SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: RAMELTON MILL

SITE CODE: 002057

This is a nursery roost for a Leisler's Bat (*Nyctalus leisleri*) colony which roost in the roof of one of the large old stone buildings that comprise the dis-used Ramelton Mill in Rathmelton, Co. Donegal. There is no direct access to where the bats roost but it is possible to count them as they emerge from their roosting site which is along a roof apex. Leisler's Bats were first recorded from this site in l988 when 23 bats were counted emerging. An extensive fire at the mill in l992 did not extend to the building used by the Leisler's Bats (a building used by Pipistrelle bats was destroyed) and 67 bats were counted emerging in July l993.

At present the site is of national importance only but it is possible that numbers will continue to grow at this site so that at some time in the future, it will become a site of international importance.

The only threat facing this colony is the physical deterioration of the building.

8.12.2009