



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 IE0004161

SITENAME Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type A	1.2 Site code IE0004161	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA

1.4 First Compilation date 2010-04	1.5 Update date 2015-10
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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:	2007-03
National legal reference of SPA designation	No data

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude

Latitude

-9.2770158037

52.2932637013

2.2 Area [ha]:

56673.3948935

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

IE02	Southern and Eastern
IE02	Southern and Eastern

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	A082	Circus cyaneus			p	45	45	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A098	Falco columbarius			p	1	1	p		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
B		Lagopus lagopus						P			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
N20	44.0
N06	1.0
N08	15.0
N07	13.0
N16	1.0
N10	10.0
N14	16.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

This a very large, upland site, centred on the borders between the counties of Cork, Kerry and Limerick. The peaks are not notably high or indeed pronounced, with a maximum of 451 m at Knockhefa. Many rivers rise within the site, notably the Blackwater, Feale, Clydagh, Oolagh, and Smerlagh. The site consists of a variety of upland habitats, though almost half (45%) is afforested. The coniferous forest includes first and second rotation plantations, with both pre-thicket stands present as well as clearfell areas. A substantial part (28%) of the site is unplanted blanket bog and heath, with both wet and dry heath present. The remainder of the site is largely rough grassland that is used for hill farming. Some areas of scrub and deciduous woodland occur, especially within the river valleys.

4.2 Quality and importance

Supports c. 21% of the all-Ireland population of *Circus cyaneus*, which is the largest concentration in the country for the species. Habitat excellent for both nesting and foraging purposes. *Asio flammeus*, a rare breeding bird in Ireland, has nested in the past and has been recorded intermittently in recent years. *Falco columbarius* has a presence though the size of the population is unknown. *Lagopus lagopus*, a Red Data Book species, occurs.

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	D01.02		i
L	D01.01		i
L	E01.03		i
L	A09		i
H	B		i
M	C01.03		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	E01.03		i
L	D01.01		i
L	D01.02		i
L	A09		i
H	B		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

Barton, C., Pollock, C., Norriss, D.W., Nagle, T., Oliver, G.A. and Newton, S. (2006). The second national survey of breeding Hen Harriers *Circus cyaneus* in Ireland 2005. *Irish Birds* 8: 1-20. Hardey, J., Crick, H., Wernham, C., Riley, H., Etheridge, B. and Thompson, D. (2009). *Raptors, A Field Guide for Surveys and Monitoring*. Scottish National Heritage. Heery, S. (2009). *Birds in Central Ireland. Fourth Mid-Season Bird Report 2004-2007*. BirdWatch Ireland, Kilcoole. Norriss, D.W., Marsh, J., McMahon, D. and Oliver, G.A. (2002). A national survey of breeding Hen Harriers *Circus cyaneus* in Ireland 1998-2000. *Irish Birds* 7: 1-12. O'Flynn, W.J. (1983). Population changes of the Hen Harrier in Ireland. *Irish Birds* 2: 337-343. Oliver, G. (2005). *Survey of Breeding Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* in the Slieve Aughty Mountains, 2005*. Unpublished report for National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dublin. Wilson, M., Gittings, T., O'Halloran, J., Kelly, T. and Pithon, J. (2005). *The Distribution of Hen Harriers in Ireland in Relation to Land-use Cover and Forest Cover in Particular*. COFORD, Dublin.

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

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5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
IE99					

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
IE99	Carrigkerry Bogs NHA	+	1.0
IE99	Mount Eagle Bogs NHA	+	1.0
IE99	Moyreen Bog NHA	+	1.0
IE99	Knockatorrir/Knockariddera Bogs NHA	+	1.0
IE99	Lough Gay Bog NHA	+	1.0

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:

IE.NPWS.PS.NATURA2000.SPA.IE0004161

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).