



# 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 IE0003002  
SITENAME South East Rockall Bank 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

<b>1.1 Type</b> B	<b>1.2 Site code</b> IE0003002	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
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### 1.3 Site name

South East Rockall Bank SAC

<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 2011-05	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 2015-10
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### 1.6 Respondent:

**Name/Organisation:** National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht  
**Address:** 7 Ely Place, Dublin 2, Ireland  
**Email:** datadelivery@ahg.gov.ie

<b>Date site proposed as SCI:</b>	2011-09
<b>Date site confirmed as SCI:</b>	No data
<b>Date site designated as SAC:</b>	No data
<b>National legal reference of SAC designation:</b>	No data

## 2. SITE LOCATION

### 2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

[Back to top](#)

**Longitude**  
-14.4613549916

**Latitude**  
55.9949398618

**2.2 Area [ha]:**

148790.0

**2.3 Marine area [%]**

148790.0

**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**

[Back to top](#)

**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
1170			31356.0		M	A	C	B	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)

**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.

- **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	2029	<a href="#">Globicephala melas</a>			0	0								X
M	2624	<a href="#">Physeter macrocephalus</a>			0	0								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

[Back to top](#)

Habitat class	% Cover
N01	100.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

#### Other Site Characteristics

South East Rockall Bank is a relatively shallow bank west-north-west of Ireland, separated from the Porcupine shelf by deeper areas within the Rockall Trough. The Rockall Bank area was mapped during the Irish National Seabed Survey in 2001 by the R.V. Bligh. The multibeam echo-sounder data revealed the complexity of the bank which is characterised by several escarpment features occurring at water depths between 500 m and 1500 m. At the south eastern Rockall Bank, several escarpment features occurred at water depths between 600 m and 1500 m. The escarpment features have been traced over a total distance of approximately 300 km at the South East Rockall Bank and occur along 151 km in Irish waters. Interpretations of seismic profiles revealed two large slumps at the upper parts of the slope. Whilst their origin is not clear, they may have developed as a consequence of lower sea levels or may be indirectly related to subsidence of the Rockall Plateau. The results of recent surveys indicated various areas of hard substrate including pebbles, boulders and exposed bedrock. These sometimes formed steep inclines, escarpments, vertical walls, and cliffs with ledges, overhangs and caves. The hard substrate was sometimes covered in a veneer of soft sediment.

## 4.2 Quality and importance

The fauna encountered during surveys include a range of poriferans (Desmonospongia, encrusting, glass sponge (Aphrocallistes sp.)), cnidarians (including Anthipatharian sp. sea whips, bamboo coral, black coral, Lophelia pertusa, soft corals (Anthomastus grandiflora), solitary corals (Flabellum sp., Solenosmilia variabilis), gorgonians, stylasteroid hydroids, sea pens (Pennatula phophorea), ascidians (sea squirts), echinoderms (asteroid (Brisingella coronata), crinoid, holothuroid, ophiuroid (Ophiomusium lymani)), crustaceans (shrimp), and fish including eels and Neocyttus sp.

## 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]
H	F02.02.02		b
L	F05.06		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

Guinan, J. & Leahy, Y. (2010). Habitat Mapping of Geogenic Reef Offshore Ireland. Report prepared by the Marine Institute, Galway, Ireland and Geological Survey of Ireland for the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government's National Parks and Wildlife Service.

# 6. 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

# 7. MAP OF THE SITES

[Back to top](#)

INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SAC.IE0003002

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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