



Site Name: Old Domestic Building (Keevagh) SAC

Site Code: 002010

This site consists of a derelict, two-storey dwelling near the village of Quin, Co. Clare. It is a breeding site of the Lesser Horseshoe Bat.

The site is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) selected for the following habitats and/or species listed on Annex I / II of the E.U. Habitats Directive (* = priority; numbers in brackets are Natura 2000 codes):

[1303] Lesser Horseshoe Bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>)

The derelict, two-storey house in this SAC is a breeding site of the Lesser Horseshoe Bat. The bats roost in the roof space and gain access through gaps around the roof and lower sections of the building.

The population size is considered to be greater than 100 individuals, which constitutes a population of international importance. This site is also notable as it is situated along the eastern limit of the distribution of this species in Ireland.

The site has deteriorated since 1992, but should remain suitable as a breeding site for the bats for the foreseeable future.

There are mature trees and extensive hedgerows around the site which provide ideal foraging habitat for the bats. Apart from its value for foraging, the surrounding habitat serves as a corridor for the bats between the summer roost and hibernation site(s).