



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 IE0004121
SITENAME Roaninish SPA

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type A	1.2 Site code IE0004121	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Roaninish SPA

1.4 First Compilation date 2003-08	1.5 Update date 2020-10
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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

1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

Date site classified as SPA:	2009-03
National legal reference of SPA designation	No data

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude -8.5366163 **Latitude** 54.87074828

2.2 Area [ha]: 145.7589073 **2.3 Marine area [%]** 91.836

2.4 Sitelength [km]:
0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code	Region Name
IEZZ	Extra-Regio
IE01	Border, Midland and Western

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Atlantic (%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

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	A045	Branta leucopsis			w	320	320	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A014	Hydrobates pelagicus			r	485	485	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			r	36	36	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A194	Sterna paradisaea			r	11	11	p		G	C	A	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)

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
B		Cepphus grylle			19	19	i							X	
B		Larus argentatus			278	278	i								X
B		Larus marinus			29	29	i								X
B		Phalacrocorax aristotelis			6	6	i							X	
B		Somateria mollissima			60	60	i							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
N01	75.0
N09	7.0
N10	1.0
N06	1.0
N05	16.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Roaninish is situated in the outer part of Gweebarra Bay, approximately 3 km north-west of Dunmore Head. The site comprises a tight group of small, flat, low-lying islets surrounded by extensive intertidal rocks. The highest point is 9 metres above sea level. The site includes the surrounding seas to a distance of 200 m, where seabirds forage, bathe and socialise. The main island supports lush maritime grassland and has two small ponds with some aquatic species.

4.2 Quality and importance

Roaninish is an important breeding site for seabird species. Of particular note is a long-established colony of *Hydrobates pelagicus*, which is of regional importance. Terns have long been associated with the island, but nowadays only *Sterna paradisaea* breeds in low numbers. Other seabirds which breed are *Phalacrocorax carbo* (recently established), *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*, *Larus argentatus*, *Larus marinus* and *Cephus grylle*. The *Larus argentatus* population is of national importance. *Somateria mollissima*, a localised breeding species in Ireland, nests in substantial numbers on the islands. The site is also of importance as it provides feeding and refuge for a wintering flock of *Branta leucopsis* which at times exceeds the threshold for international importance.

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	X		i

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

4.4 Ownership (optional)

4.5 Documentation

Cabot, D.B. (1961). Birds on Roaninish, Co. Donegal. Irish Naturalists' Journal 13: 238-239. Fitter, R.S.R. (1948). Birds on Roaninish, Co. Donegal. Irish Naturalists' Journal 9: 128. Hannon, C. (1997). The 1995 All-Ireland Tern Survey. BirdWatch Ireland Conservation Report No. 97 /1. 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). Lloyd, C. (1982). Inventory of Seabird Breeding Colonies in Republic of Ireland. Unpublished report, Forest and Wildlife Service, Dublin. 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. Merne, O.J. and Walsh, A. (1994). Barnacle Geese in Ireland, spring 1993 and 1994. Irish Birds 5: 151-156. Merne, O.J. and Walsh, A. (2002). Barnacle Geese in Ireland, spring 1999. Irish Birds 7: 53-56. Mitchell, P.I., Newton, S., Ratcliffe, N. and Dunn, T. (In prep.). Seabird 2000: The Status of Breeding Seabirds in Britain and Ireland. Sheppard, R. (1993). Ireland's Wetland Wealth. Irish Wildbird Conservancy, Dublin. Wilde, A. (1985). The All Ireland Tern Survey 1984. Unpublished report for the Irish Wildbird Conservancy, Dublin.

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

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5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

5.3 Site designation (optional)

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the 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

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SPA.IE0004121

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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