

Appendix III

Habitat characteristics and descriptions from the ecological site visit to the proposed Islandbridge Pontoon referred to in Section 3.2 as well as Figure 3.5 of this assessment. These habitat types were identified and categorised following the Fossitt (2000)¹ classification system for Ireland. Given the extent of the site, lack of habitat diversity and dominance of a couple of habitat types, these habitat types are given a brief text description, followed by a table listing all plants found in those habitats and supported by the habitat map replicated below.

Habitat types within the project boundary of the site

Mixed Broadleaved Woodland (WD1)

High quality mature woodland to the north of the proposed site that encompasses the majority of the area of the proposed site. Mostly composed of mature sycamore. Habitat is an intermittently flooded river island but not riparian. Survey was conducted in winter so is not fully representative of plant species in this habitat.

Scientific name	Common name
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Common Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>
Colt's-Foot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
Sedge	<i>Carex spp.</i>
False Brome Grass	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Willow	<i>Salix spp.</i>
Elm	<i>Ulmus laevis</i>

Scrub (WS1)

Grass/scrub transition habitat due to a large amount from disturbance from humans. Thus, there are also areas of exposed mud. Survey was conducted in winter so is not indicative of full plant species in this scrub patch.

Scientific name	Common name
Common Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
False Brome Grass	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
Sedge	<i>Carex spp.</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus spp.</i>
Common Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>

Habitat types outside of the proposed development site

Habitat types surrounding the proposed Islandbridge Pontoon were viewed at the landscape scale using satellite imagery due to the expanse of the site. The proposed site is located on the River Liffey and thusly, there are freshwater habitats in the larger surrounding area. With the amenity grasslands (GA2) of Phoenix Park and the Memorial Gardens to the north and south with various buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3) further away and in the surrounding area but these were not recorded. Any impact from proposed works to be done on habitats in the proposed site are negligible to the ecology of the area.

¹ Fossitt, J.A., 2000. *A guide to habitats in Ireland*. Heritage.



Figure 1 Habitat map of the proposed Islandbridge Pontoon as at June 2022; using Fossit coding for habitats