



# 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 IE0000770  
SITENAME Blackstairs Mountains SAC

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## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

<b>1.1 Type</b> B	<b>1.2 Site code</b> IE0000770	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
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### 1.3 Site name

Blackstairs Mountains SAC

<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 1995-08	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 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

<b>Date site proposed as SCI:</b>	1998-05
<b>Date site confirmed as SCI:</b>	No data
<b>Date site designated as SAC:</b>	2019-03
<b>National legal reference of SAC designation:</b>	90/2019

## 2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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					<b>Min</b>	<b>Max</b>					<b>Pop.</b>	<b>Con.</b>	<b>Iso.</b>	<b>Glo.</b>
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- **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
P		<a href="#">Ornithopus perpusillus</a>			1	10	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

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### 4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N06	1.0
N07	5.0
N23	1.0
N08	82.0
N22	8.0
N09	2.0
N16	1.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	<b>100</b>

## Other Site Characteristics

The Blackstairs Mountains are situated at the southern end of the Leinster Mountain Chain. They are composed primarily of granite, but also include, especially on their eastern side, some overlying Ordovician slates and sandstones. The range forms a roughly north-south orientated ridge some 22km long which includes six peaks over 520m. The dominant vegetation of the site is dry heath; this occurs throughout the site, but predominantly on the higher sections of the range. Bare rock and scree is found in the highest and steepest sections of the site. Molinia-dominated wet heath/bog vegetation is found in very small amounts at lower levels and by streams. The valley of the Urrin River on the north-east side of the site supports some deciduous woodland and incipient bog. Much of the site is flanked by coniferous forest; this is not confined to the lowlands, being found at over 640m north of Mount Leinster.

## 4.2 Quality and importance

The importance of the site lies primarily in the extensive areas of high quality dry heath that occur. Limited peat accumulation on the site has allowed the development of this habitat. Wet heath also occurs in the areas where deeper peat has developed. Those areas that have not been afforested are largely undisturbed and relatively intact. The site is home to several scarce plant species, including the Red Data Book species *Ornithopus perpusillus*.

## 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	B02		o
M	A04.01.02		i
L	K01.01		i
H	J01.01		i
L	G01.02		i
L	E03		i
L	K02.01		i
M	G01.03.02		i

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

Fahy, E. (1975). A Preliminary Report on Areas of Scientific Interest in County Carlow. Unpublished report to Carlow County Council. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. Goodwillie, R.N. (1979). A Preliminary Report on Areas of Scientific Interest in County Wexford. Unpublished report to Wexford County Council. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. FitzGerald, R. (1990-94). National Parks and Wildlife Service Protected and Threatened Flora Survey. Unpublished report to National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Booth, E.M. (1979). Flora of County Carlow. Royal Dublin Society, Dublin.

## 6. SITE MANAGEMENT

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### 6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

- Yes
- No, but in preparation
- No

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## 7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0000770

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).