



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 IE0000729
SITENAME Buckroney-Brittass Dunes and Fen SAC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [1. SITE IDENTIFICATION](#)
- [2. SITE LOCATION](#)
- [3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION](#)
- [4. SITE DESCRIPTION](#)
- [6. SITE MANAGEMENT](#)
- [7. MAP OF THE SITE](#)

1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0000729	Back to top
----------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------

1.3 Site name

Buckroney-Brittass Dunes and Fen SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1999-07	1.5 Update date 2015-12
--	-----------------------------------

1.6 Respondent:

Name/Organisation: National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Address: 7 Ely Place, Dublin 2, Ireland
Email: datadelivery@ahg.gov.ie

Date site proposed as SCI:	1999-07
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	No data
National legal reference of SAC designation:	No data

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

[Back to top](#)

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	A052	Anas crecca			w	119	119	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			w	25	25	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A153	Gallinago gallinago			w	87	87	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A160	Numenius arquata			w	46	46	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A195	Sterna albifrons			r		5	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			w	515	515	i		G	C	B	C	C

- ### 3.3 Other important species of flora and fauna (optional)

[illegible]

P		Asparagus officinalis ssp. prostratus									X			
P		Epipactis phyllanthes									X			
I		Eurynebria complanata												X
P		Galium uliginosum												X
P		Juncus acutus												X
I		Lejogaster splendia												X
M		Lepus timidus hibernicus										X		
M		Lepus timidus hibernicus											X	
M		Lepus timidus hibernicus									X			
I		Machimus cowini												X
P		Ornithopus perpusillus									X			
I		Parhelophilus consimilis												X
I		Sadula opacula												X
P		Saxifraga granulata									X			
P		Thelypteris palustris												X
P		Vicia lathyroides									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

[Back to top](#)

4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N09	1.0

N10	2.0
N03	1.0
N06	1.0
N05	3.0
N07	18.0
N04	65.0
N08	3.0
N14	6.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

An extensive sand dune and fen system that covers an 8 km stretch of the coastline of Co. Wicklow. The site contains three sand dune systems - Brittas Bay, Buckronev and Pennycomequick. Sediment source is mainly siliceous (low shell fragment content), with maximum carbonate levels of 3.5%. The dunes have cut off the outflow of a small river at Mizen Head and a large fen has developed. Its proximity to Dublin City makes Brittas Bay a very popular recreational area. Parts of the dune systems have already been developed as caravan parks and golf course. Part of the Buckronev dune system has been acquired by National Parks and Wildlife for conservation use.

4.2 Quality and importance

The site contains a range of well-developed dune types, which are typical of those found in eastern Ireland. The dune systems are fairly extensive in area and generally of good quality. Of particular note are the fixed dunes, the decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetia), the humid dune slacks, the dunes with *Salix repens* and the shifting Marram dunes. Buckronev fen is a fine example of a diverse wetland system, including alkaline fen, and is one of the most important examples in eastern Ireland. The site is particularly notable for its eastern flora and fauna. In addition to five Red Data Book plant species, there are a number of nationally scarce species including an abundance of *Thelypteris palustris* and *Galium uliginosum*. The invertebrate fauna is of high interest, with some rare species including *Machimus cowini*. *Sterna albifrons* has bred at the site in the past.

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	I01		i
M	H02.07		b
M	G02.08		o
L	A04.01.01		i
M	G01.02		b
M	K01.01		i
M	A05.02		i
H	J02		b
M	G02.01		b
L	D04.01		o
L	F03.01		i
H	J01		b
L	E01.02		b
M	G05.04		b
M	G01.02		b
H	G05.01		b
M	A08		b

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
H	A04.02		i
H	A10.01		b
H	A03.02		b

H	K02.01		b
L	E03.01		b
H	A04.02		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

Brunker, J.P. (1950). Flora of County Wicklow. Dundalgan Press, Dundalk. Cross, J.R. (ed.) (1981). Ecological/Hydrological Report on Buckronev Marsh, Co. Wicklow. Unpublished Report to Forest & Wildlife Service, Dublin. Curtis, T.G.F. (1976). A Preliminary Report on Areas of Scientific Interest in County Wicklow. Unpublished report prepared for Wicklow County Council. An Foras Forbartha, 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. Hannon, C., Berrow, S.D. and Newton S.F. (1997). The status and distribution of breeding Sandwich Sterna sandvicensis, Roseate S. dougallii, Common S. hirundo, Arctic S. paradisaea and Little Terns S. albifrons in Ireland in 1995. Irish Birds 6: 1-22. Mawhinney, K.A. (1970). Brittas Bay: A Planning and Conservation Study. An Foras Forbartha Dublin. Mawhinney, K.A. (1971). Brittas Bay Study, Part 2: Conservation and Recreational Use of the Beach and Dunes. An Foras Forbartha Dublin. Praeger, R.L (1934). The Botanist in Ireland. Hodges and Figgis, Dublin.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

[Back to top](#)

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No, but in preparation
- ☒ No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

[Back to top](#)

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0000729

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).