



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 IE0002036
SITENAME Ballyhoura Mountains SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type	1.2 Site code	Back to top
B	IE0002036	

1.3 Site name

Ballyhoura Mountains SAC

1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
2003-06	2021-10

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:	2003-06
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2021-07
National legal reference of SAC designation:	344/2021

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude -8.526870259 Latitude 52.30646342

2.2 Area [ha]:

2.3 Marine area [%]

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	
R		Lacerta vivipara												X	
A		Rana temporaria												X	
A		Rana temporaria									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

4.1 General site character

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Habitat class	% Cover
N10	1.0
N07	20.0
N23	1.0
N08	74.0
N06	1.0
N22	3.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Ballyhoura Mountains is located on the border between counties Cork and Limerick. The site comprises the unafforested summit ridges within the mountain range extending from Carron Mountain east towards Long and Seefin Mountains and including outliers at Coolfree Mountain. These areas are dominated by heath and blanket bog habitats. The flanks of this mountain range have been intensively afforested in the past 40 years. Old Red Sandstone dominates the bedrock geology of the site.

4.2 Quality and importance

This site has been selected for the presence of the Annex 1 habitats wet heath, dry heath and active blanket bog. The heath habitats are the dominant habitats and are generally of high quality. Blanket bog covers a smaller area though is still well represented. Although the flanks of the mountain range has been extensively afforested with conifers the quality of the remaining upland area is good with relatively low levels of disturbance from potentially damaging operations such as grazing and burning. The site provides crucial foraging habitat and potential nesting habitat for the important population of *Circus cyaneus* that nests in the Ballyhoura mountain range. The site also supports breeding *Falco peregrinus*.

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	J01		i
M	G01.03.02		i
M	G01		b
M	B01.02		i
M	D05		i

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

L	C01.03		i
H	C03.03		b

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

National Parks and Wildlife Service (1992-1994). National Areas of Scientific Interest Survey. Unpublished report, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Norriss, D.W. (2001). Study of Hen Harrier Habitat Selection in Mullaghareirks and Ballyhouras. Unpublished report. National Parks & Wildlife, Dublin. Norriss, D.W., Marsh, J., McMahon, D. and Oliver, G.A. (2002). A national survey of breeding Hen Harriers Circus cyaneus in Ireland 1998-2000. Irish Birds 7: 1-10. Lynch, R. (1999). Heathland and Heather - Their Status in the Ballyhoura Mountains. Irish Wildlife Trust.

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.IE0002036

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).