



# 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 IE0000185  
SITENAME Sessiagh Lough SAC

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## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

<b>1.1 Type</b> B	<b>1.2 Site code</b> IE0000185	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
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### 1.3 Site name

Sessiagh Lough SAC
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<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 1995-11	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 2020-10
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### 1.6 Respondent:

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

<b>Date site proposed as SCI:</b>	1998-05
<b>Date site confirmed as SCI:</b>	No data
<b>Date site designated as SAC:</b>	2016-05
<b>National legal reference of SAC designation:</b>	258/2016

## 2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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B	A395	<a href="#">Anser albifrons flavirostris</a>			w	4	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A059	<a href="#">Aythya ferina</a>			w	24	24	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A061	<a href="#">Aythya fuligula</a>			w	34	34	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A103	<a href="#">Falco peregrinus</a>			p	1	1	p		G	C	C	C	C
B	A009	<a href="#">Fulmarus glacialis</a>			r	8	8	p		G	C	B	C	C
P	1833	<a href="#">Najas flexilis</a>			p				P	DD	B	A	B	A
B	A193	<a href="#">Sterna hirundo</a>			r	2	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		<a href="#">Larus canus</a>			3	3	p							X
B		<a href="#">Larus ridibundus</a>			103	103	p							X
F		<a href="#">Salmo trutta</a>						P						X
F		<a href="#">Salvelinus alpinus</a>						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
N08	23.0
N14	6.0
N07	6.0
N06	37.0
N10	28.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	<b>100</b>

### Other Site Characteristics

Situated approximately 0.5km from the sea to the north, this site comprises an acid, deep, stony-bottomed lake with grassy, heathy cliffs to the south, blanket bog to the south-west and improved and humid grassland and scrub to the west. The margins of the lake support little emergent vegetation, however, a number of aquatic species do occur. The site includes a small rocky islet in the lake with gull and tern colonies. The site is underlain by quartzite.

### 4.2 Quality and importance

A diverse site that supports a range of rare or notable plants (*Najas flexilis*), birds (*Falco peregrinus*, *Anser albifrons flavirostris*, *Sterno hirundo*, *Larus ridibundus*), mammals (*Lutra lutra*) and fish (*Salvelinus alpinus*, *Salmo trutta*). Sessiagh Lough itself contains a number of species characteristic of oligotrophic lakes, but also supports several species more usually associated with mesotrophic situations; its trophic status appears to be in a state of flux.

### 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	I01		i
L	G01.01.01		i
M	H02.07		i
M	H01.08		i
M	E01.01		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

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

### 4.5 Documentation

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. Lloyd, C. (1982). Inventory of Seabird Breeding Colonies in Republic of Ireland. Unpublished report to the Wildlife Service, Dublin. Whilde, A. (1985). The All Ireland Tern Survey 1984. Unpublished report, Galway. Whilde, A. (1993). Threatened Mammals, Birds, Amphibians and Fish in Ireland. Irish Red Data Book 2 : Vertebrates. HMSO, Belfast. Whilde, A. (1978). A survey of gulls breeding inland in the west of Ireland in 1977 and 1978 and a review of the inland breeding habitat in Ireland and Britain. Irish Birds, 1 (2) : 134-160. Whilde, A., Cotton, D.C.F. and Sheppard, J.R. (1993). A repeat survey of gulls breeding inland in Counties Donegal, Sligo, Mayo and Galway, with recent counts from Leitrim and Fermanagh. Irish Birds, 5 : 67-72. Kennedy, M. and Fitzmaurice,

P. (1971). Growth and food of Brown Trout, *Salmo trutta*, in Irish waters. Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy 71B No. 18. Sheppard, R. (1993). Ireland's Wetland Wealth. Irish Wildbird Conservancy, 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.IE0000185

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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