



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 IE0004149
SITENAME Falcarragh to Meenlaragh SPA

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type A	1.2 Site code IE0004149	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Falcarragh to Meenlaragh SPA

1.4 First Compilation date 2011-05	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:	2011-07
National legal reference of SPA designation	No data

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude

Latitude

-8.118733265

55.14528959

2.2 Area [ha]:

299.0932809

2.3 Marine area [%]

0.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

Region Name

IE01	Border, Midland and Western
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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	A122	Crex crex			r	7	7	p		G	B	B	C	B

- **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)

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

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4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
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N08	5.0
N14	80.0
N15	15.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Falcarragh to Meenlaragh SPA is located on the eastern and western sides of Ballyness Bay on the north-west coast of Co. Donegal. This large site follows the coastline from Falcarragh to Meenlaragh and encompasses three areas of mixed agricultural grassland.

4.2 Quality and importance

Falcarragh to Meenlaragh SPA supports a nationally important breeding population of *Crex crex* and is one of a suite of sites along the western seaboard that is regularly utilised by this species. *Crex crex* is listed on the 2010 International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. This is due to population and range declines of more than 50% in the last 25 years across significant parts of its range.

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	E01.02		i
L	A01		i
H	A03		i
H	A04		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	A01		i
H	A04		i
H	A03		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

Alcorn, S., Donaghy, A. and Moloney, D. (2009). Corncrake Fieldwork in North and West Donegal 2009. Unpublished Report by Birdwatch Ireland for National Parks and Wildlife Service. Casey, C. (1998). Distribution and conservation of the Corncrake in Ireland, 1993-1998. *Irish Birds* 6: 159-176. Copeland, A. (2002a). Corncrake Conservation on the Mayo and Donegal Mainland - Proposal for SPA Designation. Unpublished Birdwatch Ireland Report. Copeland, A. (2002b). 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. 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). 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. Sheppard, R. and Green, R.E. (1994). Status of the Corncrake in Ireland in 1993. *Irish Birds* 5: 125-138.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.2 Management Plan(s):

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An actual management plan does exist:

- Yes
- No, but in preparation

No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:

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).