



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 IE0004096
SITENAME Middle Shannon Callows SPA

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type A	1.2 Site code IE0004096	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Middle Shannon Callows SPA

1.4 First Compilation date 2004-05	1.5 Update date 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

Date site classified as SPA:	1996-10
National legal reference of SPA designation	No data

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude

Latitude

-8.021690287

53.25323621

2.2 Area [ha]:

5814.847963

2.3 Marine area [%]

0.638

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

Region Name

IE01	Border, Midland and Western
IE02	Southern and Eastern
IE01	Border, Midland and Western

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Atlantic (%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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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	A056	Anas clypeata			r	1	12	p		M	B	B	B	B
B	A052	Anas crecca			w	77	77	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A050	Anas penelope			w	2972	2972	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A395	Anser albifrons flavirostris			w	21	21	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A061	Aythya fuligula			w	33	33	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A149	Calidris alpina			w	369	369	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A082	Circus cyaneus			w	1	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A082	Circus cyaneus			c	1	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A113	Coturnix coturnix			r	1	15	i		G	A	A	B	A

numbers regularly exceed the 20,000 threshold (mean of 34985 for the 5 winters 1994/94-1998/99). Of particular note is the presence of an Internationally Important population of *Cygnus cygnus*. A further five species have populations of national importance: *Cygnus olor*, *Anas penelope*, *Pluvialis apricaria*, *Vanellus vanellus* and *Limosa limosa*. There is a well documented spring passage of *Limosa limosa* along the river valley. The Shannon callows are also of high importance for breeding birds. In particular, it has the largest concentration of *Crex crex* in Ireland. Since 1991, a conservation programme involving annual monitoring of population size, practical habitat management and publicity has been in operation. *Coturnix coturnix*, a very rare species in Ireland, also breeds in the grasslands. Several wader species, notably *Vanellus vanellus*, *Gallinago gallinago* and *Tringa totanus*, have important breeding populations though these have declined substantially since the 1980s. The scarce breeding species, *Anas clypeata*, nests in small numbers each year. The callows is one of the very few sites in Ireland where *Limosa limosa* has bred. The habitats also support a range of ground nesting passerine species, notably *Locustella naevia* and *Alauda arvensis*. In autumn and winter, *Circus cyaneus* is a regular visitor.

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	F03.01		i
H	D01.05		i
L	A08		i
H	A04		i
H	G01.01		i
H	E01		o
L	A04.03		i
L	D01.01		i
M	F02.03		i
M	A08		o
M	G01.02		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	D01.01		i
H	A03		i
H	D01.05		i
H	A04		i
H	G01.01		i
M	G01.02		i
M	F02.03		i
L	A04.03		i
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

Casey, C. (1998). Distribution and conservation of Corncrake in Ireland, 1993-1998. *Irish Birds* 6: 159-176.

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

Copeland, A. (2002). Delivering Corncrake *Crex crex* conservation in Ireland: Past, present and future. *Irish Birds* 7: 33-42.

Copeland, A. and Madden, D. (2002). Corncrake Fieldwork in the Shannon Callows 2002. Unpublished report, BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin.

Fox, A.D., Norriss, D.W., Stroud, D.A. and Wilson, H.J. (1994). Greenland White-fronted Geese in Ireland and Britain 1982/83 - 1993/94. Greenland White-fronted Goose Study research report no. 8. Greenland White-fronted Goose Study, Wales and National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin.

Heery, S. (1991). The plant communities of the grazed and mown grasslands of the River Shannon callows. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* 91B (1): 1-19.

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Heery, S. (2000). Birds in Central Ireland. Mid-Shannon Bird Report 1996-1999. BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin.

Heery, S. and Cooney, T. (1997). A Part Re-survey of the Breeding Waders on the Shannon/Little Brosna Callows. Unpublished report to National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin.

Hunt, J., Derwin, J., Coveney, J. and Newton, S. (2000). Republic of Ireland. Pp. 365-416 in Heath, M.F. and Evans, M.I. (eds). *Important Bird Areas in Europe: Priority Sites for Conservation 1: Northern Europe*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International (BirdLife Conservation Series No. 8).

Irish Wetland Birds Survey (I-WeBS) Database, 1994/95-2000/01. BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin.

McGarrigle, M.L., Bowman, J.J., Clabby, K.J., Lucey, J., Cunningham, P., MacCarthaigh, M., Keegan, M., Cantrell, B., Lehane, M., Clenaghan, C. and Toner, P.F. (2002). Water Quality in Ireland 1998-2000. Environmental Protection Agency, Wexford.

Merne, O.J. (1989). Important bird areas in the Republic of Ireland. In: Grimmett, R.F.A. and Jones, T.A. (eds). *Important Bird Areas in Europe*. ICBP Technical Publication No. 9.

Cambridge. Nairn, R., Herbert, I.J. and Heery, S. (1988). Breeding waders and other wet grassland birds of the River Shannon callows, Ireland. Irish Birds 3: 521-537. Rutledge, R.F. and Ogilvie, M.A. (1979). The past and current status of the Greenland White-fronted Goose in Ireland and Britain. Irish Birds 1: 293-363. Sheppard, R. (1993). Ireland's Wetland Wealth. IWC, Dublin. Sheppard, R. and Green, R.E. (1994). Status of the Corncrake in Ireland in 1993. Irish Birds 5: 125-138. Tierney, T.D., Hudson, J. and Casey, C. (2002). Survey of breeding waders on the River Shannon Callows, 2002. Irish Birds 7: 21-32. Tubridy, M. (ed.) (1984). Creation and Management of a Heritage Zone at Clonmacnoise, Co. Offaly, Ireland. Final Report, EEC Contract No. 6611/12. Environmental Sciences Unit, Trinity College. Dublin. Tubridy, M. (ed.) (1987). The Heritage of Clonmacnoise. Environmental Sciences Unit, Trinity College. Dublin.

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

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Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
IE21	1.0				

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
IE21	Bullock Island and Bishop's Island Reserve	+	1.0

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.SPA.IE0004096

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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