



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 IE0002263
SITENAME Kerry Head Shoal 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

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0002263	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Kerry Head Shoal SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 2001-03	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:	2016-02
National legal reference of SAC designation:	102/2016

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

[Back to top](#)

Longitude
-10.0629577

Latitude
52.44593027

2.2 Area [ha]:
5794.71815

2.3 Marine area [%]
100.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:
0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code **Region Name**

IEZZ	Extra-Regio
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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

[Back to top](#)

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
1170			5797.2276		M	A	C	A	A

- **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.

- **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		Abietinaria filicula						C						X
I		Aldisa zetlandica						R						X
I		Axinella damicornis						C						X
I		Axinella dissimilis						C						X
I		Axinella flustra						R						X
P		Carpomitra costata						R						X
I		Diazona violacea						C						X
I		Eunicella verrucosa						C						X
I		Gymnangium montagui						C						X
I		Hexadella racovitzae						R						X
I		Isozoanthus sulcatus						C						X
I		Phakellia ventilabrum						C						X
I		Quasillina brevis						R						X
I		Spongionella pulchella						C						X
I		Terebratulina retusa						R						X
I		Tetila zetlandica						R						X

I		Tetilla cranium						R							X
I		Thymosia guernei						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

[Back to top](#)

4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N01	100.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The Kerry Head Shoal is a deep (20 - 52 m) limestone reef running in a north-east / south-west direction. The reef is situated on the west coast of Ireland, to the north of Tralee Bay and to the west of Kerry Head. It is exposed to the full force of swells from the Atlantic. The infralittoral and circalittoral reef communities of the Kerry Head Shoal are extremely exposed to wave action and subject to weak tidal streams. The circalittoral reef topography ranges from big relatively flat terraces cut by gullies to ridged bedrock and angular boulders.

4.2 Quality and importance

The Kerry Head reef has extremely high conservation value. It contains a rich and diverse flora and fauna that is characterized by rare erect and encrusting sponges. Several species occur in associations that are unique in Ireland and the axinellid sponge community is considered to be Ireland's best example (pers. comm. B.Picton). Two sponge species were not recorded anywhere else in Ireland by BioMar (Tetilla cranium and Quasillina brevis). The populations of nine other rare and notable species (Tetilla zetlandica, Thymosia guernei, Axinella damicornis, Axinella flustra, Spongionella pulchella, Hexadella racovitzae, Terebratulina retusa, Diazona violacea and Aldisa zetlandica) represent a very high proportion of the total populations in the national territory. Four other species have conservation importance (Gymnangium montagui, Eunicella verrucosa, Isozoanthus sulcatus, and Carpomitra costata).

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]
L	F06		i
L	F02.03		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	F06		i
L	F02.03		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

Emblow, C.S., Picton, ., Sides, E.M., B.E., Morrow, C.C and Costello, M.J. (1995). Marine communities of the Bantry Bay area, and an assessment of their nature conservation importance. Biology and Environment. Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin. Morrow, C.C. and Picton, B.E. (1996). An aplysillid sponge, *Hexadella racovitzai* Topsent, 1896, new to the British Isles with notes on its habitat and distribution Irish Naturalists' Journal, 25: 218 - 221. Picton, B.E. (1985). Anthozoans (Coelenterata: Anthozoa) new to Ireland and new records of some rarely recorded species. Irish Naturalists' Journal, 21: 484-488 Picton, B.E and Costello M.J. eds. (1997). BioMar Biotope Viewer: a Guide to Marine Habitats, Fauna and Flora of Britain and Ireland (Ver. 2.0) Environmental Sciences Unit, Trinity College, Dublin.(Compact Disc). Stephens, J. (1915). Sponges of the coast of Ireland I. - The Triaxonida and part of the Tetraxonida. Fisheries, Ireland, Scientific Investigations 1914, Part IV.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

[Back to top](#)

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

[Back to top](#)

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0002263

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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