SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: POLLDUAGH CAVE, GORT

SITE CODE: 000320

This site is the rising of the Cannahowna River and is on the outskirts of Gort, Co. Galway. It is a limestone cave with only the entrance accessible by wading. Quite soon into the cave the water becomes quite deep and a sump begins 30m into the cave. A nursery colony of Daubenton's Bats (*Myotis daubentonii*) hangs in a cluster from the roof of the cave. A small inflatable boat is needed to reach the bats. As approximately 100 bats were counted in the cave, this is a site of national importance, being one of the largest nursery roosts, and also probably of international importance.

This species is dependent on aquatic insects so it is important that the river system remains pollution free and nearby vegetation is not removed.

5.11.2009