SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: DROMSALLAGH BOG

SITE CODE: 001850

Dromsallagh Bog is a small site of cutaway raised bog and its associated habitats. It is situated approximately 2km north-west of Cappamore, north-east Limerick.

Through lack of disturbance over recent years Dromsallagh Bog is regenerating and supports a variety of acidophile communities. Dromsallagh Bog demonstrates good *Sphagnum* regeneration and supports tall Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) dwarf shrubs. Several bog pools and cutaway pools occur at this site, adding to its diversity. The site is being invaded by Downy Birch (*Betula pubescens*) woodland with isolated Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) seen in places. Species of note include Cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccos*) and White Sedge (*Carex curta*). The presence of large stands of conifers on this site has reduced its scientific and wildlife value.

The continuing loss of virgin peatland in Ireland, particularly raised bog, makes these regenerating cutaways of ever increasing importance. Dromsallagh and Ballyrorheen Bogs are two of the best examples in the catchment and appear not to have been disturbed in recent times. The occurrence of several regional rarities at these sites adds to their scientific and educational value.

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