



**An tIonad Náisiúnta  
Sonraí Bithéagsúlachta**  
**National Biodiversity  
Data Centre**

**Request for Quotation: Compiling information and editing the State of Knowledge on  
Ireland's Biodiversity 2025**

*Updating the State of Knowledge of Ireland's Biodiversity for 2025*

**May 2026**

## Introduction to the National Biodiversity Data Centre

The National Biodiversity Data Centre was established as a company limited by guarantee in December 2022, following a decision of Government to put the initiative on a more secure footing, to empower and better resource the Centre to support Ireland's collective national effort to reverse biodiversity loss and contribute to nature restoration. The primary role of the Centre is to contribute to building the knowledge base on biodiversity and track how it is changing in Ireland. It works to ensure that data and information on Ireland's biodiversity is more freely available and accessible for use in research, conservation management and decision-making. The National Biodiversity Data Centre is a predominantly publicly funded entity, rather than a public sector body. The Centre formally became a registered charity in November 2025.

## Ireland's Biodiversity – State of Knowledge 2025

In 2010, the National Biodiversity Data Centre undertook a review of the State of Knowledge on Ireland's Biodiversity. For the review national taxonomic experts were invited to contribute by providing an assessment of the state of knowledge based around seven questions.

The questions were:

- Is there a published checklist?
- Have basic surveys been carried out?
- Is there a national database?
- Has a national conservation assessment been completed?
- Are there monitoring systems in place?
- Are there capacity building requirements?
- Are there other knowledge gaps?

The responses were collated and published as *Ireland's Biodiversity in 2010 – State of Knowledge*

[biodiversityireland.ie/app/uploads/2021/06/Irelands-Biodiversity-2010-1.pdf](http://biodiversityireland.ie/app/uploads/2021/06/Irelands-Biodiversity-2010-1.pdf)

A smaller document *Ireland's Biodiversity in 2010 - Knowledge Gaps*

[Knowledge-Gaps-201011.pdf](#) was also published which identified some priorities for filling gaps that were considered feasible to progress at that time.

The National Biodiversity Data Centre has begun the process of updating these publications and is seeking the services of an ecologist to fill some gaps in information, particularly around insect and invertebrate groups, and to edit the document to a publication standard.

## Requirements

The National Biodiversity Data Centre is seeking a quote from suitably qualified and experienced professional or/and company to complete updating the State of Knowledge on Ireland's Biodiversity process to 2025.

The specific tasks include:

- Taxonomic experts have been invited to update the original State of Knowledge on Ireland's Biodiversity.

The sections cover the following:

- Habitats
- Habitats - marine
- Vegetation
- Fungi
- Lichens
- Bryophytes
- Marine, Freshwater and terrestrial Algae, & Seagrasses
- Marine invertebrates
- Vascular Plants
- Non-insect Invertebrates
- Insects
- Marine Fish
- Freshwater Fish
- Amphibians & Reptiles
- Marine Reptiles
- Birds
- Land Mammals
- Bats
- Marine Mammals
- Invasive Species

These updates need to be edited to a standard format.

- There are some gaps in sources of data that need to be investigated, specifically for non-insect invertebrates.
- A key output from the updated State of Knowledge process is to identify key gaps in knowledge that could, realistically, be filled over the next 10 years. These need to be identified and agreed with the contributing experts and formulated into a prioritized action plan. The prioritized action plan will be developed in collaboration with staff of the National Biodiversity Data Centre.
- All the content needs to be edited to pre-publication standard. The design and printing of the publication will be covered by the National Biodiversity Data Centre, but the successful service provider will be able to input into the process. The successful service provider will be a co-author of the final publication.

## Project Timeline

The pre-publication document should be completed by 31st August 2026.

Once the supplier has been appointed, it is proposed that a kick-off meeting on MS Teams will be scheduled within two weeks of entering into an agreement with the supplier.

## Maximum Budget Available

Given the substantial work already done on updating the *Ireland's Biodiversity in 2010 – State of Knowledge* document it is expected that the remaining work could be delivered easily within 20 working days, spread out over the identified timeline. Consequently, the budget available under this RfQ will not exceed €8,000 (ex VAT) over the term of the contract.

Although there is an indicative budget allocated to this work, all tenders should include a daily fee (ex VAT), based on 20 day's work.

## Reporting Requirements

The final output should be a fully edited word document, to pre-publication standard.

## Proposal

Submissions should contain the following:

1. The overall cost of the service being offered. This should be set out as a daily fee. All prices should be stated ex Vat with the rate of VAT payable (where applicable) clearly stated separately.
2. Summary of ecological expertise
3. Experience of scientific report writing.

## Award Criteria

The contract will be awarded from tenders evaluated based on the most economically advantageous tender consistent with the following award criteria:

Criteria	Max. Marks Available	Min Mark
Overall cost of service	300	N/A
Ecological expertise	400	250
Experience of scientific report writing	300	150

## **General Terms**

### **Information Supplied**

The National Biodiversity Data Centre reserves the right to seek clarification or verification of any information supplied.

### **Confidentiality**

The National Biodiversity Data Centre undertakes to use its best endeavours to hold confidential any information provided in quotations submitted, subject to the National Biodiversity Data Centre's obligations under law, including the Freedom of Information Act 2014. Should any of the information supplied in the tender not be disclosed because of its sensitivity, then this should be stated, with the reasons for its sensitivity. The National Biodiversity Data Centre will then consult with the Proposer about sensitive information before deciding on any Freedom of Information request received.

All information provided by the National Biodiversity Data Centre within this document, or in the course of preparing tenders, or subsequent to a successful tender being adopted, is provided in the strictest confidence, and must not be passed to third parties, except bona-fide partners of the proposer to enable the preparation of the tender requested. If there is any doubt, prior permission should be obtained from the National Biodiversity Data Centre.

### **Conflict of Interest**

Any conflicts of interest involving a contractor must be fully disclosed.

### **Tax Clearance**

It will be a condition of any Goods/Service Contract pursuant to this Competition that the successful supplier shall, for the term of such contract(s), comply with all EU and domestic tax laws. Prior to the award of any Goods/Service Contract arising out of this Competition, the successful Tenderer shall be required to provide evidence of tax compliance

### **Insurance**

The successful tenderer will be obliged to satisfy to the National Biodiversity Data Centre that they have adequate public and employer's liability insurance in place. The successful suppliers will be required to provide copies of all relevant Insurance Policy documents.

### **Payment**

Payment for all services covered by this Request for Quotations will be on foot of appropriate invoices. Invoicing arrangements will be agreed with the successful supplier following the award of contract.

Under the Finance Act 1987, withholding tax must be deducted from payments for professional services.

The National Biodiversity Data Centre reserves the right to withhold payment where a contractor has failed to meet contractual obligations in relation to the provision of goods or services to an acceptable level of quality.

## Submissions

Submissions should be marked “RfQ for State of Knowledge 2025 update” and sent via e-mail to:

[rtilson@biodiversityireland.ie](mailto:rtilson@biodiversityireland.ie)

Submissions should be received no later than 5.00 p.m. on Friday the 22nd of May 2026

Late Submissions will not be considered.

The Request for Quotations contains no contractual offer of any kind. Any quotation will be regarded as an offer by the contractor and not as an acceptance by the applicant of an offer made by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. No contractual relationship will exist except pursuant to a written agreement signed by a representative of the National Biodiversity Data Centre and any successful contractor for the specified services.

Please note that the National Biodiversity Data Centre is subject to the Freedom of Information Act.