



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

Developing the draft National Nature Restoration Plan

NPWS

23 June 2026

The Nature Restoration Law



Legally binding targets



Draft a National Restoration Plan (NRP) by **1 September 2026** in the format of a template published by the EU Commission. This should specify how targets are to be delivered (by 2030, 2040 and 2050) for each of the 7 ecosystems.



National Restoration Plan (NRP) - Technical



The Plan needs to

- **Set the baseline** from which progress can be measured and ensure no deterioration of status;
- Set out **national restoration targets up to 2030** and provide detail on how these targets will be achieved;
- **Outline ambition** for 2040 and 2050, with reviews in 2032 and 2042;
- **Quantify and map** areas to be restored, on land and at sea;
- **Describe** restoration **measures** and how targets will be reached, including appropriate indicators for measuring restoration;
- Put in place **long-term monitoring regimes** to determine the effectiveness of the restoration measures.

1st National Restoration Plan (NRP) – other requirements

The plan needs to:

- estimate the **socio-economic impacts** and benefits of restoration measures, including co-benefits for climate change mitigation and land degradation neutrality,
- set out **links and synergies** with climate change scenarios, national adaptation strategies or plans and national disaster risk assessment reports and the national energy and climate plan,
- set out synergies and links between the National Restoration Plan and measures under the **Common Fisheries Policy** and the **Common Agricultural Policy**.
- **Capture** and represent the **requirements** of Strategic Partners and **Stakeholders**

The Plan in 2 parts



Independent Advisory Committee

established to provide
recommendations relating to the
development and content of the nature
restoration plan

Independent Report of
recommendations, published April 2026

Technical working groups

working on establishing baselines,
datasets, targets and indicators

Nature Restoration Plan unified format
template to be submitted to EU
September 2026

Independent Advisory Committee Recommendations



46 policy recommendations

48 article-specific recommendations

3 overarching recommendations:

- Fund Nature Restoration
- Restore Nature on Public Lands as a Priority
- Support Farmers, Fishermen and Foresters

The mandatory standard EU format or NRP template



EU Implementing Regulation
2025/912 sets out the mandatory
format for the NRPs:

EN

OJ L, 20.5.2025

National restoration plan (NRP)	
1. Basic information	
1.1. Member State	Two-digit code according to the code list of countries
1.2. Date of submission of the plan	YYYY-MM-DD
1.3. Responsible or coordinating body/bodies	Free text, suggested max. 3 000. characters
1.4. Is this a revised version of the NRP? (Art.19)	Yes/No If 'yes', Additional Information I should be completed
1.5. Summary of the NRP	Free text, max. 10 000 characters
Part A – Information across targets	
2. Preparing and establishing the NRP (Art.15(3)(w))	
2.1. Public participation (Art. 14(20) and Art.15(3)(w))	
2.1.1. Summary of the preparation process, outcome of public participation and stakeholders' engagement	Free text, suggested max. 3 000 characters
2.2. Considerations of the diversity of situations in various regions (Art.14(16)(c) and 15(6))	
2.2.1. Considerations of the diversity of situations in regions, including their social, economic and cultural requirements, regional and local characteristics and population density (Art. 14(16)(c) and 15(6)) (optional)	a) cross-cutting considerations (free text, suggested max. 3 000 characters) b) article-specific considerations – indicate one or more article(s) from the code list of articles c) article-specific considerations (free text, suggested max. 3 000 characters)
2.3. Considerations of the specific situation of outermost regions (if applicable) (Art. 14(16)(c) and Art.15(3)(o))	
2.3.1. Considerations of remoteness, insularity, small size, difficult topography, and climate in outermost regions	Free text, suggested max. 3 000 characters
2.3.2. Considerations of the biodiversity in outermost regions	Free text, suggested max. 3 000 characters
2.3.3. Considerations of associated costs for protection and restoring the ecosystems of outermost regions	Free text, suggested max. 3 000 characters
3. Contributions to overarching targets and objectives set out in Art.1	
3.1. Contribution to overarching objectives set out in Art.1(1) (optional)	Free text, suggested max. 3 000 characters

4/46ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/912/oj

Structure of the NRP template



PART A

Information across targets

- Contributions to EU-level restoration targets
- General co-benefits of restoration measures for other policies and implementation cost
- Monitoring, assessment & revision

PART B

National approach to meeting restoration targets and fulfilling obligations, by article

Articles 4-13 NRL

PART C

Measures

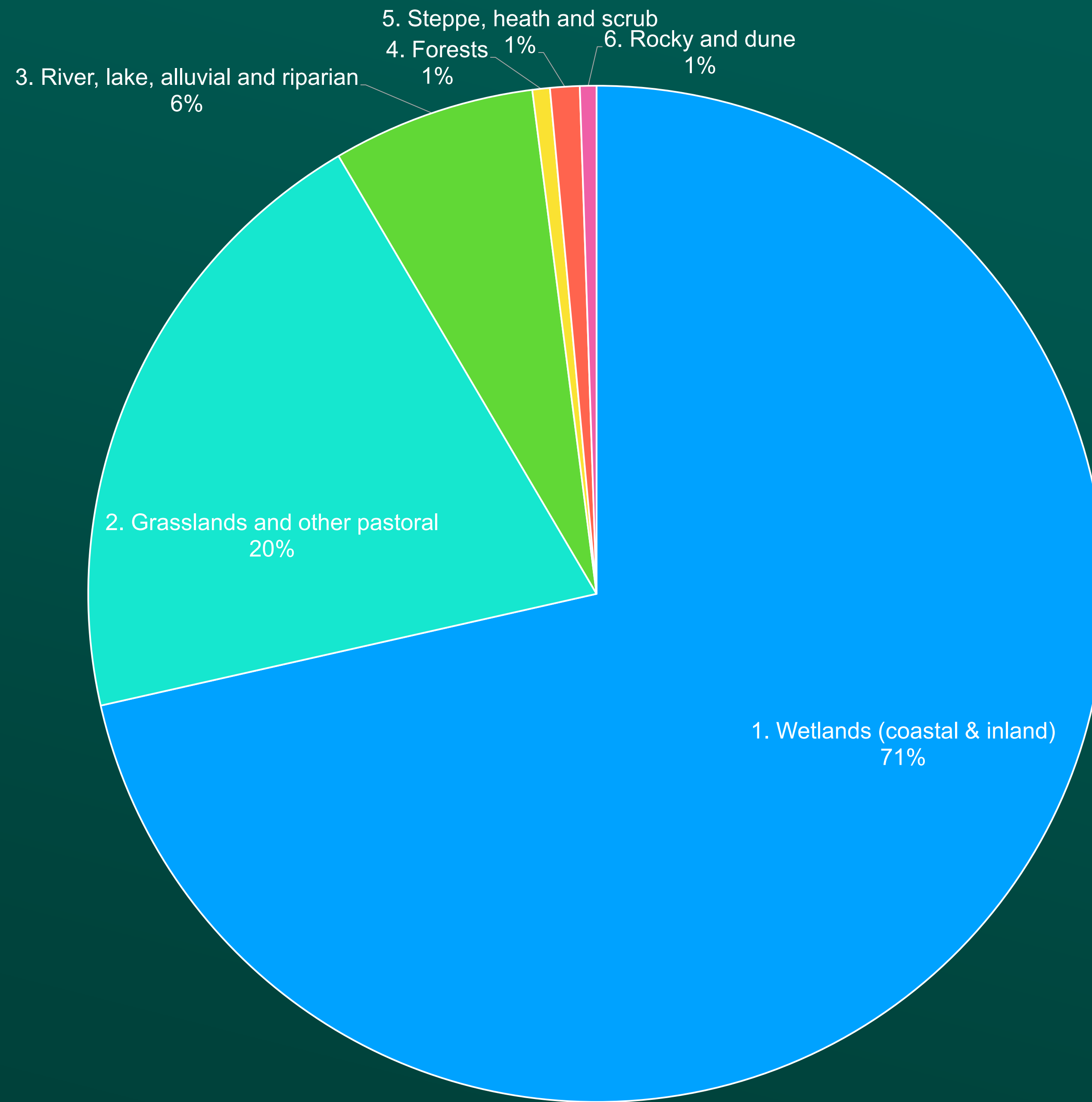
- Description of measures planned
- ecosystem types concerned
- time frames
- status of implementation.

ANNEXES

Additional Information

- Revision of draft NRP (for 2027)
- Optional additional detail on marine habitats
- Additional detail required if deviating from standard Urban Ecosystem Areas approach
- Inventory of surface water barriers

Overall Condition Improvement target, by habitat group



Species – Article 4



Habitats Directive:

Slender Naiad (*Najas flexilis*)

Geyer's Whorl Snail (*Vertigo geyeri*)

Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (*Vertigo angustior*)

Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (*Vertigo moulinsiana*)

Freshwater Pearl Mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*)

White-clawed Crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*)

Sea Lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*)

River Lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*)

Twaite Shad (*Alosa fallax*)

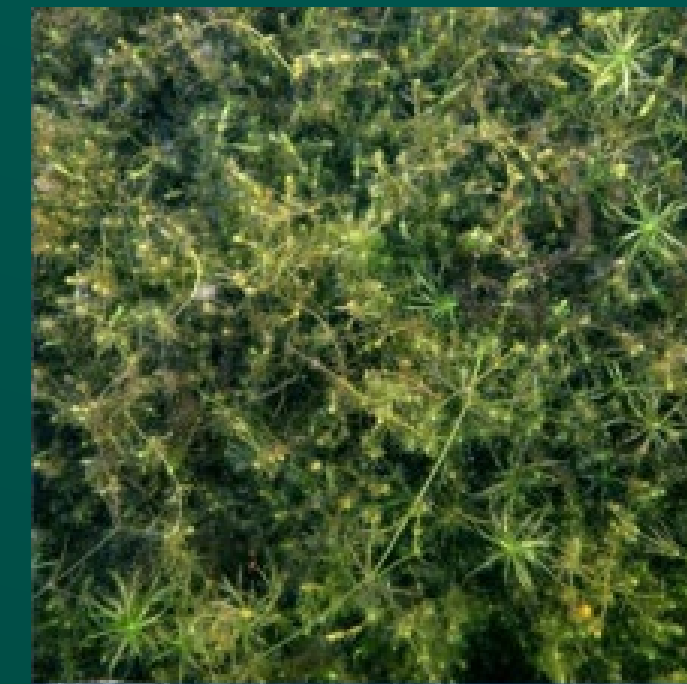
Pollan (*Coregonus pollan*)

Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*)

Natterjack Toad (*Epidalea calamita*)

Lesser Horseshoe Bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*)

c. 65 bird species likely to be in scope for Article 4



Active Raised Bogs (7110) conservation planning process



Raised bog viewer

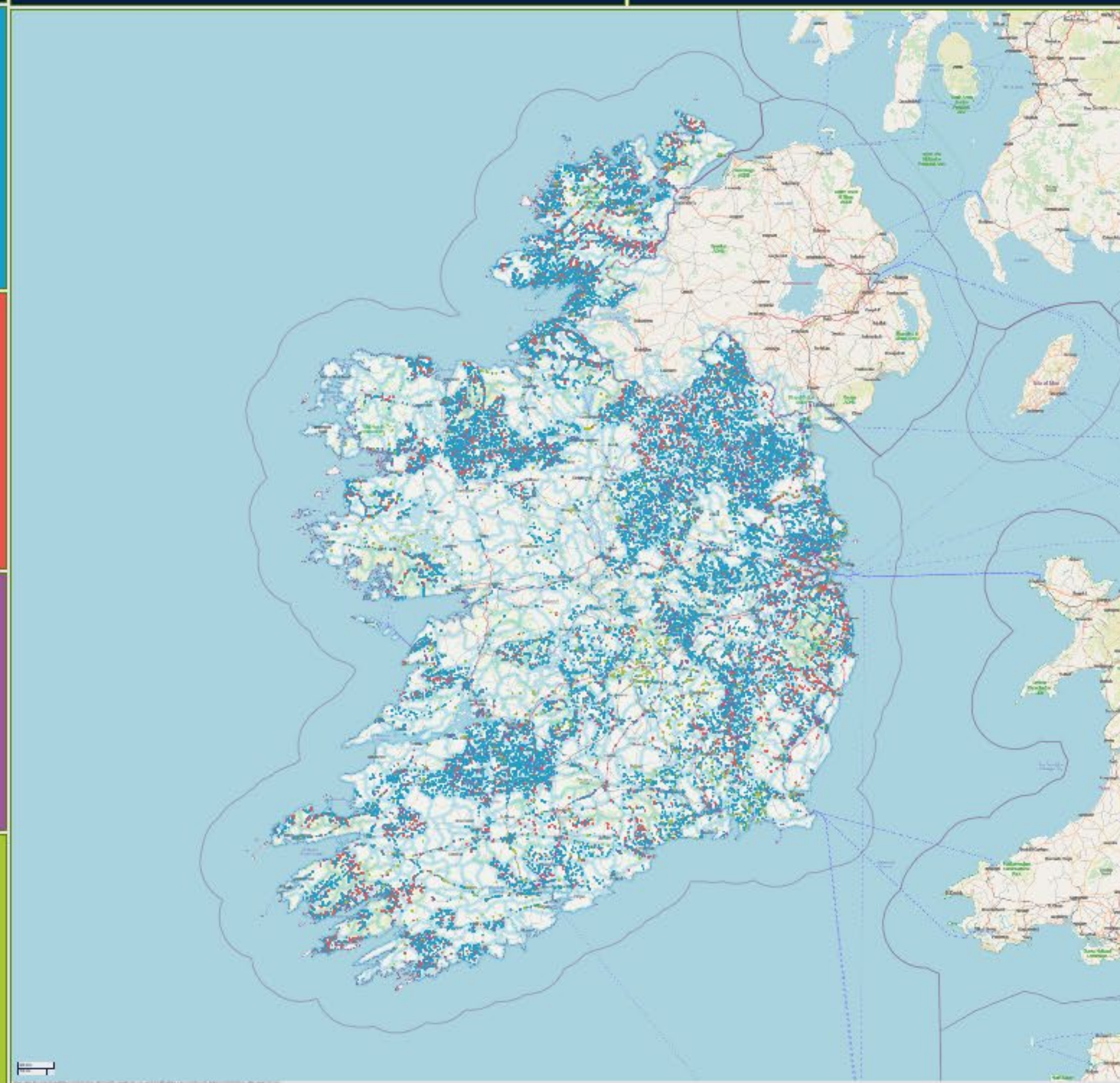


November
2020

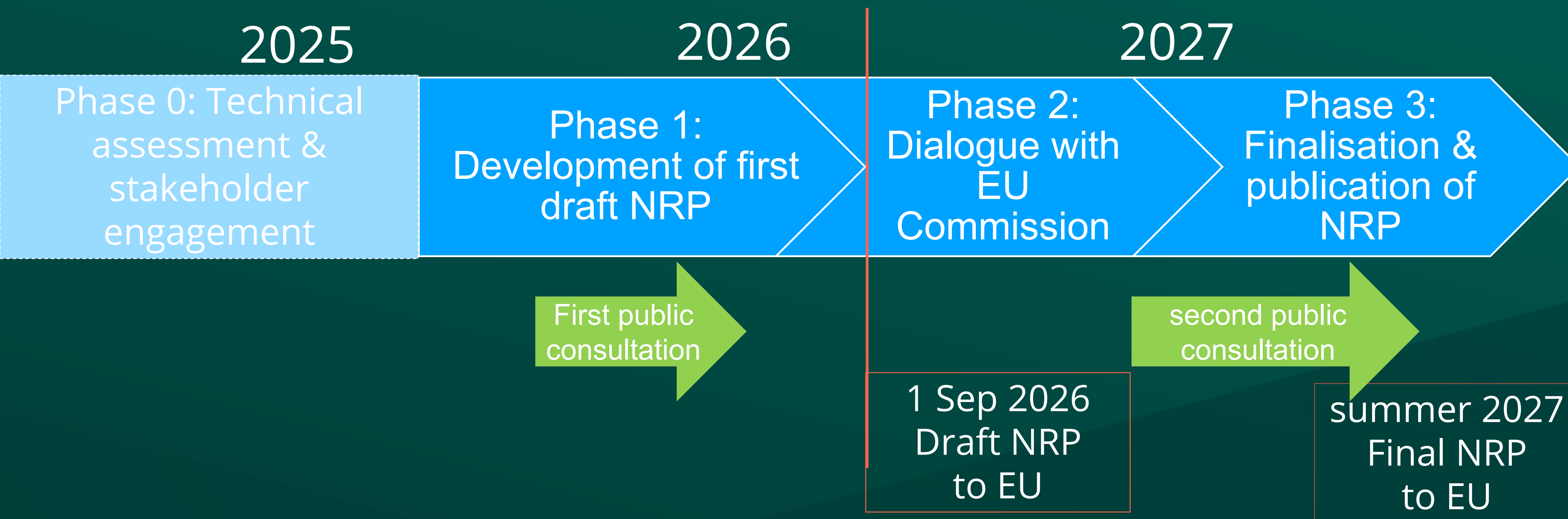


June
2022

39,638 Total Assessed Structures			33,918 To be Assessed	73,556 Total Potential Barriers
38,918 Total Potential Artificial Barriers	720 Total Potential Natural Barriers	No X 30,026 Not a Barrier		
Culvert 36,056	Waterfall 537			
Weir 2,409	Other 183	Yes ✓ 5,456 Barrier Confirmed		
Ford 192	Latest Assessed Yes(Barrier Confirmed) No(Barrier Confirmed) No Sluice Yes(Barrier Confirmed) No(Barrier Confirmed) No Yes(Barrier Confirmed) No(Barrier Confirmed) No Yes(Barrier Confirmed) No(Barrier Confirmed) No Yes(Barrier Confirmed) No(Barrier Confirmed) No Dam Yes No Yes No Ramp Yes No	Unknown ↔ 2,323 Unknown or No Access		
Sluice 138		Return ↻ 1,702 Return to Assess		
Dam 77				
Ramp 46				



Phased development process in line with NRL deadlines



Two-Phased Public Consultation Approach



Phase 1

- Initial preliminary draft being presented to meet EU deadline – more technical work to be completed
- Focus on overall approaches, baselines, indicators, quantified targets
- **Public consultation timeline: 3rd June to 1st July 2026**

Phase 2

- Delivery, prioritisation and scaling up and full set of measures to be developed and agreed
- **Public consultation timeline: spring/summer 2027**



Submissions

- online consultation form <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-housing-local-government-and-heritage/consultations/first-public-consultation-on-irelands-draft-national-nature-restoration-plan/>
- Email submissions to: nationalrestorationplan@npws.gov.ie.
- Send a written submission by post to:
 - *National Nature Restoration Plan Consultation,*
 - *National Parks and Wildlife Service,*
 - *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage,*
 - *90 North King Street, Dublin 7,*
 - *D07 N7CV.*



Questions ?