



SCREENING REPORT FOR APPROPRIATE
ASSESSMENT

SLIGO AIRSHOW

SLIGO AIRPORT

Doherty Environmental Consultants Ltd.

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SLIGO AIRSHOW

Sligo Airport

Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment

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1 INTRODUCTION

Doherty Environmental Consultants (DEC) Ltd. has been commissioned by Jennings O'Donovan & Partners Ltd. to prepare a Screening Report in support of an Appropriate Assessment (AA), under Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive, for Sligo Airport Airshow which is a 2-day airshow scheduled to take place on Saturday 27th July and Sunday 28th July 2024. Admission to the event will be ticketed to the public and is expected to attract approximately 10,000 people over the 2 days with attendees consisting mainly of families from the community and tourists. The location of the event is shown on Figure 1.1 while an aerial view of the location of the proposed event is shown on Figure 1.2.

This Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment forms Stage 1 of the Habitats Directive Assessment process and is being undertaken in order to inform the competent authority's assessment under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (as amended). The function of this Screening Report is to identify the potential for the project to result in likely significant effects to European Sites and to provide information so that the competent authority can determine whether a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required for the project.

1.1 STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY

This Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been prepared by Mr. Pat Doherty BSc., MSc, MCIEEM, of DEC Ltd. Mr. Doherty is a consultant ecologist with over 20 years' experience in completing ecological impact assessments and environmental impact assessments. Pat has been involved in the completion of assessment reports for proposed developments and land use activities under the EIA Directive and Article 6 of the Habitats Directive since 2003 and 2006 respectively. He has extensive experience completing such reporting for projects located in a variety of environments and has a thorough understanding of the biodiversity issues that may arise from proposed land use activities. Pat was responsible for completing one of the first Appropriate Assessment reports for large scale infrastructure developments in Ireland when he prepared the Appropriate Assessment for the N25 New Ross Bypass in 2006/07. Since then, Pat has completed multiple examinations of both plans and projects in Ireland. He has completed Natura Impact Statements for national scale plans such as Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan and National Seafood Development Plan and regional and county scale plans including County Development Plans, Local Area Plans, Tourism Strategies and Climate Action Plans. Pat has completed multiple Natura Impact Statements for a range of

development types that include large scale infrastructure developments in sectors such as transport and energy as well as industrial, commercial and residential developments.

Pat has completed focused certified professional development training in Appropriate Assessment as well as in a range of ecological survey techniques and assessment processes. Training has been completed for National Vegetation Classification (NVC) and Irish Vegetation Classification (IVC) surveying, bryophyte survey for habitat assessment and identification, professional bat survey and assessment training, mammal surveying and specific training for bird and bat survey techniques. Ongoing training has been completed by approved training providers such as CIEEM, British Trust for Ornithology, the Botanic Gardens and the Field Studies Council.

1.2 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

Legislative protection for habitats and species is provided within the European Union by the Habitats Directive. The Habitats Directive has been implemented in Ireland and throughout Europe through the establishment of a network of designated conservation areas known as the Natura 2000 (N2K) network. The N2K network includes sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), under the EU Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the EU Birds Directive 2009/147/EC (as amended). SACs are designated in areas that support habitats listed on Annex I and/or species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive. SPAs are designated in areas that support: 1% or more of the all-Ireland population of bird species listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive; 1% or more of the population of a migratory species; and more than 20,000 waterfowl.

This Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment is being prepared in order to enable the competent authority to comply with Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC (The Habitats Directive). It is prepared to assess whether or not the project alone or in combination with other plans and projects is likely to have a significant effect on any European Site in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of the European Sites and specifically on the habitats and species for which the sites have been designated. Measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the proposed project on European sites (i.e. “mitigation measures”) or best practice measures have not been taken into account in this screening stage appraisal.

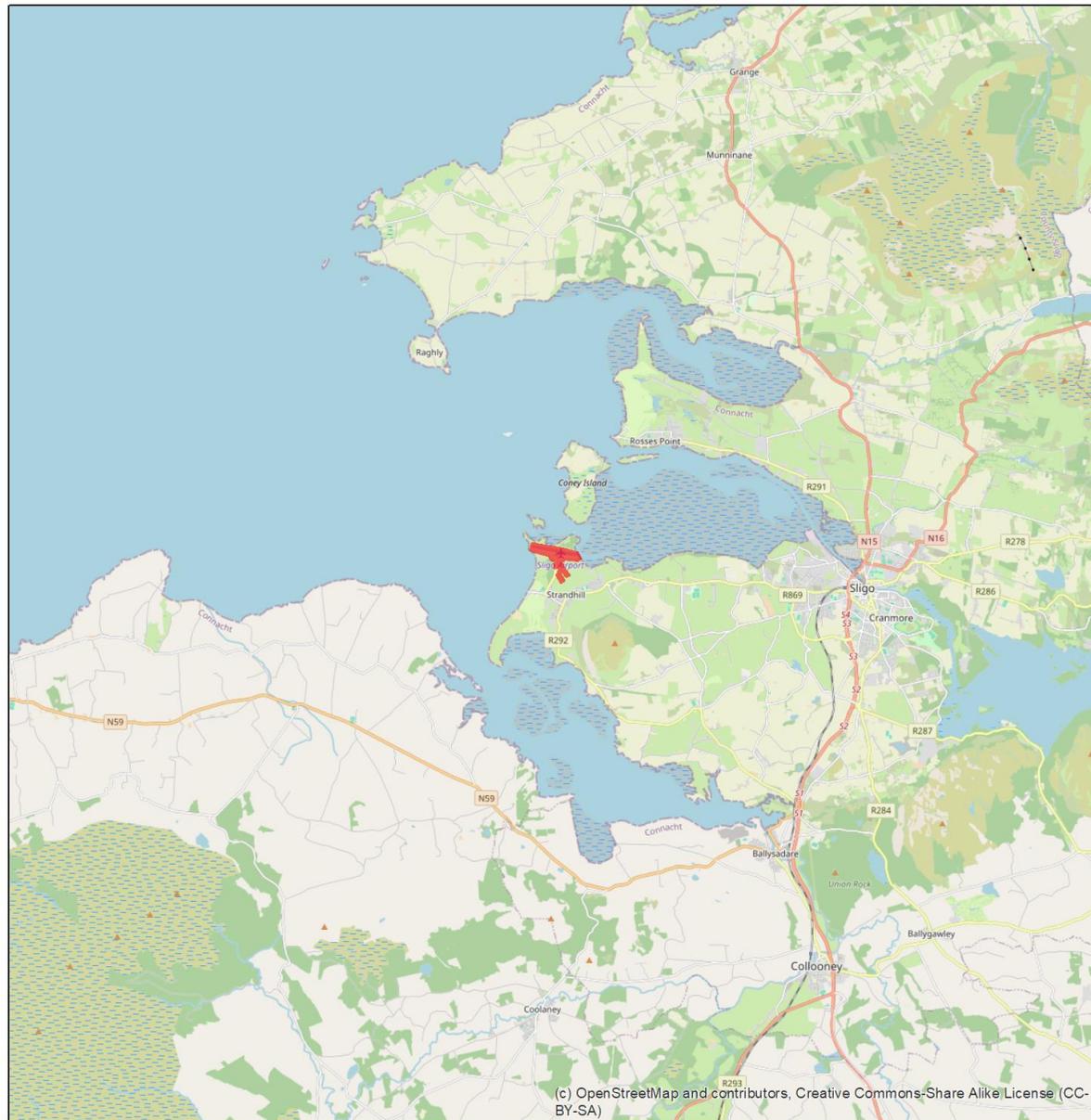
1.2.1 Requirement for an Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive

According to section 177U(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) the competent authority has a duty to:

- Determine whether the proposed Project is directly connected to or necessary for the management of one of more European Sites; and, if not,
- Determine if the Project, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect on the European Site(s) in view of best scientific knowledge and the Conservation Objectives of the site(s).

This report contains information to support a Screening for Appropriate Assessment and is intended to provide information that assists the competent authority when assessing and addressing all issues regarding the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project and to allow the competent authority to comply with the Habitats Directive. Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive defines the requirements for assessment of projects and plans for which likely significant effects on European Sites may arise. The Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive together list habitats and species that are of international importance for conservation and require protection. The Habitats Directive requires competent authorities, to carry out a Screening for Appropriate Assessment of plans and projects that are not directly connected to or necessary for the management of a European Site, to assess whether the plan or project alone or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have significant effects on European Sites in view of best scientific knowledge and the Site's conservation objectives. This requirement is transposed into Irish Law by, inter alia, Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). Section 177U(4) of Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act states:

"The competent authority shall determine that an appropriate assessment of a draft Land use plan or a proposed development, as the case may be, is required if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the draft Land use plan or proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site. "

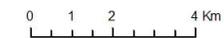


Sligo Airport Airshow July 27th & 28th 2024

Figure 1.1

Event Location

 Event Location



Drawn By	PD
Date	10/04/2024
Data Source	Bing



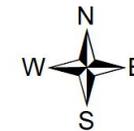
Sligo Airport Airshow July 27th & 28th 2024

Figure 1.2

Aerial View of Event Location

- Car Parking
- Spectating Areas
- Site Boundary

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Km



Drawn By	PD
Date	10/04/2024
Data Source	Bing

1.3 STAGE 1 SCREENING METHOD

This Screening Report has been prepared in order to comply with the legislative requirements outlined in Section 1.1 above and aims to establish whether or not the proposed project, alone or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have significant effects on European Sites in view of best scientific knowledge and the Site's conservation objectives. In this context "likely" means a risk or possibility of effects occurring that **cannot** be ruled out based on objective information and "significant" means an effect that would undermine the conservation objectives of the European sites, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects (Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR), 2021).

The nature of the likely interactions between the proposed development and the Conservation Objectives of European Sites will depend upon the:

- the ecological characteristics of the species or habitat, including their structure, function, conservation status and sensitivity to change; *and/or*
- the character, magnitude, duration, consequences and probability of the impacts arising from land use activities associated with the plan, in combination with other plans and projects.

In the event that land use activities result in effects that do not have the potential to compromise the conservation objectives of a European Site, and that the judgement of such an effect has been made in the absence of reasonable scientific doubt, then such an effect is considered to be representative of a de minimise effect and can be screened out for the need for Appropriate Assessment. This approach is supported by ECJ Case C/258/11 which states that:

"the requirement that the effect in question be 'significant' exists in order to lay down a de minimis threshold. Plans or projects that have no appreciable effect on a European site are thereby excluded. If all plans or projects capable of having any effect whatsoever on the site were to be caught by Article 6(3), activities on or near the site would risk being impossible by reason of legislative overkill".

This Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken in accordance with respective National and European guidance documents: Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities (DEHLG 2010) and *Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 sites – Methodological Guidance of the*

Provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC; Office of the Planning Regulator – OPR Practice Note PN01: Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management (2021), and recent European and National case law. The following guidance documents were also of relevance during the preparation of this Screening Report:

- A guide for competent authorities. Environment and Heritage Service, Sept 2002. Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities (2010). DEHLG.
- Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites – Methodological Guidance of the Provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/42/EEC. European Commission (EC) (2021).
- Managing Natura 2000 Sites – The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Commission (2018).

The EC (2021) guidelines outline the stages involved in undertaking a Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment for projects. The methodology adopted during the preparation of this Screening Report is informed by these guidelines and was undertaken in the following stages:

1. Describe the project and determine whether it is necessary for the conservation management of European Sites;
2. Identify European Sites that could be influenced by the project;
3. Where European Sites are identified as occurring within the zone of influence of the project identify potential effects arising from the project and screen the potential for such effects to negatively affect European Sites identified under Point 2 above; and
4. Identify other plans or projects that, in combination with the project, have the potential to affect European Sites.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Sligo Airport Airshow is a 2-day airshow that includes international and national flight display and parachute teams alongside on the ground activities including a funfair, food and craft

market. The Air Display will consist of a fully programmed event on Saturday 27th July and Sunday 28th July 2024.

Admission to the event will be ticketed to the public and is expected to attract approximately 10,000 people over the 2 days with attendees consisting mainly of families from the community and tourists. The area has been divided into 2 clear zones and calculated in 2 ratios 1m sq. and 0.5m sq. for higher densities.

The overall density of the site is at 15,200 but capacity will be restricted to (8,000)

The event viewing sites are enclosed areas with barriers. There are 4 exits at junctions that lead away from the event.

- Public Viewing – East Side
- Public Viewing – West side
- Staff & guests – Ramp
- Staff & Guests – terminal Building

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT SITE

A field survey of the Sligo Airport site were completed on the 12th December 2023. No non-volant mammals occur at the airport site. The topography of the site is level During the site survey a 2-hour watch was completed at high tide to monitor the airport site for the presence of waterbirds. None were noted within the airport.

Site management noted that given the role of the site as an airfield, active bird deterrent measures are employed at the site. These include a gas cannon, vehicle mounted distress call unit, vehicle horn, and human presence. This ongoing site management prevents any reliance of waterbirds on the grassland habitats occurring within and immediately adjacent to the airport landholding. It is noted that such deterrent measures will be required to be implemented during the airshow event.

4 IS THE PROJECT NECESSARY FOR THE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT OF EUROPEAN SITES

The project has been described in Section 2 of this Screening Report and it is clear from the description provided that the project is not directly connected with or necessary for the future conservation management of any European Sites.

5 SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

5.1 WITHIN/ADJOINING EUROPEAN SITES

Current guidance (OPR, 2021) informing the approach to screening for Appropriate Assessment defines the zone of influence of a proposed development as the geographical area over which it could affect the receiving environment in a way that could have significant effects on the Qualifying Interests of a European site. It is recommended that this is established on a case-by-case basis. In order to identify European Sites that could potential be located within the zone of influence of the project, the current digital mapping (shapefile) of European Sites in Ireland¹, as published by the NPWS, was reviewed to identify the European Sites that could conceivably be located within the zone of influence of the project. The OPR guidelines recommend that for projects that are located within or immediately adjacent to European Sites, the relevant European Site should be automatically selected for consideration in the screening exercise. As the project site overlaps and adjoins the Cummeen Strand SPA and the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC both European Sites are automatically selected for consideration in this screening exercise.

5.2 SOURCE-PATHWAY-RECEPTOR MODEL

To establish whether or not other European Sites occur within the zone of influence of the project, the OPR guidelines recommend that this is completed using a Source-Pathway-

¹ Current SAC & SPA shapefile layer dated July 2023

Receptor (SPR) model. This model provides the tools to identify the presence of an ecological pathway or functional link between the project and other European Sites.

Using the SPR framework the project, as described in Section 2 of this Screening Report, represents the source of potential impacts to European Sites.

Potential pathways are defined by the OPR guidelines as ecological pathways and/or functional pathways. Ecological pathways relate to emission pathways, such as water, air, noise, light emissions that could connect a project to European Sites. Functional pathways relate to mobile qualifying species of a European Sites that may rely on a project site for a specific purpose e.g. special conservation interest bird species of an SPA foraging outside of the SPA within a project site.

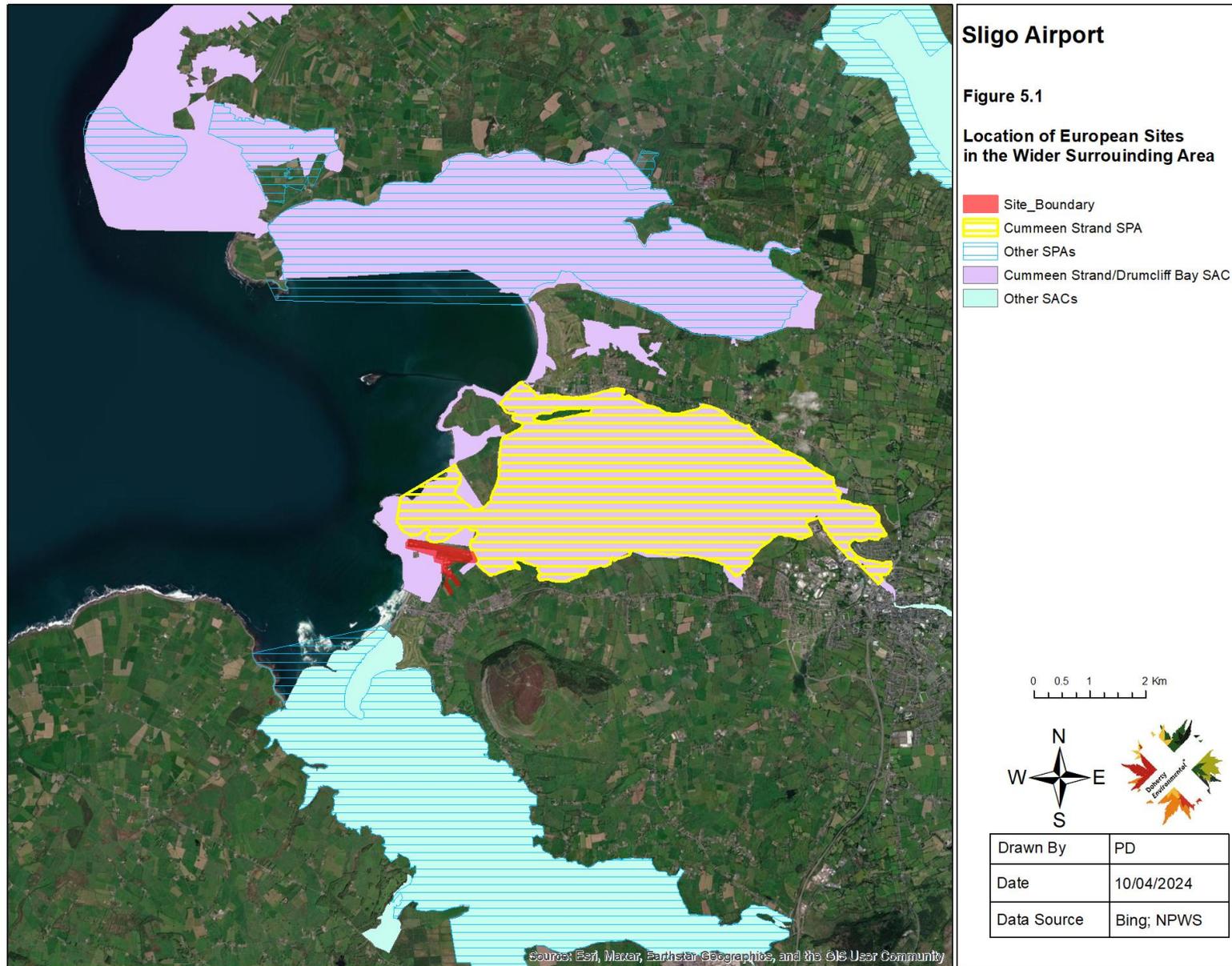
The receptors represent European Sites and their associated qualifying features of interest.

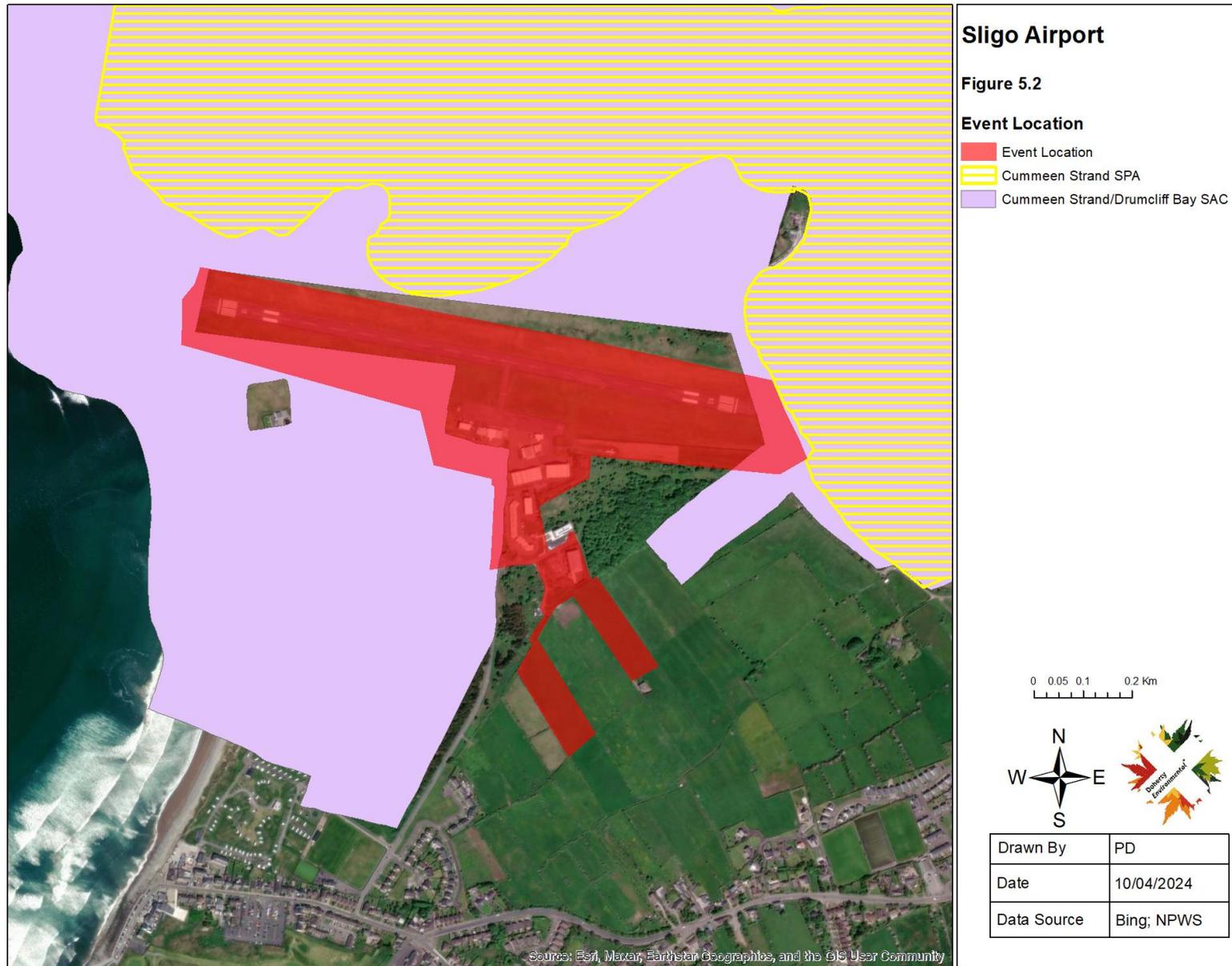
European Sites and their associated qualifying features are likely to occur in the zone of influence of the project only where pathways establish a link between the project and a European Site.

The European Sites occurring in the wider area surrounding the project site are shown on Figure 5.1. As can be seen on Figure 5.1 the European Sites nearest to the proposed temporary hangar are the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC and the Cummeen Strand SPA. The location of these European Sites in the vicinity of the proposed temporary hangar is shown on Figure 5.2.

The nearest European Site to the project site is the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC, which is located approximately 90m to the west at the nearest point. The next nearest European Site to the project site is the Cummeen Strand SPA, located approximately 360m to the east of the project site. All other European Sites are located at more remote distances, approximately 2km and greater from the project site.

Section 5.3 below provides an examination of pathways with respect to the project site and European Sites in the wider surrounding area.





5.3 EXAMINATION OF PATHWAYS

Using the SPR model, ecological and functional pathways that can conceivably arise as a result of development projects are set out in Table 5.1 below and an examination as to whether these pathways connect the project to any European Sites is provided.

Table 5.1: Examination of Pathways

Pathway	Does the Pathway Connect the Project to Other European Sites	Reason
Hydrological surface water –	No	The event will not result in the emissions to surface waters. All wastewater generated during the event will be contained within the tanks of portaloos. The drains will be drained to a mobile tanker unit and will be disposed of offsite at a licenced wastewater treatment facility.
Hydrological groundwater –	No	No excavations will be required for the event. As such there will be no interactions between the land use activities triggered by the event and groundwaters.
Noise & Vibration	No	Noise and vibration emissions are considered to have the potential to result in negative impacts to biodiversity up to a 300m distance from the emission source. This distance is based on the maximum disturbance zone of 300m for wetland bird species, as specified by Cutts et al. (2013). Disturbance effects related to noise and vibration for other qualifying species as well as qualifying habitats of European Sites are less than 300m. For mammal species listed as qualifying features of interest for SACs this distance is set at 150m, as per the NRA (2009). For qualifying aquatic species, a potential noise and vibration impact pathway will only arise where works such as piling or blasting are proposed at instream or bankside locations within adjoining SACs. Given that there are no other European Sites, aside from the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC and the Cummeen Strand SPA, occurring within 300m of the proposed development, any noise and vibration emissions that are generated at the project site during the event will not have the

Pathway	Does the Pathway Connect the Project to Other European Sites	Reason
		potential to function as an emission pathway connecting the project site to other European Sites.
Air Emissions	No	Air emissions will arise during the event. These will relate to exhaust emissions from airplanes. These emissions will be brief, occurring over 2-days and will not have a perceptible effect on air quality. As such there will no emission pathway connecting the event to other European Sites.
Light Emissions	No	No lighting is proposed as part of the project.
Visual Emissions	No	The event will be remote from other European Sites and will not
Mobile species pathway	No	<p>The grassland occurring within the boundary of the events location is not relied upon by waterbirds or wetland bird species that are listed as special conservation interest bird species of surrounding SPAs such as the Cummeen Strand SPA or the Ballysadare Bay SPA. No such birds were observed in the grassland habitats of the airport during the bird survey completed on the 12th December 2023. Furthermore, as noted in Section 3 above, birds are actively deterred from the airfield and surrounding area and as such do not rely on the grassland habitat occurring within and adjacent to the airfield for foraging or roosting.</p> <p>No other mobile species that could use terrestrial grassland occur in the wider area surrounding the project site.</p> <p>It is further noted that the airshow event will be undertaken over 2 days in July 2024. The SPAs in the surrounding area i.e. the Cummeen Strand SPA and the Ballysadare Bay SPA, are designated for their role in supporting overwintering species. These species overwinter in Ireland and these SPAs between the months of October to March/April. The SPAs are not designated for any breeding populations of bird species. Given that the airshow will take place in July during the breeding season there will be no potential for it to interact with the overwintering populations of the special</p>

Pathway	Does the Pathway Connect the Project to Other European Sites	Reason
		conservation interest bird species of the surrounding SPA. In light of the above no mobile species pathway connects the project to any European Sites.
Human Disturbance pathway	No	The project will not result in the generation of increased human activity within any other European Sites. The airshow will be a managed event with access, car parking a spectator viewing areas all located outside the boundary of European Sites.

Following the examination of pathways that can typically function as vectors for indirect impacts between a project and European Sites, it has been found that no potential pathways occur to link the event to other European Sites within the wider surrounding area. Given that absence of any functional impact pathways between the project and European Sites, the remainder of this screening focuses on examining the potential for the airshow to result in likely significant effects to the two no. European Sites within/adjoining the event location i.e. the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC and the Cummeen Strand SPA.

6 EXAMINATION OF LIKELY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS TO THE CUMMEEN STRAND/DRUMCLIFF BAY (SLIGO BAY) SAC & CUMMEEN STRAND SPA

The examination of the potential for the airshow event to result in likely significant effects to the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC and the Cummeen Strand SPA is undertaken following the guidance set out in the EC 2021 guidelines for screening for Appropriate Assessment. These guidelines provide a screening matrix against which projects or land use activities can be examined. Table 7.1 provides this screening matrix and an examination of the airshows potential to result in likely significant effects to these two European Sites.

Matrix	Examination
Brief description of the project or plan	The project and associated activities are described in Section 2 above.

Matrix	Examination
Brief description of the European Sites	The European Sites occurring in the wider surrounding area are identified in Section 5 above. The qualifying features of interest of these European Sites are set out in Appendix 1.
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 European Sites.	<p>Land use activities, including short-lived activities, such as the proposed event, can in theory give rise to potential environmental effects relating to habitat loss and/or disturbance, disturbance to fauna, surface water, noise or air emissions etc.</p> <p>However, given that the proposed event and temporary event infrastructure will be:</p> <p>situated outside the Sac and SPA there will be no potential for habitat loss or disturbance within these sites; undertaken outside the non-breeding season when overwintering populations of bird species supported by the SPA will be absent there will be no potential for disturbance to bird species;</p> <p>will not be undertaken in the vicinity of resting or breeding sites for Annex 2 species associated with SACs in the surrounding area (e.g. the nearest harbour seal site, a species that is listed as qualifying interest for the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC and the Ballysadare Bay SAC, is located over 2.5km to the south;</p> <p>the brief nature of the event to be undertaken over 2 no. days in July only,</p> <p>It is considered that the proposed event will not have the potential to give rise to impact to the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC, Cummeen Strand SPA or any other European Sites.</p>
Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) on the European Sites site by virtue of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • size and scale; • land-take; 	The project will not have the potential to result in direct, indirect or secondary impacts to European Sites. The Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC, Cummeen Strand SPA and all other European Sites in the wider surrounding area have been identified to be not at risk of likely significant effects as a result of the proposed event.

Matrix	Examination
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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, etc.; 	
<p>Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduction of habitat area; • disturbance to key species; • habitat or species fragmentation; • reduction in species density; • changes in key indicators of conservation status 	<p>The Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC, Cummeen Strand SPA and all other European Sites in the wider surrounding area have been identified to be not at risk of likely significant effects as a result of the proposed event.</p> <p>The project will not have the potential to result in changes to the Annex 1 habitats of the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC, Cummeen Strand SPA or any other European Sites arising from these factors listed in Column 1 opposite.</p> <p>The project will not result in the reduction of habitat area for special conservation interest bird species or waterbirds of SPAs in the wider surrounding area.</p> <p>The project will not result in habitat or species fragmentation for any Annex 1 habitats or habitats relied upon by Annex 2 qualifying species or special conservation interest bird species of the surrounding European Sites.</p> <p>Examples of key indicators of the conservation status of bird species of surrounding SPAs and Annex 2 species of surrounding SAC are population size; distribution; habitat structure; foraging habitat and prey availability etc.</p>

Matrix	Examination
	<p>Key indicators of the conservation status for the Annex 1 habitats of these European Sites include habitat area, habitat distribution, vegetation supported by the habitat, water quality, nutrient status etc.</p> <p>Given that the European Sites surrounding the proposed event are not at risk of likely significant effects, as established above, there will be no potential for the project to undermine the conservation status and conservation objectives for any European Sites.</p>
<p>Describe any likely impacts on the European Sites site as a whole in terms of: interference with the key relationships that define the structure of the site; interference with key relationships that define the function of the site.</p>	<p>For reasons set out above the project will not have the potential to interfere with key relationships that define the structure and function of European Sites.</p>
<p>Provide indicators of significance as a result of the identification of effects set out above in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss; • fragmentation; • disruption; • disturbance; • change to key elements of the site (e.g. water quality etc.). 	<p>For reasons set out above the project will not have the potential to result in such effects to European Sites.</p>
<p>Describe from the above those elements of the project or 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>The project will not have the potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites.</p>

7 IN-COMBINATION EFFECTS

Given that the proposed event has been found not to represent a risk of likely significant effects to the surrounding European Sites, there will be no potential for the event to combine with other land use plans or projects relevant to result in cumulative negative effects to European Sites.

8 SCREENING CONCLUSION

During the Screening of the project, the event site boundary was found to overlap with the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC and adjoin the Cummeen Strand SPA. Other European Sites, such as the Ballysadare Bay SAC and Ballysadare Bay SPA were also identified as occurring in the wider surrounding area.

The Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC and the Cummeen Strand SPA were automatically screened in for examination in this screening given the above noted overlap with the SAC and adjoining location of the SPA. An examination of pathways that could be generated by the project to connect it to European Sites in the surrounding area has been set out in Section 5.3 of this screening. The examination provided in this screening has confirmed that there are no pathways connecting the project to the European Sites in the surrounding area or any other European Sites. Given this finding all other European Sites in the wider surrounding are considered to lie outside the zone of influence of the proposed event.

The potential for the proposed event to result in likely significant effects to the Cummeen Strand SPA and the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC was then examined against established screening matrix criteria sourced from the EC 2021 guidelines. This examination has found that the proposed event will not have the potential to result in likely significant effects, alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, to the Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC, Cummeen Strand SPA or any other European Sites.

Given findings of this screening as detailed above it is the considered view of the authors of this Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment that it can be concluded by the competent authority, that the proposed event is not likely, alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, to have a significant effect on any European Sites in view of their Conservation Objectives and on the basis of best scientific evidence, there is no reasonable scientific doubt as to that conclusion.

9 REFERENCES

Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) (2010). *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities*. Second Edition, February 2010.

European Commission (2018). *Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*. Luxembourg.

European Commission (2021). *Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites. Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*. Luxembourg.

OPR (2021). *Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management. OPR Practice Note PN01*.

APPENDIX 1: EUROPEAN SITES QUALIFYING INTERESTS

European Sites	Qualifying Interests/Special Conservation Interests
Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC	Estuaries [1130]
	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]
	Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]
	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120]
	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]
	<i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130]
	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites) [6210]
	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>) [7220]
	<i>Vertigo angustior</i> (Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail) [1014]
	<i>Petromyzon marinus</i> (Sea Lamprey) [1095]
	<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> (River Lamprey) [1099]
	<i>Phoca vitulina</i> (Harbour Seal) [1365]
Cummeen Strand SPA	Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046]
	Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130]
	Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162]
	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]
Ballysadare Bay SAC	Estuaries [1130]
	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]
	Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]
	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120]
	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]
	Humid dune slacks [2190]
	<i>Vertigo angustior</i> (Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail) [1014]
	<i>Phoca vitulina</i> (Harbour Seal) [1365]
Ballysadare Bay SPA	Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046]

European Sites	Qualifying Interests/Special Conservation Interests
	Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141]
	Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149]
	Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157]
	Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162]
	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]
Drumcliff Bay SPA	Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144]
	Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157]
	Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]