○ Emissions (disposal to land, water or air) ○ Excavation Requirements ○ Transportation Requirements ○ Duration of construction, operation, decommissioning ○ Other. 	<p>Discharges could give rise to elevated nutrients entering the Western portion of Cork Harbour. Increased nutrient levels may impact on the ecology of an area by changing the composition of floral communities and reducing the ability of less robust plants to survive. Increased nutrient levels may also result in increasing the invertebrate populations in the estuary, thereby increasing bird population levels.</p> <p>However the potential for the Septic Tank discharge to result in elevated nutrients within the harbour is reduced by the following factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The discharge from the Septic Tank enters the River Bride (South) at a distance of 38km upstream from Cork Harbour SPA and from the monitoring data available there is no significant deterioration in water quality in the rivers downstream of the discharge. 2. The River Lee enters the Cork Harbour SPA at the North Western end of Lough Mahon which is a large and well exchanged body of water with unlimited dilution capacity. <p>1 No deterioration in water quality in the Bride River. The septic tank is visited by the operator at least once per week for inspection.</p> <p>It should be noted that at Knocknagoul a point further downstream the Q value is 4-5 (Unpolluted) which suggests that there is no significant deterioration in water quality associated with the Crookstown Septic Tank discharge.</p> <p>The discharge from the plant is also approx 38km upstream of the SPA.</p> <p>Note 1: See appendix 3 for effluent quality results for 2009.</p> <p>2 Treated effluent discharges into Harbour body The treated effluent enters the Cork Harbour SPA at the North Western End of the Lough Mahon Estuary which is a large and well exchanged body of water with unlimited dilution capacity. The endless dilution capability of the</p>

	harbour body of water means that the discharge is properly diluted once within the SPA
<p>Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduction in habitat area ○ Disturbance to key species ○ Habitat or species fragmentation ○ Reduction in species density ○ Changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc) ○ Climate Change 	<p>Reduction in habitat area: Effluent is discharging to a large well-exchanged body of water where dilution and dispersion potential is high. No significant impacts are evident or predicted on habitats within the Cork Harbour arising from the operation of this facility.</p> <p>Disturbance to key species: The operation of the Septic Tank does not cause any disturbance to species within the SPA.</p> <p>Habitat or species fragmentation: No habitat fragmentation has been caused as a result of the operation of this facility.</p> <p>Reduction in species density: Effluent is discharging to a large well-exchanged body of water where dilution and dispersion potential is high. No significant impacts are evident or predicted on species for which the SPA is designated.</p> <p>Changes in key indicators of conservation value e.g. water quality: Monitoring of the rivers water quality indicates that there is no significant deterioration in water quality associated with the Crookstown discharge. At Leemount Cross a point further downstream of the discharge the Q value is 4 (Unpolluted)</p>
<p>Describe any likely impacts on the Natura 2000 site as a whole in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interference with the key relationships that define the structure of the site ○ Interference with key relationships that define the function of the site 	<p>Interference with the key relationships that define the structure of the site: The structure of the SPA is not impacted by the operation of this facility.</p> <p>Interference with key relationships that define the function of the site: The function of the SPA is not impacted by the operation of this facility.</p>
<p>Describe from the above those elements of the project of plan, or combination of elements, where the above impacts are likely to be significant or where the scale or magnitude of impacts is not known.</p>	<p>No significant impacts are predicted.</p>

3. Finding of No Significant Effects Report Matrix Cork Harbour Special Protection Area

Name of project or plan	Crookstown Septic Tank discharge.
Name and location of Natura 2000 site	Cork Harbour Special Protection Area
Description of the project or plan	The septic tanks provide primary treatment only which according to the National Urban Waste Water Study (NUWWS) reduces the BOD load by approximately 30% and the Suspended Solids load by approximately 50%. On average approx. 38cu.m./day of effluent is discharged to the River Lee.
Is the project or plan directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (provide details)?	No
The assessment of significance of effects	
Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect the Natura 2000 Site.	Discharges from the Crookstown Septic Tank either alone or in combination with discharges from other sources could give rise to elevated nutrients entering the Western portion of Cork Harbour. Increased nutrient levels may impact on the ecology of an area by changing the composition of floral communities and reducing the ability of less robust plants to survive. Increased nutrient levels may also result in increasing the invertebrate populations in the estuary, thereby increasing bird population levels. Effluent discharged from Saleen Septic tank or from the discharge points from the Whitegate/Aghada agglomeration may be having a negative impact on the Cork Harbour SPA, it is considered that the discharge from Coachford Septic Tank is not contributing to this impact because of its distance from Cork Harbour SPA and because of the large dilution capacity of the River Lee.
Explain why these effects are not considered significant.	Treated effluent discharges to a point 38Km upstream of the SPA and the river discharges to a large well-exchanged body of water where dilution and dispersion potential is high. No significant impacts are evident or predicted on species for which the SPA is designated.
List of agencies consulted: provide contact name and telephone or email address	National Parks and Wildlife Service - Natureconservation@environ.ie, cyril.saich@environ.ie Birdwatch Ireland - Data request.

Data collected to carry out the assessment			
Who carried out the assessment	Sources of data	Level of assessment completed	Where can the full results of the assessment be accessed and viewed
Tim O'Farrell, Madeleine Healy and Sharon Casey, Cork County Council	IWebs Bird Data supplied by BirdWatch Ireland; Water Quality Monitoring Data CCC;	Desktop review of cited data.	This report.

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APPENDIX 1

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Crookstown Flow Chart – A0354-01

Is the development in a nature conservation site - **No**



Is the development in the surface water catchment of a nature conservation site (or part of such a site) - **Yes**



Are the qualifying habitats and species of the site water dependent - **Yes**



Is there a WFD sub basin plan for the site or its protected habitats /species - **Yes**



Does the plan cover all potential receptors (habitats /species) - **No**



Assess Impacts

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APPENDIX 2

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SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: CORK HARBOUR SPA

SITE CODE: 004030

Cork Harbour is a large, sheltered bay system, with several river estuaries - principally those of the Rivers Lee, Douglas and Owenacurra. The SPA site comprises most of the main intertidal areas of Cork Harbour, including all of the North Channel, the Douglas Estuary, inner Lough Mahon, Lough Beg, Whitegate Bay and the Rostellan inlet.

Owing to the sheltered conditions, the intertidal flats are often muddy in character. These muds support a range of macro-invertebrates, notably *Macoma balthica*, *Scrobicularia plana*, *Hydrobia ulvae*, *Nephtys hombergi*, *Nereis diversicolor* and *Corophium volutator*. Green algae species occur on the flats, especially *Ulva lactuca* and *Enteromorpha* spp. Cordgrass (*Spartina* spp.) has colonised the intertidal flats in places, especially where good shelter exists, such as at Rossleague and Belvelly in the North Channel. Salt marshes are scattered through the site and these provide high tide roosts for the birds. Salt marsh species present include Sea Purslane (*Halimione portulacoides*), Sea Aster (*Aster tripolium*), Thrift (*Armeria maritima*), Common Saltmarsh-grass (*Puccinellia maritima*), Sea Plantain (*Plantago maritima*), Lax-flowered Sea-lavender (*Limonium humile*) and Sea Arrowgrass (*Triglochin maritima*). Some shallow bay water is included in the site. Cork Harbour is adjacent to a major urban centre and a major industrial centre. Rostellan lake is a small brackish lake that is used by swans throughout the winter. The site also includes some marginal wet grassland areas used by feeding and roosting birds.

Cork Harbour is an internationally important wetland site, regularly supporting in excess of 20,000 wintering waterfowl, for which it is amongst the top five sites in the country. The five-year average annual core count for the entire harbour complex was 34,661 for the period 1996/97-2000/01. Of particular note is that the site supports an internationally important population of Redshank (1,614) - all figures given are average winter means for the 5 winters 1995/96-1999/00. A further 15 species have populations of national importance, as follows: Great Crested Grebe (218), Cormorant (620), Shelduck (1,426), Wigeon (1,750), Gadwall (15), Teal (807), Pintail (84), Shoveler (135), Red-breasted Merganser (90), Oystercatcher (791), Lapwing (3,614), Dunlin (4,936), Black-tailed Godwit (412), Curlew (1,345) and Greenshank (36). The Shelduck population is the largest in the country (9.6% of national total), while those of Shoveler (4.5% of total) and Pintail (4.2% of total) are also very substantial. The site has regionally or locally important populations of a range of other species, including Whooper Swan (10), Pochard (145), Golden Plover (805), Grey Plover (66) and Turnstone (99). Other species using the site include Bat-tailed Godwit (45), Mallard (456), Tufted Duck (97), Goldeneye (15), Coot (77), Mute Swan (39), Ringed Plover (51), Knot (31), Little Grebe (68) and Grey Heron (47). Cork Harbour is an important

site for gulls in winter and autumn, especially Common Gull (2,630) and Lesser Black-backed Gull (261); Black-headed Gull (948) also occurs.

A range of passage waders occur regularly in autumn, including Ruff (5-10), Spotted Redshank (1-5) and Green Sandpiper (1-5). Numbers vary between years and usually a few of each of these species over-winter.

The wintering birds in Cork Harbour have been monitored since the 1970s and are counted annually as part of the I-WeBS scheme.

Cork Harbour has a nationally important breeding colony of Common Tern (3-year mean of 69 pairs for the period 1998-2000, with a maximum of 102 pairs in 1995). The birds have nested in Cork Harbour since about 1970, and since 1983 on various artificial structures, notably derelict steel barges and the roof of a Martello Tower. The birds are monitored annually and the chicks are ringed.

Extensive areas of estuarine habitat have been reclaimed since about the 1950s for industrial, port-related and road projects, and further reclamation remains a threat. As Cork Harbour is adjacent to a major urban centre and a major industrial centre, water quality is variable, with the estuary of the River Lee and parts of the Inner Harbour being somewhat eutrophic. However, the polluted conditions may not be having significant impacts on the bird populations. Oil pollution from shipping in Cork Harbour is a general threat. Recreational activities are high in some areas of the harbour, including jet skiing which causes disturbance to roosting birds.

Cork Harbour has is of major ornithological significance, being of international importance both for the total numbers of wintering birds (i.e. > 20,000) and also for its population of Redshank. In addition, there are at least 15 wintering species that have populations of national importance, as well as a nationally important breeding colony of Common Tern. Several of the species which occur regularly are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive, i.e. Whooper Swan, Golden Plover, Bar-tailed Godwit, Ruff and Common Tern. The site provides both feeding and roosting sites for the various bird species that use it.

4.7.2004

APPENDIX 3

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Attachment E4 Crookstown Table E4

Sample Date	12/10/2009		12/10/2009
Sample	Septic tank Discharge		River Bride d/s of Septic tank
Sample Code	GT1234		GT1235
Flow M ³ /Day	not available		not available
pH	7.1		7.6
Temperature °C	No result		No result
Conductivity uS/cm 20 °C	855		186
Suspended Solids mg/L	68		<2.5
Ammonia-N mg/L	44.4		<0.1
BOD mg/L	324		2
COD mg/L	564		<21
TN-N mg/L	83.99		3.51
Nitrite-N mg/L	<0.1		<0.1
Nitrate-N mg/L	<0.5		2.57
TP-P mg/L	9.42		<0.05
O-PO4-P mg/L	6.22		<0.05
SO4 mg/L	53.5		<30
Phenols µg/L	***		No result
Atrazine µg/L	***		No result
Dichloromethane µg/L	<1		No result
Simazine µg/L	***		No result
Toluene µg/L	62.745		No result
Tributyltin µg/L	not required		not required
Xylenes µg/L	<0.73		No result
Arsenic µg/L	0.3		No result
Chromium ug/L	<20		<20
Copper ug/L	159.8		<20
Cyanide µg/L	<5		No result
Fluoride µg/L	79		51
Lead ug/L	<20		<20
Nickel ug/L	<20		<20
Zinc ug/L	73.6		<20
Boron ug/L	45.1		<20
Cadmium ug/L	<20		<20
Mercury µg/L	<0.03		No result
Selenium µg/L	<2.12		No result
Barium ug/L	<20		<20

***awaiting on results for atrazine,simazine and phenol- bottle broke in transit

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Cork Harbour

Species	1% National	1% International	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Mean (03-07)	Peak (03-07)
Mute Swan	110	110	46	42	25	15	42	56	71	54	73	68	64	73
Bewick's Swan	20	200	6					2					0	2
Whooper Swan	130	210			12	14	12	15	7			3	5	15
Black Swan			3								2		0	2
Pink-footed Goose		2,250			1							2	0	2
Greenland White-fronted Goose	110	270			1								0	0
Greylag Goose	50	870			3	4	4	1	1	3	1	6	2	6
Canada Goose			10	6	13	8	2	21	23	11	13	22	18	23
Light-bellied Brent Goose	220	260			4		6	12	16	26	11	17	16	26
Feral/hybrid Goose									2			5	1	5
Shelduck	150	3,000	1,875	1,870	722	1,108	1,903	1,946	1,391	1,350	918	823	1,286	1,946
Wigeon	820	15,000	1,683	1,402	1,272	1,519	1,937	2,926	2,043	2,332	1,492	1,259	2,010	2,926
Gadwall	20	600	4		6	8	6	17	13	13	7		10	17
Green-winged Teal					1	1							0	0
Teal	450	5,000	778	1,214	1,139	1,079	1,492	1,611	1,169	1,302	667	644	1,079	1,611
Mallard	380	20,000	671	572	431	362	489	539	628	406	423	484	496	628
Pintail	20	600	52	41	2	7	73	46	20	14	2		16	46
Shoveler	25	400	103	148	74	48	103	33	24	45	62	51	43	62
Red Crested Pochard			1										0	0
Pochard	380	3,500	38	11	19	21	27	18	7	7	2	3	7	18
Ring-necked Duck							1						0	0
Tufted Duck	370	12,000	34	20	46	36	29	33	14	14	19	16	19	33
Scaup	45	3,100	2							2			0	2
Long-tailed Duck		20,000					2						0	0
Eider	30	12,830						1		15	1		3	15
Common Scoter	230	16,000		2			1	1	3	7		1	2	7
Surf Scoter			2										0	0
Velvet Scoter												3	1	3
Goldeneye	95	11,500	18	14	18	28	11	14	7	10	5	14	10	14
Red-breasted Merganser	35	1,700	110	128	64	77	95	88	85	80	68	72	79	88
Red-throated Diver	20	3,000								1	1		0	1
Black-throated Diver		3,750											0	0
Great Northern Diver		50	1	8	3	1	1	1			4	3	2	4
Pied-billed Grebe			1										0	0

The counts presented in the table refer to the peak counts of species in each I-WeBS season.

Site peak and mean are calculated as the peak and mean of peak counts respectively over the seasons specified. Blank cells within columns which contain positive values for one or more species constitute zero for those species.



Little Grebe	25	4,000	56	50	58	59	60	88	80	69	58	65	72	88
Great Crested Grebe	55	3,600	166	218	171	287	240	132	105	137	63	106	109	137
Slavonian Grebe		55	4		1			3	1	2			1	3
Black-necked Grebe			3	3	2	2							0	0
Cormorant	140	1,200	283	556	244	392	326	357	370	308	163	285	297	370
Shag									2		2	8	2	8
Little Egret		1,300	20	18	27	39	61	83	166	126	143	151	134	166
Grey Heron	30	2,700	54	61	114	57	97	68	135	76	84	72	87	135
Spoonbill												1	0	1
Water Rail			3	3		1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Moorhen	20		28	21	21	19	24	46	24	33	55	25	37	55
Coot	330	17,500	34	96	24	13	26	31	23	16	19	7	19	31
Oystercatcher	680	10,200	1,584	1,421	1,698	1,061	1,570	2,021	1,857	2,076	1,061	1,590	1,721	2,076
Ringed Plover	150	730	59	52	78	66	28	68	25	67	17	27	41	68
Golden Plover	1,700	9,300	3,000	3,432	4,009	6,888	4,262	5,102	6,200	3,002	3,266	5,232	4,560	6,200
Grey Plover	65	2,500	72	44	5	6	108	37	4	24	12	39	23	39
Lapwing	2,100	20,000	4,386	4,116	7,267	2,816	4,176	4,864	4,133	4,096	3,321	3,321	3,947	4,864
Knot	190	4,500	16	17	80	79	306	114	85	117	124	111	110	124
Sanderling	65	1,200					135	350		33			77	350
Curlew Sandpiper				15		2	1		3	4	1		2	4
Dunlin	880	13,300	8,277	8,240	6,632	5,755	3,979	4,785	4,325	3,874	4,456	3,579	4,204	4,785
Ruff		12,500		1			1	1		1		3	1	3
Snipe		20,000	43	47	5	20	20	54	14	49	32	75	45	75
Long-billed Dowitcher						1	1						0	0
Black-tailed Godwit	140	470	2,508	1,692	1,615	2,128	3,162	1,518	2,937	3,337	1,433	2,823	2,410	3,337
Bar-tailed Godwit	160	1,200	16	52	351	419	477	405	298	218	383	257	312	405
Whimbrel		2,000	2	1		1	1	3	1	4	1	1	2	4
Curlew	550	8,500	2,927	2,223	1,297	1,329	1,817	1,083	2,317	1,809	1,363	1,607	1,636	2,317
Common Sandpiper			3	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	4	2	4
Green Sandpiper			2	1		1	1	1	1	1			1	1
Spotted Redshank		900	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
Greenshank	20	2,300	46	61	31	25	60	47	83	68	72	71	68	83
Redshank	310	3,900	2,243	2,269	1,005	1,138	2,170	1,591	2,295	1,543	1,459	1,725	1,723	2,295
Turnstone	120	1,500	166	146	93	66	145	131	161	136	129	214	154	214
Mediterranean Gull			5	7	1	2	12	11	13	15	24	48	22	48
Sabine's Gull								1					0	1
Bonaparte's Gull											1		0	1
Black-headed Gull		20,000	2,493	1,609	2,288	1,180	1,811	2,954	2,170	2,627	2,010	2,103	2,373	2,954

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Ring-billed Gull		2	3	2	1		1	1				0	1
Common Gull	16,000	676	378	1,264	1,725	459	200	290	188	214	207	220	290
Lesser Black-backed Gull	4,500	753	118	177	106	63	254	496	31	630	72	297	630
Herring Gull	13,000	53	68	36	16	37	32	36	40	123	51	56	123
Iceland Gull			1	1								0	0
Glaucous Gull											1	0	1
Great Black-backed Gull	4,800	120	238	141	76	110	150	385	157	137	98	185	385
Unidentified gull					2,123							0	0
Sandwich Tern		2	12	2	34	5		2	225	2	17	49	225
Common Tern			18			2	1		1	1	1	1	1
Arctic Tern											1	0	1
Unidentified Tern							3					1	3
Kingfisher			1	1	2	1	3	3	3	1	2	2	3

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Saleen

Species	1% National	1% International	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Mean (03-07)	Peak (03-07)
Mute Swan	110	110	1	2	2	2	1	1		3			1	3
Canada Goose									13				3	13
Light-bellied Brent Goose	220	260			4								0	0
Shelduck	150	3,000	59	75	42	52	30	41	60	44	34	29	42	60
Wigeon	820	15,000	129	95	122	73	173	102	97	179	149	124	130	179
Green-winged Teal							1						0	0
Teal	450	5,000	72	101	81	168	199	223	188	248	184	226	214	248
Mallard	380	20,000	29	26	28	56	41	46	39	46	91	82	61	91
Shoveler	25	400					4	7		4			2	7
Goldeneye	95	11,500		2									0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	35	1,700			2	8	8	9	2	1	2		3	9
Red-throated Diver	20	3,000								1			0	1
Black-throated Diver		3,750											0	0
Little Grebe	25	4,000	11	13	9	11		9	5	8	14	8	9	14
Great Crested Grebe	55	3,600	13	6	5	8	6	16	7	13	4	5	9	16
Slavonian Grebe		55			1								0	0
Cormorant	140	1,200	7	7	6	4	6	3	6	6	7	7	6	7
Little Egret		1,300	9	4	7	10	10	10	23	17	17	18	17	23
Grey Heron	30	2,700	7	4	8	6	5	7	6	6	4	5	6	7
Moorhen	20						2			1			0	1
Oystercatcher	680	10,200	129	172	136	150	175	147	135	137	94	176	138	176
Ringed Plover	150	730	14		14		19		13	41			11	41
Lapwing	2,100	20,000	36	8	7	2		2	12		1		3	12
Knot	190	4,500								5		1	1	5
Curlew Sandpiper				9									0	0
Dunlin	880	13,300	256	31	26	10	164	28	64	6	37	54	38	64
Ruff		12,500										1	0	1
Snipe		20,000						2	6	2	5	1	3	6
Long-billed Dowitcher							1						0	0
Black-tailed Godwit	140	470	61	22	16	55	75	52	121	72	129	101	95	129
Bar-tailed Godwit	160	1,200	1	2	4	4	2	1	13	5	1	1	4	13
Whimbrel		2,000				1	1						0	0
Curlew	550	8,500	121	81	82	89	96	91	103	90	115	152	110	152
Common Sandpiper										1	1		0	1

The counts presented in the table refer to the peak counts of species in each I-WeBS season.

Site peak and mean are calculated as the peak and mean of peak counts respectively over the seasons specified. Blank cells within columns which contain positive values for one or more species constitute zero for those species.



Spotted Redshank		900	3	2							1	0	1	
Greenshank	20	2,300	8	10	13	11	12	4	9	12	8	10	9	12
Redshank	310	3,900	123	106	135	129	116	116	144	126	173	161	144	173
Turnstone	120	1,500	61	26	52	33	35	12	26	73	54	17	36	73
Mediterranean Gull						1		4	4	5	6	48	13	48
Bonaparte's Gull											1		0	1
Black-headed Gull		20,000	190	177	167	107	176	57	187	184	221	212	172	221
Ring-billed Gull					1								0	0
Common Gull		16,000	7	47	41	88	264	39	103	21	65	84	62	103
Lesser Black-backed Gull		4,500	7	42	3	77	1	1	2	1	5	9	4	9
Herring Gull		13,000	2	3	4	1	6	3	7	3	5	3	4	7
Great Black-backed Gull		4,800	1	4	1	14	4	9	8	4	3	4	6	9
Sandwich Tern				2		22			2	6		3	2	6
Kingfisher					1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1

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Owenboy Estuary

Species	1% National	1% International	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	Mean (03-07)	Peak (03-07)
Mute Swan	110	110	5	2	2				2			4	2	4
Feral/hybrid Goose									2				1	2
Shelduck	150	3,000	111	122	97		167	206	141	76		45	117	206
Wigeon	820	15,000	13										0	0
Teal	450	5,000	88	50	5		80	50	75	29		25	45	75
Mallard	380	20,000	58	49	36		51	115	77	18		49	65	115
Red-breasted Merganser	35	1,700	15	5			12	12	7	9		3	8	12
Little Grebe	25	4,000					1					7	2	7
Great Crested Grebe	55	3,600						1				1	1	1
Cormorant	140	1,200	10	38	20		9	8	6	1		5	5	8
Little Egret		1,300		1				1	6			8	4	8
Grey Heron	30	2,700	4	6	18		6	13	12	6		11	11	13
Oystercatcher	680	10,200	119	54	40		91	80	82	27		105	74	105
Ringed Plover	150	730			6								0	0
Golden Plover	1,700	9,300	450	60	1,050								0	0
Lapwing	2,100	20,000	426	200	150		150	30	117	73		94	79	117
Knot	190	4,500			1				16			10	7	16
Curlew Sandpiper									1				0	1
Dunlin	880	13,300	460	115	55		120	63	170	107		125	116	170
Snipe		20,000		8				3		10		1	4	10
Black-tailed Godwit	140	470	75	194	146		210	100	233			250	146	250
Curlew	550	8,500	98	85	99		54	39	51	31		83	51	83
Common Sandpiper								1	1			2	1	2
Greenshank	20	2,300	4	9	2		30	12	23	17		11	16	23
Redshank	310	3,900	138	92	152		150	148	280	120		370	230	370
Turnstone	120	1,500	10	4			20	20	76	10		10	29	76
Black-headed Gull		20,000	397	156	147		80	200	226	253		305	246	305
Common Gull		16,000	82	90	65		80	50	50	90		183	93	183
Lesser Black-backed Gull		4,500	158	15					40			51	23	51
Herring Gull		13,000	6		1		5		2			17	5	17
Iceland Gull					1								0	0
Great Black-backed Gull		4,800	5	1	2		8		20			3	6	20
Sandwich Tern												2	1	2
Kingfisher							1						0	0

The counts presented in the table refer to the peak counts of species in each I-WeBS season.

Site peak and mean are calculated as the peak and mean of peak counts respectively over the seasons specified. Blank cells within columns which contain positive values for one or more species constitute zero for those species.



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Douglas Estuary

Species	1% National	1% International	2001/02	2000/01	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Mute Swan	110	110	3	0	2	2	1	6	2	
Greylag Goose	50	870								5
Canada Goose					1					
Shelduck	150	3000	200	192	370	200	107	155	132	134
Wigeon	820	15000	388	280	380	550	310	386	322	295
Green-winged Teal			1	1						
Teal	450	5000	182	400	282	400	168	113	80	55
Mallard	380	20000	55	83	30	73	65	14	65	26
Shoveler	25	400	14	9	8	8	2			
Pochard	380	3500								2
Tufted Duck	370	12000	23	31	25	1				
Scaup	45	3100								
Goldeneye	95	11500	28	17	5	8	7	3		
Red-breasted Merganser	35	1700	8	4	13	2	8	5	4	8
Great Northern Diver		50							2	
Little Grebe	25	4000	4	8	9	8	8		3	5
Great Crested Grebe	55	3600	100	4	16	18	20	5	5	5
Cormorant	140	1200	15	14	6	24	18	27	14	9
Little Egret		1300	7	2		15	21	19	16	27
Grey Heron	30	2700	8	10	12	7	13	11	6	4
Water Rail							1			1
Moorhen	20		2	5	3	6	6		2	1
Coot	330	17500							2	
Oystercatcher	680	10200	136	100	560	391	340	380	243	380
Golden Plover	1700	9300	3700	4000	3500	4700	6200	2500	2850	5000
Grey Plover	65	2500		1	17		1	2	1	1
Lapwing	2100	20000	600	1200	1210	1750	1360	1355	450	1325
Knot	190	4500	70	80	116	105	85	107	120	101
Curlew Sandpiper			1				2	1		
Dunlin	880	13300	2000	1500	1650	2600	1850	2500	2400	1600
Ruff		12500								1
Snipe		20000	2	1	1	6	8	3	1	12
Black-tailed Godwit	140	470	259	200	1006	568	303	490	484	660
Bar-tailed Godwit	160	1200	270	350	460	400	297	218	335	242
Curlew	550	8500	278	271	460	382	497	606	270	430
Common Sandpiper						2	1	1		1
Spotted Redshank		900	1		1		1		1	
Greenshank	20	2300	7	6	7	6	18	11	9	11
Redshank	310	3900	120	234	610	542	864	420	351	440
Turnstone	120	1500							2	
Mediterranean Gull								1	1	
Laughing Gull										
Black-headed Gull		20000		0	400	811	300	312	258	300
Ring-billed Gull			1							
Common Gull		16000		0	12	25	15		142	30
Lesser Black-backed Gull		4500		0	4	10	3		6	15
Herring Gull		13000	1	0					12	1
Iceland Gull										
Great Black-backed Gull		4800	2	0		2	9	1	12	12
Sandwich Tern										2
Common Tern					1	1				
Kingfisher			1			2	1	1	1	

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Question 2: Confirm the design capacity of the waste water treatment plant and the current population equivalent (p.e) being treated at the plant. Please confirm that the current p.e includes the maximum average weekly loading for the agglomeration having taken into account of local festivals, peak holiday seasons, etc.

Response:

In order to assess the design capacity of the Belmont septic tank the following calculation was used:

$C = 180P + 2000$ where C is the capacity of the tank (in litres) and P is the design population. Using this calculation the septic tank can sufficiently cater for 280PE. It should be noted that this formula was obtained from BS6297:1983, this standard has been superseded in 2007 (BS6294:2007) however the new standard does not give any formulae for assessing the capacity of septic tanks. So in this case BS6297:1983 is used.

The source of emissions for this agglomeration is from the Council Estate of 'Belmont Place' and 'Bishop Galvin Terrace' which consists of 50 houses in total. There are no non domestic discharges to the septic tanks. Therefore I can confirm that even when taking into account local festivals and peak holiday season the maximum average weekly loading for the agglomeration is approximately 170 PE

Please also find attached a revised non-technical summary taking into account the design capacity of the Belmont septic tank.

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Crookstown Village is located approximately 30km west of Cork City and approximately 10km east of Macroom. The village is located a short distance south of the National Primary Road, the N22, which is the main Cork–Kerry road. The agglomeration is located to the immediate south west of the Village. The River Bride (South) flows through the western end of Crookstown.

Crookstown is designated as a village within the Macroom Electoral Area. There is a communal septic tank in the village which serves the existing Council Estate. This discharges to the River Bride (South).

The Waste Water Works and the Activities Carried Out Therein

The waste water treatment plant at Crookstown consists of two septic tanks which are linked and have one discharge. Bishop Galvin Terrace is served by one septic tank which provides primary treatment. The effluent is discharged into the Belmont Housing Estate sewerage network which is also served by a septic tank and discharges to the River Bride (South).

In order to assess the design capacity of the Belmont septic tank the following calculation was used:

$C = 180P + 2000$ where C is the capacity of the tank (in litres) and P is the design population. Using this calculation the septic tank can sufficiently cater for 280PE. It should be noted that this formula was obtained from BS6297:1983, this standard has been superseded in 2007 (BS6294:2007) however the new standard does not give any formulae for assessing the capacity of septic tanks. So for the basis of this application BS6297:1983 is used. The actual PE currently entering the existing treatment plant is approximately 170PE.

Both septic tanks provide primary settlement, which according to the National Urban Waste Water Study (NUWSS) reduces the BOD load by approximately 30% and the Suspended Solids by approximately 50%. The septic tanks are de-sludged every three months or as appropriate, and the sludge is transported off site for treatment and disposal.

The Sources of Emissions from the Waste Water Works

The loading on the waste water works for the Crookstown agglomeration arises from Domestic Loading only, from the Council Housing Estates of Belmont Place and Bishop Galvin Terrace.

The Nature and Quantities of Foreseeable Emissions from the Waste Water Works into the Receiving Aqueous Environment as well as Identification of Significant Effects of the Emissions on the Environment

The source of emissions for this agglomeration is from the Council Estate of 'Belmont Place' and 'Bishop Galvin Terrace' which consists of 50 houses in total. The population served by this septic tank is approximately 170 PE. Domestic effluent is discharged to the septic tank. Primary settlement occurs in the septic tank which is de-

sludged every three months. The sludge is transported off site for treatment and disposal. Treated effluent is discharged to the River Bride (South).

The Proposed Technology and Other Techniques for Preventing or, where this is not possible, Reducing Emissions from the Waste Water Works

The Crookstown WWTP was proposed to be constructed as a joint venture between Ruden Homes and Cork County Council after Ruden Homes planning application 06/8284 was granted. Planning Application 06/8284, relates to a development on the Northern side of town and at that time, there were no plans to include the agglomeration included in this application within that scheme. To date the developer has not proceeded with the overall development and no waste water treatment plant has been constructed.

Cork County Council's 'Assessment of Needs 2004' proposed to provide a new wastewater treatment plant, nutrient reduction and storm water separation to replace the existing septic tank, and to extend the sewerage network. However this proposal was not realised.

Under the 'Water Services Investment Programme 2007-2009', 'Crookstown Sewerage Scheme' was included for €1,200,000 funding under the Serviced Land Initiative (SLI) Scheme. SLI funding approval was granted in November 2007, however with the publication of Circular L3/09 all SLI funding approvals were withdrawn for projects not at construction, except in exceptional circumstances. As Crookstown was not at construction its approval was therefore withdrawn.

Cork County Council have made an application to retain the SLI funding for Crookstown as an exceptional case but have not had a response from the DEHLG to date.

The existing wastewater treatment plant in Crookstown is located approximately 100m south of the village. The sewerage scheme in place serves a council housing estate constructed in the 1970's. It is a combination of 150mm and 225mm pipe network. The collection system has been extended so that an overflow from the septic tank serving Bishop Galvin Terrace overflows into the Belmont sewerage system.

The septic tanks provide primary settlement only, which according to the National Urban Waste Water Study (NUWSS) reduces the BOD load by approximately 30% and the Suspended Solids by approximately 50%.

The septic tanks are de-sludged quarterly and the sludge is transported off site for treatment and disposal.

Further Measures Planned to Comply with the General Principle of the Basic Obligations of the Operator, i.e., that no Significant Pollution is caused

The Crookstown WWTP was proposed to be constructed as a joint venture between Ruden Homes and Cork County Council after Ruden Homes planning application 06/8284 was granted. Planning Application 06/8284, relates to a development on the Northern side of town and at that time, there were no plans to include the agglomeration included in this application within that scheme. To date the developer has not

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Cork County Council have made an application to retain the SLI funding for Crookstown as an exceptional case but have not had a response from the DEHLG to date.

At present there are no further measures planned.

Measures Planned to Monitor Emissions into the Environment.

The Cork County Council Environmental Laboratory does not carry out sampling of the influent and effluent at Crookstown nor is there a sampling programme in place on the River Bride (South). However, for the purposes of this Waste Water Discharge Certificate sampling was carried out on one occasion.

List of Attachments include the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Location Map Scale 1:50,000 | Attachment A1 Map 1 |
| • Site Location Map of WWTP | Attachment A1 Map 2 |
| • Site Location Map of Agglomeration | Attachment A1 Map 3 |