



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 IE0000163
SITENAME Lough Eske and Ardnamona Wood SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0000163	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Lough Eske and Ardnamona Wood SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1995-08	1.5 Update date 2019-09
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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:	1998-05
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2018-12
National legal reference of SAC designation:	541/2018

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D.qual.	A B C D		A B C	
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	
I	1029	Margaritifera margaritifera			p	11000	11000	i		M	C	A	C	
B	A274	Phoenicurus phoenicurus			r	1	1	p		G	A	B	B	
B	A314	Phylloscopus sibilatrix			r	1	1	p		G	B	B	B	
F	1106	Salmo salar			r				C	DD	C	A	C	
P	1421	Trichomanes speciosum	Yes		p	6	6	colonies		G	B	A	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
I		Arion lusitanicus						P							X
P		Carum verticillatum						P							X
P		Cephalanthera longifolia						P			X				
P		Omalotheca sylvatica						P			X				
P		Prunus padus						P			X				
F		Salvelinus alpinus						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
N14	1.0
N10	6.0
N20	2.0
N09	1.0
N07	2.0
N08	2.0
N16	13.0
N06	73.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

This is a diverse site, most of which comprises a soft-water lake, Lough Eske, which occupies a large glacial-scoured hollow. Two rivers enter the lake, one from the north, one from the south-east. A third river, the R. Eske, is the lake outflow, situated in the south. A large area of old Oak (*Quercus* sp.) woodland, Ardnamona Wood, is found on the western side of the lake. Areas of freshwater marsh, fen, blanket bog, flush, heath, scrub and a variety of woodland and grassland types also occur within the site. The site is situated on a geological transition zone, being underlain by Dalradian schist and gneiss on the east and lower Carboniferous sandstone and limestone (predominantly the former) to the west and south.

4.2 Quality and importance

This is a high quality site which includes a wide variety of habitats and species, several of which are rare in Ireland. The stand of old Oak woodland is a particularly fine example of this type of habitat and one that is generally rare in Ireland. The lake is a good example of the type and is notable for the stock of Arctic Charr (*Salvelinus alpinus*) that it holds. The site supports an important population of *Salmo salar*. A good example of poor intermediate fen vegetation occurs at the north end of the lake. The petrifying spring habitat is fairly restricted in area, though has at least two diagnostic bryophyte species. The site supports a good population of *Margaritifera margaritifera*. The site holds many plant species that are rare in Ireland or in County Donegal, including *Trichomanes speciosum* and *Omalotheca sylvatica* which are legally protected.

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	J02		i
H	F03.02.09		i
L	E01.03		i
H	H01.05		i
H	I01		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	B06		i
M	B02.01.01		i
M	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

Beasley, C. R. and Roberts, D. (1996). The current distribution and status of freshwater pearl mussel *Margaritifera margaritifera*. L. 1758 in north-west Ireland. *Aquatic conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* 6:169-177. Central Fisheries Board (2001). *Irish Salmon Catches 2000*. <http://www.cfb.ie/>:February 2001. Darlington Amenity Research Trust. (1972). *Eske and Gartan Loughs - Plans for Development and Conservation*. Doris, Y., McGarrigle, M.L., Clabby, K.J., Lucey, J., Neill, M., Flanagan, M., Quinn, M.G., Sugrue, M. and Lehane, M. (1999). *Water Quality in Ireland 1995-1997. Statistical Compendium of River Quality Data*. Electronic Publication on Disk. Environmental Protection Agency, Wexford. Flanagan, P.J. and Toner, P.F. (1975). *A Preliminary Survey of Irish Lakes*. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. Kerney, M.P. (1968). *Mapping Land and Freshwater Mollusca in Ireland, Easter 1968*. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 16: 85-89. Ní Dhúill, E., Smyth, N., Waldren, S. & Lynn, D. (2015). *Monitoring methods for the Killarney Fern (Trichomanes speciosum Willd.) in Ireland*. *Irish Wildlife Manuals*, No. 82. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Ireland. Northern Regional Fishery Board, (1994). *A Survey of Salmonid Stocks and Habitat for the Eske System, Co. Donegal*. Northern Regional Fishery Board. Whilde, A. (1993). *Threatened Mammals, Birds, Amphibians and Fish in Ireland*. *Irish Red Data Book 2: Vertebrates*. HMSO, Belfast. Young, R. (1973). *A Report on Areas of Biological and Geological Interest in County Donegal*. Unpublished report to Donegal County Council, 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.IE0000163

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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