National Parks and Wildlife Service

Conservation Objectives Series

Farranamanagh Lough SAC 002189



An Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht



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Introduction

The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation status of habitats and species of community interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives and Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas are designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as the Natura 2000 network.

European and national legislation places a collective obligation on Ireland and its citizens to maintain habitats and species in the Natura 2000 network at favourable conservation condition. The Government and its agencies are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of regulations that will ensure the ecological integrity of these sites.

A site-specific conservation objective aims to define favourable conservation condition for a particular habitat or species at that site.

The maintenance of habitats and species within Natura 2000 sites at favourable conservation condition will contribute to the overall maintenance of favourable conservation status of those habitats and species at a national level.

Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when:

- its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing, and
- the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance
- exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and
- the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when:

• population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats, and

• the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and

• there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

Notes/Guidelines:

1. The targets given in these conservation objectives are based on best available information at the time of writing. As more information becomes available, targets for attributes may change. These will be updated periodically, as necessary.

2. An appropriate assessment based on these conservation objectives will remain valid even if the targets are subsequently updated, providing they were the most recent objectives available when the assessment was carried out. It is essential that the date and version are included when objectives are cited.

3. Assessments cannot consider an attribute in isolation from the others listed for that habitat or species, or for other habitats and species listed for that site. A plan or project with an apparently small impact on one attribute may have a significant impact on another.

4. Please note that the maps included in this document do not necessarily show the entire extent of the habitats and species for which the site is listed. This should be borne in mind when appropriate assessments are being carried out.

5. When using these objectives, it is essential that the relevant backing/supporting documents are consulted, particularly where instructed in the targets or notes for a particular attribute.

Qualifying Interests

* indicates	* indicates a priority habitat under the Habitats Directive			
002189	Farranamanagh Lough SAC			
1150	Coastal lagoonsE			

1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks

Supporting documents, relevant reports & publications

Supporting documents, NPWS reports and publications are available for download from: www.npws.ie/Publications

NPWS Documents

Year :	2007		
Title :	Inventory of Irish coastal lagoons (version 2)		
Author :	Oliver, G.		
Series :	Unpublished report to NPWS		
Year :	2017		
Title :	Survey and assessment of vegetated shingle and associated habitats at 30 coastal sites in Ireland		
Author :	Martin, J.R.; Daly, O.H.; Devaney F.M.		
Series : Irish Wildlife Manual No. 98			
Year :	2018		
Title :	Farranamanagh Lough SAC (site code: 2189) Conservation objectives supporting document- coastal habitats V1		
Author :	NPWS		
Series :	Conservation objectives supporting document		
Year :	2018		
Title :	: Farranamanagh Lough SAC (site code: 2189) Conservation objectives supporting document coastal lagoons V1		
Author :	NPWS		
Series :	Conservation objectives supporting document		

Other References

Year :	2013
Title :	Monitoring and assessment of Irish lagoons for the purposes of the EU Water Framework Directive, 2009-2011. Parts 1 and 2
Author :	Roden, C.M.; Oliver, G.A.
Series :	Unpublished report to the Environmental Protection Agency

Spatial data sources

Year :	Revision 2011		
Title :	Inventory of Irish Coastal Lagoons. Version 3		
GIS Operations :	Clipped to SAC boundary. Expert opinion used as necessary to resolve any issues arising		
Used For :	1150 (map 2)		
Year :	2017		
Title :	Vegetated Shingle Monitoring Project		
GIS Operations :	QI selected; clipped to SAC boundary. Expert opinion used as necessary to resolve any issues arising		
Used For :	1220 (map 2)		

Conservation Objectives for : Farranamanagh Lough SAC [002189]

1150 Coastal lagoons

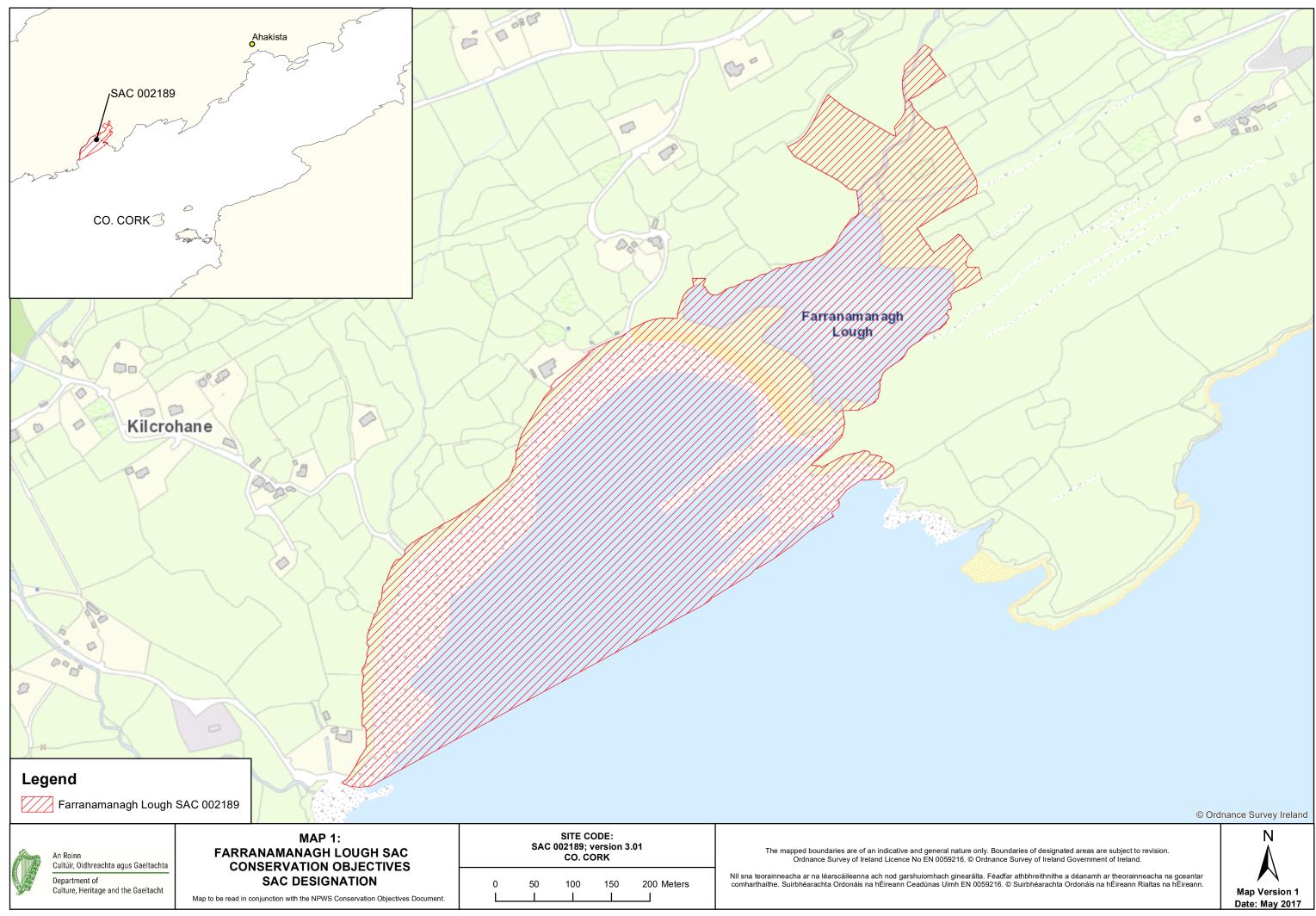
To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Coastal lagoons* in Farranamanagh Lough SAC, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Habitat area	Hectares	Area stable, subject to slight natural variation. Favourable reference area: 4.0ha. See map 2	Area calculated from spatial data derived from Oliver (2007) for Farranamanagh Lake (site code IL023). See the Farranamanagh Lough SAC conservation objectives supporting document for coastal lagoons for further details
Habitat distribution	Occurrence	No decline, subject to natural processes. See map 2 for mapped lagoon	Site Farranamanagh Lake (site code IL023) in Oliver (2007). See the lagoons supporting document for further details
Salinity regime	Practical salinity units (psu)	Annual median salinity and temporal variation within natural ranges	Farranamanagh Lake is recorded as an oligohaline to mesohaline lagoon. See the lagoons supporting document for further details
Hydrological regime	Metres	Annual water level fluctuations and minima within natural ranges	The maximum depth of Farranamanagh Lake is recorded as less than 2m. See the lagoons supporting document for further details
Barrier: connectivity between lagoon and sea	Permeability	Appropriate hydrological connections between lagoon and sea, including where necessary, appropriate management	Farranamanagh Lake is described as a sedimentary lagoon with a cobble barrier. See the lagoons supporting document for further details and also the conservation objective for perennial vegetation of stony banks (1220) in this volume
Water quality: Chlorophyll <i>a</i>	µg/L	Annual median chlorophyll a within natural ranges and less than 5µg/L	Target based on Roden and Oliver (2013). See the lagoons supporting document for further details
Water quality: Molybdate Reactive Phosphorus (MRP)	mg/L	Annual median MRP within natural ranges and less than 0.1mg/L	Target based on Roden and Oliver (2013). See the lagoons supporting document for further details
Water quality: Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN)	mg/L	Annual median DIN within natural ranges and less than 0.15mg/L	Target based on Roden and Oliver (2013). See the lagoons supporting document for further details
Depth of macrophyte colonisation	Metres	Macrophyte colonisation to maximum depth of lagoon	Where the lagoon is less than 2m deep, it is expected that macrophyte colonisation would extend to the full depth. See the lagoons supporting document for further details
Typical plant species	Number and m ²	Maintain number and extent of listed lagoonal specialists, subject to natural variation	Species listed in Oliver (2007). See the lagoons supporting document for further details
Typical animal species	Number	Maintain listed lagoonal specialists, subject to natural variation	Species listed in Oliver (2007). See the lagoons supporting document for further details
Negative indicator species	Number and percentage cover	Negative indicator species absent or under control	Low salinity, shallow water and elevated nutrient levels increase the threat of accelerated encroachment by reedbeds. See the lagoons supporting document for further details

1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks

To restore the favourable conservation condition of Perennial vegetation of stony banks in Farranamanagh Lough SAC, which is defined by the following list of attributes and targets:

Attribute	Measure	Target	Notes
Habitat area	Hectares	Area stable or increasing, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession. For the sub-site mapped: Farranamanagh Lough - 0.89ha. See map 2	Based on data from the Vegetated Shingle Monitoring Project (VSM) (Martin et al., 2017). Perennial vegetation of stony banks was surveyed and mapped in the sub-site Farranamanagh Lough (VSM site code 015) to give a total estimated area of 0.89ha. NB further unsurveyed areas may be present in the SAC. See the Farranamanagh Lough SAC conservation objectives supporting document for coastal habitats for further details
Habitat distribution	Occurrence	No decline or change in habitat distribution, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession. See map 2 for recorded distribution	Based on data from Martin et al. (2017). The habitat in the sub-site is located between a lagoon, known as Farranamanagh Lough (or Farranamanagh Lake), and the sea. See the coastal habitats supporting document for further details. NB further unsurveyed areas may be present in the SAC
Physical structure: functionality and sediment supply	Presence/absence of physical barriers	Maintain the natural circulation of sediment and organic matter, without any physical obstructions	Based on data from Martin et al. (2017). See the coastal habitats supporting document for further details
Physical structure: disturbance	Percentage	No more than 20% of the habitat affected by disturbance	Based on data from Martin et al. (2017). Disturbance can include damage from heavy trampling, vehicle damage and removal of substrate. See the coastal habitats supporting document for further details
Vegetation structure: zonation	Occurrence	Maintain the range of coastal habitats, including transitional zones, subject to natural processes, including erosion and succession	Based on data from Martin et al. (2017). Habitats that are associated with perennial vegetation of stony banks in the Farranamanagh Lough sub-site include saltmarsh and a lagoon. See the coastal habitats supporting document for further details. See also the conservation objective for coastal lagoons (priority habitat 1150) in this volume
Vegetation composition: communities and typical species	Occurrence	Maintain the typical species within the range of vegetated shingle communities	Based on data from Martin et al. (2017) where information on the vegetated shingle communities and associated typical species lists are presented. See the coastal habitats supporting document for the list of typical species recorded during the VSM in the pioneer, grassland and scrub communities of the habitat in the Farranamanagh Lough sub-site
Vegetation composition: negative indicator species	Percentage	Negative indicator species cover in any individual monitoring stop should not be more than 25%; no negative indicator species should be present in more than 60% of monitoring stops	Based on data from Martin et al. (2017) where the list of negative indicator species for the habitat is also presented. Negative indicators include species indicative of changes in nutrient status and species not considered characteristic of the habitat. The negative indicator species perennial rye-grass (<i>Lolium perenne</i>), common ragwort (<i>Senecio</i> <i>jacobaea</i>) and common nettle (<i>Urtica dioica</i>) were recorded as being occasional within the habitat in the Farranamanagh Lough sub-site during the VSM. See the coastal habitats supporting document for further details
Vegetation composition: non- native species	Percentage	Non-native species cover in any individual monitoring stop should not be more than 1%; non-native species should not be present in more than 20% of monitoring stops; cover of non-native species across the whole site should not be more than 1%	Based on data from Martin et al. (2017). The non- native invasive species montbretia (<i>Crocosmia</i> x <i>crocosmiiffora</i>) was recorded in the SAC during the VSM. See the coastal habitats supporting document for further details



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1		Map to be read in conjunct	ion with the NPWS Conservation Objectives Document.		

