

Appendix 7A

Ornithology Team Profiles

The following outlines the personnel involved in the design and the carrying out of the ornithological surveys, with details of their relevant experience.

Team Role	Name and Qualifications
Managing and coordination of surveys (to September 2022)	Monica Kane (Proposed development Manager, MSc. BSc.) to December 2021
	Ciara Barry-Hannon (Ecologist, BSc. Wildlife Biology) to July 2022
	Sally Kelly (Environmental Scientist, MSc. BSc) from July 2022
Managing and co-ordination of surveys (from October 2022 to September 2023)	John Murphy (Ornithologist - Irish Ornithology Survey Group)
Field Surveyor	
Field Surveyor	Stan Nugent (Ecologist, BSc)
Field Surveyor	Tom Ryan (Ornithologist, BSc. Wildlife Biology)
Field Surveyor	Marie Kearns (Ecologist, MSc. BSc.)
Field Surveyor	Joe Kelly (Ornithologist, BSc. Wildlife Biology)
Field Surveyor	Ciara Barry-Hannon (Ecologist, BSc.)
Field Surveyor	Ian McDermott (Ecologist, MSc. BSc.)
Field Surveyor	Austin Cooney (Ecologist, BSc.)
Field Surveyor	John Hehir (Ornithologist, BSc.)
Field Surveyor	John Deasy (Ornithologist, MSc. BSc.)
Field Surveyor	Gerry Murphy (Ornithologist)
Field Surveyor	Pádraig Cullinan (Ornithologist)
Field Surveyor	Tom Tarpey (Ornithologist)
Field Surveyor	Deirdre O'Brien (Ecologist, BSc.)
Field Surveyor	Úna Williams (Ecologist & Environmental Scientist, BSc. MSc.)
GIS Mapping & Data	Valerie Heffernan (Environmental Scientist, MSc. BSc.)
	Ashling Fenton (MSc. BSc.)
Collision Risk Modelling	George Wilkinson (MSc. BSc.)
	Nick Henson (CENV, MCIEEM)

Monica Kane

Monica Kane, during her time at MWP, managed the Environmental Section of MWP where her role involved managing the day to day running of the ornithology section and the Environmental Team. She is an Environmental and Ecological Consultant with over 15 years consultancy experience. She has been responsible for EIA and planning application project management, Appropriate Assessments, Ecological Impact Assessments, auditing, and constraints studies. She undertook and managed the environmental inputs into the Cluddaun Wind Farm, a Strategic Infrastructure Development, as well as the Boggeragh Wind Park, Knockranny Wind Farm and

Clydaghroe Wind Farm EIS. As part of her involvement in the EU stoRE Project she was the principal author of EC guidelines for PHES and Natura 2000 sites. She was an expert witness for the Oral Hearing on the Kenmare Water Supply Scheme for Kerry County Council and Cluddaun Wind Farm.

Role: Managing and co-ordinating surveys

Ciara Barry-Hannon

Ciara Barry-Hannon is an Ecologist who worked with Malachy Walsh and Partners for almost two years on a part-time and full-time basis. She qualified with an Honours Degree in Wildlife Biology from Munster Technological University (MTU), formerly I.T. Tralee, in 2020. Over the last number of years she has contributed and helped complete numerous reports for bird survey work and is experienced in the collation of data and in field ecology survey techniques.

Role: Managing and co-ordinating surveys/field surveyor

Sally Kelly

Sally Kelly is an Environmental Scientist and Project Manager with over 17 years' experience in consultancy. She has worked on a wide variety of projects, encompassing a number of disciplines including ecology, and has extensive experience in the management of field work and collation of data.

Role: Managing and co-ordinating surveys

John Murphy

John Murphy is a senior consultant ornithologist. He is very experienced having worked in the field of ornithology and ecology since 1982 and has extensive knowledge of the Irish landscape with regard to bird populations. He collaborates regularly with NPWS on different projects throughout the country. John is one of the country's foremost ornithologists and is a licensed bird ringer. He has always had an interest in wildlife photography and his work has been published in many magazines and books. As a 'Heritage in the Schools Specialist', he has travelled the country lecturing in schools and colleges, and to various clubs and organizations. He was the Biodiversity Officer with Clare County Council and worked as part of the MWP Ecology team on a variety of projects nationwide from 2010 to 2022. He spends as much time in the field as possible as a bird observer.

Role: Managing and co-ordinating surveys/Consultant Senior Ornithologist

Stan Nugent

Stan Nugent set up his company Waxwing Wildlife Productions Ltd in 2006. Through his company he has provided ecological services and natural history photography/videography expertise. He is an active member of Birdwatch Ireland and has contributed to the IWeBS survey. He is proficient in Vantage Point surveys, Transect surveys, Point Count surveys and Hinterland surveys. In the summer of 2021, he worked for the NPWS as their Hen Harrier monitor on Scatterry Island. His qualifications include a BSc Environmental Studies (Open University) and the BTO Certificate in Bird Surveying.

Role: Field surveyor

Tom Ryan

Tom has more than 6 years of bird surveying experience in Ireland. Tom has worked on a variety of projects in many locations around Ireland. He is proficient in Vantage Point surveys, Transect Surveys, Point Count surveys, Hinterland surveys, Merlin surveys, Barn owl surveys, Red grouse surveys and Hen harrier surveys. Tom is proficient in carrying out all SNH bird survey methodologies and very competent at locating and understanding the ecology of red listed and annex 1 species found in Ireland, including some rarities. Tom's most notable experience to date has been with breeding common crane, breeding and roosting hen harrier, breeding waders, red grouse tape lure surveys and breeding barn owl surveys.

Role: Field surveyor/Report writer

Marie Kearns

Marie Kearns is a field ecologist with a background in terrestrial and marine ecology, with professional experience in bird, mammal and habitat surveys. She qualified with an MSc in Marine Mammal Science from St Andrews University (2015) and a BSc in Zoology from University College Cork (2013). After working as an independent ecological consultant, Marie joined Malachy Walsh and Partners in 2020. She has conducted bird surveys for a number of proposed and operational windfarm developments in Kerry, Cork and Limerick.

Role: Field Surveyor

Joe Kelly

Joe graduated with a degree in Wildlife Biology in 2012. With over 20 years of ecological and ornithological experience, he has excellent bird identification skills and in-depth knowledge of a wide range of bird survey methodologies including waterfowl surveys, vantage point watches, dedicated raptor watches, and breeding walkover surveys. Joe has previously worked with Coillte collecting hen harrier data, and with the Golden Eagle Trust tracking and monitoring the movement of white-tailed eagles.

Role: Field surveyor

Ian Mc Dermott

Ian is an experienced bird surveyor. His recent survey experience includes both summer and winter VP's and transect surveys. Ian is proficient in SNH methodology and has always had a keen interest in Irish wildlife, with a particular emphasis on Irish avian species.

Role: Field surveyor

Austin Cooney

Austin has more than 35 years of bird surveying experience both in Ireland and abroad and is an active member of the Clare branch of Birdwatch Ireland. Austin has worked on a variety of projects in many locations around Ireland. He is proficient in Vantage Point surveys, Transect Surveys, Point Count surveys, Hinterland surveys, Merlin surveys and Red grouse surveys. Austin has over 10 years IWeBS survey experience and is co-author of the book "Shannon Airport Lagoon – A Unique Irish Habitat".

Role: Field surveyor

John Hehir

John has over 13 years' experience in bird surveying, initially working as a Conservation Support Officer for Birdwatch Ireland in 2008 before graduating with a degree in Wildlife Biology in 2015. John has since performed bird surveys for many proposed wind farm sites, including vantage point surveys, breeding bird surveys, winter bird surveys, Hen Harrier roost surveys, and Species-specific surveys such as Greenland White-fronted goose and wildfowl surveys.

Role: Field surveyor

John Deasy

John has 10 years of bird surveying experience in Ireland. John commenced working as an Ecologist in 2014 and has undertaken a wide variety of surveys including winter shorebird surveys, vantage point surveys, Hen Harrier roost watches and general breeding bird surveys for wind energy developments.

Role: Field surveyor

Gerry Murphy

During the last 35 years Gerry developed a deep interest of Ireland's environment – its scientific and cultural history. He has provided research material to zoological professionals for field surveys and scientific publications on various bird species and habitat types. Since retiring from work as a Forester for Coilte in 2012 Gerry has worked as an independent Ecological Surveyor, undertaking field bird surveys for Environmental Consultancy Companies and Government Statutory Bodies. Gerry is a past chairperson of the Irish Whooper Swan Study Group (IWSSG) and current chairperson of the Irish Brent Goose Research Group (IBGRG).

Role: Field surveyor

Pádraig Cullinan

Páidí has more than 20 years of Bird watching experience in Ireland and abroad and is the Vice Chairperson of the Clare branch of Birdwatch Ireland and The Ebird county recorder for Clare. Páidí has worked on a variety of projects in many locations around Ireland. He is proficient in I-Webs, common bird census, Vantage Point surveys, Transect surveys, Hen Harrier roost watches, Point count surveys, hinterland surveys, Merlin, Golden plover, and Red Grouse survey. He is a subscriber to British Birds, Dutch Birding & Bird Guides. He has field experience in bird ringing & bird sound recording.

Role: Field surveyor

Tom Tarpey

Tom is a birdwatcher with over 40 years field experience in Ireland, U.K. and much of Western Europe and has worked as a professional ornithological surveyor for a variety of proposed wind farm projects since Nov 2021. Tom has also participated in numerous national and regional bird surveys, both species specific and multi-species, covering all significant habitat types in Counties Limerick, Clare, Tipperary and Galway. He is Co-author of 'The Birds of Clare & Limerick 1982 to 1991' and author of 'A Ringing Study of Black-headed Gulls breeding on Lough Derg, 1983 to 1989'. A member of BirdWatch Ireland (BWI) and its predecessor the Irish Wildbird Conservancy (IWC) since 1980, former Chairman of IWC Limerick Branch, and former IWC Board Member.

Role: Field surveyor

Deirdre O' Brien

Deirdre O'Brien has been working periodically with Malachy Walsh and Partners since 2018 and on a full-time basis since 2019. During that time, she has carried out field work which included invasive species survey's, bird surveys, freshwater macroinvertebrate sampling and identification, (sensu Q' value assessment), collection of water samples. She has also gained experience in standard field survey methodologies including mammal surveying and habitat mapping. She has been formally trained in Stage 1 and Stage 2 freshwater pearl mussel Surveying (Dr Evelyn Moorkens). She has acquired experience in the completion of Appropriate Assessment (AA), Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA). She has experience with general ecological report writing and has helped complete numerous reports for bird survey work and is experienced in the collation of data and in field ecology survey techniques.

Prior to joining MWP she completed a fourth-year project studying the extent of the aquatic invasive fringed water lily, *Nymphaoides peltata* in Killarney National Park

Role: Field surveyor

Úna Williams

Úna completed her master's in 2018 and since then has been working as an environmental professional. During her postgraduate research she spent 3 months in Costa Rica researching bird behaviour in a cloud forest. Since graduating she has worked on a variety of ecological projects. At the Doñana Biological Station in Seville she was part of a research group examining the ecological effects of a 1998 mine-tailings burst. She also worked in the

Stack's Mountains, Co. Kerry as part of the Curlew Conservation Programme for the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) in 2019. She is experienced in bird survey methodologies including vantage point, transect, and walkover surveys, and is practised in the collation of data and writing of reports.

Role: Field surveyor

Valerie Heffernan

Valerie has worked as an environmental professional since graduating in 2015 and has been employed as an Environmental Scientist with Malachy Walsh and Partners since 2018. She has considerable experience in a variety of projects including solar farms, marine and wind energy developments. She is experienced in GIS, planning and environmental report input.

Role: Responsible for viewshed analysis and flight path mapping

Ashling Fenton

Ashling has worked in both Data and GIS Analysis. Her experience spans a variety of project types including wind and solar site origination and development, due diligence within the utilities and agriculture sector. She is also experienced in data cleansing & analysis, report writing, and the provision of PRAI compliant maps.

Role: GIS Analyst responsible for GIS Analytics and flight path/activity mapping

George Wilkinson

George Wilkinson is a Senior Ecologist who has over 5 years' experience working with protected habitats and species, identifying and addressing ecological constraints. He has an MSc in Species Identification and Survey Skills from the University of Reading, and a BSc in Biology from the University of Bristol. He is also an associate member of CIEEM. George has acted as ornithology technical lead for a wide range of proposed developments servicing the transport, energy, commercial and residential sectors.

Role: Collision Risk Modelling

Nick Henson

Nick is an experienced ecologist with over 17 years spent working in consultancy. He has developed key skills in ecological principles and practice for a range of projects within the public and private sectors. His specialist skills include the ecology and conservation of legally protected species, conducting detailed ornithological surveys, Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA), Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA) and the provision of high-level ecological advice for major infrastructure projects. Project experience includes wind farms, gas pipelines, electricity connections, highways and rail schemes. Many of these have involved assessment of impacts on European Sites.

Role: Collision Risk Modelling