



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 IE0000764
SITENAME Hook Head SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0000764	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Hook Head SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1999-12	1.5 Update date 2015-12
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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:	2002-01
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]:

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Longitude
-6.874478921

Latitude
52.10294384

2.2 Area [ha]:
16940.17

2.3 Marine area [%]
99.78

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

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	Glob
1160			5243.8404		M	B	C	B	B
1170			10534.0896		M	A	C	A	A
1230			169.4		M	B	C	B	B

- **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
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G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D.qual.	A B C D	A B C		
						Pop.	Con.				Iso.	Glo.		
						Min	Max							
B	A103	Falco peregrinus			p	1	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A346	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax			p	7	7	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A199	Uria aalge			r	90	90	i		G	C	C	C	C

- **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
I		Aglaophenia kirchenpaueri						C							X
I		Alcyonium glomeratum						C							X
I		Amphiura securigera						R							X
I		Axinella dissimilis						C							X
I		Crimora papillata						C							X
I		Distomus variolosus						R							X
I		Eunicella verrucosa						C							X
I		Gymnangium montagui						C							X
I		Isozoanthus sulcatus						C							X
B		Phalacrocorax aristotelis			1	5								X	
P		Schizymenia dubyi						R							X

I		Stolonica socialis						R							X
I		Stryphnus ponderosus						R							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
N08	1.0
N09	1.0
N04	1.0
N01	96.0
N05	1.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The Hook peninsula is a long, narrow, low-lying headland which protrudes into the sea in a south-south-west direction on the eastern side of Waterford Harbour. The site includes Baginbun Head. There are c.15 km of coastline, most of which has cliffs above a bedrock or boulder beach shoreline. The cliffs are mostly low, usually not more than 10-20 m, though they reach up to 30 m at Baginbun. The geology of the area is of high interest, being an excellent example of the junction between Devonian Old Red Sandstone and overlying Carboniferous Limestone. Fossils are a feature of the limestone rock formations. A large area of the surrounding sea is included in the site. Under the surface of the water, the reef has a north-east/south-west orientation and is typically strewn with boulders, cobbles and patches of sand and gravel. It is exposed to prevailing wind and swells from the west. Tidal streams tend to be moderate but are strong in some areas.

4.2 Quality and importance

The site has an important example of low-lying south-eastern cliffs of both clay and rock. Quality good. It is of high geological importance and a noted fossil site. It is of particular importance for marine habitats. Infralittoral bedrock communities are species rich (81 and 84 species in the upper infralittoral and 81 and 82 species in the lower infralittoral). Rare to scarce species include the sponge *Stryphnus ponderosus*; the hydroids *Aglaophenia kirchenpaueri* and *Gymnangium montagui*; the anemone *Isozoanthus sulcatus*; the nudibranch *Crimora papillata*; the ascidians *Distomus variolosus* and *Stolonica socialis*; and the red alga, *Schizymenia dubyi*. Of particular interest is *Schizymenia dubyi*, since Irish populations of this species appear to be concentrated in the south-east of the country. Circalittoral reef communities have good examples of Axinellid sponge communities. Notable species present are: *Axinella dissimilis*, *Aglaophenia kirchenpaueri*, *Gymnangium montagui*, *Alcyonium glomeratum*, *Eunicella verrucosa* and *Crimora papillata*. Sublittoral sediments populated by the burrowing sea cucumber *Neopendactyla mixta* are noteworthy because this type of community was only recorded seven times by the BioMar survey and the *Amphiura securigera* was only recorded at the Kenmare River in Co. Kerry and at Hook Head and the Saltee Islands in Co. Wexford. Has breeding *Falco peregrinus* and *Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax*, and a small seabird colony (mostly *Uria aalge*).

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	G01.07		i
H	F02		i
H	J02.11.01		i
H	K01.01		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	X		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

Bell, A. (1919). Fossil shells from Wexford and Manxland. *Irish Naturalist*, 28: 109-114. Berrow, S.D., Mackie, K.L., O'Sullivan, O., Shepperd, K.B., Mellon, C, and Coveney, J.A. (1993). The second International Chough Survey in Ireland, 1992. *Irish Birds* 5: 1-10. Fahy, E. (1981). The Wexford commercial sea bass *Dicentrarchus labras* (L.) fishery. *Fisheries Bulletin*, 3: 1-10. Gardiner, P.R.R., and Brenchley, P.J. (1970). The Pre-Cambrian and lower Palaeozoic geology of Co. Wexford *Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 16: 371-379. Gibson, F.A. (1953). Movements of salmon around Ireland. II. From Baginbun, Co. Wexford (1949 to 1951). *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, 55B: 195-208 Goodwillie, R. (1979). A preliminary report on areas of scientific interest in County Wexford. *An Foras Forbartha*, Dublin. Guiry, M.D., Cullinane, J.P. and Whelan, P.M. (1979). Notes on Irish marine algae - 3. New records of Rhodophyta from the Wexford coast. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 19: 304-307. Hallisey, T. (1912). On the superficial deposits of the Co. of Wexford. *The Irish Naturalist*, 21: 175-179. Hart, H.C. (1883). Report on the Flora of the Wexford and Waterford coasts. *Scientific Proceedings of the Royal Dublin Society* 4: 117-146. Healy, B. (1979). Marine fauna of Co Wexford 1 - Littoral and brackish water Oligochaeta. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 19: 418-422. Healy, B. and McGrath, D. (1982). Marine fauna of Co Wexford, - 4. Littoral and brackish water fish. *Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 20: 429-435. Healy, B. and McGrath, D. (1988). Marine fauna of Co Wexford - 10. The Crustacea Decapoda of intertidal and brackish water habitats. *Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 22: 470-473. Hurley, J. (1994). The south Wexford coast Ireland - A natural heritage coastline. Grange, Kilmore, Co. Wexford, SWC Promotions. Keegan, B.F., McGrath, D., O Foighil, D., O'Connor, B. and Konnecker, G. (1988). Marine fauna of Co Wexford 8 - Bivalve molluscs from the 'Lough Beltra' dredging programme. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 22: 378-385. Lloyd, C. (1982). Inventory of Seabird Breeding Colonies in Republic of Ireland, Unpublished report, Forestry and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Lovatt, J.K. (1983). Birds of Hook Head, Co. Wexford. *Irish Wildbird Conservancy*, Dublin. McGrath, D. (1984). Marine fauna of Co Wexford - 6. The Mysidacea of inshore marine and brackish water habitats. *Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 21: 251-255. Norton, M. and Healy, B. (1984). Marine fauna of Co Wexford - 7. Observations on the ecology and reproductive biology of *sphaeroma hookeri* Leach (Isopoda). *Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 21: 257-262. Norton, T.A. (1970). A survey of the seaweeds of Co Wexford. *Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 16: 390-391. Norton, T.A. (1970). The marine algae of Co Wexford, Ireland. *British Phycological Journal*, 5: 257-266. O Ceidigh, P. and McGrath, D. (1981). Marine fauna of Co. Wexford: 3 - The first record of the adult of *Caridion steveni* Lebour (Crustacea: Decapoda) from the Irish coast. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 20: 208. O'Connor, B. (1980). Marine fauna of Co Wexford 2 - littoral and brackish water Polychaeta. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 20: 85-93. O'Connor, B.D.S. (1988). Marine fauna of Co Wexford (- littoral and benthic Echinodermata and Sipunculida. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 22: 385-388. Orford, J.D. and Carter, R.W.G. (1982). Geomorphological changes on the barrier coast of south Wexford. *Irish Geography*, 15: 70-84. Parkes, H.M. and Scannell, M.J.P. (1969). A list of marine algae from the Wexford coast. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 16: 158-162. Picton, B.E. (1985). Anthozoans (Coelenterata: Anthozoa) new to Ireland and new records of some rarely recorded species. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 21: 484-488. Picton, B.E. and Costello, M.J. (eds.) (1997). *BioMar Biotope Viewer: a Guide to Marine Habitats, Fauna and Flora of Britain and Ireland* (Ver. 2.0) Environmental Sciences Unit, Trinity College, Dublin. (Compact Disc). Praeger, R.L. (1934). *The Botanist in Ireland*. Hodges Figgis and Co, Dublin.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

- Yes
 No, but in preparation
 No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0000764

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).