

**PRIORITY ACTIONS FINGAL BIODIVERSITY PLAN (2023-2026)**

No.	ACTION	2023	2024	2025	2026	comments
1	<b>Implement Masterplan for Rogerstown Inner Estuary and prepare &amp; implement masterplan for Rogerstown Outer Estuary</b>	HV	HV	EBX	EBX	<b>Flagship project Swords/Balbriggan</b> 2023 & 2024 of Turvey & Rahillion loops 2023 wetland works Turvey
2	Continue to support Little Tern and Ringed Plover conservation project at tip of Portrane	HV	EBX	EBX	EBX	Annual project implemented by Fingal Branch Birdwatch
3	Continue managing lands at the Burrow Portrane for Green winged orchid and Hairy Violet	HV				
5	<b>Prepare and implement masterplan for Malahide Estuary SAC &amp; SPA, including Cave's Marsh</b>		EBX HV	EBX	EBX	Priority Action NPWS
6	Develop artificial nesting platforms Malahide estuary			EBX		Priority Action Birdwatch
7	Restore Wintering bird roosting site at Cave's Marsh in Malahide	HV	EBX			Already committed to and part of action 5
8	Organise clean-up of mudflats in Malahide Estuary once a year					Implementation by Ops
9	Maintain the verge along the coast Road between Portmarnock & Malahide as a wildflower meadow					Implementation by Ops
10	<b>Prepare and implement masterplan for Baldoyle bay SAC &amp; SPA</b>	HV	HV	HV		Primary focus is on development of Racecourse Park
11	Lease or acquire the Sluice River Marsh for wildlife					Priority Action HSI
12	Develop and implement detailed management plan for the Howth Head SAC & SPA		DOF HV			Part of implementation Operational plan Howth SAAO (action 13)
13	<b>Develop and implement Operational Plans for Howth Head SAAO and Liffey Valley SAAO</b>	DOF	DOF	DOF	DOF	<b>Flagship projects D15 and Howth/Malahide</b>

14	Support implementation of Dublin Bay Biosphere Nature Conservation Strategy, Education & Awareness strategy	HV	HV DOF MBX	HV DOF MBX	HV DOF MBX	Part of Biosphere commitments
15	Develop management plans for key winter bird sites identified in satellite tagging programs		EBX HV Brent Goose		EBX Other waders	Priority Action NPWS
16	Prepare and implement masterplan for Tolka Valley Park					Implementation by Projects Team PGI Div 2025-2026
17	Prepare and implement masterplan for Ward River Valley Park					Implementation by Projects Team PGI Div 2023-2024
18	Prepare and implement masterplan for the linear park along the Mayne River together with Dublin City Council					Priority Action Howth/Malahide ACM Implementation by Projects Team PGI Div 2026-2027
20	Seek to establish an ecological corridor to link the Royal Canal, the Tolka River and the Liffey Valley			HV	HV	Priority Action D15 ACM
25	Manage linear calcareous grassland strip along the Canal at Clonsilla					Priority Action D15 ACM
26	<b>Control invasive species in Fingal</b>	HV DOF	EBX DOF	EBX DOF	EBX DOF	Already ongoing and to be continued until invasive species are eradicated
27	Prepare biodiversity plans for golf courses in conjunction with golf course owners to enhance their grounds for Biodiversity	HV	EBX			3 plans to be prepared: Howth Golf Club, Beaverstown Golf Club and one links course
29	Prepare planning & design guidance for incorporating nesting facilities in building facades		PEX			Priority Action Architects Dept
30	Prepare guidance document and training on quality rating and management prescription of hedgerows in open space for FCC Operations and developers	DT HV	DT HV			Priority Action Hedge laying Association Ireland
31	Prepare promotional guidance on how to incorporate biodiversity in development and infrastructure projects		PEX	PEX		Priority Action Planning SPC
35	Pilot a biodiversity inclusive design for a social housing estate with green roofs, green walls,					Implementation by FCC Architects

	wetland & pond SUDS, green carparking, nest boxes in facades, wildflower meadows and wildlife friendly shrubs and trees in open space.					
36	All Council housing, parks and infrastructure projects to include biodiversity enhancement proposals		PEX/HV	PEX/HV	PEX/HV	Priority Action Planning SPC
37	Develop pesticide use policy for Fingal County Council	HV				Priority Ops
38	Support and promote All Ireland Pollinator Plan Actions for Councils and monitor resulting changes					Priority Action Fingal Beekeepers Implementation by Ops
39	Develop a grass maintenance policy for open spaces including options for grass disposal from wildflower meadows		DT			Priority Ops 2024
40	<b>Implement Tidy Towns Biodiversity Action Plans</b>	DT	DT	DT	DT	Already underway
41	<b>Organise and monitor the effects of a biodiversity make-over of 3 housing estates in Fingal in conjunction with local residents and FCC Operations Department</b>		DOF DT HV	DOF DT HV	DOF DT HV	FCC Biodiversity Priority
43	<b>Prepare wetland and river restoration project for the Bog of the Ring and the Matt river corridor</b>		HV	HV		Priority Action LAWPRO
44	Develop St. Ita's local nature reserve	HV	HV			Already underway. Action in climate action plan
45	<b>Develop SUDS demonstration sites in the Tolka Valley, Ward River Valley, Balbriggan town Park and Rogerstown estuary</b>		HV ward	HV Balbriggan	HV Tolka	Priority Action Swords/Balbriggan ACM
46	Prepare and implement woodland management plans in Fingal Demesnes and parks	St Catherines	Malahide Santry	Ardgillan	Millenium Park	Implementation by OPS
48	Identify and acquire where possible, Climate buffer sites where flood defence features can					Priority Action Climate Change Team

	be removed or relocated to increase flood capacity of rivers and estuaries					
51	Acquire and/or lease lands at Rogerstown, Broadmeadow and Baldoyle estuaries					Priority Action Climate Action, Biodiversity & Environment SPC
52	Support reintroduction of Osprey in Fingal and install artificial nest platforms near estuaries		HV			Priority Action Golden Eagle Trust
53	<b>Wild FCC owned Corballis golf club lands to create natural Grey dunes (bad status in Ireland)</b>			HV	HV	Priority Action Swords/Balbriggan ACM
54	Acquire large area of farmland or work with farmer(s) for wilding project to create alternative natural habitat for declining typical farmland species					Priority Action Climate Action, Biodiversity & Environment SPC
56	<b>Carry out feasibility studies of developing a Marine Protection Area along the Fingal Coast and on the restoration of Oyster beds, Shellfish beds, Seagrass beds and Kelp stands</b>		MBX	MBX	MBX	Priority Action Howth/Malahide ACM
57	<b>Restore marine ecosystem along Fingal coast by supporting restoration projects of Oyster beds, Shellfish beds, Seagrass beds and Kelp stands</b>		MBX	MBX	MBX	Priority Action Marine and Coastal Management SPC
58	<b>Develop Newbridge Farm as a national hub for the promotion of Irish rare farm breeds</b>	HV	HV	HV	HV	Priority Action DAFM Genetic Resources
59	Use native Irish farm breeds for conservation grazing schemes	HV	HV	HV EBX	HV EBX	Already underway and to be expanded
61	<b>Develop a 400ha demonstration Agri-Environment EIP Scheme with local farmers in Fingal targeting farmland birds and habitats and water quality improvement measures</b>	HV	HV			Priority Action Grey Partridge Trust
62	Develop Bird of Prey Conservation project with local farmers including raising awareness of			HV	HV	Priority Action Golden Eagle Trust. Can be combined with 61 or 63

	the impacts of Rodenticide use and its proper application					
63	Develop demonstration farm(s) for biodiversity conservation e.g. hedgerow management, field margins, river management, soil improvement, Integrated pest management, nest boxes etc.					<b>Fall Back priority action if 61 is not successful</b>
65	Fund satellite tracking studies of winter birds listed as qualifying features in SPA's	HV	HV	HV		Already underway
68	Carry out Otter survey all of rivers in Fingal	HV	HV			Already underway
69	Carry out urban bird and bat survey		DT	DT		Tidy towns action
70	Undertake study to identify the habitats and species at risk of climate change			HV		Priority Action Climate Change Team
71	Explore funding models for carbon offsetting to fund wetland and woodland development			HV		Priority Action Climate Change Team
74	Map townland boundary hedgerows on green infrastructure maps				HV	Priority action hedgelaying association
84	Undertake surveys of obstacles to fish passage for freshwater migratory fish species and identify mitigation options on all rivers	Ward HV	Liffey DOF			Priority Action IFI
85	Carry out an ecological study and habitat assessment of the Delvin, Ballyboughal, Corduff, Turvey, Mayne, Sluice and Matt rivers			HV	Mayne HV	Connected to actions 43, 49 and 18
87	Carry out breeding bird, flora and invertebrate studies in Turvey Nature Reserve, Donabate		EBX		EBX	
89	Assess lands adjacent to estuaries for breeding potential for Redshank, Snipe and Lapwing		EBX			Priority Action Birdwatch
92	<b>Establish a monitoring programme on coastal dynamics along the Fingal Coast</b>			HV	HV	Priority Action Marine and Coastal Management SPC
93	Re-develop Fingal Biodiversity website and social media channels	HV				Website only

95	<b>Develop a Nature Education Centre for Dublin in Turvey Nature Park</b>	HV	HV	HV		Priority Action Fingal Biodiversity
97	<b>Run a nature education program for primary and secondary schools</b>	DT	DT	DT	DT	Already being planned
100	Develop operational procedures with respect to Council work that may impact on SAC's and SPA's and protected species		HV			Priority Action Ops/Water Services

	<b>54 + 8 = 62</b>	2023	2024	2025	2026
No of actions		Hans Visser 19	Hans Visser 18	Hans Visser 16	Hans Visser 12
		Deborah Tiernan 3 (22)	Deborah Tiernan 5 (22)	Deborah Tiernan 4 (22)	Deborah Tiernan 3 (22)
		Exec Biodiversity Officer -	Exec Biodiversity Officer 7	Exec Biodiversity Officer 7	Exec Biodiversity Officer 7
		Marine Biodiversity Officer -	Marine Biodiversity Officer 3	Marine Biodiversity Officer 3	Marine Biodiversity Officer 3
		Planning Ecologist -	Planning Ecologist 3	Planning Ecologist 2	Planning Ecologist 1
		Deirdre O'Farrell 2 (M)	Deirdre O'Farrell 5 (M)	Deirdre O'Farrell 4(M)	Deirdre O'Farrell 4 (M)

