



**Site Name: Old Domestic Building, Askive Wood SAC**

**Site Code: 002098**

Old Domestic Building, Askive Wood SAC consists of a small, two-storey, stone building situated within a wood approximately 3 km south-east of Sneem, Co. Kerry. 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> )
---

At this site the bats enter the building through spaces above three windows and roost in the upper portion of the building, hanging from the roof timbers. Since the discovery of this site in 1994, repair work has been carried out on the building to make it more secure for the bats.

The building is located at the northern end of Askive Wood, which is predominantly a coniferous plantation. There are, however, some patches of mixed deciduous woodland and scrub. A small lake, Askive Lough, forms part of the site. This woodland provides suitable foraging habitat within a small radius of the day roost site - this is of paramount importance to this bat species which does not fly in or across open areas.

In July 1996, more than 150 bats were counted at this site, making it a site of international importance. There are no immediate threats facing this site.