SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: GIBSON'S LOUGH

SITE CODE: 001604

Some of the loughs in County Monaghan are surrounded by floating marshes. They are often the smaller loughs which are gradually being invaded by the vegetation. "Gibson's Lough", as it is known locally, is one such example. It is situated less than 1km east of Baraghy Lough that lies on the Cavan/Monaghan border.

Often the broad belt marsh contains pockets of different plant communities, varying with the degree of waterlogging. This is of particular ecological value as the different communities can be studied in one area.

Around the shoreline Bottle Sedge (*Carex rostrata*) occurs with Bulrush (*Typha latifolia*) and Cowbane (*Cicuta virosa*). Behind is a community dominated by Common Cottongrass (*Eriophorum angustifolium*) with Water Horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*), White Sedge (*Carex curta*) and Bottle Sedge. Further back is wet grassland with hummocks of *Sphagnum* moss and the grass Yorkshire-fog (Holcus lanatus).

23.11.2009