

**Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)
Determination under the
European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011, as amended
IN RELATION TO THE
CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027**

Under Regulation 42(6) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011), as amended, and for the purposes of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, this determination has been made by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine relating to the potential for the CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 to have likely significant effects on 'European sites' (as defined by S.I. 477 of 2011), either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.

This determination has been made following a consideration of the information contained in the AA Screening Report (attached to this determination).

Following an analysis and evaluation of the relevant information, including in particular, the likely interventions to be included in the CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027, as well as considering other plans and projects, and applying the precautionary principle, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine accepts the recommendation of the AA Screening Report that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required.

Given the strategic nature of the CAP Strategic Plan, its aims to facilitate and support agriculture in Ireland and the existing threats and pressures posed by agricultural activities to the favourable conservation condition of Annex I Habitats and Annex II Species for which European Sites are designated and in light of the current uncertainties relating to the specifics of the Plan, it is considered that the Plan has the potential to result in likely significant effects to European Sites, in view of their conservation objectives, at this stage of the assessment process.

Therefore, Appropriate Assessment is required for the CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027.