



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 IE0002179
SITENAME Towerhill House SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0002179	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Towerhill House SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1996-12	1.5 Update date 2018-09
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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:	2002-01
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2016-06
National legal reference of SAC designation:	300/2016

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude
-9.200240013

Latitude
53.72384806

2.2 Area [ha]:
60.70543588

2.3 Marine area [%]
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
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2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Atlantic (%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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

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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.
M	1303	Rhinolophus hipposideros	Yes		w	50	50	i		M	C	A	B	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)

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

4.1 General site character

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Habitat class	% Cover
N10	1.0
N16	20.0
N07	5.0
N23	1.0
N06	5.0
N20	68.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The main interest of the site which is north-east of Lough Carra in County Mayo, is a winter hibernation roost of Lesser Horseshoe Bats. More than 50 bats use an artificial underground passage in the grounds of the ruined Towerhill House. The surrounding habitats of conifer plantations, mixed woodland, wet woodland, drains and streams, along with Lough Beg and its surrounding swamp vegetation, all provide suitable shelter and foraging habitat for the bats.

4.2 Quality and importance

As >50 Lesser Horseshoe Bats (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) hibernate in this site, it is a site of international importance. It is one of just a few known sites for this species in County Mayo - the most northerly distribution point in Europe for this species.

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	B		i

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

O' Sullivan, P. (1994). Bats in Ireland. Irish Naturalists' Journal. Special Zoological Supplement. 21pp.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

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6.2 Management Plan(s):

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

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0002179

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).