SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: ROANCARRIGBEG AND ROANCARRIGMORE

SITE CODE: 001073

These two rocky islands are situated on the north shore of Bantry Bay approximately 0.75km offshore of the mainland and 2.5km north-east of Bere Island. The nearest village is Adrigole 5km to the north-east, west County Cork.

Roancarrigbeg is at present (1986) used by a few pairs of tern species but has been used in the past by large numbers of Common Terns (c. 200 pairs, pre-1972) and by Roseate Terns (5 pairs, pre-1972), a rare and endangered Irish Red Data Book species.

The island has also been used by Arctic Terns in the past (2 pairs, pre-1984). All the terns are species listed in Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive. Other seabirds noted to use the area are Lesser Black-backed Gulls and Herring Gulls (1984).

The rocky islands of Roancarrigbeg and Roancarrigmore are proposed for NHA designation as they are used by seabirds for nesting and roosting and have in the past been used by large flocks and an endangered species.

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