### BORD NA MÓNA BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN: 2015 REVIEW AND PLANNING FOR 2016-2021

#### Part 1  Bord na Móna Biodiversity Action Plan Updates 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Welcome (Catherine Farrell, BNM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.05am</td>
<td>BNM Sustainability and Strategy 2030 (Gerry Ryan, BNM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.20am</td>
<td>Update on 2015 Ecology projects I (CF, BNM)</td>
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<td>9.40am</td>
<td>Update on 2015 Ecology projects II (Mark McCorry, BNM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td>Update on 2015 Ecology projects II (David Fallon, BNM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.20am</td>
<td>Questions and Answers Part 1</td>
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<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee/Scones break</td>
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#### Part 2  Bord na Móna Biodiversity Action (draft) Plan 2016-2021

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.15am</td>
<td>Keynote presentation: Dick Warner, Environmentalist and Journalist</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.45am</td>
<td>Presenting the Draft Bord na Móna Biodiversity Action Plan 2016-2021 (CF)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.10pm</td>
<td>Discussion; Q+A Part 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.30pm</td>
<td>Outline of afternoon activities; break for lunch</td>
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<td>12.45pm</td>
<td>Lunch (soup and sandwiches, tea/coffee)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.30pm</td>
<td>Break out groups focusing on different aspects of BAP 2016-2021 (facilitated by BNM staff)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.45pm</td>
<td>Feedback from groups (tea/coffee/biccies)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Close</td>
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Biodiversity Action Plan Review 2015

Bord na Móna Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015

progress to date

Catherine Farrell
Biodiversity Objective:
To promote the role of Bord na Móna in enhancing biodiversity and to create awareness of the values of cutaway bogs through wise-use management for biodiversity and carbon

Biodiversity – baseline, cutaway rehabilitation/restoration
Carbon – understanding, restoring and/or retaining carbon pools and sinks
Communications – creating awareness internally and externally
Strategic Framework for Future Use of Peatlands

2011

Sustainability 2030 report

2015

• 5 main objectives
Objective 1: To continue to carry out all works in line with best practice guidelines and relevant legislation across all Bord na Móna bogs

• 499 Littleton
• 500 Boora
• 501 Derrygreenagh
• 502 Blackwater
• 503 Allen
• 504 Mountdillon
• 505 Oweninny
• 506 Kilberry
• 507 Cuil na Mona
Objective 1  Planning, Reporting, Compliance

How have we done?

- Annual reports (EPA)
- Draft rehabilitation plans - reviewed Winter 2015
- Ongoing advisory role to Bord na Móna businesses and planning applications (EPL, Wind farms, etc)
- Input to National Peatland Strategy, RB SAC/NHA review (LIFE project)

- National Pollinator Plan 2015; Bird Sensitivity Map (BWI)
- Business in the Community (BITC) – biodiversity
- EU Business and Biodiversity platform (B@B)
- Irish Forum on Natural Capital – working groups established
Business Working Responsibly Mark And Biodiversity Charter
• Opening session: Tony Juniper; (LVMH)
• Work-stream #1: Natural Capital Accounting (Kering, Dutch ministry)
• Work-stream #2: Innovation for Biodiversity and Business (ICWs, Reedbed biomass)
• Work-stream #3: Access to Finance and Innovative Finance Mechanisms (where does the money come from?)
• Other Cross-Cutting Business and Biodiversity initiatives and Closing session
Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services (MAES)
Objective 2:
To survey and identify potential biodiversity areas within the Bord na Móna lands

- Baseline ecology survey,
- Identify and fill information gaps,
- Identify network of core areas of high biodiversity value, monitoring
Objective 2  Baseline

How have we done?

- General Ecology survey complete – entire 78,000ha
- GIS maps: land use; current habitats; future habitats; biodiversity value maps for all sites surveyed – updated sites 2015
- Identification of areas of significant ecological/conservation value
- Breeding wader surveys
- Targeted species surveys – Swan census
- Overlap with SAC/NHA and other high value sites
Bord na Móna BirdWatch Ireland Curlew Conservation Project

- Potential breeding sites identified ~10
- Survey 2015 + management recommendations
Bord na Móna BirdWatch Ireland Curlew Conservation Project

Survey results and next steps

• Results
• 8 sites surveyed
• Ballydangan Bog – 3 pairs (+1 Cranberry Lough)
• Blackriver Bog – 1 pair
• Cloneragh – 1 pair
• Littleton – 1 pair (+1)
• Nationally – 120 pairs (41% on bogs; BNM 7%)

• Actions (in discussion)
• Monitor confirmed breeding sites
• Look at other sites
• Explore management to maintain Curlew success
• Combined management for breeding waders (scrub control/rewetting)
• Threats – disturbance (turf cutting); predation
Objective 3:
To promote and develop best practice in terms of rehabilitation plans for all Bord na Móna bogs to stabilise former peat production areas and enhance biodiversity
Objective 3 - Practical Rehabilitation

How have we done?

- Draft Rehabilitation Plans updated
- Selected focal areas of rehabilitation 2015: Mountlucas and Bruckana wind farms, Cavemount, Mostrim
- Rehabilitation trials: Drinagh, Blackwater, Bunahinly, Kilmacshane, Kilberry (ongoing, monitoring), Sphagnum spreading on Clonroosk Bog
- Bog Restoration: ~1,175 ha
- Restore 2015: Finished Derrydoo-Woodlough, Started Clonboley Bogs (Cranberry Lough, Ballydangan North started)
- Srahmore Peat Deposition Area - rewetting
Carbon Measurement

Rehabilitated Mayo bogs: carbon sink

Cutaway Bog habitats: birch scrub to open water

Reed-beds: carbon sink?

Restoration of Moyarwood bog: carbon store and sink?

Are we creating carbon sources or sinks?
Objective 4: To raise awareness and create a greater appreciation of the biodiversity and natural heritage of Bord na Móna cutaway bogs and associated lands.
Objective 4  Communications

How have we done? 55 events 2015

Bord na Móna - Ecology training (key messages: scrub clearance, tree felling, drainage, designated areas, species of conservation interest, invasive species control), business interactions

External stakeholders

• Annual Biodiversity Action Plan review days
• Community projects –interaction Ballydangan, Abbyleix, WHI
• Community Wetlands Forum
• Irish Peat Society Restoration workshop
• Biodiversity walks and talks
• SER 2015, IPS 2015, IrPS 2015
• Website updates 2015
What did we do?
Co-ordinated programme, website, handbook
Field trips – Mountlucas and Ballycon rehabilitation (2015, 2006)
Education M/C IPCC
Team BNM, IPCC, Coillte
Objective 5: Monitor the progress of the Bord na Móna Biodiversity Action Plan
Objective 5

- Review

- Local, national and international perspectives

- Draft BAP 2016-2021 in development

How have we done?
Thank you