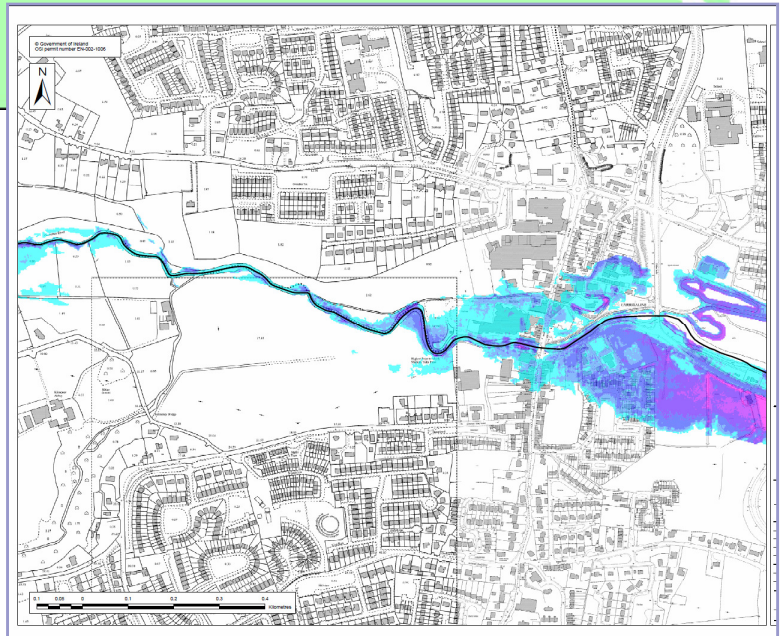
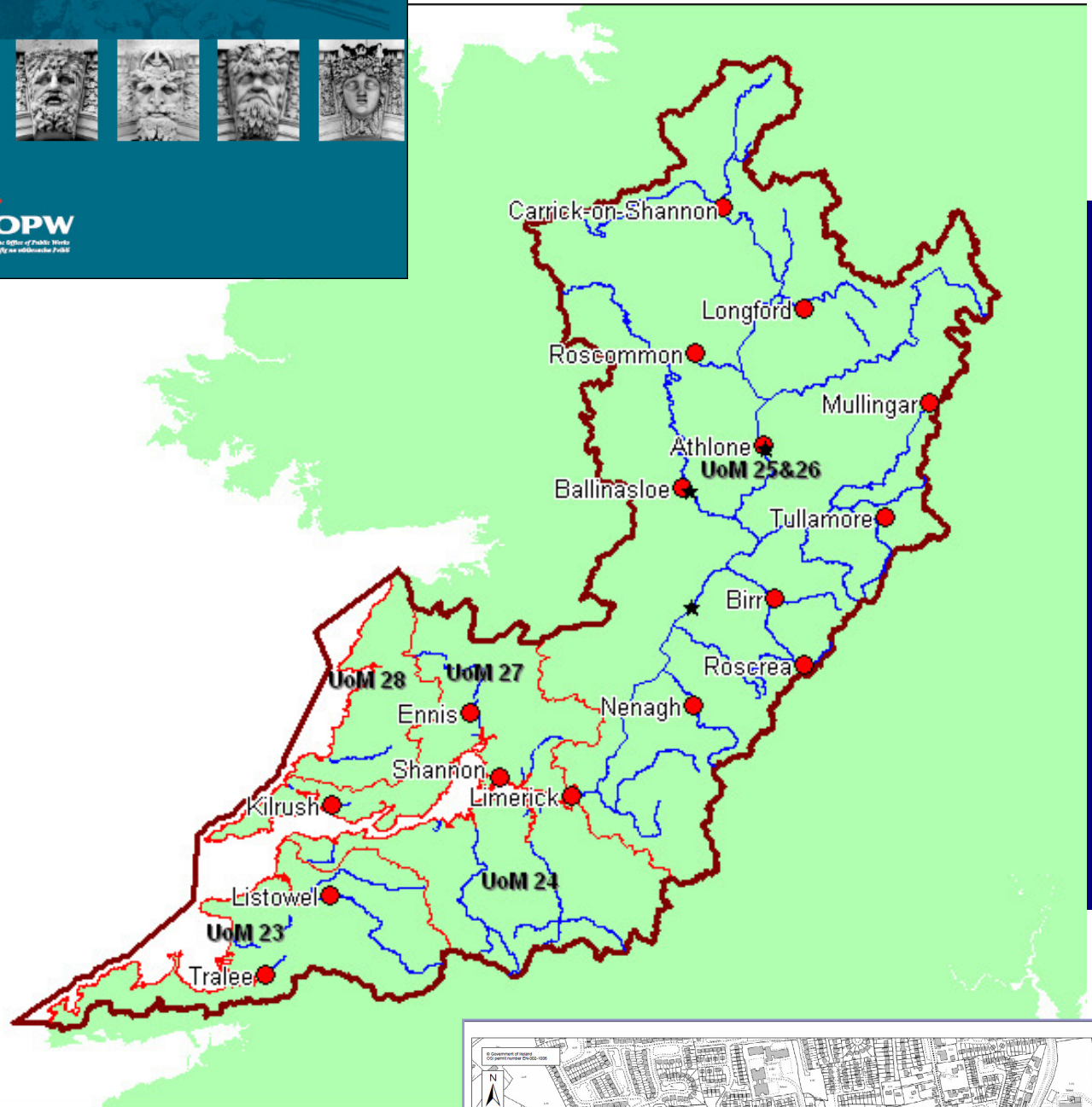


SHANNON CFRAM STUDY

Report of the
FLOOD POLICY REVIEW GROUP



Background & Process

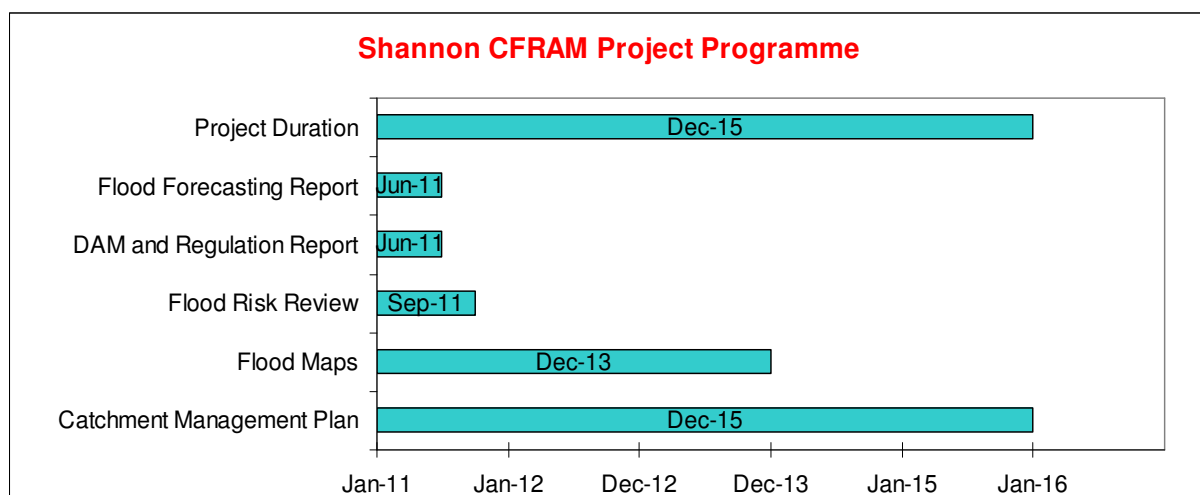
The Shannon Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (CFRAMS) is the first of seven such river basin district studies being carried out to meet the requirements of the EU Floods Directive (Directive 2007/60/EC) and the 2004 Flood Policy Review Report. The study will focus on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas subject to significant development pressure both now and in the future. The study area is divided up into Units of Management (UoM) and all key deliverables to the EU will be on a UoM basis including flood mapping and catchment flood risk management plans.

Work on the study started in January 2011 and will be completed by December 2015. At an initial stage the CFRAMS will review the operating regulations and procedures of the control structures and dams on the river Shannon. In December 2013 the Flood Maps will be published. The Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) will be published in December 2015. The plans will define the levels of existing and future flood risk in the Shannon RBD area and set out how this will be managed both now and into the future.

The project is divided up into a number of key stages. The key stages are

- Data Collection & Surveying
- Flood Risk Review
- Hydrology Analysis
- Detailed Hydraulic Modelling
- Flooding Mapping
- Strategic Environmental Assessment & Appropriate Assessment
- Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan

The OPW is the competent authority in Ireland for the EU Floods Directive and will be working in partnership with their Consultants, the Local Authorities and with other stakeholders including ESB and Waterways Ireland. A brief outline of the programme is below.





Study Area

The Shannon River Basin District is the largest River Basin District (RBD) in Ireland, covering approximately 17,800km² and more than 20% of the island of Ireland. The Shannon RBD is an International RBD. The RBD includes the entire catchment of the River Shannon and its estuary as well as some catchments in North Kerry and West Clare that discharge to the Atlantic. There are five Units of Management within the Study Area. This includes the Shannon Callows area where significant flooding occurs every summer.

The RBD includes parts of 17 counties: Limerick, Clare, Tipperary, Offaly, Westmeath, Longford, Roscommon, Kerry, Galway, Leitrim, Cavan, Sligo, Mayo, Cork, Laois, Meath and Fermanagh.

Objectives

- To produce detailed flood mapping in order to identify and map the existing and potential future flood hazard and risk areas within the study area.
- Build the strategic information base necessary for making informed decisions in relation to managing flood risk.
- Identify viable structural and non-structural measures and options for managing the flood risks for localised high-risk areas and within the catchment as a whole.
- Prepare a Flood Risk Management Plan for each of UoM for the study area. (Strategic Environmental Assessment) that sets out the measures and policies, including guidance on appropriate future development, that should be pursued by the local authorities, the OPW and other stakeholders to achieve the most cost effective and sustainable management of flood risk within the study area taking account of the effects of climate change and complying with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.

The flood hazards and risks to be addressed include both those that currently exist and those that might potentially arise in the future. The risk management measures, options and management plan should equally address both existing and potential future hazards and risks.

The Flood Risk Management Plan will include prioritized studies, actions and works (structural and non-structural), including indicative costs and benefits, to manage the flood risk in the area in the long-term, and make recommendations in relation to appropriate development planning. The project is intended to develop a strategic flood risk management plan, and is not intended to develop detailed design of individual risk management measures

Communication & Consultation

Public Involvement

Consultation will be undertaken throughout the study to ensure that the knowledge, experience and views of the stakeholders and the general public are taken into account at all stages of the study including the development of the CFRMP. Public Consultation days will be advertised in the local press, websites of participating local authorities and website of the Office of Public Works. These consultation days will occur in each community at risk for each key stage of the project.

Contact Details

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