SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: KILKINNIKIN

SITE CODE: 001985

This is a small roadside site situated approximately 4km south of Allihies on the Beara peninsula in West Cork. It consists of sloping ground below a recently built bungalow, running down to and including the bank of the road. There is a low area between two hillocks where the sandstone rock is mostly covered by shallow peaty soil.

The health vegetation on site is ungrazed and is made up of a dense Western Gorse (*Ulex gallii*) and Bell Heather (*Erica cinerea*) stand with Common Bent (*Agrostis capillaris*) and Crested Dog's-tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*) as well as Cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), Tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*) and occasional Goldenrod (*Solidago virgaurea*).

The rare and protected (Flora Protection Order, 1987) Betony (*Stachys officinalis*) grows here and on the roadside bank in rather similar but drier vegetation. Both sites could be affected by rainwater from the slopes above as there are patches of Sharp-flowered Rush (*Juncus acutiflorus*), Glaucous Sedge (*Carex flacca*) and Chamomile (*Chamaemelum nobile*) nearby which indicate nutrient flushing.

8.12.2009