



# 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 IE0002999  
SITENAME Hempton's Turbot Bank SAC

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## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

<b>1.1 Type</b> B	<b>1.2 Site code</b> IE0002999	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
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### 1.3 Site name

Hempton's Turbot Bank SAC
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<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 2011-09	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 2019-09
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### 1.6 Respondent:

<b>Name/Organisation:</b>	National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
<b>Address:</b>	90 King Street North, Dublin 7, D07 N7CV, Ireland
<b>Email:</b>	datadelivery@chg.gov.ie

<b>Date site proposed as SCI:</b>	2011-03
<b>Date site confirmed as SCI:</b>	No data
<b>Date site designated as SAC:</b>	2016-02
<b>National legal reference of SAC designation:</b>	100/2016

## 2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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**Longitude**  
-6.970855439

**Latitude**  
55.44073946

**2.2 Area [ha]:**  
4492.677826

**2.3 Marine area [%]**  
100.0

### 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 (0.0  
%)

## 3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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### 3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

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
1110			707.8687		M	B	A	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)

## 4. SITE DESCRIPTION

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### 4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N01	100.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	<b>100</b>

#### Other Site Characteristics

Previous survey work at this site has revealed that the overlaying sediment of this bank is quite mobile and susceptible to tidal and wind-wave forces. A multi-beam survey of the bank showed it to be characterised by significant sand wave features. The effect of those wave forces is evident in the grading and distribution of

sediments over the substrate. Granulometric analysis showed that the area ranged from gravel to fine sand with very coarse and medium sand dominating.

#### 4.2 Quality and importance

This site is the most northerly recorded sand bank feature within Irish territorial waters. The area was the subject of extensive acoustic and ground-truthing surveys during 2004 and 2005. The sedimentary habitat was classified as conforming to Deep Circalittoral Sand and Coarse Sediment since species recorded from the area are typical of that habitat type. Species identification of the benthic (bottom-living) infauna (below the surface) across all 14 survey stations sampled in the Hempton's Turbot Bank assessment yielded a total count of 59 species ascribed to 10 phyla. Of the 59 species enumerated, 24 were polychaetes (segmented worms) including *Syllis* sp., *Polygordius* sp., *Eusyllis blomstrandii*, *Autolytus alexandri*, *Autolytus inermis* and *Trypanosyllis zebra*; 19 were crustaceans (including the barnacles *Semibalanus balanoides* & *Elminius modestus*; the amphipods *Parapleustes bicuspis*, *Parapleustes assimilis*; porcelain crab *Pisidia longicornis*, hermit crab *Pagurus prideaux*, squat lobster *Galathea intermedia*); 6 were molluscs (including *Muculus discors* and *Modiolula phaseolina*); 3 species were echinoderms (brittlestars, sea cucumbers); 1 species was a pycnogonid (sea spiders) and 1 species was a fish (lesser sand eel (or sand lance) *Ammodytes tobianus*). Five other phyla were recorded including cnidarians (jellyfish, corals), nemerteans (ribbon worms), nematodes (round worms) and bryozoans (moss animals).

#### 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	K01.01		b
L	F02.02.02		b

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

Aquafact (2008). Analysis of samples from the Hempton Turbot Bank. Unpublished report to the National Parks & Wildlife Service of the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government. Service, M., Brown, C. & McDougall, A. (2004). MESH Habitat Mapping: Hempton's Turbot Bank. Cruise Report LF004 13-06-04 to 17-06-04. White, J. (2006). Survey Data Analysis for Hemptons Turbot Bank: An investigation into the categorisation of survey data sets for mapping a sand wave seafloor system. Undertaken as part of the INTERREG IIIB project Mapping European Seabed Habitats. Published by the Marine Institute.

## 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.IE0002999

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).