



**NPWS**

An tSeirbhís Páircenna  
Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra  
National Parks and Wildlife  
Service

**Derogation Number  
DER-BAT-2025-240**

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (BIRDS AND NATURAL HABITATS) REGULATIONS,  
2011 (S.I. No 477 of 2011)**

**DEROGATION**

Granted under Regulation 54 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, hereinafter referred to as “the Habitats Regulations”.

The Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by Regulation 54 of the Habitats Regulations hereby grants to **Seamus Quinn & Wesley Wilkinson** of **Laois County Council, Aras an Chontae, Portlaoise, County Laois, R32 EHP9** a derogation. It is stated that this derogation is issued:

- A. In the interests of public health and public safety, or for other imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment
- B. As there is no satisfactory alternative, and the action authorised by this derogation will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of **bats** referred to below at a favourable conservation status in their natural range.

This derogation authorises the following:

- 1. Roost disturbance
- 2. Actions authorised within the derogation

The derogation is issued in respect of the following **bat species**:

- **Brown Long-Eared Bat** **Plecotus Auritus**



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### Terms and Conditions

1. This derogation is granted solely to allow the activities specified in connection with the works located at **Lisbigney Bridge, Lisbigney, Ballinakill, County Laois [Grid Ref 52.874240, - 7.3227345]**, for **Seamus Quinn & Wesley Wilkinson**.
2. All activities authorised by this derogation, and all equipment used in connection herewith, shall be carried out, constructed and maintained (as the case may be) so as to avoid unnecessary injury or distress to any species of **BAT**. Anything done other than in accordance with the terms of this derogation may constitute an offence
3. This derogation may be modified or revoked, for stated reasons, at any time.
4. The mitigation measures outlined in the application report (**Boleybeg Bridge Lisbigney Bridge - AA River Nore and River Barrow SAC 2025 final**), together with any changes or clarification agreed in correspondence between NPWS and the agent or applicant, are to be carried out. Strict adherence must be paid to all the proposed measures in the application.
5. The actions which this derogation authorise shall be completed between **14<sup>th</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, inclusive**.
6. The works will be supervised by bat ecologist: **Caroline Shiel**.
7. The bridge must be surveyed by the bat ecologist immediately prior to works commencing and steps are to be taken to ensure that any bats present are not harmed during the works.
8. The crevices marked for retention by the bat ecologist are to be retained in a condition suitable for bat roosting.
9. An Ecological Clerk of Works is present on site for these works who is suitably trained as a bat ecologists and aquatic ecologists to assess impacts during works and has power to suspend works if there are any incidents of pollution or bats caught up in the works.
10. No new lighting be placed under or near the bridges.
11. All machinery and equipment is disinfected prior to being used/set up on site. This is required for biosecurity on site.
12. Inland fisheries must be consulted prior to these works in relation to mitigation measures relating to aquatic habitats/species.
13. If this derogation addresses works that are subject of a planning application, no such works permitted under this derogation can occur until planning permission is granted.
14. If this derogation expires prior to works permitted under this derogation commencing, a new application must be sought in advance, including the provision of any updated data or reports.
15. This derogation shall be produced for inspection on a request being made on that behalf by a member of An Garda Síochána or an authorised NPWS officer appointed under Regulation 4 of the Habitats Regulations.
16. The local **NPWS Conservation Ranger**, [tom.peters@npws.gov.ie](mailto:tom.peters@npws.gov.ie), must be contacted prior to the commencement of any activity, and if bats are detected on site during the course of the work, under the terms of this derogation.
17. On completion of the actions which this derogation authorises, all recordings of bat species affected will be made using the standardised data form provided below and must be submitted to the NPWS **within four weeks of the expiry date of this licence**. Included with the below returns form, a report will also be submitted to [wildlife.reports@npws.gov.ie](mailto:wildlife.reports@npws.gov.ie) detailing results of works and success of mitigation. **Both documents must be submitted to constitute a derogation return.**



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**For the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage**

(an officer authorised by the Minister to sign on his behalf)

**14 May 2025**

Any query in relation to this derogation should be sent to [reg54derogations@npws.gov.ie](mailto:reg54derogations@npws.gov.ie)





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## Article 16 (Habitats Directive) - Returns Form

This returns form is for use in respect of:

***Regulation 54 – Derogation to protect wild fauna and conserving natural habitats***

***1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, inclusive***

**Derogation Number: DER-BAT-2025-240**

**Derogation Holder: Seamus Quinn & Wesley Wilkinson**

Species (English & Scientific)	No. of Individuals Affected	No. of Breeding Places	No. of Resting Places

Nil Return ☐

Derogation Holder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Returns must be emailed to the following email address:

[wildlife.reports@npws.gov.ie](mailto:wildlife.reports@npws.gov.ie)