



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 IE0000474
SITENAME Ballymaglancy Cave, Cong SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0000474	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Ballymaglancy Cave, Cong SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1996-07	1.5 Update date 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

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:	2016-05
National legal reference of SAC designation:	242/2016

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude -9.337991828 Latitude 53.53772939

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
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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
8310B			9.77		M	A	C	B	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.
M	1303	Rhinolophus hipposideros	Yes		w	50	50	i		G	C	B	B	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)

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

4.1 General site character

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Habitat class	% Cover
N22	100.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

This is a linear stream cave situated outside Cong in County Mayo. It is unrelated to the main Lough Mask, Lough Corrib hydrological system, arising independently from a small stream flowing off Silurian Sandstone and conglomerates. The cave entrance is approximately 2m high and 3m wide but inside the cave widens and the first 50 m offers several possible routes that eventually converge. Near the entrance there is a good example of Carboniferous colonial coral in the floor next to a roof collapse covered in gour pools. The stream then descends in steps and the passageway is well decorated. There are excellent curtains and other forms.

4.2 Quality and importance

This is an excellent and fairly extensive (>500 m) example of a natural limestone cave with associated water areas and flows. The cave is a hibernating site for *Rhinolophus hipposideros*. With approximately 50 bats, the site is rated as of international importance. It is possible that bat numbers would increase at this site if disturbance could be reduced.

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	G01.04.02		i
M	G01.04.02		i
H	G01		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

4.4 Ownership (optional)

4.5 Documentation

McAney, C.M. (1994). West of Ireland Winter Hibernation Survey 1994. Unpublished report of the Vincent Wildlife Trust, London. O'Sullivan, P. (1994). Bats in Ireland. The Irish Naturalists' Journal. Special Zoological Supplement - 21pp. Parkes, M. (1989). A Summary Guide to the Caves of the Cong and Outlying Caves in North Co. Galway and Co. Mayo, with Complete Bibliography. Irish Speleology. No 13. 2-6

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

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0000474

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).