



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 IE0002316
SITENAME Ratty River Cave SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.1 Type B | 1.2 Site code IE0002316 | Back to top |
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1.3 Site name

Ratty River Cave SAC

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1.4 First Compilation date 2003-03 | 1.5 Update date 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

| | |
|---|----------|
| Date site proposed as SCI: | 2003-03 |
| Date site confirmed as SCI: | No data |
| Date site designated as SAC: | 2016-04 |
| National legal reference of SAC designation: | 176/2016 |

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|--|-----|--|---|-----|-----|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | 1303 | Rhinolophus hipposideros | Yes | | w | 187 | 187 | i | | G | C | B | B | B |
| M | 1303 | Rhinolophus hipposideros | Yes | | r | 66 | 66 | i | | G | C | B | B | 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 |
| M | | Meles meles | | | | | | | | | | | X | |
| M | | Meles meles | | | | | | | | 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 |
|----------------------------|------------|
| N22 | 1.0 |
| N23 | 5.0 |
| N16 | 24.0 |
| N06 | 70.0 |
| Total Habitat Cover | 100 |

Other Site Characteristics

This site includes a natural fossil limestone cave situated in the bank of the Ratty or Owenogarney River. A section of the river and accompanying bankside vegetation is also included in the site. An old disused cottage, situated approximately 500 m from the cave, is included in the site as it is used as a summer roost by the bats. The surrounding habitat consists of unimproved pasture and scrub woodland. Castle Lake occurs a few hundred metres upstream of the site.

4.2 Quality and importance

The cave is small (5-10 m) but in excellent condition. Cave habitats include rock roof and walls, and stalactites. The cave provides stable and undisturbed winter hibernating conditions for an internationally important number of lesser horseshoe bats. The nearest known summer roost of lesser horseshoe bats is also included in the site.

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 | A10.01 | | i |
| H | E06.01 | | i |
| H | A10.01 | | o |

| Positive Impacts | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Rank | Activities, management [code] | Pollution (optional) [code] | inside/outside [i o b] |
| M | A04 | | o |

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

O'Mahony C. (1999). Lesser horseshoe bat roost survey, South Clare, Ireland, 1998/99. Internal report to The Vincent Wildlife Trust, unpublished. O'Sullivan P. (1994). Bats in Ireland. Irish Naturalists' Journal Special Zoological Supplement, 21pp.

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.IE0002316

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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