SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: ANNAGHEARLY LOUGH

SITE CODE: 001402

Annaghearly Lough is a medium sized lake situated in low lying agricultural land 5km east of the town of Leitrim. It is an interesting lake with a diverse flora and good mixture of different habitats.

The lake is shallow and fringed with wet grassland and shallow water emergent vegetation. There are extensive swards of reeds fringing the lake which have expanded considerably in recent years due to drainage on the north-west side.

The vegetation is dominated by Soft Rush (*Juncus effusus*) and Reed Canary-grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) with a good mixture of other wet grassland and lakeshore herbs, sedges and grasses such as Marsh Arrowgrass (*Triglochin palustre*), Cuckooflower (*Cardamine pratensis*), Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), watercress (*Rorippa* spp.), Water Horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*), Bottle Sedge (*Carex rostrata*) and Unbranched Bur-reed (*Sparganium emersum*). Fully aquatic species include Ivy-Leaved Duckweed (*Lemna trisulca*) and the Slender-leaved Pondweed (*Potamogeton filiformis*).

There is also an island on the lake, probably a crannóg, which is colonised by mixed deciduous woodland.

20.11.2009