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	**IE0001776**
SITENAME	**Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC**

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

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1.1 Type	1.2 Site code
B	IE0001776

1.3 Site name

Pilgrim's Road Esker SAC

1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
1995-08	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:	1997-11
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

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2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

Longitude	Latitude
-7.943077846	53.33325161

2.2 Area [ha]:

2.3 Marine area [%]

69.73431746	0.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code	Region Name
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
6210	X		20.93		M	A	C	B	A

- **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				
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.

- **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		Orchis morio			1750		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
N08	9.0
N14	24.0
N09	63.0
N06	1.0
N16	1.0
N23	1.0
N22	1.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The site comprises an impressive, steep-sided esker ridge which is composed of glacial sands and gravels and situated on the north side of Mongan raised bog and to the east of the River Shannon. Species-rich calcareous grassland is the dominant vegetation of the site; areas of Corylus avellana/Fraxinus excelsior woodland, scrub, improved grassland and gravel pit are also included in the site.

4.2 Quality and importance

The importance of the site lies in the relatively large area of high quality, species-rich calcareous grassland that occurs. This grassland supports a suite of orchid species including Orchis morio, of which this site holds probably the largest population of the species in the country. The occurrence of woodland on the site is notable; esker woodland is becoming increasingly rare in Ireland.

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	A07		i
L	A02.01		i
H	K02.01		i
L	A04.03		i
H	D01		i
H	A05.02		i
H	A08		i
L	E03.03		i
M	A04.01		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside /outside [i|o|b]
M	A10.01		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

4.4 Ownership (optional)

4.5 Documentation

Ó Críodáin, C. (1992). Conservation of Grassland Sites of Scientific Interest in Ireland. A Preliminary Report. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin.Fitzgerald, R. (1990-94). National Parks and Wildlife Service Protected and Threatened Flora Survey. Unpublished report to National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin.Tubridy, M. (Ed.) (1984). Creation and Management of a Heritage Zone at Clonmacnoise, Co Offaly, Ireland. Unpublished report to E.E.C., contract No. 6611/12. Enviromental Sciences Unit, Trinity College, Dublin.Cross, J.R. (1992). The distribution, character and conservation of woodlands on esker ridges in Ireland. Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy 92B: 1-19.Tubridy, M. (Ed.) (1987). The Heritage of Clonmacnoise. Environmental Sciences Unit, Trinity College, Dublin.

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

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5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at international level:

Type	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
Other	Mongan Bog Nature Reserve	/	
	Mongan Bog Nature Reserve	/	

5.3 Site designation (optional)

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

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6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No, but in preparation
- [X] No

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID: IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0001776

Map delivered as PDF in electronic format (optional)

- [ ] Yes
- [X] No

Reference(s) to the original map used for the digitalisation of the electronic boundaries (optional).