



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 IE0000111
SITENAME Aran Island (Donegal) Cliffs SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0000111	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Aran Island (Donegal) Cliffs SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1997-03	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:	2002-01
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2017-12
National legal reference of SAC designation:	613/2017

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude

-8.551226

Latitude

55.00221

2.2 Area [ha]:

542.807774

2.3 Marine area [%]

79.634

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name**NUTS level 2 code****Region Name**

IE01	Border, Midland and Western
IEZZ	Extra-Regio

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Atlantic (%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION[Back to top](#)**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
1230			51.79		M	A	C	A	A
4030			10.36		M	C	C	C	C
4060			41.43		M	B	C	B	B
8210			5.18		M	A	C	A	A
8220			5.18		M	A	C	A	A
8330			5.17		M	A	C	A	B

- **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

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	A103	Falco peregrinus			p	1	1	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A009	Fulmarus glacialis			r	887	887	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A183	Larus fuscus			r	8	8	p		G	C	C	C	C
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			r	80	80	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A346	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax			p	81	81	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A188	Rissa tridactyla			r	36	36	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		Cepphus grylle			1	1	p							X
P		Dryopteris aemula												X
B		Larus argentatus			78	78	p							X
B		Larus marinus			79	79	p							X
B		Phalacrocorax aristotelis			55	55	p							X

P	Saxifraga rosaceae ssp. hartii										X									
P	Saxifraga rosaceae ssp. hartii												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
N22	1.0
N06	1.0
N01	73.0
N09	4.0
N23	1.0
N05	10.0
N08	10.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Aran Island is a large island, approx. 18 km sq, situated 2-3 km from the low-lying Donegal mainland. The site comprises the northern and western cliffs, and includes a fringe of heath and part of the sea below the cliffs. The cliffs, which rise to 150 m, are exposed, precipitous and continuous. They are well indented, with a predominantly north or west facing aspect. Partly immersed sea caves occur along the entire length of the cliffs at regular intervals. Numerous rocks and islets occur off the cliffs. The main landuse of the island is sheep grazing, which is causing some damage to the heath and dry grassland communities. The cliffs are composed of Ards quartzite, with some igneous intrusions.

4.2 Quality and importance

The site supports an excellent example of rocky cliff, sea cave and cliff associated chasmophytic vegetation habitats in a very exposed situation. The cliff vegetation shows good gradation into alpine heath of Arctostaphylos-Juniperus-Empetrum type. All these are of good quality. It is the only known site for Saxifraga rosacea ssp. hartii, a legally protected species. Important populations of Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax are found. The site also has Falco peregrinus and breeding seabirds, notably Fulmarus glacilis.

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				
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Positive Impacts				
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Rank	Threats and pressures [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	G01		i
M	A04		i
L	C01.03.01		i
L	C01.03.01		o
L	C01.01		i
L	F02.03		o
L	C01.01		o
M	A04		o
M	E01		o
L	G01		o
L	D02.01		i
L	D01.01		i

Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	E01		o
M	A04		o
L	G01		o
L	C01.01		o
L	F02.03		o
L	D01.01		i
L	C01.03.01		o
L	G01		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

Berrow, S.D., Mackie, K.L., O'Sullivan, O., Shepherd, K.B., Mellon, C. & Coveney, J.A. (1993). The second international chough survey in Ireland, 1992. *Irish Birds*, 5: 1-10. Curtis, T.G.F. & McGough, H.N. (1988). *The Irish Red Data Book 1. Vascular Plants*. Stationery Office, Dublin. Hart, H.C. (1881). On the plants of (North) Aran Island, Co. Donegal. *Journal of Botany*, January 1881. LLOYD, C. (1982). Inventory of Seabird Breeding Colonies in Republic of Ireland. Unpublished report to the Forest & Wildlife Service, Dublin. NPWS (2010). Desk study of Submerged or partly submerged sea caves features along the Donegal coast. Unpublished report. Praeger, R.L. (1932). On the flora of Arranmore, Co. Donegal. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* IV. 50-54. Praeger, R.L. (1934). *The Botanist in Ireland*. Hodges Figgis & Co. Dublin. Webb, D.A. (1950). A revision of the saxifrages of north-western Europe. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* LIII. B: 33. Young, R. (1973). Report on Areas of Ecological and Geological Interest in County Donegal. Unpublished, An Foras Forbartha, Dublin.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

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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

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INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0000111

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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