



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 IE0004129
SITENAME Ballysadare Bay SPA

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type A	1.2 Site code IE0004129	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Ballysadare Bay SPA

1.4 First Compilation date 2004-04	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:	2010-05
National legal reference of SPA designation	No data

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude -8.589835543 **Latitude** 54.23615123

2.2 Area [ha]:

2129.056078

2.3 Marine area [%]

90.009

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[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	A052	Anas crecca			w	179	179	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A050	Anas penelope			w	617	617	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			w	304	304	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A169	Arenaria interpres			w	40	40	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A046	Branta bernicla			w	188	188	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A067	Bucephala clangula			w	17	17	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A149	Calidris alpina			w	1420	1420	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A137	Charadrius hiaticula			w	96	96	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A038	Cygnus cygnus			w	15	15	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A130	Haematopus ostralegus			w	516	516	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A182	Larus canus			w	174	174	i		G	C	B	C	C

B	A179	Larus ridibundus			w	261	261	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A157	Limosa lapponica			w	251	251	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A069	Mergus serrator			w	26	26	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A160	Numenius arquata			w	508	508	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			w	43	43	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A140	Pluvialis apricaria			w	301	301	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A141	Pluvialis squatarola			w	67	67	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A048	Tadorna tadorna			w	55	55	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A164	Tringa nebularia			w	22	22	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A162	Tringa totanus			w	435	435	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			w	467	467	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)

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		Ardea cinerea			16	16							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
N04	3.0
N09	1.0
N05	1.0
N03	1.0
N10	1.0
N02	93.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Ballysadare Bay extends for about 10 km westwards from the town of Ballysadare and is the most southerly of three inlets comprising the larger Sligo Bay complex. The bay has an average width of c. 2 km. The estuarine channel of the Ballysadare River winds its way through the bay, finally reaching the open sea near the sand spit at Culleenamore. The bay is underlain by sedimentary rocks of limestones, sandstones and shales, which are exposed as low cliffs and small sections of bedrock shore at several locations. The site contains extensive intertidal sand and mudflats, which support good populations of macro-invertebrates. *Zostera* spp. and *Ruppia maritima* are present. Well-developed salt marshes occur at several locations around the bay. The site includes part of the Strandhill dune system and some areas of wet and dry grassland.

4.2 Quality and importance

Ballysadare Bay is an important component of the larger Sligo Bay complex. It supports nationally important populations of four species: *Calidris alpina*, *Limosa limosa*, *Tringa totanus* and *Tringa nebularia*. It also has a good diversity of other waterfowl species, including *Branta bernicla hrota*, *Cygnus cygnus*, *Mergus serrator*, *Pluvialis apricaria* and *Charadrius hiaticula*. The estuarine habitat is of good quality and the site provides both feeding and roost sites for the birds.

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	F01		i
M	F03.01		i
M	E01.01		o
M	A08		o

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	F03.01		i
L	F01		i
M	E01.01		o

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

Colhoun, K. (2001). I-WeBS Report 1998-99. BirdWatch Ireland, Dublin. Curtis, T.G.F. and Sheehy Skeffington, M.J. (1998). The salt marshes of Ireland: an inventory and account of their geographical variation. Biology and Environment, Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy 98B: 87-104. Falvey, J.P., Costello, M.J. and Dempsey, S. (1997). Survey of Intertidal Biotopes in Estuaries in Ireland. Unpublished report to the 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. Sheppard, R. (1993). Ireland's Wetland Wealth. IWC, Dublin.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

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6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

- Yes
 No, but in preparation
 No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SPA.IE0004129

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).