



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 IE0000700
SITENAME Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0000700	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 2003-06	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:	2003-06
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2018-10
National legal reference of SAC designation:	421/2018

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude
-6.21381475

Latitude
52.54312344

2.2 Area [ha]:
276.3596755

2.3 Marine area [%]
2.737

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

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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
1210			2.65		M	B	C	B	B
2110			5.3		M	B	C	B	B
2120			47.68		M	B	C	B	B
2130			34.43		M	B	C	B	B
2190			2.28		G	B	C	C	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)

					Min	Max		C R V P	IV	V	A	B	C	D
P		Asparagus officinalis ssp. prostratus									X			
P		Ceratophyllum submersum												X
B		Cygnus olor			21	21	i						X	
P		Equisetum x moorei										X		
P		Equisetum x moorei									X			
I		Pyronia tithonus												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

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4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N14	60.0
N02	2.0
N04	35.0
N08	2.0
N06	1.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The site is located just south of Cahore Point on the north Wexford coast. The area is underlain by rocks of Cambrian age. The site comprises a sand dune system that extends along the coast for over 4 km and which reaches up to 18 m in height. The dunes are backed by extensive areas of polder grassland interspersed by canals and drainage channels. The drainage canals and sluices were installed in the mid 19th century to reclaim wetlands and land that flooded regularly behind the dunes. Seawater may occasionally enter the channels and create brackish conditions. Polder grasslands are included in the site and are valuable for wintering waterfowl.

4.2 Quality and importance

The site has a well-developed dune system typical of the east coast. The dunes display a good zonation, with fixed dunes grading eastwards to marram dominated dunes, embryo dunes and, at the top of the beach, annual driftline vegetation. The northern part of system is subject to erosion from the sea, while active growth is seen in the southern parts. The dunes support two Red Data book plant species, *Asparagus officinalis* subsp. *prostratus*, and the hybrid *Equisetum x moorei* which is confined to the coastline of Wexford and

Wicklow. Drainage ditches in the polders support *Ceratophyllum submersum*, a rare and only relatively recently recorded species in Ireland. The site is of high ornithological importance, having nationally important wintering populations of *Anser albifrons flavirostris*, *Pluvialis apricaria*, *Anas penelope*, *Anas clypeata* and *Vanellus vanellus*. It also supports other species in smaller numbers, including *Cygnus cygnus* and *Cygnus columbarius bewickii*. *Sterna albifrons* formerly bred on the beach. *Pyronia tithonus* occurs near the northern extreme of its Irish range.

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	G01.02		i
M	A08		b
L	A06.03		o
M	A11		i
H	A04.01.05		i
H	G01.03.02		i
M	A03.03		b
H	A05.02		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	A04		b
L	J02.10		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

Colhoun, K. (2001). I-WeBS Report 1998-99. BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin. Fox, A.D., Norriss, D.W., Stroud, D.A. & Wilson, H.J. (1994). Greenland White-fronted Geese in Ireland and Britain 1982/83 - 1993/94. Greenland White-fronted Goose Study research report no. 8. Greenland White-fronted Goose Study, Wales and National Parks & Wildlife Service, Dublin. Hart, H.C. (1881). A botanical ramble along the Slaney and up the East coast of Wexford. *Journal of Botany (London)* 19: 336-344. Hart, H.C. (1883). Report on the flora of the Wexford and Waterford coasts. *Scientific Proceedings of the Royal Dublin Society*. Vol. IV. Pt III. 117-146. Healy, B. (2002). The Cahore Drainage System. Report prepared for the Wexford Wetlands Project. Unpublished. Hunt, J., Derwin, J., Coveney, J. and 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). Praeger, R.L. (1934). *The Botanist in Ireland*. Hodges, Figgis & Co, Dublin. Sheppard, R. (1993). *Ireland's Wetland Wealth*. IWC, Dublin.

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.IE0000700

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).