



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 IE0002333
SITENAME Knockacoller Bog SAC

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code IE0002333	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Knockacoller Bog SAC

1.4 First Compilation date 2003-04	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:	2003-04
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	2017-04
National legal reference of SAC designation:	142/2017

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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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
M		Lepus timidus hibernicus											X	
M		Lepus timidus hibernicus										X		
M		Lepus timidus hibernicus									X			
P		Sphagnum fuscum												X
P		Sphagnum imbricatum												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

4.1 General site character

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Habitat class	% Cover
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N10	4.0
N08	11.0
N07	80.0
N14	1.0
N16	4.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Knockacoller Bog is a small midland raised bog situated 5 km south-west of Mountrath village, Co. Laois. The bog overlies sandy calcareous till which in turn overlies Carboniferous limestone bedrock. Uncut high bog accounts for approximately 40% of the site area with cutover surface dominating the remainder. The uncut bog surface contains a wet central, active area which may have arisen due to slumping of the surface. Part of the cutover has been colonised by *Betula pubescens* scrub and woodland (10-12m high) which adds to habitat diversity. A small part of the cutover has been reclaimed for grassland.

4.2 Quality and importance

Although Knockacoller Bog is a relatively small raised bog site it does occur close to the southern limit of raised bog development and thus is important from a biogeographical perspective. Sphagnum growth is good in the central active area and includes the relatively rare species *S. imbricatum* and *S. fuscum*. Some pools are present. The part of the high bog that is classified as degraded is rather dry and often has a uniform vegetation dominated by *Calluna vulgaris* or *Narthecium ossifragum*. Rhynchosporion vegetation is largely confined to the active central core of the bog but supports the relatively rare *Rhynchospora fusca*. Knockacoller Bog, together with Coolrain Bog which lies 4 km to the west, forms an important southerly outpost for raised bog distribution.

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	J01.01		i
L	K02		i
M	J02.15		b
M	C01		o

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	A04.02.03		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

Cross, J.R. (1990). The Raised Bogs of Ireland: their Ecology, Status and Conservation. Report to the Minister of State at the Department of Finance. Stationery Office, Dublin. Farrell, L. (1972). A Preliminary Report on Areas of Scientific Interest in County Laois. Unpublished report, An Foras Forbartha, Dublin. Kelly, L., Doak, M. and Dromey, M. (1995). Raised Bog Conservation Project: An Investigation into the Conservation and Restoration of Selected Raised Bog Sites in Ireland. Unpublished report, National Parks and Wildlife, Dublin. National Parks and Wildlife Service (1992-1994). National Areas of Scientific Interest Survey. Unpublished report, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. O'Connell, C. and Mooney, E. (1983). Survey to Locate Midland Raised Bogs of Scientific Interest. Unpublished report, Forest and Wildlife Service, Dublin.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.2 Management Plan(s):

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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.IE0002333

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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