



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 IE0001141
SITENAME Gweedore Bay and Islands SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type	1.2 Site code	Back to top
B	IE0001141	

1.3 Site name

Gweedore Bay and Islands SAC

1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
2001-11	2020-10

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:	2001-11
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 -8.356699695 Latitude 55.0663347

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

IEZZ	Extra-Regio
IE01	Border, Midland and Western

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
1150B			10.0247		M	C	C	B	C
1170B			369.2587		M	B	C	A	C
1220B			0.0219		M	A	C	B	A
1330B			9.23		G	A	C	A	B
1410B			9.7518		M	B	C	B	B
2110B			3.9615		M	A	C	B	A
2120B			14.7895		M	B	B	B	B
2130B			402.4541		M	A	B	B	A
2140B			0.465		M	B	C	B	B
2150B			3.5699		M	B	C	B	B
2170B			0.9737		M	B	C	C	B
2190B			7.6775		M	B	C	C	B
21A0B	X		169.7882		M	B	B	C	B
3110B			0.2823973843		M	D			
3130B			84.45931753		M	B	C	B	B
4030B			481.29		M	A	B	B	A
4060B			60.16		M	C	C	B	C
5130B			60.16		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

This is an ecologically diverse site generally of good quality. Excellent diversity of dunes, with the fixed dunes of particular note for their extent/area. Decalcified fixed dunes are also well represented, including the type with *Empetrum nigrum*. Embryonic dunes are very well developed, as well as shifting Marram dunes and dune slacks. Machair occurs at several locations, though the quality is often reduced by over-grazing and other activities. Two significant examples of saline lake lagoons, a type of lagoon that is relatively common on the Atlantic coast of Ireland, occur within the site. Many plant and invertebrate lagoonal specialists are found. Some very fine examples of perennial vegetation of stony banks are found within this large site. Dry heath is a well represented habitat and occurs in association with *Juniperus communis* formations and alpine heath, the latter including the locally rare *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*. Two plants listed on Annex II, *Petalophyllum ralfsii* and *Najas flexilis*, occur within the site as well as three Red Data Book species. The site supports an important population of *Branta leucopsis* (exceeds international threshold at times) and has the largest winter population of *Clangula hyemalis* in the country. *Sterna hirundo* and *Sterna paradisaea* breed in low numbers and *Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax* is resident. Several wader species breed, with notable populations of *Haematopus ostralegus*, *Vanellus vanellus* and *Calidris alpina*. The site supports an important population of *Lutra lutra*.

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]
L	G01.02		i
M	G02.08		i
L	A05.02		o
H	A04		o
L	C01.01		i
M	E01.03		o
L	A08		o
L	C01.01.02		i
L	D04.01		o
L	A05.02		i
M	G02.01		o
H	A04		i
L	E03.04		i
L	F01		i
L	K01.01		o
M	D01.01		o
L	K01.01		i
L	G02.07		o
M	D01.01		i
L	C01.03		o
L	F06		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

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

4.4 Ownership (optional)

4.5 Documentation

Bassett, J.A. and Curtis T.G.F. (1985). The nature and occurrence of sand-dune machair in Ireland. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* 85B: 1-20. 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. Colhoun, K. (2000). I-WeBS Report 1998-99. BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin. Conaghan, J. (1998). A Survey of Rare Plant Species in County Donegal. Unpublished report to the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Crawford, I., Bleasdale, A. and Conaghan, J. (1996). Biomar survey of Irish Machair Sites 1996. A report submitted to the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Curtis, T.G.F. (1991). 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. and Sheehy Skeffington, M.J. (1998). The salt marshes of Ireland: an inventory and account of their geographical variation. *Biology and the Environment, Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* 98B: 87-104. Fay, P. (1996). The Rare and Protected Flora of Coastal Areas in Counties Galway, Mayo, Sligo and Donegal. Unpublished report to the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Good, J.A. (1999). Irish Coastal Lagoon Survey, 1998. Vol V. Dúchas, the Heritage Service, 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. Hart, H.C. (1898). *Flora of County Donegal*. Dublin. Healy, B. (1999). A Survey of Irish Coastal Lagoons. Vol. I Background, Description and Summary. Heuff, H. (1984). *The Vegetation of Irish Lakes*. Unpublished report to the

Wildlife Service, Dublin. Holyoak, D.T. (1999). Report on Surveys of *Petalophyllum ralfsii* in Co. Sligo and Co. Donegal, Western Ireland, 31 July - 7 August 1999. Unpublished report to Dúchas The Heritage Service, National Parks and Wildlife, Dublin. Lloyd, C. (1982). Inventory of seabird breeding colonies in Republic of Ireland. Unpublished report, Forestry and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Lockhart, N.D. (1998). Report on Survey of *Petalophyllum ralfsii* at Keadew, Co. Donegal. Unpublished report to Dúchas the Heritage Service, National Parks and Wildlife, Dublin. Madden, B., Cooney, T., O'Donoghue, A., Norriss, D.W. and Merne, O.J. (1998). Breeding waders of machair systems in Ireland in 1996. *Irish Birds* 6: 177-190. McConnell, B.J. and Long, C.B. (1997). Geology of North Donegal. A Geological Description to Accompany the Bedrock Geology 1: 10,000 scale map series, sheet 1 and part of sheet 2, North Donegal. Geological Survey of Ireland, Dublin. Merne, O.J. and Walsh, A. (1994). Barnacle Geese in Ireland, spring 1993 and 1994. *Irish Birds* 5: 151-156. Moore, D. and Wilson, F. (1999). National Shingle Beach Survey of Ireland 1999. Unpublished report to National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Oliver, G.A. (1999). Irish Coastal Lagoon Survey. 1998. Vol. IV. Aquatic Fauna. Dúchas, the Heritage Service, Dublin. 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 and Figgis, Dublin. Roden, C. (1999). Irish Coastal Lagoon Survey, 1998. Vol III. Flora. Dúchas, the Heritage Service, Dublin. Sheppard, R. (1993). Ireland's Wetland Wealth. IWC, Dublin. Walsh, A. and Merne, O.J. (1988). Barnacle Geese in Ireland, spring 1988. *Irish Birds* 3: 539-550. Whilde, A. (1985). The All Ireland Tern Survey 1984. Unpublished report for the Irish Wildbird Conservancy, Dublin. Young, R. (1973). Report on Areas of Ecological and Geological Interest in County Donegal. An Foras Forbartha, Dublin.

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:

- Yes
 No, but in preparation
 No

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0001141

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).