



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 IE0002293
SITENAME Carrowbaun, Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs 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	1.2 Site code	Back to top
B	IE0002293	

1.3 Site name

Carrowbaun, Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs SAC

1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
2003-02	2021-10

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:	2003-02
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2016-06
National legal reference of SAC designation:	295/2016

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

[Back to top](#)

Longitude -8.783320926 Latitude 53.10878188

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

IE01	Border, Midland and Western
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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
3180B			55.6967		G	B	C	B	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	A052	Anas crecca			w	41	41	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A050	Anas penelope			w	287	287	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A059	Aythya ferina			w	25	25	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A061	Aythya fuligula			w	18	18	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A149	Calidris alpina			w	89	89	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A037	Cygnus columbianus bewickii			w	40	40	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A038	Cygnus cygnus			w	95	95	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A153	Gallinago gallinago			r	6	6	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A160	Numenius arquata			w	69	69	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A140	Pluvialis apricaria			w	129	129	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			w	340	340	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)

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	
M		Plecotus auritus			20	20	i							X	
M		Plecotus auritus			20	20	i				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
N09	7.0
N16	1.0
N06	56.0
N22	3.0
N23	1.0
N15	1.0
N08	2.0
N14	20.0
N10	9.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

This site is situated in the limestone lowlands of south Galway. It consists of three separate turlough-type marshes in Carrowbaun East and Newhall and the channel between Ballylee Castle and Pollanoween in which the Streamstown and Ballylee Rivers sink. The systems are linked at times of high flood. The lowest part of the Carrowbaun site is at the northern end where topographical ridges enclose two arms of wetland. Newhall lies in a broad peaty depression with gravel deposits at the southern end. At high water levels there is flooding northwards into Carrowbaun West. The Ballylee River is confined between a limestone ridge and drift deposits on the south-eastern side and has formed a channel through whose floor the water sinks. In flood it travels further south-west and disappears in a tangled, rocky area covered in scrub. Small amounts of groundwater feed the Carrowbaun and Newhall wetlands and there is very little noticeable flow in summer. Swallow holes occur at Pollaleen, which introduces water from nearby Lough Coy, as well as at Carrowbaun and at two places in the south-west end. Adjacent areas of wet grassland and improved grassland are included in the site for water quality reasons. Much of the site is grazed.

4.2 Quality and importance

Along with Coole and Peterswell turloughs, this turlough complex forms the third major area where streams descending from the Slieve Aughty Mountains disappear into the underlying limestone and as such is an essential element in the drainage system in this internationally important karstic region. Despite the vegetation in Newhall and Carrowbaun having been modified by drainage works and heavy grazing,

there are places where a good zonation of communities occur including stands of conservation value. The Ballylee component is much improved for agriculture and the main interest is at the sink area at the western end. When in flood, the site is of local to regional importance for wintering waterfowl, including *Cygnus cygnus* and *Cygnus columbianus*, and also has nesting *Gallinago gallinago*. Small breeding colonies of *Rhinolophus hipposideros* and *Plecotus auritus* occur in Ballylee Castle.

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	A10.01		i
M	J02.01.03		b
M	D01		i
L	E03.01		i
M	E06.01		i
H	H01.08		b
M	A02.01		b
M	J02.10		b
M	J02.04.01		b
H	J02.05		b
M	E03.03		i
H	H02.06		b
M	A08		b
H	E06.02		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside /outside [i o b]
M	E06.02		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

Delany, S. (1997). I-WeBS Report 1995-96. Report of the Second Winter of the Irish Wetland Bird Survey. IWC BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin.
 Jennings O'Donovan & Partners and Southern Water Global (1997). An Investigation of the Flooding Problems in the Gort-Ardrahan Area of South Galway. Volumes 1 & 2. Unpublished report prepared for the Office of Public Works, Dublin.
 Madden, B. and Heery, S. (1999). Census of Wintering Wetland Birds in South Galway (Gort-Ardrahan Catchment) Winter (1998/1999). Unpublished report prepared for Duchas the Heritage Service, Dublin.

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

[Back to top](#)

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:

[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

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

[Back to top](#)

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0002293

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).