

## DECISION-MAKER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT ON EIA

**File Ref:** PL2/17/240

**Name of Applicant:** Advanced Environmental Solutions (Ireland) Limited

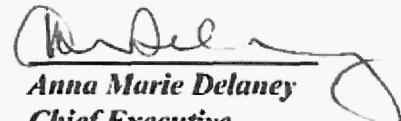
**Address:** C/o O' Callaghan Moran & Associates Unit 15,  
Melbourne Business Park, Model Farm Road, Cork,  
T12 WR89

**Nature of Application:** Permission for development at our existing materials recovery facility at Bogtown, Cappancur, Tullamore, County Offaly. The development will consist of an increase in the amount of waste accepted annually from 60,000 tonnes to 80,000 tonnes. The proposed increase does not require the construction/provision of any new buildings/structures or any alteration to the current site layout and operations. The development will require a review of the Industrial Emissions Licence granted by the Environmental Protection Agency. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be submitted to the Planning Authority with the application

**Location of Development:** Material Recovery Facility, Bogtown, Cappancur, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

It is noted that the Environmental Impact Assessment carried out by the Executive Planner Ed Kelly in the report dated 1st December 2017 has been carried out giving full consideration to the Environmental Impact Assessment report submitted with the application and all submissions and observations validly made in relation to the environmental effects of the development.

It is considered that the report contains a fair and reasonable assessment of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment. The assessment as reported is adopted as the assessment of Offaly County Council.

  
**Anna Marie Delaney**  
**Chief Executive**

**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

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OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL

PLANNING REPORT

PLANNING REFERENCE NUMBER:17/240

APPLICANT: ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS (IRELAND) LIMITED

LOCATION: MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY, BOGTOWN, CAPPANCUR, TULLAMORE, CO.  
OFFALY

PROPOSAL: DEVELOPMENT AT OUR EXISTING MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY AT BOGTOWN, CAPPANCUR, TULLAMORE, COUNTY OFFALY. THE DEVELOPMENT WILL CONSIST OF AN INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF WASTE ACCEPTED ANNUALLY FROM 60,000 TONNES TO 80,000 TONNES. THE PROPOSED INCREASE DOES NOT REQUIRE THE CONSTRUCTION/PROVISION OF ANY NEW BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES OR ANY ALTERATION TO THE CURRENT SITE LAYOUT AND OPERATIONS. THE DEVELOPMENT WILL REQUIRE A REVIEW OF THE INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS LICENCE GRANTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY WITH THE APPLICATION

RECOMMENDATION: Request further information.

DECISION DUE DATE: 28/08/2017

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**BRIEF SITE DESCRIPTION:**

The site is at the outskirts of Tullamore town in an existing waste recovery facility

**NATURE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:**

An increase of the amount of waste received at an existing waste facility. Waste will be in the categories that are currently accepted.

**SITE NOTICE:**

As per the area engineers report the site notice is acceptable, and therefore satisfies articles 19 and 20 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 as amended.

**REGIONAL IMPACTS**

The development subject of this application is not contrary to the Midland Regional Planning Guidelines and so it was not referred to the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly.

**RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY OF SITE:**

file_number	development_description	surname	forename	Application Status	Application Decision
12269	DEVELOPMENT WHICH WILL CONSIST OF AN INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF WASTE ACCEPTED ANNUALLY FROM 50,000 TONNES TO 60,000 TONNES THE DEVELOPMENT WILL REQUIRE A REVISION OF THE WASTE LICENCE GRANTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY THE PROPOSED INCREASE DOES NOT REQUIRE THE CONSTRUCTION/PROVISION OF ANY NEW BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES OR ANY ALTERATIONS TO THE CURRENT SITE LAYOUT AND OPERATIONS	ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (IRELAND) LTD		APPLICATION FINALISED	CONDITIONAL
11282	RETENTION OF WEIGHBRIDGE, WEIGHBRIDGE CABIN & MINOR ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING BUILDINGS	ALINA PLANT HIRE LTD		APPLICATION FINALISED	CONDITIONAL
21200	ALTERATION AND EXTENSION (1485 SQ M) TO EXISTING BUILDING, NEW AMENITIES BUILDING (53 SQ M) NEW SEPTIC TANK AND ASSOCIATED SITE DEVELOPMENT WORKS	ALINA PLANT HIRE LTD		APPLICATION FINALISED	CONDITIONAL
3222	CIVIC AMENITY AREA WITH PUBLIC RECYCLING FACILITIES ADJOINING EXISTING PREMISES AND RETENTION OF ADMINISTRATION UNIT AND TOILET	ALINA PLANT HIRE LTD		APPLICATION FINALISED	CONDITIONAL

8852	(A) REVISION OF SITE BOUNDARY TO FACILITATE THE N52 TULLAMORE BYPASS CONSTRUCTION (B) RELOCATION AND EXPANSION OF EXISTING ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (C) RELOCATION AND UPGRADING OF EXISTING WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND EFFLUENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (D) REVISION OF INTERNAL CAR PARKING ARRANGEMENTS (E) INTENSIFICATION OF WASTE ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITIES FROM 24,000 TO 50,000 TONNES PER ANNUM OF NON-HAZARDOUS MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE, CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE AND SMALL QUANTITIES OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (F) REVISION OF FACILITY OPENING HOURS AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THIS PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT THIS APPLICATION RELATES TO DEVELOPMENT WHICH REQUIRES A REVIEW OF AN EXISTING WASTE LICENCE (W104-01)	ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS (IRELAND) LTD	AES -	APPLICATION FINALISED	CONDITIONAL
91337	INDUSTRIAL UNIT AND SEPTIC TANK	PHIRE	ALINA PLANT	APPLICATION FINALISED	CONDITIONAL
94503	ALTERATIONS TO PREVIOUSLY APPROVED DESIGN AND CARRYING OUT OF BALING AND RECYCLING OF WASTE PAPER	ALINA PLANT HIRE LTD		APPLICATION FINALISED	CONDITIONAL

**PRE-PLANNING CONSULTATIONS:**

Meeting with Eoghan Lynch Assistant Planner OCC.

**INTERNAL REPORTS:**

<u>Area Engineer:</u>	Recommends referral to OCC environmental and water services and roads section.
<u>Environment and water services:</u>	Requests additional information on capacity of the facility and on odour issues.
<u>Roads Section:</u>	Application was referred. <i>No objections</i> <i>EK</i>
<u>CFO:</u>	Requests additional information on water flow rates, storage of runoff water and safe height requirements.



**PRESCRIBED BODIES:**

<u>EPA:</u>	Notes that the development is subject to an Industrial Emissions Licence.
<u>Transport Infrastructure Ireland:</u>	No observations.

**REPRESENTATIONS:**

None received.

**PROPOSED SERVICES:**

WATER: Group Water Scheme

WASTE WATER: Tankered off site for treatment.

SURFACE WATER: Existing system

**ASSESSMENT:**

I have inspected the site and consider the plans and particulars submitted with the application, and I propose to assess this application under the following headings:

**SITE DESIGNATIONS:**

The site is zoned industrial

**DEVELOPMENT PLAN STANDARDS/OBJECTIVES/POLICIES:**

Relevant Standards/Policies are as follows.

It is noted that the site is zoned industrial in the Tullamore Town and environs development plan. It is noted that scrap yard use is open for consideration on such lands and that materials recovery facility are normally permitted.

**10.2.3 2 Recycling**

As part of the framework for recycling in the County Offaly, there are currently 46 "bring centres" available for public use throughout the County and 3 "civic amenity sites". There are currently 3 "bring centres" for recyclables available for public use in Tullamore (Car Park at Bury Quay, Car park at Tesco and Car Park on Daingean Road) and this service has been enhanced by civic amenity site at Derryclure Landfill site (refer to Map 10 4). The Councils will encourage the provision of **recycling infrastructure** where it is considered necessary and will assess requirements for recycling facilities on a case by case basis as part of the Development Management process. If necessary and appropriate, the Councils will require applications for residential developments of 100 units or greater and/or commercial applications to provide recycling infrastructure on-site.

The Councils will have regard to the 'Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Waste Projects', (July 2006). These Guidelines introduce the concept of integrated waste management planning for construction projects above certain thresholds.

## COMPETENT AUTHORITY'S EIA REPORT:

### Reason for submitted EIAR:

The proposed development requires an EIAR as it exceeds a threshold set out in Schedule 5 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, namely; Schedule 5 part 2 Class 13 (a)(II)

As an extension to a development with an existing EIS under PL2 88/52 which had a capacity of 55,000 tonnes.

### Adequacy of EIAR:

A non-technical summary is included as required by legislation.

Alternatives are considered in section 3 of the EIAR

In terms of alternatives, a new waste management facility at a new location and the do nothing alternative is given consideration. The EIAR notes that the do nothing alternative will not allow expansion and an alternative facility will require additional resources.

A description of the proposed project is included in section 1.3 and section 4 of the EIAR.

Details on the likely receiving future environment, likely significant effects, mitigation and monitoring measures and residual effects are dealt with under the topic site description and sections 5 to 16 of the EIAR.

The EIAR indicates that no particular difficulties were encountered, please see the preamble to the EIAR.

Having regard to the 'Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment' the impacts which are 'significant' or 'profound' will be given priority in this EIA assessment.

"5.8 The EIA should identify the likely significant direct and indirect effects of the proposed development on the environment. In any well prepared EIS these effects should have already been clearly identified. Observations submitted may also contribute to the identification of effects. The effects, as identified, should be referred to in the EIA Report."

The following identifies the *likely significant* effects (direct and indirect) of the proposed development on the environment and accompanying mitigation measures.

### Population and human health

I note that the submitted EIAR has "Human Beings" as a topic.

#### Effects:

Odour impact from waste and traffic impacts from the facility

Mitigation.



Handling the waste inside the process building, cleaning of waste handling areas provision of a misting system inside the building and dust curtains at the entrance provision of an active dust extraction system over the picking line, cleaning yards using a roads sweeper are all used to deal with dust and odours. The EPA facility licence makes provision for a negative pressure system and a odour control system comprising the extraction and treatment of air from the process building if this is considered necessary. The EPA has not as of yet, deemed this a requirement.

I note that a third party submission has raised odour as an issue of complaint in relation to the current proposal. I also note as Tullamore area planner occasional unpleasant odours arising from the facility

As regards traffic a Traffic and Transport assessment is submitted as part of the application and states that traffic movements will not give rise to congestion.

**Planners comment:**

In the submitted EIAR in section 15 it is stated that seasonal employment requires up to 70 employees. The applicant will be queried in relation to car parking for these seasonal workers

I note that the development is using existing road infrastructure and a Traffic and Transport Assessment has been submitted

The file was referred and OCC Roads design who have not indicated any objections.

Environment and water services have requested the following further information.

It is considered necessary, in accordance with the provisions of EPA Waste Licence No W0104-02, Cl. 3.15.2, for the applicant to install an odour control system comprising the extraction and treatment of air from the Process Building. The applicant shall submit details of the proposed installation

**Biodiversity**

I note under the 2014/52/EU that this would more correctly be referred to as "Biodiversity" rather than ecology as stated in the submitted EIAR

**Effects:**

There are no likely significant effects on the environment from a Fauna & Flora perspective.

**Mitigation:**

Oil interceptors and other measures to insure water quality against any residual impact.

**Land and soil**

Effects:



Leaks into soil of wastewater and oil.

Mitigation:

Impermeable paving, spill containment and maintenance of drains.

**Planners comment:**

I note that OCC Environment and water services have requested the following further information on the available space for the proposed development:

The Duty Capacity Report, (Fehily Timoney & Co., March 2012) submitted with this application predicated a theoretical 80,000 tonnes capacity of the facility on a throughput of c 30,000 tonnes of dry recyclables and 50,000 tonnes of residual and C&D waste. The applicant is to provide a detailed breakdown of the actual proposed throughput. If this throughput differs significantly from the theoretical, then information on how it is to be handled is to be submitted.

### **Water**

Effects:

Leaks into soil of wastewater and oil, impermeable paving, spill containment and maintenance of drains.

Mitigation:

Oil interceptors on surface water drains and spill containment and maintenance of drains.

### **Air**

I note that noise and odour impacts can be considered under the Air topic of an EIAR

Effects:

Noise from vehicles plant machinery

Mitigation:

Waste processing occurs within the plant building. Staff avoid unnecessary revving of machinery.

### **Climate**

Effects:

The proposed development will involve the use of diesel and electricity and increase greenhouse gases

Mitigation:

An energy management plan will be implemented

### **Landscape**

Effects:

The development will have no impacts on the landscape.

### **Material Assets (including traffic)**

Traffic Effects

Proposal will result in an increase in traffic. A traffic and transport assessment has been submitted.

Mitigation:

Stop and yield signs shall be erected.

I note the section of the EIAR 'Materials assets and resource consumption.'

Effects:

Increase in electricity and diesel consumption. Increase in recycling will have a positive economic and recycling effect.

### **Cultural Heritage**

I note the section 'Archaeology Architecture and cultural heritage' in the submitted

EIAR

Effects:

None as no construction works are proposed

### **Interactions**

I note the section of the EIAR "interaction of the foregoing"

Effects:

Potential interactions between noise and human beings

Potential interactions between human beings and traffic

Potential interactions between climate and traffic

Potential interactions between surface water and ecology

Cumulative impacts in terms of existing and proposed changes were assessed as part of the EIAR.

Mitigation:

These issues are dealt with under the various relevant topics of the EIAR

### **Planners comments on EIAR:**

Having regard to the Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment I note:

3.9 Section 172(1H) provides that in carrying out an EIA a competent authority may have regard to and adopt in whole or in part any reports prepared by its officials or by consultants, experts or other advisers. It should be noted that the reference to consultants, experts, etc. is not confined to consultants or experts employed by the competent authority. This allows for the adoption in whole or in part of the assessment contained in the EIS submitted, or in other consultant/expert reports submitted in relation to the application.

The EIAR submitted with this application is deemed to form part of the Competent Authority's report on EIA.

Having regard to the Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment I note:

3.5 Section 172(1D) requires the planning authority or the Board to consider whether any EIS submitted identifies and describes adequately the direct and indirect effects on the environment of the proposed development. Where it considers that the EIS does not do so, the planning authority or the Board must require the applicant to furnish such further information as it considers necessary to remedy such defect.

**Third party observation:**

Padraig Burke has submitted an objection to the proposed development on the following basis:

Existing facility suffers from unpleasant smells and odour management is required for the facility.

Indicates the road adjoining the site is unsafe and road surface is in a poor state.

Safety concerns regarding increased traffic generation.

Disturbance caused by noise

Presence of littering from the site and from vehicles servicing the site

**Planners comments:**

I note that issues raised are discussed in the EIAR and the planners assessment. I consider the odour issue requires further investigation.

**EIA recommendation:**

I consider that the submitted EIAR is inadequate in terms of not including a section on unplanned events (namely fire) and the sections dealing with odour issues are inadequate. On this basis further information shall be requested.

**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT**

A screening exercise for an Appropriate Assessment has been carried out and it has been deemed that the proposed development is unlikely to have significant effects on any European sites. Please see attached AA Screening Report.

**CONCLUSION & RECOMMENATIONS**

Having regard to the plans and particulars submitted with the application and my inspection of the site, I recommend that **Further Information** be requested.

1. Please submit the following

- A) The Duty Capacity Report, (Fehily Timoney & Co., March 2012) submitted with this application predicates a theoretical 80,000 tonnes capacity of the facility on a throughput of c. 30,000 tonnes of dry recyclables and 50,000 tonnes of residual



and C&D waste. Please provide a detailed breakdown of the actual proposed throughput. If this throughput differs significantly from the theoretical, then information on how it is to be handled is to be submitted

3e

Ek

- B) It is considered necessary, in accordance with the provisions of EPA Waste Licence No. W0104-02, Cl. 3.15.2, for the applicant to install an odour control system comprising the extraction and treatment of air from the Process Building. Please submit details of the proposed installation.

2. Please submit a section of the EIAR on unplanned events, such as fire.


3.A) Please demonstrate that the water flow rates/volume of water supply of fire fighting water meet the guidance requirements detailed in the document titled "Waste 28 Reducing Fire Risk at Waste Management Sites, Section 2.8" Issue 1-October 2014, or other approved standards.

- B) Please specify how the management of contaminated fire fighting runoff water will be managed in accordance with Section 1.5.5 of "Waste 28 Reducing Fire Risk at Waste Management Sites, Section 2.8" Issue 1-October 2014 or the EPA Guidance Note To Industry On The Requirements For Fire-Water Retention Facilities.

- C) Please specify how the safe storage capacity and height requirements in regard to the storage of waste material in accordance with Sections 5.3 & Section 6 as specified in document "Waste 28 Reducing Fire Risk at Waste Management Sites, Section 2.8" Issue 1-October 2014 will be met.

- D) In the submitted EIAR in section 15 it is stated that seasonal employment requires up to 70 employees. Please indicate how car parking will be provided for these seasonal workers

Name:



Position: Exec Planner

Date: 23/8/2017

2 Mike Kelly ref  
23/8/17



## APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT FOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS



Screening is used to determine if an AA is necessary by examining:

- If the plan / project is directly connected with / necessary to the management of the European site.
- If the effects will be significant on a European site in view of its conservation objectives, either alone / in combination with other plans / projects.

Planning Authority : OCC

Planning Application Ref. No.: PL2 17/240

(A) DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND LOCAL SITE:			
Proposed development:	DEVELOPMENT AT OUR EXISTING MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY AT BOGTOWN, CAPPANCUR, TULLAMORE, COUNTY OFFALY. THE DEVELOPMENT WILL CONSIST OF AN INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF WASTE ACCEPTED ANNUALLY FROM 60,000 TONNES TO 80,000 TONNES. THE PROPOSED INCREASE DOES NOT REQUIRE THE CONSTRUCTION/PROVISION OF ANY NEW BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES OR ANY ALTERATION TO THE CURRENT SITE LAYOUT AND OPERATIONS. THE DEVELOPMENT WILL REQUIRE A REVIEW OF THE INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS LICENCE GRANTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY WITH THE APPLICATION		
Site location:	MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY, BOGTOWN, CAPPANCUR, TULLAMORE, CO. OFFALY		
	1.1ha.s.	Floor Area of Proposed Development:	N/A
Identification of nearby European Site(s):	2000 site(s): SAC 000571– Charleville Wood SAC		
Distance to European Site(s):	2km		
The characteristics of existing, proposed or other approved plans / projects which may cause interactive / cumulative impacts with the project being assessed and which may affect the European site:	None		
Is the application accompanied by an EIS?	Yes:		
(B) IDENTIFICATION OF THE RELEVANT European SITE(S):			
The reasons for the designation of the European site:			
Charleville Wood is considered to be one of the very few ancient woodlands remaining in Ireland, with some parts undisturbed for at least 200 years. 'Old Oak woodland is a habitat listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive, while the rare snail species, <i>Vertigomoulis siana</i> , is listed on Annex II of this directive. The wetland areas, with their			

associated bird populations, the rare insect and Myxomycete species contribute further to the conservation significance of the site.

The conservation objectives / qualifying interests of the site and the factors that contributes to the conservation value of the site: (which are taken from the Natura 2000 site synopses and, if applicable, a Conservation Management Plan; all available on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie)) **(ATTACH INFO.)**

To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected: Code Description 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles \* denotes a priority habitat Code Common Name Scientific Name 1016 Desmoulin's Whorl Snail *Vertigo moulinsiana*

**(C) NPWS ADVICE:**

Advice received from NPWS over phone:	None received
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**(D) ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS:**

*(The purpose of this is to identify if the effect(s) identified could be significant – if uncertain assume the effect(s) are significant).*

If the answer is 'yes' to any of the questions below, then the effect is significant.  
*(Please justify your answer. 'Yes' / 'No' alone is insufficient)*

<b>Would there be...</b> ... any impact on an Annex 1 habitat? (Annex 1 habitats are listed in Appendix 1 of AA Guidance).	Not likely due to the location and type of development The site is sufficient distance from the European site
... a reduction in habitat area on a European site?	There will be no reduction in the habitat area. The site is sufficient distance from the European site
... direct / indirect damage to the physical quality of the environment (e.g. water quality and supply, soil compaction) in the European site?	Not likely due to the location and type of development The site is sufficient distance from the European site
... serious / ongoing disturbance to species / habitats for which the European site is selected (e.g. because of increased noise, illumination and human activity)?	Not likely due to the location and type of development The site is sufficient distance from the European site
... direct / indirect damage to the size, characteristics or reproductive ability of populations on the European site?	None likely due to the location and type of development The site is sufficient distance from the European site
Would the project interfere with mitigation measures put in place for other plans / projects. [Look at <i>in-combination effects</i> with completed approved but not completed, and proposed plans / projects. Look at projects / plans within and adjacent to European sites and identify them]. Simply stating that there are no cumulative impacts' is insufficient.	No other plans known of in the vicinity of the site. The site is sufficient distance from the European site

**(E) SCREENING CONCLUSION:**

**Screening can result in:**

1.	AA is not required because the project is directly connected with / necessary to the nature conservation management of the site.
2.	No potential for significant effects / AA is not required
3.	Significant effects are certain, likely or uncertain. (In this situation seek a NIS from the applicant, or reject the project. Reject if too potentially damaging / inappropriate.

Therefore, does the project fall into category 1, 2 or 3 above?	<b>Category 2</b>
Justify why it falls into relevant category above	There would be no likely significant impact on European sites from the proposed development.

Name:   
Position: Exec. Planner Date: 23/8/2017

## SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: CHARLEVILLE WOOD

SITE CODE: 000571

Charleville Wood is a large Oak woodland surrounded by estate parkland and agricultural grassland located about 3 km south-west of Tullamore. The site, which is underlain by deep glacial deposits, includes a small lake with a wooded island, and a stream runs along the western perimeter. The woodland is considered to be one of very few ancient woodlands remaining in Ireland, with some parts undisturbed for at least 200 years.

Some 10% of the woodland has been underplanted with conifers and other exotic trees, but the rest of the area is dominated by Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*).

Apart from Oak, there is much Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and scattered Wych Elm (*Ulmus glabra*), while Birch (*Betula* spp.) is a feature of the boggy margins. The shrub layer is composed largely of Hazel (*Corylus avellana*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*). The ground layer is varied, including damp flushed slopes with Ramsons (*Allium ursinum*) and drier, more open areas with a moss sward composed largely of *Rhytidiadelphus triquetris*. The fungal flora of the woodland is notable for the presence of several rare Myxomycete species, namely *Hemitrichia calyculata*, *Perichaena depressa*, *Amaurochaete atra*, *Collaria arcyriomena*, *Stemonitis nigrescens* and *Diderma deplanata*. A number of unusual insects have also been recorded in Charleville Wood, notably *Mycetobia obscura* (Diptera), a species known from only one other site in Ireland. The site is also notable for the presence of a large population of the rare snail species, *Vertigo moulinsiana*.

Extensive swamps of Bulrush (*Typha latifolia*) and Bottle Sedge (*Carex rostrata*) have developed in the lake shallows. The lake is an important wildfowl habitat – it supports populations of Mute and Whooper Swan and a number of duck species, including Teal, Wigeon, Shoveler, Pochard and Tufted Duck. The wooded island at its centre is famed for its long history of non disturbance. Hazel, Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) and Ivy (*Hedera helix*) reach remarkable sizes here.

Charleville Wood is one of the most important ancient woodland sites in Ireland. The woodland has a varied age structure and is relatively intact with both areas of closed canopy and open areas with regenerating saplings present. The understory and ground layers are also well represented. Old Oak woodland is a habitat listed on Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive, while the rare snail species, *Vertigo moulinsiana*, is listed on Annex II of this directive. The wetland areas, with their associated bird populations, the rare insect and Myxomycete species contribute further to the conservation significance of the site.

6.12.1999



## Conservation objectives for Charleville Wood SAC [000571]

The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation status of habitats and species of community interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives and Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas are designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as the Natura 2000 network. European and national legislation places a collective obligation on Ireland and its citizens to maintain habitats and species in the Natura 2000 network at favourable conservation condition. The Government and its agencies are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of regulations that will ensure the ecological integrity of these sites. The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level. Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: • its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing, and • the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and • the conservation status of its typical species is favourable. The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: • population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats, and • the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and • there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis. Objective: To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected. Code Description 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles \* denotes a priority habitat Code Common Name Scientific Name 1016 Desmoulin's Whorl Snail *Vertigo moulinsiana*

Citation: NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives for Charleville Wood SAC [000571]. Generic Version 4.0. Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. 13/02/2015

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