

## Assessment of potential impact of GLAS actions implemented in Natura parcels

(summary reference only to related ARCs - see full description of all ARCs included after Table)

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>ARABLE GRASS MARGINS</b>	6 (Intro of plants/ animals) 11 (digging etc)	Possible introduction of cocksfoot or timothy in areas where not traditionally present	<b>LOW</b>	Action confined to arable land. Consent not required on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land	<b>LOW</b>	Likely positive impacts from increased buffer between crop and watercourses & other habitats: hedgerows/banks etc
<b>BAT BOX</b>	n/a	Inappropriate placement	<b>LOW</b>	Existing recommendations on placement will minimise inappropriate placement	<b>LOW</b>	Overall positive
<b>BIRD BOX</b>	n/a	Inappropriate placement	<b>LOW</b>	Existing recommendations on placement will minimise inappropriate placement. Open areas used by ground nesting birds will be avoided as these actions have to be protected from livestock.	<b>LOW</b>	Overall Positive
<b>CONSERVATION OF SOLITARY BEES (BOXES)</b>	n/a	Inappropriate placement	<b>LOW</b>	Protection from livestock required therefore minimal risk of inappropriate placement	<b>LOW</b>	Overall positive

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>CONSERVATION OF SOLITARY BEES (SAND)</b>	14 (Storage of materials)	Inappropriate placement Slight risk of erosion in certain sites and river SACs could be most vulnerable i.e. pearl mussel or high status sites. (Not eligible on commonages)	<b>LOW-TO-MEDIUM</b>	Locations less than 20m from watercourses to be avoided; also steep slopes. Brings action into line with ARC exemptions.	<b>LOW</b>	Overall positive
<b>BREEDING WADERS</b>	10 (fences) 22 (changing from hay meadow)	Target areas may include some areas used as traditional hay meadow, with risk of unintended land use change.  Impact of associated GLAS actions  Habitat change/ alteration	<b>MEDIUM-TO-HIGH</b>	Areas at risk identified and target areas refined on a site by site basis in consultation with NPWS.  Risk specifically notified to advisors  Limit range of compatible GLAS actions. Protection of watercourses and riparian margin actions is excluded on these parcels  Fencing is an ARC.	<b>LOW-TO-MEDIUM</b>	Ongoing supervision and refinement of target areas where required in consultation with NPWS.  Maintain Advisor awareness

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>CHOUGH</b>	10 (fences and boundaries)  15 (burning, topping, clearing scrub)	Inappropriate control of heather, bracken and scrub.  Fencing  Impact of associated GLAS actions.	<b>LOW</b>	Control of heather, bracken and scrub is subject to ARC 15, with specific instruction within specification to take account of impact on other habitats and species before considering.  Fencing is an ARC  Limit range of compatible GLAS actions.	<b>LOW</b>	Riparian margin action is not permitted on these parcels.
<b>CORNCRAKE</b>	10 (fences and boundaries)  22 (changing from hay meadow)  23 (mowing)	Fencing  Meadow may be changed to respond to other GLAS priority or action.  Impact of associated GLAS actions, i.e. riparian margin	<b>LOW</b>	Fencing is an ARC  Corncrake areas carefully identified in association with NPWS and BWI. Action to protect meadow obligatory.  Limit range of compatible GLAS actions.	<b>LOW</b>	Riparian margin action is not permitted on these parcels.

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>GEESE AND SWANS</b>	11 (digging), 12 (fertilisers), 13 (lime) 22 (changing from hay meadow)	Target areas may include some areas used as traditional hay meadow, with risk of unintended land use change.  Impact of associated GLAS actions, i.e. riparian margin and protection of watercourse	<b>MEDIUM-TO-HIGH</b>	Areas at risk identified and target areas refined on a site by site basis in consultation with NPWS.  Risk specifically notified to advisors  Limit window for field operations.  Limit range of compatible GLAS actions  Protection of watercourses and riparian margin actions are not permitted on these parcels.	<b>LOW-TO-MEDIUM</b>	Ongoing supervision required in consultation with NPWS.  Maintain Advisor awareness
<b>GREY PARTRIDGE</b>	10 (fencing)	None	<b>LOW</b>	Targeted in 2 localised priority areas which do not overlap with Natura lands.	<b>LOW</b>	

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>HEN HARRIER</b>	10 (fencing)  15 (scrub control)	Inappropriate control of heather, bracken and scrub  Fencing	<b>LOW</b>	Control of heather, bracken and scrub is subject to ARC 15, with specific instruction within specification on importance of managing correct habitat mix for the bird.  Fencing is an ARC  Limit range of compatible GLAS actions	<b>LOW</b>	Hedgerow rejuvenation, hedgerow planting and wild bird cover actions are recommended complementary actions which should be selected where relevant to the farm. Selecting these actions can greatly enhance the habitat value for the hen harrier especially where there is a low density of existing landscape features. Hedgerow management should aim to achieve intact and dense hedgerows.
<b>TWITE A</b>	10 (fencing)	None	<b>LOW</b>	Fencing is an ARC	<b>LOW</b>	
<b>TWITE B</b>	-	None	<b>N/A</b>	No uptake	<b>NONE</b>	Action suspended

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
TWITE C	<p>6 (intro of plants/animals)</p> <p>10 (fencing)</p> <p>15 (scrub control)</p>	Possible habitat impact or destruction by establishing a seed mix on permanent pasture	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<p>The prescriptions have been developed and targeted at very small defined areas in close cooperation with BWI and NPWS and thus tailored to specific sites/locations.</p> <p>Reseeding is an ARC</p> <p>Fencing is an ARC</p>	<b>LOW</b>	<p>Consideration should be given to growing the crop adjacent to cover, for example, beside hedgerows or near woodland or scrub. It may also be grown along a stream or river where it can have the dual benefit of acting as a buffer margin. However, it must be placed outside the 2m buffer zone along a watercourse.</p>

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>CATCH CROPS</b>	10 (fencing), 11 (digging), 12 (fertilisers), 13 (lime)	Possible habitat impact or destruction Establishing a seed mix on permanent pasture	<b>MEDIUM</b>	Potentially an ARC where Natura land previously in permanent pasture, however uptake highly unlikely as not a permitted (compatible) action with Private Natura land or farmland bird actions	<b>LOW</b>	On Natura parcels, this action can only be delivered on Natura parcels that were declared as 'arable' in and from 2015 onwards thus restricting land use changes on selection of this action

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>COMMONAGE PLANS</b>	15 (scrub control), 17 (improving heath/bog), 18 (pesticides), 19 (supplementary feeding) 20 (livestock densities) 21 (grazing regimes)	Possible habitat change or destruction	<b>HIGH</b>	<p>Prescription notes the requirement for ARCs related to certain planned activities</p> <p>All actions to be planned in context of new CMPs, based on site visits and existing habitat maps.</p> <p>Only one compatible/permitted action (Rare breeds)</p> <p>Template CMP must be followed.</p> <p>Additional information for management of natura site types provided in Specification</p> <p>Burning only permitted in compliance with detailed DAFM published protocol and compliance with the Wildlife Act.</p> <p><a href="http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/firemanagement/CofPPrescribedBurningFinal90212.pdf">http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/firemanagement/CofPPrescribedBurningFinal90212.pdf</a></p> <p>Specific training provided to Advisors</p>	<b>LOW - MEDIUM</b>	<p>Specified management activities may require closer monitoring to ensure ARC system is being complied with.</p> <p>Sample of CMPs to be taken for qualitative assessment</p> <p>Higher level of inspections to be applied.</p> <p>Maintain high-level of Advisor awareness</p> <p>Ongoing consultation with and advice from National Parks and Wildlife Service.</p>



ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>COPPICING OF HEDGEROWS</b>	-	Temporary impact on local biodiversity	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<p>Not permitted on Natura parcels other than Hen Harrier.</p> <p>Coppicing may have short-term negative impacts on habitat quality, but result in overall improved hedgerow quality in the longer term. The cap of 750/1000m limits any possible cumulative effects in any one location.</p>	<b>LOW</b>	<p>Overall positive. Action specifically included for Hen Harrier parcels to assist in conservation of the bird.</p> <p>It is mandatory that producers of these plants for infilling are registered and inspected to ensure freedom from diseases that are potentially harmful to the wider environment</p>
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF FALLOW LAND</b>	10 (fencing), 11 (digging), 12 (fertilisers), 13 (lime)	Application of action to permanent pasture parcels	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<p>Potentially an ARC where Natura land previously in permanent pasture, however uptake highly unlikely as not a compatible action with Private Natura land or farmland bird actions</p> <p>EMF is allowed on Natura provided the parcel was in tillage in 2015</p>	<b>LOW</b>	On Natura parcels, this action can only be delivered on Natura parcels that were declared as 'arable' in and from 2015 onwards thus restricting land use changes on selection of this action

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>FARMLAND HABITAT (PRIVATE NATURA)</b>	All	Inappropriate actions taken, or required actions not identified or implemented correctly.	<b>HIGH</b>	<p>All ARCs to be considered when drawing up sustainable management plan.</p> <p>Additional information for management of natura site types provided in Specification</p> <p>Derogations possible (eg from fencing of watercourses action).</p> <p>Limited range of compatible GLAS actions</p>	<b>LOW-TO-MEDIUM</b>	<p>Sustainable management plan will have positive rather than negative impact, but certain specified management activities may require closer monitoring to ensure ARC system is being complied with.</p> <p>Sample of plans to be taken for qualitative assessment.</p>
<b>LAYING OF HEDGEROWS</b>	-	Temporary impact on local biodiversity	<b>MEDIUM</b>	Not permitted on Natura parcels other than Hen Harrier	<b>LOW</b>	It is mandatory that producers of these plants for infilling are registered and inspected to ensure freedom from diseases that are potentially harmful to the wider environment

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>LOW EMISSION SLURRY SPREADING</b>	12 (fertilisers)	Pollution of watercourses	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<p>Action is a low-risk alternative to traditional spreading techniques and must in any event be carried out in full compliance with SI 31/2014.</p> <p>Action is an ARC for Natura areas, except for established reseeded grassland or cultivated land greater than 20m from a river, stream or floodplain; or greater than 50m from a wetland, lake, turlough or pond.</p>	<b>LOW</b>	
<b>LOW INPUT PERMANENT PASTURE</b>	10 (Fencing) 12 (fertilisers)	Possible damage from fencing;  Even restricted fertiliser inputs may be excessive in some cases	<b>LOW-MEDIUM</b>	<p>Any requirement to construct a fence (to split a parcel) within a Natura site may require consent unless it is temporary fence.</p> <p>ARC 12 may be applicable to certain sites. However, notwithstanding requirements of ARC 12 (where applicable), fertiliser should, as a general rule, be avoided on species-rich sites. The fact that some limited use of fertiliser is allowed under the prescription does not mean it is always appropriate to do so.</p>	<b>LOW</b>	Negligible provided relevant ARCs are complied with and fertiliser avoided on sites that are species- rich.
<b>MINIMUM TILLAGE</b>	10 (fencing), 11 (digging), 12 (fertilisers), 13 (lime)	Possible habitat destruction	<b>HIGH</b>	<p>Potentially an ARC where carried out on Natura land previously in permanent pasture, however uptake highly unlikely as not a compatible action with Private Natura land or farmland bird actions</p> <p>Min till is allowed on Natura provided the parcel was in tillage in 2015</p>	<b>LOW</b>	
<b>PLANTING A GROVE OF NATIVE TREES</b>	29 (tree planting)	Possible habitat destruction	<b>HIGH</b>	Not a permitted action (compatible) on natura or farmland bird target areas	<b>LOW</b>	
<b>PLANTING NEW HEDGEROW</b>	29 (tree planting)	Possible habitat impact	<b>LOW-MEDIUM</b>	Not a permitted (compatible) on natura or farmland bird target areas	<b>LOW</b>	

ACTION	RELATED ARCS	POTENTIAL NATURA SITE RISKS	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION	RISK	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/ MITIGATION
<b>PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF MONUMENTS</b>	15 (scrub control)	Possible habitat impact	<b>LOW</b>	<p>Option 1 is not a compatible action on natura or farmland bird target areas</p> <p>Option 2 Consent may be required for clearing of scrub or rough vegetation. Prescription dictates that works are predominantly small scale manual work carried out over longer term thus minimising impacts.</p> <p>Restricted possible area of impact</p>	<b>LOW</b>	
<b>PROTECTION OF WATERCOURSES FROM BOVINES</b>	10 (fencing)	Possible habitat impact	<b>LOW</b>	Any requirement to construct a fence within a Natura site may require consent unless it is temporary fence.	<b>LOW</b>	Derogation from fencing in Natura sites available where fencing not appropriate
<b>RARE BREEDS</b>	-	None	<b>NONE</b>	No issues	<b>NONE</b>	
<b>RIPARIAN MARGINS</b>	10 (fencing)	Possible habitat impact	<b>LOW</b>	Not a permitted (compatible) action on natura or farmland bird target areas	<b>LOW</b>	
<b>TRADITIONAL DRY STONEWALL MAINTENANCE</b>	-	None	<b>NONE</b>	No issues	<b>NONE</b>	
<b>TRADITIONAL HAY MEADOW</b>	23 (mowing)	<p>Mowing at inappropriate time endangering bird species;</p> <p>Even restricted fertiliser inputs may be excessive in some cases.</p>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<p>Not a permitted (compatible) action on farmland bird target areas;</p> <p>Where applied elsewhere prescription lays down appropriate windows for mowing</p> <p>ARC 12 may be applicable to certain sites. However, notwithstanding requirements of ARC 12 (where applicable), fertiliser should, as a general rule, be avoided on species-rich sites. The fact that some limited use of fertiliser is allowed under the prescription does not mean it is always appropriate to do so.</p>	<b>LOW</b>	Negligible provided relevant ARCs are complied with and fertiliser avoided on sites that are species- rich.

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<b>TRADITIONAL ORCHARDS</b>	-	Possible habitat impact	<b>MEDIUM</b>	In Tranche 1 was not a permitted (compatible) action on natura or farmland bird target areas  Action suspended for Tranche 2	<b>LOW</b>	
<b>WILD BIRD COVER</b>	-	Possible habitat impact or destruction	<b>HIGH</b>	Not a permitted (compatible) action on natura or farmland bird target areas	<b>LOW</b>	

<b>Code</b>	<b>Activity description</b>
ARC-01	Reclamation, including infilling.
ARC-02	Use of excavators, rock breakers, bulldozers, back hoes or use of any other hydraulically-powered excavation equipment.
ARC-03	Blasting, drilling, dredging or otherwise removing or disturbing rock, minerals, mud, sand, gravel or other sediment.
ARC-04	All activities relating to turf cutting and/or peat extraction.
ARC-05	Cutting, uprooting or otherwise removing plants. [Consent is not required for harvesting of cultivated crops, or for grazing or mowing.]
ARC-06	Introduction, or re-introduction, of plants or animals not found in the area. [Consent is not required for the planting of crops on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land.]
ARC-07	Removal of geological specimens including rock samples, minerals or fossils.
ARC-08	Undertaking scientific research involving the collection and removal of biological material.
ARC-09	Construction or alteration of tracks, paths, roads, bridges, culverts or access routes.
ARC-10	Construction, removal or alteration of fences, stone walls, hedgerows, banks or any field boundary other than temporary electric fencing. [Consent is not required for normal maintenance.]
ARC-11	Digging, ploughing, harrowing or otherwise disturbing soil or substrate. [Consent is not required for these activities on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land provided it is greater than 50m from a river, stream, floodplain, wetland, lake, turlough or pond.]
ARC-12	Applying inorganic or organic fertiliser, including slurry and farmyard manure. [Consent is not required for these activities on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land provided it is greater than 20m from a river, stream or floodplain; or greater than 50m from a wetland, lake, turlough or pond.]
ARC-13	Applying lime. [Consent is not required for this activity on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land provided it is greater than 20m from a river, stream or floodplain; or greater than 50m from a wetland, lake, turlough or pond.]
ARC-14	Storage, burial, disposal or recovery of any materials. [Consent is not required for these activities on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land provided it is greater than 20m from a river, stream or floodplain; or greater than 50m from a wetland, lake, turlough or pond.]
ARC-15	Burning, topping, clearing scrub or rough vegetation or reseeded. [Consent is not required for these activities on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land provided it is greater than 20m from a river, stream or floodplain; or greater than 50m from a wetland, lake, turlough or pond.]
ARC-16	Modification of caves and/or their entrances.
ARC-17	Agricultural improvement of heath or bog.
ARC-18	Application of pesticides, including herbicides. [Consent is not required for these activities on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land provided it is greater than 20m from a river, stream or floodplain or greater than 50m from a wetland, lake, turlough or pond.]
ARC-19	Supplementary feeding of livestock. [Consent is not required for this activity on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land provided it is greater than 20m from a river or stream; or greater than 50m from a wetland, lake, turlough or pond.]

ARC-20	Significant changes in livestock density (including introduction of grazing), changes in livestock type or grazing season, other than on established reseeded grassland. [Consent is not required for changes of less than 20% in livestock density unless notice has been given that a lower percentage is applicable to a particular site.]
ARC-21	Grazing of livestock between 1 <sup>st</sup> April and 31 <sup>st</sup> October on traditional winterages.
ARC-22	Changing of agricultural use from hay meadow to any other use.
ARC-23	Mowing of grass crops. [Consent is not required unless notice has been given that mowing on specified lands is likely to interfere with the breeding and reproduction of corncrakes during the period specified in the said notice.]
ARC-24	Works on, or alterations to, the banks, bed or flow of a drain, watercourse or water body.
ARC-25	Drainage works including digging, deepening, widening or blocking a drain, watercourse or water body.
ARC-26	Entry of livestock or machinery into stretches of river containing, or upstream from, freshwater pearl mussel.
ARC-27	Water abstraction, sinking of boreholes and wells.
ARC-28	Felling of trees or removing timber, including dead wood.
ARC-29	Planting of trees or multi-annual bio-energy crops.
ARC-30	Any activity intended to disturb birds, including by mechanical, air, gas, wind powered or audible means.
ARC-31	Developing or consenting to the development or operation of commercial recreational/visitor facilities or activities
ARC-32	Off-road recreational use of mechanically propelled vehicles
ARC-33	Using or permitting the use of land for car-parking
ARC-34	Alteration, renovation or removal of buildings, ruins or other structures
ARC-35	Alteration or repair of sea-defences or coast protection works, including cliff or landslip drainage or stabilisation measures
ARC-36	Harvesting marine invertebrate species in intertidal areas
ARC-37	Driving mechanically propelled vehicles in intertidal areas except over prescribed access routes
ARC-38	Undertaking active acoustic surveys in the marine environment
OTHER	Predator control