SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: AGHSMEAR HOUSE

SITE CODE: 002060

This site is a nursery roost of the Natterer's Bat (*Myotis nattereri*). Approximately 100 bats roost in a stone out-building in the grounds of Aghsmear House, outside Roscrea, Co. Tipperary. Although the site has not been visited since 1987, there is nothing to support that the bats have been disturbed. The owner of the building is well disposed towards the bats.

As the national population of this species is estimated to be only several thousand, this site is of national importance. Also, as this species is at the western edge of its European distribution in Ireland (it is considered "vulnerable" throughout Europe), this site is of international importance.

As this species prefers to forage close to woodland, any changes to existing woodland in the vicinity of this roost would adversely affect a colony of this size.

8.12.2009