



11th April 2019

Dear Antoina Gaughran,

Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Eastern & Midland Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy

Thank you for your letter dated 15th March 2019. The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland (DAERA) and Department for Communities Historic Environment Division (HED) have considered the consultation and associated documents.

DAERA Marine and Fisheries Division have suggested the inclusion of cross-border co-ordination for management of alien invasive species and the conservation of native species under section 7.17 of EMRA RSES Regional Policy Objectives:

7.17 Facilitate cross boundary (and cross-border?) co-ordination between Local Authorities and the relevant agencies in the Region to provide clear governance arrangements and coordination mechanisms to support the development of

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ecological networks and enhanced connectivity between protected sites whilst also addressing the need for management of alien invasive species and the conservation of native species.

Please contact the SEA Team at [REDACTED] should you have any queries or require clarification.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Georgina Thurgate
Senior Scientific Officer
Natural Environment Division

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