SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: LIFFEY AT OSBERSTOWN

SITE CODE: 001395

This site is located about 2km north-west of Naas, on the east bank of the River Liffey.

The site, which was surveyed in 1976, is on a steep bank of about 10m in height. It is formed of a wet boulder-clay surface covered by mosses, willow (*Salix* spp.) scrub and some herbaceous species. The main plant of interest at the site was Dark-leaved Willow (*Salix myrsinifolia*), a rare plant in Ireland. By 1983 this site had been cleared of woodland and no Dark-leaved Willow was found.

Ground flora included Bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), Primrose (*Primula vulgaris*), Marsh Hawk's-beard (*Crepis paludosa*), False Brome (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*), Common Sedge (*Carex nigra*) and Hart's-tongue (*Phyllitis scolopendrium*). The scarce Variegated Horsetail (*Equisetum variegatum*) also occurred at the site.

Plants found on the riverbank included Hemlock Water-dropwort (*Oenanthe crocata*), Cow Parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) and Water Mint (*Mentha aquatica*).

This site represented a good example of riverside vegetation, with two scarce plants. Although cleared of woodland in 1983, remnants may remain or regeneration may have occurred.

20.11.2009