

Query no	Date	Description of Query	Answer Details
	17/12/2018	What is in the Limerick Navigation Act 1771 [11 & 12 Geo 3 c24]? Also interested in accessing the historical maps showing the Limerick Navigation with its drainage channels and other early works	Forwarded link to a book making reference to the Limerick Act, with associated map.
2019-1	02/01/2019	Query about the Heritage grant Scheme 2019	The Hind river is not under our remit and this project is not eligible under the Heritage Grant Scheme. Should look into Leader funding.
2019-2	02/01/2019	Query about the Heritage grant Scheme 2019	Explained there are two grant schemes in Waterways Ireland: One is an Events Programme, aimed more at sporting events and festivals and is administered by our Marketing & Communications Team. The Heritage Grant Scheme is more focused on heritage, biodiversity, culture, arts and community engagement.
2019-3	14/01/2019	Funding for book publishing "*****" A Text- and Picture-Book."	Will contact the Heritage Officer in Dublin and see if there is some way the project can be helped.
2019-4	18/01/2019	General question about kayaking around Lough Derg	There are three locations to access the river by kayak around Killaloe and Ballina. Google Street view can be used to see them. Service blocks are available both in Killaloe and Ballina with the use of Waterways Ireland smartcards.
2019-5	21/01/2019	Looking for historical sources to write a book on the brick industry in Pollagh Co. Offaly	Forwarded the query to relevant person, as requested by the local group
2019-6	29/01/2019	Concern about fish populations due to low water levels on the Royal Canal	Water level of the Royal Canal are low as Lough Owel, its supply, has yet to return to normal level since the extended drought period last summer. Low water levels are of more concern for fish when the temperatures are higher and aquatic plant growth is in full
2019-7	01/02/2019	Any information or drawings on a section of the Grand Canal from the Leinster Aqueduct to Digby Bridge to help with research project	Three sources of information: the Built Heritage inventories Waterways Ireland commissioned (can be accessed at https://www.waterwaysireland.org/heritage-surveys), the book The Grand Canal of Ireland by Ruth Delany and The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage or the local authority Record of Protected Structure may also have
2019-8	04/02/2019	Update in relation to the Ulster Canal development	Currently you can only go from the Erne to Castlesaunderson by boat. The Greenway is being developed in phases. Monaghan Town Greenway is complete and funding was also awarded to Phase 2 which will link Smithborough, Co Monaghan to Middleton, Co Armagh. (22km)
2019-9	05/02/2019	Report via a third party of a dead swan in Grand Canal Dock	Swan was removed by the Department Vet. The swan had a plastic ring ref CBDP as well as a Stainless Steel tag on left leg W43534
2019-10	16/02/2019	Possible duck mussels (Anodonta anatina), Pisidium spp. and zebra mussels in dredged spoil near Shannonbridge	Mussels are sometimes noted as part of removed dredged spoil. Unfortunately the dredging options open to us often makes it extremely hard to inspect and/or sift through sediment. However to ensure viable and healthy populations of all invertebrates and other species who use the canals we generally only dredge every 10-15 years or often much longer than this. We also only dredge short stretches, thereby limiting the impact on the aquatic, riparian and terrestrial habitats.
2019-11	19/02/2019	Concerns about the works taking place between Ferran's Lock and Cloncurry Bridge	While Waterways Ireland operations staff are carrying out some of the work on behalf of Meath County Council, Kildare County Council completed the bitmac surface topping of the gravel road and the grading-off of the canal bank to bring it up to the level of the new road surface to avoid having a drop off from the road to the canal bank – which posed a health and safety risk for cars and vehicles travelling along this section. General update on the works.

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2019-12	21/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works undertaken on the Barrow Navigation	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-13	21/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation. Sent both through the website and through M&C email.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-14	21/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-15	21/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-16	21/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Shannon Erne. Asking for rationale	Answered with questions about the exact location on the Shannon Erne
2019-17	22/02/2019	Follow up on tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation, looking for who carried out the works and their qualifications	Query forwarded to the FOI officer to answer.

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2019-18	22/02/2019	Initial complaint corrected - in relation to tree works done on the Barrow not the Shannon Erne	The primary need for the removal of the trees was for potential risks to boaters from leaning trees/overhanging branches but also bank stability. Waterways Ireland assess the entire channel width on an ongoing basis to resolve any issues such as silt deposit and material as well as tree and overhanging branches. All need to be addressed as part of a comprehensive management solution.
2019-19	22/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-20	23/02/2019	Follow up on previous query	Additional questions answered
2019-21	23/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	An EIA was not carried out as such works would not be deemed to reach the threshold which would trigger an EIA as defined under the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations. However the works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS. There were no other alternatives to ensure continued safe navigation and bank stability. Waterways Ireland only consider tree removal as a last resort.
2019-22	25/02/2019	Follow up on tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation	Specific queries answered, explaining the rationale behind the necessary maintenance works.
2019-23	25/02/2019	Ulster Canal Completion date	Advised that completion would be contingent on funding from Central Government.
2019-24	25/02/2019	School project around the biodiversity of the canals	Offered to meet on site for a guided tour of the relevant section of canal with the students and then let them progress the project. Showcasing the final sign(s) in the school is very important and Waterways Ireland can investigate installing them along the canal on a temporary basis too.
2019-25	26/02/2019	Received a call from a concerned constituent regarding felling of trees in Robertstown, canal bank, which she believes is damaging to wild life.	These works at Robertstown were necessary for the following reasons: * The canal at Robertstown is embanked i.e. the canal was constructed at a higher level than the surrounding landscape. To allow for routine inspections to assess embankment stability, back drains and possible leaks, it is necessary to keep these areas relatively free of large vegetation like trees and scrub.
2019-26	26/02/2019	Waterways Ireland Env: contact details & role	Waterways Ireland Env: contact details & role
2019-27	26/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.

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2019-28	27/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-29	27/02/2019	Request under the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-30	28/02/2019	Possible restoration of the old lifting bridge on the Grand Canal between Allenwood and Killina	This bridge is the property of Bord Na Mona and was constructed approximately 60 years ago. It's function was to connect peat bogs to Allenwood Power station by light rail. The bridge ceased use about 25-30 years ago. The lifting deck was removed about 6-7 years ago for health and safety reasons. There are no current plans for its restoration.
2019-31	28/02/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-32	28/02/2019	Request under the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-33	01/03/2019	Information about unusual structure beside the Grand Canal at Barretstown between Sallins and Robertstown	This structure is called the Four Pots and is an intricate overflow system.

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2019-34	01/03/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-35	01/03/2019	Questions about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Questions answered
2019-36	02/03/2019	Follow up on tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation	Further queries answered over the phone.
2019-37	04/03/2019	Info on the history of the boat Blackthorn, an ex RAF refueller built between 1943-1944 as well as the Irish American Oil Company.	With the help of consultant, some information was shared to help with the research
2019-38	04/03/2019	Looking for information in order to trace the history of the boat Blackthorn, an ex RAF refueller built between 1943-1944.	Asked help to a leading expert on Heritage Boats in Ireland and forward the answer.
2019-39	04/03/2019	Questions about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-40	04/03/2019	Concerns about swans on the canal at Portobello	Called and left a message
2019-41	05/03/2019	Ecological Survey of the Royal Canal extending from the 12th Lock at Castleknock not available on the website	Copy of report sent. Soft copy also added to the Waterways Ireland's website
2019-42	06/03/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-43	06/03/2019	Report of dead swan on the grand canal, on the Goldenbridge side about 100 meters up from the Luas crossing on the bank	Was reported and the Department alerted to it as they collect them as per avian flu protocol
2019-44	06/03/2019	Dumping near Errina Bridge, located at Coolisteigue, Clonlara	Forwarded the query to Engineer in charge with the Lower Shannon
2019-45	07/03/2019	Looking for ownership of a lock keeper's cottage in Monaghan	Information about the lock keeper's cottage given over the phone
2019-46	07/03/2019	Update on 'community Engagement Toolkit for Inland Waterways'	Printing of the toolkit was ordered. Expected delivery date is 25/03/2019
2019-47	12/03/2019	Information on Mink	Emailed the link to download the Irish Wildlife Manual No. 40 as well as the link to report sightings
2019-48	12/03/2019	Looking for statements on tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation.	Provided answers and statement issued on the Barrow works

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2019-49	12/03/2019	Complaint about the proposed development of a greenway on the north bank of the canal between Castleknock and Clonsilla railway stations	Provided environmental related answers to Waterways Ireland Ops section so that a complete answer could be sent, answering all queries and concerns.
2019-50	12/03/2019	Report of otters at Ashtown	Otters are frequent visitors to the canal. They are incredibly good indicators of healthy ecosystems. Sighting can be logged on through https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/ , as part of the National Biodiversity Data Centre citizen science initiative.
2019-51	12/03/2019	Report of otter sighting near Ashtown	Otters are frequent visitors to the canal. Sighting can be reported to the National Biodiversity Centre through their citizen science portal.
2019-52	13/03/2019	Complaint about tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation. Asked for CEO to resign	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-53	13/03/2019	Complaint about Vegetation cut back at Sally's bridge	Explained maintenance programme agreed between community group and Waterways Ireland includes two full cuts with the 1st in March / April.
2019-54	13/03/2019	Complaint about the extensive cutting-back of vegetation taking place from Sally's bridge going west to Dolphins Barn on the south side bank.	The cutting at this location is the timing agreed with the Grand Canal Biodiversity & Clean-up Group. It was also agreed that the only cutting to take place after the twice yearly cutback would be either side of the path to prevent encroachment of nettles and grass.
2019-55	15/03/2019	Looking for an old map of St Huberts, near Geaglum Quay	Query forwarded to our archive section
2019-56	15/03/2019	Report of dead swan in Grand Canal Dock due to litter	Query came through website so suggested answer was forwarded to Marketing. There has been a number of recorded dead swans along the canal recently. However the cause has not been rubbish in the canal. Waterways Ireland can support the birds by keeping litter at bay, managing the waterways to ensure their ecological health but unfortunately cannot directly intervene in their care as this is against the law.
2019-57	15/03/2019	Complaint about dead swan in the Grand Canal Dock: birds should be taken care off and the water should be kept clean.	Answer forwarded to Marketing Dept: There has been a number of recorded dead swans along the canal recently. However the cause has not been rubbish in the canal. As the avian flu protocol is still in place we must notify the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine of all dead swans which are reported. These are then collected for autopsy; no unusual causes of death have been notified to us. We do agree that rubbish and litter is of major concern along our waterways. In addition to our staff doing regular clean-ups we are incredibly fortunate to have dozens of dedicated volunteers who donate their time to litter picks and for this we are very grateful. You can appreciate that litter on the canal is as a result of people littering and wind blown material - 100% of litter on the waterways is a result of the actions of third parties, not Waterways Ireland. We do however invest considerable time and resources in trying to keep the waterways as clean as possible.
2019-58	15/03/2019	Complaint regarding tree cutting in Kildare Robertstown Allen wood and Milltown a month before	Complaint received by phone. Contact number taken was incorrect. Email sent to various Waterways Ireland staff in case the person called again. Also forwarded answer that was sent previously on the same subject.
2019-59	15/03/2019	Request for a copy of all correspondence internal and external which referred to the recent decision to fell trees on the River Barrow, Under the Freedom of Information Act	Environment section contribution emailed to Chief Executive's Office
2019-60	15/03/2019	Use of the old St Huberts map	Forwarded query to the Waterways Ireland archive section

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2019-61	16/03/2019	Request for a copy of the environmental reports in relation to tree felling on the River Barrow, Under the Freedom of Information Act	Waterways Ireland advised that no environmental reports were undertaken in relation to this work along the Barrow Navigation. The work was not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment nor was there prior consultation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). Waterways Ireland has issued an apology for this breach of process and the Body will work closely with NPWS to agree an appropriate tree planting programme across our navigations.
2019-62	19/03/2019	Looking for updated statement in relation to the tree maintenance works done on the Barrow	No updated statement
2019-63	20/03/2019	Follow up on tree maintenance works done on the Barrow Navigation	No answer required
2019-64	20/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Recorded a piece about coypu for the news
2019-65	20/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Spoke to the radio and recorded a News item on sighting of Coypu near the Royal Canal
2019-66	20/03/2019	Looking for info that was sent to Carlow Nationalist	Waterways Ireland, as a navigation and recreational authority, made the decision to remove these trees. This was done as part of rolling maintenance schedule along the Barrow Navigation. It would be accepted practice to keep such riverbank trees under regular control by adopting a rolling annual maintenance programme. Currently there are no plans to cut down further trees along the Barrow as we have reached the end of permitted tree cutting and hedge maintenance under the Wildlife Act. The works were located within a Special Area of Conservation and as such would be subject to an assessment under the Habitats Directive. Due to an error in our internal processes, these works were not subject to a Habitats Directive Assessment which would have been managed by our Environment Section nor was their prior consultation with NPWS.
2019-67	21/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	For Coypu Waterways Ireland deals directly with NPWS for removal. However sighting is yet to be confirmed. Waterways Ireland issued the MN on a precautionary principle.
2019-68	21/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Sighting is yet to be confirmed, but Waterways Ireland issued the Marine Notice on a precautionary principle. For Coypu we deal directly with NPWS.
2019-69	21/03/2019	Follow up on tree maintenance works on the Barrow - how Waterways Ireland is going to redress the damage?	Waterways Ireland is committed to a dedicated replanting programme throughout its three operational regions to offset the tree loss which was necessary along the Barrow Navigation. This will include the planting of native Irish trees and engaging with local communities.
2019-70	22/03/2019	Coypu near the Royal Canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.
2019-71	22/03/2019	Report of a tree fallen down between Maynooth & Leixlip on the Canal	Called to confirm that the tree has been removed.
2019-72	22/03/2019	Report of a tree being down between Maynooth & Leixlip canal	Tree has been removed
2019-73	22/03/2019	Info on invasive species along the canals	Emailed the list of invasives as promised with some assistance on how to ID them.
2019-74	22/03/2019	Looking for a list of invasives with some assistance on how to ID them.	Forwarded a list of invasives with some assistance on how to ID them.
2019-75	22/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.

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2019-76	22/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.
2019-77	22/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.
2019-78	22/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.
2019-79	22/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.
2019-80	22/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.
2019-81	22/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.
2019-82	22/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.
2019-83	22/03/2019	Coypu near the royal canal?	Waterways Ireland received notification of an unconfirmed report from the National Biodiversity Data Centre via National Parks and Wildlife Services of a Coypu on the Royal Canal. All evidence now leads us to believe that this was a case of mistaken identity and the report was likely that of an Otter, which are very active along the Royal Canal in that area. However given the potential significant implications to the canals banks and Ecology of the canals from the potential of Coypu, which is an invasive species, we are keeping a close eye on the situation just in case.

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2019-84	25/03/2019	Any data/information available on the wildlife and biodiversity of the Grand Canal for signage	Forwarded an extract of the 2015 Ecological Survey of the Grand Canal near Tullamore
2019-85	25/03/2019	Info for Tullamore Tidy Towns signage	Emailed the relevant biodiversity information, extracted from Waterways Ireland's recent ecological survey of the Grand Canal. Also offered to sent heritage data if required.
2019-86	26/03/2019	Request for additional details pertaining to AIE2019-002	Supplied the name of consultants and expected date of completion of the studies listed.
2019-87	27/03/2019	Possible to take some of the common reed, yellow Iris and burr reed from the canal banks to pre constructed wetlands?	Rang to discuss the project in more details.
2019-88	27/03/2019	Query about the possibility to take some of the common reed, yellow Iris and burr reed from the banks of the canal over to the site	Called to discuss the details of the project.
2019-89	28/03/2019	Looking for confirmation that Waterways Ireland's responsibility in respect of inland waterways ends at Sarsfield Bridge in Limerick in relation to a development in Kildysart	Confirmation that Waterways Ireland has no management responsibility over the River Shannon at Kildysart, as our statutory remit terminates at Limerick.
2019-90	28/03/2019	Limit of Waterways Ireland's remit	The responsibility of Waterways Ireland is in respect of inland waterways and ends at Sarsfield Bridge in Limerick. Waterways Ireland have no responsibilities in respect of the Shannon Estuary.
2019-91	28/03/2019	Request under the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 in relation to the use of herbicide glyphosate by Waterways Ireland in 2017 & 2018	Details of the amount of herbicides containing the active ingredient glyphosate used in 2018 and 2017 by Waterways Ireland given, with a list of areas it was used. Also attached Waterways Ireland's internal SOP No. 102 on weed spraying. All operatives who are identified as requiring training are trained to LANTRA PA1 and PA6 level by a LANTRA approved trainer.
2019-92	29/03/2019	Any protective measures for Swan's Nest	Unfortunately Waterways Ireland is not permitted to interfere with the swan, especially as it is during nesting season. A possible course of action would be to contact Kildare Animal Foundation, which have volunteers throughout Ireland. As the swan is not injured they may just decide to let nature takes its course. If it were to be moved it would require the services of a licensed animal handler.
2019-93	29/03/2019	Concerns about swan nest safety	Agreed that the nest is in a very precarious position. Unfortunately Waterways Ireland is not permitted to interfere with the swan, especially as it is during nesting season. A possible course of action would be to contact Kildare Animal Foundation.
2019-94	01/04/2019	Report of animal in distress	The following organisations deal with cases of animal in distress / injured in the Dublin area: 1. Dublin Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (DSPCA) 2. Kildare Animal Foundation
2019-95	01/04/2019	Report of animal in distress	The following organisations deal with animal in distress cases: 1. Dublin Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (DSPCA) – 014994780 2. Kildare Animal Foundation – 045522929 / 0876201270
2019-96	02/04/2019	Project to renovate the 52M, starting with the engine	Following contact with the HBA, they are willing to check the engine to see if it is salvageable
2019-97	04/04/2019	Looking for work experience	Unfortunately, Waterways Ireland cannot accommodate a placement at the moment
2019-98	04/04/2019	Work Experience for the last week of May	Not possible at these dates due to lack of resources
2019-99	10/04/2019	Have Waterways Ireland put any procedures in place to ensure similar situations will not occur in the future?	In terms of control systems; our Environment & Heritage Section has issued a circular to all relevant staff once again stressing the importance of assessing any project, plans or works in, close to or with any form of connectivity to a Natura 2000 site.

Query no	Date	Description of Query	Answer Details
2019-100	11/04/2019	Complaint about Waterways Ireland's inaction to protect the swans near Portobello	<p>Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Marketing section, who received the complaint:</p> <p>The absence of swans along the Circular Line (and Portobello in particular) of the Grand Canal is a seasonal occurrence and due to the fact that mating pairs become quite territorial at this time of year. The majority of swans along this section temporarily migrate to other locations, including the Malahide Estuary. We have this on good authority from a local bird ringing group who have tracked their movements for many years now. The canals are shared resources for sustainable tourism and recreational use, both on and off the water and swans are accustomed to boats, kayakers, anglers, walkers etc.</p> <p>We fully agree that any abuse of our local wildlife is an abhorrent act and as previously discussed we would strongly encourage anyone who witnesses such abuse first-hand to report this to the Gardaí. In addition if you come across injured wildlife this must be dealt with by appropriately licensed and trained individuals. In the Greater Dublin area this would be: either the Dublin Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals or the Kildare Animal Foundation.</p> <p>Waterways Ireland have developed signage with regard to feeding birds along the canal and these have been located periodically through the Royal and Grand Canals.</p>
2019-101	12/04/2019	Information on the creation of the waterway near Rooskey and any history attached	Query forwarded to our archive section
2019-102	12/04/2019	Dumping near Errina Bridge, located at Coolisteigue, Clonlara	Forwarded the query to Engineer in charge with the Lower Shannon
2019-103	16/04/2019	Report of water pollution	Pollution was on the Camac River. Not under Waterways Ireland's remit so gave the number for Inland Fisheries
2019-104	18/04/2019	Concerns about swan nest safety	Quickly talked to the person and organised with Waterways Ireland's Operation Section to have plastic barriers around the nest for protection.
2019-105	23/04/2019	Report of extensive tree cutting along the banks of the Rhine River near Quin Abbey	Outside Waterways Ireland's remit. Quickly talked to the person to confirm the exact location and the problem, and then forwarded report to Clare County Council and NPWS.
2019-106	24/04/2019	Class 35 planning?	Answer by the Waterways Ireland Property and Legal Section was forwarded for info.
2019-107	26/04/2019	Concerns about Towpath work s near Kilcock	<p>Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Marketing section, who received the complaint:</p> <p>The project at Kilcock was undertaken by Kildare County Council through a Part VIII planning application on lands managed by Waterways Ireland. All reports and assessments would therefore reside with the Planning Department in Kildare. However Waterways Ireland, as landowners, did insist on baseline ecology being used to inform the final design and indeed we commissioned a cumulative impact assessment to see the potential cumulative impacts of the path development, should it occur throughout the entire pNHA. The reason for this is that the Royal Canal is a pNHA in its entirety. Again this would have formed part of the Council planning application.</p> <p>In terms of the ecology and overall environmental health of the canal water at Kilcock I can assure you it is very good. Waterways Ireland are charged with monitoring of the canals under the Water Framework Directive. We have a monitoring station immediately east of Kilcock and during the last monitoring cycle (2018) it reached the requirement of Good Ecological Potential. This means the aquatic plants, water chemistry and aquatic invertebrates all indicate a healthy ecosystem.</p>
2019-108	30/04/2019	Concerns about the swans in Portobello	Immediately talked to the person to let him know that Waterways Ireland's Operation Section will organise to have plastic barriers around for protection.
2019-109	30/04/2019	Biting swan on Royal Canal	<p>As mentioned, at this time of year swans get very territorial as it is mating season. Also if they already have nests with eggs they get very protective of their young.</p> <p>It is a common issue we get notified about but I can assure you this behaviour is transient. In addition all wild birds (except nuisance species) are afforded strict protections under the Wildlife Act. We are expressly prohibited from interfering with them or their nests so relocation is not an option. For the time being, until their behaviour 'softens' can I suggest taking an alternative route if you have concerns.</p>
2019-110	01/05/2019	Follow up question: WFD monitoring data for the sampling point near Kilcock	<p>Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Marketing section, who received the complaint:</p> <p>WFD data for sampling point near Kilcock forwarded</p>

Query no	Date	Description of Query	Answer Details
2019-111	01/05/2019	Request for copy's of the Heritage took kit for the purpose of promoting same along the Barrow	Copy's of the Heritage took kit sent by post.
2019-112	01/05/2019	Possible to provide a bench/bin or two along the stretch between Suir Road and Golden Bridge	Benches are generally done, either through a grant scheme or funded by the groups themselves. Waterways Ireland often install for groups but unfortunately do not have the budget for benches. Also bins are under the management of Dublin City Council, even along canal property.
2019-113	03/05/2019	Water pollution from Boat on Lough Derg	Operations, Inspectorate and Environment sections all worked quickly to get an oil boom around the boat to limit the pollution area.
2019-114	03/05/2019	Concerns about water quality near Castleknock Marina	Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Operations section, who received the complaint: Nothing of concern came back in the water quality results.
2019-115	05/05/2019	Concerns about aggressive swans	Common issue Waterways Ireland gets notified about but this aggressive behaviour is transient - swans become very protective during nesting season. In addition all wild birds (except nuisance species) are afforded strict protections under the Wildlife Act. Waterways Ireland is expressly prohibited from interfering with them or their nests. There is ample food in the canal so Waterways Ireland would not be overly concerned about this aspect of their welfare.
2019-116	07/05/2019	Concerns ref development of Blueway at Robertstown	Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Property & Legal section, who received the complaint: Currently no cutting ongoing at Robertstown. The bank from Robertstown to Lowtown was cut back due to its inaccessibility to allow for culvert assessments. It is also an embanked stretch so it needs to be kept clear for inspections. Too many large trees can lead to leaks (via root expansion) or damage following storms. However in this instance only scrub was removed, no mature trees were cut down. All this took place within the permitted time of September to Feb (inclusive) so as to avoid impacts to nesting birds. Ducks nest within the reed fringe and there was no work undertaken here.
2019-117	14/05/2019	Potential source of funding	Dublin City Council's Environment Section who should be able to point you in the right direction. They may also be able to advise on other Dublin City Council Grant Schemes.

Query no	Date	Description of Query	Answer Details
2019-118	16/05/2019	Complaints about the canals that are weeded during summer months when fish spawns are growing.	<p>Waterways Ireland has a number of statutory obligations to fulfil in relation to its management of the canals and its objective of providing a quality waterway habitat commensurate with its use by a wide diversity of user groups, including anglers, boaters, walkers, cyclists and nature enthusiasts. It further recognises the fisheries management and environmental needs of these watercourses and the obligations imposed by the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Because of the diversity of coarse fish species (including pike) that are found along the canal network, the spawning 'season' generally runs throughout the spring months and into mid-summer. However, intervention, in the form of weed management is essential to maintain the functional integrity of the canal network, and failure to adequately manage weed growth through these months would, unfortunately, result in greatly impaired amenity use, including angling. Cutting of aquatic weed is not governed by the Wildlife Act, where March to August is restricted to protect nesting birds.</p> <p>Since 2009 no aquatic herbicides have been applied to Irish Canals when their use ceased on foot of changes to EU legislation. As a result, mechanical control using weed cutting boats, weed harvesters and "Trailing Blades" mounted to weed boats with subsequent removal of the weed, is the only currently viable method of managing weed growth on these waterways. Other interventions such as the introduction of weed eating Carp have been discounted due to the potential impact on the aquatic ecology of the canal, in particular to other fish species and the potential ineffectiveness of the non-native introduction of this species.</p> <p>To date the advice received has been that a deep cut (with the retention of intact bands of marginal vegetation along each bank) is applied early in the growing season, followed by a later summer cut, if required. For a number of reasons, it is also advised, in so far as it is possible, that cut weed is removed from the canal. These include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cut plants, if not removed from the canal, can and will re-grow; • floating weed can impede angling and other amenities; • decaying weed can result in localised oxygen depletions (a potential risk to fish health) <p>Every effort is made to minimise the impact of these operations on our very valuable fish stocks. Previous stock assessments across the Royal and Grand Canals indicate that fish stocks remain healthy. Furthermore, as part of WFD compliance monitoring Waterways Ireland sample 42 sites for physico-chemistry and aquatic macrophytes annually. The ecological quality of the waterway network remains good and continues to show compliance with these standards. Waterways Ireland is committed to continuing to work with Inland Fisheries Ireland to protect the environmental, amenity and fishery value of the Canals under our remit.</p>
2019-119	16/05/2019	Report of fishermen on the RC near Maynooth fishing dangerously close to where a swan and 5 signets are nesting.	Gave the numbers for Inland Fisheries Ireland and National Coarse Fishing Ireland and discussed the swan's welfare.
2019-120	17/05/2019	Looking for general condition assessment of the Errina Plassey Canal	Email sent with all data extracted from the Shannon Heritage Inventory about anything related to the Plassey Errina Canal. Lock data and link to interesting website also sent.
2019-121	21/05/2019	Report of knotweed on the bank of the canal outside Naas (about 40 – 50 metres west of the new Newbridge Road bridge, a stand of about 1 square metre and about 4-5 feet high)	Thanked individual for the notification. It will be incorporated into Waterways Ireland's spraying programme. It appears to be coming from the adjacent field.
2019-122	21/05/2019	Compliments in relation to the greatly reduced grass cutting along the canal bank @ Daingean	Waterways Ireland are progressing pollinator friendly initiatives along the canal network. We have held off cutting in Daingean and are in the process of consulting with the local Tidy towns.
2019-123	21/05/2019	Enquiry in relation to details of some of the projects Waterways Ireland awarded grants for Natural Heritage	Emailed the lists of all the projects Waterways Ireland have funded through the grant scheme from 2016 - 2018.
2019-124	21/05/2019	Asking for all correspondence, reports and other documents concerning the removal of trees along the Grand Canal in Dublin city from Dolphin Road bridge to the Grand Canal Dock since January 2016.	Questions answered
2019-125	24/05/2019	Name of substance being sprayed in Killaloe at the start of this month by waterways staff?	Waterways Ireland now only use Round-up Bioactive. Round-up Bioactive (constituent ingredient glyphosate) is the only herbicide currently deemed safe to use around/ near water courses.
2019-126	27/05/2019	Concerned about swans	Swan was on the Dodder River, not under our remit. Touched based with the Dodder Action Group to see if a clean-up could be organised.

Query no	Date	Description of Query	Answer Details
2019-127	28/05/2019	Complaint about the management of the Grand Canal in relation to algae bloom	We take great care in the management to the waterways under our remit and indeed have a comprehensive monitoring programme under the Water Framework Directive to ensure they achieve Good Ecological Potential. The results of this programme are submitted to the EPA for National Reporting on WFD. Recent monitoring results for the nearest monitoring point to Portobello, on Mespil Rd, approx. 1km away. were forwarded. The water quality complies with all standards set for phosphates in artificial waterbodies. The phenomenon witnessed might in fact be algal matting (common throughout the canal network) present on the bed of the canal rising to the surface. This occurs when decomposition under the matting releases gases and propels the entire mat to the surface. We remove these mats when maintenance vehicles are in the area. It is not related to pollution or lack of maintenance on the part of Waterways Ireland. It is purely a natural phenomenon.
2019-128	31/05/2019	Report of Dead Fish	Requested photos. Nothing received
2019-129	10/06/2019	Concerns about swans disappearing	There are a few possibilities as to why the swan cygnet numbers are decreasing: 1. Swans typically stay with their parents for approx.6 months – so at the moment they should only be in the region of 3-4 months old. However if the parents think the cygnets are old enough to look after themselves the parents cut the parental ties with them and chase them away, sometimes quite aggressively. 2. Male 'cob' swans have been known to attack and kill young cygnets. 3. They may have been subject to predation by other creatures. 4. They have just died of other natural causes – mortality in young cygnets is quite high.
2019-130	10/06/2019	Canal flora and fauna for an Information Panel	Emailed potential source of information such as: comprehensive eco surveys of the Barrow Line (including habitat maps) Built Heritage Inventory & illustrations of heritage boats Archive drawings or old photos from Waterways Ireland's archivist natureinstock.com are a good source of photos. So is the National Biodiversity Data Centre Local history group for local information Consider including NFC chips to redirect people to certain websites
2019-131	11/06/2019	Share photos and sketch from research. Any plan of an interpretation notice for the Four tops in Sallins?	Thanked person for the sketch for the sketch and the offer of the final drawing; we would be honoured to get a copy. Waterways Ireland would always welcome more information on such unique structures, or indeed any other aspect of canal heritage. Over time we would be looking at interpretation but to begin with I am hoping to access funding for a conservation assessment and restoration plan.
2019-132	12/06/2019	funding for the steamship project?	Unfortunately all our funds are fully committed this year, especially with the major redevelopment at Meelick – contributory funding is a part of the grant aid.
2019-133	12/06/2019	information on flooding / flooding risk at the lock house of Lock 21 on the Barrow Navigation, Tinnahinch Lower	We would not have reliable site-specific information such as this in-house. However I believe the owners of this house have had it for approx. 30 years and we would advise that the best people to ask would be them.
2019-134	17/06/2019	Grand Canal Polystyrene Beads	Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Marketing Section, who received the query
2019-135	19/06/2019	GIS layer showing extant sections of the Ulster Canal	Forwarded query to the Waterways Ireland technical services section.
2019-136	20/06/2019	Possibility of collaboration to minimise pollution at North Wall Quay	Waterways Ireland had looked at a sea bin but felt it wasn't right for the Grand Canal Basin.
2019-137	20/06/2019	Weed Cutting Query	Waterways Ireland's Operations are applying the weed cutting regime requested. We worked closely with Inland Fisheries Ireland and what was agreed was that the centre channel only would be cut leaving a buffer to each side during spawning time. It is recognised that the canal has a variety of uses but during this important time for coarse fish we adopt this regime to facilitate spawning and boating – a compromise, essentially. In doing so we can ensure the canal remains a productive and sustainable coarse fishery. As the Summer progresses the cutting regime can be expanded (come July) to these buffer zones, but leaving the reed fringe intact.

Query no	Date	Description of Query	Answer Details
2019-138	25/06/2019	Research on high water marks or flood marks that have been carved into stone bridges or walls in Ireland	Currently on the canals and no marks on the lock chambers so far but will keep an eye out. There would be grooves from water existing the sluices and plant growth.
2019-139	25/06/2019	Looking for Waterways Ireland's publication ' Guide to The Barrow - Ireland's Inland Waterways '	Query forwarded to Marketing Section
2019-140	01/07/2019	Questions about the Fingal County Council's Proposed Site Investigation works for the Royal Canal Urban Greenway	Environmental information supplied to the Chief's Executive Office. Complete answers sent, including info from Ops, env and Property Sections.
2019-141	05/07/2019	Advice on how best to manage algal bloom in a lake on Johnstown Castle Estate in Wexford and if there is something to be done to rectify.	Discussed the situation and the possible solutions.
2019-142	10/07/2019	Press release about the current crayfish plague in Carlow Barrow river?	Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Marketing section, who received the query: Best to contact NPWS directly on natureconservation@environ.ie so the most up to date info is furnished.
2019-143	11/07/2019	Query - Opposite-leaved Pondweed	Kayaks passing over the protected Opposite-leaved Pondweed are likely to have little impact as it rarely fully reaches the surface like outer aquatic plants. Later confirmed by NPWS.
2019-144	19/07/2019	Ulster Maritime Heritage Survey	Survey done
2019-145	19/07/2019	Request to take time to complete the survey in relation to the Ulster Maritime Heritage Strategy	Survey completed
2019-146	22/07/2019	Dublin city canal has run dry between second lock and Suir Road with complete fish kill off	Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Marketing Section, who received the query
2019-147	22/07/2019	Concerns about grass cutting east of Hyde Park as well as cut weeds dumped on banks, & consequent loss of good flowering	Requested photo of grass cutting to investigate. In relation to weed cutting, depositing the weed on the canal bank is a practice that has no viable alternative.
2019-148	23/07/2019	is there anything that can be done to help the local wildlife following the canal between the 1st & 2nd lock being empty	Thank for the offer of help but Inland Fisheries Ireland are on site salvaging as many fish as possible. Waterways Ireland notified them immediately on Sunday. Waterways Ireland also informed NPWS. Unfortunately we cannot allow people access to help as we are currently assessing the degree of instability as well as the accumulated silt making it hard to work in. Waterways Ireland is working with Irish Water and Dublin City Council to re-water as much of this level as possible once the breach had been secured.
2019-149	24/07/2019	Concern about water quality on the river Linn and two pipes (1 inlet & 1 outlet) from The new Centra Parks.	Was told that the River Linn is not under our jurisdiction during the initial phone call. Followed up by a phone call from the env Section to give more information about who is in charge of water quality or rivers. Message left.
2019-150	25/07/2019	Info about Shannon and Ardnacrusha	Info about Shannon and Ardnacrusha emailed
2019-151	02/08/2019	Is the water in the canal if filtered with a .1micron filter ok to drink?	Whilst the canal water chemistry is of a high standard which supports a myriad of wildlife, it is not a potable (drinking) water supply and as it is not treated we must advise you not to drink it, regardless of any filtering mechanism you have. In terms of accessing drinking water locations all public water drinking water locations are mapped by Refill Ireland: https://www.refill.ie/tap-map
2019-152	10/08/2019	Report of substantial oil spill in the Shannon at Big Meadow Athlone with several swan and cormorant casualties.	Ops section as well as Inland Fisheries Ireland and Westmeath county council were alerted. The Slick appears to be a heavy grade oil in this instance. No issues or fault with the lock gate or its hydraulic operating system.
2019-153	11/08/2019	Concerns about cutting on the Banks of the Grand Canal Rialto	Waterways Ireland continue to manage this stretch of the canal as per the agreed management protocol between Waterways Ireland and Grand Canal Biodiversity Group. Further along cutting has taken place as the level of growth was obscuring the steep bank and we felt this needed to be addressed on health and safety grounds given the high level of use by walkers and cyclists.
2019-154	20/08/2019	Concerns about env impact of balloon release near Monasterevin	Shared concerns but unfortunately the park is outside our jurisdiction and therefore we cannot prevent the event taking place.
2019-155	21/08/2019	Concerns about cutting on the Banks of the Grand Canal Rialto	Suggested answer forwarded to the Marketing Section : Waterways Ireland continue to manage this stretch of the canal as per the agreed management protocol between Waterways Ireland and Grand Canal Biodiversity Group. Further along cutting has taken place as the level of growth was obscuring the steep bank and we felt this needed to be addressed on health and safety grounds given the high level of use by walkers and cyclists.

Query no	Date	Description of Query	Answer Details
2019-156	26/08/2019	Report of neighbour's illegal cutting	Already reported to the Gardai. Report forwarded to NWPS for further inspection.
2019-157	27/08/2019	Lower Bann Water Quality data	Waterways Ireland has no water quality data available for the Lower Bann
2019-158	30/08/2019	Water activity hubs water quality controls	Emailed list of WFD parameters and associated thresholds
2019-159	02/09/2019	Concerns about birds behaviour along the Canal	Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Marketing Section, who received the query: In this instance we feel it would not be appropriate to interfere with the natural course of events and the food web in this locality, and that nature take its course.
2019-160	02/09/2019	Survey done of the Grand Canal in relation to the ESB cable pollution	Answer forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Marketing Section, who received the query: ESB Networks have developed protocols to investigate and deal with historic and future cable fluid incidents. Waterways Ireland is liaising on an on-going basis with ESB Networks regarding the implementation of these protocols with regard to potential leaks on the Grand Canal. This will include surveying, site characterisation and remedial action if required. The Grand Canal is also regularly monitored for a suite of water chemistry parameters as well as aquatic invertebrates and plants as part of our Water Framework Directive monitoring programme.
2019-161	05/09/2019	Concerns about unnecessary Round-up spraying	Waterways Ireland only use a limited amount of herbicide along the waterways and in this case we would be happy to review its use at these locations and see if changes could be made.
2019-162	08/09/2019	Concerns about illegal metal detection and possible theft of national artefacts from Scattery Island in the Shannon estuary	Scattery Island not under our remit. Confirmed that if we encounter similar activity around our navigation and witness any suspicious activity that we'd contact the National Museum and/or the Gardaí.
2019-163	11/09/2019	Cloondara Lock horizontal wheel	Waterways Ireland still have the winch and it is safe and sound in storage. We would like to showcase it at some point in the future so afraid not something Waterways Ireland is able to donate at the moment.
2019-164	12/09/2019	Concerns about the lack of fish in the canal since it was dredged.	Inaccurate information about how far the electro fished fish were relocated to. Offered to keep an eye on the situation just to be sure.
2019-165	12/09/2019	Cross section image for information board	Emailed sketch of a canal cross section, however it does not reflect the cross section on the Mountmellick Branch. Emailed some photos which can be used directly or to inform a graphic though this would need to be commissioned.
2019-166	12/09/2019	Report of disorientated swan at Ashtown (Dublin) and possibly in danger of being hit by a car	DSCPA contact number given
2019-167	13/09/2019	Most common species of weed in the canals	Emailed the list of plants found in the canals from our Water Framework Directive monitoring, with the more common ones highlighted in yellow.
2019-168	16/09/2019	Lough Erne Bird Populations	According to the Lough Erne Wilfowlers Council there are healthy numbers of ducks and geese. The very wet weather means they are dispersed over a very wide area, with a lot of farmland flooded with pools and ponds.
2019-169	20/09/2019	How the activities of Waterways Ireland help sustain biodiversity, promote sustainability and combat climate change?	Gave a list of activities by Waterways Ireland which have supported biodiversity
2019-170	21/09/2019	Waterways Ireland Grants available	Whilst Waterways Ireland does provide grant supports to communities in groups in terms of heritage and event sponsorship; unfortunately Loch Cuan is outside our remit and therefore not eligible to apply.
2019-171	23/09/2019	Interpretative signs	Interpretative signs would be an eligible project to apply to our Heritage Grants Scheme – launched in November each year. If you subscribe to our e-zine below you can get updates on it and other waterway heritage issues. In addition the Community Climate Action Fund (closing date is very soon) would be an option. This administered by the Local Authorities and was formerly known as Local Agenda 21. There is also LEADER funding, Inland Fisheries Ireland have grants schemes as do the Waters & Communities Office. Unfortunately Waterways Ireland would not be in a position to fund the sign in its entirety but can offer resources in terms of knowledge, advice and possibly operational assistance
2019-172	24/09/2019	Possibility of Waterways Ireland getting involved in the project 'The School of Looking' Show Boat	Shared some useful resources. Project has now become a much bigger project with potential for Dublin City Council and Arts Council funding. On going
2019-173	24/09/2019	Concerns about pollution on the Barrow near Borris	Unfortunately Waterways Ireland do not have the remit nor resources to investigate such pollution events. However as the local authority and Inland Fisheries Ireland have both been contacted.

Query no	Date	Description of Query	Answer Details
2019-174	03/10/2019	GIS data for ecological survey in County Westmeath	GIS data emailed as requested
2019-175	03/10/2019	Dead swan to be removed	Outside our area. Referred to Dublin City Council.
2019-176	04/10/2019	GIS data that can be used to determine on the national distribution of water based activities which will be used to feed in to the pilot risk assessment for Crayfish Plague.	GIS data emailed as requested
2019-177	15/10/2019	Complaint that weed borders restrict the Navigation	Input from Env sent to Inspectorate (who received the query) to answer.
2019-178	19/10/2019	Is there a register of heritage boats in Ireland?	Waterways Ireland have been commissioning heritage boat audits since 2016 with the last one taking for the Erne System & Lower Bann. However these only pertain to the 7 navigations under Waterways Ireland's remit and is not a national survey.
2019-179	04/11/2019	Waterways Ireland's policies in place regarding tow paths and tree maintenance along the waterways?	Discussed the issue over the phone.
2019-180	04/11/2019	Concerns about Leptospirosis	No known incidents at Kilcock. Waterways Ireland recommend water activity users follow the precautions, for any water sports in any location, as advised by the HSE.
2019-181	06/11/2019	Sharing of data about underwater wartime artefacts in Lough Erne	Forwarded info to the archive section.
2019-182	08/11/2019	Invitation to take part in 'Reading Your Local Landscape' training course	Confirmed that Waterways Ireland environment section will be delighted to be involved. Details to be discussed over the phone.
2019-183	15/11/2019	Waterways Ireland promotional material	Forwarded query to the Marketing Section
2019-184	18/11/2019	Invitation to attend presentation	Not available that day.
2019-185	26/11/2019	Wildlife Information - Dublin Waterways	Share link to Waterways Ireland data on heritage as well as contacts to other agencies that have data
2019-186	05/12/2019	Dead cygnet	Waterways Ireland collected and bagged the dead cygnet for collection by the Dept of Agriculture vet
2019-187	06/12/2019	Heritage Grant conditions	Heritage Grant only applies to the waterways under Waterways Ireland's remit.
2019-188	06/12/2019	Dead cygnet	Forwarded draft answer to Marketing Section who received the complaint
2019-189	07/12/2019	Complaint about litter at Grand Canal Dock	Forwarded draft answer to Ops Section who received the complaint
2019-190	07/12/2019	Dead cygnet	Forwarded draft answer to Ops Section who received the complaint
2019-191	09/12/2019	length of the River Lee in Cork?	Not under our remit. EPA WFD section might be able to help.
2019-192	12/12/2019	Potential use of scale model of the Killaloe lock and house by Waterways Ireland	Discussed this with archive section. Interested and will get in touch with owner.
2019-193	13/12/2019	Theatre project	Project focused on the River Lee, which is outside Waterways Ireland's jurisdiction
2019-194	15/12/2019	Progress on the Leixlip green way development	No further developments from Kildare County Council on this project
2019-195	18/12/2019	Shannon Heritage Inventory not available online	Request the document to be added onto Waterways Ireland website and copy on CD posted.