



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 IE0002012
SITENAME North Inishowen Coast SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0002012	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

North Inishowen Coast SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1999-06	1.5 Update date 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

Date site proposed as SCI:	1999-06
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

-7.325237447

Latitude

55.30256499

2.2 Area [ha]:

7066.040333

2.3 Marine area [%]

51.191

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

Region Name

IE01	Border, Midland and Western
IEZZ	Extra-Regio

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
1140			988.3111		M	B	B	B	B
1220			3.4265		M	A	B	A	A
1230			848.29		M	A	B	A	A
2130			496.0581		M	B	B	C	B
21A0	X		117.9401		M	B	C	C	B
4030			848.29		M	B	B	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			
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	A200	Alca torda			r	1000	1000	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A050	Anas penelope			w	169	169	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			w	158	158	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A046	Branta bernicla			w	338	338	i		G	C	B	C	A
B	A045	Branta leucopsis			w	673	673	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A149	Calidris alpina			w	237	237	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A137	Charadrius hiaticula			r	7	7	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A137	Charadrius hiaticula			w	63	63	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A103	Falco peregrinus			p	10	12	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A009	Fulmarus glacialis			r	150	150	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A153	Gallinago gallinago			r	3	3	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A130	Haematopus ostralegus			r	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A130	Haematopus ostralegus			w	171	171	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A182	Larus canus			r	50	50	p		G	C	B	C	C
M	1355	Lutra lutra			p				P	DD	C	A	C	B
B	A070	Mergus merganser			w	12	12	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A160	Numenius arquata			w	207	207	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			r	270	270	p		G	B	A	C	B
B	A346	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax			p	12	12	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A188	Rissa tridactyla			r	1	500	p		M	C	A	C	B
B	A048	Tadorna tadorna			w	25	25	i		G	C	B	C	C

P		Vicia lathyroides									X			
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- **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
N22	1.0
N16	1.0
N07	2.0
N04	14.0
N01	34.0
N10	5.0
N08	12.0
N06	1.0
N05	14.0
N02	14.0
N23	1.0
N03	1.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

This large site, located along the northern coast of Co. Donegal, is of value for the wide range of maritime and sub-maritime habitats present. The main habitats are sea-cliffs, beach (both shingle and sandy) and dry heath, with smaller areas of sand dune, machair, tidal mud flats, salt marsh and deciduous woodland. Cliff and outcropping rock is frequent throughout the site with quartzite being the predominant rock type, although small areas with schist and granite bedrock also occur. The coastline close to Malin Head provides some of the best examples of late-glacial marine strandlines in Ireland and thus is of great interest from a geomorphological perspective. The main landuse within the site is grazing, particularly by sheep, with amenity pressure high in the parts of the site with sand dune and machair.

4.2 Quality and importance

The most important habitats within the site are the priority Annex I habitats fixed dune and machair, which are of moderate quality. The large areas of other Annex 1 habitats, particularly vegetated sea cliff, shingle beach and intertidal sand and mud flats, are of good quality. The habitats support a large number of important and sometimes rare plant and animal species. The site contains a large proportion of the national population of the Red Data Book plant species *Mertensia maritima* and *Ligusticum scoticum*, while other nationally rare species such as *Silene acaulis* and *Crambe maritima* have been recorded in the past. Important populations of the Annex I Bird Directive species *Branta leucopsis*, *Falco peregrinus* and

Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax occur. Several species of seabirds breed on the cliffs, while Trawbreaga Bay attracts moderate numbers of wintering waterfowl, including *Branta bernicla hrota*, in internationally important numbers. *Lutra lutra* occurs regularly within the site.

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	A04.03		i
H	D03.01.03		i
H	G03		i
H	G01		i
H	C01.01.02		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
H	A04.02.01		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

4.5 Documentation

Bassett, J.A. & 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, Coveney, J.A. (1993). The second International Chough Survey in Ireland, 1992. *Irish Birds* 5: 1-10. Colhoun, K. (1998). I-WeBS Report 1996-97. BirdWatch Ireland, 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. & McGough, H.N. (1988). *The Irish Red Data Book: 1 Vascular Plants*, Stationary Office, Dublin. 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. 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. Lloyd, C. (1982). Inventory of seabird breeding colonies in Republic of Ireland, Unpublished report, Forestry and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Madden, B., Cooney, T., O'Donoghue, A., Norriss, D.W. and Merne, O.J. (1998 in press). Breeding waders of machair systems in Ireland in 1996. *Irish Birds* 6. 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. (1989). Important bird areas in the Republic of Ireland. In: Grimmett, R.F.A. and Jones, T.A. (eds) *Important Bird Areas in Europe*. ICBP Technical Publication No. 9. Cambridge. Merne, O.J. and Walsh, A. (1994). Barnacle Geese in Ireland, spring 1993 and 1994. *Irish Birds* 5: 151-156. Perry, K.W. (1975). *The Birds of the Inishowen Peninsula*. Privately published, Craigavon. Praeger, R.L (1934). *The Botanist in Ireland*. Hodges Figgis, Dublin. Sheppard, R. (1993). *Ireland's Wetland Wealth*. IWC, Dublin. Stephens, N. and Syngé, F.M. (1965). Late Pleistocene shore lines and drift lines in northern Donegal. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy Section B: [3]*. 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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Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
IE05	13.0				

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
IE05	Trawbreaga Bay Wildfowl Sanctuary	+	13.0

designated at international level:

Type	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
Other	Trawbreaga Bay	+	13.0

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.2 Management Plan(s):

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An actual management plan does exist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No, but in preparation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0002012

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).

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