SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: HORSE ISLAND COMPLEX

SITE CODE: 000276

Horse Island (Galway) comprises a group of islands about 4km east of Slyne Head, including Horse Island itself, Illaunurra, Carrickacummer and several islets and rocks. The site is of interest for its colonies of terns, of which the following have been recorded – Sandwich Tern (150 pairs in 1984), Arctic Tern (39 pairs in 1984) and Little Tern (4 pairs in 1984). The islands also hold a population of breeding gulls (130 individuals in 1984).

Barnacle Geese occasionally graze on the grassy islets in winter.

5.11.2009