



# 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

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## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

<b>1.1 Type</b> B	<b>1.2 Site code</b> IE0002293	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
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### 1.3 Site name

Carrowbaun, Newhall and Ballylee Turloughs SAC

<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 2003-02	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 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

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

## 2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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B	A052	<a href="#">Anas crecca</a>			w	41	41	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A050	<a href="#">Anas penelope</a>			w	287	287	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A059	<a href="#">Aythya ferina</a>			w	25	25	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A061	<a href="#">Aythya fuligula</a>			w	18	18	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A149	<a href="#">Calidris alpina</a>			w	89	89	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A037	<a href="#">Cygnus columbianus bewickii</a>			w	40	40	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A038	<a href="#">Cygnus cygnus</a>			w	95	95	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A153	<a href="#">Gallinago gallinago</a>			r	6	6	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A160	<a href="#">Numenius arquata</a>			w	69	69	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A140	<a href="#">Pluvialis apricaria</a>			w	129	129	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A142	<a href="#">Vanellus vanellus</a>			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		<a href="#">Plecotus auritus</a>			20	20	i						X	
M		<a href="#">Plecotus auritus</a>			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

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### 4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N15	1.0
N22	3.0
N16	1.0
N08	2.0
N23	1.0
N14	20.0
N09	7.0
N06	56.0
N10	9.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	<b>100</b>

### 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			
	Threats and	Pollution (optional)	inside/outside

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management	Pollution (optional)	inside/outside

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

	[code]	[code]	[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

#### 4.5 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.

## 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

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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).

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