



# 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 IE0004009  
SITENAME Lady's Island Lake SPA

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## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

<b>1.1 Type</b> A	<b>1.2 Site code</b> IE0004009	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
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### 1.3 Site name

Lady's Island Lake SPA

<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 2003-11	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 2017-09
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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

### 1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

<b>Date site classified as SPA:</b>	1986-02
<b>National legal reference of SPA designation</b>	No data

## 2. SITE LOCATION

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

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Longitude

Latitude

**2.2 Area [ha]:**

478.5987444

**2.3 Marine area [%]**

4.127

**2.4 Sitelength [km]:**

0.0

**2.5 Administrative region code and name****NUTS level 2 code****Region Name**

IE02	Southern and Eastern
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**2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)**

Atlantic ( %)

**3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**[Back to top](#)**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
B	A054	<a href="#">Anas acuta</a>			w	7	7	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A056	<a href="#">Anas clypeata</a>			r	1	3	p		G	B	A	B	B
B	A052	<a href="#">Anas crecca</a>			w	184	184	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A050	<a href="#">Anas penelope</a>			w	819	819	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A055	<a href="#">Anas querquedula</a>			r	1	2	p		G	A	A	B	B
B	A051	<a href="#">Anas strepera</a>			p	10	10	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A051	<a href="#">Anas strepera</a>			w	77	77	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A059	<a href="#">Aythya ferina</a>			w	299	299	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A061	<a href="#">Aythya fuligula</a>			w	110	110	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A062	<a href="#">Aythya marila</a>			w	46	46	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A147	<a href="#">Calidris ferruginea</a>			c	10	20	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A145	<a href="#">Calidris minuta</a>			c	1	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A081	<a href="#">Circus aeruginosus</a>			r	1	2	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A038	<a href="#">Cygnus cygnus</a>			w	41	41	i		G	C	B	C	C

B	A125	<a href="#">Fulica atra</a>			w	63	63	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A130	<a href="#">Haematopus ostralegus</a>			w	67	67	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A176	<a href="#">Larus melanocephalus</a>			p	1	3	p		G	A	A	A	A
B	A179	<a href="#">Larus ridibundus</a>			r	600	600	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A179	<a href="#">Larus ridibundus</a>			w	304	304	i		G	A	A	C	A
B	A156	<a href="#">Limosa limosa</a>			w	43	43	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A069	<a href="#">Mergus serrator</a>			w	9	9	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A160	<a href="#">Numenius arquata</a>			w	222	222	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A151	<a href="#">Philomachus pugnax</a>			w	1	5	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A151	<a href="#">Philomachus pugnax</a>			c	10	20	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A140	<a href="#">Pluvialis apricaria</a>			w	197	197	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A192	<a href="#">Sterna dougallii</a>			p	116	116	p		G	A	A	B	A
B	A193	<a href="#">Sterna hirundo</a>			p	480	480	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A194	<a href="#">Sterna paradisaea</a>			p	235	235	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A191	<a href="#">Sterna sandvicensis</a>			p	1048	1048	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A161	<a href="#">Tringa erythropus</a>			c	1	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A166	<a href="#">Tringa glareola</a>			c	1	2	i		G	B	B	C	C
B	A164	<a href="#">Tringa nebularia</a>			w	2	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A165	<a href="#">Tringa ochropus</a>			c	1	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A162	<a href="#">Tringa totanus</a>			w	32	32	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A142	<a href="#">Vanellus vanellus</a>			w	785	785	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)

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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
P		<a href="#">Chara canescens</a>									X			
B		<a href="#">Cygnus olor</a>			44	44							X	
P		<a href="#">Lamprothamnium papulosum</a>									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
N10	2.0
N02	85.0
N05	4.0
N07	5.0
N09	2.0
N08	2.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	100

### Other Site Characteristics

Situated in the extreme south-east of Ireland, this site comprises a shallow coastal lagoon separated from the sea by an impressive sandy-gravel barrier. The lagoon is up to 5 m deep though mostly shallower. Salinity of the lagoon is generally oligo-mesohaline but it is periodically tidal when the barrier is breached. The flora is typically brackish and includes *Ruppia* spp. and a range of charophyte species. The fauna of the lagoon is rich, with at least 13 lagoonal specialist species recorded. Swamp and marsh vegetation is particularly well developed at Ring Marsh in the south-east of the site. Elsewhere, the lagoon is fringed by marsh or wet grassland. Dune vegetation occurs over much of the barrier. Several small islands within the lagoon, where terns breed, are included in the site. Surrounding land is low-lying agricultural land.

### 4.2 Quality and importance

Lady's Island Lake is by far the largest and best example of a sedimentary lagoon in the country and one of the best in Europe. It supports an excellent range of birds typical of lagoonal systems. In winter, there is a good diversity of waterfowl species, though most occur in relatively low numbers. The population of *Anas strepera* is of national importance though part of the population is resident. There are regionally important populations of *Aythya marila*, *Cygnus cygnus* and *Pluvialis apricaria*. In summer, *Circus aeruginosus* is a regular visitor and nesting is a possibility. Lady's Island has an excellent diversity of breeding wildfowl and is one of the few sites in Ireland where *Anas querquedula* is considered to breed. The very localised *Anas*

clypeata also breeds and it is one of the principal sites in Ireland for breeding *Anas strepera*. The site is an internationally important site for breeding terns and is the largest tern colony in the country, with four species of tern present. It has the largest colony of *Sterna sandvicensis* in the country. The population of *Sterna dougallii* is the second largest after Rockabill. The *Sterna paradisaea* and *Sterna hirundo* populations are of national importance. It also supports one of the largest colonies of *Larus ridibundus* in the country. *Larus melanocephalus* has bred at the site since the late 1990s, the only known breeding site in the country. The terns have been studied since the 1960s, and National Parks and Wildlife and BirdWatch Ireland have co-managed the colonies since 1993 as part of a long-term conservation programme. This programme includes wardening, habitat management, thorough monitoring of breeding parameters and ringing of chicks. Lady's Island is an important site for passage waders, including *Philomachus pugnax*, *Calidris ferruginea*, *Tringa ochropus* and the very scarce *Tringa glareola*. The lagoon supports two Red Data Book charophyte species, *Lamprothamnion papulosum* and *Chara canescens*. The site includes a designated Refuge for Fauna.

### 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	H		i
L	F03.01		i
L	C01.01.02		o
M	K03.04		i
M	A08		o
H	G01.02		i
M	G01.01		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	F03.01		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

Cabot, D. (1996). Performance of the Roseate Tern population breeding in north-west Europe - Ireland, Britain and France, 1960-94. *Biology and Environment, Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* 96B: 55-68.

Colhoun, K. (2001). I-WeBS Report 1998-99. BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin.

Curtis, T.G.F. (1991). A site inventory of the sandy coasts of Ireland. In Quigley, M.B. (ed). *A Guide to the Sand Dunes of Ireland*. E.U.C.C. Dublin.

Galvin, P. (1992). The Ecology of the Brackish-water Lagoons of Wexford and East Cork. M.Sc. thesis, University College, Dublin.

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Hannon, C., Berrow, S.D. and Newton S.F. (1997). The status and distribution of breeding Sandwich *Sterna sandvicensis*, Roseate *S. dougallii*, Common *S. hirundo*, Arctic *S. paradisaea* and Little Terns *S. albifrons* in Ireland in 1995. *Irish Birds* 6: 1-22.

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## 5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

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### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
IE04	100.0				

### 5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
IE04	Lady's Island Lake Refuge for Fauna	+	5.0

## 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.SPA.IE0004009

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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