

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.12
October 2023

<https://countydonegalfrs.ie/castlefinnfrs>



CURRENT POSITION OF THE PROJECT

A flood event occurred in Castlefinn on Saturday 22nd July 2023 following a high intensity rainfall event which led to flooding of the junction of the N15 and the Main Street (R235) outside McGlynn's and the surrounding properties. RPS have completed a flood event response report to capture the details of the event for analysis. Information available is consistent with the level and frequency of flooding predicted by the hydrological analysis and hydraulic modelling for the scheme. Whilst we acknowledge this does not provide consolation for those impacted by flooding, it does provide reassurance that the assessment upon which the scheme design is based is robust.

RPS have now submitted the Draft Final Report for Stage I of the scheme to the Steering Group. Following review and addressing of final queries the Stage I documents will be made available on the project website. This will conclude Stage I of the scheme.

Responses to queries raised at the Castlefinn Public Information Day held in November 2022 have been uploaded to the project website.

RPS are currently developing the Planning Drawings and identifying the lands which will be required for the Scheme as part of the Stage II (Planning) tasks.

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 Preferred Scheme is as per the June newsletter.

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 to support the outline (Planning) design of the scheme is largely complete. RPS have reviewed the draft deliverables and are liaising with the contractor to get these finalised.

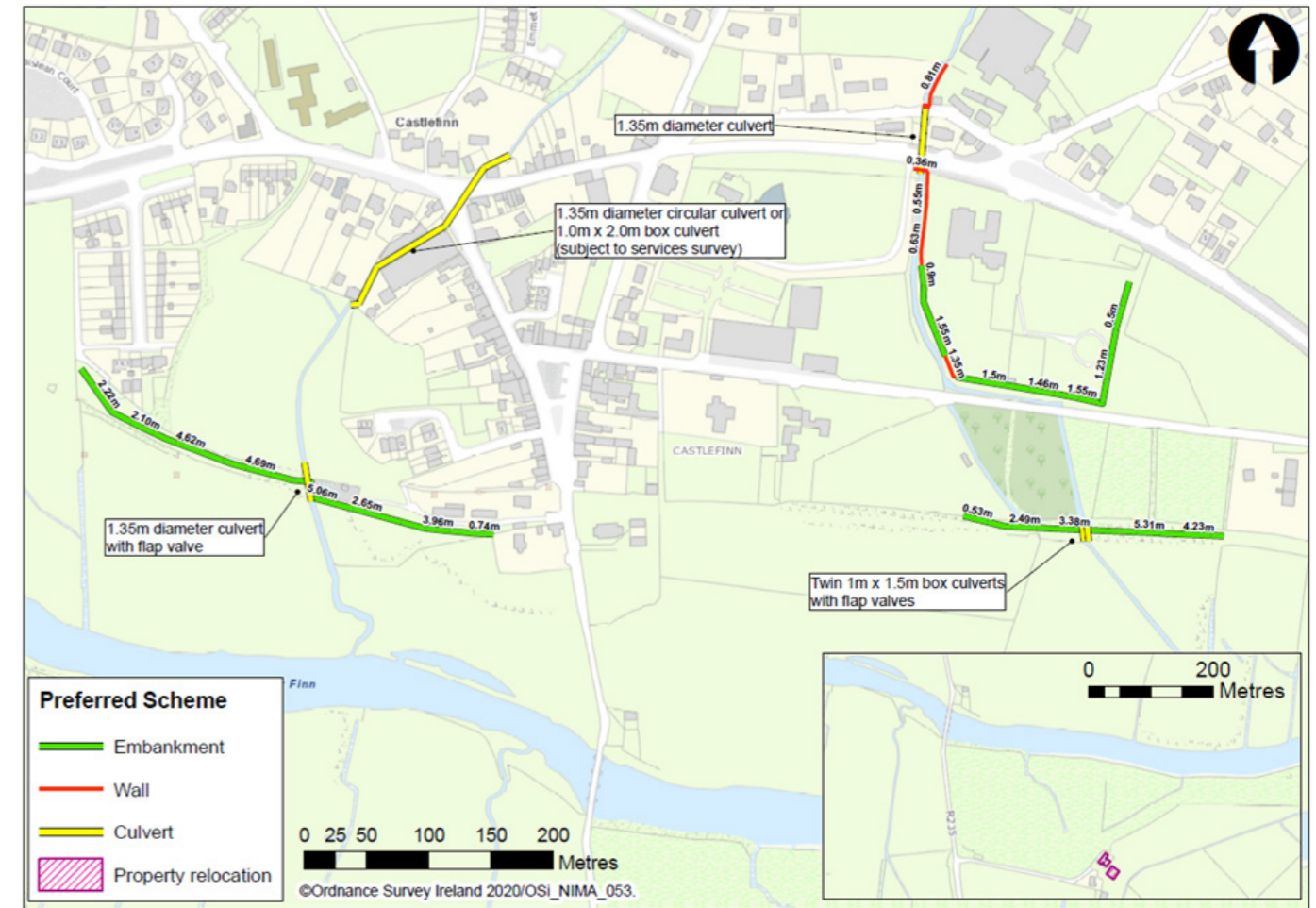
RPS have developed a specification for the additional topographical survey that is required to support the design of the Scheme. This will be procured shortly.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Environmental assessment of the Preferred Scheme is nearing completion. The draft Natura Impact Statement was issued for review by the Steering Group in early May 2023. The draft EIAR chapters will be issued to the Steering Group in early November.

Tree inspection surveys for bats and bat emergence surveys for two buildings in Castlefinn have been completed.

Invasive species treatment was completed in September and October. This is the 4th year of treatment at Castlefinn.



Preferred Scheme for Castlefinn

OUTLINE SCHEME PROGRAMME

Activity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Stage 1								
Data Collection and surveys	█							
Hydrological Analysis		█						
Hydraulic Analysis			█					
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 shortly with the finalisation of reporting, including the supporting Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement for the Preferred Scheme and the uploading of all Stage I documentation to the project website. RPS have commenced Stage II of the Project where permission will be sought from the relevant Planning Authority. Tasks which are ongoing to support this are the procurement of further surveys required, assessment of landowner impacts and the preparation of planning documents.