

Site Name:	Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement SAC 1271
County	Galway
	Site Specific Conservation Objective (SSCO) Ecological Attributes
	(8240) Limestone Pavements
1	Habitat Area
2	Habitat Distribution
3.1	Vegetation composition: positive indicator species
3.2	Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer
3.3	Vegetation composition: negative indicator species
3.4	Vegetation composition: nonnative specie
3.5	Vegetation composition: scru
3.6	Vegetation composition: bracken cover
3.7	Vegetation structure: woodland canopy
3.8	Vegetation structure: dead wood
4	Physical structure: disturbance
5	Indicators of local distinctiveness

No.	Ecological Requirements (Attributes as per SSCO)	Pressure /Threat (EU Code 2025)	Pressure/ Threat Ranking	EU Conservation Measure Type (EU Code 2019-2024)	Measure Category	Conservation Measure	Delivery mechanism	Public Authority with statutory responsibility	Implementation timeframe	Integration with high level plans/policy:
1	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PA01 Conversion into agricultural land (excluding drainage and burning)	High	MA01 Prevent conversion of natural and semi-natural habitats, and habitats of species into agricultural land	Statutory	Consent is required for reclaiming land for agricultural purposes if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement Special Area of Conservation 001271) Regulations 2018	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	2003+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
2	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PA01 Conversion into agricultural land (excluding drainage and burning)	High	MA01 Prevent conversion of natural and semi-natural habitats, and habitats of species into agricultural land	Statutory	Consent is required for the changing of agricultural use from hay meadow to any other use if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement Special Area of Conservation 001271) Regulations 2018	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	2003+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
3	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PA08 Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock	Medium	MA07 Restoration of Annex I agricultural habitats (incl. re-establish and improve)	Contractual	Over 40% of terrestrial habitat in Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement SAC is subject to conservation results based scoring of the habitat as part of the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme – Co-operation Project (ACRES CP).	Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES) Scorecards	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	2022+	CAP Strategic Plan
4	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PA08 Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock	Medium	MA01 Prevent conversion of natural and semi-natural habitats, and habitats of species into agricultural land	Statutory	Consent is required for any significant changes (above 20% unless specified) in livestock density (including introduction of grazing), changes in livestock type or grazing season, other than on established reseeded grassland if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement Special Area of Conservation 001271) Regulations 2018	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	2003+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
5	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PA08 Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock	Medium	MA01 Prevent conversion of natural and semi-natural habitats, and habitats of species into agricultural land	Statutory	Consent is required for grazing of livestock between 1st April and 31st October on traditional winterages if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement Special Area of Conservation 001271) Regulations 2018	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	2003+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
6	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PC01 Extraction of minerals (e.g. rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell)	Medium	MC01 Adapt/manage extraction of non-energy resources	Statutory	Consent is required for blasting, drilling, dredging or otherwise removing or disturbing fossils, rock, minerals, mud, sand, gravel or other sediment if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement Special Area of Conservation 001271) Regulations 2018	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	2003+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
7	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PC01 Extraction of minerals (e.g. rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell)	Medium	MC01 Adapt/manage extraction of non-energy resources	Statutory	Regulates activities to reduce any adverse effects on the environment, in particular water, air, soil, fauna and flora and landscape, and any resultant risks to human health, brought about as a result of the management of waste from the extractive industries.	Waste Management (Management of Waste from the Extractive Industries) Regulations 2009	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC)	2009+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
8	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PF01 Conversion from other land uses to built-up areas	Medium	MF01 Managing the impacts of converting land for construction and development of infrastructure	Statutory	Regulation controlling unconsented development at this site.	S.I. NO. 600/2001 - Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended	Local Authority (Galway)/An Comisiún Pleanála	2001+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
9	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Low	MI01 Early detection and rapid eradication of invasive alien species of Union concern	Administrative	Management of Invasive Species Ireland's through identification action of species through an online mapping system which is managed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre, as part of the Shared Island Invasive Species Project.	Action on Invasive Online Mapping and reporting system	National Biodiversity Data Centre	2021+	Invasive Alien Species Regulation 1143/2014
10	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Low	MI03 Management, control or eradication of other invasive alien species	Statutory	Consent is required for the introduction, or re-introduction, of plants or animals not found in the area (not including planting of crops on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land.) if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement Special Area of Conservation 001271) Regulations 2018	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	2003+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections

No.	Ecological Requirements (Attributes as per SSCO)	Pressure /Threat (EU Code 2025)	Pressure/ Threat Ranking	EU Conservation Measure Type (EU Code 2019-2024)	Measure Category	Conservation Measure	Delivery mechanism	Public Authority with statutory responsibility	Implementation timeframe	Integration with high level plans/policy:
11	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	PI02 Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Low	MI03 Management, control or eradication of other invasive alien species	Statutory	Consent is required for burning, topping, clearing scrub or rough vegetation or reseeding. (Consent is not required for these activities on established reseeded grassland or cultivated land provided it is greater than 20m from a river, stream or floodplain; or greater than 50m from a wetland, lake, turlough or pond.) if not covered by other regulations.	European Union Habitats (Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement Special Area of Conservation 001271) Regulations 2018	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	2003+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections
12	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures		MA03 Maintain existing extensive agricultural practices and agricultural landscape features	Contractual	Dry Stone Wall Maintenance (664 metres) as part of the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES).	Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	2022+	CAP Strategic Plan
13	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures		MA03 Maintain existing extensive agricultural practices and agricultural landscape features	Contractual	Repair of traditional stone wall (218 metres) - conservation measure complementing results based habitat scoring in Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme – Co-operation Project (ACRES CP).	Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES) - Environmental actions (Non-Productive Investments - NPIs)	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	2024+	CAP Strategic Plan
14	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures		MA Measures related to agricultural practices and agriculture-related habitats	Contractual	62% uptake of eligible participants (26) in the voluntary Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES).	Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	2022+	CAP Strategic Plan
15	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures		MA Measures related to agricultural practices and agriculture-related habitats	Contractual	Production of an accredited Farm Sustainability Plan by 100% of participants in the Agri-Climate Rural Environmental Scheme (ACRES).	Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	2022+	CAP Strategic Plan
16	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures		MA Measures related to agricultural practices and agriculture-related habitats	Contractual	Landscape Actions to target environmental issues highlighted in the scorecards for results-based payments in Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme – Co-operation Project (ACRES CP).	Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES) – Landscape Actions	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)	2026+	CAP Strategic Plan
17	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures		MJ01 Implement climate change mitigation measures, MJ02 Implement climate change adaptation measures	Administrative	A roadmap of actions to assist in the achievement of climate change objectives by no later than the end of the year 2050.	Ireland's Climate Action Plan 2024	All Government Departments	2024+	Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021
18	1. Habitat Area, 2. Habitat distribution, 3.1. Vegetation composition: positive indicator species, 3.2. Vegetation composition: bryophyte layer, 3.3. Vegetation composition: negative indicator species, 3.4. Vegetation composition: nonnative species, 3.5. Vegetation composition: scrub, 3.6. Vegetation composition: bracken cover, 3.7. Vegetation structure: woodland canopy, 3.8. Vegetation structure: dead wood 4. Physical structure: disturbance 5. Indicators of local distinctiveness.	All/Other Relevant Threats and Pressures		MC02 Adapt/Manage exploitation of energy resources	Statutory	Control of activities, if not covered by other regulations, which could negatively impact on Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement SAC.	European Union Habitats (Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement Special Area of Conservation 001271) Regulations 2018	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)/ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	2003+	All government plans and policy documents are cognisant of these protections