

SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: DOVEGROVE CALLOWS SPA

SITE CODE: 004137

Dovegrove Callows is an area of callowland beside the Little Brosna River 2 km downstream from Birr, Co. Offaly and 5 km upstream from the start of the main area of River Little Brosna callows. The main habitat is wet grassland which floods.

The site is a Special Protection Area (SPA) under the E.U. Birds Directive, of special conservation interest for Greenland White-fronted Goose.

The site is an important feeding area for the internationally important Little Brosna Greenland White-fronted Goose flock (527 individuals - 5 year mean peak for the period 1994/95 to 1998/99) and is used on an occasional basis when other feeding sites along the middle Shannon and Little Brosna callows are flooded. It is of particular importance as it can support the entire Little Brosna flock. For this reason the site is a key part of this flock's winter range and important for its protection.

Dovegrove Callows SPA is of major conservation significance as a feeding site for an internationally important flock of Greenland White-fronted Goose, a species that is listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive.