



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 IE0002258
SITENAME Silvermines Mountains West SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type	1.2 Site code	Back to top
B	IE0002258	

1.3 Site name

Silvermines Mountains West SAC

1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
2003-06	2018-09

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:	2017-04
National legal reference of SAC designation:	148/2017

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude -8.277684531 Latitude 52.78005018

2.2 Area [ha]:

2.3 Marine area [%]

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

Region Name

IE02	Southern and Eastern
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2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Atlantic (%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

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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
4010B			306.18		M	B	C	B	B
4030B			61.24		M	B	C	B	C
6130B			0.9		G	B	B	B	B
6230B			30.62		M	D			
7130B			24.49		M	D			

- **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	A082	Circus cyaneus			r	1	4	i		G	C	B	C	C

- **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)

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

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4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N22	2.0
N10	20.0
N07	10.0
N06	1.0
N08	67.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

This is an upland site dominated by heath, grassland and blanket bog habitats. The dominant bedrocks within the site are Silurian sandstones and shales which outcrop frequently, especially at higher elevations, with old red sandstone at lower elevations. Deposits of minerals such as zinc, lead and copper - now largely exhausted - occur along the northern boundary of the site where the older rocks meet limestone. Extensive disused mine workings - dominated by a large tailings pond - lie along the north-eastern boundary and some areas within the site show indications of disturbance from these past mining works. Most of the adjoining mountain ridge to the east has been afforested with conifers.

4.2 Quality and importance

Silvermines West is a substantial upland area dominated by wet heath with smaller areas of dry heath, blanket bog (incl. degraded bog), acid grassland, scrub and outcropping rock. The site has been selected for the presence of the Annex 1 habitat wet heath. The site is one of the largest remaining unafforested upland areas in the north Tipperary area, a large proportion of the adjoining uplands having been afforested in recent decades. The quality of the site is high due to the relatively low levels of burning and grazing in the recent past. Site is used as foraging habitat by part of the important *Circus cyaneus* population that nests in the Silvermine-Slievefeelim uplands.

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	C01.04		i
M	A04.02.04		i
H	J01		i
M	G01.02		i
L	G01.03		i
H	D01.01		i
M	A04.02.03		i

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

National Parks and Wildlife Service (1992-1994). National Areas of Scientific Interest Survey. Unpublished report, National Parks and Wildlife Service, 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.

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

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6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

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

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0002258

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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