SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: BALLYMONEY STRAND

SITE CODE: 000745

Ballymoney Strand is made up of two stretches of coastline, at Ballymoney, about 4 km north of Courtown. Between them the site extends for about 1.5 km in length. Several interesting rock types are exposed, a feature that is unusual along the drift covered Wexford coastline.

The site supports stunted Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*)/Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) scrub and coarse maritime grassland. Of note is the presence here of Hoary Ragwort (*Senecio erucifolius*), a plant that is rare in Ireland outside of Co. Dublin. In places Sea Buckthorn (*Hippophae rhamnoides*) has invaded areas of native vegetation.

These typical sea-cliff communities are of restricted occurrence in Ireland.

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