SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: LOUGH BEG, CARROWMORE

SITE CODE: 001528

Lough Beg is situated about 6.5km north-east of Lough Carra, towards Belcarra in the townland of Carrowmore, Co. Mayo. The site is a lake infill showing several interesting stages of fen development including extensive reed-beds of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*), which were formed when the lough was drained in the 1850s.

The reed-beds contain several uncommon species including Bog-sedge (*Carex limosa*) and Marsh Stitchwort (*Stellaria palustris*). A typical example of species-rich freshwater marsh is represented. In addition Black Bog-rush (*Schoenus nigricans*) has developed on peat cut away to marl and contains a typical calciole fen flora.

The variety of plant species and habitats, coupled with proximity to roadways, makes the site of general educational importance.

23.11.2009