



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 IE0002259
SITENAME Tory Island Coast SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0002259	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Tory Island Coast SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 1999-08	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

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:	2002-01
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2017-12
National legal reference of SAC designation:	615/2017

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude -8.229521 Latitude 55.262478

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

IEZZ	Extra-Regio
IE01	Border, Midland and Western

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
1150B			3.1834		M	C	C	B	C
1170B			2071.5048		M	A	C	A	A
1220B			30.46		M	B	C	B	B
1230B			30.46		M	B	C	A	B
8330B			30.45		M	A	C	A	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	1002	1002	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A137	Charadrius hiaticula			r	20	20	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A103	Falco peregrinus			p	1	1	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A204	Fratrercula arctica			r	1402	1402	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A009	Fulmarus glacialis			r	641	641	p		G	B	A	C	B
B	A153	Gallinago gallinago			r	1	5	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A130	Haematopus ostralegus			r	1	5	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A014	Hydrobates pelagicus			r	20	20	p	P	M	C	B	C	C
B	A346	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax			p	6	6	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A188	Rissa tridactyla			r	408	408	p		G	C	A	C	B

B	A195	Sterna albifrons			r	2	5	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A162	Tringa totanus			r	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A199	Uria aalge			r	568	568	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			r	20	20	p		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
I		Alcyonium glomeratum						C						X
I		Axinella damicornis						C						X
P		Carpomitra costata						R						X
B		Cepphus grylle			26	26	i						X	
P		Crambe maritima						P			X			
I		Crimora papillata						C						X
I		Diazona violacea						C						X
I		Gymnangium montagui						C						X
I		Hormathia coronata						R						X
I		Isozoanthus sulcatus						C						X
B		Larus argentatus			15	15	p							X
B		Larus marinus			2	2	p							X
P		Ligusticum scoticum						P			X			
B		Passer montanus			2	3	p				X			
I		Pentapora foliacea						C						X
I		Phakellia ventilabrum						C						X
B		Phalacrocorax aristotelis			27	27	p						X	
I		Raspailia acoleata						C						X
I		Spongionella pulcuella						C						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

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4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N04	1.0
N08	5.0
N02	1.0
N01	86.0
N05	2.0
N07	1.0
N22	2.0
N09	1.0
N06	1.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Tory Island is a remote, though inhabited, island lying some 11 km off the north-west Donegal coast. It is approximately 4 km in length and 1 km in width. The bedrock is mainly igneous granite, with a few dolerite intrusions. The extreme eastern section, however, is made up of more erosion resistant Ards Quartzite and high sea-cliffs occur here, rising to 86 m. Cliffs continue along the north and western coastline, while the southern shoreline consists of a broad band of bedrock shore and boulder beach. At the base of the sea cliffs, intertidal sea caves are regular features. Shingle is well represented along the south-west shoreline and forms an effective barrier to impound a small lagoon, Lough Ayes. Heath and cutaway bog occupies much of the interior of the island and especially the northern part in from the cliffs. Other habitats include small shallow lakes, marsh vegetation, wet grassland and dry grassland. The infralittoral bedrock and boulder reef communities of Tory Island are moderately to extremely exposed to wave action. In general, the shallow reefs on the north side are steeply sloping while those on the south side have a more gentle incline and may be a mixture of bedrock and boulders. The circalittoral reefs on the south side of the island are extremely exposed to wave action whilst those on the northern side are relatively sheltered and only moderately exposed to wave action. The circalittoral reef ranges in depth from 30 - 43 m. The reef varies in structure from a steep sided gully with an overhang; gently sloping bedrock that frequently has gullies, ridges or short vertical steps, to flat bedrock with boulders on sand with outcrops of ridged bedrock.

4.2 Quality and importance

The vegetated sea cliffs and perennial vegetation of stony banks at this site are of good quality and are fairly extensive. The lagoon which occurs behind the stony barrier is a good example of a sedimentary lagoon, a relatively rare type in Ireland. The site has many good examples of submerged reef communities. Species richness is high in the infralittoral reef and in the circalittoral reef. The BioMar project recorded ten species considered uncommon and of conservation importance; the sponges *Axinella damicornis*, *Phakellia ventilabrum*, *Raspailia aculeata*, *Spongionella pulchella*; the hydroid, *Gymnangium montagui*; the soft corals *Alcyonium glomeratum*, *Isozoanthus sulcatus*; the sea slug *Crimora papillata*; the tunicate *Diazona violacea*, and the bryozoan *Pentapora foliacea*. Two rare species were also recorded; the sea anemone *Hormathia coronata* and the brown algae *Carpomitra costata*. The population of the rare brown algae *Carpomitra costata* seems to be the most important in the national territory. The fragile, deep-water communities are well conserved. Two Red Data Book plants occur, *Ligusticum scoticum* and *Crambe maritima*. The site supports important seabird populations, especially of *Alca torda* and *Fratercula arctica*. A small colony of *Hydrobates pelagicus* occurs, and also breeding *Falco peregrinus*, *Pyrhacorax pyrrhocorax* and *Sterna albifrons*. The interior of the island is part of an SPA and is particularly important for its population of *Crex crex*.

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	C01.03		i
L	D01.02		i
M	K01.01		i
M	J02		i
M	A04		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside /outside [i o b]
M	A01		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

Berrow, S.D., Mackie, K.L., O' Sullivan, O., Shepperd, K.B., Mellon and C, Coveney, J.A. (1993). The second International Chough Survey in Ireland, 1992. Irish Birds 5: 1-10. Casey, C. (1998). Distribution and conservation of the Corncrake in Ireland, 1993-1998. Irish Birds 6: 159-176. Guiry, M.D. (1978). A consensus and bibliography of Irish seaweeds. Cramer, Vaduz 287pp. 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 Salbifrons in Ireland in 1995. Irish Birds 6: 1-22. Healy, B. (1999). Irish Coastal Lagoon Survey, 1998. Vol 1, Part 1. Background, Description and summary of the surveys. Dúchas. Healy, B., Oliver, G.A., Hatch, P. and Good, J.A. (1997). Coastal Lagoons in The Republic of Ireland. Vol. 2 . Inventory of lagoons and saline lakes. Report to the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Lloyd, C. (1982). Inventory of seabird breeding colonies in Republic of Ireland, Unpublished report, Forestry and Wildlife Service, 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. NPWS (2010). Desk study of Submerged or partly submerged sea caves features along the Donegal coast. Unpublished report. Picton, B.E., (1985). Anthozoans (Coelenterata: Anthozoa) new to Ireland and new records of some rarely recorded species. Irish Naturalists' Journal, 21: 484-488. Praeger, R.L (1934). The Botanist in Ireland. Hodges & Figgis, Dublin. Roden, C. 1999. Irish coastal lagoon survey, 1998. Vol III. Dúchas. Sheppard, R. (1995). Hybrid Tree x House Sparrow in County Donegal. Irish Birds 3: 319-320. 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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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:

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).