



# 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 IE0002129  
SITENAME Murvey Machair SAC

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [1. SITE IDENTIFICATION](#)
- [2. SITE LOCATION](#)
- [3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION](#)
- [4. SITE DESCRIPTION](#)
- [6. SITE MANAGEMENT](#)
- [7. MAP OF THE SITE](#)

## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

<b>1.1 Type</b> B	<b>1.2 Site code</b> IE0002129	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
----------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------

### 1.3 Site name

Murvey Machair SAC
--------------------

<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 1999-05	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 2015-12
--	-----------------------------------

### 1.6 Respondent:

<b>Name/Organisation:</b>	National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
<b>Address:</b>	7 Ely Place, Dublin 2, Ireland
<b>Email:</b>	datadelivery@ahg.gov.ie

<b>Date site proposed as SCI:</b>	1999-05
<b>Date site confirmed as SCI:</b>	No data
<b>Date site designated as SAC:</b>	No data
<b>National legal reference of SAC designation:</b>	No data

## 2. SITE LOCATION

### 2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

[Back to top](#)

**Longitude**  
-10.01072334

**Latitude**  
53.38643974

## 2.2 Area [ha]:

80.16

### 2.3 Marine area [%]

12.05

## 2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

## 2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

IE01	Border, Midland and Western
------	-----------------------------


## 2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Atlantic (%)

### 3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

[Back to top](#)

### 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
21A0 	X		32.87		M	C	C	C	C

- **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

[illegible]

P	1395	<a href="#">ralfsii</a>			p	2	2	area		G	C	B	C	B
---	------	-------------------------	--	--	---	---	---	------	--	---	---	---	---	---

- **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="#">Eriophorum gracile</a>									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

[Back to top](#)

### 4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N06	6.0
N07	9.0
N10	12.0
N05	10.0
N22	5.0
N08	5.0
N04	53.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

## Other Site Characteristics

This small machair/wetland site is located in the south-west of Co. Galway, 6 km west of Roundstone village. The underlying geology of the site consists of granite. Most of the bedrock, however, is masked by a cover of sand and thin organic soils. In addition to the machair interest, the site contains areas of freshwater marsh, freshwater lake, grassland and heath. The site can be divided into two contrasting halves, an exposed coastal half dominated by wind-blown sand and a more sheltered half, dominated by lakes and wetlands. The sheltered nature of the wetland areas and their close proximity to the coast is partially responsible for the extensive development of freshwater marsh vegetation along the margins of Loughs Namanawaun and Murvey.

## 4.2 Quality and importance

This site is important because of the presence of the priority Annex I habitat machair, though the quality of the habitat has been reduced by erosion by the sea and intensive grazing. Associated with the machair is a recently discovered population of the Annex II liverwort *Petalophyllum ralfsii*. *Eriophorum gracile*, a Red Data Book and legally protected plant species, has been recorded recently from both Lough Namanawaun and Lough Murvey. These small but productive coastal lakes provide very good examples of wetland succession.

## 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]
M	L07		i
M	K04.05		b
H	A04.02.02		i
L	J01.01		i
L	G05.01		i
L	H03.03		i
L	G01.03.02		i
H	K01.01		i
L	G01.02		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	F03.01		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

## 4.5 Documentation

Bassett, J.A. (1983). Report on the conservation of Irish coastal sites - machair in Ireland. Unpublished report to the Department of Fisheries and Forestry, Dublin. 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. Crawford, I., Bleasdale, A. and Conaghan, J. (1996). Biomar survey of Irish machair sites 1996. A report submitted to the National Parks & Wildlife Service, Dublin. Geological Survey of Ireland (1993). Geology of Mayo. Department of Transport, Energy and Communications, Dublin. Holyoak, D.T. (1999). Report on Surveys of *Petalophyllum ralfsii* in Co. Mayo and Co. Galway, Western Ireland, 16-22 April 1999. Unpublished report to Duchas The Heritage Service, National Parks and Wildlife, Dublin. Leake, B.E. and Tanner, P.W.G. (1994). The Geology of the Dalradian and Associated Rocks of Connemara. The Geological Survey of Ireland, Dublin. Lockhart, N. (1998). Report on Survey of *Petalophyllum ralfsii* at Murvey Machair, Co. Galway. Unpublished report to Duchas The Heritage Service, National Parks and Wildlife, Dublin van Groenendael, J.M., Hochstenbach, S., M., H., van Mansfeld, M.J.M., Roozen, A.J.M. (1979). The influence of the sea and of parent material on wetlands and blanket bog in west Connemara, Ireland. M.Sc. Thesis, Catholic University, Nijmegen.

## 6. SITE MANAGEMENT

## 6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No, but in preparation
- ☒ No

## 7. MAP OF THE SITES

[Back to top](#)

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0002129

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).