



NATURA 2000 - STANDARD DATA FORM

For Special Protection Areas (SPA),
Proposed Sites for Community Importance (pSCI),
Sites of Community Importance (SCI) and
for Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

SITE IE0000051
SITENAME Lough Gash Turlough SAC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [1. SITE IDENTIFICATION](#)
- [2. SITE LOCATION](#)
- [3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION](#)
- [4. SITE DESCRIPTION](#)
- [6. SITE MANAGEMENT](#)
- [7. MAP OF THE SITE](#)

1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0000051	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Lough Gash Turlough SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1995-08	1.5 Update date 2020-10
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1.6 Respondent:

Name/Organisation: National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Address: 90 King Street North, Dublin 7, D07 N7CV, Ireland
Email: datadelivery@chg.gov.ie

Date site proposed as SCI:	1997-11
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2018-02
National legal reference of SAC designation:	72/2018

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

[Back to top](#)

					Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Glo.
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos		r	5	10	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A051	Anas strepera		w	16	16	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A059	Aythya ferina		w	75	75	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A061	Aythya fuligula		w	24	24	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A125	Fulica atra		w	43	43	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A125	Fulica atra		r				P	DD	C	A	C	B
B	A153	Gallinago gallinago		w	13	13	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A153	Gallinago gallinago		r				P	DD	C	B	C	C

- **Group:** A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles
- **S:** in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes
- **NP:** in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Type:** p = permanent, r = reproducing, c = concentration, w = wintering (for plant and non-migratory species use permanent)
- **Unit:** i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the Standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting (see [reference portal](#))
- **Abundance categories (Cat.):** C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present - to fill if data are deficient (DD) or in addition to population size information
- **Data quality:** G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation); VP = 'Very poor' (use this category only, if not even a rough estimation of the population size can be made, in this case the fields for population size can remain empty, but the field "Abundance categories" has to be filled in)

3.3 Other important species of flora and fauna (optional)

Species					Population in the site				Motivation					
Group	CODE	Scientific Name	S	NP	Size		Unit	Cat.	Species Annex		Other categories			
					Min	Max		C R V P	IV	V	A	B	C	D
B		Cygnus olor			71	71	i							X
P		Rorippa islandica						P			X			

- **Group:** A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, Fu = Fungi, I = Invertebrates, L = Lichens, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles
- **CODE:** for Birds, Annex IV and V species the code as provided in the reference portal should be used in addition to the scientific name
- **S:** in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes
- **NP:** in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Unit:** i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting, (see [reference portal](#))
- **Cat.:** Abundance categories: C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present
- **Motivation categories:** IV, V: Annex Species (Habitats Directive), A: National Red List data; B: Endemics; C: International Conventions; D: other reasons

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N16	2.0
N06	88.0
N14	6.0
N10	4.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Lough Gash is a late-draining turlough in a hollow just to the west of Newmarket-on-Fergus. It is flooded into August in most years and this results in the dominance of annual plant species which form an ungrazed stand 60cm high. This is surrounded by a fringe of amphibious species. Channels have been dug at the western and southern corners but these have little drainage effect. There are some wildfowl nesting. An inflow comes through the town on the east side and has a nutrient enriching effect.

4.2 Quality and importance

This site is at the extreme end of two ranges in variation of the turlough habitat, i.e. wetness and trophic status. It has a greater area of annual vegetation than any other site and this includes *Rorippa islandica*, a rare species found in 10-20 turloughs. Wildfowl numbers are high for its size especially *Aythya ferina* and *Cygnus olor*. There is no effective drainage of the site and, though over enriched, its nutrient balance could be restored.

4.3 Threats, pressures and activities with impacts on the site

The most important impacts and activities with high effect on the site

Negative Impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	A08		o
L	A10.01		i
M	E01		o
H	H01.08		i
L	A04		i
L	D01.02		o
L	F03.01		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	A08		o
H	H01.08		i
L	A04		i

Rank: H = high, M = medium, L = low

Pollution: N = Nitrogen input, P = Phosphor/Phosphate input, A = Acid input/acidification,

T = toxic inorganic chemicals, O = toxic organic chemicals, X = Mixed pollutions

i = inside, o = outside, b = both

4.5 Documentation

Goodwillie, R.N. (1992). Turloughs over 10ha - Vegetation Survey & Evaluation. Unpublished report for National Parks and Wildlife Service. Sheppard, R. (1993). Ireland's Wetland Wealth. Irish Wildbird Conservancy, Dublin.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

Yes

No, but in preparation

No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

[Back to top](#)

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0000051

Map delivered as PDF in electronic format (optional)

Yes

No

Reference(s) to the original map used for the digitalisation of the electronic boundaries (optional).