

CONTACT US

You can keep in touch with the project through our website where we will be posting updates on progress and details of works that are ongoing. For further enquiries feel free to contact us via email or post at:

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RELEVANT LINKS

Website: <https://countydonegalfrs.ie/castlefinnfrs/>

COUNTY DONEGAL
FLOOD RELIEF SCHEMES



Tionscaldal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

OPW
Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

CASTLEFINN

Flood Relief Scheme

Newsletter No.11
June 2023

<https://countydonegalfrs.ie/castlefinnfrs>



CURRENT POSITION OF THE PROJECT

The Project Team has identified the Preferred Scheme for Castlefinn. RPS have prepared responses to queries raised at the Castlefinn Public Information Day held in November 2022, and these were uploaded to the project website in May 2023.

CASTLEFINN FRS PREFERRED SCHEME

The Preferred Scheme will provide a 1 in 100 year return period Standard of Protection (SoP). A Climate Change Adaptation Plan and a Buildability, Operations & Maintenance Plan have also been developed. Minor alterations have been made to the Preferred Scheme as a result of these plans.

The scheme consists of 585m of earthen embankments to protect against flooding directly from the River Finn. These embankments will be constructed along the line of the old railway embankment just to the south of the town and will be on average 3.5m (11.5 feet) above ground level.

The culvert of the Bridge Burn which flows under the N15 / R235 junction outside McGlynns will be re-built with a higher flow capacity.

The culvert of the Castlefinn watercourse, which flows from north to south under the N15 before emerging adjacent to the CPI Centre, will be re-built with a higher flow capacity.

296m of earthen embankments and 160m of wall will be constructed around the CPI Centre and upstream of the N15 to protect against flooding from the Castlefinn watercourse. These defences will have an average height of 1.1m (3.5 feet) above ground level.

A residential property in Coolyslin to the south of the River Finn will be relocated out of the Finn floodplain.

Details of the Preferred Scheme are available on the Castlefinn FRS Project website at:

<https://countydonegalfrs.ie/castlefinnfrs/index.php/public-information-day>

GROUND INVESTIGATION

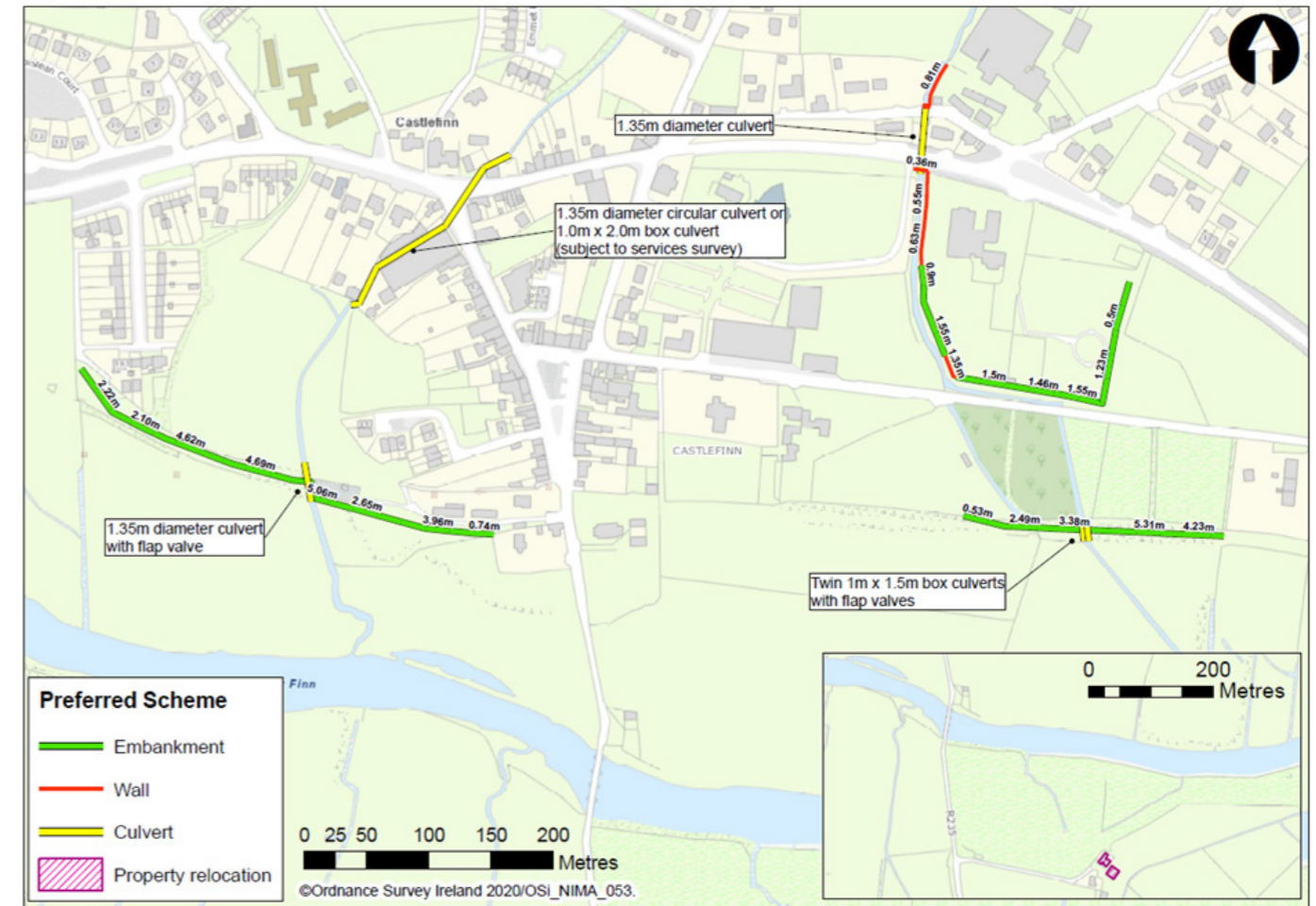
The Ground Investigation contract site works and laboratory testing are complete. RPS are currently awaiting final reports. Information on ground conditions is needed for the outline (Planning) design of the scheme.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

RPS are currently drafting the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) for the Preferred Scheme which will be finalised this quarter.

An invasive species treatment contract has been procured for the next 3 years to treat giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed.

Specialist bat surveys have been procured to determine if bats are roosting in trees and buildings that could potentially be affected by the Preferred Scheme and are scheduled to be undertaken in July.



Preferred Scheme for Castlefinn

OUTLINE SCHEME PROGRAMME

Activity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Stage 1 Data Collection and surveys	█							
Stage 1 Hydrological Analysis		█	█					
Stage 1 Hydraulic Analysis			█	█				
Stage 1 Scheme analysis & development				█	█			
Stage 2 Planning					█			
Stage 3 Detailed design of Scheme						█		
Stage 4 Construction works							█	
Stage 5 Scheme Operational								█

Timelines provided as current best estimate but are subject to revision. The Project Team are working hard to mitigate programme delay by assessing potential opportunities to accelerate project tasks.

NEXT STEPS

Stage I of the Project will conclude in the coming months with the completion of reporting, including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement for the Preferred Scheme. A comprehensive Stage I report will include details of all of the technical tasks and consultations carried out in arriving at the Preferred Scheme. Following approval of Stage I of the Flood Relief Scheme, the Project will move to Stage II Planning, where permission will be sought from the relevant Planning Authority.