

MACRO MONITORING RESULTS

OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEYING AND MONITORING
FOR THE
WILD ATLANTIC WAY
OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

for:

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Section 1 Introduction and Background

1.1 Background

This report is one of a suite of reports which comprise the 2018 Wild Atlantic Way (WAW) environmental surveying and monitoring program. This suite of reports includes the following:

- The macro monitoring results;
- The visitor observation study results;
- The ecological study of visitor movement areas; and
- The further monitoring reports.

These assessments are being undertaken as part of the obligations set out in the SEA and AA reports of the WAW operational program. The data collected aims to characterise the interactions between tourism and key environmental metrics along the WAW. This includes characterisation of typical activities and effects¹ from individual tourists to broad scale effects such as waste water management.

These assessments are undertaken annually and the scope of works being undertaken is reviewed by the environmental working group which meets twice a year to discuss the monitoring program. The working group consists of stakeholders such as local authority representatives as well as representatives from agencies such as the EPA and NPWS.

The monitoring is intended to be a high level snap shot of the existing condition of sites along the WAW to inform the strategic planning of the WAW.

This report forms Strand 1 of the monitoring reports. Details of the methodology and results obtained are contained in the following sections. The results of the Macro Monitoring are collated and presented to a Monitoring Group each year along with results of all other WAW monitoring activities.

¹ This classification system is specific to the visitor monitoring programme and any reference to effects or impacts within this report does not relate to similar terms within the Habitats Directive but to general activities and associated environmental effects as detailed in Appendix III of the Visitor monitoring report.

1.2 Introduction

Strand One of the monitoring strategy concentrates on long-established, high quality and high-level official baselines. These measures *inter alia* the seasonal variances in environmental loading caused by visitors - such as water quality, road traffic, Blue Flag Beach conditions and Green Coast Awards. There are 7 monitoring sites and 4 control sites selected for the purpose of the macro monitoring.; the 7 sites are:

- Dungloe;
- Bundoran;
- Newport;
- Galway Bay;
- Kilrush;
- Bantry; and
- Cahersiveen.

The 4 control points are:

- Ballybofey;
- Gort;
- Castleisland; and
- Lahinch.

A number of gateway locations exist along the WAW, namely Cork, Killarney, Limerick, Kilrush, Ennis, Galway, Westport, Sligo, Donegal and Letterkenny. These gateway locations capture the infiltration of visitors. They also supply the high-level 'input' data for the monitoring before they become dissipated among many smaller destinations and intra-urban settlements.

The sites were selected on the basis that they are primary settlements along the Wild Atlantic Way route which are representative of a range of typical tourism-based settlements and where data is readily available

The purpose of macro monitoring is to identify the state of the environment at these intra-urban settlements such as Bundoran in Co. Donegal, which often accommodate and entertain the bulk of overnight visitors.

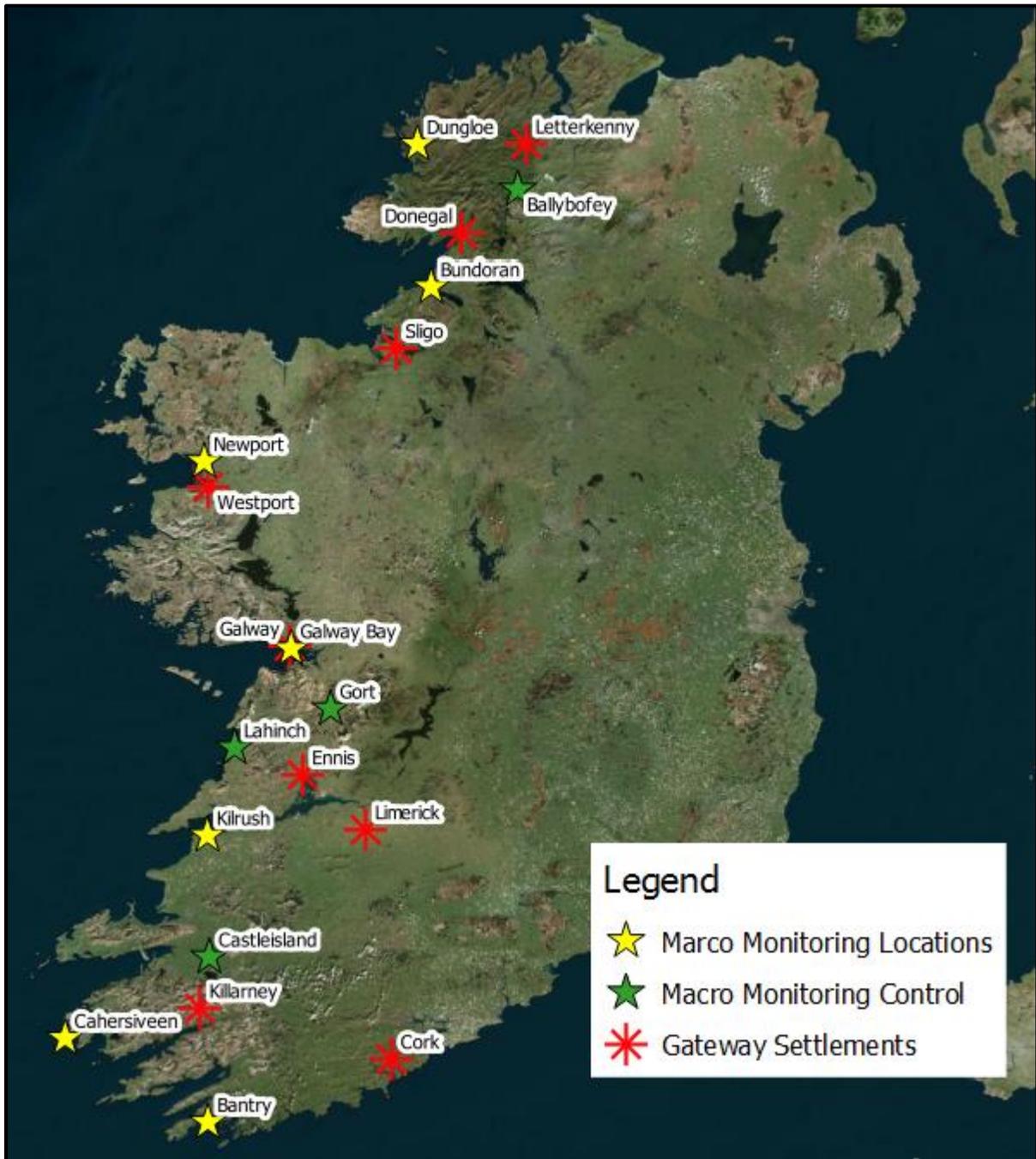


Figure 1.1 Locations of Macro Monitoring sites, the control sites and the gateways settlements

1.3 Methodology for Macro - Monitoring

The initial macro monitoring focuses on the seven aforementioned sites (intra-urban settlements). This monitoring can be expanded to prioritise other areas in order of sensitivity and significance as directed by the monitoring group, sites will be updated and informed by results.

The 4 control sites can also be expanded in order of sensitivity and significance as directed by the monitoring group.

The technical indicators chosen are outlined in Table 1.1 below. Each indicator was chosen based on meeting a specific criterion whereby datasets presently exist for infrastructure. The information collected from the existing datasets will be combined annually to identify trends and changes in the technical indicators identified for each of the 11 monitoring points. The results will be presented to identify which trends and changes to technical indicators are directly attributed to tourism.

1. Traffic Volume;
2. Water Quality;
3. Blue Flag Beaches and Marinas;
4. National Green Coast Award; and
5. Fáilte Ireland visitor numbers.

Other intervening factors such as a technical failure at a wastewater treatment plant which are not attributed to tourism will also be highlighted.

If the results show that visitor activity and/or visitor intensification is predicted or identified to result in a negative way on the environment in particular locations, the recommendations will be made depending on the outcome and as directed by the monitoring group.

Table 1.1 Macro Monitoring Indicators and data sources

Factor	Technical Indicator	Monitoring	Authority/Source	Frequency
Water Quality	Non-conformities with relevant legislative requirements in Waste Water Treatment data available from licensed facilities (Waste Water Treatment Plants and Agglomerations)	<p>Non-conformances relating to minimum water quality standards and the licenced Population Equivalent (P.E) loading for the WWTP will be examined.</p> <p>Where a non-conformance is identified, the EPA collects and details information on the reason for failure. Persistent effects that is attributable to tourism i.e. overloading of treatment capacity resulting in failure to meet minimum requirements in summer months as a result of high visitor numbers.</p> <p>Non-conformances related to a relevant intervening factor, such as mechanical/technical issues, will be noted.</p>	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Annual
	Conformance with legislative requirements at the closest bathing water monitoring site	Non-conformances relating to minimum bathing water quality standards and legislative Coastal Water Quality status will be assessed		
Traffic Volume	Upward/downward trend in traffic volumes during tourist season and shoulder seasons	Assessment of National Roads Authority traffic counters adjacent to chosen sites and along the WAW route where year-round statistics are collected.	National Roads Authority (NRA)	Annual
		Assessment of Local Authority data from intermittent monitoring of regional and local road traffic (where available). Regional and local roads comprise of 75% of the WAW Route.	Local Authorities	
Blue Flag Beaches and Marinas	Upward/downward trend in award/status	Assessment of the number of annual Blue Flag Beach status being retracted/awarded at the closest bathing water.	An Taisce	Annual
National Green Coast Award		Assessment of the number of National Green Coast Awards being retracted/awarded at the closest bathing water.		
EPA Ireland's Environment - An Assessment (2012)	Changes in environmental status along the WAW	The status of this indicator be informed and updated by emerging findings and information sources from this report.	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Every 4 Years
The status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland	Changes in the status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland	The status of this indicator be informed and updated by emerging findings and information sources from the National Parks and Wildlife Service and other stakeholders on the status of EU Protected Habitats and Species.	National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	Occasional
			Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG)	

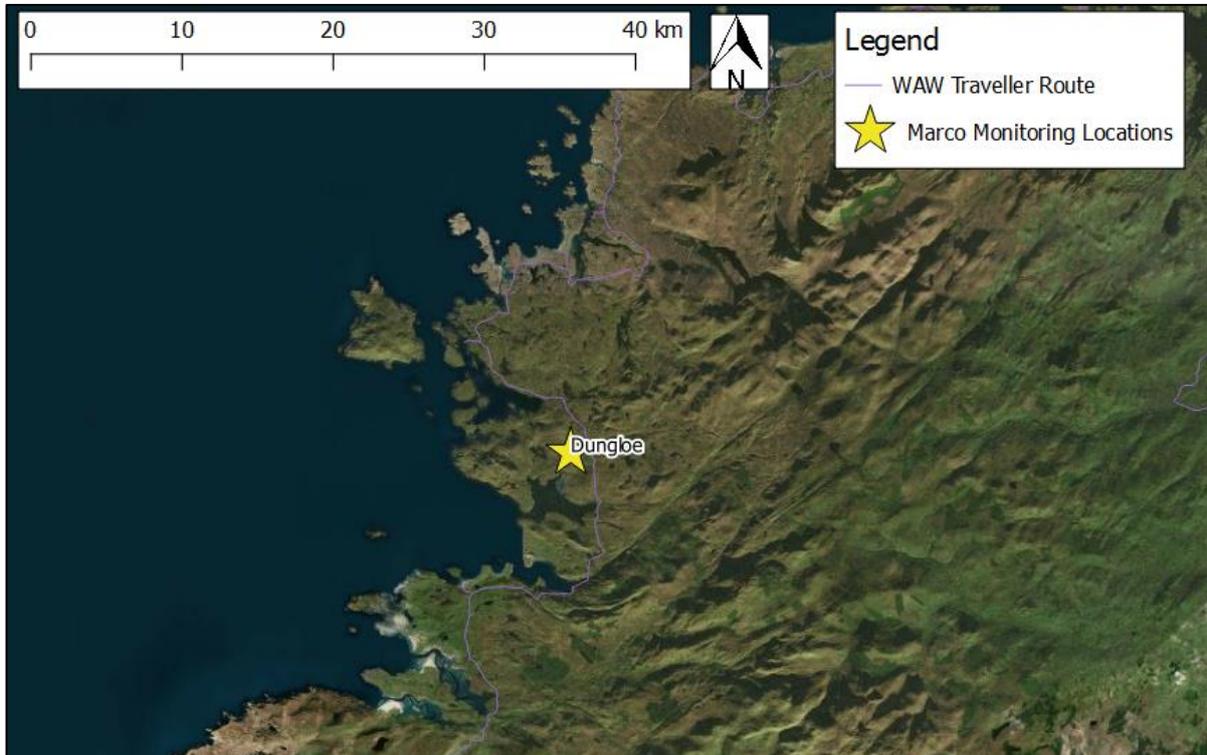
Factor	Technical Indicator	Monitoring	Authority/Source	Frequency
			Department of Agriculture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG)	
Visitor Numbers	Changes in Fáilte Ireland data on visitor numbers	Upward/downward trends in visitor numbers during the tourist season and shoulder season.	Fáilte Ireland	Annual
Tourism related planning refusals	Refusals of unsuitable tourism related projects by County	<p>Applications to An Bord Pleanála will provide an official high-level indicator as to where pressure points are occurring in Counties along the WAW without the need to capture all planning applications to Local Authorities and or Foreshore Lease/Licence applications to the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.</p> <p>A high level of tourism related refusals is a potential indicator pressure on the environmental status of said County. Record trends in tourism related applications.</p>	An Bord Pleanála	Annual

Section 2 Presentation and Analysis of Results

This section of the Report is an account of the Macro Monitoring Indicators at the 7 Monitoring sites and 4 Control sites along the WAW.

Dungloe (Co. Donegal)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.1 Dungloe

2.1.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Table 2.1 Dungloe Water Quality

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Incident Description	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Dungloe (2017)	D0208 - 01	Dungloe	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017.	n/a	2 Reported Incidents	Spillage due to plant or equipment breakdown at WWTP ²	2400	New Plant was commissioned in 2017 and is being operated under a DBO.
2016	D0208 - 01	Dungloe	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2016.	The following parameters exceeded the emission limit values in 2016: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOD (mg/l) • TSS (mg/l) 	5 Reported Incidents	% reduction failure due to inadequate infrastructure ³	2400	The existing septic tank (125m ³) is under control of a DBO contract for a new WWTW for Dungloe agglomeration This is currently being commissioned and is expected to be up and running in Q2 of 2017.
2015	D0208 - 01	Dungloe	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2015.	The following parameters exceeded the emission limit values in 2015: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cBOD • Suspended solids • COD • Ammonia • Ortho P 	6 Reported Incidents	Non-compliance with percentage reduction in BOD/SS ⁴	2400	No capital or operational changes undertaken in 2015.

² Corrective action includes Training in operation of new plant

³ Corrective action includes Installation of Dungloe WWTP

⁴ Corrective action includes a desludging programme

2.1.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.2 Bathing Water Quality at Dungloe

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Donegal	Dungloe	Naran Beach/Carrickfinn	Excellent/ Excellent	Excellent/ Excellent	Excellent/ Excellent	n/a	0

2.1.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

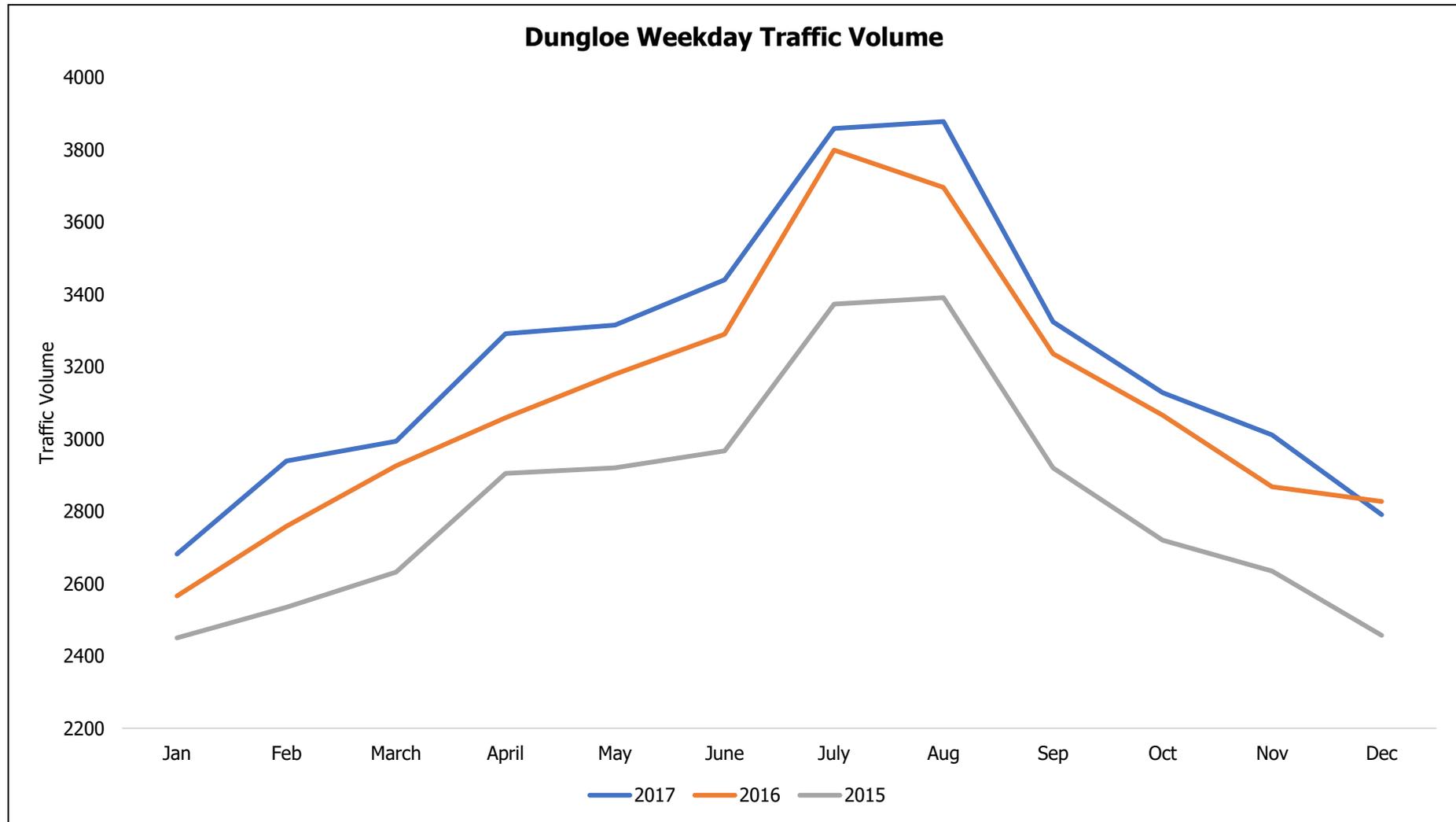


Figure 2.1 Weekday 24 Hour Average Interval traffic at Dungloe from 2015 -2017⁵

⁵ Note the Y-axis starts at 2200 and not 0

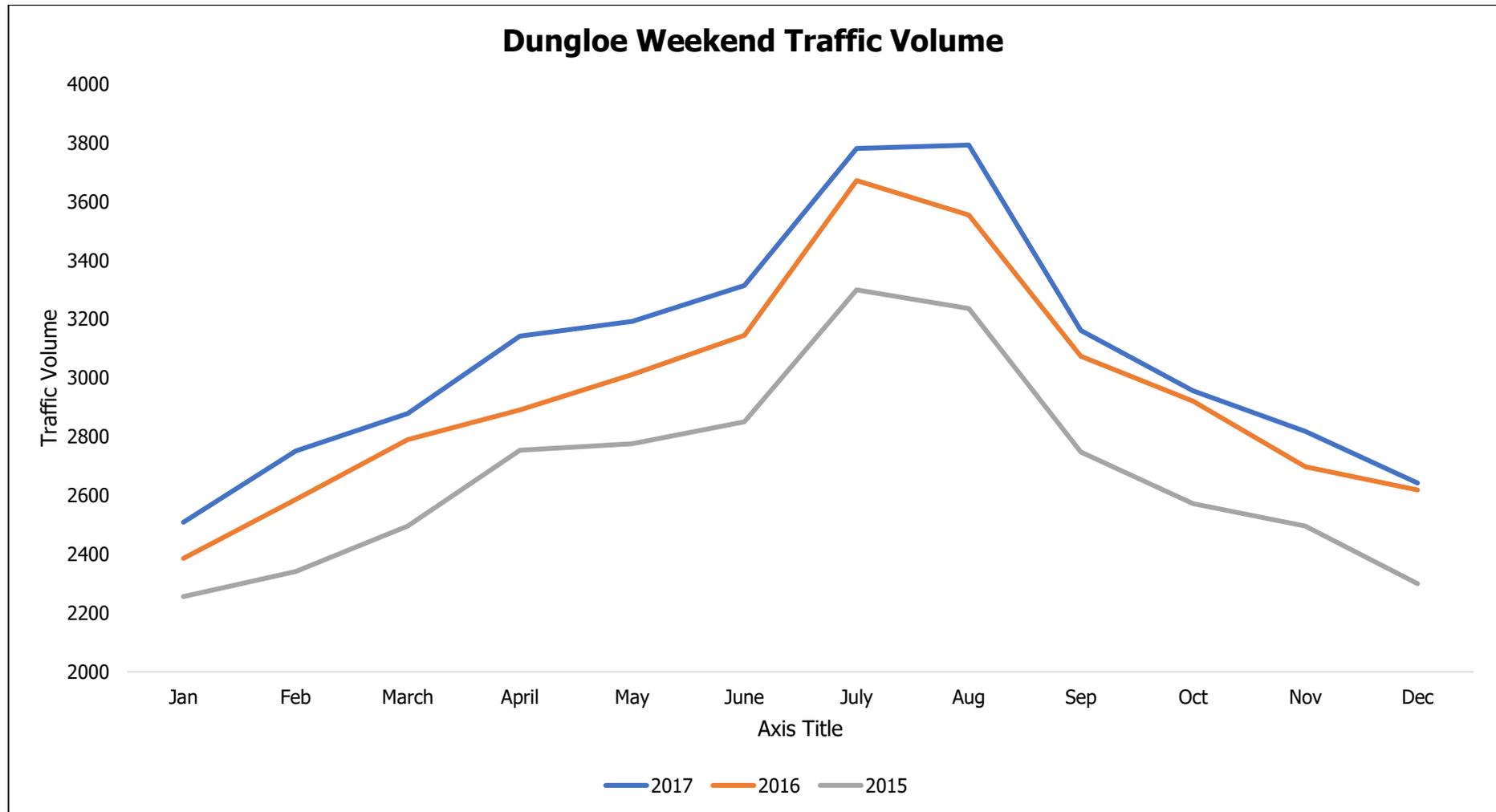


Figure 2.2 Weekend 24 Hour Average Interval traffic at Dungloe from 2015 -2017⁶

Results show that there has been a steady increase in interval traffic volumes during weekends and weekdays since 2015. The surge is likely due to the increase of tourists travelling from WAW sites, mainly during summer months.

⁶ Note the Y-axis starts at 2000 not 0

2.1.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.3 Carrickfinn/Portnoo/Narran Blue Flag Beaches 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015	✓		No change in status between 2015 and 2017.
2016	✓		
2017	✓		

Carrickfinn/Portnoo and Narran have all been compliant with the specific criteria relating to water quality, information provision, environmental education, safety and environmental management.

2.1.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast

Table 2.4 Dungloe Green Coasts 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in status between 2015 and 2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

Dungloe has not received a green coast award between 2015 and 2017. Dooley beach located 13km from Dungloe received a Green coast award in 2018.

2.1.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity

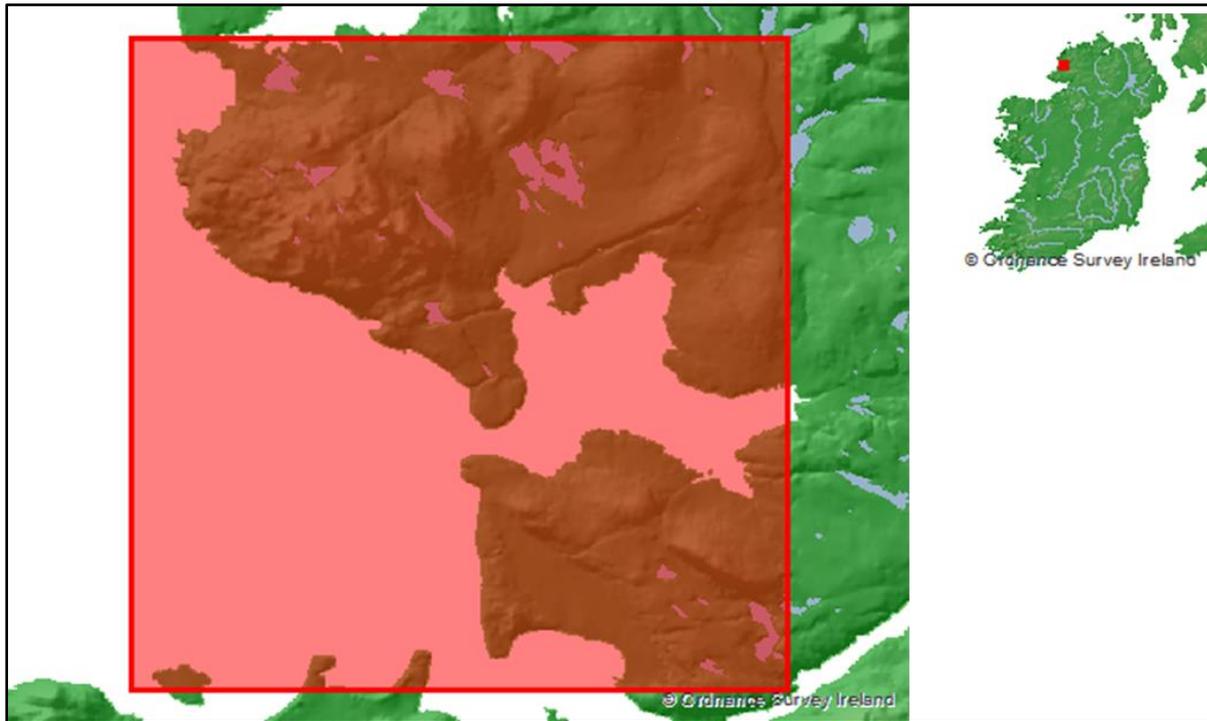


Figure 2.3 Dungloe monitoring site 10x10km tile (B70) from the NBDC dataset

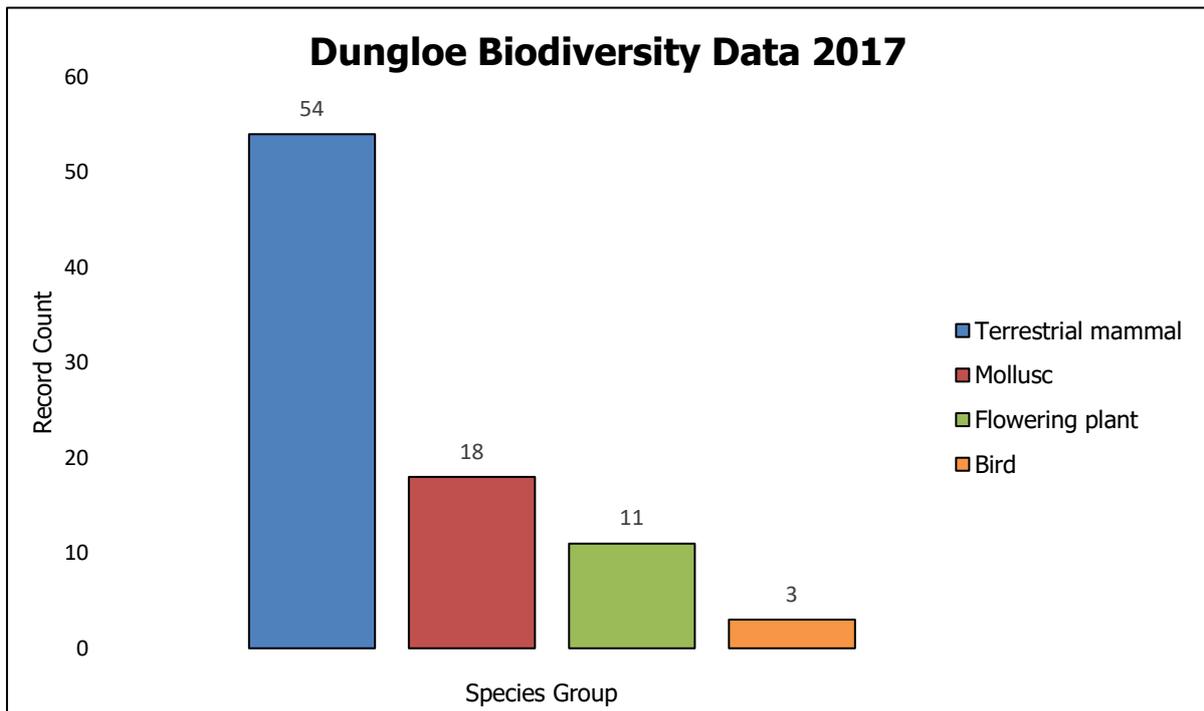


Figure 2.4 Record of Biodiversity for Dungloe 2017

2.1.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

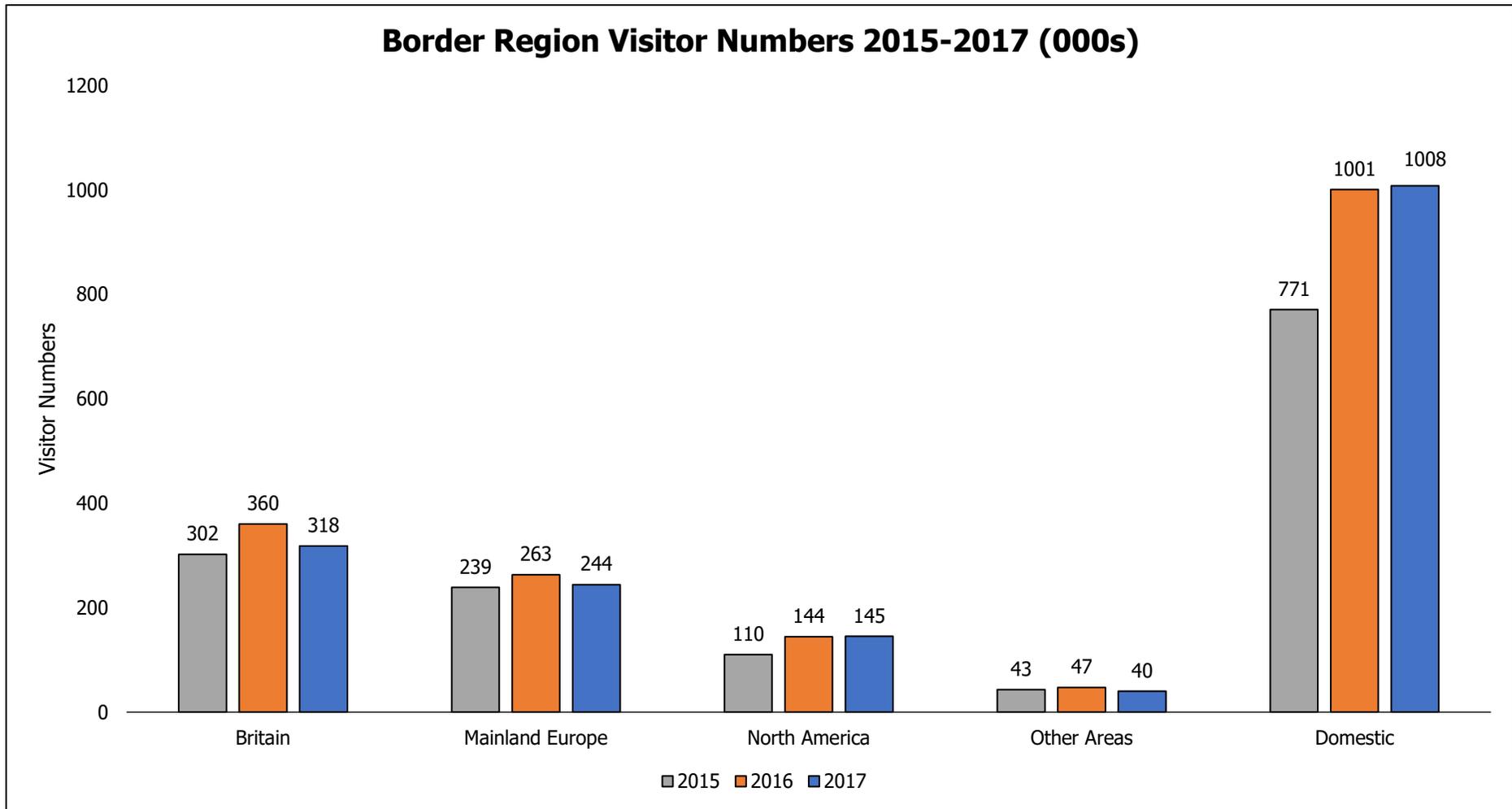


Figure 2.5 Comparison of visitor numbers for Border Region 2015 -2017

2016 saw the highest number of visitors to the Border Region with 1,815,000 in total from across all locations. This was a 23% rise in numbers from 2015 and a 2.3% drop in numbers in 2017 with a total of 1,755,000.

2.1.7 Monitoring Indicator 7 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

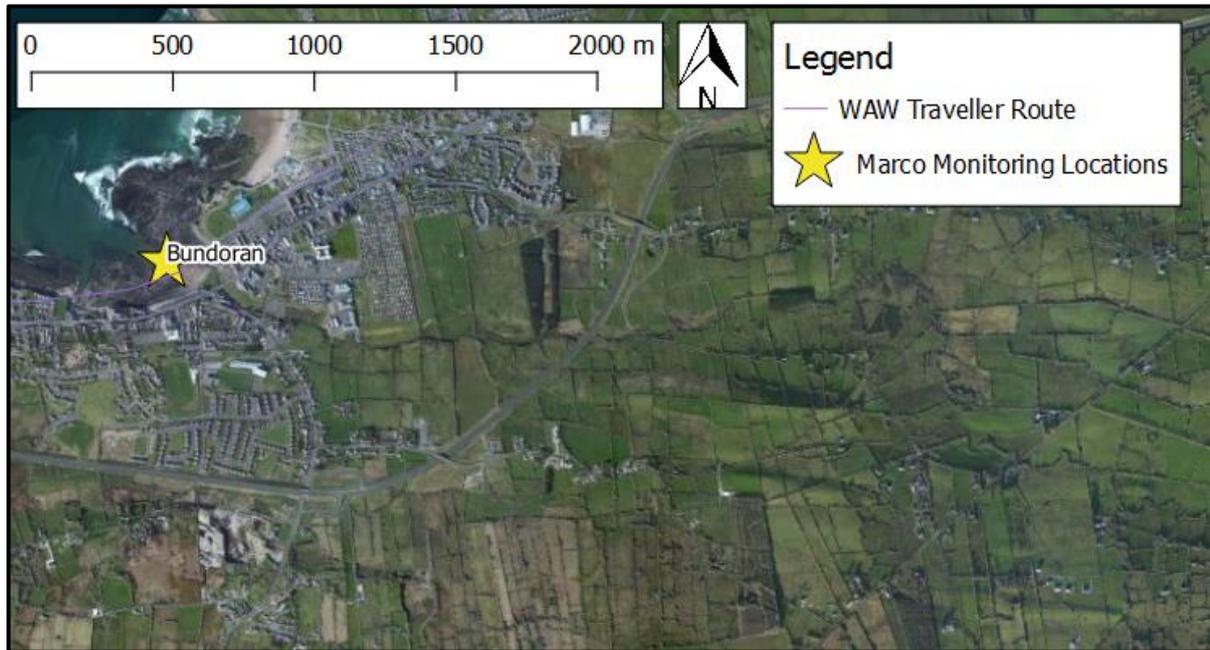
There were no Tourism related planning refusals in Dungloe during 2017. Tourism related planning refusals within the county are listed below in Table 2.5.

Table 2.5 Tourism related Planning refusals 2017

Case Number	Case	Reason for Refusal	Type of Development
Donegal			
248889	Speenogue, Burt, Co. Donegal. (17/50217)	Landscape and visual Amenity	Dwelling house, detached garage at septic tank.
245389	Glebe Td. Killybegs, Donegal (16/51173)	Visually intrusive feature	Construction of a two-storey building in connection with marine related activity and all associated works.
248191	Derrybeg, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal (16/51875)	Rural and scenic Amenity	Retention of partial reduction of ground levels, site clearance, deposition of gravel and soil material with screen planting.
SU0100	Meenacurrin, Maghera, Ardara, Co. Donegal.	May have impact on Slieve Tooey/Tormore Island/Loughros Beg Bay SAC	Quarry

Bundoran (Co. Donegal)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.2 Bundoran

2.2.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Table 2.6 Bundoran Water Quality

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration ⁷	Status of conformity	Reasons for non-conformity	Complaints and Reported Incidents	Incident Description	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Bundoran (2017)	D0130-01	Bundoran	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017.	The following parameters exceeded the emission limit values in 2017: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOD (mg/l) • COD (mg/l) • TSS (mg/l) • Ammonia N (mg/l) 	10 Reported Incidents	Breach in emission limit value due to lack of WWTP. ⁸	N/A	The following improvement works were undertaken in 2017 ⁹

2.2.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.7 Bathing Water Quality at Bundoran

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Donegal	Bundoran	Bundoran/Mullaghmore	Excellent/ Excellent	Excellent/ Excellent	Excellent/ Excellent	n/a	0

⁷ There is currently no WWTP for Bundoran. A wastewater treatment plant for the agglomeration is currently being constructed. Commissioning of WWTP works commenced Oct 2017 and is ongoing.

⁸ Corrective action includes development of a new WWTP.

⁹ Works at Ross Road ongoing. The road has been overlaid. Fencing along road to commence shortly. Issue over proposed design of 180m section of the access road under discussion

- Main P.S. Storm Holding Tank civils works completed. M&E commenced March 2017. Bradogue River crossing to Main PS complete. Pipework from Main PS to Church Street (under Bradogue River) complete
- WWTP Site –Civil Structures are complete. Access road under construction. M&E installations 95% complete. Commissioning of works commenced Oct 2017, ongoing.
- West End PS – Civil structure completed. M&E installations 90% complete.
- Network pipelines approximately 80% complete
- Pollbreen Sea Outfall – Pipeline fully installed. Outfall diffuser to be fitted.

During 2015,2016 and 2017 Bundoran was not compliant with Emission limit values due to Bundoran not having a WWTP. A Wastewater Treatment Plant for the agglomeration is currently being constructed and was due for completion in Q2 of 2018. Bathing Water quality in Bundoran held its Excellent status across all monitoring years.

2.2.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

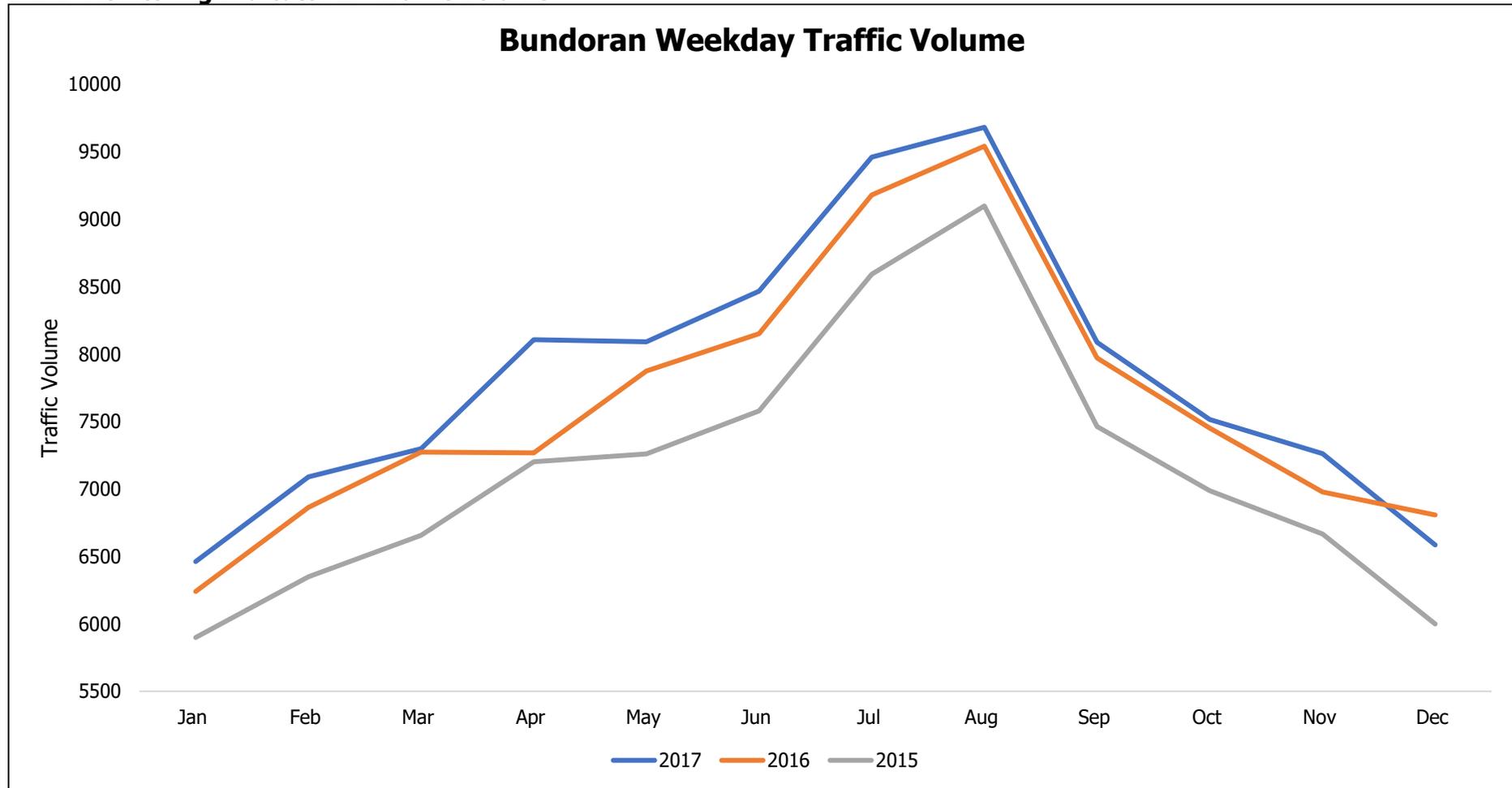


Figure 2.6 Weekday Interval traffic at Bundoran from 2015 -2017¹⁰

¹⁰ Note the y-axis starts at 5500 and not 0

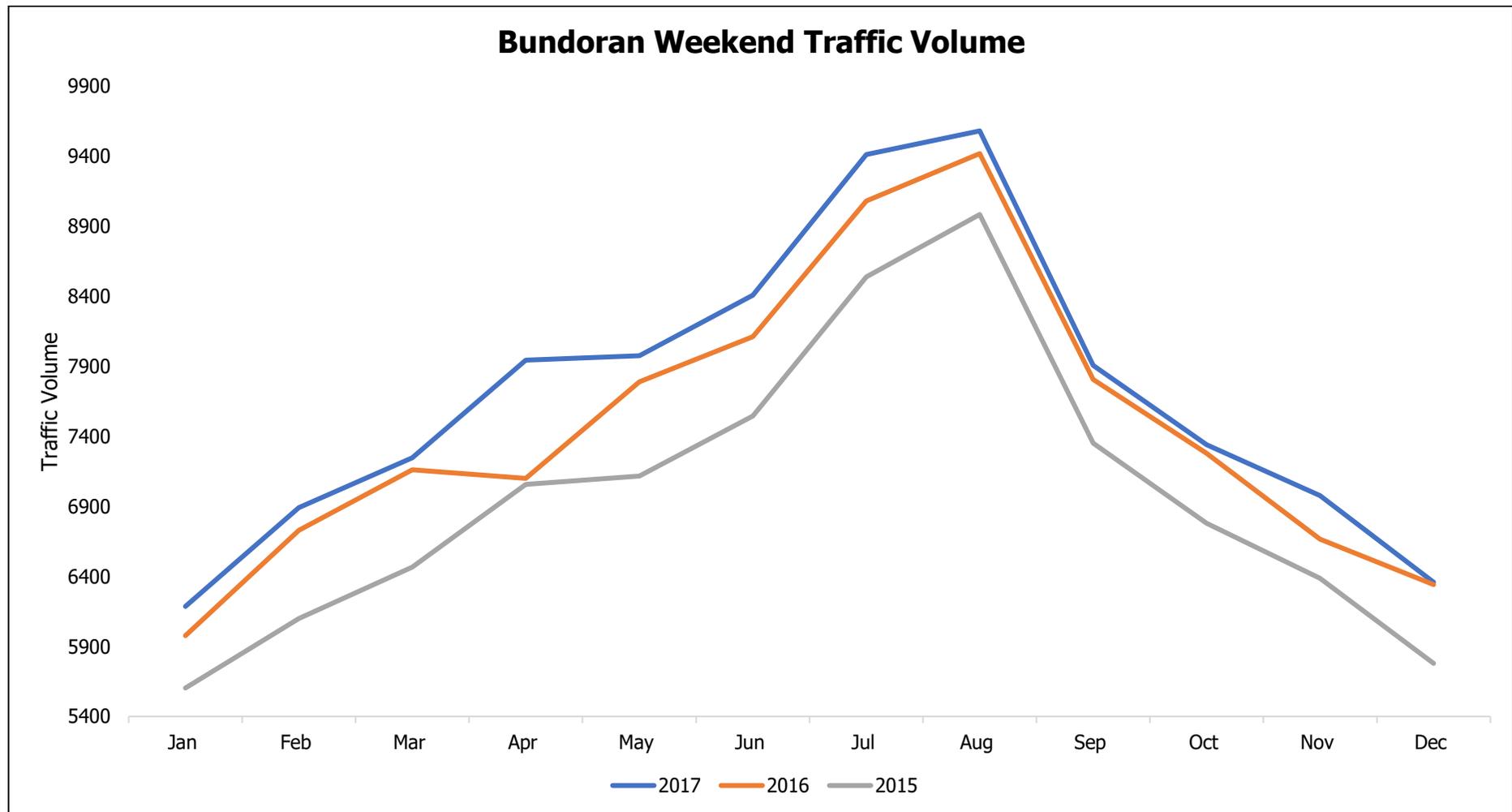


Figure 2.7 Weekend Interval traffic at Bundoran in 2015 -2017¹¹

Results show that there has been a steady increase in interval traffic volumes during weekends and weekdays since 2015. The surge is likely due to the increase of tourists travelling from WAW sites, mainly during summer months.

¹¹ Note the y-axis starts at 5400 and not 0

2.2.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.8 Bundoran Blue Flag Beach 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015	✓		No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017.
2016	✓		
2017	✓		

Bundoran received blue flag status during 2015, 2016 and 2107 monitoring.

2.2.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast

Table 2.9 Bundoran Green Coast Awards 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green coast award status from 2015 - 2017
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

Bundoran did not receive any award for Green Coasts between 2015 and 2017.

2.2.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity



Figure 2.8 Bundoran monitoring site 10x10km tile (B70) from the NBDC dataset

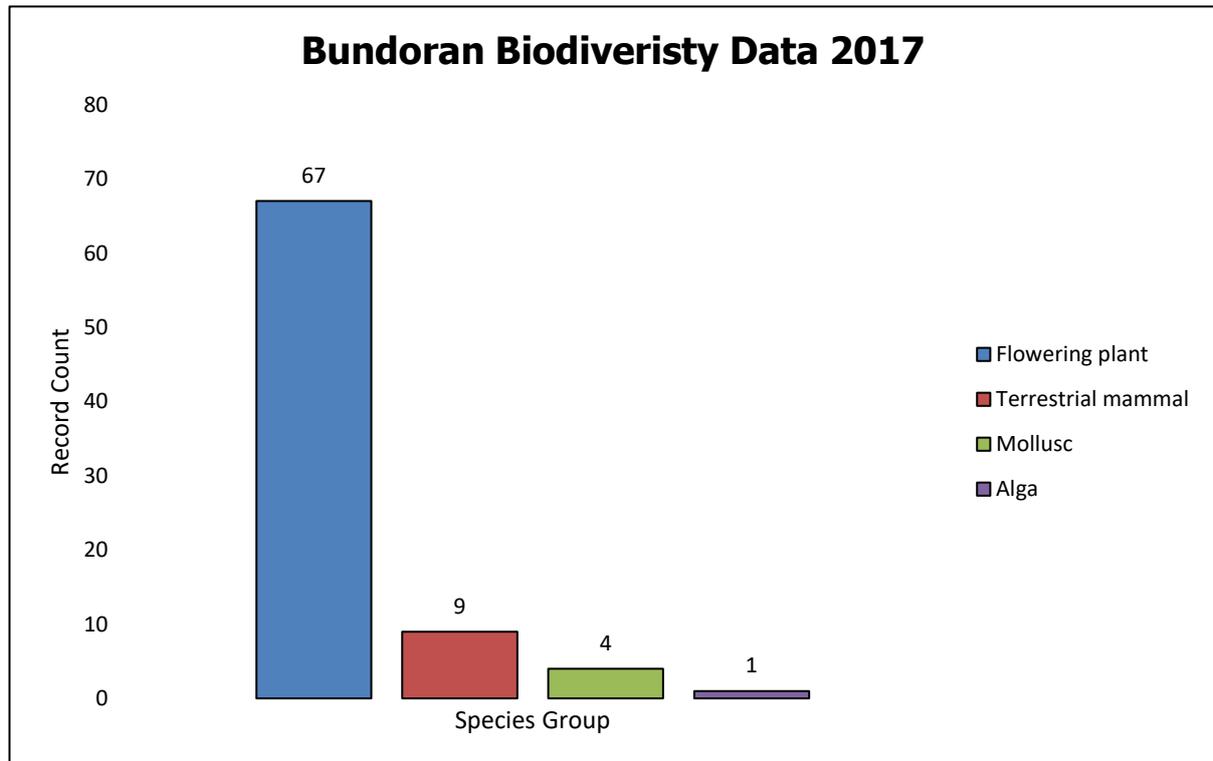


Figure 2.9 Record of Biodiversity for Bundoran 2017

2.2.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

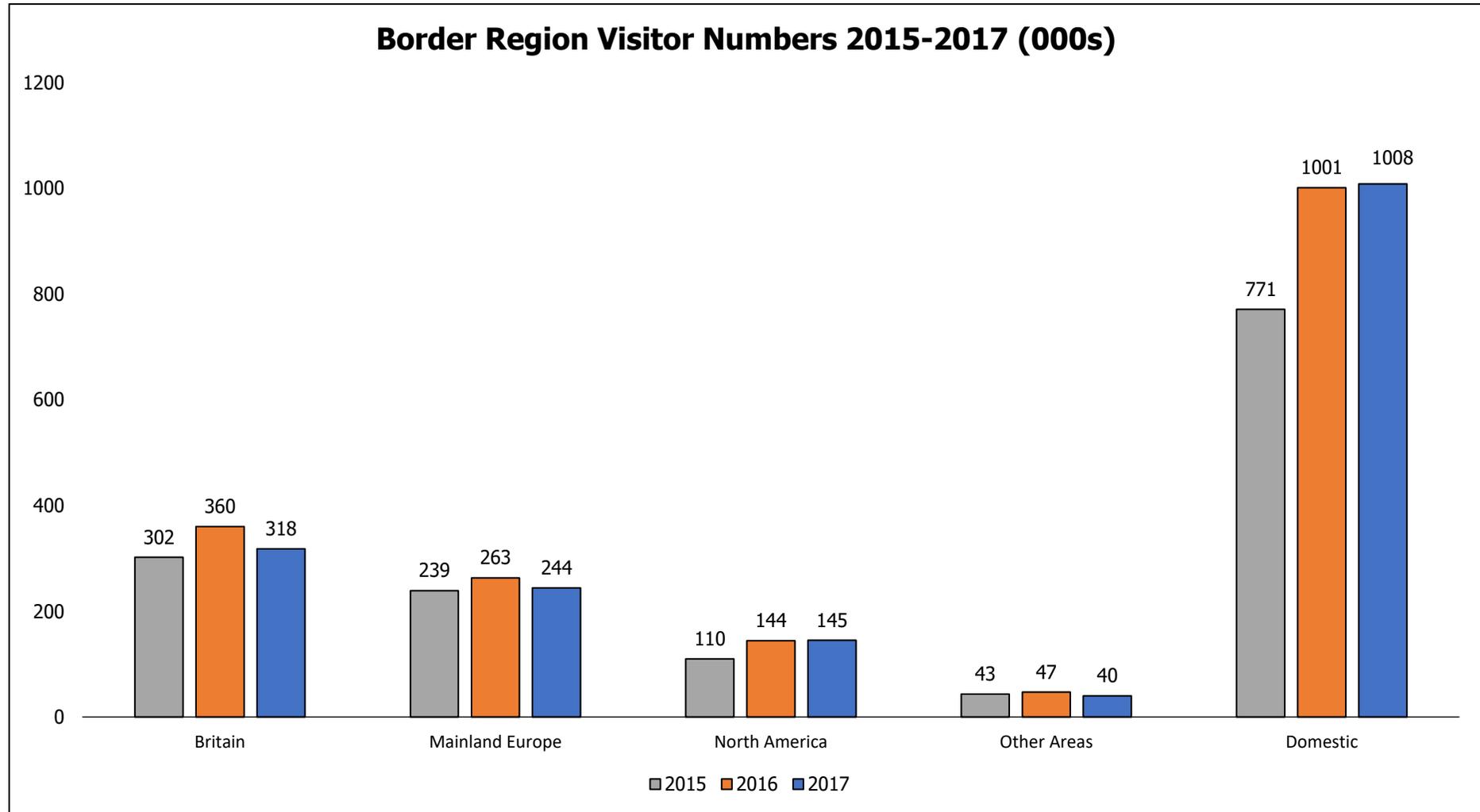


Figure 2.10 Comparison of visitor numbers for Border Region 2015 -2017

2016 saw the highest number of visitors to the Border Region with 1,815,000 in total from across all locations. This was a 23% rise in numbers from 2015 and a 2.3% drop in numbers in 2017 with a total of 1,755,000.

2.2.7 Monitoring Indicator 7 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

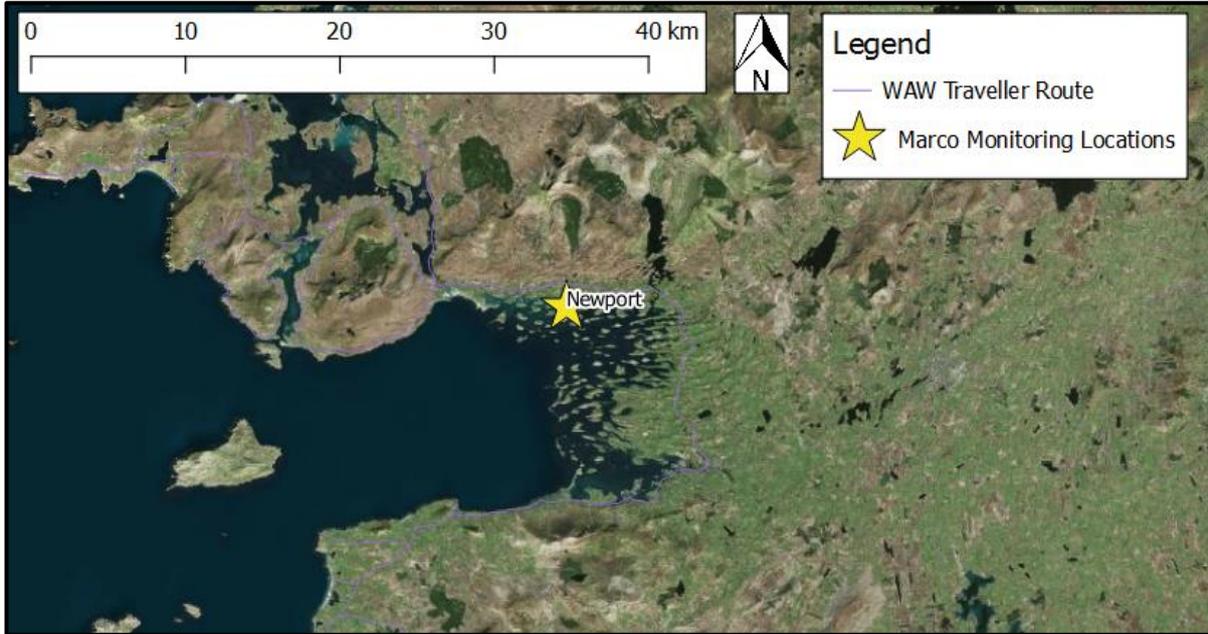
There were no Tourism related planning refusals recorded in Bundoran between 2017. Tourism related planning refusals within the county include:

Table 2.10 Tourism related Planning refusals 2017

Case Number	Case	Reason for Refusal	Type of Development
Donegal			
248889	Speenogue, Burt, Co. Donegal. (17/50217)	Landscape and visual Amenity	Dwelling house, detached garage at septic tank.
245389	Glebe Td. Killybegs, Donegal (16/51173)	Visually intrusive feature	Construction of a two-storey building in connection with marine related activity and all associated works.
248191	Derrybeg, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal (16/51875)	Rural and scenic Amenity	Retention of partial reduction of ground levels, site clearance, deposition of gravel and soil material with screen planting.
SU0100	Meenacurrin, Maghera, Ardara, Co. Donegal.	May have impact on Slieve Tooley/Tormore Island/Loughros Beg Bay SAC	Quarry

Newport (Co. Mayo)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.3 Newport

2.3.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Incident Description	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Newport (2017)	D0224 -01	Newport	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017.	The following parameters exceeded the emission limit values in 2017: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOD (mg/l) • TSS (mg/l) • Total N (mg/l) 	0 Reported Incidents	N/A	1287	No improvement works were undertaken in 2017: Appointing consultants for design of new treatment plant for compliance with Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive.
Newport (2016)	D0224 -01	Newport	Effluent monitoring was not carried out during 2016	N/A	0 Reported Incidents	N/A	1287	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016

2.3.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.11 Bathing Water Quality at Newport

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Mayo	Newport	Mullranny/Clare Island/Bertra	Excellent/Excellent/Excellent	Excellent/Excellent/Excellent	Excellent/Excellent/Excellent	n/a	0

Newport WWTP went from non-complaint in 2015 to complaint in 2017. Construction works in 2016 aided the facility in gaining compliance. Newport's bathing water status has been consistently excellent since 2015.

2.3.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

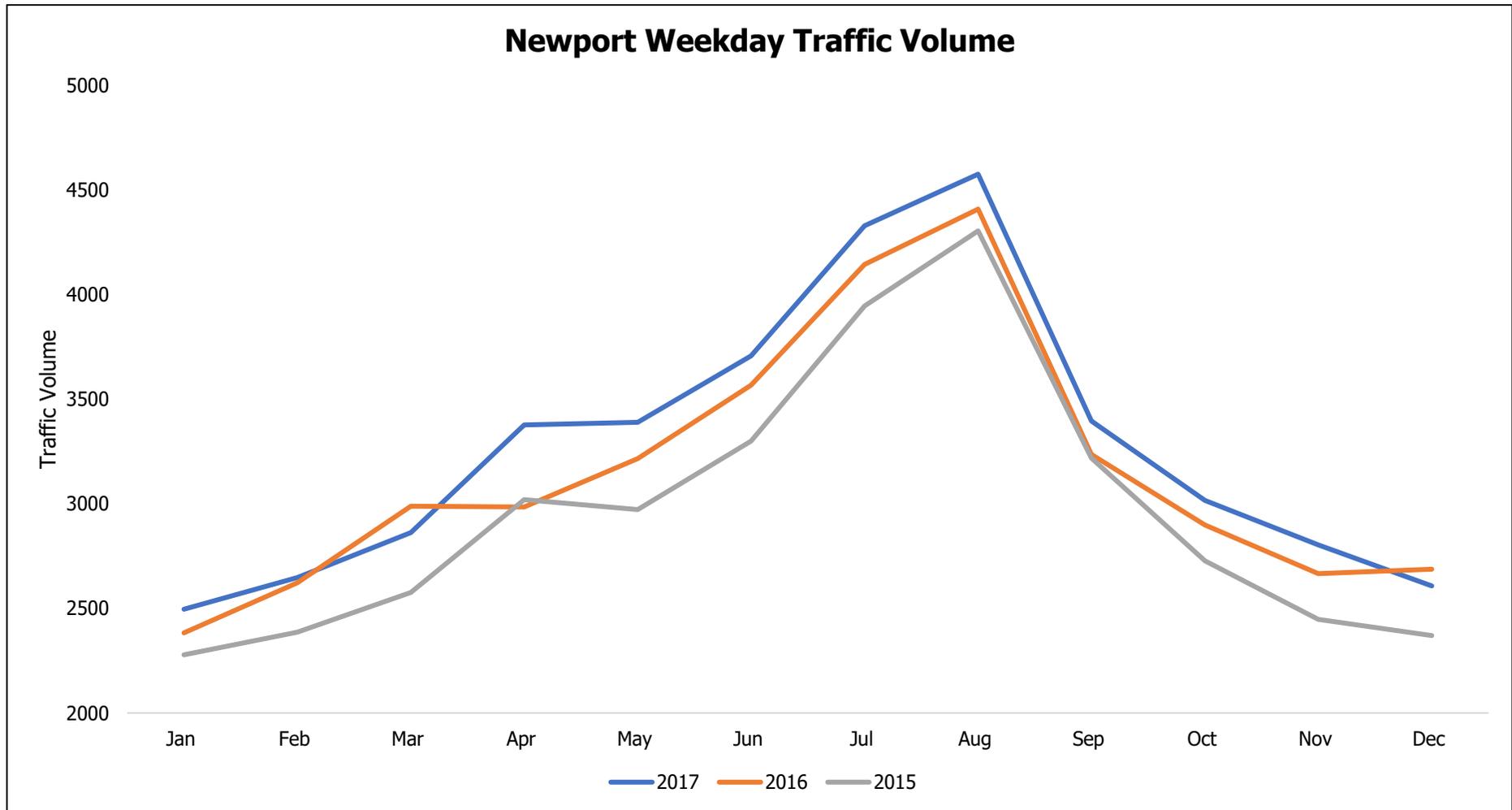


Figure 2.11 Weekday Interval Traffic at Newport from 2015 -2017¹²

¹² Note the y-axis starts at 2000 and not 0

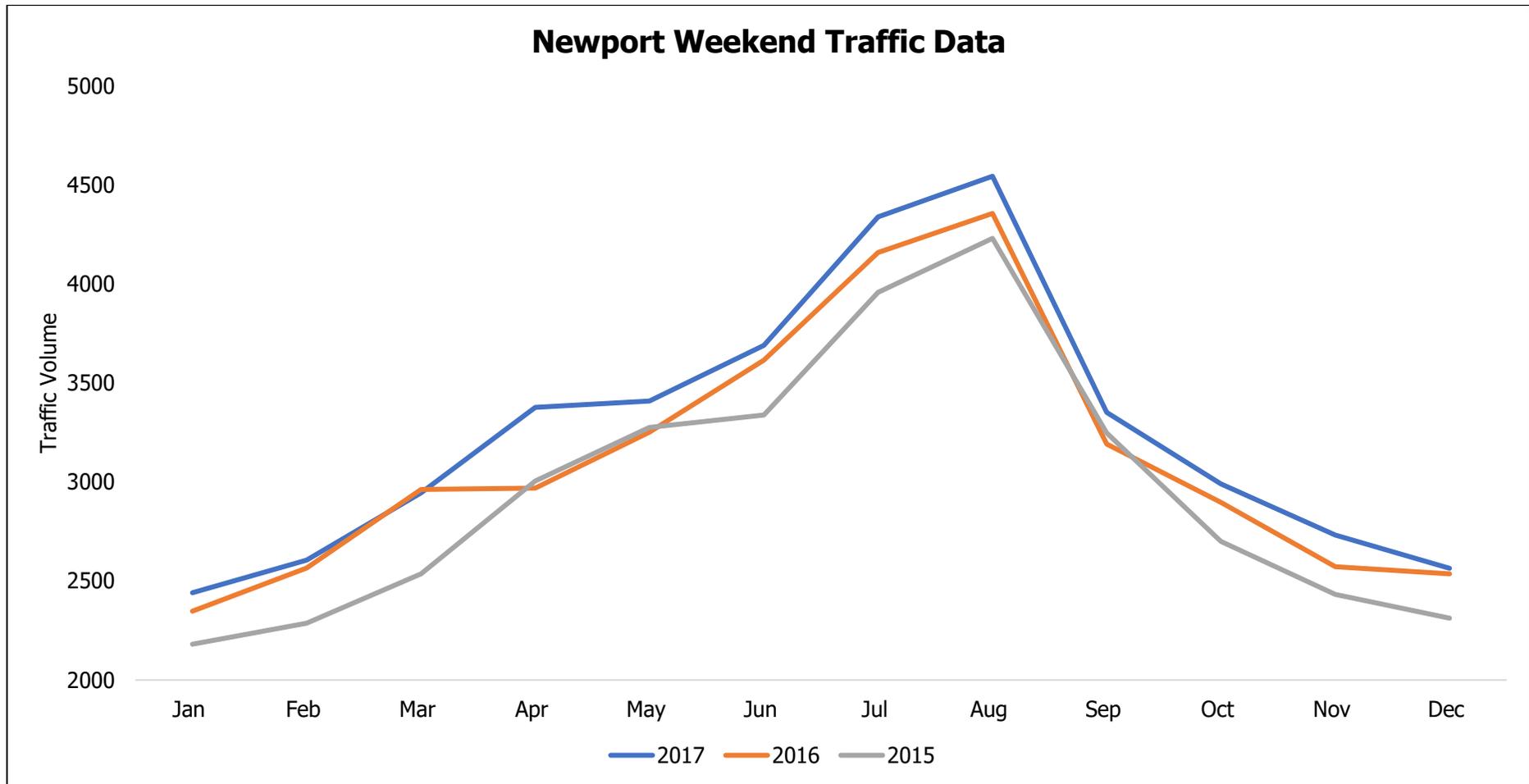


Figure 2.12 Weekend Interval Traffic at Newport¹³

Results show that there has been a steady increase in interval traffic volumes during weekends and weekdays since 2015. The surge is likely due to the increase of tourists travelling from WAW sites, mainly during summer months.

¹³ Note the y-axis starts at 2000 and not 0

2.3.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue flag Beaches

Table 2.12 Newport Blue flag beach 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015	✓		No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017.
2016	✓		
2017	✓		

Results show that since 2015 Newport has never had Blue Flag status.

2.3.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast

Table 2.13 Newport Green Coast Awards 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green coast award status from 2015 - 2017
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

Results show that since 2015 Newport has not been awarded a Green Coast award.

2.3.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity

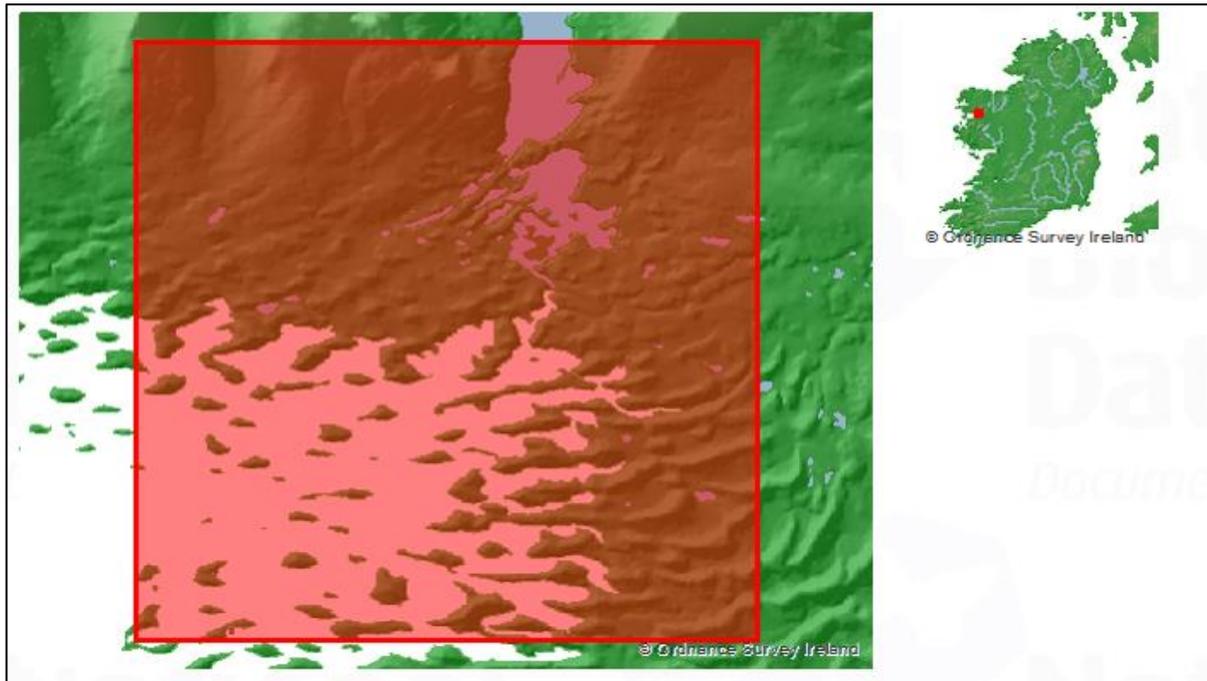


Figure 2.13 Newport monitoring site 10x10km tile (L99) from the NBDC dataset

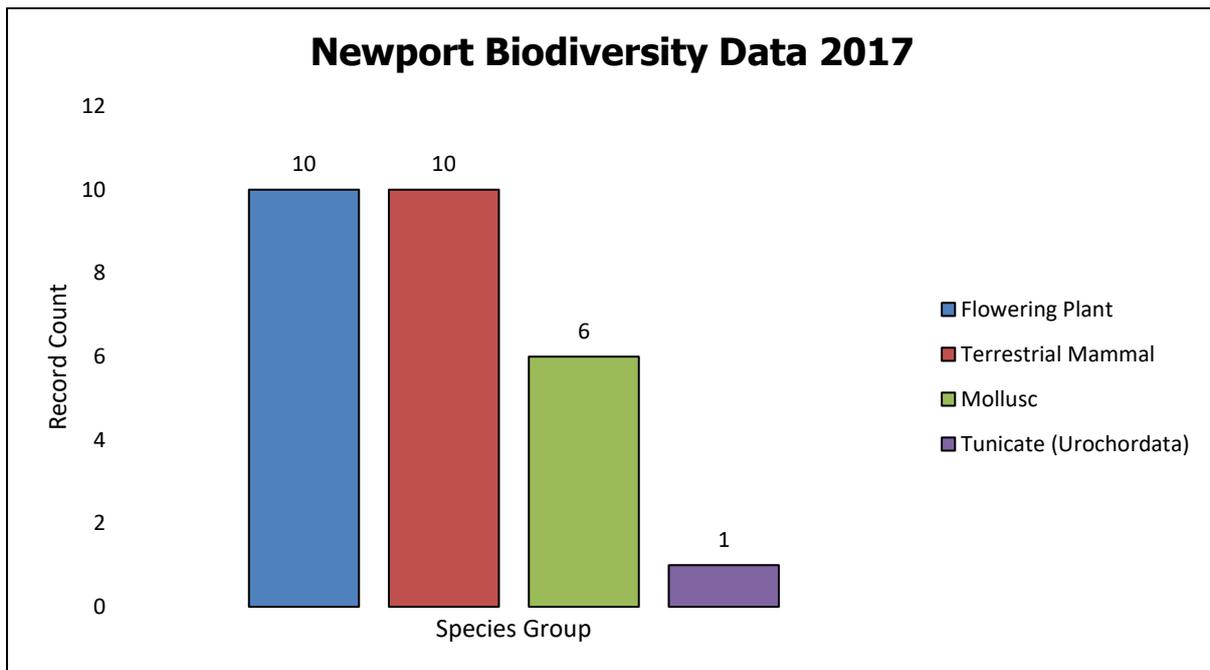


Figure 2.14 Newport Biodiversity Data 2017

2.3.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

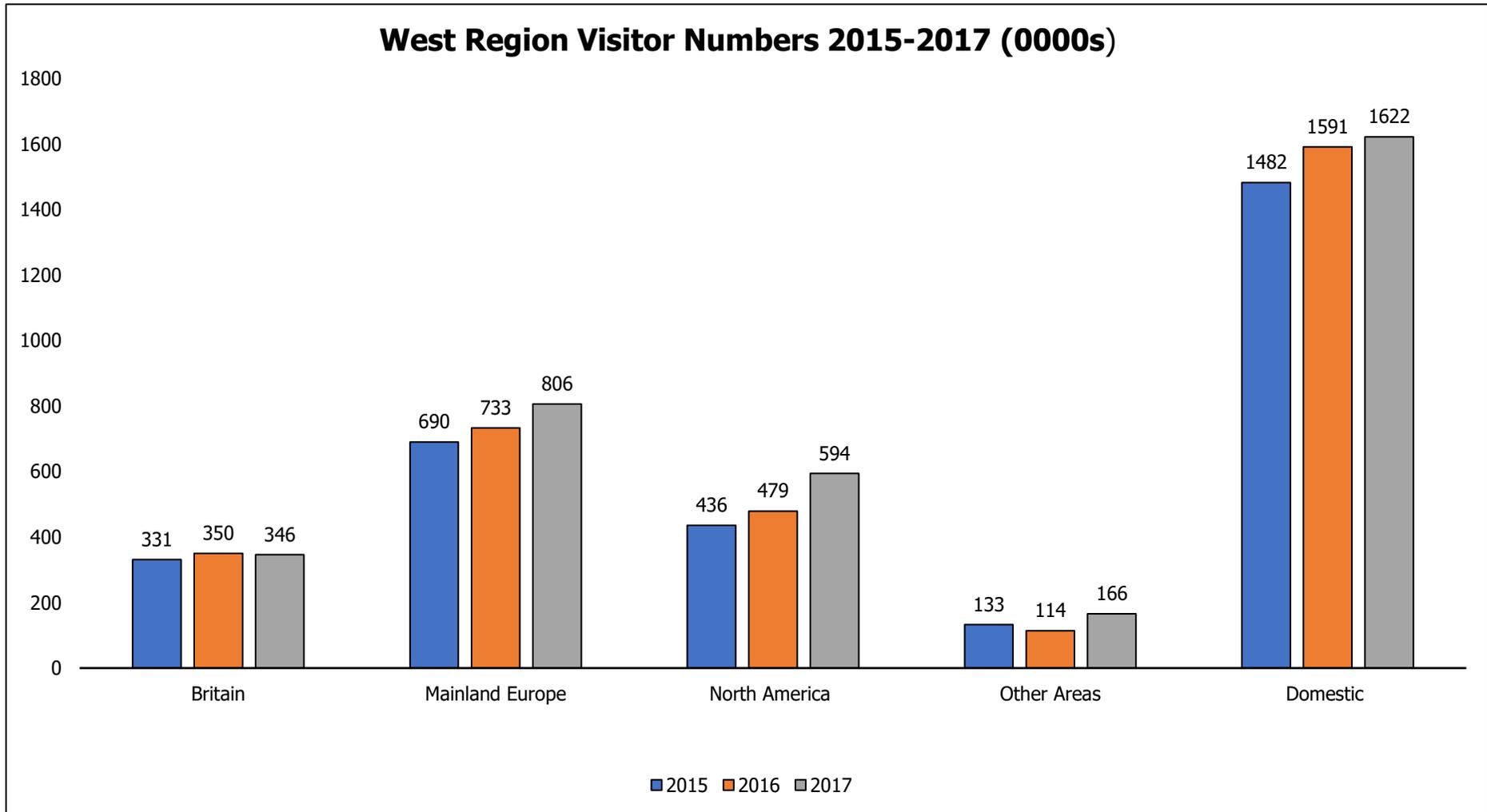


Figure 2.15 West Regional performance 2017

2015 brought the lowest number of visitors to the West region with a total of 3,072,000 overall. There has been a rise of 15% since 2015 with 3,267,000 visitors overall in 2016 and 3,534,000 in 2017.

2.3.7 Monitoring Indicator 7 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

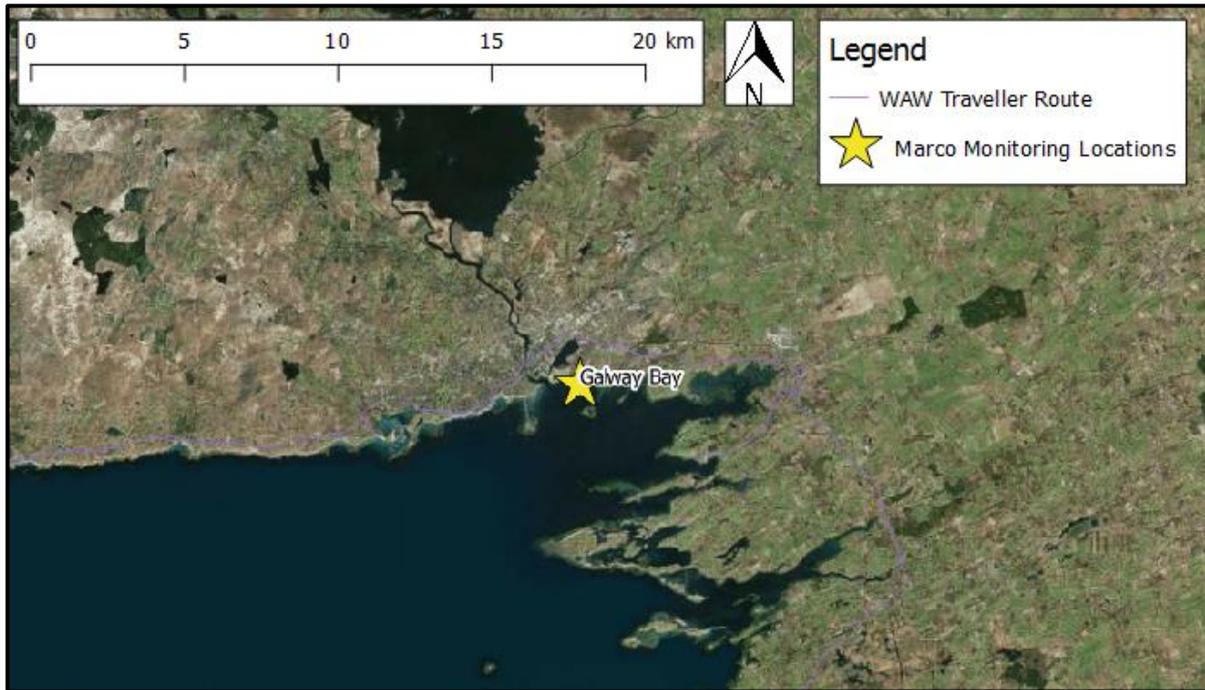
There were no Tourism related planning refusals recorded in Newport in 2017. Tourism related planning refusals within the county are outlined in Table 2.14 below.

Table 2.14 Tourism related Planning refusals 2017

Case Number	Case	Reason for Refusal	Type of Development
Mayo			
248634	Gortbrack North, Pullathomas, Ballina, Co. Mayo. (P16/964)	Possible effect on Blacksod Bay/Broadhaven SPA	House, Garage, wastewater treatment system
246323	Greenwood, Bekan, Co. Mayo. (15/92)	Adversely affect the integrity of the River Moy SAC	Construct new poultry house for 38,000 places, new silo and site works
248123	Beltra, Carrowmore, Lacken, Ballina, Co. Mayo. (P16/955)	Injure visual amenities and landscape	Construction of house and garage, waste water treatment system and ancillary works
247736	Carn (Fowler) Belmullet, Co. Mayo. (16/751)	Significant impacts on the Mullet Peninsula SPA	Construction of a house, garage and associated site works.

Galway Bay (Co. Galway)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.4 Galway Bay

2.4.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Table 2.15 Galway Water Quality

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Incident Descriptions ¹⁴	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Galway (2017)	D0050-01	Galway	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017.	n/a	2 Reported Incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spillage due to inadequate infrastructure Pollution incident due to inadequate infrastructure. 	17,000	Plant upgrade works to increase the plant capacity from 91,600 PE to 170,000 PE which commenced in September 2014, were completed and commissioning took place in Q1 2016.
2016	D0050-01	Galway	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2016.	n/a	1 Reported Incident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage to Siphon Chamber at Long Walk CSO resulted in an uncontrolled discharge of untreated wastewater to the River.¹⁵ 	170,000	The following improvement works were undertaken in 2016:- Plant upgrade works to increase the plant capacity from 91,600 PE to 170,000 PE which commenced in September 2014, were completed and commissioning took place in Q1 2016. The works were required as part of the Specified Improvement Programme set out in Schedule C1 of the Discharge Licence.
2015	D0050-01	Galway	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2015.	n/a	5 Reported Incidents ¹⁶	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WWTP Inlet Overflow Activation Combined Sewer Overflow Activation Overflowing manhole on the network 	91,600	Plant upgrade works to increase the plant capacity from 91,600 PE to 170,000 PE

¹⁴ Corrective action includes; replacing of the air valve; replacing the drive that controls the pumps.

¹⁵ Corrective action includes: A specialist contractor was procured to carry out the necessary repairs to the chamber, and these works were completed.

¹⁶ Corrective action includes: Screening removal system manually cleared as per protocol on activation of alarm signifying that automatic screen removal was down. WWTP upgrade works have since been completed - screening removal system has been upgraded and this improvement will significantly reduce the likelihood of an incident of this nature; Subsequent to this incident a non-return valve has been fitted to the network which will reduce the frequency of CSO activation. Plans for further network upgrade works with a similar aim are being developed; Subsequent to this incident a non-return valve has been fitted to the network which will reduce the frequency of CSO activation. Plans for further network upgrade works with a similar aim.

2.4.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.16 Galway Bay Bathing Water Quality

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Galway	Galway Bay	Salthill/Grattan Road/Ballyloughane	Excellent/Sufficient/Poor	Excellent/Sufficient/Good	Excellent/Good/Poor	Grattan Road Beach is classified as achieving Good Water Quality in 2017 based on the assessment of bacteriological results for the period 2014 to 2017. Previously Grattan Road Beach also achieved a Good Water Quality rating in 2017 and had a Sufficient Water Quality rating in 2016 and 2015. Annual water quality ratings are generally calculated using monitoring results over a four-year period and are assessed against stringent bacterial limits to protect bather health.	Ballyloughane has an advisory bathing restriction in place for the 2018 season due to its 'Poor' classification.

Galway's water quality has been classed as good from 2015-2017, with all effluent meeting emission limit standards. Salthill's bathing water has been excellent during 2015, 2016 and 2017. Grattan Road has gained Good bathing water quality in 2017 due to adequate bacterial limits. Ballyloughane has a restriction for 2018 season due to its poor status.

2.4.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

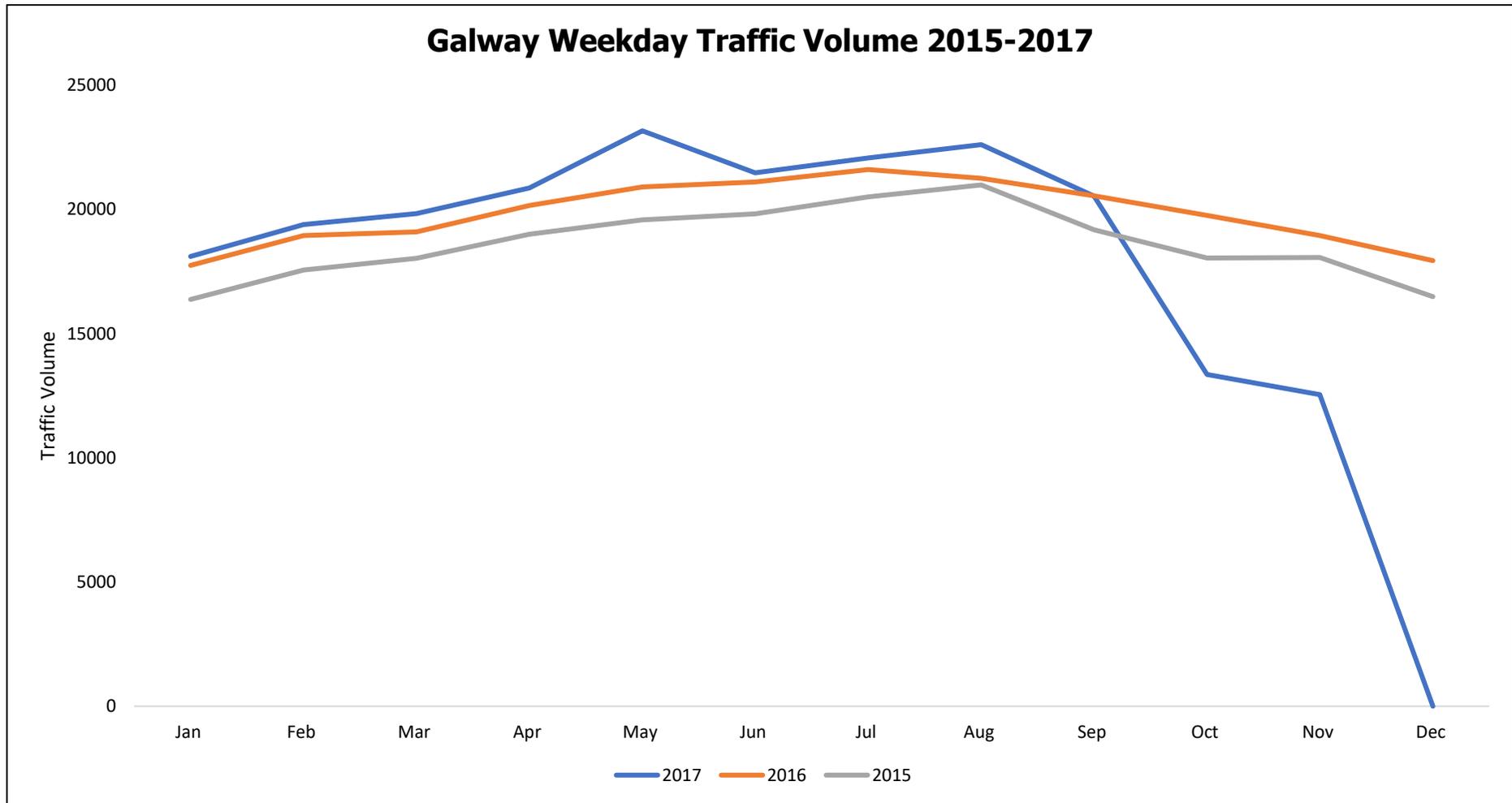


Figure 2.16 Weekday Interval Traffic at Galway Bay from 2015 -2017¹⁷

¹⁷ There is no data for December 2017 as roads works were taking place during this time resulting in road closures.

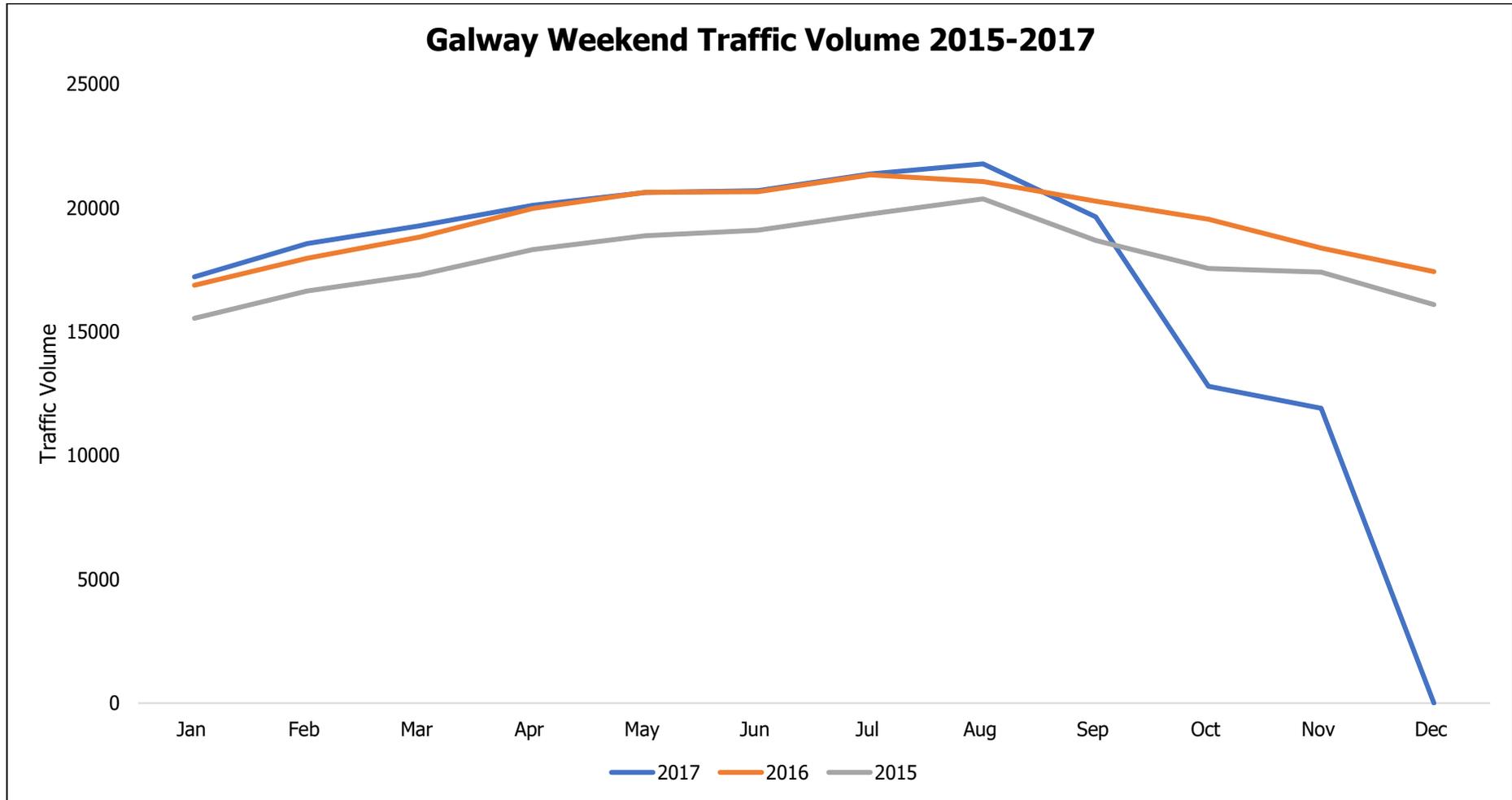


Figure 2.17 Weekend Interval Traffic at Galway Bay from 2015 -2017¹⁷

There was a rise in weekday traffic during 2017 compared to figures recorded during 2015 and 2016. There is no data for December 2017 as roads works were taking place during this time resulting in road closures.

2.4.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.17 Galway Bay Blue Flag Beach 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

There has been no change in Galway Bays Blue Flag status between 2015-2017

2.4.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast

Table 2.18 Galway Bay Green Coast 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green Coast status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

Galway Bay has not been in receipt of a Green Coast award between 2015-2017

2.4.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity

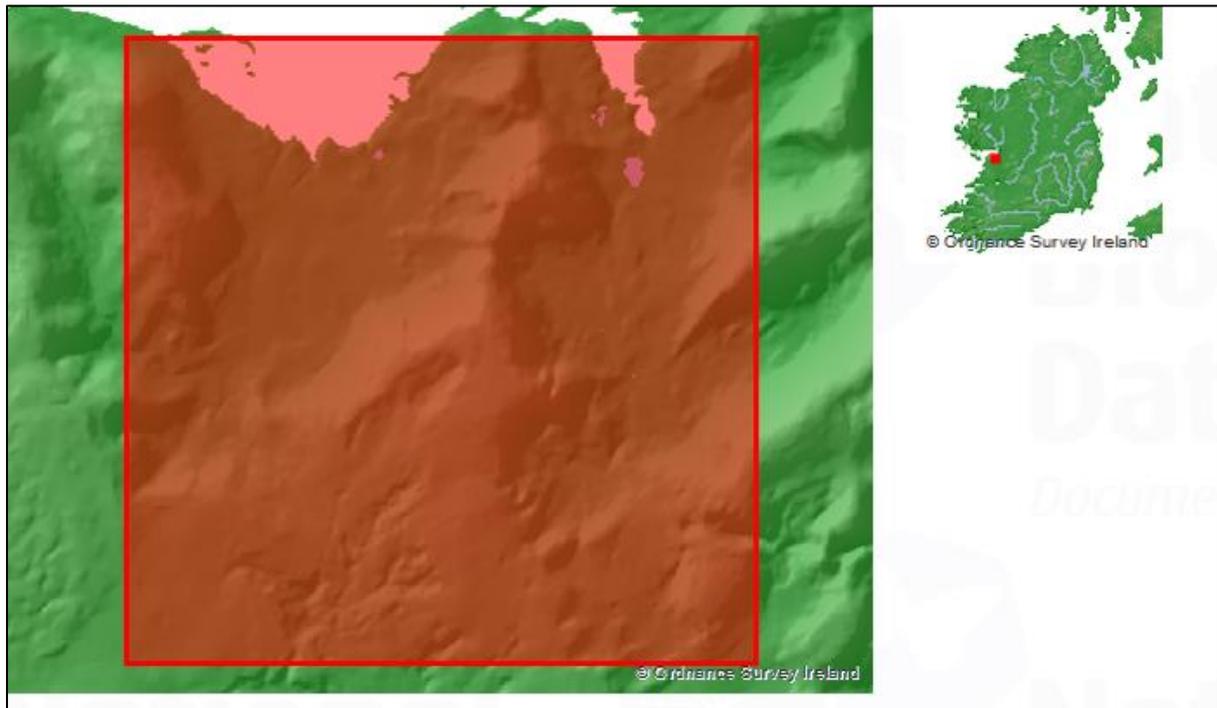


Figure 2.18 Galway Bay monitoring site 10x10km tile (M20) from the NBDC dataset

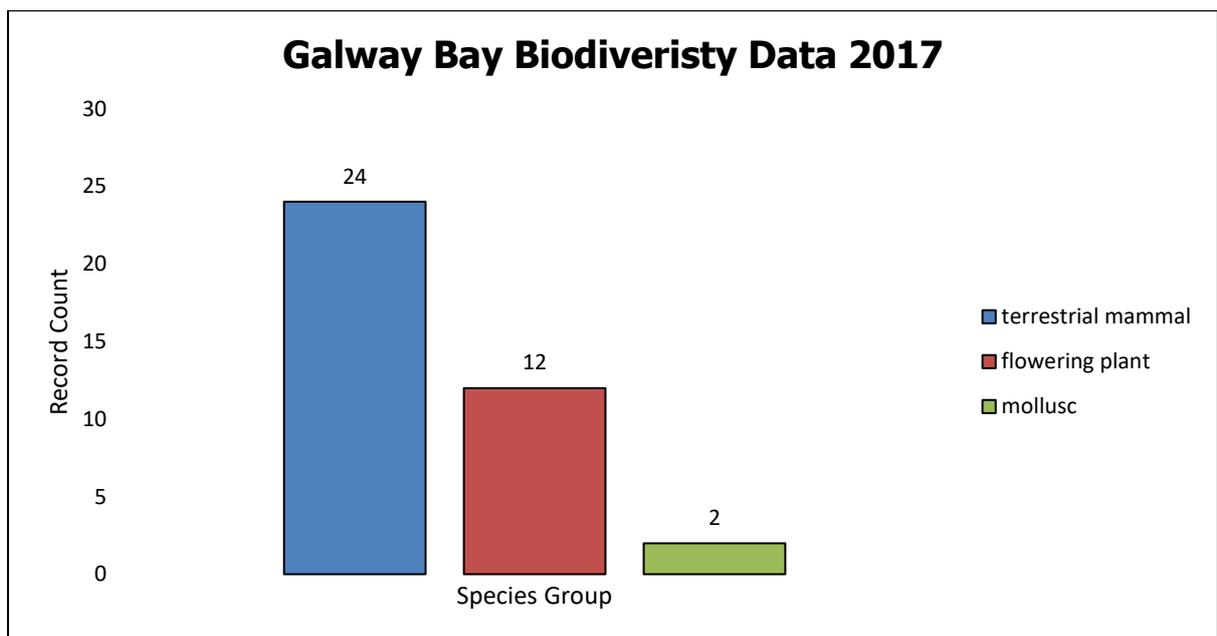


Figure 2.19 Galway Bay Biodiversity Data 2017

2.4.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

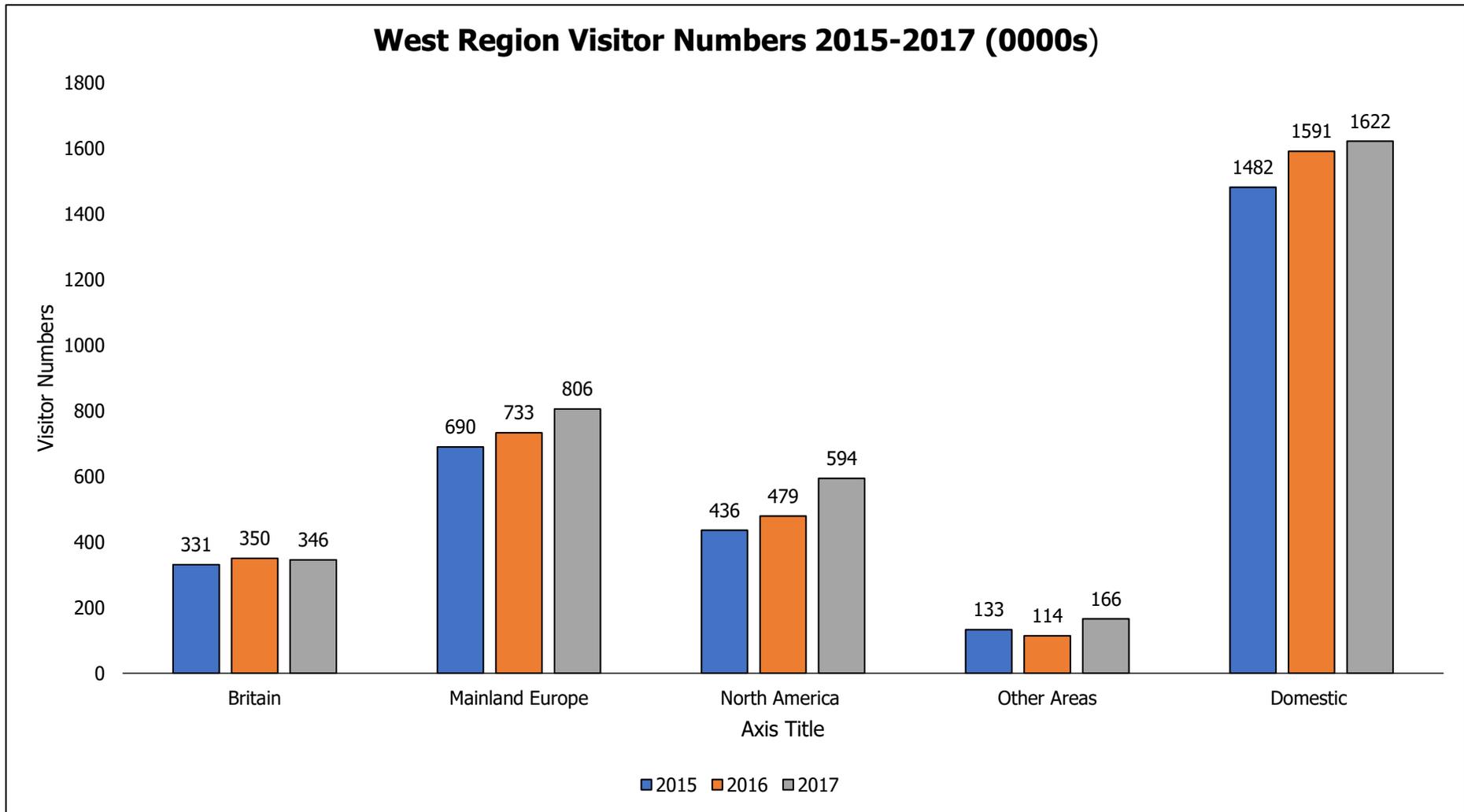


Figure 2.20 West Regional Performance 2015 -2017

2015 brought the lowest number of visitors to the West region with a total of 3,072,000 overall. There has been a rise of 15% since 2015 with 3,267,000 visitors overall in 2016 and 3,534,000 in 2017.

2.4.7 Monitoring Indicator 7 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

There were no Tourism related planning refusals associated with Galway Bay in 2017. Tourism related planning refusals within the county are outlined in Table 2.19 below. Tourism related planning refusals 2017

Table 2.19 Tourism related planning refusals 2017

Case Number	Case	Reason for Refusal	Type of Development
Galway			
248291	Cinn Uisce, Claregalway, Co. Galway (16/1453)	Visual and residential Amenities	Retention of changes to front and side boundary treatment and landscaping at existing site
247541	44 William Street, Galway City (16/238)	Possible Architectural Conservation Area	Removal/varying of a protected structure
247397	Ballytunin, Gort, Co. Galway (16/823)	Injure the rural landscape character and visual amenities	Dwelling house, garage, treatment unit and all associated services

Kilrush (Co. Clare)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.5 Kilrush

2.5.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Table 2.20 Kilrush Water Quality

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status of conformity	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Description of Incidents	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Kilrush (2017)	D0075 -01	Kilrush	No monitoring was carried out for the Kilrush agglomeration in 2015. Compliance with licence emission limit values is therefore undetermined.	N/A	None	N/A	4000	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.
Kilrush (2016)	D0075 -01	Kilrush	No monitoring was carried out for the Kilrush agglomeration in 2015. Compliance with licence emission limit values is therefore undetermined.	N/A	None	N/A	4000	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.
Kilrush (2015)	D0075 -01	Kilrush	No monitoring was carried out for the Kilrush agglomeration in 2015. Compliance with licence emission limit values is therefore undetermined.	N/A	None	N/A	4000	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.

2.5.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.21 Kilrush Bathing Water Quality

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Clare	Kilrush	Cappagh Pier	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	No change from 2015 -2017	0

2.5.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

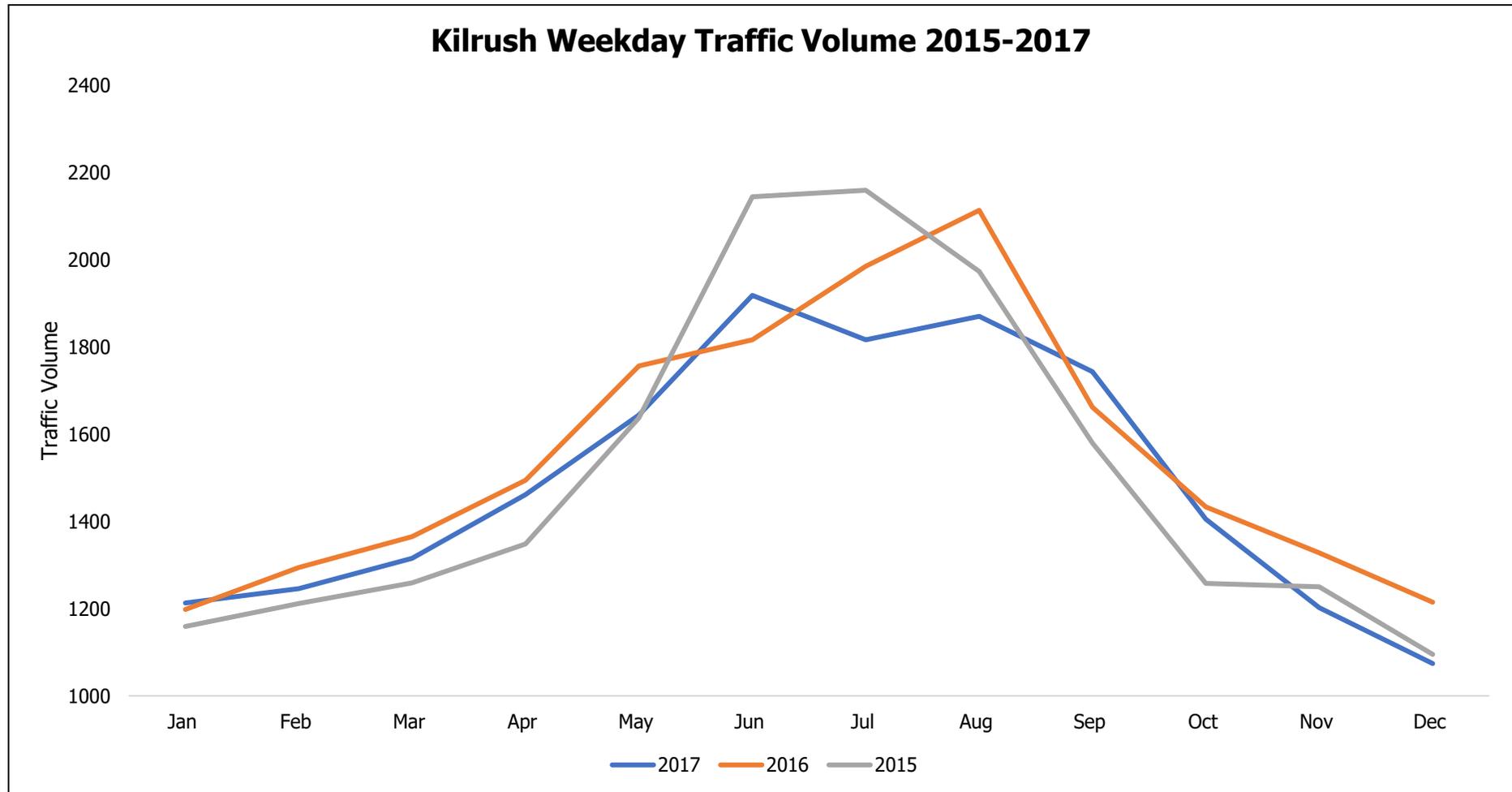


Figure 2.21 Weekday Interval traffic at Kilrush from 2015 -2017¹⁸

¹⁸ Note the y-axis starts at 1000 and not 0

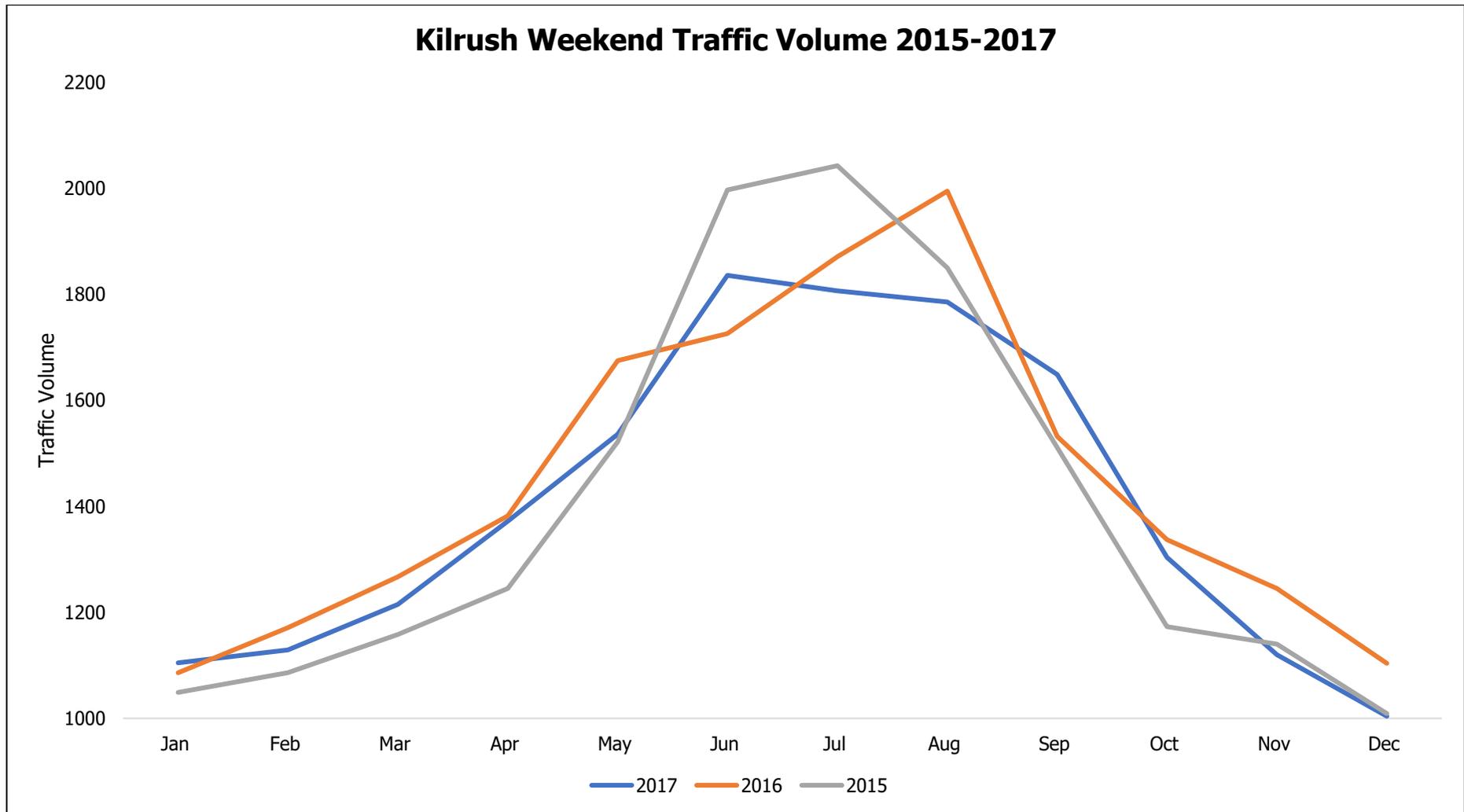


Figure 2.22 Weekend Interval Traffic at Kilrush from 2015 -2017¹⁹

Both weekday and weekend traffic has reduced in 2017. This may be contributed to the weather conditions seen in Ireland throughout October.

¹⁹ Note the y-axis starts at 1000 and not 0

2.5.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.22 Kilrush (Cappagh Pier) Blue Flag Beach Status 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015	✓		No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017.
2016	✓		
2017	✓		

Cappagh Pier has been compliant with the specific criteria relating to water quality, information provision, environmental education, safety and environmental management and has retained its Blue Flag status since 2015.

2.5.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast

Table 2.23 Kilrush Green Coast Status 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green Coast status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

There has been no changed to the Green coast status of Kilrush (Cappagh Pier) since 2015.

2.5.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity



Figure 2.23 Kilrush monitoring site 10x10km tile (Q95) from the NBDC dataset

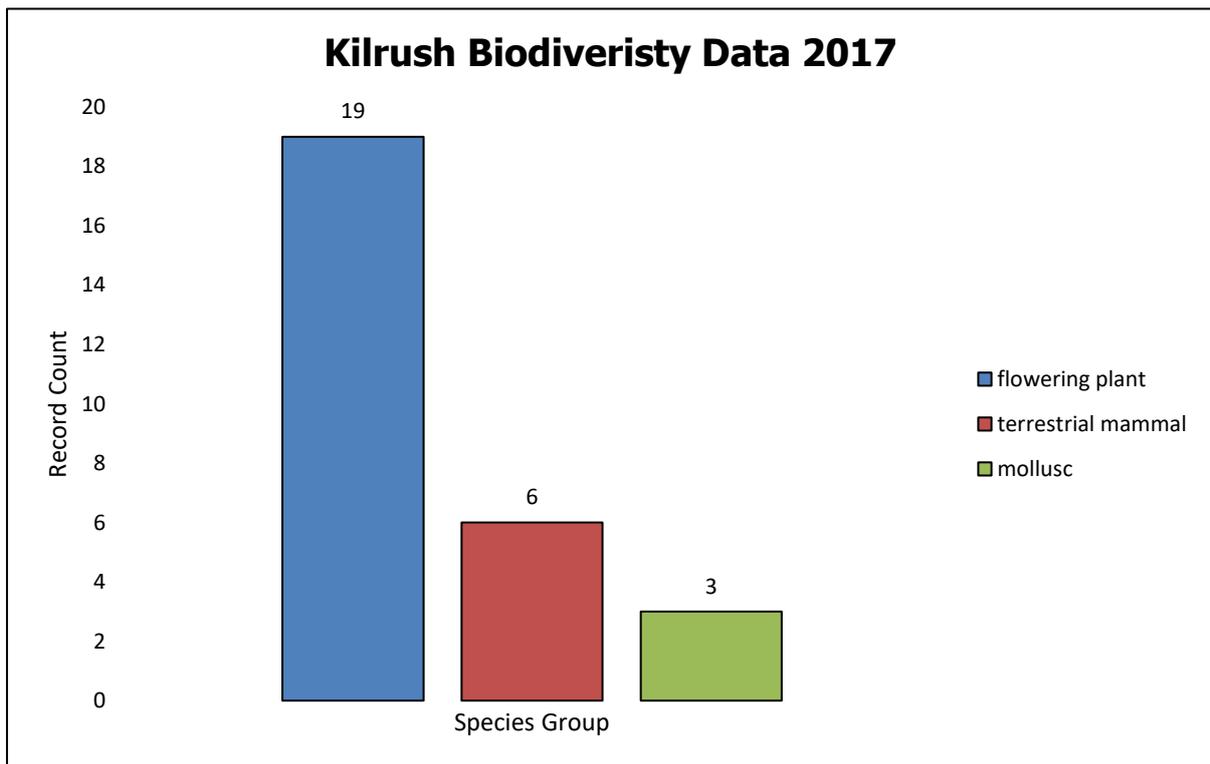


Figure 2.24 Kilrush Biodiversity Data 2015 -2017

2.5.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

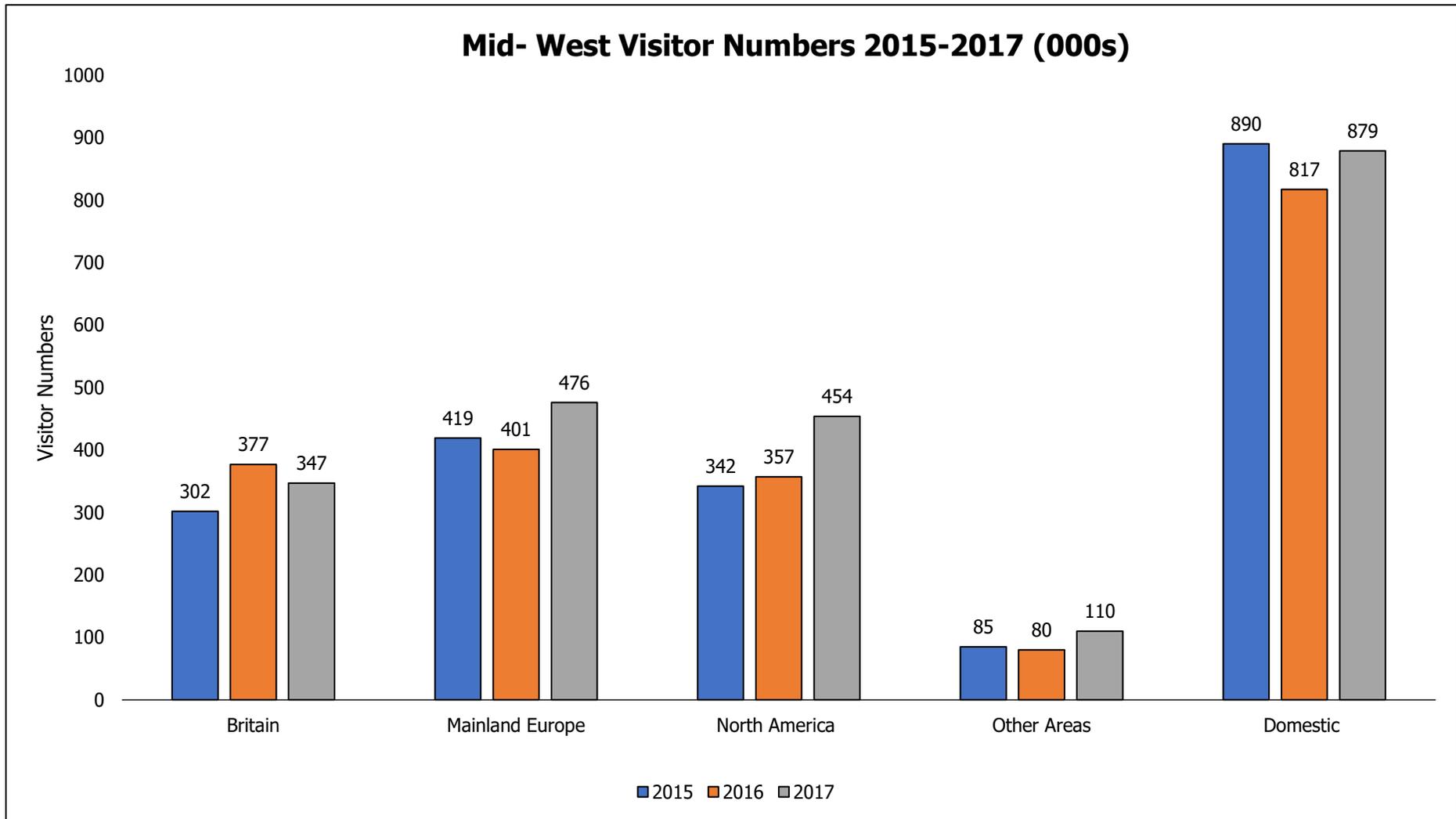


Figure 2.25 Mid-West Region Visitor Numbers 2016 -2017

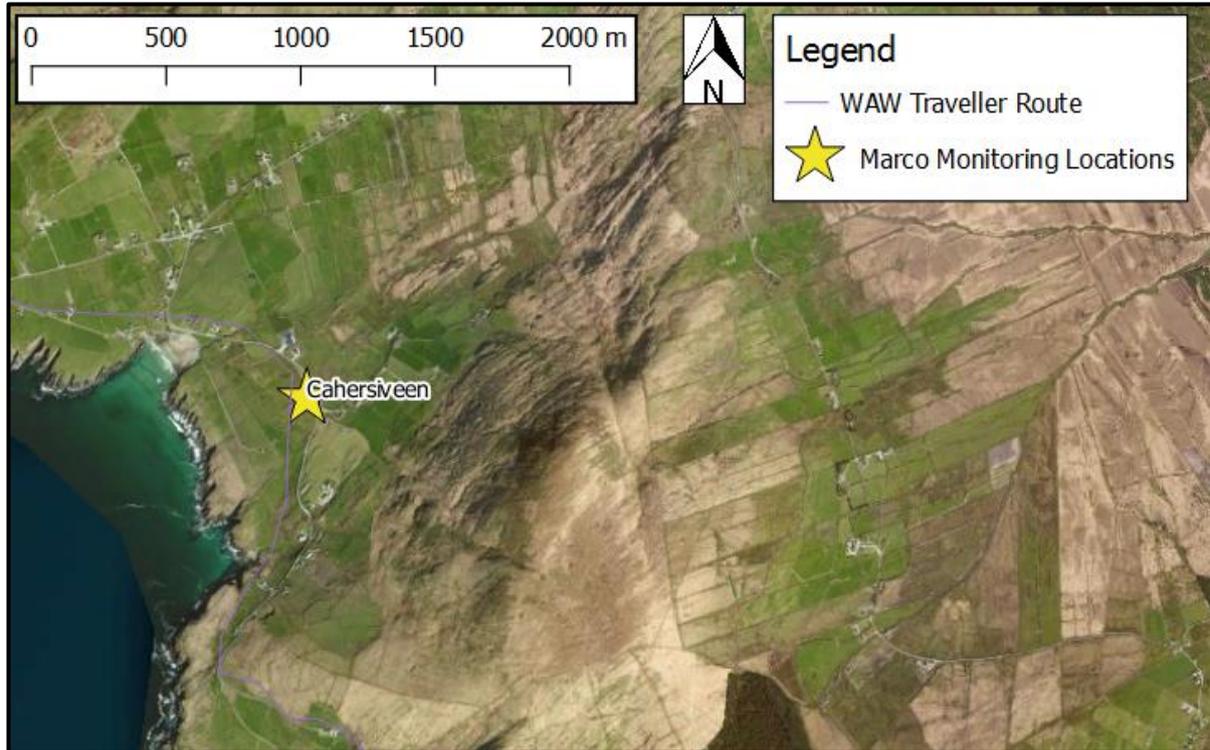
The Mid-West Region saw the highest number of visitors during 2017 with 3,089,000 tourists across all locations. 2,038,000 was the lowest count of visitors in 2015. This shows a rise of 1,051,000 visitors to the Mid-West since 2015.

2.5.7 Monitoring Indicator 7 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

There were no Tourism related Planning refusals in Kilrush or County Clare during 2017.

Cahersiveen (Co. Kerry)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.6 Cahersiveen

2.6.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Table 3.40 Cahersiveen Water Quality 2015 -2017

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status of conformity	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Details of Reported Incidents	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Cahersiveen (2017)	D0181 -01	Cahersiveen	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017.	N/A	1 Reported Incident	Uncontrolled release due to burst in the rising main from Reenarusheen pump station. ²⁰	5600	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.
2016	D0181 -01	Cahersiveen	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2016.	N/A	No incidents reported in 2016.	N/A	5600	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.
2015	D0181 -01	Cahersiveen	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2015.	N/A	No incidents reported in 2015.	N/A	5600	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2015.

²⁰ Corrective action includes: Switching off pump and arrange for repair of the pipe as soon as is practicable.

2.6.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.24 Cahersiveen Bathing Water Quality

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Kerry	Cahersiveen	White Strand	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	No change from 2015 -2017	0

Cahersiveen water quality has been classed as good since 2015. The Waste Water Treatment Plant has been complaint with Emission Limit Values. The bathing water quality has been excellent since 2015.

2.6.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

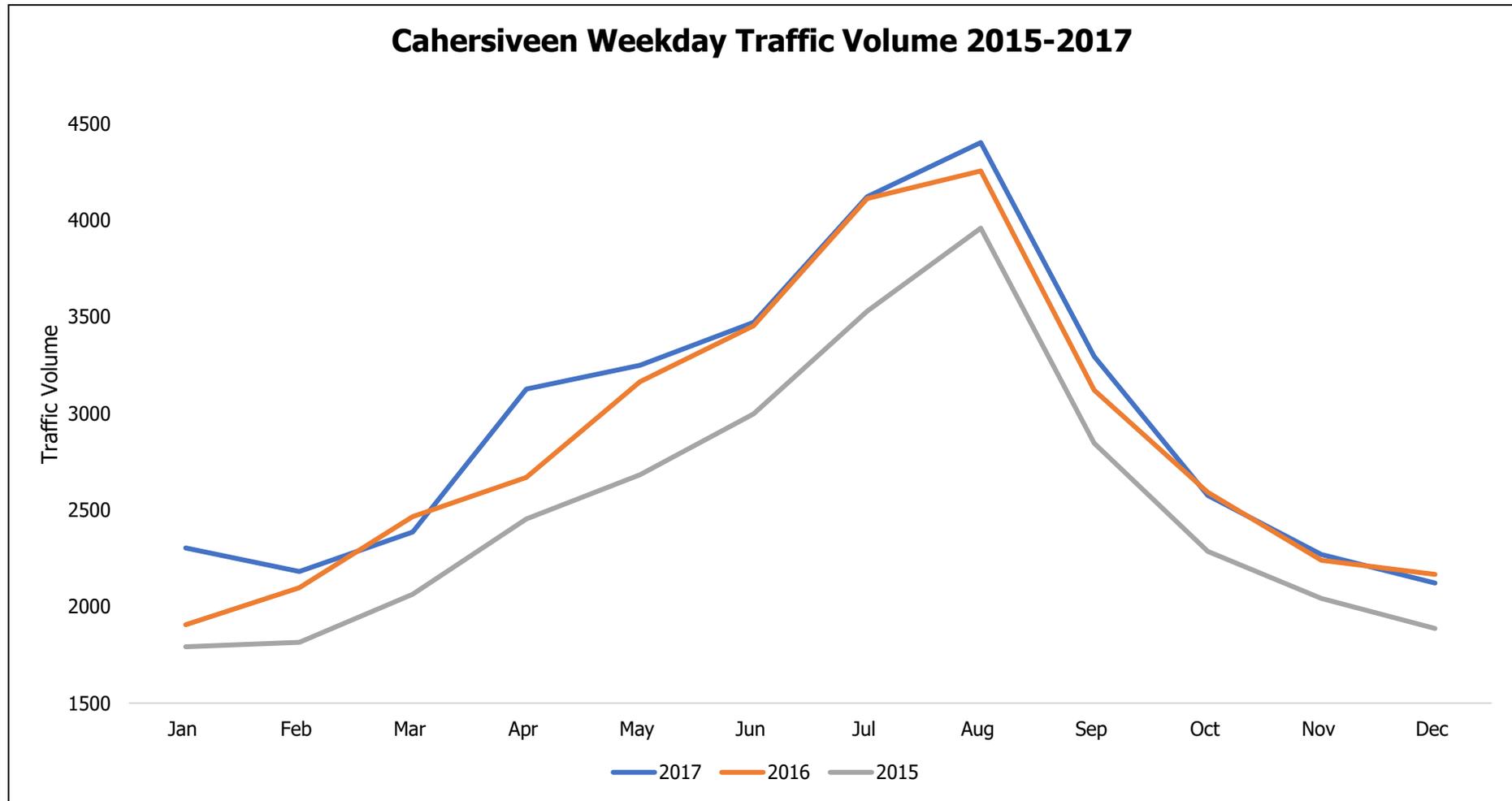


Figure 2.26 Weekday Interval traffic at Cahersiveen from 2015 -2017²¹

²¹ Note the y-axis starts at 1500 and not 0

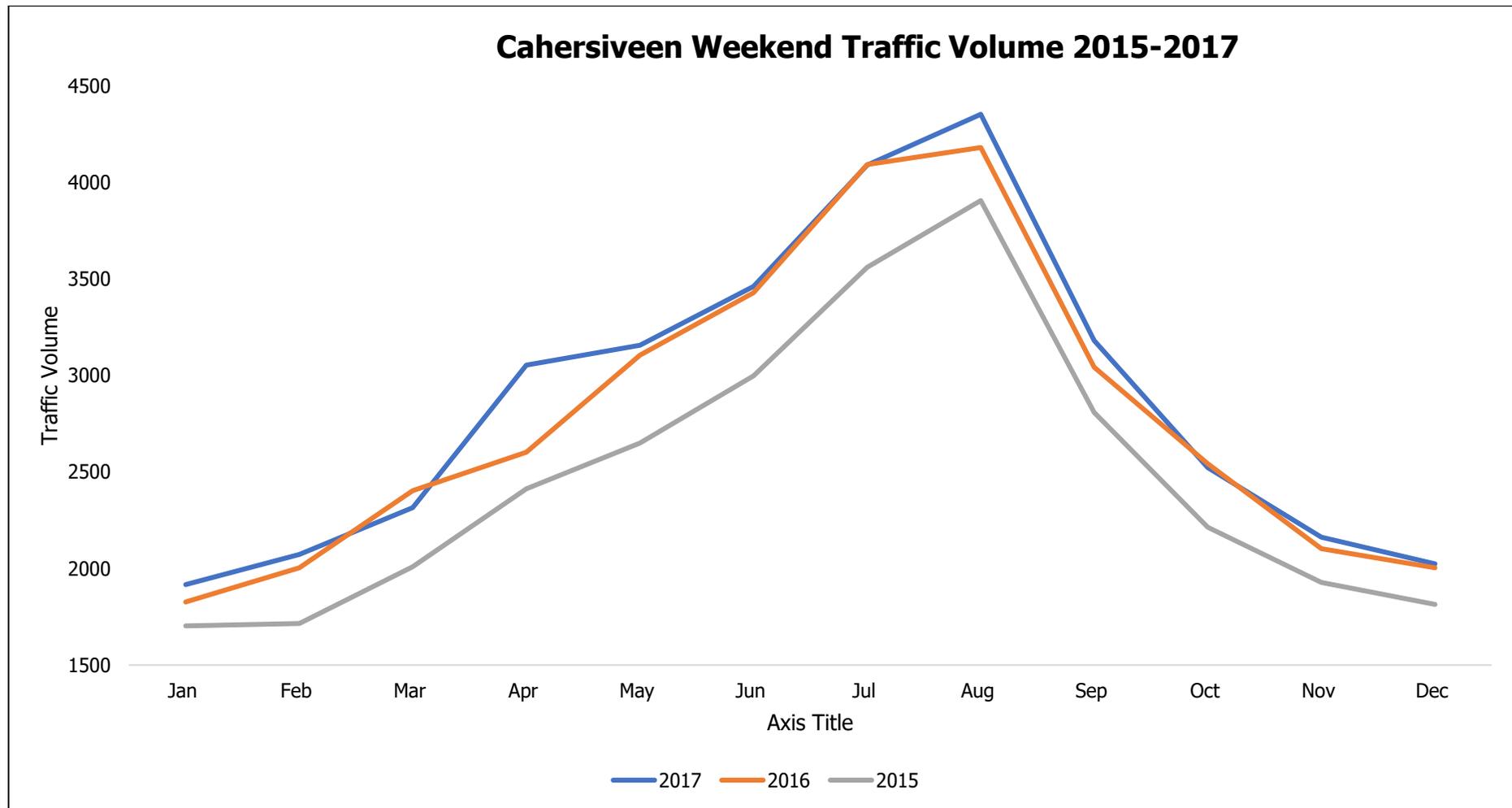


Figure 2.27 Weekend Interval Traffic at Cahersiveen from 2015 -2017 ²²

Results show that there has been a steady increase in interval traffic volumes during weekends and weekdays since 2015. The surge is likely due to the increase of tourists travelling from WAW sites, mainly during summer months.

²² Note the y-axis starts at 1500 and not 0

2.6.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.25 Cahersiveen (Whitstrand) Blue Flag Beach Status 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015	✓		No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017.
2016	✓		
2017	✓		

Whitstrand has been compliant with the specific criteria relating to water quality, information provision, environmental education, safety and environmental management.

2.6.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast

Table 2.26 Cahersiveen Green Coast Status 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green Coast status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

There has been no change in status of the Green coast award.

2.6.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity

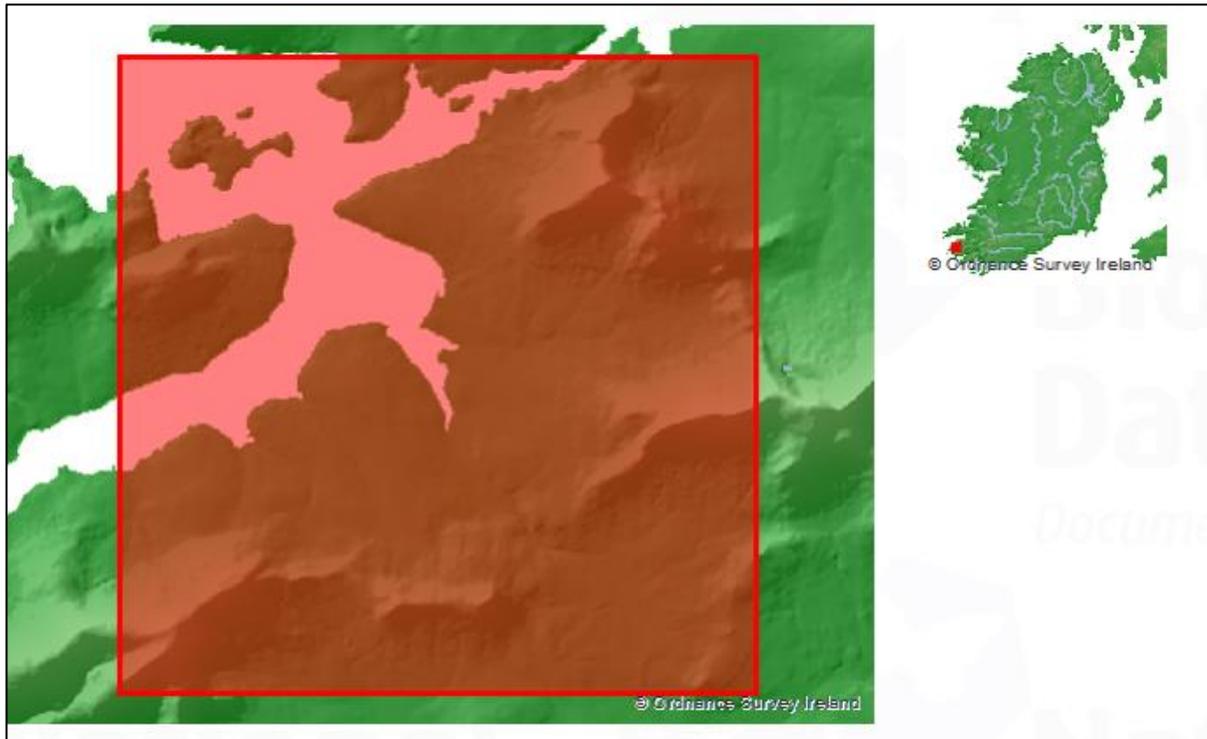


Figure 2.28 Cahersiveen monitoring site 10x10km tile (V47) from the NBDC dataset

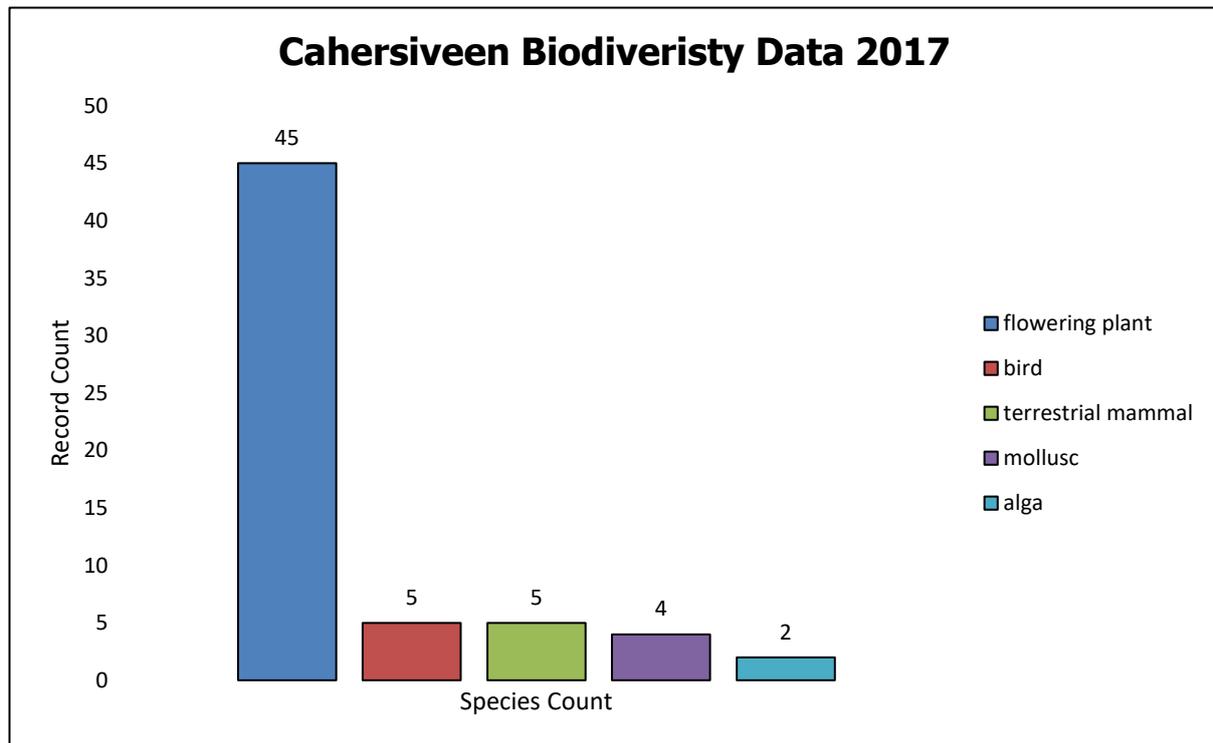


Figure 2.29 Cahersiveen Biodiversity Data 2015 -2017

2.6.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

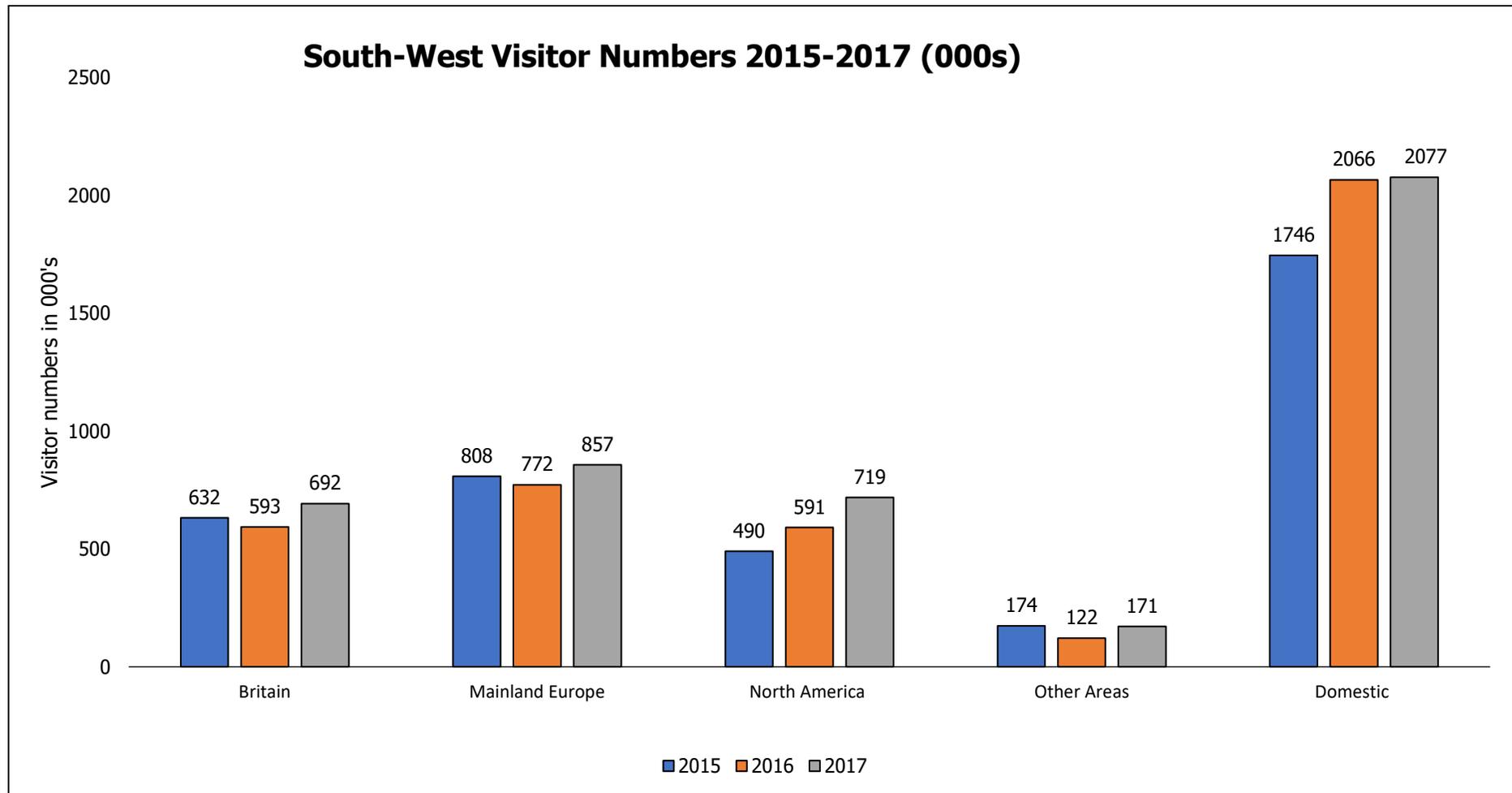


Figure 2.30 South West Region Visitor Numbers 2015-2017

Overall the South-West region received the highest level of tourism in 2017 with 4,446,000. 2015 had the lowest record of tourists at 3,850,000. This is a growth of 2.3% between 2015 and 2017.

2.6.7 Monitoring Indicator 7 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

There were no Tourism related planning refusals in Cahersiveen during 2017. Tourism related planning refusals within the county are included in Table 2.27 below.

Table 2.27 Tourism related Planning refusals 2017

Case Number	Case	Reason for Refusal	Type of Development
Kerry			
248261	Woodlawn, Listowel, Co. Kerry (16/927)	Visually obtrusive, adversely affect the character of Gurtenard House (Protected Structure)	House and associated site works (within curtilage of a protected structure)
247566	Buncurrig, Ballyheigue, Co. Kerry (16/827)	Within an area designated a Rural Secondary Special Amenity	Retain a soccer pitch and entrance as completed and permission for a container to be used as changing rooms.
247513	Ranalough, Currow, Killarney, Co. Kerry (16/623)	Injure the visual amenities of the area	Construct house, garage, walls, waste water treatment system.

Bantry (Co. Cork)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.7 Bantry

2.7.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Table 2.28 Bantry Water Quality 2015 -2017

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status of conformity	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Description of Incidents	Description of Incidents ²³	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Bantry (2017)	D0168-01	Bantry	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017	N/A	4 Reported Incidents		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breach of emission limit values Overflow from supernatant pump sump within the WWTP site Overflow from main pumping station Power outage 	6000	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.
Bantry (2016)	D0168-01	Bantry	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2016.	N/A	1 Reported Incident		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncontrolled release due to storm-heavy rainfall.²⁴ 	6000	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.
Bantry (2015)	D0168-01	Bantry	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2015.	N/A	1 Reported Incident		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncontrolled release due to storm-heavy rainfall.²⁵ 	6000	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2015

²³ Corrective action includes; none - Cause of incident due to construction work, the actuated WAS valve was closed manually by operator to stop flow into PFT and Supernatant tanks, Fault corrected at the WWTP, Power restored by ESB.

²⁴ No corrective action taken.

²⁵ No corrective action taken.

2.7.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.29 Bantry Bathing Water Quality

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Cork	Bantry	Barley Cove	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	No change from 2015 -2017	0

Bantry's Water Quality has maintained Good Status since 2015. The Waste Water Treatment Plant has been in compliance with emission limit values. Bathing Water Quality at Barley Cove has been Excellent since 2015.

2.7.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

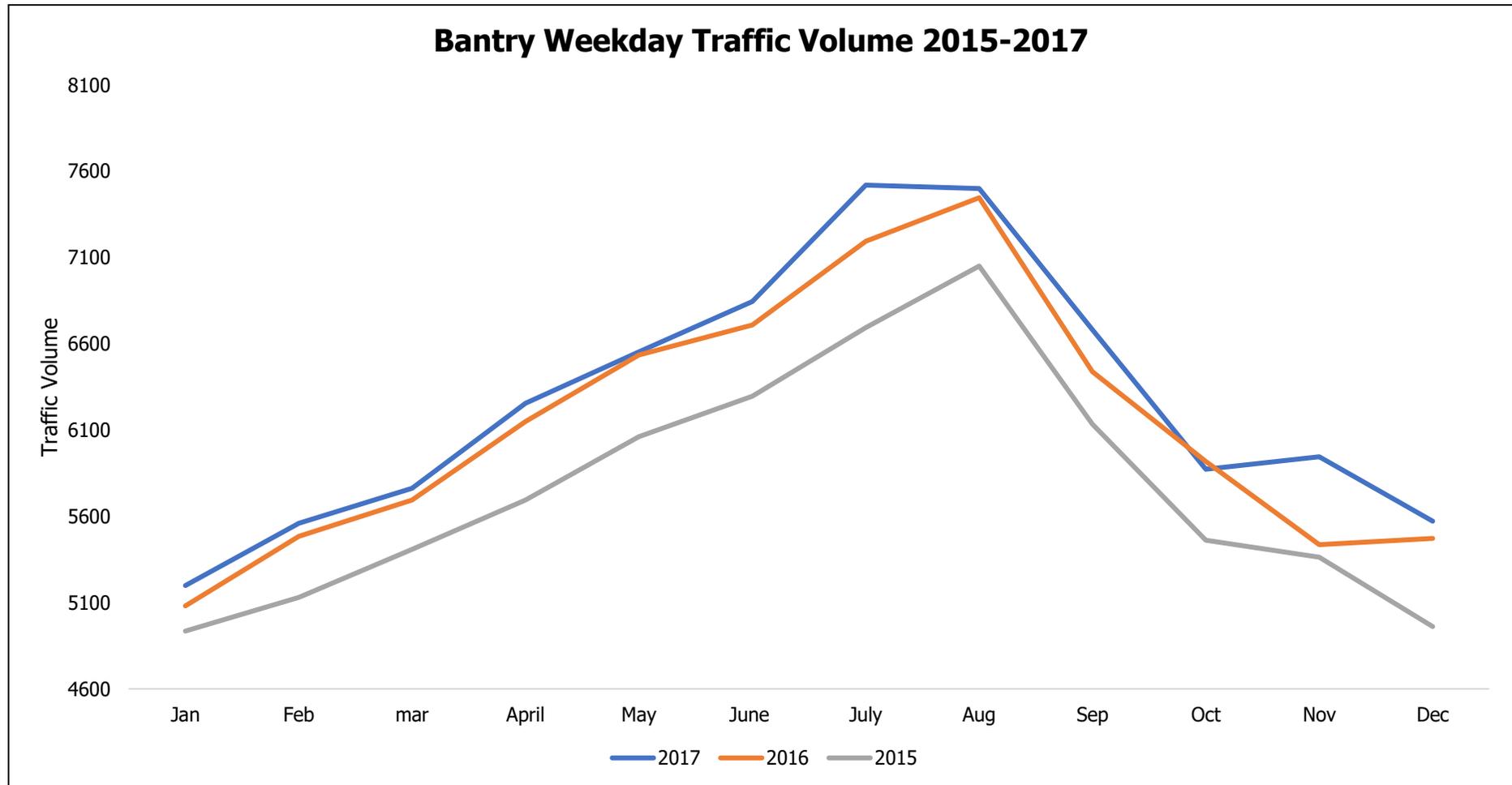


Figure 2.31 Weekday Interval traffic at Bantry from 2015 -2017²⁶

²⁶ Note the y-axis starts at 4600 and not 0

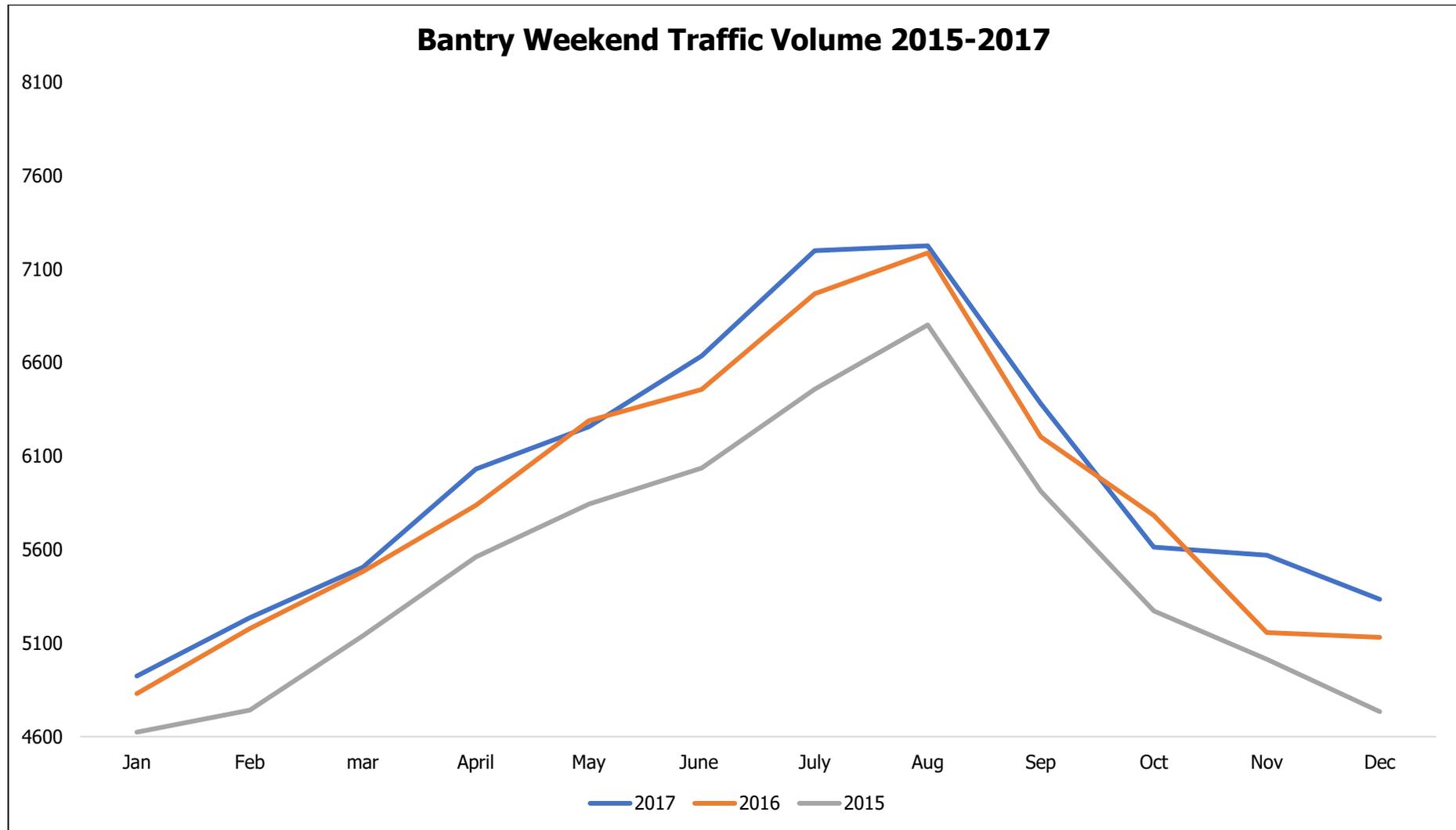


Figure 2.32 Weekend Interval Traffic at Bantry from 2015-2017

Results show that there has been a steady increase in interval traffic volumes during weekends and weekdays since 2015. The surge is likely due to the increase of tourists travelling from WAW sites, mainly during summer months

2.7.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.30 Bantry (Barley Cove) Blue Flag Beach Status 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015	✓		No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017.
2016	✓		
2017	✓		

Barley Cove has been complaint with the specific criteria relating to water quality, information provision, environmental education, safety and environmental management.

2.7.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast Awards

Table 2.31 Bantry Green Coast Awards 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green Coast status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

There has been no change in the green coast status of the site since 2015.

2.7.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity

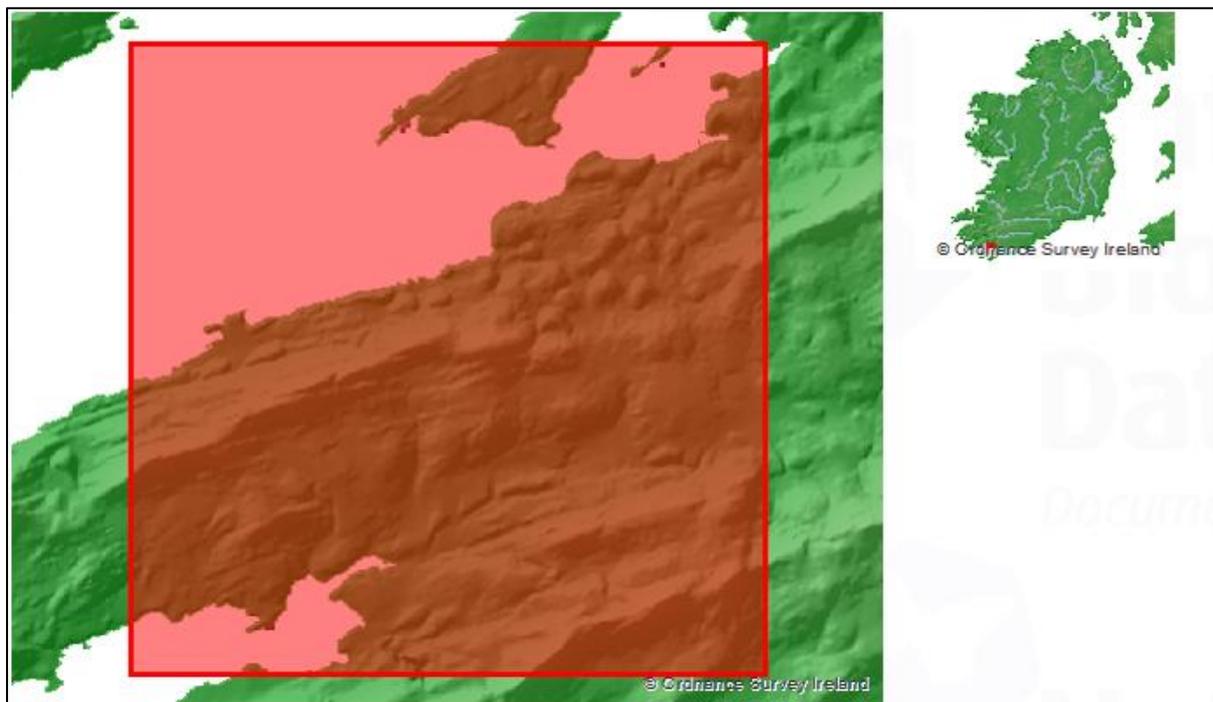


Figure 2.33 Bantry monitoring site 10x10km tile (V94) from the NBDC dataset

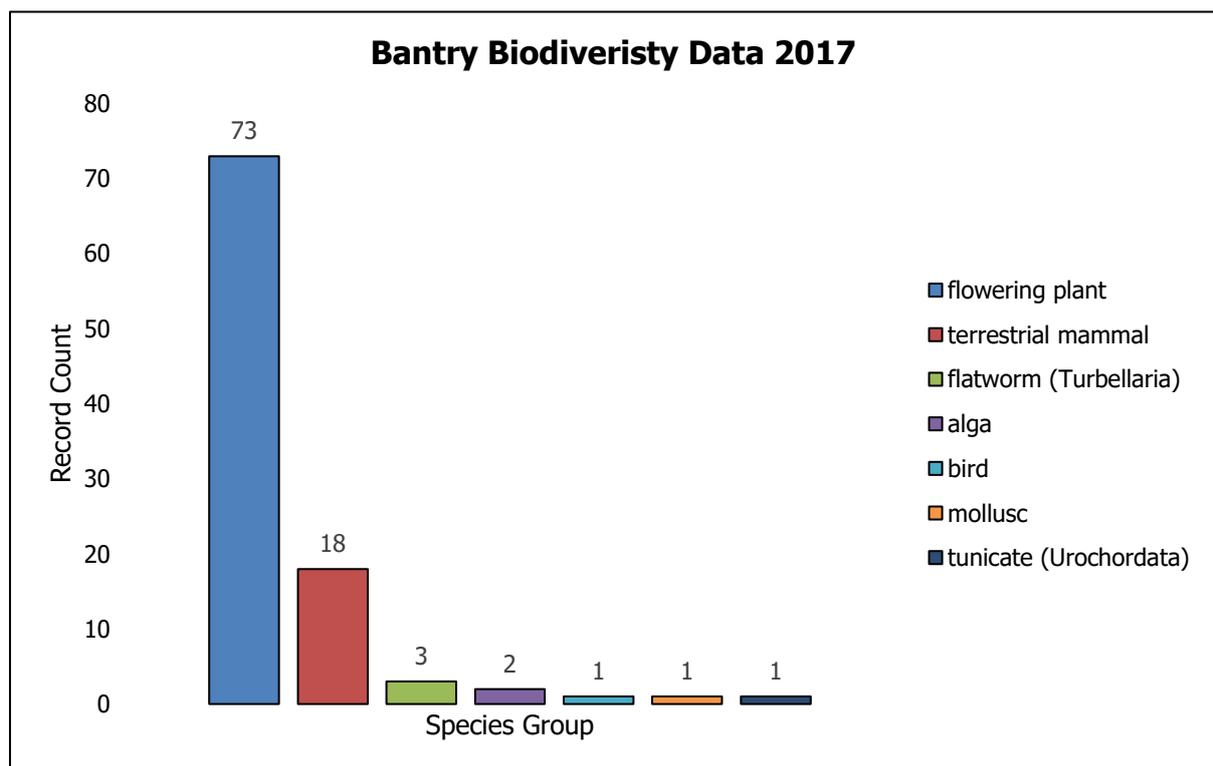


Figure 2.34 Bantry Biodiversity Data 2017

2.7.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

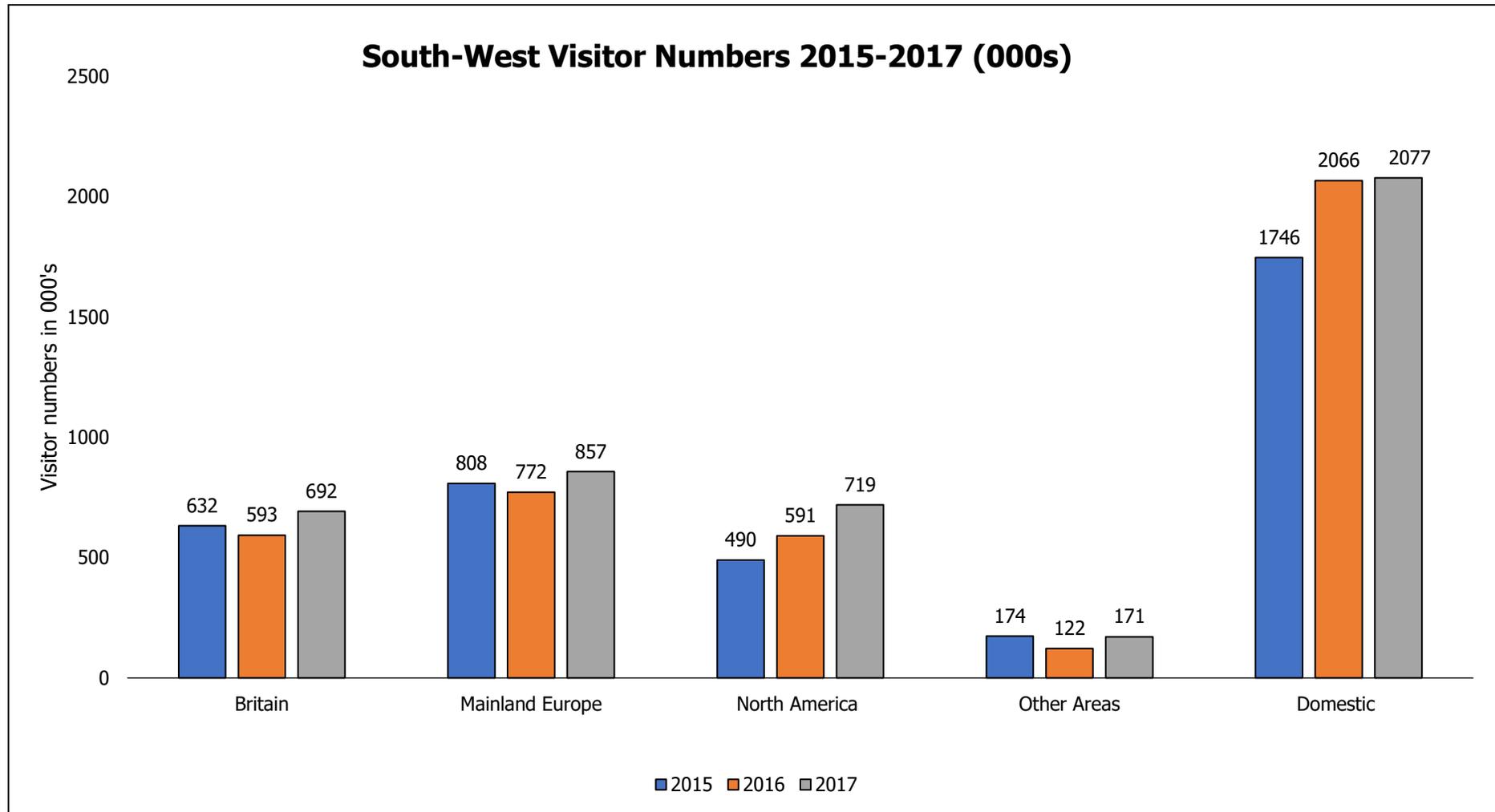


Figure 2.35 South West Region Visitor Numbers 2016 -2017

Overall the South-West region received the highest level of tourism in 2017 with 4,446,000. 2015 had the lowest record of tourists at 3,850,000. This is a growth of 2.3% between 2015 and 2017.

2.7.7 Monitoring Indicator 8 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

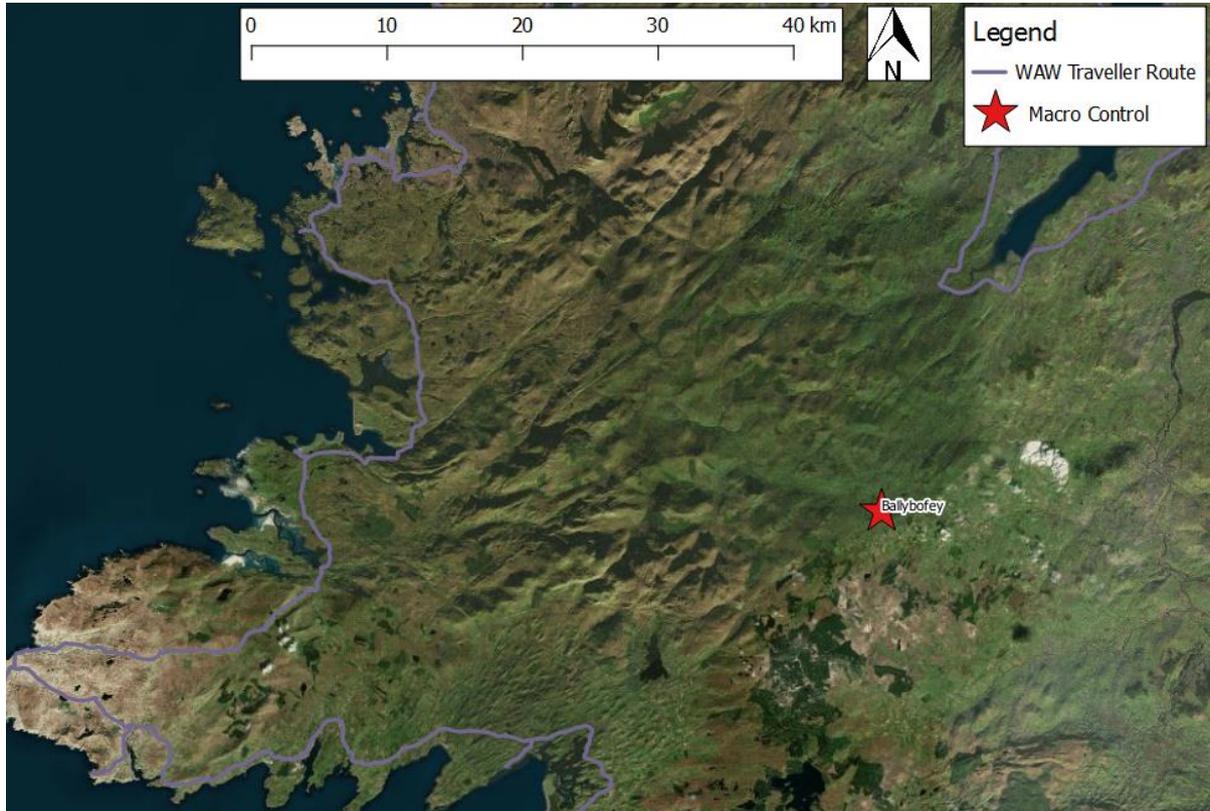
There were no Tourism related planning refusals in Bantry during 2017. Tourism related planning refusals within the county are included in Table 2.32 below.

Table 2.32 Tourism related planning refusals 2017

Case Number	Case	Reason for Refusal	Type of Development
Donegal			
247968	42A Evergreen Buildings, Cork (16/36986)	Potential to injure visual amenity of the area	Demolition of garage/store building and construction of dwelling with associated site works
248251	Lispatric Upper, Old head of Kinsale (16/7377)	Endanger Public safety by reason of traffic hazard.	House and associated site works.

Ballybofey (Co. Donegal)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.8 Ballybofey

2.8.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Table 3.56 Ballybofey Water Quality 2015 -2017

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status of conformity	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Incident Descriptions ²⁷	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Ballybofey (2017)	D0120-01	Ballybofey	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017.	The following parameters exceeded the emission limit values in 2017:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOD (mg/l) • Ortho P / MRP (mg/l) • Ammonia N (mg/l) 	8 Reported Incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWTP overloading • WWTP Failed Blower in Aeration Tank • ELV non compliance 	5600	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.
Ballybofey (2016)	D0120-01	Ballybofey	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2016.	The following parameters exceeded the emission limit values in 2016:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ortho P (mg/l) • Ammonia NH3 (mg/l) 	4 Reported Incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELV non-compliance Ortho P. 	5600	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.
Ballybofey (2015)	D0120-01	Ballybofey	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2015.	N/A	1 reported incident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emission Limit Value exceedance due to overloading.²⁸ 	4000	There was no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2015.

²⁷ Corrective actions include; WWTP Storm management, Replacement, New WWTP Design.

²⁸ Corrective actions include optimisation.

2.8.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.33 Ballybofey Bathing Water Quality 2015 -2017

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Donegal	Ballybofey	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No change from 2015 -2017	0

The Water Quality at Ballybofey has been classed as good since 2015. There is no bathing water monitoring point for Ballybofey resulting in no data being gathered.

2.8.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

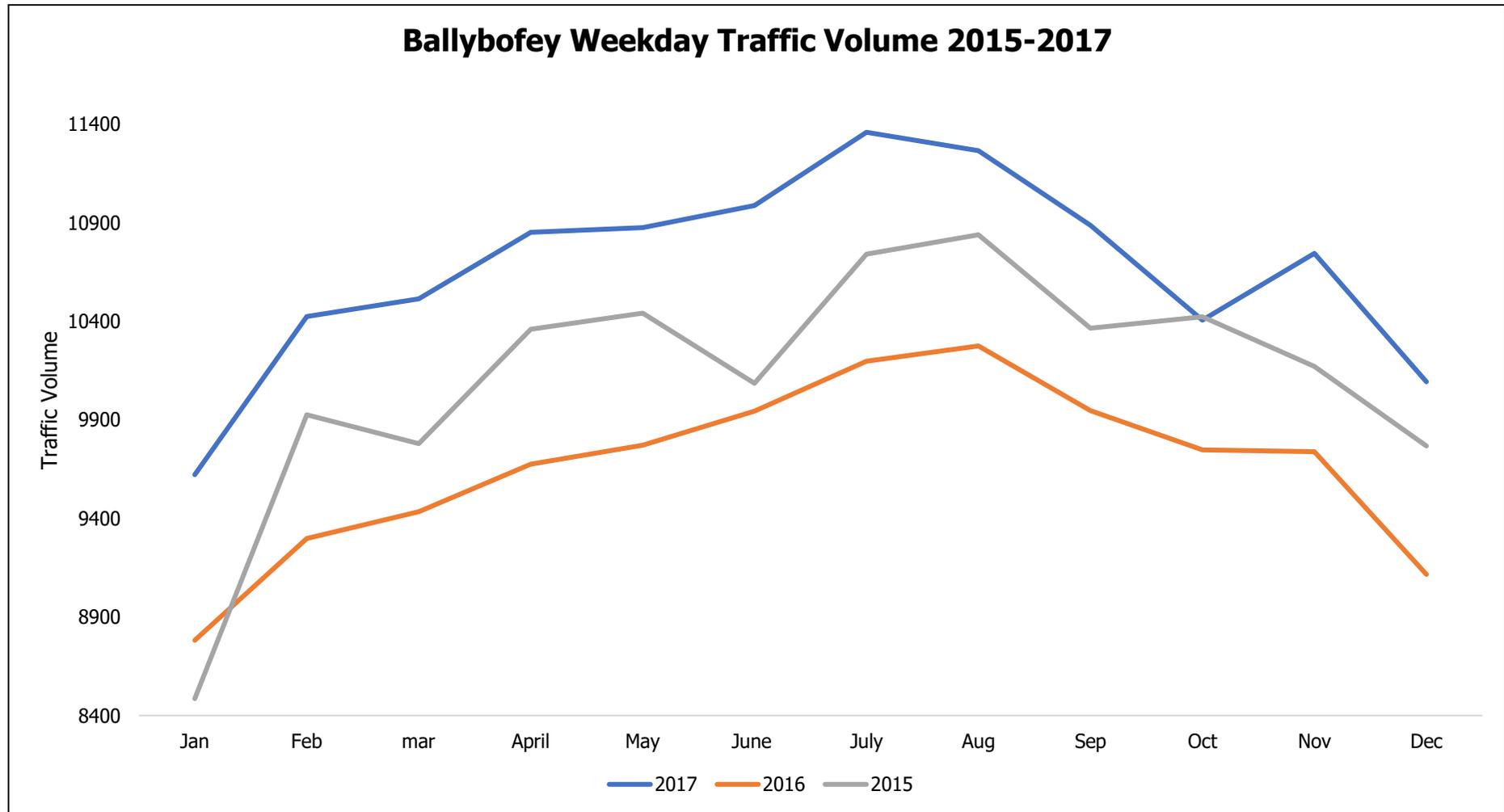


Figure 2.36 Weekday Interval Traffic at Ballybofey from 2015 -2017²⁹

²⁹ Note the y-axis starts at 8400 and not 0

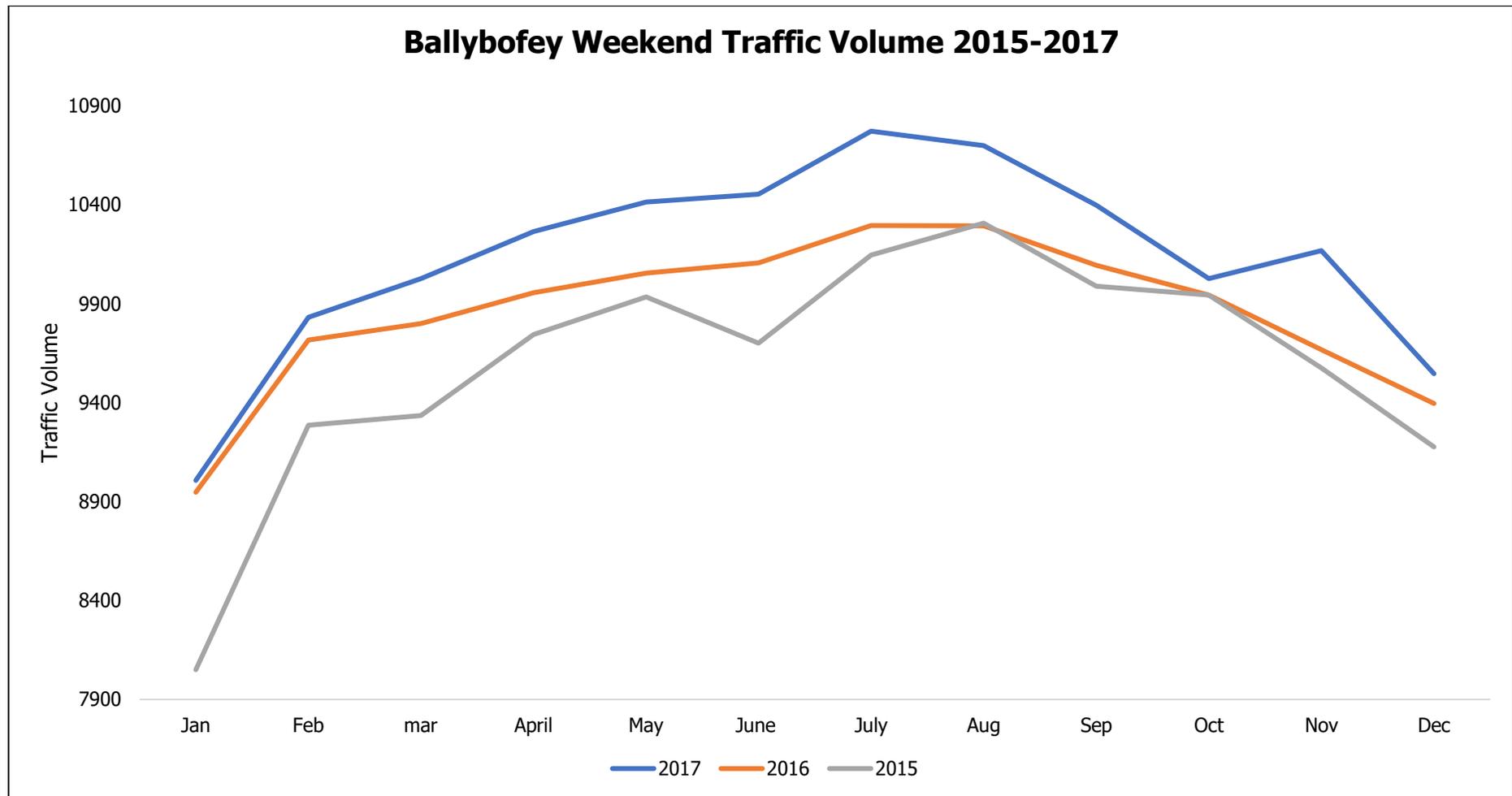


Figure 2.37 Weekend Interval Traffic at Ballybofey from 2015 -2017³⁰

Results show varying levels of traffic in Ballybofey across both weekdays and weekends. In both instances there was an increase during summer months most likely due to visitors to the Wild Atlantic Way

³⁰ Note the y-axis starts at 7900 and not 0

2.8.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.34 Ballybofey Blue Flag Beach Status 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017. ³¹
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

Ballybofey did not receive Blue Flag status between 2015 and 2017.

2.8.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast Awards

Table 2.35 Ballybofey Green Coast Awards 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green Coast status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

Ballybofey did not receive a Green Coast Award between 2015 and 2017.

³¹ It is noted that Ballybofey is an inland monitoring site and therefore will not have any blue flag status

2.8.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity



Figure 2.38 Ballybofey Monitoring site 10x10km tile (H19) from the NBDC dataset

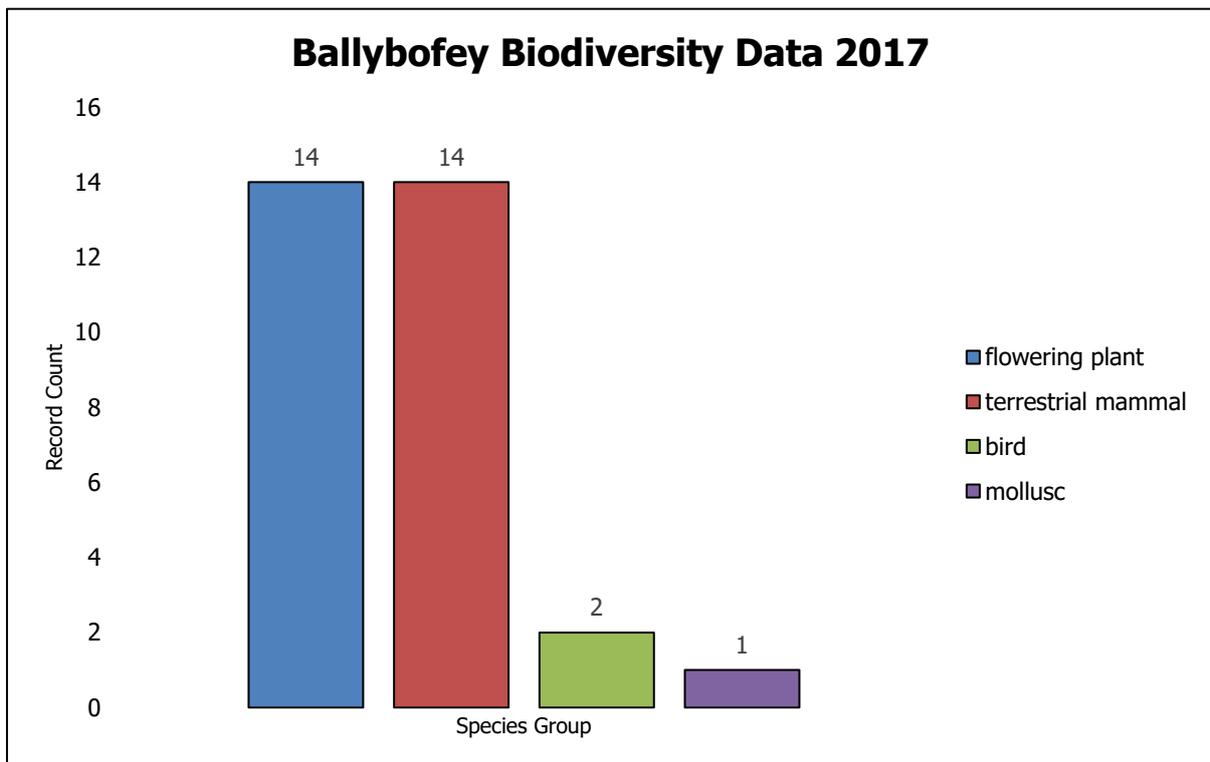


Figure 2.39 Ballybofey Biodiversity Data 2017

2.8.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

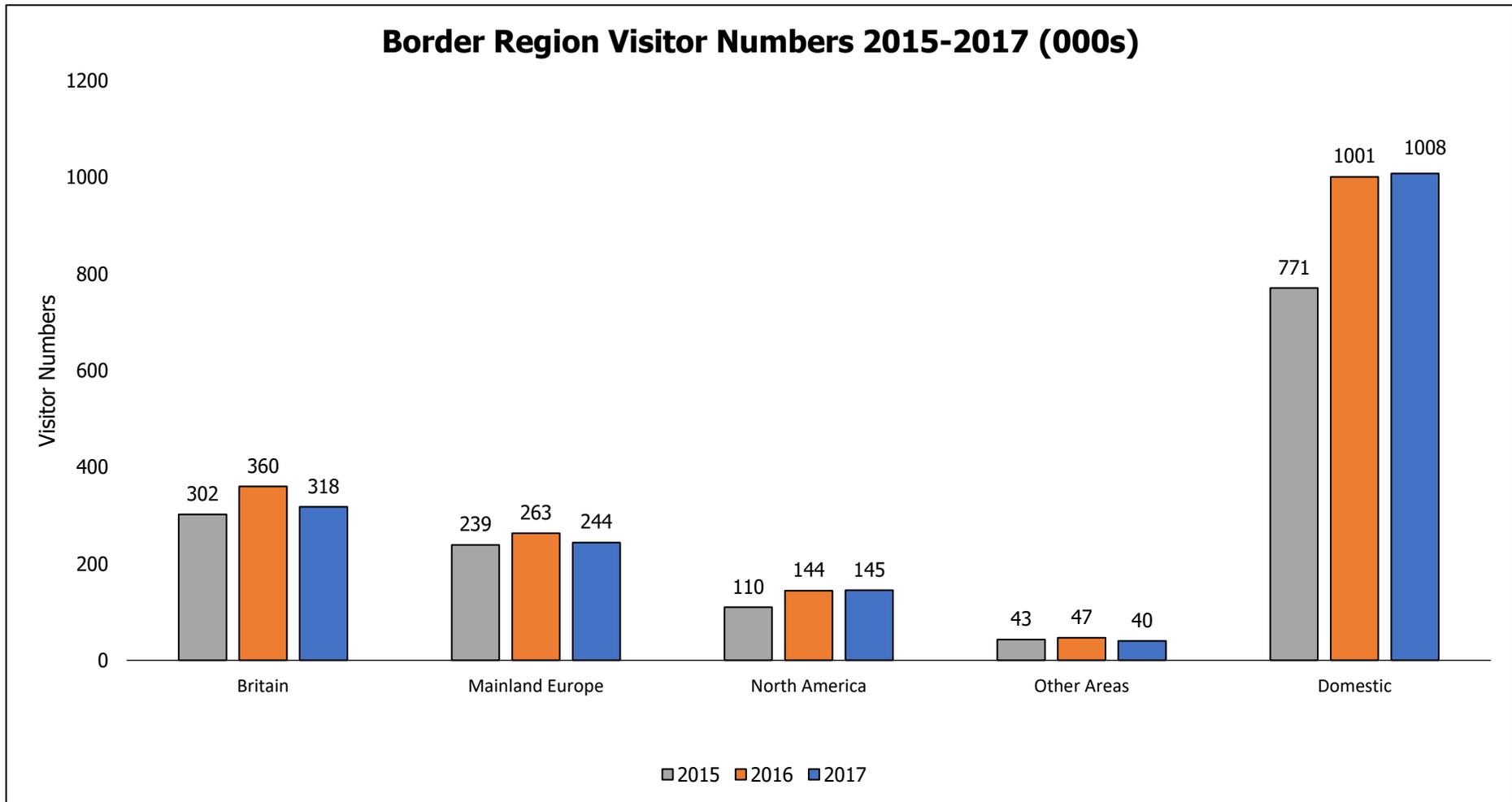


Figure 2.40 Comparison of visitor numbers for Border Region 2016 -2017

2016 saw the highest number of visitors to the Border Region with 1,815,000 in total from across all locations. This was a 23% rise in numbers from 2015 and a 2.3% drop in numbers in 2017 with a total of 1,755,000.

2.8.7 Monitoring Indicator 8 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

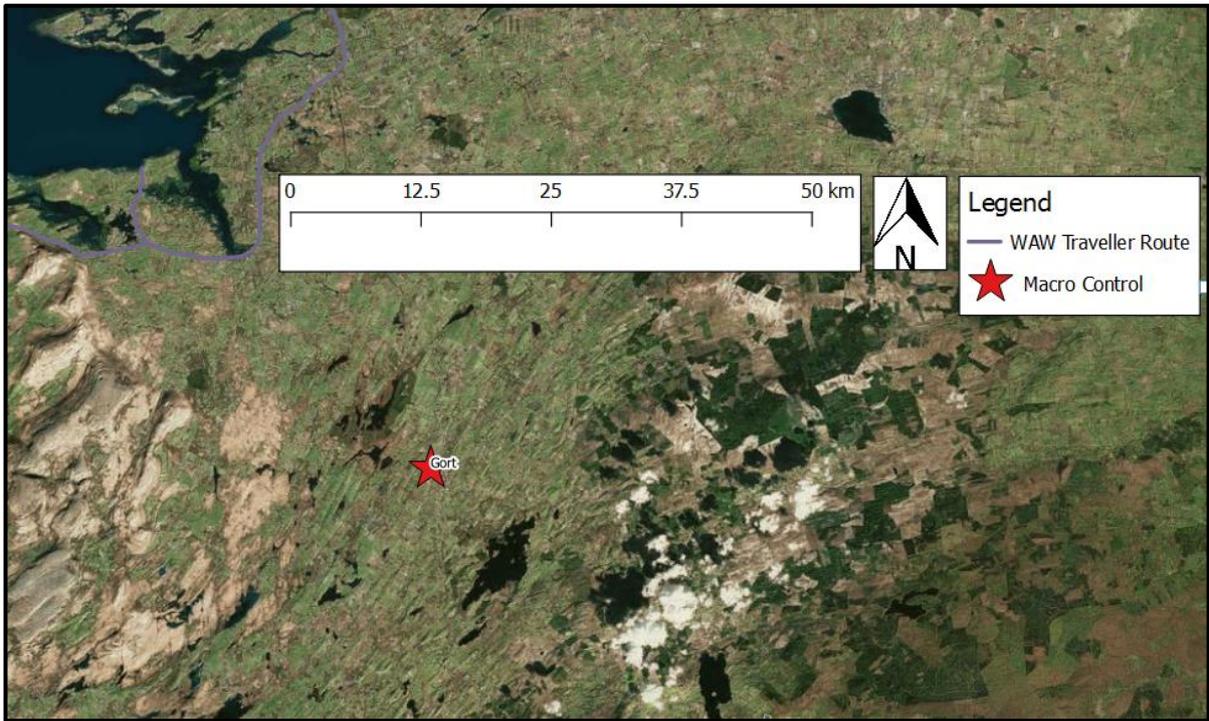
There were no Tourism related planning refusals in Ballybofey during 2017. Tourism related planning refusals within the county are included in Table 2.36 below:

Table 2.36 Tourism related Planning refusals 2017

Case Number	Case	Reason for Refusal	Type of Development
Donegal			
248889	Speenogue, Burt, Co. Donegal. (17/50217)	Landscape and visual Amenity	Dwelling house, detached garage at septic tank.
245389	Glebe Td. Killybegs, Donegal (16/51173)	Visually intrusive feature	Construction of a two-storey building in connection with marine related activity and all associated works.
248191	Derrybeg, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal (16/51875)	Rural and scenic Amenity	Retention of partial reduction of ground levels, site clearance, deposition of gravel and soil material with screen planting.
SU0100	Meenacurrin, Maghera, Ardara, Co. Donegal.	May have impact on Slieve Tooey/Tormore Island/Loughros Beg Bay SAC	Quarry

Gort (Co. Galway)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.9 Gort

2.9.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Table 3.64 Gort Water Quality 2015 -2017

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Incident Description ³²	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Gort (2017)	D0195 - 01	Gort	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017	The following parameters exceeded the emission limit values in 2017: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS (mg/l); • Ortho P / MRP (mg/l); and • Ammonia N (mg/l). 	2 reported Incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-compliance due to plant not being designed for nutrient removal • Abatement Equipment Off-line 	4310	The following improvement works were undertaken in 2017: Refurbishment of Inlet Screen, Refurbishment of Sludge Dewatering Centrifuge, Manhole covers replaced on network to reduce infiltration of rainwater. Works to be carried out in 2018 are: Replacement of Surface Aeration with FBDA
Gort (2016)	D0195 - 01	Gort	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was Non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2016.	The following parameter exceeded the emission limit values in 2016: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Ammonia •TSS •COD •BOD 	19 (3 reported Incidents)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-compliance due to plant not being designed for nutrient removal • Abatement Equipment Off-line 	4310	The following improvement works were undertaken in 2016: Clarifier Scraper blades were replaced in the single clarifier in 2016.
Gort (2015)	D0195 - 01	Gort	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with one of the Emission Limit Values in 2015.	The following parameter exceeded the emission limit values in 2015: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ammonia 	1 (11 individual results submitted) reported incident	Non-compliance due to emission limit value exceedance.	4310	There was no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2015.

³² Corrective actions include; New Anoxic Tank required, FBDA to be installed, temporary bar screen put in place, maintenance carried out, screen returned and parts ordered and replaced.

2.9.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.37 Gort Bathing Water Quality 2015 -2017

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Galway	Gort	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No change from 2015 -2017	0

Water Quality in Gort has been classed as poor. The Waste Water Treatment plant has been non-compliant with Emission Limit Values since 2015. Gort is aiming to get to Good Status by 2021.

2.9.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

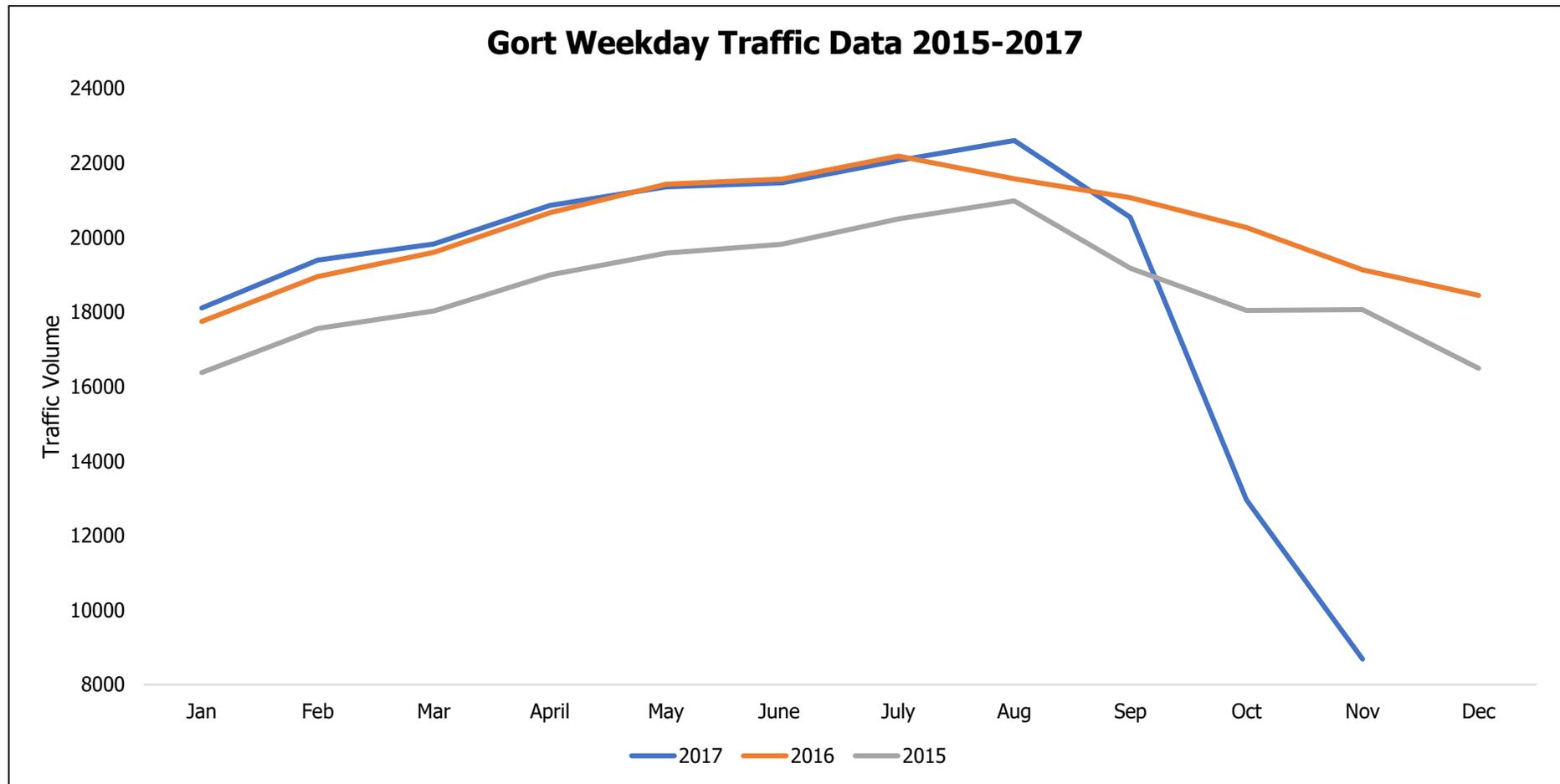


Figure 2.41 Weekday Interval Traffic Data at Gort from 2015 -2017³³³⁴

³³ Note the y-axis starts at 8000 and not 0

³⁴ The sharp fall in numbers between November and December is a result of road works taking place between 22/11/2017 and 10/12/2017, road closures were in place between these dates so no data was collected.

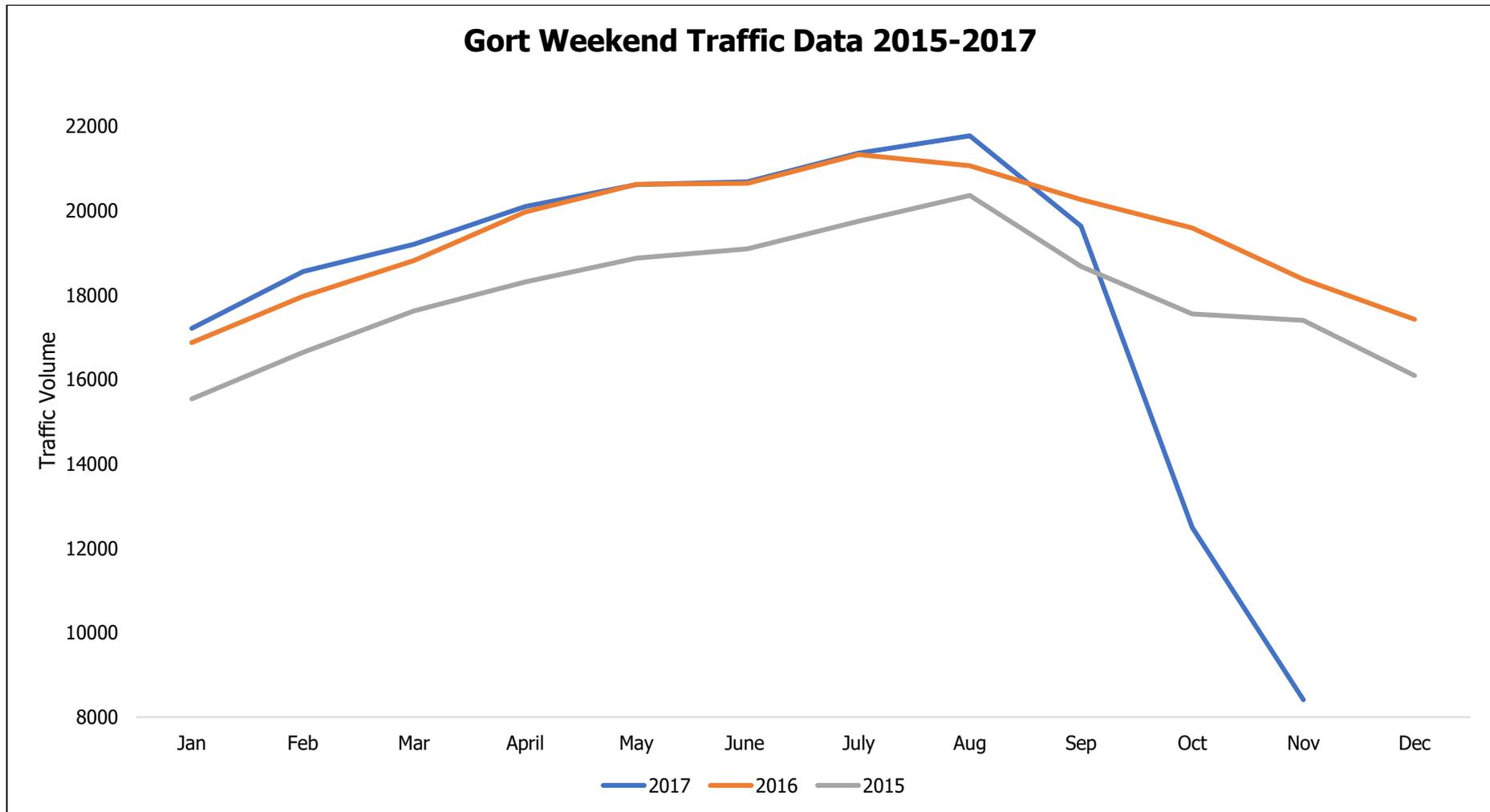


Figure 2.42 Weekend Interval Traffic at Gort from 2015 - 2017³³³⁵

The sharp fall in numbers between November and December is a result of road works taking place between 22/11/2017 and 10/12/2017, road closures were in place between these dates so no data was collected.

³⁵ Note the y-axis starts at 8000 and not 0

2.9.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.38 Gort Blue Flag Beaches 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

Gort has not received a Blue Flag award between 2015-2017

2.9.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast Awards

Table 2.39 Gort Green Coast Awards 2105 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green Coast status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

It is noted that Gort is an inland monitoring site and therefore will not have any Green coast status.

2.9.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity

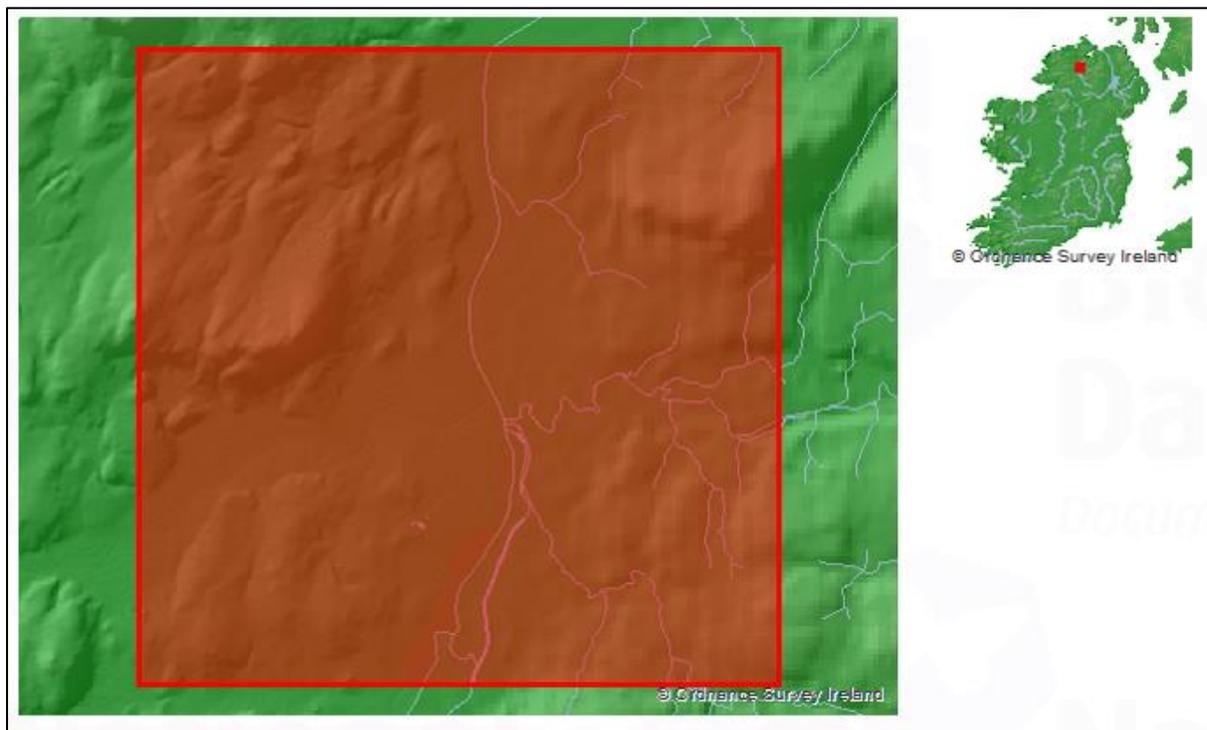


Figure 2.43 Gort Monitoring Site 10x10km tile (C30) from the NBDC dataset

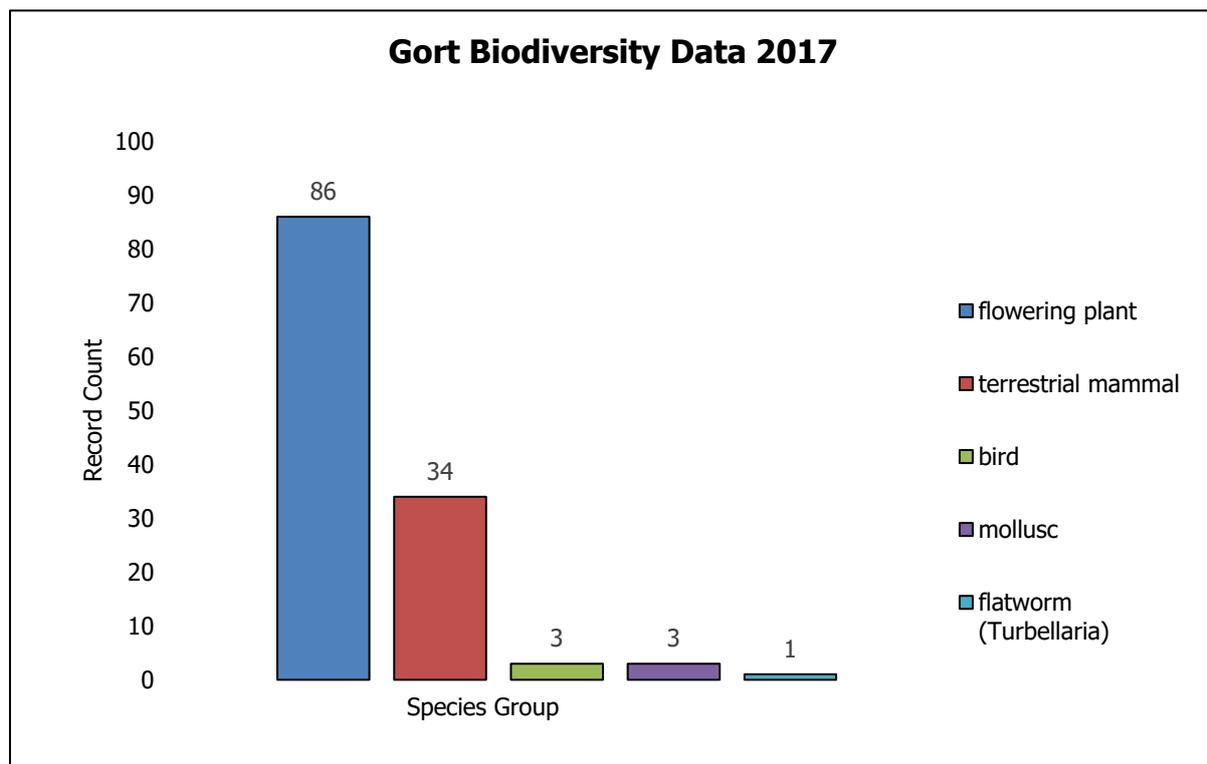


Figure 2.44 Gort Biodiversity Data 2017

2.9.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

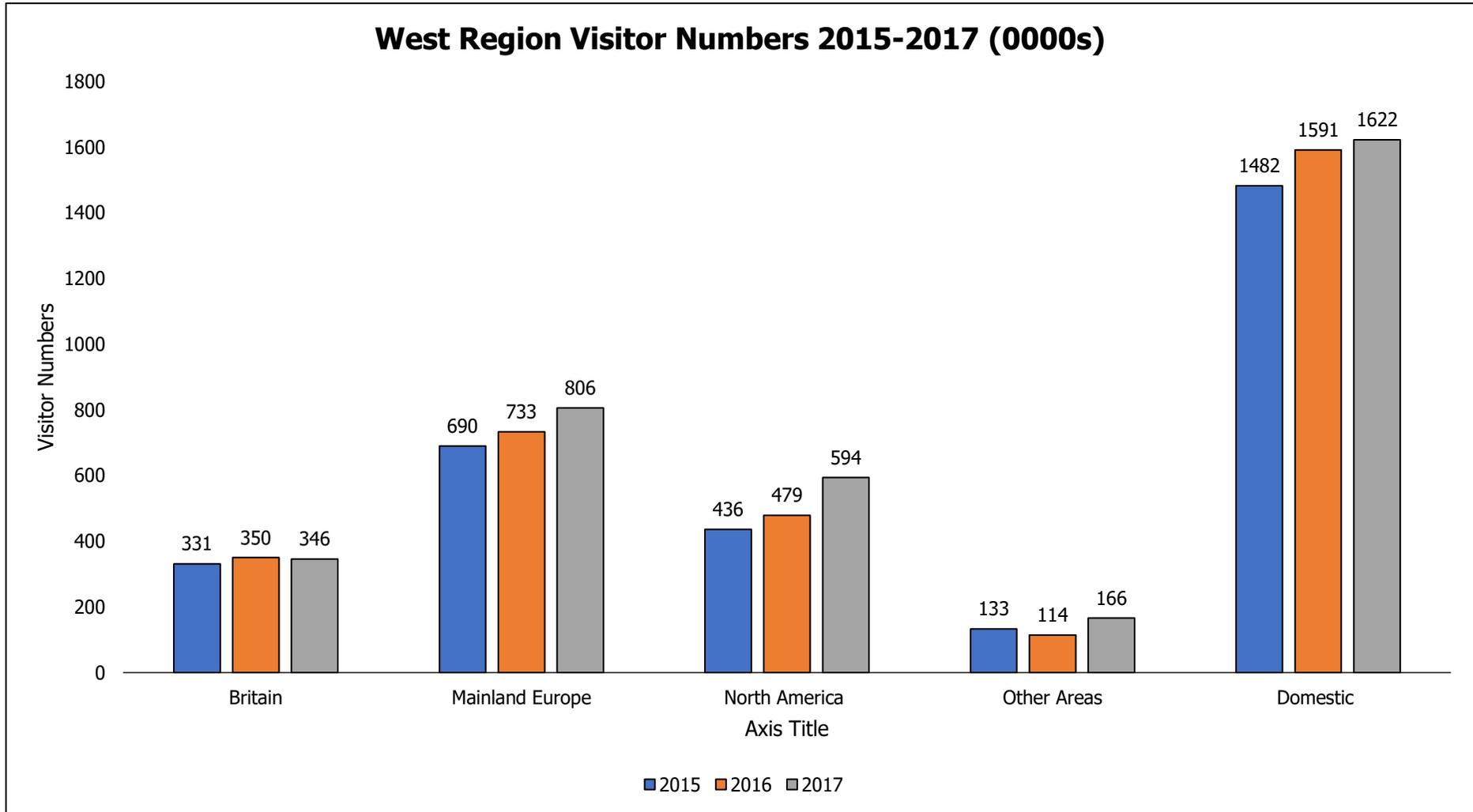


Figure 2.45 West Regional performance 2015-2017

2015 brought the lowest number of visitors to the West region with a total of 3,072,000 overall. There has been a rise of 15% since 2015 with 3,267,000 visitors overall in 2016 and 3,534,000 in 2017.

2.9.7 Monitoring Indicator 7 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

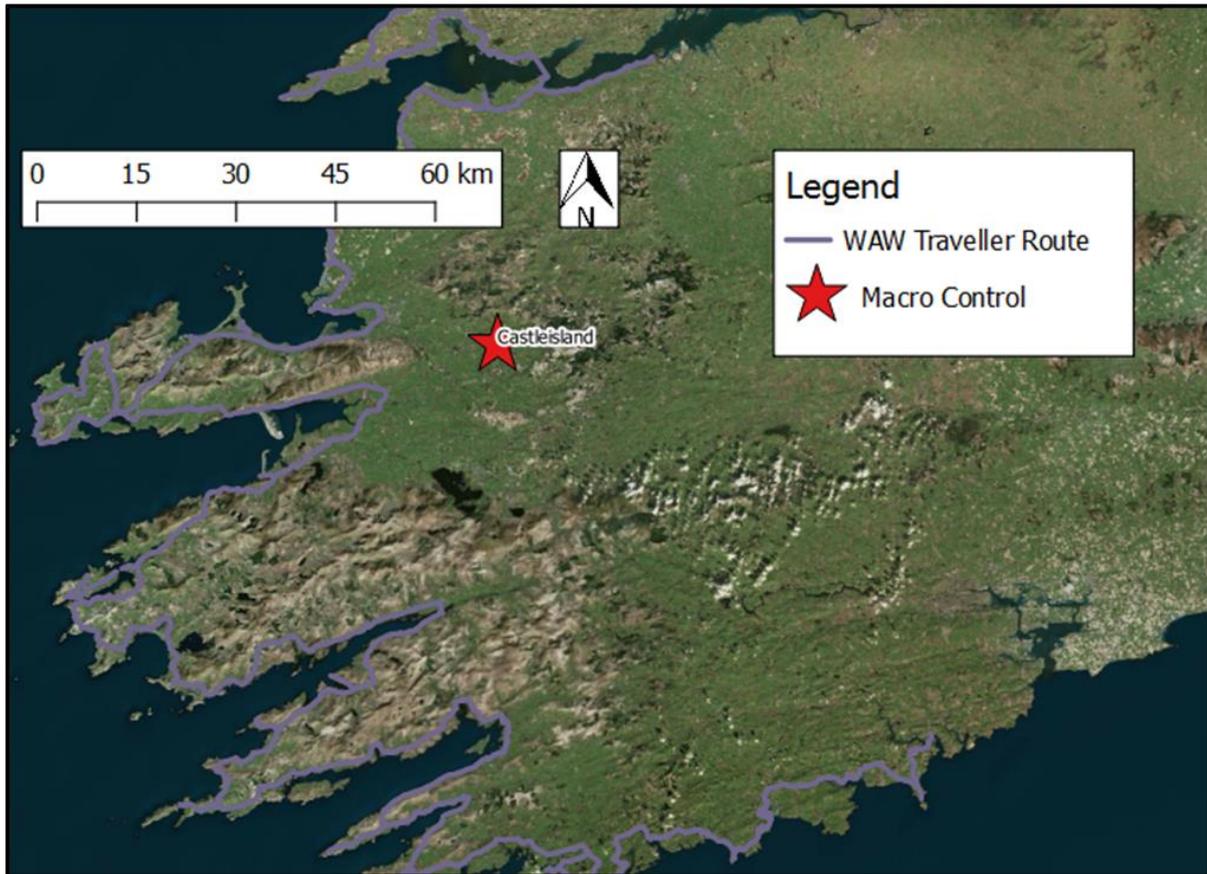
There were no Tourism related planning refusals in Gort during 2017. Tourism related planning refusals within the county are included in Table 2.40 below:

Table 2.40 Tourism Related Planning Refusals 2017

Case Number	Case	Reason for Refusal	Type of Development
Galway			
248291	Cinn Uisce, Claregalway, Co. Galway (16/1453)	Visual and residential Amenities	Retention of changes to front and side boundary treatment and landscaping at existing site
247541	44 William Street, Galway City (16/238)	Possible Architectural Conservation Area	Removal/varying of a protected structure
247397	Ballytunin, Gort, Co. Galway (16/823)	Injure the rural landscape character and visual amenities	Dwelling house, garage, treatment unit and all associated services

Castleisland (Co. Kerry)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.10 Castleisland

2.10.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 Water Quality

Table 2.41 Castleisland Water Quality 2015 -2017

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status of conformity	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Incidents Description ³⁶	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Castleisland (2017)	D01808 - 01	Castleisland	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017	N/A	No reported incidents		6000	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2017.
Castleisland (2016)	D01808 - 01	Castleisland	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was Non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2016.	The following parameter exceeded the emission limit values in 2016: • Ortho P (mg/l)	1 Reported incident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breach of Ortho-P ELV due to shock load at WWTP 	6000	The following improvement works were undertaken in 2016: Clarifier Scraper blades were replaced in the single clarifier in 2016.
Castleisland (2015)	D01808 - 01	Castleisland	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was compliant with one of the Emission Limit Values in 2015.	N/A	3 Reported Incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-compliance due to emergency overflow as a result of a power failure. Non-compliance due to plant breakdown 	6000	There was no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2015.

³⁶ Corrective actions include; increase ferric dosing,

2.10.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.42 Castleisland Bathing Water Quality 2015 -2017

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Kerry	Castleisland	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No change from 2015 -2017	0

Castleisland's Water Quality has been classed as good since 2015. The Waste Water Treatment Plant has been compliant with emission limit values. There is no bathing water monitoring point for Castleisland resulting in no data being gathered.

2.10.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

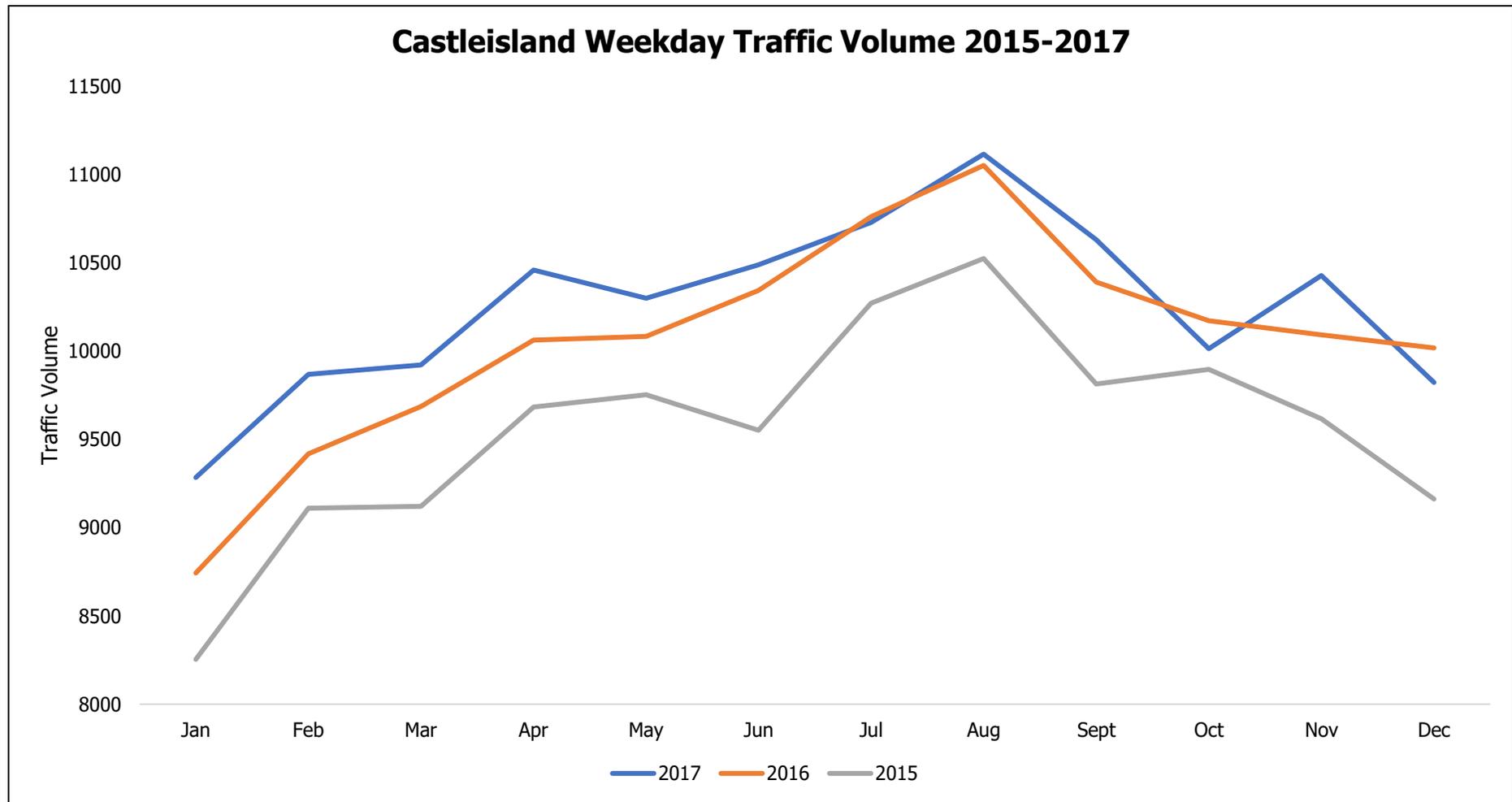


Figure 2.46 Weekday Interval Traffic at Castleisland from 2015 -2017 ³⁷

³⁷ Note the y-axis starts at 8000 and not 0

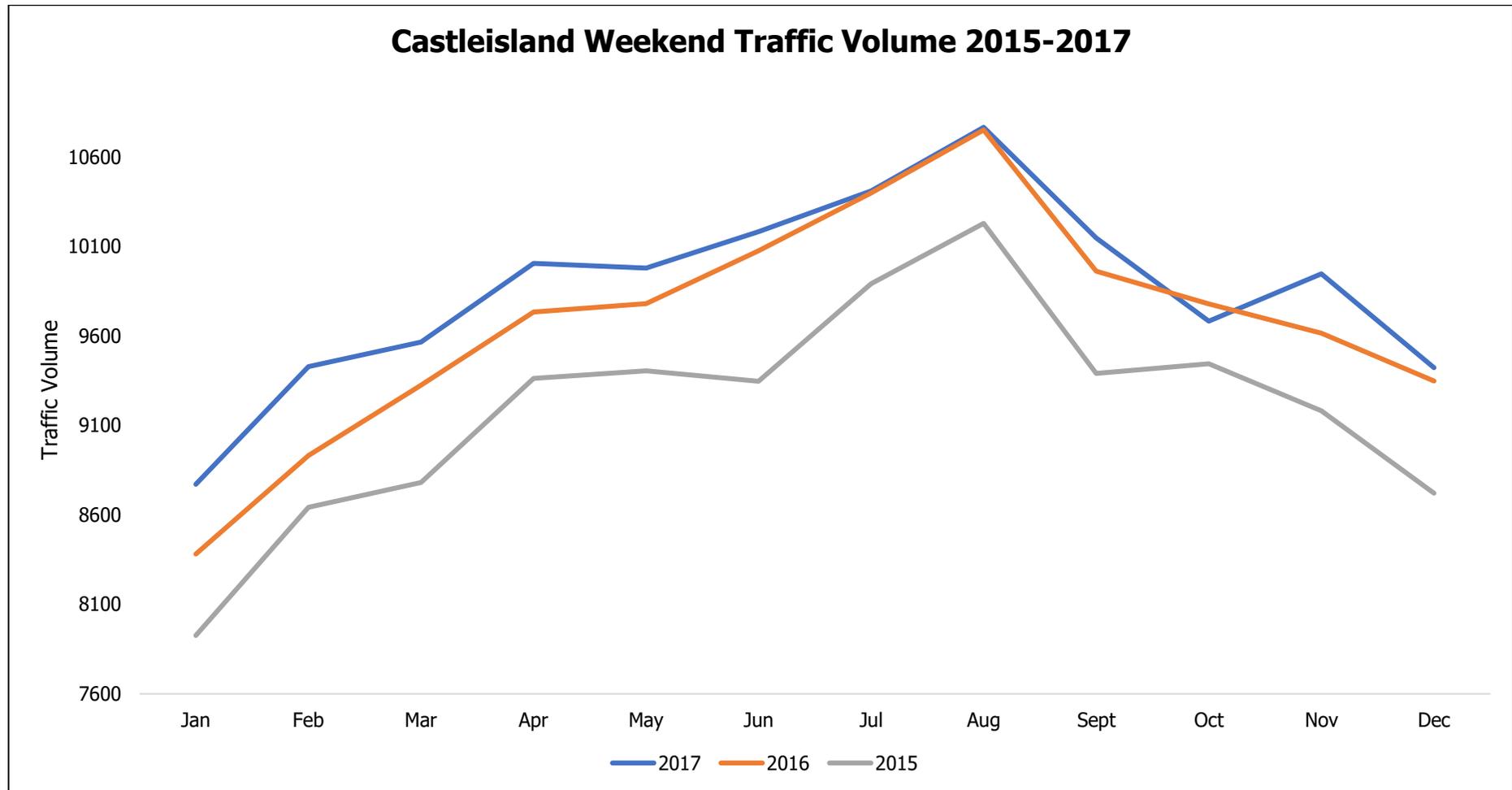


Figure 2.47 Weekend Interval Traffic at Castleisland from 2015 -2017³⁸

Interval traffic at Castleisland remained at a steady level between 2015 and 2017. A peak in number during the summer months could be contributed towards tourists travelling to the WAW.

³⁸ Note the y-axis starts at 7600 and not 0

2.10.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.43 Castleisland Blue Flag Beach status 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

There has been no change in Castleisland's Blue Flag status between 2015 and 2017.

2.10.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast Awards

Table 2.44 Castleisland Green Coast Awards 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green Coast status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

Castleisland has never been awarded with a Green Coast Award.

2.10.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity



Figure 2.48 Castleisland Monitoring Site 10x10km tile (Q90) from the NBDC dataset

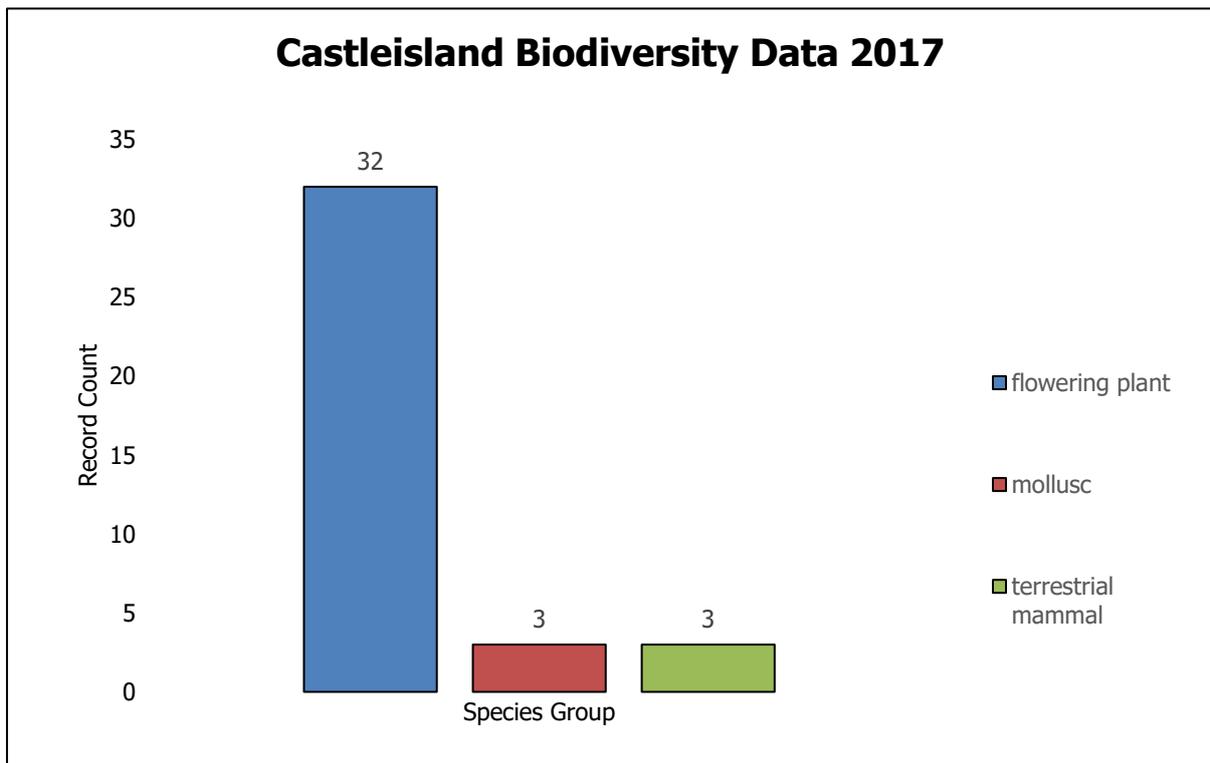


Figure 2.49 Castleisland Biodiversity Data 2017

2.10.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

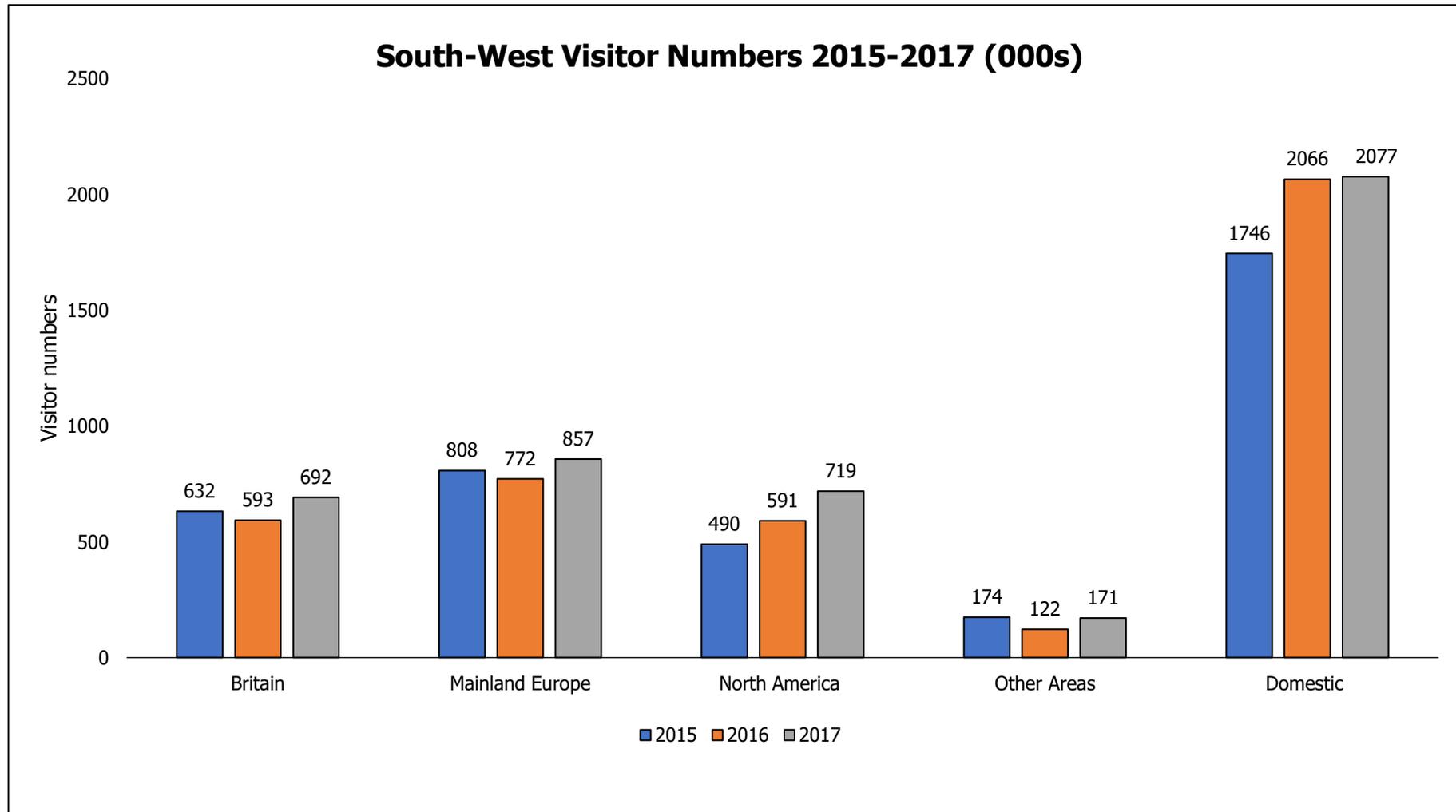


Figure 2.50 South West Regional Performance 2015 -2017

Overall the South-West region received the highest level of tourism in 2017 with 4,446,000. 2015 had the lowest record of tourists at 3,850,000. This is a growth of 2.3% between 2015 and 2017.

2.10.7 Monitoring Indicator 7 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

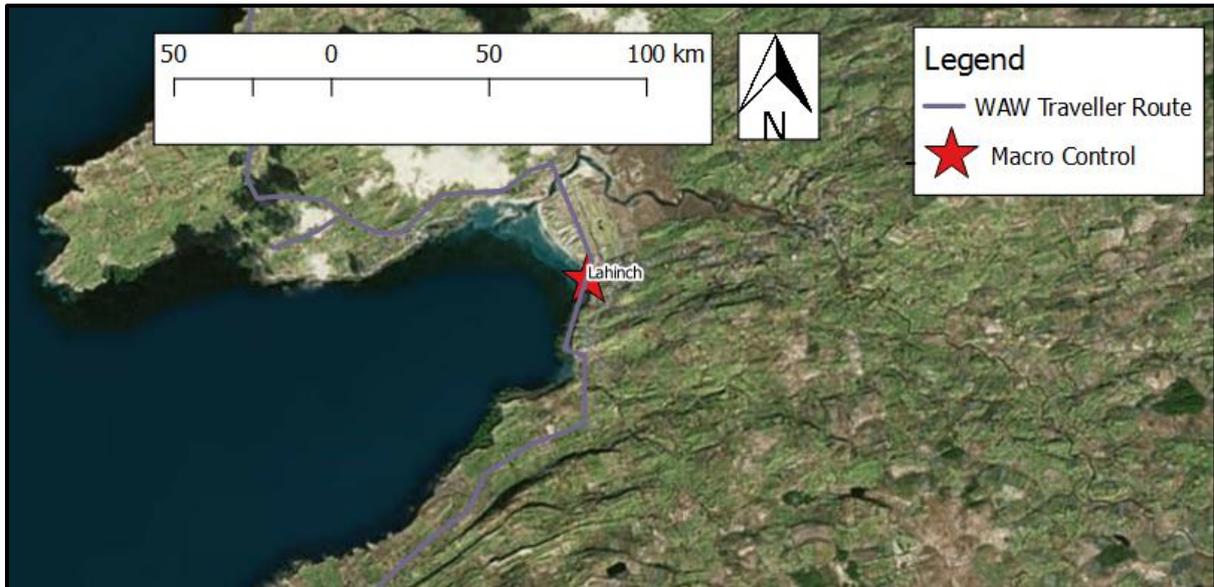
There were no Tourism related planning refusals in Castleisland during 2017. Tourism related planning refusals within the county are included in Table 2.45 below:

Table 2.45 Tourism related Planning refusals 2017

Case Number	Case	Reason for Refusal	Type of Development
Kerry			
248261	Woodlawn, Listowel, Co. Kerry (16/927)	Visually obtrusive, adversely affect the character of Gurtenard House (Protected Structure)	House and associated site works (within curtilage of a protected structure)
247566	Buncurrig, Ballyheigue, Co. Kerry (16/827)	Within an area designated a Rural Secondary Special Amenity	Retain a soccer pitch and entrance as completed and permission for a container to be used as changing rooms.
247513	Ranalough, Currow, Killarney, Co. Kerry (16/623)	Injure the visual amenities of the area	Construct house, garage, walls, waste water treatment system.

Lahinch (Co. Clare)

Macro-Monitoring Results



2.11 Lahinch

2.11.1 Monitoring Indicator 1 - Water Quality

Table 2.46 Lahinch Water Quality 2015 -2017

Monitoring Point	WWTP Licence No.	WWTP/ Agglomeration	Status	Reasons for non-conformity	Reported Incidents	Description of Reported Incidents ³⁹	Population Equivalent	Improvements
Lahinch (2017)	D0080-01	Lahinch	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2017	The following parameters exceeded the emission limit values in 2017: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cBOD • COD • Suspended solids • Ammonia as N • Total Phosphorus 	1 reported Incident	Breach of ELV due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWTP upgrade required to meet ELVs 	8400	No major capital or operational changes were undertaken in 2017. Lahinch agglomeration is being reviewed and Lahinch WWTP has been added to the Capital Investment Plan 2017 - 2021.
2016	D0080-01	Lahinch	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was Non-compliant with the Emission Limit Values in 2016.	The following parameter exceeded the emission limit values in 2016: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cBOD • COD • Suspended solids • Total Phosphorus • Total Nitrogen • Ammonia 	14 reported incident	Breach of ELV due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWTP upgrade required to meet ELVs • Plant or Equipment Breakdown 	4310	There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2016.
2015	D0080-01	Lahinch	The final effluent from the Primary Discharge Point was non-compliant with one of the Emission Limit Values in 2015.	The following parameter exceeded the emission limit values in 2015: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cBOD • COD 	24 reported incidents	Breach of EL due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate operational Procedures/training • Adverse Weather 	8400	There was no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2015.

³⁹ Corrective actions include; training, repair of faulty equipment, Process optimisation, and construction carried out by Irish Water.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Suspended solids• Total Phosphorus• Total Nitrogen• Ammonia		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plant or Equipment Breakdown		
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2.11.1.1 Bathing Water

Table 2.47 Lahinch Bathing Water Status 2015 -2017

County	Monitoring Point	Bathing Water Monitoring Site	Bathing Water Status 2015	Bathing Water Status 2016	Bathing Water Status 2017	Reason for non-conformity or change in condition from previous years	Days restricted by Short term pollution
Clare	Lahinch	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	No change from 2015 -2017	0

Lahinch has had Good water status since 2015. Bathing water quality has been excellent and 0 days have been restricted since 2015.

2.11.2 Monitoring Indicator 2 - Traffic Volume

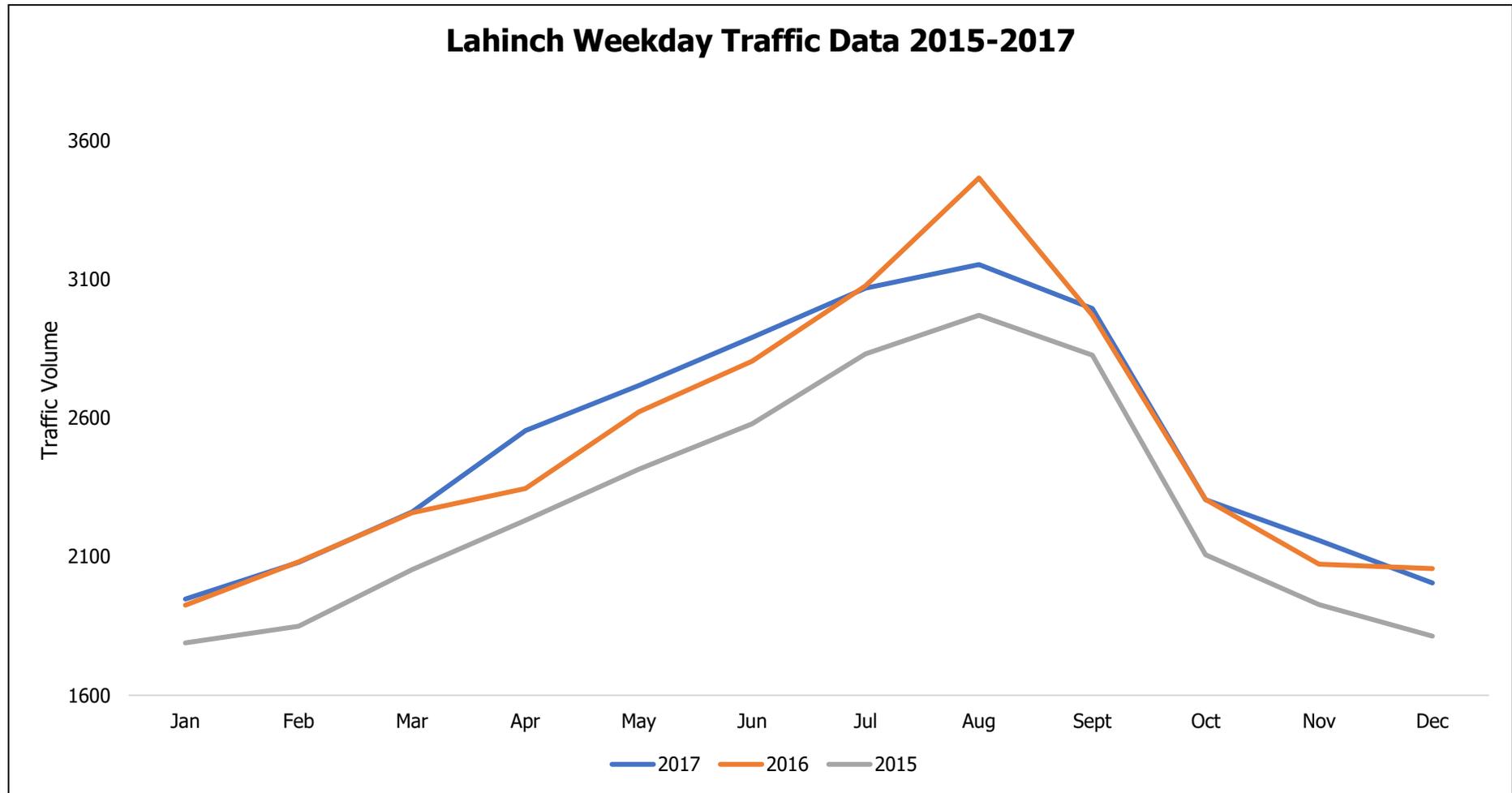


Figure 2.51 Weekday Interval Traffic at Lahinch from 2015 -2017⁴⁰⁴¹

⁴⁰ Note the y-axis starts at 1600 and not 0

⁴¹ A rise in traffic in August may be contributed to the fight for climate change event held at Lahinch in 2016, along with the visit of Minister Denis Naughten to the Moneypoint PowerStation.

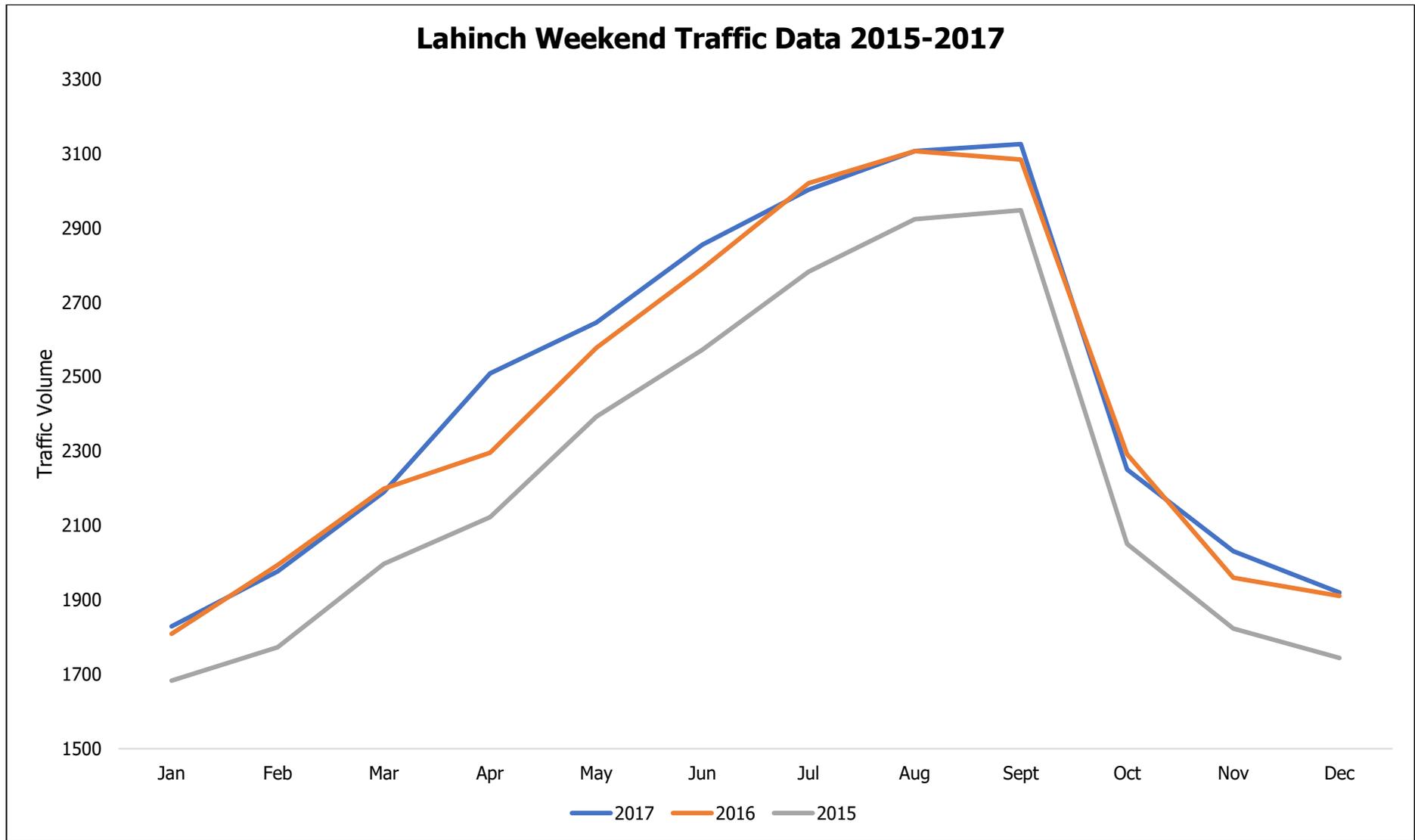


Figure 2.52 Weekend Interval Traffic at Lahinch from 2015 -2017⁴²

⁴² Note the y-axis starts at 1500 and not 0

2.11.3 Monitoring Indicator 3 - Blue Flag Beaches

Table 2.48 Lahinch Blue Flag Beach Status 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015	✓		No change in Blue Flag status from 2015 -2017.
2016	✓		
2017	✓		

Lahinch has been compliant with the specific criteria relating to water quality, information provision, environmental education, safety and environmental management.

2.11.4 Monitoring Indicator 4 - Green Coast Award

Table 2.49 Lahinch Green Coast Status 2015 -2017

Year	Y	N	Reason for Change in status
2015		✓	No change in Green Coast status from 2015 -2017.
2016		✓	
2017		✓	

Lahinch has not been awarded a Green Coast award.

2.11.5 Monitoring Indicator 5 - State of Knowledge of Irelands Biodiversity

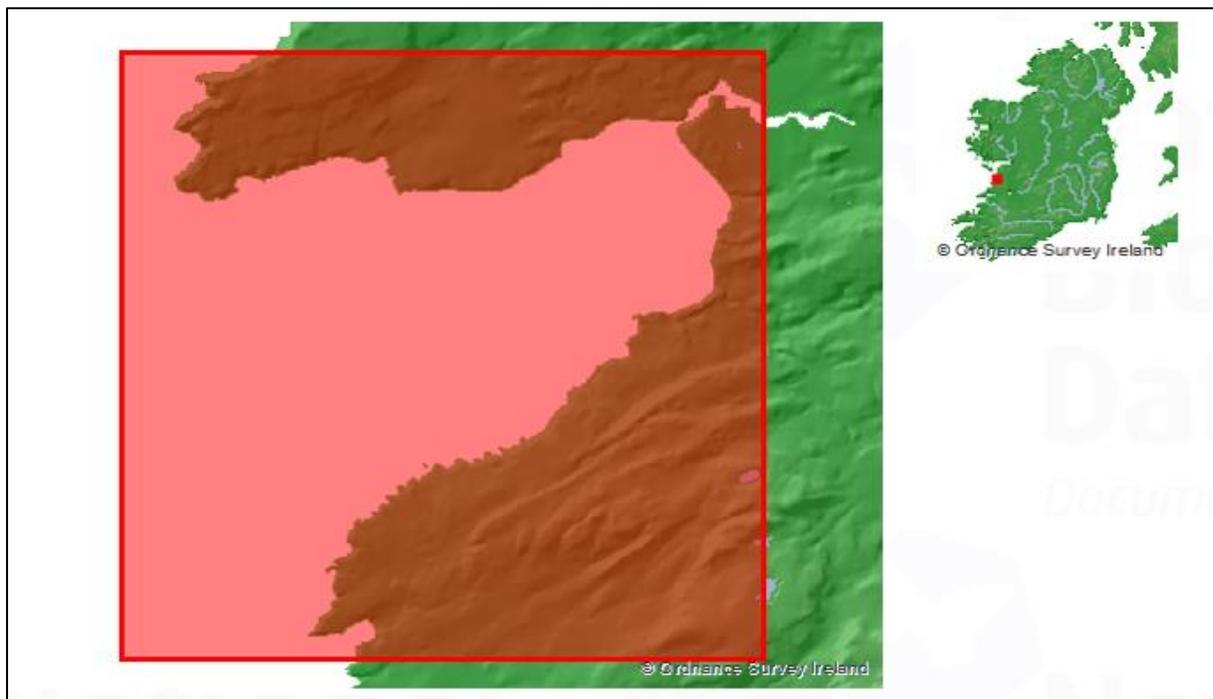


Figure 2.53 Lahinch Monitoring Site 10x10km tile (R08) from the NBDC dataset

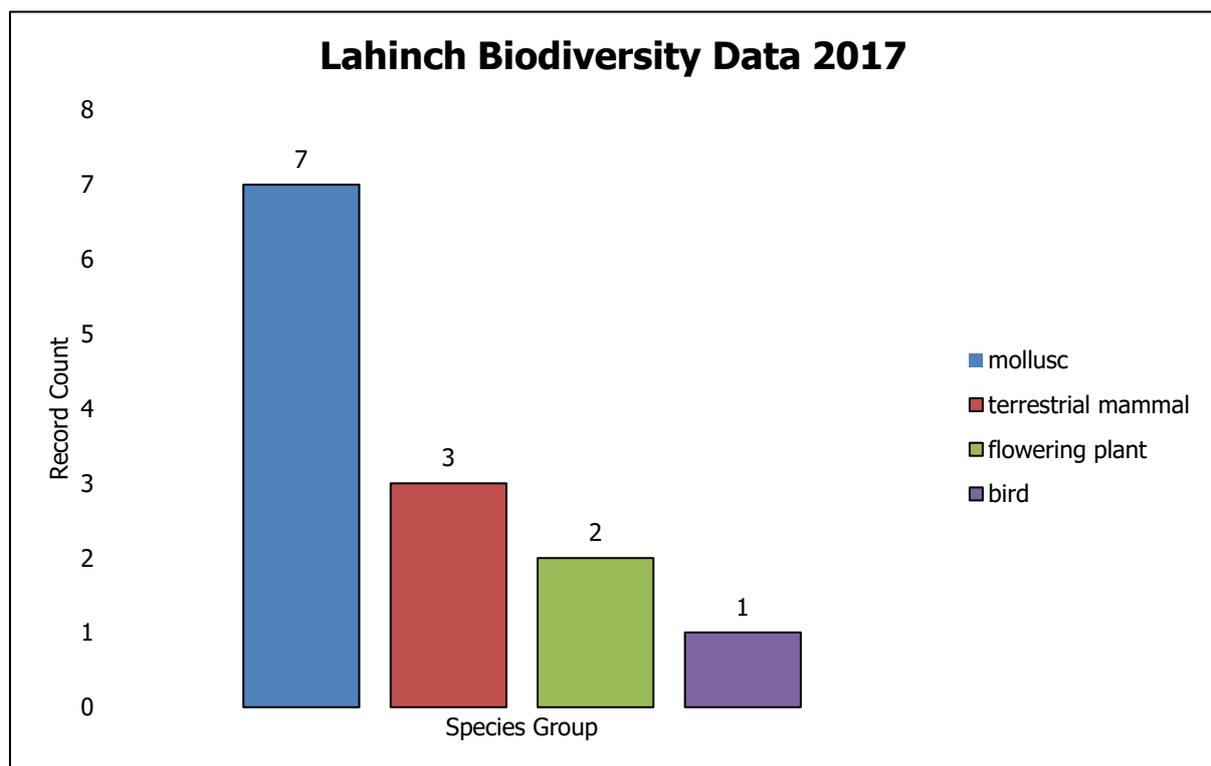


Figure 2.54 Lahinch Biodiversity Data 2017

2.11.6 Monitoring Indicator 6 - Visitor Numbers

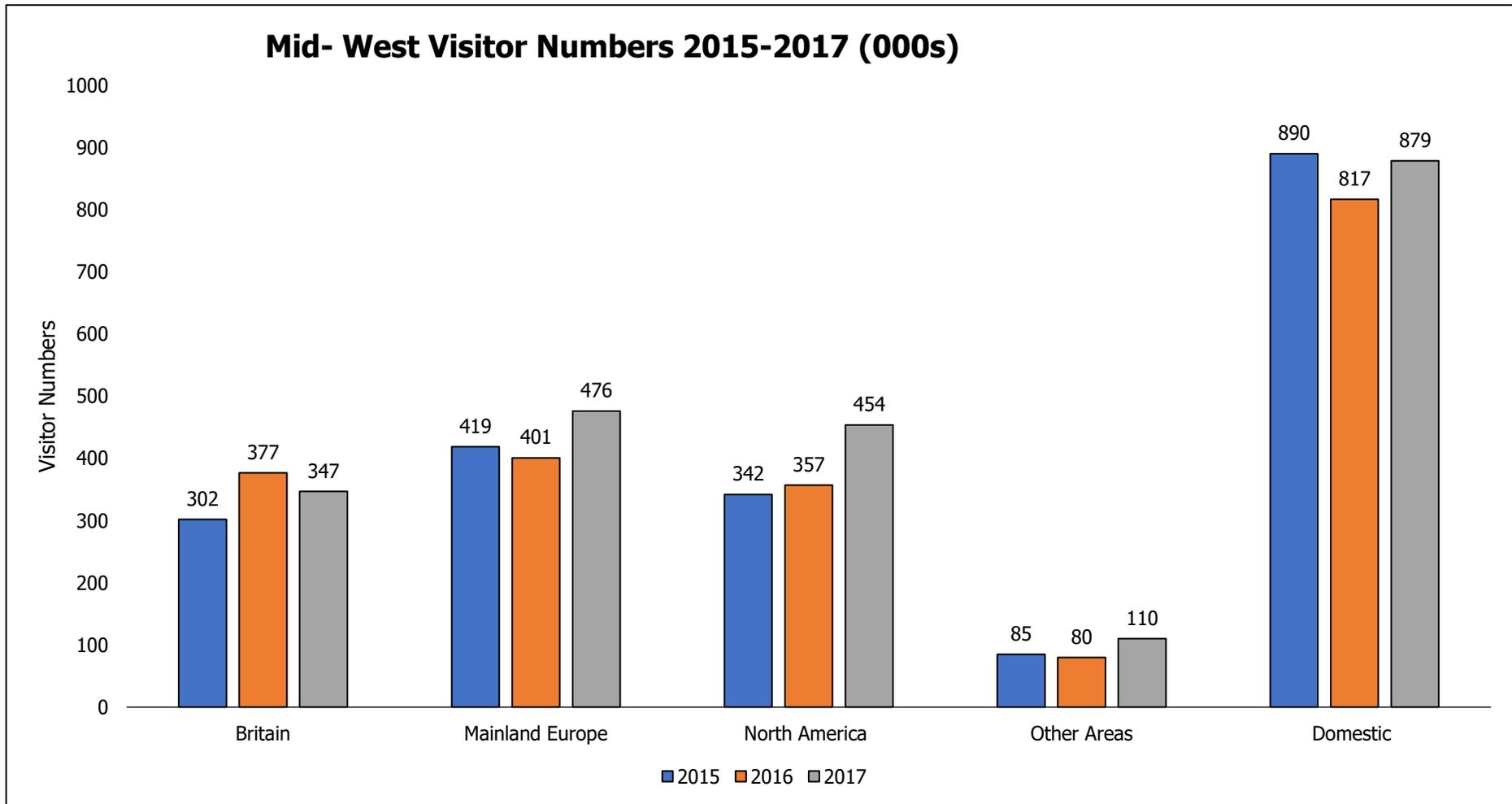


Figure 2.55 Mid-West Regional Performance 2015-2017

The Mid-West Region saw the highest number of visitors during 2017 with 3,089,000 tourists across all locations. 2,038,000 was the lowest count of visitors in 2015. This shows a rise of 1,051,000 visitors to the Mid-West since 2015.

2.11.7 Monitoring Indicator 8 - Tourism Related Planning Refusals

There were no Tourism related Planning refusals in Lahinch or County Clare during 2017.

2.12 General Indicator for all Sites- Irelands Environment- An Assessment 2016

In Ireland the picture is mixed when considering progress in addressing the four main challenges outlined in the State of the Environment report 2012.

The four key challenges from the EPA's State of the Environment report 2012 are listed in Table (EPA, 2012a). The table also provides an indicative high-level summary on progress with these challenges.

Table 2.50 Summary on Progress with the Four Key Challenges Listed in the State of the Environment Report

Four Key Challenges	Indicative Summary on Progress across the country
Valuing and protecting our natural environment	Economic value of eco-system services is a concept that has a higher profile but it is not on a routine basis integrated into business decisions and policy making.
Building a resource-efficient, low-carbon economy	Ireland has significant work to do to transition to a low-carbon economy. Fossil fuels dominate our energy system and need to be phased out over the coming decades and our national GHG emissions are projected to increase.
Implementing environmental legislation	Despite progress in several areas, including waste recycling and emissions from industrial facilities, Ireland still faces challenges in implementing a number of regulations and directives that are designed to protect our environment and, by extension, our health. Poor adherence to regulations dealing with litter, waste prevention etc.
Putting the environment at the centre of decision making	Information sources, such as websites with information for the public, data and map layers, have improved but it is more difficult to translate information into action on the ground that results in changes in behaviour. Good progress on Strategic Environmental Assessment of national plans and programmes

Section 3 Overall Analysis of Macro-Monitoring 2015-2017

Site	Indicator 1 (WWTP)	Indicator 1	Indicator 2	Indicator 3	Indicator 4	Indicator 5	Indicator 6	Indicator 7
Dungloe	2017-Non-Complaint 2015-2016-Complaint	Good Water Status and Excellent Bathing water status 2015-2017	Increase in interval traffic during summer months across all 3 years, likely due to tourists travelling to WAW Sites	Awarded Blue flag beach status 2015,2016,2017.	No Green coast award in Dungloe, Dooley beach 13km from Dungloe received the award in 2018.	Terrestrial mammals were the highest recorded species group.	2016 saw the highest number of visitors to the Border Region with 1,815,000 in total from across all locations. This was a 23% rise in numbers from 2015 and a 2.3% drop in numbers in 2017 with a total of 1,755,000.	No planning refusals in Dungloe, 4 tourism related planning refusal in the county
Bundoran	No WWTP in 2015-2016 Non- Complaint in 2017 New WWTP opened in 2018	Good water status and Excellent bathing water status 2015-2017	Increase in interval traffic during summer months across all 3 years, likely due to tourists travelling to WAW Sites	Bundoran received blue flag status during 2015, 2016 and 2107 monitoring.	Bundoran did not receive any award for Green Coasts between 2015 and 2017.	Flowering Plants were the highest recorded species	2016 saw the highest number of visitors to the Border Region with 1,815,000 in total from across all locations. This was a 23% rise in numbers from 2015 and a 2.3% drop in numbers in 2017 with a total of 1,755,000.	No planning refusals in Bundoran, 4 tourism related planning refusal in the county
Newport	Non-Compliant in 2017	Good water status and Excellent bathing water status 2015-2017	Increase in interval traffic during summer months across all 3 years, likely due to tourists travelling to WAW Sites	Newport did not receive Blue Flag status between 2015 and 2017	Newport did not receive any award for Green Coasts between 2015 and 2017.	Flowering plants and terrestrial mammal were the highest recorded species at the Newport monitoring site.	2015 brought the lowest number of visitors to the West region with a total of 3,072,000 overall. There has been a rise of 15% since 2015 with 3,267,000 visitors overall in 2016 and 3,534,000 in 2017.	No planning refusals in Newport, 4 tourism related planning refusals in the county.

Galway Bay	Complaint in 2015, 2016 and 2017.	Good water status in Galway bay between 2015-2017. Bathing water quality in Ballyloughane was poor in 2015 and 2017.	A rise in weekday traffic during June 2017 may be as a result of visitors to the area for a popular triathlon. No data for December 2017 due to road closures.	Galway Bay did not receive blue flag status between 2015-2017.	Galway Bay did not receive any award for Green Coasts between 2015 and 2017.	Terrestrial mammals were the highest recorded species at the Galway bay monitoring site.	2015 brought the lowest number of visitors to the West region with a total of 3,072,000 overall. There has been a rise of 15% since 2015 with 3,267,000 visitors overall in 2016 and 3,534,000 in 2017.	No planning refusals for Galway Bay, 3 tourism related planning refusals within the county.
Kilrush	No Monitoring carried out during 2015,2016,2017.	Good water status in Kilrush between 2015-2017. Bathing water quality at Cappagh pier was excellent between 2015-2017.	Both weekday and weekend traffic has reduced in 2017. This may be contributed to the weather conditions seen in Ireland throughout October	Cappagh Pier retained its Blue Flag status from 2015-2017	Kilrush did not receive any award for Green coast between 2015-2017.	Flowering plants were the highest recorded species at the Kilrush monitoring site.	The Mid-West Region saw the highest number of visitors during 2017 with 3,089,000 tourists across all locations. 2,038,000 was the lowest count of visitors in 2015. This shows a rise of 1,051,000 visitors to the Mid-West since 2015.	There were no Tourism related Planning refusals in Kilrush or County Clare during 2017
Cahersiveen	Compliant in 2015, 2016, 2017.	Cahersiveen water quality has been classed as good since 2015. The Waste Water Treatment Plant has been complaint with Emission Limit Values. The bathing water quality has been excellent since 2015.	Steady increase in interval traffic volumes during weekends and weekdays since 2015. The surge is likely due to the increase of tourists travelling from WAW sites, mainly during summer months.	Whitestrans has retained its Blue Flag status since 2015.	There has been no change in status of the Green coast award. Cahersiveen is not in partnership with any local community so it cannot be considered for a Green coast award	Flowering Plants were the highest recorded species at the Cahersiveen monitoring site.	Overall the South-West region received the highest level of tourism in 2017 with 4,446,000. 2015 had the lowest record of tourists at 3,850,000. This is a growth of 2.3% between 2015 and 2017.	There were no tourism related planning refusals in Cahersiveen during 2017, there were 3 refusals within the county

Bantry	Complaint in 2015, 2016, 2017.	Bantry's Water Quality has maintained Good Status since 2015. The Waste Water Treatment Plant has been in compliance with emission limit values. Bathing Water Quality at Barley Cove has been Excellent since 2015	Steady increase in interval traffic volumes during weekends and weekdays since 2015. The surge is likely due to the increase of tourists travelling from WAW sites, mainly during summer months.	Barley Cove retained its blue flag status between 2015 and 2017.	There has been no change in the green coast status of the site since 2015.	Flowering Plants were the highest recorded species at the Bantry monitoring site.	Overall the South-West region received the highest level of tourism in 2017 with 4,446,000. 2015 had the lowest record of tourists at 3,850,000. This is a growth of 2.3% between 2015 and 2017	There were no tourism related planning refusals in Bantry during 2017, there were 3 refusals within the county during this time.
Ballybofey	Complaint in 2015 Non- Compliant in 2016,2017.	Ballybofey's Water Quality has been classed as good since 2015. There is no bathing water monitoring point for Ballybofey resulting in no data being available.	There was little change in the level of interval traffic at Ballybofey between 2015 and 2017. Any rise in numbers throughout summer months could be contributed to tourists travelling to the WAW.	It is noted that Ballybofey is an inland monitoring site and therefore will not have any blue flag status	It is noted that Ballybofey is an inland monitoring site and therefore will not eligible to apply for a Green Coast Award	Flowering Plants and Terrestrial Mammals were the highest recorded species at the Ballybofey monitoring site	2016 saw the highest number of visitors to the Border Region with 1,815,000 in total from across all locations. This was a 23% rise in numbers from 2015 and a 2.3% drop in numbers in 2017 with a total of 1,755,000.	There were no Tourism related planning refusals in Ballybofey during 2017, there was 4 tourism related planning refusals within the county during this time
Gort	Non-Complaint in 2015, 2016 and 2017.	Water Quality in Gort has been classed as poor. The Waste Water Treatment plant has been non-compliant with Emission Limit Values since 2015. Gort is aiming to get to Good Status by 2021.	There was a sharp fall in numbers between November and December is a result of road works taking place between 22/11/2017 and 10/12/2017, road closures were in place between these dates so no data was collected.	It is noted that Gort is an inland monitoring site and therefore will not have any blue flag status.	As Gort is an inland monitoring site and therefore will not eligible to apply for a Green Coast Award	Flowering Plants were the highest recorded species at the Gort monitoring site	2015 brought the lowest number of visitors to the West region with a total of 3,072,000 overall. There has been a rise of 15% since 2015 with 3,267,000 visitors overall in 2016 and 3,534,000 in 2017.	There were no Tourism related planning refusals in Gort during 2017, there was 3 tourism related planning refusals within the county during this time

<p>Castleisland</p>	<p>Complaint in 2015 and 2017. Non- Complaint in 2016</p>	<p>Castleisland's Water Quality has been classed as good since 2015. The Waste Water Treatment Plant has been compliant with emission limit values. There is no bathing water monitoring point for Castleisland resulting in no data being gathered.</p>	<p>Interval traffic at Castleisland remained at a steady level between 2015 and 2017. A peak in number during the summer months could be contributed towards tourists travelling to the WAW.</p>	<p>No Blue Flag status in Castleisland between 2015-2017</p>	<p>No Green Flag awarded to Castleisland between 2015-2017</p>	<p>Flowering Plants were the highest species at the Castleisland monitoring site</p>	<p>Overall the South-West region received the highest level of tourism in 2017 with 4,446,000. 2015 had the lowest record of tourists at 3,850,000. This is a growth of 2.3% between 2015 and 2017.</p>	<p>There were no Tourism related planning refusals in Castleisland during 2017, there was 3 tourism related planning refusals within the county during this time</p>
<p>Lahinch</p>	<p>Non-Complaint in 2015, 2016, and 2017.</p>	<p>Lahinch has had Good water status since 2015. Bathing water quality has been excellent</p>	<p>A rise in traffic in August 2016 may be a result of the fight for climate change event held at Lahinch.</p>	<p>Lahinch has received the international blue flag beach award every year since 2015.</p>	<p>Lahinch has not been awarded with a Green Coast award between 2015-2017</p>	<p>Mollusc were the highest species at the Lahinch monitoring site</p>	<p>The Mid-West Region saw the highest number of visitors during 2017 with 3,089,000 tourists across all locations. 2,038,000 was the lowest count of visitors in 2015. This shows a rise of 1,051,000 visitors to the Mid-West since 2015.</p>	<p>There were no Tourism related Planning refusals in Lahinch or County Clare during 2017</p>