



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 IE0004162

SITENAME Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type A	1.2 Site code IE0004162	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA

1.4 First Compilation date 2009-09	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
-9.06158049102

Latitude
51.9750794377

2.2 Area [ha]:

4977.78

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

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	5	5	p		G	B	A	C	B
B	A098	Falco columbarius			p	2	2	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)

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

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4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N22	5.0
N08	18.0
N06	5.0
N19	1.0
N15	15.0
N07	17.0
N09	6.0
N17	33.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The site consists of a variety of upland habitats, though approximately one-third is afforested. The coniferous forests include first and second rotation plantations, with both pre-thicket and post-thicket stands present. The principal tree species present are Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) and Lodgepole Pine (*Pinus contorta*). Almost one-third of the site is unplanted blanket bog and heath, with both wet and dry heaths present. The vegetation is characterised by such species as Ling Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), Cross-leaved Heath (*Erica tetralix*), Billberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), Common Cottongrass (*Eriophorum angustifolium*), Deergrass (*Scirpus cespitosus*) and Purple Moor Grass (*Molinia caerulea*). The remainder of the site is largely rough grassland that is used for hill farming. This varies in composition, with some wet areas with rushes (*Juncus* spp.) and some areas subject to scrub encroachment.

4.2 Quality and importance

This SPA is a stronghold for Hen Harriers. The early stage of new and second-rotation conifer plantation are the most frequently used nesting sites, though some pairs may still nest in tall heather of unplanted bogs and heath. This site also supports a breeding population of Merlin.

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]
M	A04		i
L	D01.01		i
H	B		o
H	B		i
L	D01.02		i
M	C01.03		i
L	E01.03		i
M	A04		o

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	A04		o
L	D01.02		i
L	D01.01		i
H	B		o
M	A04		i
H	B		i
L	E01.03		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. Lynas, P., Newton, S.F. and Robinson, J.A. (2009). The status of

birds in Ireland: an analysis of conservation concern 2008-2013. Irish Birds, 8(2): 149-166. 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. Nagle, T. and Lyden, J. (2004). South Munster Hen Harrier Survey 2004. Unpublished report. Irish Raptor Study Group. Nagle, T. and Lyden, J. (2005). South Munster Hen Harrier Survey 2005. Unpublished report. Irish Raptor Study Group. 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.

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.IE0004162

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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