



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 IE0000455
SITENAME Dundalk Bay SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0000455	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Dundalk Bay SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 2000-09	1.5 Update date 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

Date site proposed as SCI:	2002-01
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2019-11
National legal reference of SAC designation:	609/2019

2. SITE LOCATION

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2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

Longitude

-6.338446145

Latitude

53.95856651

2.2 Area [ha]:

5195.566239

2.3 Marine area [%]

92.788

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
1130			2798.9715		M	B	B	B	B
1140			4374.8559		M	A	A	B	A
1220			52.36		M	A	C	B	A
1310			35.0037		M	B	C	B	B
1330			379.9836		M	A	C	B	A
1410			0.0447		M	C	C	B	C

- **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.	Gl
B	A054	Anas acuta			w	100	100	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A052	Anas crecca			w	359	359	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A050	Anas penelope			w	565	565	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			w	657	657	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A043	Anser anser			w	312	312	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A169	Arenaria interpres			w	51	51	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A046	Branta bernicla			w	366	366	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A149	Calidris alpina			w	9112	9112	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A143	Calidris canutus			w	11948	11948	i		G	A	A	C	A
B	A137	Charadrius hiaticula			w	133	133	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A130	Haematopus ostralegus			w	6940	6940	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A157	Limosa lapponica			w	2313	2313	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A156	Limosa limosa			w	754	754	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A070	Mergus merganser			w	148	148	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A160	Numenius arquata			w	1593	1593	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			w	91	91	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A140	Pluvialis apricaria			w	4266	4266	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A141	Pluvialis squatarola			w	218	218	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A005	Podiceps cristatus			w	193	193	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A048	Tadorna tadorna			w	463	463	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A164	Tringa nebularia			w	20	20	i		G	B	A	C	B

B	A162	Tringa totanus			w	1455	1455	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			w	4822	4822	i		G	B	A	C	B

- **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		Ardea cinerea			38	38	i						X	
P		Crambe maritima						P			X			
B		Cygnes olor			48	48	i						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	1.0
N09	1.0
N05	1.0
N10	1.0

N15	1.0
N03	2.0
N14	1.0
N07	1.0
N02	91.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The site is a large bay-like estuarine complex, extending c.15 km from north to south and on average between 2-3 km in width. It contains the estuaries of a number of moderately sized rivers, principally the Castletown, the Flurry, the Fane and the Glyde/Dee. These rivers drain fairly intensive agricultural catchments, and the Castletown flows through Dundalk town and serves the port. The site has a marked tidal range. The estuaries of the Castletown and Flurry rivers are well sheltered and have extensive salt marshes. Post-glacial raised beaches are a feature of the shoreline. Some agricultural fields which adjoin the bay are included in the site for ornithological interests.

4.2 Quality and importance

Estuaries and particularly intertidal sand and mud flats are well represented at this site. The site contains the largest expanse of intertidal flats on the east coast. The bay is fringed in places by salt marshes, with good examples of Salicornia sand flats, Atlantic salt meadows and, to a lesser extent, Mediterranean salt meadows. The quality of estuarine habitats is generally good. The site has excellent examples of perennial vegetation of stony banks with the Red Data Book plant *Crambe maritima*. The site is of high importance for wintering waterfowl, with internationally important populations of *Branta bernicla hrota*, *Calidris canutus* and *Limosa lapponica*. It also supports nationally important populations of a further 16 species including *Pluvialis apricaria*. The overall site is also of international importance as it regularly has in excess of 20,000 wintering waterfowl.

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	H05.01		b
M	H01.06		i
M	J02.04		b
L	H04.02		b
M	J02.01.03		b
M	J02.12.01		b
L	H05		b
M	K01.01		b
H	I01		b
M	K02		i
M	G05.02		b
M	G01		b
L	G01.01.01		b
M	J02.01.02		b
L	G02		b
M	K04.01		i
H	H01		b
H	E03.03		i
H	F02.03.01		b
M	J03.01		b
H	E03.01		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	M02.04		b
L	G02.09		i

M	F05		b
M	J03.02		b
M	J02.04.01		b
M	H02.06		b

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

Bowman, J.J., Clabby, K.J., Lucey, J., Mc Garrigle, M.L. and Toner, P.H. (1996). Water Quality in Ireland 1991-1994. Environmental Protection Agency, Wexford. 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. Fahy, E. (1972). A preliminary report on areas of scientific interest in County Louth. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. Hunt, J., Derwin, J., Coveney, J. & Newton, S. (2000). Republic of Ireland. Pp. 365-416 in M.F. Heath & M.I. Evans, eds. *Important Bird Areas in Europe: Priority sites for conservation 1: Northern Europe*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International (BirdLife Conservation Series No. 8). 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. Moore, D. & Wilson, F. (1999). National Shingle Beach Survey of Ireland 1999. Unpublished report to National Parks & Wildlife Service, Dublin. Praeger, R.L. (1934). *The Botanist in Ireland*. Hodges, Figgis & Co, Dublin. Sheppard, R. (1993). Ireland's Wetland Wealth. IWC, Dublin. White, J. (1981). Notes on Irish vegetation: No. 1 The vegetation of shingle in Co. Louth. *Bulletin of the Irish Biogeographical Society* 5: 1-4.

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

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5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
IE05	19.0				

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
IE05	Lurgan Green Wildfowl Sanctuary	*	17.0
IE05	Ballymascanlan Estuary Wildfowl Sanctuary	+	2.0

designated at international level:

Type	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
Other	Dundalk Bay	*	90.0

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

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6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

No, but in preparation

No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0000455

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).