



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 IE0000108
SITENAME The Gearagh SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0000108	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

The Gearagh SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1996-10	1.5 Update date 2017-09
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1.6 Respondent:

Name/Organisation: National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Address: 7 Ely Place, Dublin 2, Ireland
Email: datadelivery@ahg.gov.ie

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

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude
-8.984193218

Latitude
51.8821292

2.2 Area [ha]:
557.7139935

2.3 Marine area [%]
0.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:
0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code **Region Name**

IE02	Southern and Eastern
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2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Atlantic (%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

Annex I Habitat types						Site assessment			
Code	PF	NP	Cover [ha]	Cave [number]	Data quality	A B C D	A B C		
						Representativity	Relative Surface	Conservation	Global
3260 			16.74		M	A	C	B	B
3270 			40.0		G	C	A	C	C
91A0 			11.16		M	B	C	A	B
91E0 			72.53		M	A	A	B	A

- **PF:** for the habitat types that can have a non-priority as well as a priority form (6210, 7130, 9430) enter "X" in the column PF to indicate the priority form.
- **NP:** in case that a habitat type no longer exists in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Cover:** decimal values can be entered
- **Caves:** for habitat types 8310, 8330 (caves) enter the number of caves if estimated surface is not available.
- **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)

3.2 Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them

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Species					Population in the site					Site assessment				
G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D.qual.	A B C D		A B C	
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Glo.
B	A052	Anas crecca			w	707	707	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A050	Anas penelope			w	640	640	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			w	250	250	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A059	Aythya ferina			w	32	32	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A061	Aythya fuligula			w	154	154	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A149	Calidris alpina			w	100	100	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A038	Cygnus cygnus			w	40	110	i		G	C	A	C	B
M	1355	Lutra lutra			p				P	DD	C	A	C	B
B	A140	Pluvialis apricaria			w	2000	2000	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A005	Podiceps cristatus			r	1	2	p		G	C	C	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			120	250								X
P		Limosella aquatica						P			X			
M		Mustela erminea hibernica						P					X	
M		Myotis daubentoni						P			X			

M		Myotis daubentoni						P					X	
P		Prunus padus						P			X			
A		Rana temporaria						P					X	
A		Rana temporaria						P			X			
F		Salmo trutta						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

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4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N10	12.0
N08	10.0
N23	1.0
N16	18.0
N07	8.0
N06	51.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Site comprises a 7km section of the River Lee and includes the confluence with the River Toon. It is situated in a wide flat valley on a bed of limestone, the adjacent valley sides being Old Red Sandstone. The eastern part of the site has been flooded by a dam and is subject to artificial fluctuations in water levels. The most natural remnants of alluvial forest exist upstream of Toon Bridge. Alluvial grassland is frequent at the margins and the site includes some dry woodland, cutaway bog and Ulex scrub. Semi-improved grassland is also included as it is used by the waterfowl attracted to the reservoir. At low water levels within the reservoir, a spectacular ephemeral mud flora develops.

4.2 Quality and importance

Despite the fact that about half of the original area has been destroyed The Gearagh still represents the only extensive alluvial forest in Ireland or Britain, or indeed western Europe west of the Rhine. The aquatic riverine vegetation is also well-developed. The wet woodland is complemented by a fine, though small example of an intact oak woodland. The flooded areas are important for wintering waterfowl. Lutra lutra occurs throughout the site.

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]
M	H01.05		b
H	J02		b

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	X		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

Braun-Blanquet, J. and Tuxen, R. (1952). *Irische Pflanzengesellschaften*. Veroff. Gedbot. Inst. Zurich 25 : 224-415. Hewetson and O'Rourke. (1960). The dragonflies of The Gearagh near Cork. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* 61(B) : 177. Hickey, T. (1982). *An Ecological Study to Save The Gearagh*. Aer Lingus Young Scientist Competition 1982. (Unpublished). McGough, H.N. (1984). Field trip to The Gearagh, Macroom, Co. Cork 19-21 August 1983. *Bulletin of the Irish Biogeographical Society* 7 : 55-57. O'Reilly, H. (1955). Survey of The Gearagh, an area of wet woodland on the River Lee, near Macroom, Co. Cork. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 11 : 274-286. Sheppard, R. (1993). *Ireland's Wetland Wealth*. I.W.C. Dublin. White, J. (1985). The Gearagh woodland, Co. Cork. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 21 : 391-396. Cross, J. (1984). Schedule for Proposed Nature Reserve at The Gearagh, Co. Cork. Forest and Wildlife Service, Dublin. (Unpublished) Flanagan, P.J. and Larkin, P.M. (1992). *Water Quality in Ireland 1987 - 1990. Part 2 : River Quality Data*. Environmental Research Unit, Dublin. Shorten, M. et al (Eds) (1993-95). *Cork Bird Report, 1992, 1993, 1994*. I.W.C. Brown, A.G., Stone, P. and Harwood, K. (1995). *The Biogeomorphology of a Wooded Anastomosing River: The Gearagh on the River Lee in County Cork, Ireland*. Occasional Paper (no. 32) for the Department of Geography, University of Leicester. McMillan, N. (1977). *Limosella aquatica* L. at the Gearagh, West Cork; an addition to the County flora. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 19: 53. Goodwillie, R. (1986). *Report on Areas of Scientific Interest in County Cork*. Unpublished report for Cork County Council.

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

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5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
IE01	50.0				

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
IE01	The Gearagh Nature Reserve	*	50.0

designated at international level:

Type	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
Other	The Gearagh Nature Reserve	*	50.0
	The Gearagh Nature Reserve	*	50.0

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No, but in preparation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0000108

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).

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