SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: CURRAKEAL

SITE CODE: 001826

This site, located in a valley to the north-east of Glengarriff, consists of grazed and poached healthy grassland. There are boggy patches, streamlets, bare peaty mud and stoney channels.

The most common species present reflect the damp, peaty nature of the grassland. The assemblage includes Bog Pimpernel (*Anagallis tenella*), Marsh St. John's-wort (*Hypericum elodes*), Purple Moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*), Large-flowered Butterwort (*Pinguicula grandiflora*), sedges (*Carex echinata*, *C. demissa*, *C. panacea*), White Beak-sedge (*Rynochospora alba*), Sharp-flowered Rush (*Juncus acutiflorus*), Many-stalked Spike-Rush (*Eleocharis multicaulis*) and bog mosses (*Sphagnum* spp).

The main interest of the site is its populations of Irish St. John's-wort (*Hypericum canadense*). This Irish Red Data book species is considered rare at European level and is legally protected within Ireland (Flora Protection Order, 1987). The plant is only known from two areas within Ireland, namely north-east of Glengarriff and around Lough Mask, Co. Mayo.

26.11.2009