# **SECTION FOUR**

# **NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

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### **NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

#### **DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT**

The site is 2.8 hectares and was 70% marshy unproductive land, 30% grassland. It is alongside the N20 main Cork/Mallow Road and is accessed from the county road to Mourneabbey. The impacts are summarized on the attached chart. It is located in a narrow strip of land between the N20 and the railway line.

The project is to bring material from building and development activity in the region onto the site, to raise the level and make it usable for agriculture.

The works were granted planning permission in 2007 and commenced in the same year. Currently, it is approximately 60% completed.

The work takes place in 3 sections. Initially the northern section is done to completion, followed successively by the middle section and finally the southern section.

Each section is carried out as follows:

- strip topsoil
- introduce fill in layers
- clear out stone
- reintroduce topsoil
- fine rake
- grass seed

Excess stone and concrete brought in is separated out and pulverized. It is recycled mainly for use in local agriculture for roadways and hard-standing areas.

The channel running through the site is maintained by an open joint piping in part and large stone fill in the remainder. Both are covered with a layer of material allowing drainage through and stopping soil from dropping down into the channel.

Throughout the works interceptors are constructed and maintained to intercept any soil in the runoff from going into the rivers. The Peastinagh River flows north and the River Martin flows south from the site. The quality and flow in these rivers is not impacted by the project.

Trucks exiting the site are put through a wheelwash and cleaned prior to entering the public road.

The site was selected because of its location between Cork and Mallow. It was an accessible site and it offered significant agricultural improvement to it.

#### **EXISTING ENVIRONMENT**

The area is agricultural. The site is bound by the N20 Cork/Mallow Road and by the railway line. There are few dwellings in the vicinity.

The original ground was largely unproductive marshy land and the remaining strip near the railway side was rough grassland which was used very little.

The River Blackwater and its tributary the River Clyda are the only Natura Sites within a 15km radius. The River Clyda takes in the Peastinagh River some 3km north of the site. The River Peastinagh rises in the vicinity of the site.

### **IMPACTS**

The main impacts are of moderate significance:

The project improves the agricultural use of a small area of land and it changes its appearance. It was originally low lying unproductive marshy land.

The earthworks are being carried out over a fong period in full view of the N20 main Cork/Mallow Road and in full view of a number of fairly distant residential holdings.

Due to the downturn in the general construction industry the material was not available to meet the initial schedule. The work was initially to be completed over 3 years. It is now in its 7<sup>th</sup> year and is over 60% complete.

Visually the overall site on completion will look similar to the attached picture of the completed portion. The access shown on the access road picture will remain.

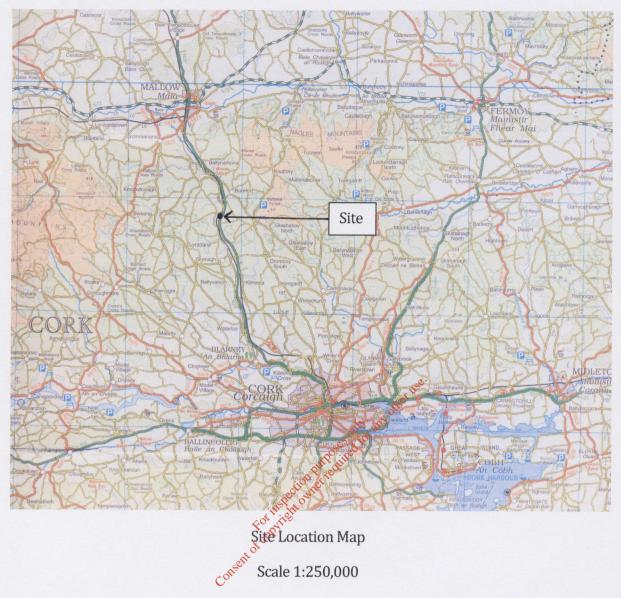
The naturalness of the site can be considered low, the site for the most part managed agricultural land with some relict scrub and hedgerows, the main natural interest. Any disruption to flora and fauna is very local and slight in its impact. The site does not have any designation for conservation of habitat or species, the site lies in its entirety outside any area of national or international conservation designation.

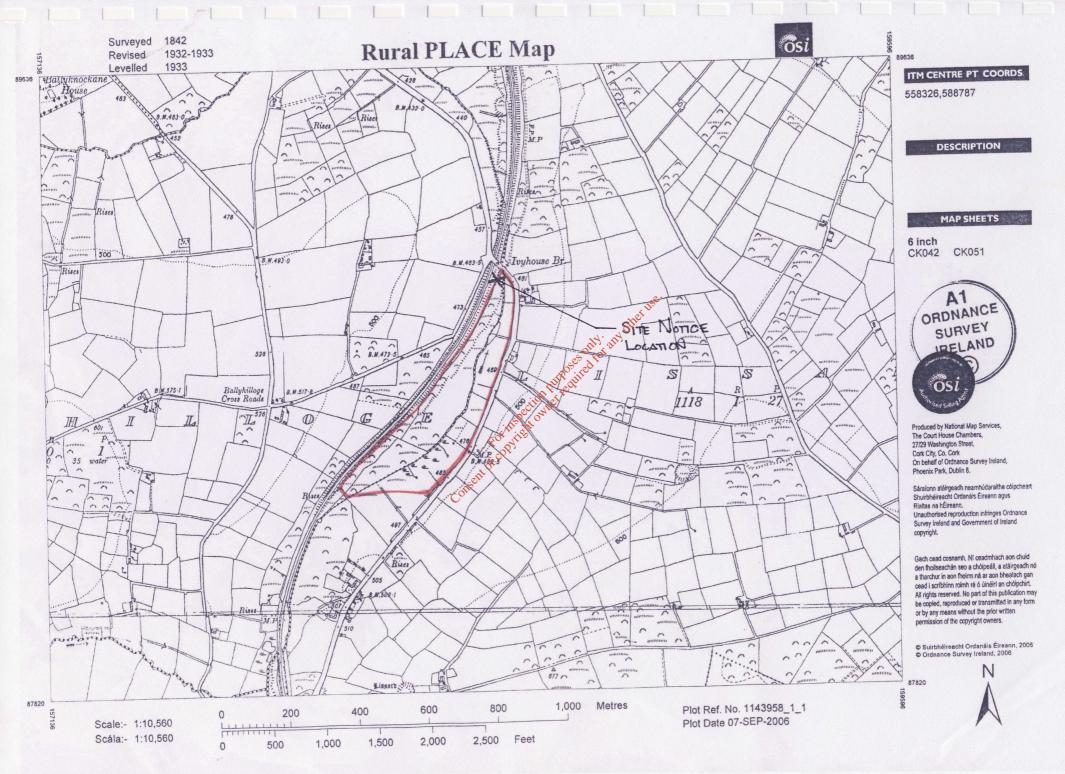
There are no significant impacts from the project.

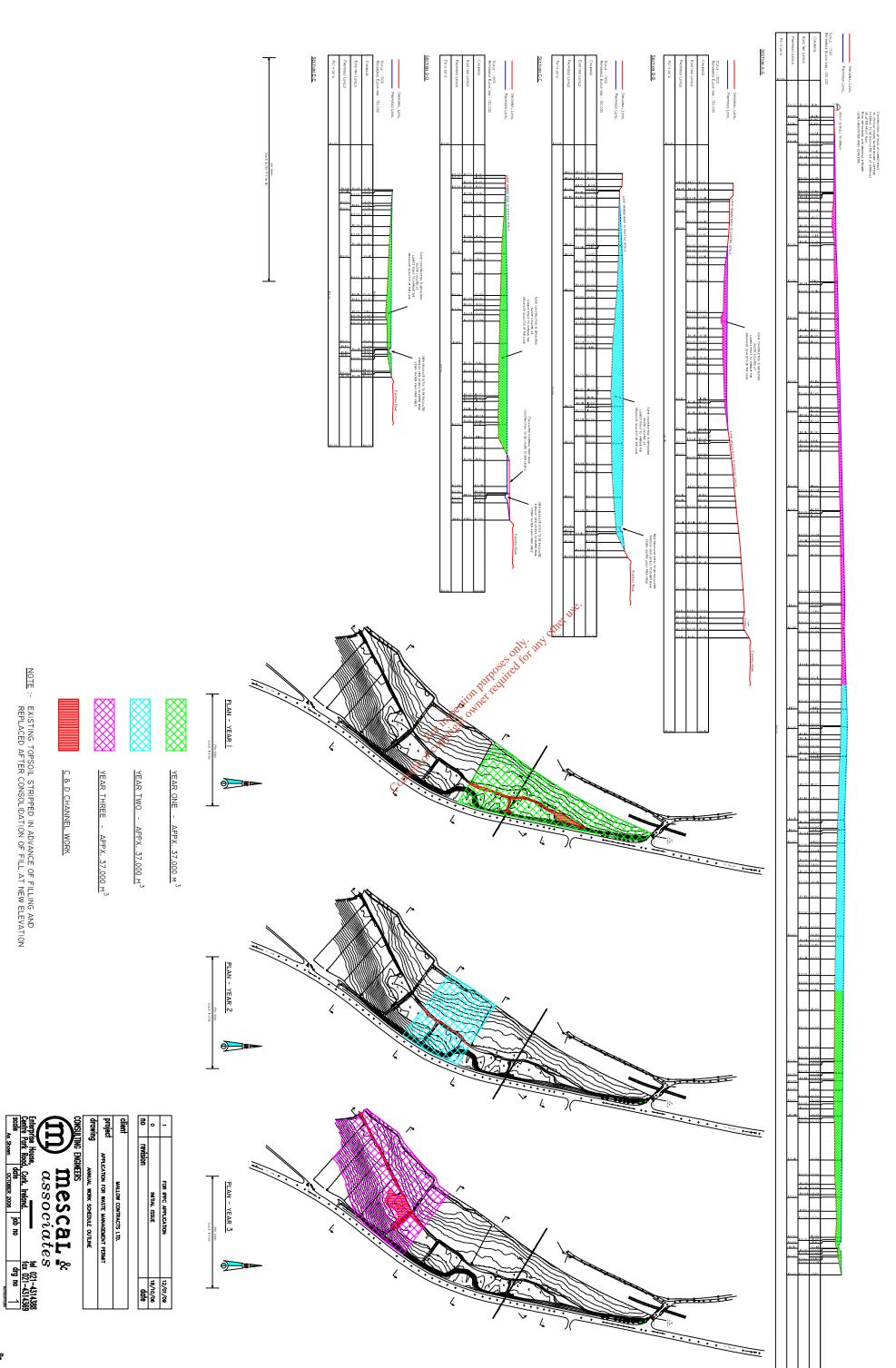
## **Attachments:**

- Site Location
- Rural Place Map
- Phased Filling
- Completed Part Photograph
- Access Road Photograph











Completed Part Photograph

