SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: BALLAGH BOG

SITE CODE: 001886

Ballagh Bog is located 9km south-east of the village of Kilgarvan on the east side of Carran Mountain, at an altitude of 375-450m. The site, which comprises a high-level river plain and surrounding mountain slopes, is underlain by Old Red Sandstone.

Although not re-surveyed, a recent report described the site as comprising a series of small, slightly raised valley bogs situated in the bends of a mountain stream, merging with mountain slopes dominated by Purple Moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*). The valley bogs are reasonably wet, but do not have quaking surfaces; isolated large rocks occur on these valley bogs. On the south side of the valley the hill slope is fairly even, while the northern side has many protruding rocks.

The vegetation of the site is dominated by Purple Moor-grass and Deergrass (*Trichophorum cespitosum*). The moss *Racomitrium lanuginosum* is common in the bryophyte layer and forms both small hummocks and a carpet below the vascular plants. Overall, the cover of bog moss (*Sphagnum* spp.) is poor, but one species, *Sphagnum compactum*, along with another moss, *Campylopus atrovirens*, is common in the barer areas. Greater Tussock-sedge (*Carex paniculata*) occurs in one place by a stream. The uncommon moss, *Calliergon sarmentosum* has been recorded from the site.

27.11.2009