



# 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 IE0000206  
SITENAME North Dublin Bay SAC

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## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

<b>1.1 Type</b> B	<b>1.2 Site code</b> IE0000206	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
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### 1.3 Site name

North Dublin Bay SAC

<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 1999-11	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 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

<b>Date site proposed as SCI:</b>	1999-11
<b>Date site confirmed as SCI:</b>	No data
<b>Date site designated as SAC:</b>	2019-10
<b>National legal reference of SAC designation:</b>	524/2019

## 2. SITE LOCATION

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## 2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

### Longitude

-6.135826827

### Latitude

53.36869145

## 2.2 Area [ha]:

1462.580835

## 2.3 Marine area [%]

82.341

## 2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

## 2.5 Administrative region code and name

### NUTS level 2 code

### Region Name

IE02	Southern and Eastern
IEZZ	Extra-Regio

## 2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Atlantic ( %)

## 3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### 3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

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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
1140B			577.7261		M	A	B	B	A
1210B			0.1075		M	B	C	B	B
1310B			29.10315		M	A	C	A	A
1320B			73.75		M	D			
1330B			82.2717		M	A	C	B	A
1410B			7.98135		M	B	C	B	B
2110B			6.0703		M	B	C	A	A
2120B			3.1752		M	B	C	B	B

2130		104.8424		M	A		C	A	A
2190		12.1142		M	A		C	A	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

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	A054	<a href="#">Anas acuta</a>			w	334	334	i		G	A	A	C	A
B	A056	<a href="#">Anas clypeata</a>			w	239	239	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A052	<a href="#">Anas crecca</a>			w	1512	1512	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A050	<a href="#">Anas penelope</a>			w	1166	1166	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A169	<a href="#">Arenaria interpres</a>			w	197	197	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A046	<a href="#">Branta bernicla</a>			w	2333	2333	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A144	<a href="#">Calidris alba</a>			w	357	357	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A149	<a href="#">Calidris alpina</a>			w	6238	6238	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A143	<a href="#">Calidris canutus</a>			w	4423	4423	i		G	A	A	C	A
B	A137	<a href="#">Charadrius hiaticula</a>			w	346	346	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A130	<a href="#">Haematopus ostralegus</a>			w	2190	2190	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A157	<a href="#">Limosa lapponica</a>			w	1586	1586	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A156	<a href="#">Limosa limosa</a>			w	156	156	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A160	<a href="#">Numenius arquata</a>			w	1193	1193	i		G	C	A	C	B
P	1395	<a href="#">Petalophyllum ralfsii</a>			p	37	37	area		G	C	B	B	A
B	A140	<a href="#">Pluvialis apricaria</a>			w	1000	1000	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A141	<a href="#">Pluvialis squatarola</a>			w	816	816	i		G	A	A	C	A



I		<a href="#">Orthoceratium lacustre</a>																		X
I		<a href="#">Salticella fasciata</a>																		X
P		<a href="#">Salvia verbenaca</a>																	X	
P		<a href="#">Saxifraga granulata</a>																	X	
I		<a href="#">Sphaerophoria rueppellii</a>																		X
P		<a href="#">Vicia lathyroides</a>																	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
N04	11.0
N01	39.0
N14	1.0
N09	1.0
N03	7.0
N02	40.0
N23	1.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	<b>100</b>

### Other Site Characteristics

The North Bull Island sand spit is a relatively recent depositional feature, formed as a result of improvements to Dublin Port during the 18th and 19th centuries. It is almost 5km long and 1km wide and runs parallel to the coast between Clontarf and Sutton. The sediment which forms the island is predominantly glacial in origin and siliceous in nature. Between the island and the mainland there occurs two sheltered intertidal areas which are separated by a solid causeway constructed in 1964. The seaward side of the island has a fine sandy beach. A substantial area of shallow marine water is included in the site. The interior of the island is excluded from the site as it has been converted to golf courses. The proximity of the North Bull Island to Dublin City results in it being a very popular recreational area. It is also very important for educational and research purposes. Nature conservation is a main landuse within the site.

### 4.2 Quality and importance

Site possesses an excellent diversity of coastal habitats. The North Bull Island dune system is one of the

most important systems on the east coast and is one of the few in Ireland that is actively accreting. It possesses extensive and mostly good quality examples of embryonic, shifting marram and fixed dunes, as well as excellent examples of humid dune slacks. Both Atlantic and Mediterranean salt marshes are well represented and a particularly good marsh zonation is shown. The salt marshes grade into mudflats and sandflats, some of which are dominated by annual *Salicornia* species. *Petalophyllum ralfsii* occurs at its only known station away from the western seaboard. The site has five Red Data Book vascular plant species and four Red Data Book bryophyte species. This is one of the most important sites for wintering waterfowl in Ireland, with internationally important populations of *Branta bernicla horta*, *Calidris canutus* and *Limosa lapponica*, plus nationally important numbers of a further 14 species. 20% of the national total of *Pluvialis squatarola* occurs here. Formerly it had important colony of *Sterna albifrons*. North Dublin Bay is nationally important for three insect species. The scientific interests of the site have been well documented and future prospects are good owing to the various designations assigned to 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]
H	E02		o
H	E03		i
M	F02.03.01		i
H	K03.06		i
L	F02.03		i
M	G01.01		i
M	H01.09		i
M	J01.01		i
M	G02.01		o
H	E01		o
L	G05.05		i
M	A04		i
M	I01		i
H	G01.02		i
M	H01.03		i

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

Brunton, M., Convery, F.J. & Johnson, A. (eds) (1987). *Managing Dublin Bay*. Resource & Environmental Policy Centre, University College, Dublin. Colhoun, K. (1998). *I-WeBS Report 1996-97*. BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin. Curtis, T.G.F. and Sheehy Skeffington, M.J. (1998). *The salt marshes of Ireland: an inventory and account of their geographical variation*. *Biology and the Environment, Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* 98B: 87-104. Curtis, T.G.F. (1991a). A site inventory of the sandy coasts of Ireland. In Quigley, M.B. (ed.) *A Guide to the Sand Dunes of Ireland*. E.U.C.C. Dublin. Curtis, T.G.F. (1991b). The flora and vegetation of sand dunes in Ireland. In Quigley, M.B. (ed.) *A Guide to the Sand Dunes of Ireland*. E.U.C.C. Dublin. Doogue, D., Nash, D., Parnell, J., Reynolds, S., & Wyse Jackson, P., (1998). *Flora of County Dublin*. Dublin Naturalists' Field Club, Dublin. Jeffrey, D.W. (1977). (general editor) *North Bull Island Dublin Bay - a modern coastal natural history*. Royal Dublin Society, Dublin. Jeffrey, D.W., Pitkin, P.H. & West, A.B. (1978). *Intertidal environment of northern Dublin Bay*. *Estuarine and Coastal Marine Science* 7: 163-171. Jeffrey, D.W., Madden, B., Rafferty, B., Dwyer, R., Wilson, J.W., & Allott, N. (1992). *Algal Growths and Foreshore Quality*. Technical Report No. 7. Dublin Bay Water Quality Management Plan. Environmental Research Unit, Dublin. Kennedy, P.G. (1953). *An Irish Sanctuary - Birds of the North Bull*. Three Candles Press, Dublin. Madden, B. (1984). *The nitrogen and phosphorus turnover of the Salicornia flat at North Bull Island, Dublin Bay*. Unpublished BA (Mod) thesis, Trinity College, Dublin. Madden, B., Jeffrey, D.W. & Jennings, E. (1993). *Distribution and ecology of Zostera in County Dublin*. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 24: 303-309. Merne, O.J.

(1989). Important bird areas in the Republic of Ireland. In: Grimmett, R.F.A. and Jones, T.A. (eds) Important Bird Areas in Europe. ICBP Technical Publication No. 9. Cambridge. Praeger, R.L. (1934). The Botanist in Ireland. Hodges, Figgis & Co, Dublin. Sheppard, R. (1993). Ireland's Wetland Wealth. IWC, Dublin. Wilson, J.G. (1982). The littoral fauna of Dublin Bay. Irish Fisheries Investigations Series B (Marine) No. 26. Wilson, J.G. (1982). Distribution, biomass and production of bivalves in Dublin Bay. Malacologia 22: 377-384. Whilde, A. (1985). The All Ireland Tern Survey 1984. Unpublished report for the Irish Wildbird Conservancy, Dublin.

## 5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

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### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
IE02	8.0	IE01	90.0	IE13	85.0
IE05	92.0				

### 5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
IE13	North Bull Island Special Amenity Area Order	*	85.0
IE01	North Bull Island Nature Reserve	+	90.0
IE02	North Bull Island Nature Reserve	+	8.0
IE05	North Bull Island Wildfowl Sanctuary	-	92.0

designated at international level:

Type	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
Other	North Bull Island Nature Reserve	+	98.0
	North Bull Island and Adjacent Foreshore Nature Reserve	+	98.0
	North Bull Island Nature Reserve	+	98.0
	Sandymount Strand/Tolka Estuary		

## 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.IE0000206

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).