

## 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:

### CASTLEFINN FRS Project Manager

**Project Office:** RPS, The Enterprise Fund Business Centre,  
Ballyraine, Letterkenny, Co Donegal, F92 AF43

**Email:** [castlefinnfrs@rpsgroup.com](mailto:castlefinnfrs@rpsgroup.com)

## 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.13  
April 2024

<https://countydonegalfrs.ie/castlefinnfrs>



## CURRENT POSITION OF THE PROJECT

RPS have now submitted the Final Report for Stage I of the scheme to the Steering Group. The Stage I documents will soon be made available on 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.

Following flooding of the N15 junction with the R235 (outside McGlynns) again in January 2024, Donegal County Council have cleared as much blockage from the culvert as possible. However, the culvert structure is still in poor condition. The Steering Group is considering if interim measures can be carried out ahead of the scheme or if the proposed new culvert can be accelerated.

## 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

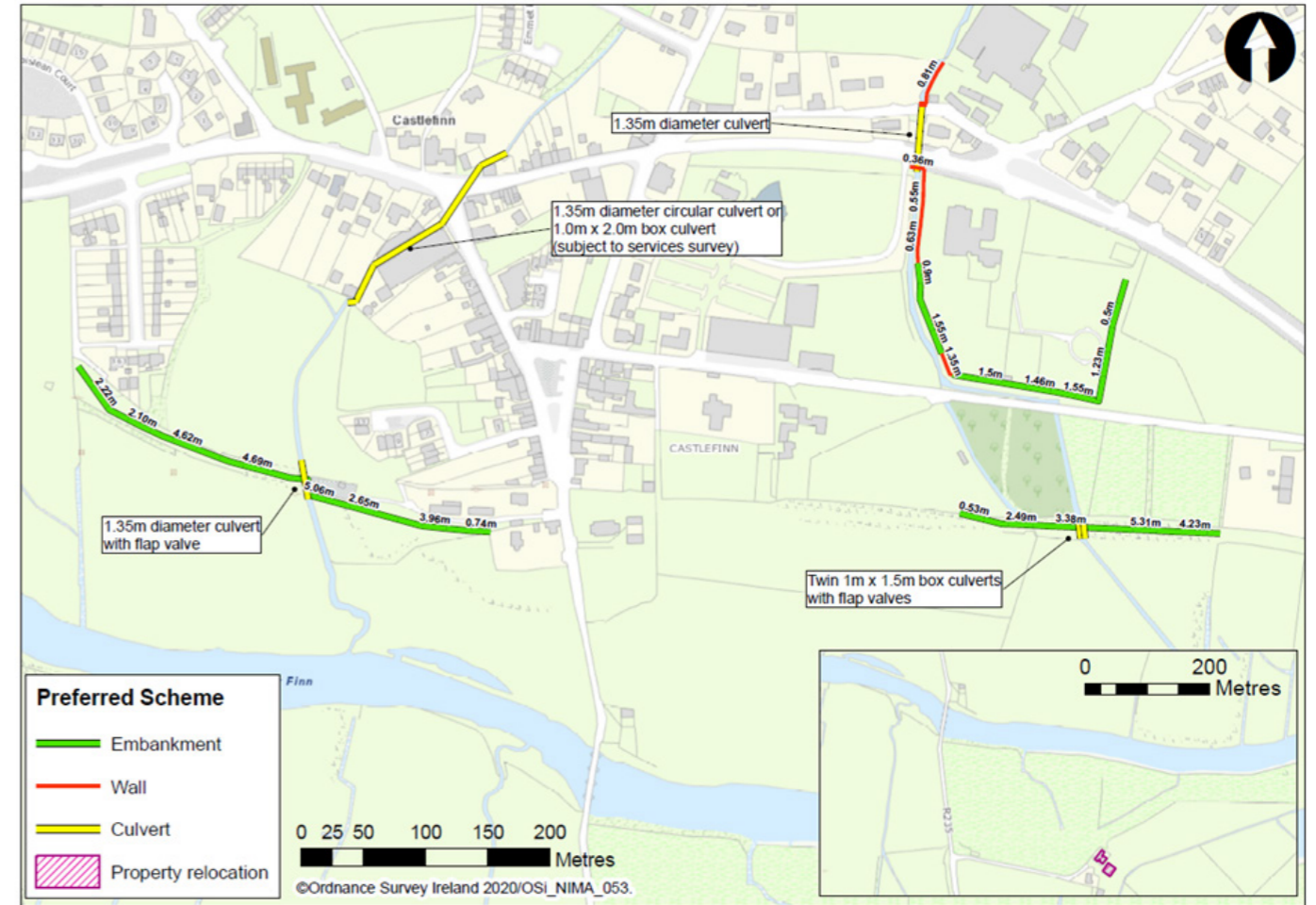
RPS have developed a specification for the additional topographical survey that is required to support the design of the Scheme. The survey has been tendered and tender returns are currently being assessed.

## 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 final report will be issued once the planning drawings for the scheme have been completed. The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) chapters were issued to the Steering Group in April 2024.

Tree inspection surveys for bats and bat emergence surveys for two buildings in Castlefinn have been completed and the final report was issued to DCC in January 2024.

Invasive species treatment was completed in September and October 2023 as part of a multi-year treatment contract. RPS will visit the site in spring to review the extent of treatment required in 2024 as part of the ongoing contract.



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.