



# 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 IE0000343  
SITENAME Castlemaine Harbour SAC

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## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

<b>1.1 Type</b> B	<b>1.2 Site code</b> IE0000343	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
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### 1.3 Site name

Castlemaine Harbour SAC

<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 1999-08	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 2018-09
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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

<b>Date site proposed as SCI:</b>	2002-01
<b>Date site confirmed as SCI:</b>	No data
<b>Date site designated as SAC:</b>	No data
<b>National legal reference of SAC designation:</b>	No data

## 2. SITE LOCATION

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

### Longitude

-9.868629218

### Latitude

52.11810024

## 2.2 Area [ha]:

8683.051008

## 2.3 Marine area [%]

72.203

## 2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

## 2.5 Administrative region code and name

### NUTS level 2 code

### Region Name

IEZZ	Extra-Regio
IE02	Southern and Eastern

## 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
1130B			5695.8622		M	A	B	B	A
1140B			4286.6879		M	A	A	B	A
1210B			1.9025		M	A	C	B	B
1220B			0.0499		M	B	C	B	B
1230B			25.3		G	A	C	B	B
1310B			1.2433		M	C	C	B	C
1320B			86.87		M	D			
1330B			49.12555		M	A	C	B	A





A		<a href="#">Bufo calamita</a>									X		
A		<a href="#">Bufo calamita</a>										X	
P		<a href="#">Crambe maritima</a>									X		
P		<a href="#">Lathyrus japonicus</a>									X		
A		<a href="#">Rana temporaria</a>										X	
A		<a href="#">Rana temporaria</a>									X		
P		<a href="#">Spiranthes romanzoffiana</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
N07	1.0
N10	5.0
N05	1.0
N16	1.0
N03	3.0
N14	1.0
N04	11.0
N02	75.0
N08	1.0
N06	1.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	<b>100</b>

### Other Site Characteristics

This is a large coastal site occupying the innermost part of Dingle Bay in Co. Kerry. The site comprises the estuaries of the Rivers Maine and Laune, both substantial rivers, and has very extensive areas of intertidal sand and mud flats. The site has a significant sand dune element in the form of Inch and Rosbehy sand spits. These spits, which overlie shingle bars, form the western boundary to the site and provide effective shelter for Castlemaine Harbour. The Inch sand spit, c.5 km in length, has a particularly well developed dune system which grades into salt marsh and *Spartina* swards on the sheltered east side. A further spit on shingle protrudes into the site at Cromane. Salt marsh fringes this spit and continues almost uninterrupted along the south shore to the mouth of the River Laune. All of the River Laune from the estuary to Lough Leane is

included in the site. Other habitats which have a minor presence include wet grassland, reedbeds, heath, scrub and wet woodland. Landuses include fishery and aquaculture activities, grazing, and recreational activities.

#### 4.2 Quality and importance

Site is of major ecological importance for its diversity and range of coastal habitats and species. The Inch sand spit is the largest and arguably one of the best remaining intact dune systems in the country. The dune systems are highly dynamic and possess very fine examples of embryonic dunes, shifting marram dunes, fixed dunes and dune slacks. Salt marshes, both of the Atlantic and Mediterranean types, are also particularly well developed and extensive in area. The site has one of the largest expanses of intertidal sand and mud flats in the country. A fine stand of native alluvial forests occurs on the River Laune. The fixed dunes have *Petalophyllum ralfsii* and three Red Data Book vascular plant species are known from the site. Castlemaine Harbour supports important populations of wintering waterfowl, with internationally important numbers of *Branta bernicla hrota* and nationally important populations of a further 16 species. *Pluvialis apricaria* and *Limosa lapponica*, both listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive, occur regularly. The site provides habitat for *Bufo calamita*, a very localised species in Ireland and listed in the Red Data Book. The site is also utilized by *Lutra lutra* and supports important populations of *Salmo salar*, *Petromyzon marinus* and *Lampetra fluviatilis*.

#### 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	G02.08		i
M	E01.03		o
M	A04		i
L	C01.01.02		i
H	G01.02		i
H	E01		o
H	J02.01.03		i
M	I01		i
H	F01		i
M	A04		o
M	F02.03		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	E01.03		o
M	F02.03		i
M	I01		i
M	A04		o

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

Bracken, J.J. (1998). The Killarney Valley. In: Studies of Irish Rivers and Lakes. Essays on the occasion of the XXVII of Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL)., Moriarty, C. (ed.). Dublin, Marine Institute pp. 145-167. Central Fisheries Board (2001). Irish Salmon Catches 2000. <http://www.cfb.ie/>:February 2001. Colhoun, K. (1998). I-WeBS Report 1996-97. BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin. 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. 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. Doris, Y., Clabby, K.J., Lucey, J. and Lehane, M. (2002). Water Quality in Ireland 1998-2000. Statistical Compendium of River Quality Data. Electronic Publication on Disk. Environmental Protection Agency, Wexford. Doris, B., McGarrigle, M.L., Clabby, K.J., Lucey, J., Neill, M., Flanagan, M., Quinn, M.B. & Lehane, M., (eds.). (1999). Water Quality in Ireland 1995-1997. Statistical compendium of River Quality Data, Environmental Protection Agency. Falvey, J.P., Costello, M.J. and Dempsey, S. (1997). Survey of Intertidal Biotopes in Estuaries in Ireland. Unpublished report to the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Goodwillie, R. (1976). A Preliminary

Report on areas of Scientific Interest in County Kerry, An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. Gresson, R.A.R. and O Dubhda, S. (1974). The distribution of the Natterjack Toad Bufo calamita Laur in County Kerry. Irish Naturalists? Journal 18: 97-103. Hutchinson, C. (1979). Ireland's Wetlands and their Birds, Irish Wildbird Conservancy, Dublin. Irish Fisheries. (2001). Irish Fisheries angling reports. <http://www.irishfisheries.com/>: 18th January 2001. Kelly, D.L. and Iremonger, S.F. (1997). Irish wetland woods: the plant communities and their ecology. Biology and Environment - Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, Section B. 1-32. Kurz, I. and Costello, M.J. (1999). An outline of the biology, distribution and conservation of lampreys in Ireland. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 5. 27pp. Dublin. Dúchas - The Heritage Service. Lucey, J., Bowman, J.J., Clabby, K.J., Cunningham, P., Lehane, M., MacCarthaigh, M., McGarrigle, M.L. & Toner, P.F. (1999). Water Quality in Ireland 1995-1997. Environmental Protection Agency, Wexford. Maitland, P.S. (1980). Review of the ecology of lampreys in northern Europe. Canadian Journal of Aquatic Sciences 37: 1944-1952. 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. McGarrigle, M.L., Bowman, J.J., Clabby, K.J., Lucey, J., Cunningham, P., MacCarthaigh, M., Keegan, M., Cantrell, B., Lehane, M., Clenaghan, C. and Toner, P.F. (2002). Water Quality in Ireland 1998-2000. Environmental Protection Agency, Wexford. Praeger, R.L (1934). The Botanist in Ireland. Hodges Figgis, Dublin. O'Connor, P.G. and Jeal, F. (1984). Some notes on the distribution of Bufo calamita Laur., the natterjack toad, in Ireland deriving from a survey conducted in 1975. Bulletin of the Irish Biogeographical Society: 8 30-41. Sheppard, R. (1993). Ireland's Wetland Wealth. IWC, Dublin. Went, A.E.J. (1947). Irish Salmon 1945. Scientific Proceedings of the Royal Dublin Society 24(19): 165-178. Wymer, E.D. (1984). The phytosociology of Irish saltmarsh vegetation. M.Sc. Thesis. National University of Ireland.

## 5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

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

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
IE01	12.0	IE05	23.0		

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

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
IE01	Castlemaine Harbour Nature Reserve	+	12.0
IE05	Inch/Castlemaine Harbour Wildfowl Sanctuary	*	14.0
IE05	Rosshy/Caragh Creek Wildfowl Sanctuary	*	9.0

designated at international level:

Type	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
Other	Castlemaine Harbour Nature Reserve	+	12.0

## 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.IE0000343

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).