



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 IE0000189
SITENAME Slieve League SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type	1.2 Site code	Back to top
B	IE0000189	

1.3 Site name

Slieve League SAC

1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
1995-11	2021-12

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

1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

Date site classified as SPA:	0000-00
National legal reference of SPA designation	No data
Date site proposed as SCI:	2002-01
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2021-12
National legal reference of SAC designation:	650/2021

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude -8.726370308 Latitude 54.66193539

2.2 Area [ha]:

2.3 Marine area [%]

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

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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
1170B			615.975		M	A	C	A	A
1230B			353.34		M	A	B	A	A
4010B			323.1517		M	B	B	B	C
4030B			647.1		G	A	B	B	B
4060B			97.3784		M	A	B	A	A
6430B			0.1		G	C	C	B	C
7130B	X		1004.9		M	B	C	B	B
8110B			55.5		G	B	B	A	B
8210B			1.912		M	A	C	A	A
8220B			7.6244		M	B	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	A395	Anser albifrons flavirostris			w	24	24	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A045	Branta leucopsis			w	1	100	i		M	C	A	C	B
B	A103	Falco peregrinus			p	3	3	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A009	Fulmarus glacialis			r	200	200	p		G	C	A	C	C

B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			r	63	63	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A346	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax			p	6	14	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A188	Rissa tridactyla			r	260	260	p		G	C	A	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
I		Alcyonium glomeratum						C						X
P		Arctoa fulvella						P						X
P		Campylopus subulatus						P						X
I		Eunicella verrucosa						C						X
P		Gymnomitrium concinnatum						P						X
P		Hieracium hartii						P				X		
P		Kiaeria blyttii						P						X
B		Larus argentatus			100	100	p						X	
B		Larus marinus			10	10	p						X	
P		Lathyrus japonicus						P			X			
P		Leptodontium recurvifolium						P						X
P		Marsupella sphacelata						P						X
P		Nardia geoscyphus						P						X
P		Orthothecium rufescens						P						X
I		Pentapora foliacea						C						X
P		Philonotis rigida						P						X
P		Polygonum viviparum						P			X			
P		Polystichum lonchitis						P			X			
P		Pottia crinita						P						X
P		Ptilidium ciliare						P						X
P		Pylaisia polyantha						P						X
P		Saussurea alpina						P			X			
P		Saxifraga aizoides						P			X			
P		Saxifraga oppositifolia						P						X
P		Schmitzia hiscockiana						R						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

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Habitat class	% Cover
N10	5.0
N07	15.0
N01	19.0
N08	43.0
N22	3.0
N06	1.0
N04	1.0
N05	10.0
N09	3.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Slieve League mountain and the spectacular, high sea cliffs which form its southern flank dominate the site. The site supports large areas of both upland and lowland heath and blanket bog, as well as smaller areas of dry coastal and damp grassland, inland and sea cliffs, scree, lakes, streams, shingle, sand beach, coastal rocks and marine water. The site has a complex geology: the sea cliffs are composed of quartzite capped by carboniferous sandstones and conglomerates while the cliffs above Lough Agh are mainly siliceous but with an intrusive outcrop of calcareous schistose rocks. Limestone occurs in the south-western section of the site.

4.2 Quality and importance

Slieve League supports good quality lowland and mountain blanket bog and excellent quality alpine heath and sea cliff vegetation. The cliffs above Lough Agh support a very rich and diverse montane flora which includes some very rare vascular plant and bryophyte species. Wet heath is well represented and is notable for the presence of *Empetrum nigrum*. The site has important examples of infra littoral reefs which support two rare biotopes and a number of uncommon species including the recently described red alga *Schmitzia hiscockiana*. The site holds good numbers of several breeding seabird species as well as important populations of *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax* and *Falco peregrinus*. The site is an important feeding site for *Branta leucopsis* and *Anser albifrons flavirostris*.

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	C01.03.02		i
L	E03.03		i
L	E03.01		i
L	F02.01.01		i
L	D01.03		i
L	G05.01		i
L	G05.09		i
L	A05.02		i
M	A04.01.02		i
L	G01.02		i
L	I01		i
L	C01.03.01		i

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

L	G01.04.01	i
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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

4.4 Ownership (optional)

4.5 Documentation

Birks, H.J.B., Birks, H.H. and Ratcliffe, D.A. (1969). Mountain plants on Slieve League, Co Donegal. The Irish Naturalists' Journal 16:203-204.
 Douglas, C., Dunnells, D., Scally, L. and Wyse Jackson, M.B. (1990). A Survey to Locate Lowland-Highland Blanket Bogs of Scientific Interest in Counties Donegal, Cavan, Leitrim and Roscommon. Unpublished report to the Wildlife Service, Office of Public Works, Dublin.
 Goodwillie, R.N. (1981). An Evaluation of the Ecological Importance of Areas of Bogland Adjacent to Slieve League, Co Donegal. Unpublished report to Donegal County Council. Conservation and Amenity Advisory Service, Dublin.
 Lloyd, C. (1982). Inventory of Seabird Breeding Colonies in Republic of Ireland. Unpublished report to the Wildlife Service, Dublin.
 Mooney, E.P., Goodwillie, R.N. and Douglas, C. (1991). Survey of Mountain Blanket Bogs of Scientific Interest. Unpublished report to the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin.
 Picton, B.E. (1985). Anthozoans (Coelenterata: Anthozoa) new to Ireland and new records of some rarely recorded species. Irish Naturalists' Journal, 21: 484-488
 Picton, B.E. and Costello, M.J. eds. (1997). BioMar Biotope Viewer: a Guide to Marine Habitats, Fauna and Flora of Britain and Ireland (Ver. 2.) Environmental Sciences Unit, Trinity College, Dublin. (Compact Disc).
 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.

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

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5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

5.3 Site designation (optional)

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the 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

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0000189

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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