

6.9 Crillaun Bottom Car Park, River Moy, Co. Mayo

6.9.1 Crillaun Bottom Car Park, River Moy - Location 53.948727, -9.125423

Crillaun Bottom Car Park is an access point to the River Moy Fishery which is owned and managed by the East Moy Angling Association (EMAA). The public car park and shelter is located on the western bank of the River Moy, 4km south of Foxford town as the crow flies. It is fenced off with posts and three wooden rails. It is accessed from minor roads off the N58. At this site a 76m fishing platform, changing room, access road and car park have been provided exclusively for the use of disabled anglers. This limited mobility and wheelchair access was completed in 2019. Access to the river from the public car park is via a woodland path or via the tarmacked/gravelled access road built for disabled anglers. The southern and eastern boundaries of the disabled site are fenced off from the surrounding lands. The biodiversity study site is shown in Figure 30 outlined in white. The site occupies an area of 0.49ha.



Figure 30: Map showing the location of Crillaun Bottom Car Park with disabled access to the River Moy in Co. Mayo. The biodiversity study site is outlined with a white line. 

Source: AppleMaps

6.9.2 Crillaun Bottom Car Park, River Moy - Results of Screening for Biodiversity and History

The location of Crillaun Bottom Car Park was screened against lands designated for conservation by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The eastern boundary of the site is included in the River Moy SAC designated site (#002298). This site is shown in Figure 31 and includes all of the freshwater catchment of the River Moy and its habitats and wildlife. A description of this

designated site is available at <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/synopsis/SY002298.pdf>.

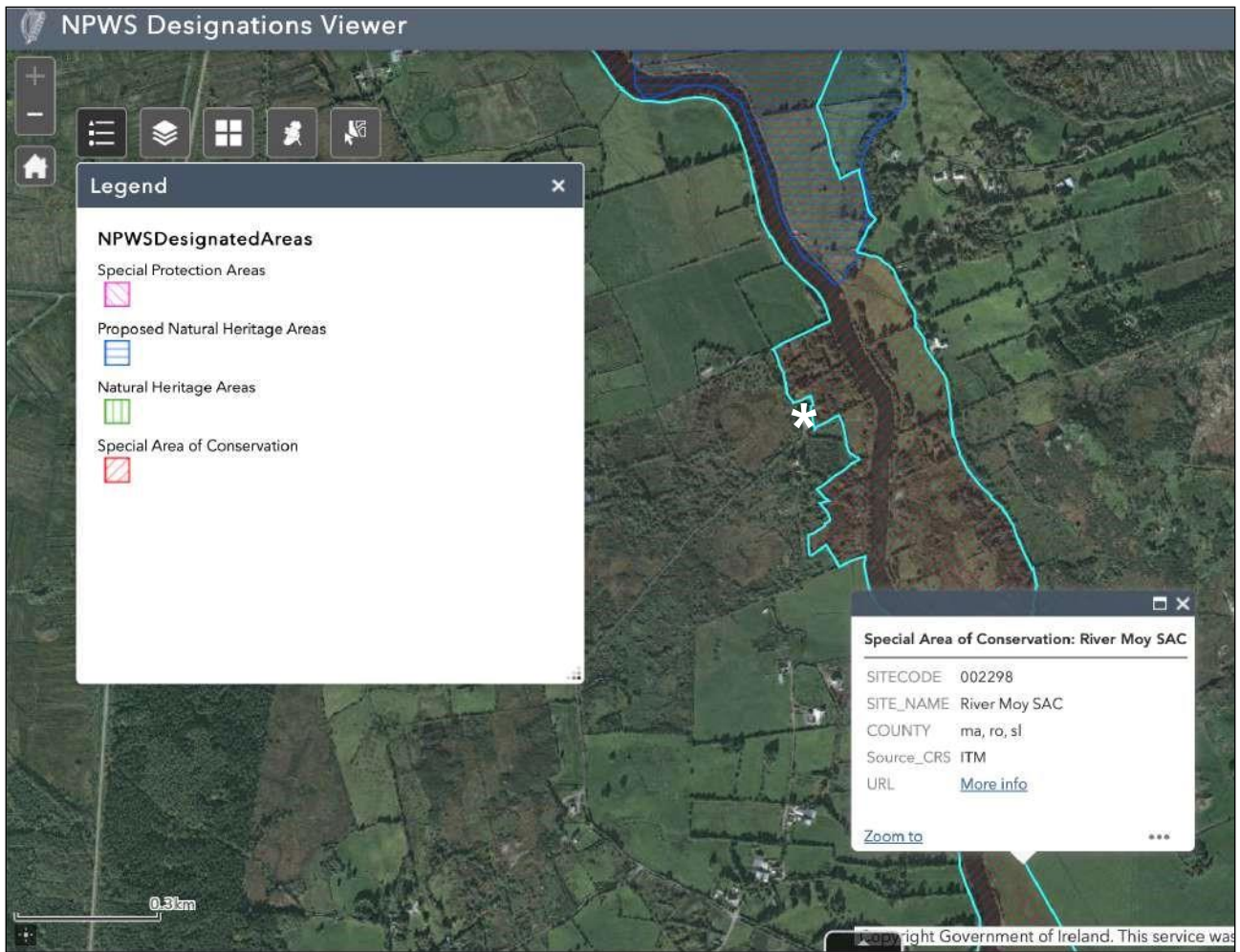


Figure 31: Air photograph showing the part of the River Moy Special Area of Conservation (#002298) that incorporates part of Crillaun Bottom Car Park and which flows along the eastern boundary of the biodiversity study site shown with an asterisk. Source: <https://dahg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8f7060450de3485fa1c1085536d477ba>. © Government of Ireland National Parks and Wildlife Service.

A screening of the Crillaun Bottom Car Park against the Wetlands Map of Ireland (see <https://wetland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=e13b75c3bcab4932b992aa0169aa4a32&extent=-11.9317,51.0620,-3.9117,55.6465>) indicates that west of the site there is a wetland of conservation interest - Tawnagh Beg East (# WMI_MA772). This site location is shown in Figure 32.

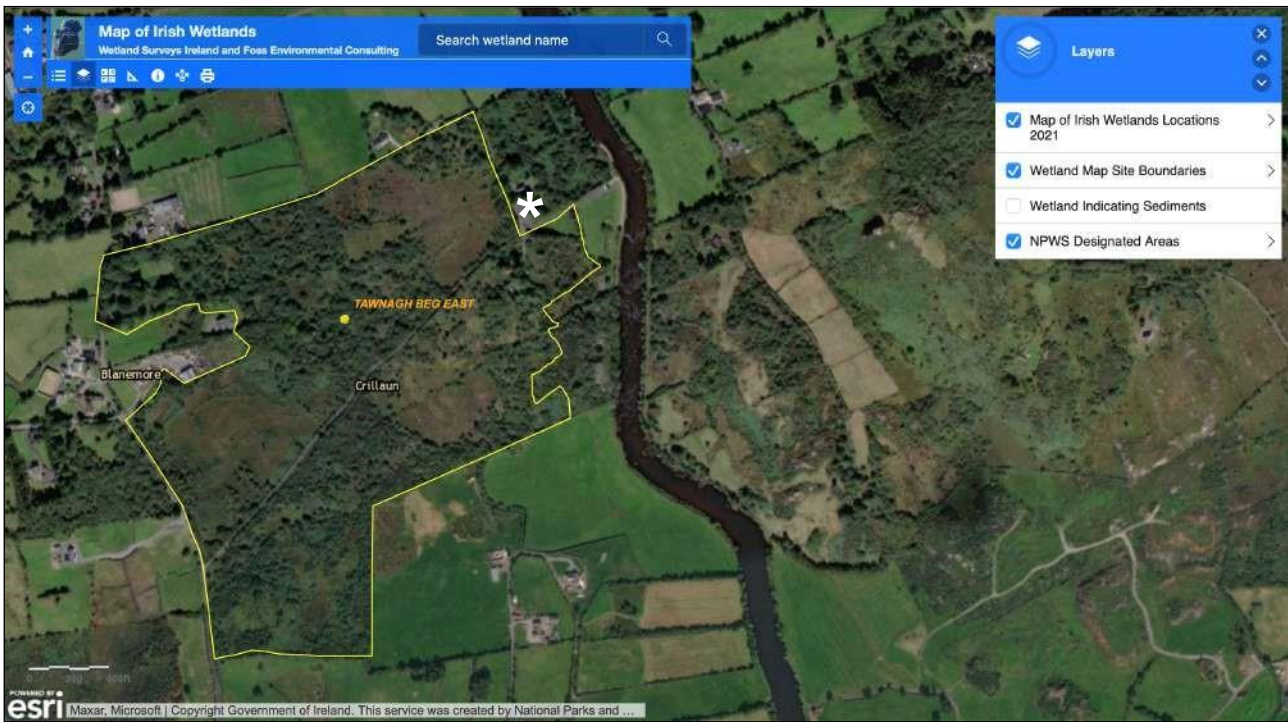


Figure 32: Tawnagh Beg East (code WML_MA772) has been identified as a site of conservation interest by Wetland Surveys Ireland as it contains bog woodland and cutover bog habitat. This site occurs on the western boundary of the Crillaun Bottom Car Park biodiversity site which is indicated with an asterisk. Source: <https://www.wetlandsurveys.ie>.

Biodiversity information on the species diversity present in the Crillaun Bottom Car Park is available from the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC). Species records can be found for areas of the country based on a system of 100 m square grids (see <https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Map>). The grid numbers screened for the Crillaun Bottom Car Park were G261005, G262005, G261004 and G262004. There are records for this biodiversity site from the following surveys: Atlas of Butterflies 2019 and 2021, Ladybirds of Ireland, Bees of Ireland 2021 and the Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards. Species recorded are Ringlet, Lesser Celendine, Primrose, 7 Spot Ladybird, Peacock Butterfly and the Common Carder Bee.

The site was also screened against the historic environments inventory (see <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>) and no records were found.

6.9.3 Crillaun Bottom Car Park, River Moy - Biodiversity Field Survey

The Crillaun Bottom Car Park site includes a variety of quality habitats located adjacent to the River Moy. The disabled access road has wild flower meadow on either side which has been planted with fruit trees. A wild flower meadow has been created from seed alongside the fishing platform. A track to the River Moy for non disabled anglers is routed through deciduous woodland. In the public car park of this site there are two ornamental shrub beds.

6.9.4 Crillaun Bottom Car Park, River Moy - Site Management

The Crillaun Bottom Car Park is owned and managed by East Moy Anglers Association. They maintain the car parks, mow grass paths and meadow edges along the access road, remove litter,

strim vegetation on the fishing platform and on the river bank to prevent fishing lines from getting snagged, erect signage, plant fruit trees and manage the wild flower meadows in addition to ensuring the sustainable use of the River Moy Fishery through patrolling and oversight. They embrace the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and planted their fruit trees under the DCs for Bees Orchards in the Community Project 2021.

6.9.5 Crillaun Bottom Car Park, River Moy - Habitats and Species Present

The habitats present at the Crillaun Bottom Car Park are shown on Figure 33 and are described below. The species recorded in Crillaun Bottom Car Park were as follows: 66 plants, 7 animals and 4 birds with a total of 77 species for the site (see Appendix 2).



Figure 33: Map of the different habitats surveyed at the Crillaun Bottom Car Park site with disabled access to the River Moy in Co. Mayo. © Source: AppleMaps

Buildings BL3

Two buildings are located within this site. Both are relatively new buildings without plant life. However swallows were nesting in the eaves of the disabled anglers changing room building. Four chicks were in the nest being fed by two adults (see Plate 54).

Wet Grassland GS4

Wet grassland habitat was recorded along the banks of the Moy River in association with the disabled anglers platform. The species included tall herbs such as valerian, meadowsweet, water figwort, marsh woundwort, dock, angelica, purple loosestrife, willowherb and willow (see Plate 51).

This habitat is strimmed once or twice a year to keep access clear. This habitat and the Moy River are included in a designated Special Area of Conservation.



Plate 51: Wet grassland habitat with tall herbs including purple loosestrife and meadow sweet at the bank of the River Moy. The disabled anglers fishing platform is seen on the right and is cantilevered over the river bank. Vegetation growing through the perforations in the platform are strimmed each year as is the wet grassland habitat. Action 6.9.2 in Table 12 recommends strimming only a portion of the wet grassland habitat along the river bank at a time and in rotation to allow the plants to flower and set seed. Photo: © C. O'Connell

Grassy Verge/Dry Meadow GS2

This habitat was found along the vehicle access route to the disabled anglers platform and to the back of the platform on a raised bank. All of this habitat is included in a designated Special Area of Conservation (see Section 6.9.2 above). A wildflower seed mix was used to establish the meadow on the bank above the river Moy in 2016. Since then both the meadow on the bank and the meadows on the access road are managed by mowing once per year and removing organic material. Creeping thistle and other aggressive plants are removed by digging. A grass path is mowed to provide a walking route through the meadow on the bank. The meadow habitats were species rich with ox eye daisy, yarrow, plantain, St John's wort, hen rattle, dandelion, dock, birds foot trefoil, self heal, rye grass, crested dogs tail grass, chickweed, kidney vetch, horsetail, mallow, Yorkshire fog, creeping thistle, flag iris, clover, salad burnet, colt's foot and marsh thistle. There were numerous insects and pollinators recorded in these habitats including moths, common green grasshopper, house fly and hoverflies (see Plate 52). Birds were active including blue tit and swallow. The meadow habitat lining each side of the road has been planted with fruit trees of apple, plum and pear. Grasses and thistles are prevalent in this area and need to be tackled by hand weeding and the sowing of hen rattle to reduce their vigour.



Plate 52: Wild flower meadow habitat at the bank of the River Moy. The disabled anglers fishing platform is seen on the right. The meadow was planted from seeds and is species rich. The variety of wild flowers provide food for pollinators and include yarrow, plantain and clover. Action 6.9.1 in Table 12 recommends continuing to manage this area as a wild flower meadow and collecting seeds from hen rattle growing in this area to sow in other meadow areas on site where grasses are vigorously growing. The wild flower meadow is a valuable habitat for insects (see photos inset of common green grasshopper and hoverfly).

Photos: © J. FitzGerald.

Wet Willow Alder Ash Woodland WN6

This habitat occurred along the north western boundary of the Crillaun car park and is part of a designated Special Area of Conservation (see section 6.9.2). A gravelled path gives anglers access through the woodland to the Moy River (see Plate 53). The woodland trees formed a closed canopy and included wild cherry, blackthorn, willow, hawthorn, elderberry, ash, hazel and birch and shrubs such as spindle, rose, bramble and gorse. The trees had a good growth of epiphytic lichens including *Parmelia* species, *Evernia prunastri* and the yellow *Xanthoria parietina*. Some of the ash trees reached 15m in height. In the herb layer ivy, lords and ladies, horsetail, herb robert, meadow sweet, bush vetch, cleavers, nipplewort, bracken, hart's tongue fern, buttercup, pignut, daisy and dandelion were recorded. Blackbirds and chaffinches were using the area to feed.



Plate 53: The access path to the River Moy through the wet willow alder ash woodland. This footpath runs parallel to the road access to the fishing platform provided for disabled anglers. The woodland is a wild valuable habitat for insects such as the longhorn beetle - *Leptura quadrifasciata* (see photo inset). Photos: © J. FitzGerald

Ornamental Non-native Shrub Bed WS3

Two ornamental non native shrub beds have been planted up in the main car park. These included a variety of species such as elwood, tutsan, privet, lavender, *Croscosmia*, bindweed, birch and *Erica* heather.

6.9.6 Crillaun Bottom Car Park, River Moy - Biodiversity Actions

A number of actions are proposed to enhance biodiversity on the Crillaun Bottom Car Park on the River Moy. The number of actions are restricted as most of the site with the exception of the public car park is included in land designated for nature conservation. The actions proposed for this site are included in Table 12. Some excellent biodiversity car park guides are available from the

National Biodiversity Data Centre to help. Please see <https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Car-Parks-for-Pollinators-Flyer-2022-WEB.pdf>.

Table 12: Biodiversity enhancement actions for the Crillaun Bottom Car Park, River Moy, Co. Mayo

| Action Number | Action | Notes |
|---------------|---|---|
| 6.9.1 | Continue with the on-going management of wild flower meadow habitats | Wild flower meadow is being successfully developed at Crillaun Bottom Car Park and the existing mowing regime plus the targeted removal of aggressive thistles and grasses should be continued. Hen rattle is already present in the wild flower meadow above the disabled anglers platform. Seeds of this plant could be collected in autumn and spread in the meadow areas adjoining the access road to the disabled anglers car park after the sward is cut hard in autumn. This will help to weaken the growth of grasses in the meadow community giving space for more wild flowers. The National Biodiversity Data Centre have useful guidelines on the management of wild flower meadows which are available here: https://pollinators.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/How-to-guide-Wildflower-Meadows-2018WEB.pdf . |
| 6.9.2 | Management of wet grassland community along Moy River | The wet grassland community along the Moy River is managed by strimming 2-3 times per year. In order to allow for the wild flowers to grow and set seed, the whole area of 100m of the river bank should not be cut at once. Rather a rotational cutting of part of it would be more valuable. This action allows for biodiversity to flourish and meets the objective of providing open un-impeded banks for anglers to cast their lines. |
| 6.9.3 | Fruit trees maintenance | Young fruit trees planted in the meadow areas are struggling with competition from grasses at their roots. Grasses should be weeded out around the fruit trees and the ground mulched with a peat-free compost so that rainfall and nutrients are taken up by the tree roots only. This will help the trees to establish more successfully. |
| 6.9.4 | Fence screening with native hedge | Fences occur along the southern boundary of the access road to the disabled changing room and behind the meadow at the disabled platform (see Plate 54). Both of these fenced areas should be screened with living plants to create a green wall and to enhance wildlife. This can be done by planting a hawthorn hedge using bare root hawthorn whips. Other species to include in the mix are guelder rose, spindle, willow, elderberry, crab apple, rowan and blackthorn. Guidelines on hedge planting can be found here: https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/daily/environment/how-to-plant-a-hedge.php . |
| 6.9.5 | Weed control in car parks | The gravel base of the car parks at Crillaun Bottom Car Park requires maintenance to prevent them becoming overgrown with weeds. Weeds can be controlled as necessary using a homemade weedkiller recipe as follows: 1 gallon vinegar mixed with 1 cup salt and 1 tablespoon washing up liquid. Apply on warm, sunny, dry days. |
| 6.9.6 | Litter | Old carpets and some builders rubble need to be cleared from the site in the interest of safety and visitor enjoyment (see Plate 55). |
| 6.9.7 | Replace ornamental shrubs in beds in public car park with native trees with high wildlife benefits | Two ornamental shrub beds in the public car park are loaded with exotic species. These should be removed and replaced with a native specimen tree with a high wildlife value. Willow, rowan, crab apple, wild cherry, hawthorn (or whitethorn) and blackthorn will provide important food for pollinators to help avoid 'hunger gaps,' or times when there are no nectar or pollen-rich flowers in bloom. Willow supports up to 266 insect species and 160 lichens. |
| 6.9.8 | Informing the public | The EMAA have done an enormous amount of work at the Crillaun Bottom Car Park to embrace the national pollinator plan and to enhance wildlife. There are many signs at this site relating to sponsors, litter and fishing, but nothing about wildlife. Informing the public is a very important aspect of wildlife enhancement. A new sign about the wildlife present at this site should be considered which also explains the work being undertaken annually by EMAA to maintain and enhance it. |
| Action Number | Action | Notes |

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 6.9.9 | Monitor and maintain swallow nesting in outhouse | A natural swallow nest is located in the disabled changing room. Swallow nesting cups could be erected to encourage a larger number of birds to breed. Swallow are an amber listed bird of conservation concern due to loss of their habitats and food sources through the use of pesticides and herbicides. |
| 6.9.10 | Citizen science monitoring of biodiversity improvement | Once some of the measures have been completed it is important to undertake simple monitoring actions of how well biodiversity is doing. For example a FIT survey could be undertaken on a patch of dandelions. See further details in Chapter 4 of this plan. |



Plate 54: General view from the disabled fishing platform across the wild flower meadow to the disabled changing room building which housed an active swallow nest. Behind the meadow there is wooden fencing. Action 6.9.4 in Table 12 recommends planting a hawthorn hedge along this fence as a screen and to enhance wildlife. Photo: © C. O’Connell.



Plate 55 left and right: Examples of builders rubble and old furniture dumped at the Crillaun Bottom Car Park. Action 6.9.6 in Table 12 recommends the removal of this in the interests of visitor safety and wildlife. Photos: © C. O’Connell.

5.10 Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park, River Moy

5.10.1 Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park, River Moy - Location 53.98007, -9.028173

Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park is an access point to the River Moy Fishery which is owned and managed by the East Moy Angling Association (EMAA). The public car park is located on the eastern bank of the River Moy, 5km west of Swinford town as the crow flies. It is accessed from minor roads off the N26.

The biodiversity study site (see Figure 34) is the car park which is divided into four bays separated by ornamental shrub beds and an amenity area with seating and picnic table adjacent to the River Moy. The site occupies an area of 0.15ha or 1,539 square metres.



Figure 34: Map showing the location of Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park on the River Moy in Co. Mayo. The site is owned and managed by the East Moy Anglers Association. The biodiversity study site is outlined with a white line. © Source: AppleMaps

5.10.2 Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park, River Moy - Results of Screening for Biodiversity and History

The location of Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park was screened against lands designated for conservation by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The River Moy SAC designated site (#002298) occurs on the north western boundary of the site. This site is shown in Figure 35 and includes all of the freshwater catchment of the River Moy and its habitats and wildlife. A description of this designated site is available at <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/synopsis/SY002298.pdf>.

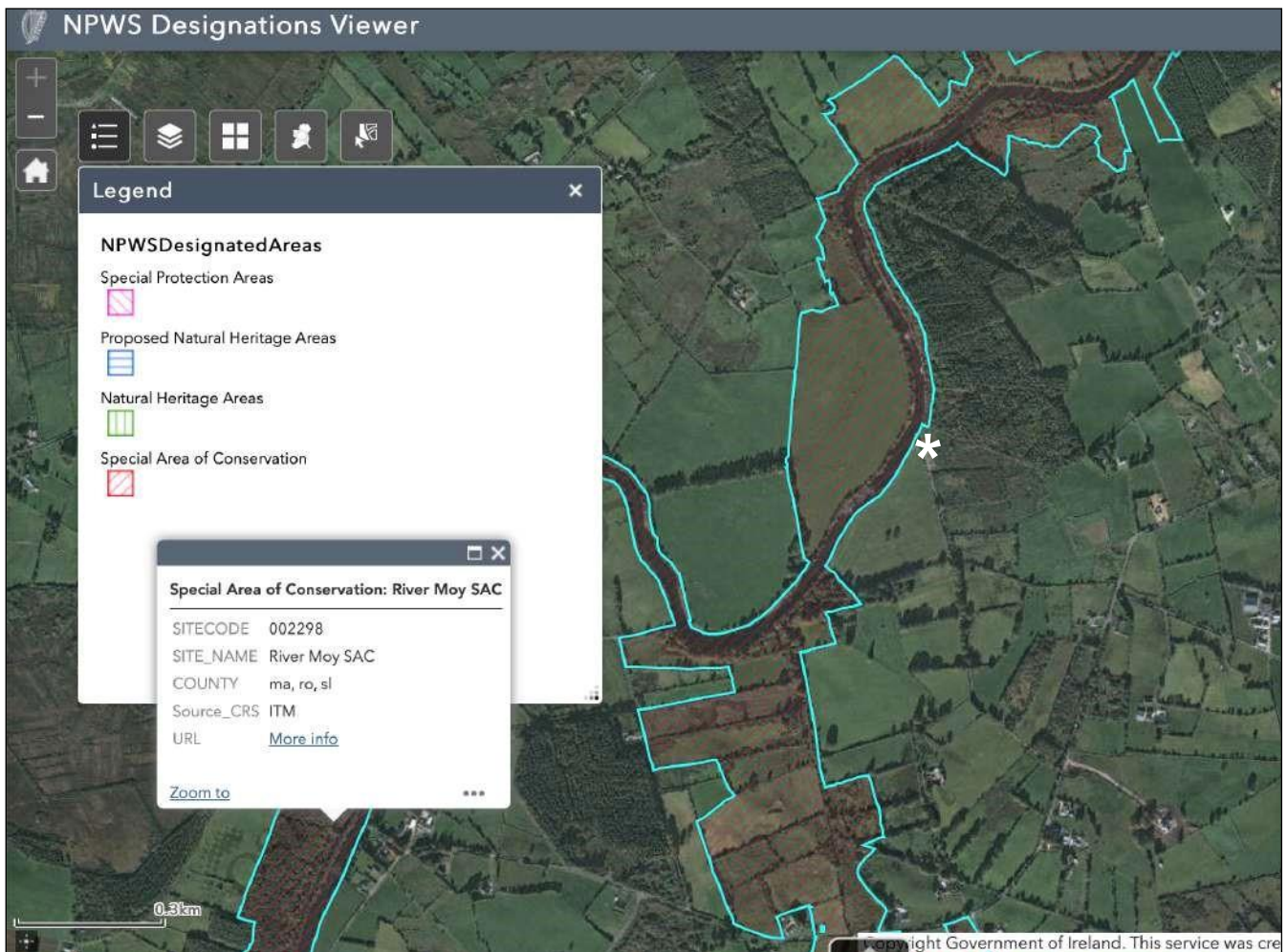


Figure 35: Air photograph showing the part of the location of the River Moy Special Area of Conservation (#002298) on the north western boundary of the Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park shown with an asterisk. Source: <https://dahg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8f7060450de3485fa1c1085536d477ba>. © Government of Ireland National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Biodiversity information on the species diversity present in the Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park is available from the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC). Species records can be found for areas of the country based on a system of 100 m square grids (see <https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Map>). The grid number screened for the Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park was G325003 and there was no species information in this grid.

The site was also screened against the historic environments inventory (see <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>) and no records were found.

6.10.3 Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park, River Moy - Biodiversity Field Survey

The Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park site includes a variety of habitats located adjacent to the River Moy. There is a gorse and willow hedge opposite the car park along the minor road, there are ornamental shrub beds separating the four bays of the car park and there is an amenity grassland area along the river bank where some fruit trees have been planted. Gravel in the car parking area is being colonised by a variety of wild flowers. The woodland habitat that adjoins the car park on its eastern boundary has been planted with a line of exotic shrubs.

6.10.4 Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park, River Moy - Site Management

The Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park is owned and managed by East Moy Anglers Association. They maintain the car park, mow the amenity grass area more than once a year, maintain the hedge along the access road, remove litter, erect signage, plant fruit trees and ensure the sustainable use of the River Moy Fishery through patrolling and oversight. They embrace the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and planted their fruit trees under the DCs for Bees Orchards in the Community Project 2021. In the past carpet was used to suppress weeds in the gravelled car parks. The used carpet was dumped in one of the parking bays and needs to be removed.

6.10.5 Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park, River Moy - Habitats and Species Present

The habitats present at Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park are shown on Figure 36 and are described below. The species recorded in Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park were as follows: 51 plants, 9 animals and 2 birds with a total of 62 species for the site (see Appendix 2).



Figure 36: Map of the different habitats surveyed at Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park site on the River Moy in Co. Mayo. © Source: AppleMaps



Artificial Surface BL3

The gravelled public car park is being colonised by a wide variety of plants from the locality (Plate 56). Tree seedlings of birch, alder and willow were present together with herbs including knapweed, willowherb, nipplewort, dandelion, plantain, colt's foot, angelica, flax, centaury, bramble and ragweed. Green veined white butterflies and carder bees were nectaring on the knapweed. There were many wolf spiders in the gravel.

Plate 56: the gravelled public car park at Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park

showing its colonisation with wildlife. Action 6.10.4 in Table 13 recommends the application of a home made environmentally friendly solution for controlling weeds. Photo: © C. O'Connell.

Hedgerow WL1

The hedge opposite the public car park is managed by the EMAA by trimming. There was a fence within the hedge (see Plate 57). Birch, willow, blackthorn, cotoneaster, holly and hawthorn were noted in this hedge. There were gaps in the hedge. Green veined white and peacock butterflies were observed in this habitat.



Plate 57: Hedge on the road side opposite Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park. Part of the hedge is missing and has been fenced. Action 6.10.2 in Table 13 recommends planting new hedge in the gaps in liaison with the local landowner and suggests managing the hedge in a wild bird and pollinator friendly manner allowing shrubs to grow, flower and set seed.

Photo: © C. O'Connell.

Amenity Grassland GA2

The river bank and flat ground adjacent to the Moy River are being mowed as amenity grassland. Seating, picnic tables and signage are installed here (Plate 58). There was a good variety of species present despite the mowing indicating the potential of the area to form a wild flower meadow. Species noted were eyebright, catsear, red clover, meadow sweet, St. John's wort, knapweed, perennial rye grass, ox eye daisy, meadow vetchling, daisy, white clover, horsetail, self heal and hemp agrimony. Meadow brown butterflies were sunning themselves in this habitat.



Plate 58: Amenity grassland and picnic site adjacent to the River Moy at the Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park. Action 6.10.1 in Table 13 recommends managing this grassland site as a wild flower meadow and mowing paths through it to the amenity features.

Photo: © C. O'Connell.

Ornamental Non-native Shrub Bed WS3

The public car park bays were separated with ornamental shrub beds and the woodland adjoining the site but not included was planted with exotics along its margin (Plate 59). *Rosa rugosa* was the dominant plant in the shrub beds separating the car park bays. It was in flower and it also carried red fruits. Both of these structures were attracting large numbers of flies while grasshoppers, leaf hoppers, brown lipped snails and spiders were hiding in its foliage. Other plants and shrubs recorded in this habitat were *Hebe*, *Fuschia*, *Cotoneaster*, gorse, ivy, dog wood, honeysuckle and privet.



Plate 59: Two car park bays at Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park separated by an ornamental shrub bed of *Rosa rugosa*. In the background the ornamental shrub border along the woodland adjoining the site can be seen. Action 6.10.6 in Table 13 recommends maintaining these beds for wildlife but replacing non native shrubs with native species as the opportunity arises. The fruits of *Rosa rugosa* were attracting significant numbers of flies including flesh flies and noon flies while the Common Green Grasshopper (*Omocestus viridulus*) was hiding in its foliage as shown in the photos inset. Photos: © C. O’Connell & J. FitzGerald. ^[P]_[SEP]

6.9.6 Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park, River Moy - Biodiversity Actions

A number of actions are proposed to enhance biodiversity on Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park on the River Moy. The actions proposed for this site are included in Table 13. An excellent biodiversity car park guide is available from the National Biodiversity Data Centre to help. Please see <https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Car-Parks-for-Pollinators-Flyer-2022WEB.pdf>. This flyer gives a very good overview of how car parks should be managed for pollinators and wildlife generally.

Table 13: Biodiversity enhancement actions for Oldcastle & Ballintemple Car Park, River Moy, Mayo

| Action Number | Action | Notes |
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|----------------------|--|---|
| 6.10.1 | Manage amenity grassland as a wild flower meadow with mowed access paths | <p>Change the mowing regime in the amenity grassland area to develop a natural wild flower meadow. A good diversity of species already exists in this area which can be enhanced by restricting mowing to once per year in autumn and removing all of the cut material to a compost area. Seeds of <i>Rhinanthus minor</i> or hen rattle can be sown to weaken the grasses in the area creating more opportunities for wild flowers. Grass paths can be mown through the meadow to allow anglers access to the River Moy and to picnic areas and seats.</p> <p>The National Biodiversity Data Centre have useful guidelines on the management of wild flower meadows which are available here: https://pollinators.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/How-to-guide-Wildflower-Meadows-2018-WEB.pdf.</p> |
| 6.10.2 | Hedge Management and enhancement | <p>The hedge habitat opposite the Oldcastle and Ballintemple car park is being cut too frequently and gaps have also developed in the hedge. Gaps should be filled with bare root hawthorn whips with the co-operation of other local landowners. Guidelines on hedge planting can be found here: https://www.teagasc.ie/news-events/daily/environment/how-to-plant-a-hedge.php. The existing hedge has a good variety of trees and shrubs, but the frequency of hedge trimming does not allow for these to flower and produce fruit which significantly reduces their wildlife value.</p> <p>The ideal hedgerow for wildlife is tall, wide and dense at the base, with a wide, uncultivated, grassy margin. Trim all existing hedges to an “A” shape, wide at the bottom and narrow at the top. Allow the upper part of the hedge to produce flowers and fruit for wildlife. Encourage some trees within the hedge to mature so as to create an attractive tree line in addition to the hedge. Please note that hedge cutting between 1st March and 31st August is prohibited under the Wildlife Act. Avoid cutting all your hedgerows at once, consider a 3-5 year rotation to allow flowers and berries to grow in alternate sections. Gradually reduce cutting intensity each year to allow your hedgerow to expand and diversify. This is especially relevant for any young hedges to get established. For more advice on the frequency of hedgerow trimming please visit https://www.farmingfornature.ie/resources/best-practice-guides/hedgerow-management/.</p> |
| 6.10.3 | Fruit trees maintenance | <p>Young fruit trees planted in the amenity grassland area are struggling with competition from grasses at their roots. Grasses should be weeded out around the fruit trees and the ground mulched with a peat free compost so that rainfall and nutrients are taken up by the tree roots only. This will help the trees to establish more successfully.</p> |
| 6.10.4 | Weed control in car parks | <p>The gravel base of the car parks at Oldcastle and Ballintemple Car Park requires maintenance to prevent them becoming overgrown with weeds. Weeds can be controlled as necessary using a homemade weedkiller recipe as follows: 1 gallon vinegar mixed with 1 cup salt and 1 tablespoon washing up liquid. Apply on warm, sunny, dry days.</p> |
| 6.10.5 | Litter | <p>Old carpets formerly used to suppress weeds in the parking space need to be cleared from the Oldcastle and Ballintemple site in the interest of safety and visitor enjoyment (see Plate 60).</p> |
| Action Number | Action | Notes |
| 6.10.6 | Replace ornamental shrubs in beds in public car park with native trees and shrubs with high wildlife benefits | <p>As the opportunities arise, replace exotic shrubs with native shrubs with a high wildlife value. Willow, rowan, crab apple, wild cherry, hawthorn (or whitethorn), guelder rose, spindle and blackthorn will provide important food for pollinators to help avoid 'hunger gaps,' or times when there are no nectar or pollen-rich flowers in bloom. Willow supports circa 266 insect species and circa 160 lichens.</p> |
| 6.10.7 | Citizen science monitoring of biodiversity improvement | <p>Once some of the measures have been completed it is important to undertake simple monitoring actions of how well biodiversity is doing. For example a FIT survey could be undertaken on a patch of dandelions. See further details in Chapter 4 of this plan.</p> |



Plate 60: Old carpet used to control weeds but now dumped in the public car park at Oldcastle and Ballintemple on the River Moy. Action 6.10.5 in Table 13 recommends the removal of this carpet to the local dump while Action 6.10.4 provides a recipe for an environmentally friendly solution to control weeds. Photo: © C. O'Connell.